

Basic Detail Report



Title Sign for Tarbox's Inn and Village Hotel

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Date 1807

Primary Maker William Rice

Medium Paint on pine board and frame, sand, smalt, gold leaf, iron hardware

Description Images: On both sides, top rail, a five-pointed star with square and compass. On side one, main board, U.S. seal. On side two, main board, text over

eagle with Connecticut state seal. Text: On both sides, top rail, "1824" over

"1807"; on bottom rail, "E. Ely." over "T TARBOX". On side two, main board,

"VILLAGE HOTEL". Construction: Single board, grain oriented vertically, cut into

shield-shape and suspended by iron hinges from upper rail; single, flat, shaped,

horizontal rails and turned posts. Each rail is tenoned through the posts and

doubled pinned. The rails extend up and down and are cut at top and bottom to

create scrolled pediment and scalloped skirt profiles. Surface: The original

painting scheme had an off-white background, with names and dates painted in

black. Tarbox's name appears in roman capitals; Ely's in an elegant script. The

green foliage of the eagle's olive branch was executed in copper green paint,

which has now partially oxidized and darkened. Both sets of names and dates

were painted over with white paint, evidently at the same time the eagle was

completely covered with a new ground layer of red-brown paint, now darkened

to almost black. This second ground layer incorporates white sand as a texturing

agent. The Village Hotel name banners are set within scribed lines and the

lettering is gilded.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width including hardware): 56 1/2 x 29

1/4in. (143.5 x 74.3cm) Other (height x width of sign only): 50 1/2 x 25in. (128.3 x

63.5cm)