

# West Hartford, Connecticut

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## West Hartford, Connecticut

### Town



Blue Back Square



Nickname(s):

WeHa

Motto(s):

*Where City Style meets Village Charm*

**Country** [United States](#)

**U.S. state** [Connecticut](#)

**County** [Hartford](#)

**Metropolitan area** [Hartford](#)

**Incorporated** 1854

#### **Government**

• **Type** [Council-manager](#)

#### **Area**

• **Total** 22.3 sq mi (57.7 km<sup>2</sup>)

• **Land** 21.9 sq mi (56.6 km<sup>2</sup>)

• **Water** 0.4 sq mi (1.1 km<sup>2</sup>)

**West Hartford** is a town in Hartford County, Connecticut, United States, 5 miles (8.0 km) west of downtown Hartford. The population was 63,268 at the 2010 census.<sup>[1]</sup>

The town's popular downtown area is colloquially known as "West Hartford Center," or simply "The Center," and is centered on Farmington Avenue and South/North Main Street. West Hartford Center has been the community's main hub since the late 17th century. In 2008, Blue Back Square opened as a new addition to the central area, which includes a bookstore, a movie theater, two parking garages, various physician and medical offices, and several restaurants.

Incorporated as a town in 1854, West Hartford was previously a parish of Hartford, founded in 1672.<sup>[2]</sup> Among the southernmost of the communities in the Hartford-Springfield Knowledge Corridor metropolitan region, West Hartford is home to University of Hartford and the University of Saint Joseph.

In 2010, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine listed West Hartford as one of the nation's "10 Great Cities for Raising Families"<sup>[3]</sup> and ranked it #9 on its "10 Best Cities for the Next Decade" list.<sup>[4]</sup> Also in 2010, CNN Money ranked West Hartford the 55th best small city in America<sup>[5]</sup> and *Travelandleisure.com* called it one of 10 "coolest" suburbs in the nation, and the West Hartford Reservoir off Farmington Avenue "West Hartford's version of Central Park, noting the town's "vacation-worthy hot spots, with cutting-edge restaurants, great shopping, and plenty of parking."

## History

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According to archaeological evidence, the Wampanoag people used West Hartford as one of their winter camps. Fishing and hunting along the Connecticut River, the area of West Hartford offered the Wampanoag people a refuge from the cold winter wind and the river's severe spring flooding. In 1636 Reverend Thomas Hooker led a group of followers from what is now Cambridge, Massachusetts to the "Great River" and eventually established the Hartford Colony. As the colony grew, additional land was needed. In 1672 the Proprietors of Hartford ordered that a Division be created to the West. A total of "72 Long Lots" were laid out between today's Quaker Lane in the East and Mountain Road in the West. The northern boundary was Bloomfield, and the Southern, present day New Britain Avenue. (The western boundary was extended in 1830 to include part of Farmington). In the 1670s, the area was referred to as the "West Division" of Hartford. This remained the official name until 1806 when Connecticut General Assembly started referring to it as "the Society of West Hartford."

It is believed that the first homesteader to West Hartford was Stephen Hosmer whose father was in Hooker's first group of Hartford settlers and who later owned 300 acres (1,200,000 m<sup>2</sup>) just north of the present day Center. In 1679, Stephen Hosmer's father sent him to establish a sawmill on the property. Young Hosmer would eventually go back to live in Hartford, but in his 1693 estate inventory, 310 acres (1,300,000 m<sup>2</sup>) in West Hartford along with a house and a sawmill are listed. For nearly a century the property would be handed down throughout the family. Evidence still remains of the Town's first industry, as Stephen Hosmer's mill pond and dam can still be found today on the westernmost side of North Main Street.

By the time of the American Revolution, the once rugged wilderness had been largely clear and a new agricultural-based community had developed with a population of just over 1,000 residents and 3,000 sheep. At its core was the parish meeting house. The First Congregational Meeting House was [built around 1712](#). Now in its 5th building, the church stands proudly at what is now the southeast corner of Main Street and Farmington Avenue. As the focus of early religious, political, and social life, the meeting house helped to provide this area with a name, a title that it still holds today – "The Center."

