

TOWN OF

WASHINGTON

REPORT OF THE
HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

ADOPTED:
EFFECTIVE;

WASHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE

More than fifteen years ago the state of Connecticut issued in its General Statutes, "Sec 7-147a Historic Districts Authorized." Since that time municipalities throughout the state have taken many strong positive steps to help preserve their quality of life. Those steps more often than not have included the setting up of Historic Districts within their communities. The town of Washington has now decided to join this ever-growing list of enlightened municipalities through the formation of its Historic District Study Committee.

As Section 7-147a states, the study committee may explore the establishment "within its confines, of historic districts to promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of buildings, places and districts of historic interest by the maintenance of such landmarks in the history of architecture, of the municipality, of the state, of the nation, and through the development of appropriate settings for such buildings, places and districts."

In effect the proper application of this state provision would firmly help link the town with its heritage and improve the quality of life in the present. Such historic preservation must always be objective in its general attitude. It must regard all periods and styles as inherently equal. That is, it is as important to preserve 20th century Eclectic and 19th century Neo-Gothic as 18th century Georgian or Federal or Classic. Each can relate to a period of the town's development, and each has an intrinsic worth that transcends a particular personal choice. We are therefore attempting to save the best of the past as it relates to our rich and colorful local heritage.

On a more pragmatic level there would be a number of substantial benefits derived by the formation of Washington Historic Districts. Some examples are:

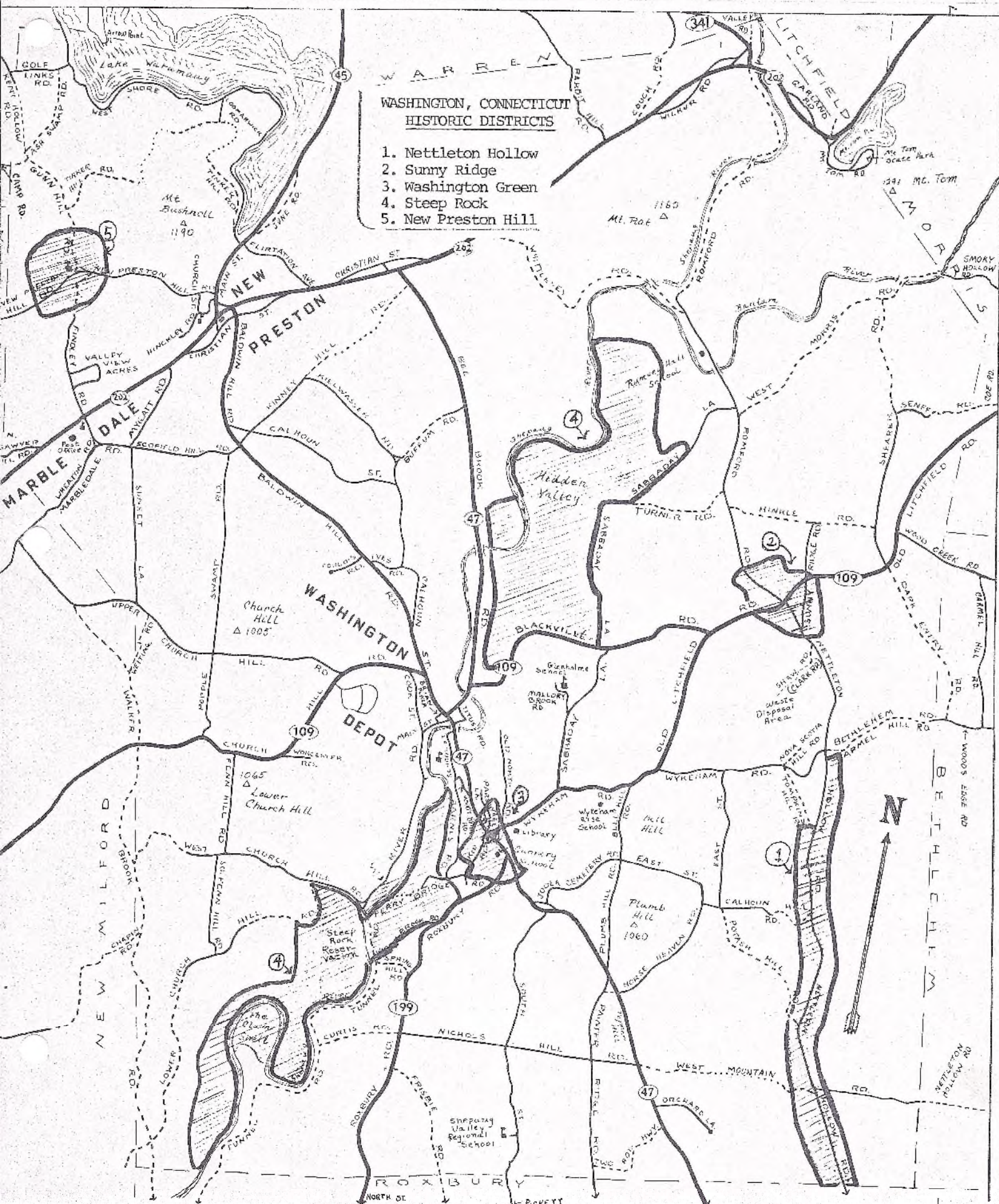
1. These districts have in other towns fostered civic pride and stimulated public participation and responsibility in maintaining the special quality of environment in those towns... it is expected that Washington, too, will benefit similarly;
2. The superb village quality and intimate character of existing neighborhoods will be maintained despite population increases, and the possible development of future business growth;
3. Historic sites and structures will be preserved for our future generations to enjoy;

