

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Rose, Benoni, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 97 Lafayette Road not for publication

city or town North Kingstown vicinity

state Rhode Island code RI county Washington code 009 zip code 02852

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
- other (explain)

Rose, Benoni, House
Name of Property

Washington County, RI
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: vernacular

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof ASPHALT: shingle

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Rose, Benoni, House
Name of Property

Washington County, RI
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1882

Significant Dates

1882

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository

Rose, Benoni, House
Name of Property

Washington County, RI
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.65 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	9	2	9	2	4	0	1	4	6	0	5	3	8	8
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
2															

3															
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
4															

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jeffrey D. Emidy, National Register Assistant, with Warren Trafton, property owner

organization RIHPHC (Emidy) date June 2007

street & number 150 Benefit Street / 97 Lafayette Road telephone 401 222-4132 (Emidy)

city or town Providence / North Kingstown state Rhode Island zip code 02903 / 02852

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Warren L. Trafton

street & number 97 Lafayette Road telephone _____

city or town North Kingstown state Rhode Island zip code 02852

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House

North Kingstown

Washington County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 7

Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The Benoni Rose House is located at 97 Lafayette Road, in Lafayette village, in the Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. The village is aligned along Ten Rod Road (RI Route 102) and includes parts of the streets that lead off of it roughly between the Amtrak Northeast Corridor right of way on the west, and Route 1 on the east. The Lafayette Village National Register Historic District, listed in 1978, has narrower bounds than the village, proper, and does not include the Rose House.

The Rose House is sited near the center of a 0.65-acre parcel, in a residential area of the village that is dominated by mid-twentieth century, single family houses, and heavily-altered older buildings. The Rose House parcel is flat, with mature trees in the front yard and along the edges of the property, and a driveway to the west of the house. A small chicken coop (now used as a storage shed) is located to the west of the driveway.

The Rose House is a vernacular Victorian-style residence that was constructed in 1882. Though greatly simplified in detail from the common idea of a Victorian home, it does exhibit features of the Victorian styles, most notably in its porch balustrade, entrance, and main stair. The building has a one-and-one-half-story, end-gable central block, rectangular in plan, with a full-length, one-story, flat-roofed ell on the east elevation and a one-story, flat-roofed ell on its west elevation which extends from the façade half way to the rear elevation. A one-story, flat-roofed, semi-hexagonal, oriel bay is located in the eastern half of the façade.

The foundation of the building is of uncoursed fieldstone. The wood frame is covered with vertical cedar planks which are sheathed with cedar clapboards. The main portion of the house has a front gable roof, clad with asphalt shingles and pierced on the west slope near the center of the ridge by a brick chimney. A second brick chimney, similar to the other, is located on the back third of the ridge. Fenestration of the building consists primarily of original, two-over-two, double-hung, wood sash in simple, rectangular surrounds with a small, projecting molding on the top of the frame. One-over-one wood sashes are located in the four window openings on the oriel bay. A modern, paired, casement window is located in the northernmost bay of the first floor of the west elevation, and a modern, single, casement window is located on the west elevation, near the north end of the ell. The primary entrance to the building is located in the entrance porch at the southeast corner of the building. The south-facing entrance consists of a wood, three-panel door with paired, arched lights in the top half, in a simple, flat surround. A second entrance is located on the north elevation of the west ell, and consists of a wood door with 15 lights in five rows of three making up almost its entire face.

The plan of the house flows around the stairhall on both floors. Upon entering via the porch door, one finds oneself in the stairhall, with a door to the north and a hallway running across the width of the house, to the west.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House

North Kingstown

Washington County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 7

Page 2

The stair, with turned newel post and balusters, runs up to the west. A door in the west wall of the parlor opens into a bedroom that occupies the northwest corner of the building. A 10-foot-square kitchen is centered along the west elevation of the building, and opens into the dining room at the south end of the house. A door from the dining room leads into the front parlor (now used as an office), which has a doorway in its north wall leading to the stairhall. Throughout the first floor, the walls and ceilings are original plaster. The original parquet floor remains in the former dining room, and an original pine floor remains in the kitchen. All of the other floors in the house are replacements of tongue-and-groove yellow pine. Original interior trim remains around the windows and doors, and many original, four-panel doors remain in place.

The second floor plan includes bedrooms at the four corners, all opening into the landing at the top of the stairs. A bathroom, which also opens to the landing, is located in the center of the west elevation of the second floor.

The house has a partial basement, dug primarily to contain mechanical systems for the house, which is accessed by a narrow stair. The balance of the building is over a crawlspace.