Evidence in the Hartford Courant and in the 1790s census show that some of the more prosperous households relied on laborers and slaves for fieldwork and domestic help. The Sarah Whitman Hooker House was one such residence and still stands on New Britain Avenue. Evidence shows that the Hookers owned several slaves. [One such slave, Bristow, bought his freedom in 1775 to fight in the Revolutionary War. slave for whom one of West Hartford's middle schools is named, Bristow bought his freedom from Thomas Hart Hooker in April 1775 as Hooker set off to fight in the Revolutionary War. Bristow continued to live with the family after Thomas Hart Hooker was killed in the war. Bristow became an agricultural expert](#)

and left his property to the Hookers' two children when he died. He is the only known African American to be buried in West Hartford's Old Center Burial Yard.



Noah Webster House (West Hartford, CT) - front facade

## Coming of industry

One of the first major industries to arise centered on the pottery and brick works. Extending from Hartford to Berlin is a sizable deposit of fine clay. In 1770, Ebenezer Faxon came from Massachusetts and settled in what would become the Elmwood section of West Hartford. There he established a pottery on South Road (what is today New Britain Avenue) which took advantage of the local geological landscape. It was Seth Goodwin, however, who helped to establish a pottery dynasty. Goodwin started his pottery works around 1798. For over a hundred years, the Goodwin name would be associated with West Hartford pottery. Producing utilitarian items such as jugs for the gin manufactured in local distilleries, to terra cotta designs and fine china, the Goodwin Company employed up to 75 people in its heyday. The Goodwin Brothers Pottery Company (as it came to be known) burned for the third time in 1908 and never recovered.



Sarah Whitman Hooker House in West Hartford

In 1879 Edwin Arnold established the Trout Brook Ice & Feed Company. Ice from Trout Brook, a stream that runs through the middle of West Hartford, was harvested in the winter, sawn into blocks, and placed into a series of ice houses through an escalator system. Insulated in sawdust, the blocks of ice were used as refrigeration locally and shipped as far away as New York City. By the late 19th century, the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad ran through part of Elmwood in the southeast corner of town. A variety of companies cropped up in this area including Whitlock Coil Pipe Company in 1891, and later Royal Typewriter, Wiremold, Abbot Ball, Colt's Manufacturing and Uncle Bill's Silver Grippers (producer of tweezers). The largest of West Hartford manufacturers was Pratt & Whitney (now Pratt & Whitney Measurement Systems, which later lent its name to Pratt & Whitney, the aerospace corporation headquartered in East Hartford). In 1940 it built a plant on 20 acres (81,000 m<sup>2</sup>) and at the height of World War II it employed over 7,000 people. It would stand until 1991, when Pratt & Whitney Measurement Systems was acquired and operations were relocated to Plainville.

## A new town

In 1792 a committee of residents was appointed to ask permission from Hartford to secede, and were denied. Five years later they petitioned again and again were denied. In the spring of 1854, the Connecticut General Assembly was meeting in New Haven (co-capitol with Hartford at the time). Most likely taking advantage of the distance from Hartford, a petition dated March 21 was delivered to the General Assembly by delegates from West Hartford. Signed by 153 residents, the petition claimed that residences were "subjected to many inconveniences on account of their present connection with the town and city of Hartford and that their convenience and prosperity would be essentially promoted by being set off as a separate town." On April 26, about 100 residents from West Hartford presented their own case against secession. After review and an opportunity for Hartford to make an argument for keeping West Hartford, the General Assembly voted on May 3 for West Hartford's independence.

The 1854 vote was not however the end of the debate. In 1895 wealthy residents from the "East Side" of West Hartford petitioned Hartford for annexation. Their call was rebuffed by other West Hartford residents. Then in 1923 and 1924 Hartford wanted to annex West Hartford back so that it could achieve a "Greater Hartford Plan." Town residents rallied in opposition and the plan was defeated by a vote of 2,100 to 6137.

## Emergence as a streetcar suburb

It is transportation that has had the biggest impact on West Hartford and its evolution from sleepy crossroads to modern suburb. In the late 18th and early 19th century three [turnpikes](#) ran through West Hartford. Around these roads, taverns, blacksmith and wheelwright shops, general stores and many other places of businesses sprang up. Early maps provide a sense of how important these byways were in the development of commerce and industry. Then came the trolleys – starting in 1845, Fred Brace began running a horse-drawn omnibus from his home on the corner of Farmington Avenue and Dale Street into downtown Hartford. Even more significant were the horse-drawn trolley lines and later electric trolleys that in 1889 began to weave their way from the inner city of Hartford to the countryside of West Hartford. Trolley lines opened up a land that had been inaccessible to many, and made it possible for professionals and their families to settle along Prospect Avenue, then north of Farmington Avenue.