4. The district will limit the development of undesirable structures and will prevent the destruction of existing historic buildings or sites that are of proven value to the area;
5. Other towns with historic districts have found a positive demand for houses in these districts. Buyers tend to favor the protection which such districts provide, knowing that the neighborhood is practically assured that future deterioration is impossible. In other established districts increases of property values of 30% occurred as a direct result of the formation of the district;
6. Upon the formation of the permanent Historic District Commission the town would have a strong working group capable of participating in all future town planning programs.

So it is with these thoughts in mind that your Historic District Study Committee as a beginning offers the following five suggested Historic Districts for the town of Washington:

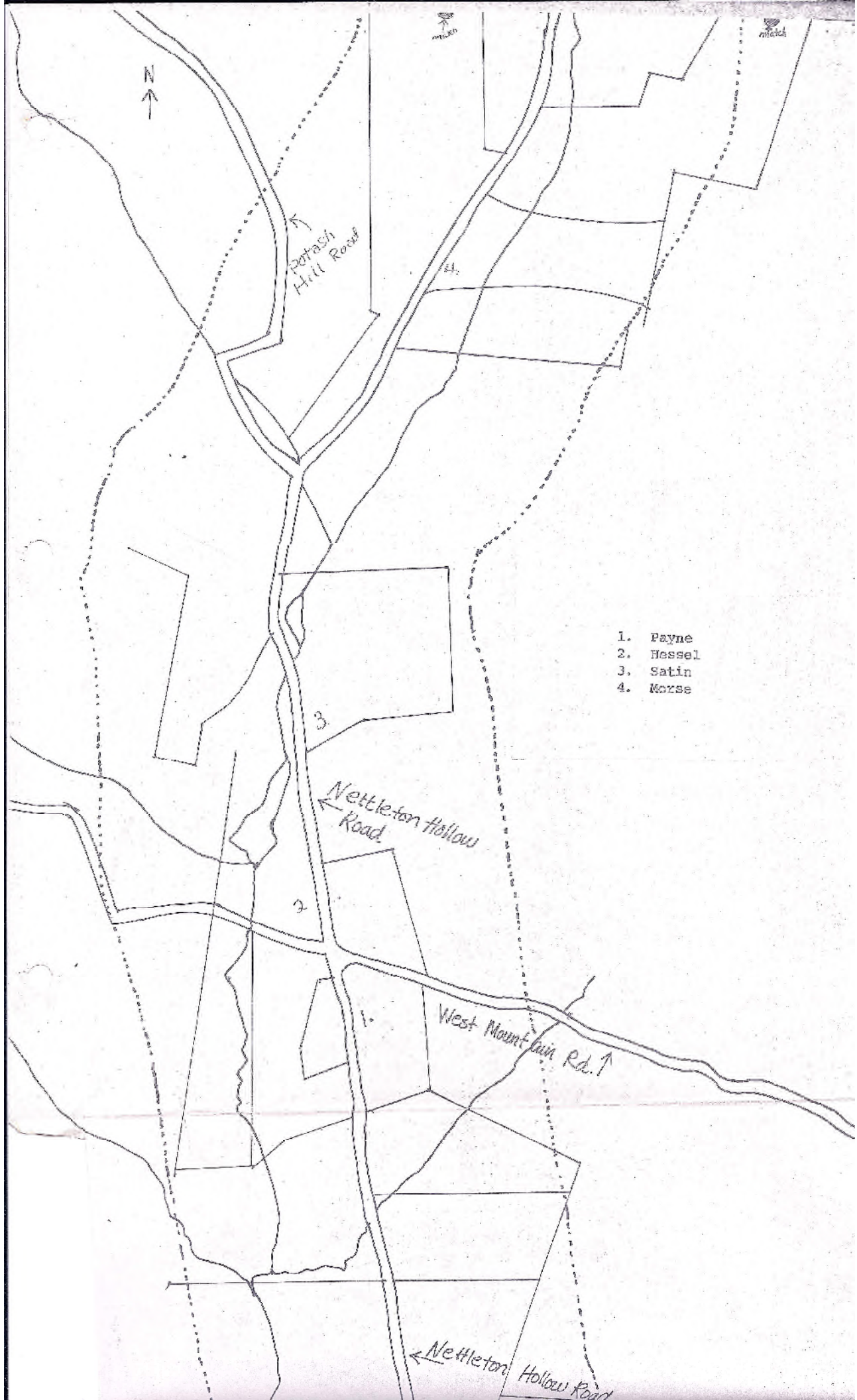
The Nettleton Hollow District
The Sunny Ridge District
The Washington Green District
The Steep Rock Park District
The New Preston Hill District

