**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY**
**BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**
**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

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1. **BUILDING NAME** (Common) (Historic)
   - Root-Peck House

2. **TOWN**
   - Farmington

3. **STREET AND NUMBER** (and or location)
   - 18 Morea Road

4. **OWNER(S)**
   - Morea, Caroline and Antoinette

5. **USE (Present)** (Historic)
   - Residence/farm

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6. **STYLE OF BUILDING**
   - Nineteenth-century vernacular

7. **DATE OF CONSTRUCTION**
   - ca. 1850

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8. **MATERIAL(S)** (Indicate use of location when appropriate)
   - 
     - Clapboard
     - Brick (Specify) rubble on other elevations
     - Wood Shingle
     - Fieldstone
     - Board & Batten
     - Cobblestone
     - Aluminum Siding
     - Brownstone foundation

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9. **STRUCTURAL SYSTEM**
   - Wood frame

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10. **ROOF**
    - Gable
      - Types:
        - X: Hip
      - Material:
        - Wood Shingle
        - Asphalt
      - Other (Specify)

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11. **NUMBER OF STORIES**
    - 2½

12. **APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS**
    - 44 x 24

13. **CONDITION (Structural)** (Exteriors)
    - Excellent
    - Good
    - Fair
    - Deteriorated

14. **INTEGRITY**
    - On original
    - Moved
    - Yes

15. **RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES**
    - Barn (2)
    - Shed
    - Garage
    - Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)

16. **SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT**
    - Open land
    - Scattered buildings visible from site
    - Commercial
    - Industrial
    - Rural
    - High building density

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Facing south onto Morea Road just west of Plainville Avenue, the Root-Peck House sits near the street. Connecting outbuildings lie to the west of the house. Open farmland exists to the south and west.
The Root-Peck House is a vernacular-style building typical of many rural houses in the area. Its gable-roofed block that runs parallel to the street is joined on the east end to a hip-roofed addition. A Victorian-period porch with turned columns and scroll-sawn brackets exists on the front facade. Note the two-over-two windows with movable louvered shutters. Uncommon to any other residences in the West District is the recessed shop on the west end of the gabled block.

The building originally may have faced east since the hip-roofed blocks contain a brownstone foundation. However, today the main entrance is on the gable-roofed block which runs ridge-to-street.

In 1854 Jesse Peck (1778-1856), son of Joel I (1750-1842) and Mary Peck (1746-1821), was bound to Thomas Gomms by a $1000 bond stipulating the sale of the "Jabe Root" farm with buildings (FLR 51:557). A deed connecting Peck with Root, however, does not exist. Totaling 59 acres, Gomms quit-claimed the property in 1863 to his son-in-law, William Frisbie, who had married his daughter Mary (FLR 42:562, FLR 59:115). During the same year Frisbie and his wife moved to Westport, New York, and sold the property with buildings to Charles Sames (FLR 60:105). Little is known about Charles (d. 1896) except that he was the son of James Sames. In 1895 a year before his death, he sold the property plus a 5 acre parcel to Isabella Bronson for $5 to use during her natural life (FLR 71:174). In 1897 Isabella (Bronson) Fellows later quit-claimed the property to Leroy B. Warren (FLR 69:394) who then sold it to James L. Byington in 1899 (FLR 71:450). Byington's daughters Anna and Mary, quit-claimed the property to Illorione Morea of Brooklyn, New York, in 1912 (FLR 76:344), who gave the road its name. They operated an ice harvesting business from the property around 1915 to 1945.

The Root-Peck House is architecturally significant due to its state of preservation.