By the 1880s, Hartford began to experience an economic boom. As such Hartford's business leaders began building their mansions along Prospect Avenue. Prospect Hill, situated on a one-mile-long (1.6 km) ridge boasting impressive views of the burgeoning city, became the area's most prestigious address. Homes are characteristic of the architectural styles popular in that period are represented, particularly Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals. Many homes in the area on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Connecticut Governor's Residence, built in 1908. Prospect Avenue is adjacent to Elizabeth Park, designed by acclaimed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted in 1896 and named for the wife of Governor Charles H. Pond, who bequeathed the land to the City of Hartford. In 1900, the Hartford Golf Club opened its links on the other side of Asylum Avenue just west of Prospect Avenue, adding to the area's ideal suburban sensibility.

In 1895, Wood, Harmon and Company created one of the town's first subdivisions on property known as Stanley Farm, a tract sloping upward from the trolley line that then ran along Farmington Avenue, across from Reservoir No. 1. Called Buena Vista, it was promoted as "Hartford's New and Handsome Suburb." Their literature highlighted "splendid suburban electric car service" and proximity to Reservoir No. 1.



## West Hill Historic District in West Hartford 2

Other developments followed including "Elmhurst" in Elmwood (1901), and Sunset Farm (1917). One of the most exclusive of these early developments was West Hill. Located on the former estate of Cornelius Vanderbilt, son of the famous financier and transportation magnet, it was the brainchild of Horace R. Grant. Designed by some of Hartford's best architects in the 1920s, West Hill is significant historically because it is an excellent example of a planned real estate development of the early 1920s that proceeded under specific design restrictions to achieve outstanding success as a well-crafted and prestigious neighborhood. The architecture is characteristic of the Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles popular in the period. It was declared a National Historic District in 1996.

### **The automobile**



Old Noah Webster Memorial Library building

By the 1920s and 30s the impact of the automobile was felt in West Hartford as the town became more accessible to Hartford's middle and working class citizens. Between 1910 and 1930 the population of West Hartford grew from 4,808 to 24,941 residents. Then with the end of the Great Depression, World War II, and the exodus from urban centers, West Hartford witnessed a tremendous influx of people as its population swelled from 33,776 in 1940 to 62,382 people by 1960. This era ushered in major housing developments and retail spaces throughout the community.

In the 50s, the primary avenues — Albany, Asylum and Farmington — became important arteries for commuters, and the access made West Hartford attractive to middle-class families. During the decade, the town built one new elementary school each year to accommodate the growing population. In the 1960s, construction began on Interstate 84, completed in 1969. The interstate had many ramifications on the community, the most visible was that it bisected the town, isolating the more industrial and ethnically diverse neighborhood of Elmwood with a physical barrier from the rest of West Hartford.<sup>[15]</sup> Furthermore, The interstate allowed for increased accessibility as the population increased with the Baby Boom and development, and recalibrated the traditional retail sites.

Subsequent residential development continued on through the late '70s, particularly in the town's northern, western and far southwestern fringes, as evidenced by the many large colonial, ranch, and split level-style homes in these areas. In 1971, the Bishops Corner development was inaugurated. Housing tenants such as Lord & Taylor, F.W. Woolworth, and Doubleday Book Shop drew shoppers from across the region; the Center with its largely independently owned stores, were negatively impacted by the new retail traffic patterns.

Towards the town's southwest fringe lies Westfarms Mall. Opened in 1974 with original anchors JC Penney, G. Fox & Co., and Sage-Allen, the mall further recalibrated retail in West Hartford. It became well known for its lavish ceilings and waterfall-style fountain. Sitting astride I-84, conveniently connected to the town's main internal arteries, and comprising more than 1,300,000 square feet (120,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of stores and restaurants, it is the third largest indoor mall in Connecticut.

Outside the library at Blue Back Square in West Hartford, Connecticut

## Blue Back Square

Opening in 2007, Blue Back Square is a pioneer mixed-use development in the Center that blends retail and residential living space on a large scale. The five-building complex contains 220,000 square feet (20,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of ground floor retail space and 120 luxury space. Medical office space encompasses 137,000 square feet (12,700 m<sup>2</sup>), and other professional offices total another 62,500 square feet (5,810 m<sup>2</sup>) square feet. A six-screen movie theatre as well as two 500-space parking garages were also built. Named after **Noah Webster's popular spelling book, Blue-Back Speller**, the development has significantly altered the Center and furthered West Hartford's status as a regional dining and shopping destination.