1. Nettleton Hollow
2. Sunny Ridge
3. Washington Green
4. Steep Rock
5. New Preston Hill

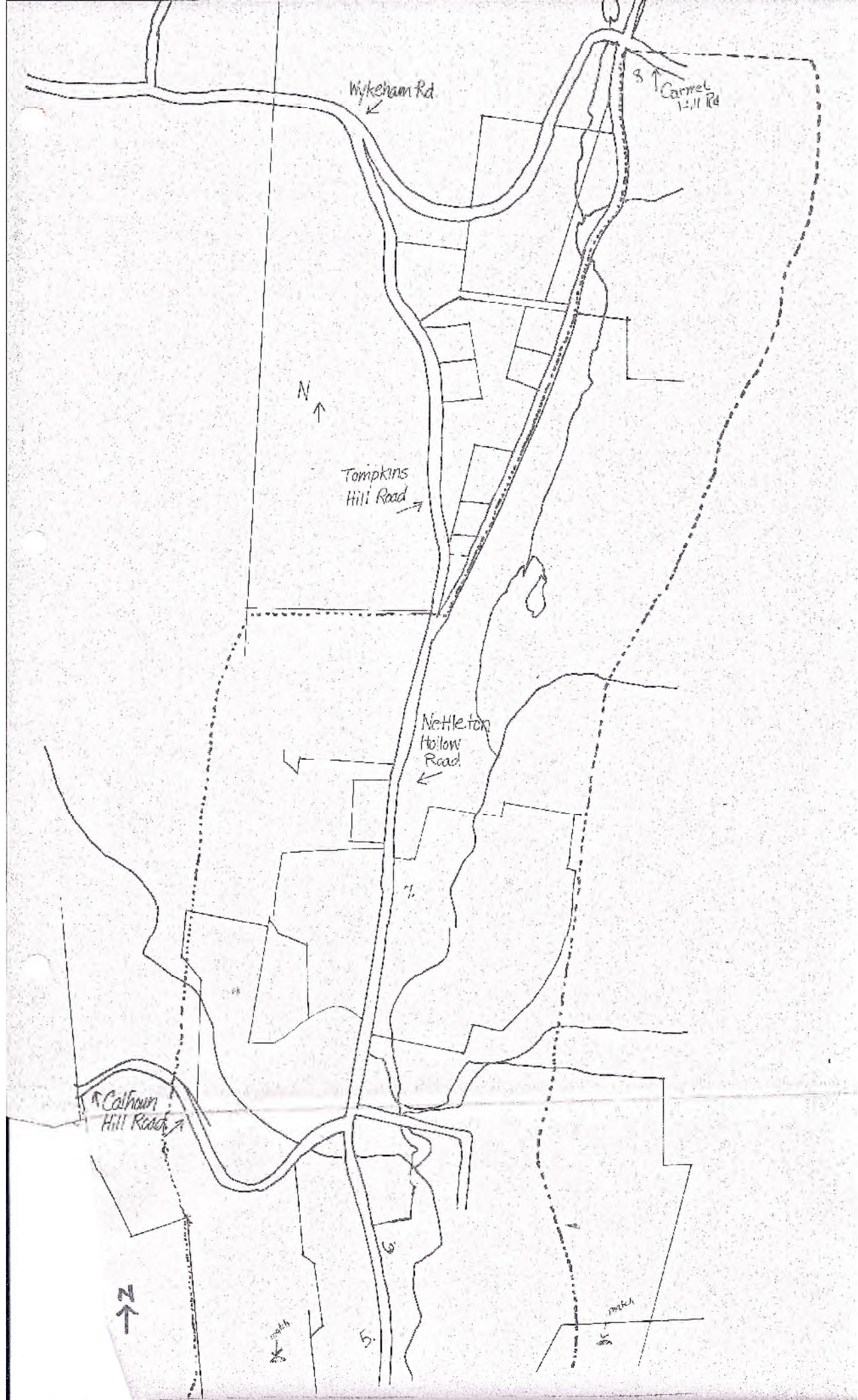


NETTLETON HOLLOW HISTORICAL DISTRICT

1. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Payne III - 1760
 2. Almon Galpin House (Mrs. Sidney A. Hessel) - 1840
Saw Mill - 1851
 3. Gideon Hollister House (Mrs. Joan T. Satin) 1827
 4. Hollister Homestead (Mrs. Forbes Morse) 1775
 5. Samuel Nettleton House (Mrs. H. Heinemann) 1814
 6. Treat Nettleton House (Mrs. John V. Dorr) 1867
 7. Benjamin Beach House (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Middlebrook) 1750
 8. Site of the Riggs Blacksmith Shop (Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Umla)
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1. Payne
2. Hessel
3. Satin
4. Morse



NETTLETON HOLLOW

Located as it is in a valley between two parallel ridges, Nettleton Hollow's traditional function has been as a highway. Recent archeological evidence indicates extensive use of this area by prehistoric native American peoples long before the first white settlers appeared in Connecticut. In historic times, the Hollow served as a natural migration route for families moving north from the Town of Woodbury. In spite of the topographic configuration of the Hollow, some of the earliest settlement within the present limits of Washington took place in that area.