The only other building on the property is a chicken coop that dates from the early twentieth century. It is nine-foot square, with a gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The building has a wood frame, and its walls are clad with wood shingles.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House

North Kingstown

Washington County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 7

Page 3

List of Photographs

The information for items 1 through 5 for all of the photographs is as follows:

1. Rose, Benoni, House
2. Washington County, Rhode Island
3. Photographer: Jeffrey D. Emidy
4. Photography date: June 2006
5. Original digital files located at: Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
150 Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island

The information for items 6 and 7 for all of the photographs is as follows:

6. Exterior of the house, southeast corner, camera facing northwest.
7. Photograph #1

6. Exterior of the house, south elevation. Camera facing north.
7. Photograph #2

6. Exterior, north (left) and west (right) elevations, camera facing southeast
7. Photograph #3.

6. Stairhall, camera facing west
7. Photograph #4

6. Stair newel post, camera facing west
7. Photograph #5

6. Rear parlor, at northeast corner of house, camera facing northwest
7. Photograph #6

6. Second floor landing, camera facing east
7. Photograph #7

6. First floor bedroom, camera facing east
7. Photograph #8

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House

North Kingstown

Washington County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 8

Page 1

SIGNIFICANCE

The Benoni Rose House is significant as an example of a late nineteenth century vernacular Victorian home constructed by a mill operative of modest means. Its siting, just outside of the Lafayette Village Historic District, is a product of the location of its owner's employment, however, it is both physically and historically separated from other buildings associated with the industrial concern upon which the district is centered (see Lafayette Village National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for information about the physical and social development of the district).

The Benoni Rose house is located just outside the boundary of the Lafayette Village Historic District, in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. At its western edge, the Historic District is bounded by a railroad right-of-way at the former Wickford Junction and by the Shewatuck River, which together form a physical and topographic edge. The Rose House is located approximately 300 feet west of this boundary. Though the mill tower and smokestack at the center of the village are within sight of the Rose House - largely because of the house being located on a slight hill and the rest of the village being on flat ground - the house and those around it are separated from the rest of the village by the river and the railroad right-of-way. The area around the Rose House has a less intensely developed character than the district, and its houses differ in their appearance, and in many cases in their history, from those east of the boundary.

Benoni Rose, after whom the house is called, was a boss-finisher at the Lafayette Mill in 1881, when he and his wife, Phebe, purchased a parcel of land on Lafayette Road (then known as Swamptown Road). The next year, they had a house built on the property, becoming, as George Gardiner wrote in 1949 in "Lafayette, Rhode Island: A Saga of Swamptown," among the first to purchase land and build on "the hill". The Roses owned the house until 1897, and their descendents owned the property until 1998. About the same time that the Benoni Rose house was built, Rose's sister built a house next door to her brother's, though hers is heavily altered and does not retain its historic integrity.

The Benoni Rose House (1882, architect/builder unknown) is significant as a typical example of vernacular domestic design of the late nineteenth century. The vernacular Victorian is a simplified version of its highly elaborated Victorian namesakes. The modest means of the property owner, in this case a mill operative, did not allow the architectural extravagance exhibited in other Victorian houses, including those of the mill owner and his family, just down the road in Lafayette Village. There are two other homes in the historic district that are documented as supervisor's homes: both are located on Ten Rod Road, and are more elaborate than the Rose house. The Franklin Rodman House at 691 Ten Rod Road, constructed in 1882, is a high-style mansion that

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House

North Kingstown

Washington County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 8

Page 2

has been extensively altered. The Daniel Webster House (late 19th century), at 891 Ten Rod Road, features a cross gable rood and patterned shingles, has also fallen victim to unsympathetic alterations¹.

The simplification of the vernacular Victorian style was commonly expressed with the beginning point of a standard massed house, with details of the Victorian styles used sparingly, but in conspicuous locations. At the Benoni Rose House, the stylistic flourishes were used on the façade, through the oriel bay and porch balustrade, at the entrance doors, and on the first things that one sees upon entering the house, the parquet floors and the newel post and balustrade of the main staircase. It is the retention of these elements (save for some of the flooring) that serves here to illustrate an underrepresented housing form of mill villages, that of an employee above the level of those who ran the machinery, but under the level of those who supervised and ran the mill.

The development of housing in mill villages is a common theme in the history of Rhode Island in the nineteenth century. Most of the housing stock in these villages, however, was constructed by the factory owners and employed repeated utilitarian forms with little ornament. This is the case in the eastern part of Lafayette Village. The construction of the Rose House independently by a mill operative allowed, and perhaps inspired, the opportunity to differentiate the house from others in the village, and to announce the elevated status of its owner. While its appearance separates the Rose House from the workers' housing of the village, the house also pales in comparison to the high-style houses of the mill owner and his family that line Ten Rod Road, themselves indicators of the status of those who owned them.

¹ Scant details are given about these two houses in the National Register nomination for the district, however, the significant alterations described in the nomination's list of buildings remain accurate today.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House	North Kingstown	Washington County, RI
Name of Property	City/Town	County and State
Section Number <u>9</u>	Page <u>1</u>	

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gardiner, George W. Lafayette Rhode Island. Pawtucket, R.I.: J.C. Hall Company, 1949.

Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. North Kingstown, Rhode Island: Statewide Historical Preservation Report W-NK-1. On file at Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, Providence, RI. 1979.

Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Land evidence records. On file at North Kingstown Town Hall, North Kingstown, RI.

Weiss, Ellen. "National Register of Historic Places – Inventory Nomination Form: Lafayette Village". On file at Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, Providence, RI. 1978.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rose, Benoni, House

North Kingstown

Washington County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 10

Page 1

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes all of the land recorded in North Kingstown Tax Assessor' plat 100 lot 12.

Boundary Justification

The boundary contains all of the property historically associated with the Benoni Rose House.