## Geography



American Beech Tree, West Hartford, CT

According to the United States Census Bureau, the town has a total area of 22.3 square miles (57.7 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 21.9 square miles (56.6 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and 0.42 square miles (1.1 km<sup>2</sup>), or 1.91%, is water.<sup>[1]</sup>

The west side of West Hartford is flanked by the Metacomet Ridge, a mountainous trap rock ridgeline that stretches from Long Island Sound to nearly the Vermont border. Notable features of the Metacomet Ridge in West Hartford include Talcott Mountain and a number of highland water reservoirs belonging to the Metropolitan District, which maintains watershed and recreation resources on the property. The 51-mile-long (82 km) Metacomet Trail traverses the ridge. The town's web site indicates that the highest point in town is 778 feet (237 m) above sea level on Talcott (Avon) Mountain. The altitude at Town Hall is 120 feet (37 m).

West Hartford is adjacent to and west of Hartford, the state capital, and borders Bloomfield, Newington, New Britain, Farmington, and Avon. West Hartford is approximately 100 miles (160 km) southwest of Boston and 120 miles (190 km) northeast of New York City. Interstate 84 runs through West Hartford.

## Demographics

| Historical population |       |        |
|-----------------------|-------|--------|
| Census                | Pop.  | %±     |
| <a href="#">1850</a>  | 4,411 | —      |
| <a href="#">1860</a>  | 1,296 | −70.6% |
| <a href="#">1870</a>  | 1,533 | 18.3%  |
| <a href="#">1880</a>  | 1,828 | 19.2%  |

|                  |                        |        |
|------------------|------------------------|--------|
| <u>1890</u>      | 1,930                  | 5.6%   |
| <u>1900</u>      | 3,186                  | 65.1%  |
| <u>1910</u>      | 4,808                  | 50.9%  |
| <u>1920</u>      | 8,854                  | 84.2%  |
| <u>1930</u>      | 24,941                 | 181.7% |
| <u>1940</u>      | 33,776                 | 35.4%  |
| <u>1950</u>      | 44,402                 | 31.5%  |
| <u>1960</u>      | 62,382                 | 40.5%  |
| <u>1970</u>      | 68,031                 | 9.1%   |
| <u>1980</u>      | 61,301                 | -9.9%  |
| <u>1990</u>      | 60,110                 | -1.9%  |
| <u>2000</u>      | 63,589                 | 5.8%   |
| <u>2010</u>      | 63,268                 | -0.5%  |
| <b>Est. 2014</b> | 63,324 <sup>[20]</sup> | 0.1%   |

As of the 2010 Census,<sup>[22]</sup> there were 63,268 people, 25,258 households, and 16,139 families residing in the town. The population density was 2,888.9 people per square mile (1,117.0/km<sup>2</sup>). There were 25,332 housing units at an average density of 1,152.3/square mile (445.0/km<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of the town was 79.6% White, 6.3% African American, 0.2% Native American, 7.4% Asian, 0.03% Pacific Islander, 3.8% from other races, and 2.7% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 9.8% of the population.

Of West Hartford residents, 49.85% reported a religious affiliation. Out of all residents, 31.74% were Catholic, 3.29% Presbyterian, 2.19% Baptist, 2.19% Methodist, 1.59% Jewish, 1.39% Lutheran, 1.31% Episcopalian, 1.19% Pentecostal, 0.4% Mormon, 3.38% of another Christian denomination, and 0.34% were Muslim. There were 25,258 households out of which 30.5% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 50.7% were married couples living together, 10.3% had a female householder with no husband present, and 36.1% were non-families. 29.1% of all households were made up of individuals and 13.1% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.42 and the average family size was 3.06.

In the town, the population was spread out with 23.3% under the age of 18, 9.8% from 18 to 24, 24.2% from 25 to 44, 28.1% from 45 to 64, and 17.1% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 41.5 years. For every 100 females, there were 86.5 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 82.2 males.

The median income for a household in the town was \$80,061, and the median income for a family was \$106,089 as of a 2011 estimate.<sup>[24]</sup> Males had a median income of \$69,888 versus \$56,162 for females. The per capita income for the town was \$45,453. About 3.7% of families and 6.1% of the population were below the poverty line, including 5.3% of those under the age of 18 and 9.6% ages 65 or older.

## Economy

### Top employers

According to the town's 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report,<sup>[25]</sup> the top employers in the city are:

| #  | Employer                                      | # of Employees |
|----|---|----------------|
| 1  | Town of West Hartford                         | 1,000–2,000    |
| 2  | University of Hartford                        | 1,000–2,000    |
| 3  | Hebrew Health Care                            | 500–999        |
| 4  | Wiremold                                      | 500–999        |
| 5  | Triumph Group (formerly Goodrich Corporation) | 250–499        |
| 6  | University of Connecticut                     | 250–499        |
| 7  | American Medical Response                     | 250–499        |
| 8  | The Cheesecake Factory                        | 250–499        |
| 9  | Saint Mary Home                               | 250–499        |
| 10 | Colt's Manufacturing Company                  | 250–499        |

## Government

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West Hartford has had council–manager government since 1919. It was the first town in the state and one of the first in the country to adopt this form of government, where the council acts as the elected policy board and the town manager serves as the chief executive officer responsible for carrying policies out. In 1921, voters switched to elections by the single transferable vote, using it for two elections, before the General Assembly overturned it in 1923. Town Council members are elected at large for two years and represent all of West Hartford, and the town clerk is elected for four years. Elected by the Town Council in 2008, Ronald F. Van Winkle is the Town Manager.

Connecticut municipalities (like those of neighboring states Massachusetts and Rhode Island) provide nearly all local services (such as fire and rescue, education, snow removal, etc.), as county government has been abolished since 1960.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Infrastructure

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### Transportation

#### Airports

Bradley International Airport, in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, is twenty minutes north of downtown Hartford. It features over 150 daily departures to over 30 destinations on nine airlines. Other airports serving the Hartford area include:<sup>[29]</sup>

- Hartford–Brainard Airport, located in Hartford off I-91 and close to Wethersfield, serves charter flights and local flights.
- Westover Metropolitan Airport, located in Chicopee, Massachusetts, 27 miles (43 km) north of Hartford, serves commercial, local, charter, and military flights.
- Tweed New Haven Airport, located in New Haven, Connecticut, is served by US Airways Express.

#### Railroad

At present, Amtrak does not serve West Hartford directly. The town center is approximately 5 miles (8.0 km) west of Hartford's Union Station.

West Hartford is a planned stop along the Hartford Line, a commuter rail service from New Haven to Springfield that uses the current Amtrak-owned New Haven–Springfield Line, with a possible shuttle bus connection in Windsor Locks to Bradley International Airport.<sup>[30]</sup> Service launched on June 16, 2018.<sup>[31]</sup> The State of Connecticut has secured funding for the construction of a new train station at Flatbush Avenue at the corner of New Park Avenue.<sup>[32]</sup>

#### Bus[edit]

West Hartford is served by several bus routes of Connecticut Transit. Major roads served are Albany Avenue (Route 58), New Britain Avenue (Routes 37, 39, and 128), Park Street (Routes 31 and 33), South/North Main Street (Route 153) Farmington Avenue (Routes 60, 62, 64, and 66), Asylum Avenue (Route 72), Hillside Avenue (Route 63), and Boulevard/South Quaker Lane (Route 69).

#### Bus rapid transit

CTfastrak, Connecticut's first bus rapid transit corridor, opened in 2015, providing a separated right-of-way between Hartford and New Britain.<sup>[33]</sup> West Hartford is served by two stations:

- Elmwood: Corner of New Park Avenue and New Britain Avenue
- Flatbush Avenue: Corner of Flatbush Avenue and New Park Avenue

## Highways

I-84 runs from Scranton to its intersection with I-90 in Sturbridge, just over the Massachusetts border, passing through West Hartford.

## Utilities

- Electricity: Eversource Energy
- Water: Metropolitan District Commission
- Natural gas: Connecticut Natural Gas
- Telephone, ADSL/Fiber internet, IPTV television: Frontier Communications
- Cable television/Cable internet: Comcast

## Education

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In 2006 *Money* magazine ranked West Hartford the 10th most educated town in the United States, as measured by the percentage of town residents holding graduate or professional degrees.<sup>[34]</sup> *Connecticut Magazine* 2006 rankings put West Hartford Public School education in the top three among all cities and towns in Connecticut for its population class of greater than 50,000 people, behind only Greenwich and Fairfield.

### Public schools



The American School for the Deaf

The town is home to two public high schools, Conard (home of the Conard Chieftains) and Hall (home of the Hall Warriors), as well as 11 elementary schools and three middle schools in the West Hartford Public Schools system. The elementary schools are Aiken, Braeburn, Bugbee, Charter Oak, Duffy, Morley, Norfeldt, Smith, Webster Hill, Whiting Lane and Wolcott. The middle schools are King Philip, Sedgwick, and the newest, Bristow Middle School, on the former site of Kingswood-Oxford Middle School. The elementary schools are evenly distributed to either King Philip or Sedgwick, and those who enroll at Bristow are chosen by lottery. After middle school, students continue on to high school with their same student body. Sedgwick's graduates go to Conard High School, & King Philip's go to Hall. Bristow students to elementary school.

### Private schools

- Saint Thomas the Apostle School
- Saint Timothy Middle School
- Northwest Catholic High School
- St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School
- American School for the Deaf
- Kingswood-Oxford School
- Renbrook School
- Hebrew High School of New England
- Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford
- German School of Connecticut

## Colleges and universities



White Oak Tree, West Hartford, CT

Institutions of higher learning in the town include:

- University of Hartford
- University of Saint Joseph
- University of Connecticut Greater Hartford Campus

## Notable people



Noah Webster statue in West Hartford Center in front of the public library, created by West Hartford sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski. One mile (1.6 km) to the south is the Noah Webster House, where Webster was born in 1758.

In alphabetical order:

- Chip Arndt, gay rights activist, philanthropist, and co-winner of *The Amazing Race 4*
- Stephen Barnett (1935–2009), legal scholar who opposed the Newspaper Preservation Act of 1970<sup>[36]</sup>
- Michelle Beadle, Sports Reporter and NBC Universal Host
- E. Alexander Bergstrom (1919–73), conservationist
- Manute Bol (1962–2010), NBA player
- Ben Bova, science fact and fiction author
- Tim Brennan, guitar player and songwriter for Dropkick Murphys
- Chris Carrabba, singer–songwriter from Dashboard Confessional
- Joyce Cohen, actress
- John Droney, politician and lawyer
- Dominick Dunne (1925–2009) and John Gregory Dunne, (1932–2003), writers, were born in Hartford and grew up in West Hartford
- John L. Flannery - chairman & CEO, General Electric (GE)
- John Franklin Enders, Nobel Laureate 1954 for Medicine
- Joe Furey, Chief Meteorologist Fox61
- Martin Hayes, Six Time All Ireland Fiddle Champion
- Grayson Hugh (singer-songwriter), songs featured in Oscar-winning films *Thelma and Louise* and *Fried Green Tomatoes*
- Katharine Houghton Hepburn (1878–1951), social activist
- Liz Janangelo, professional golfer on the LPGA Tour
- Jared Jordan, drafted 45th by Los Angeles Clippers in the 2007 NBA Draft
- Charlie Kaufman, Academy Award winner and screenwriter of *Being John Malkovich* and *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*
- Edward Lorenz, mathematician and meteorologist, early pioneer of chaos theory, inventor of the strange attractor notion, made the term "butterfly effect" popular
- Frank Luntz, Republican pollster
- Kenny Mayne, ESPN personality
- Joseph Mascolo, actor and soap opera veteran
- Brett H. McGurk, Special Adviser to the United States Ambassador to Iraq
- Edward Morley, namesake of Morley Elementary School, scientist best known for the Michelson–Morley experiment
- Jason Muzzatti, former NHL goalie, played with the Hartford Whalers
- John O'Hurley, actor on *Seinfeld* television series and former Family Feud host.
- Peter Paige, actor
- John P. Reese, money manager and financial columnist
- Ryen Russillo, ESPN personality
- William Thompson Sedgwick, professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a key figure in shaping U.S. public health
- Scott Van Pelt, ESPN personality
- Noah Webster, lexicographer, textbook author, Bible translator, spelling reformer, writer, and editor
- John Woodruff, congressman
- Gregory S. Woodward, president of the University of Hartford
- Korczak Ziolkowski (1908–82), sculptor of Crazy Horse Memorial in South Dakota

## Points of interest

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Blue Back Square

- Bishops Corner
- Blue Back Square
- Elizabeth Park
- Elmwood
- Fern Park
- Noah Webster House
- Park Road
- West Hartford Center
- Westfarms Mall
- Westmoor Park

show

### Places adjacent to West Hartford, Connecticut

## See also

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- National Register of Historic Places listings in West Hartford, Connecticut

## References

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