As permanent settlement increased, Nettleton Hollow became the main road from Woodbury to Judea and also served as an important link of the Cornwall-New Haven Turnpike. To the north, this artery connected with the New York to Albany Road. Thus, a continuous overland route between Albany and the Connecticut coast was created. In view of the difficulties presented to farmers in the Hollow, it seems as though a number of residents--like the Logans--served travelers as innkeepers, smiths, and carters.

Trade between Hollow inhabitants and coastal markets is the subject of many local stories. One enterprising resident is reported to have carried a load of his own pork to the old market on Broadway (now Chapel Street) in New Haven. Using the money so obtained, this fledgling capitalist proceeded to the wharves, bought a load of plaster and, upon his return, sold it to his neighbors in the Hollow. From this transaction a profit of \$100 was made. This was not an isolated incident as other reports speak of yokes of oxen led by horses being sent to Derby to load up on molasses, salt, and--ah, yes--rum. Even in a day of substantial self-sufficiency not all necessities could be produced locally.

The pattern of settlement in Nettleton Hollow has left a striking, well-integrated combination of historic and natural elements. Along the Hollow Road--and connected by it--are several excellent examples of mid-18th Century rural New England architecture. The Payne, Morse, Middlebrook and Logan homes certainly qualify as classics of this style. In addition to several early 19th Century structures, an architectural oddity also graces the Hollow. This is the Dorr House--one of the few survivors of the "Octagon Fad" which swept the nation in the middle decades of the last century.

Adding to the impact of these early and interesting homes is the natural beauty of the Hollow itself. Fortunately, much of the area is held in large parcels and has been allowed to remain in meadow and timber. In fact, a great quantity of white oak is said to have attracted some of the earliest settlers to this steep-side valley and Potash Hill Road (which terminates in the Hollow) commemorates that use of the local timber supply. The settlers also had an available source of water from Sprain

Brook which runs through much of the valley and was used--at least in one instance--as a source of water power. It is also in the vicinity of Sprain Brook that much of the evidence of aboriginal use of the Hollow has been unearthed. The Hollow's beauty was recognized long ago when, on the suggestion of Frederick W. Gunn, its present name was adopted. Gunn, a great admirer of nature, suggested that "Pork Hollow" was hardly a suitable name for such a magnificent area.

Thus, Nettleton Hollow surely qualifies as an historic district. Saved from overpopulation due to the limited amount of arable land and the problems of hillside farming (many younger sons and daughters of early inhabitants migrated to the west--especially to Ohio), the Hollow exists today as an area of great scenic beauty. Within its confines stand a number of homes significant in Washington's past and important in-and-of themselves as architectural reminders of an earlier day. The combination is truly impressive.

Nettleton Hollow has been proposed as a potential historic district as it clearly meets several of the standards and criteria promulgated by State statute for the creation of such a district.

There follows a series of brief sketches describing the Nettleton Hollow homes which are most significant architecturally and historically. For purposes of identification, these structures are numbered one through nine beginning with the John Payne house and working northward through the Hollow.

MR. & MRS. JOHN H. PAYNE III

One of the most interesting homes in Nettleton Hollow, this structure was built somewhat before 1760 by an unknown carpenter. The Camp family is the first known to have occupied this home. Early records state that one of the first owners was a member of St. John's (Episcopal) Parish which had been established in the Romford area in 1762. According to local tradition, the house is one of the oldest in the Hollow and many of the surrounding properties are subdivisions of the land originally belonging to this house.

Architectural evidence certainly supports this structure's claim to age. It is of two and one-half stories with a lean-to roof. Both the angle of the roof (which is quite steep) and the arrangement of windows (fenestration pattern) indicate an early construction date. The central feature of the house is a huge stone chimney, its base laid dry and chinked with clay. This is, of course, typical of structures built at the time. The framing of the dwelling is of oak with roof boards of chestnut. From the highway, there is little evidence that the house has been altered over the years though the portico over the main entrance may well date from the late-18th to early-19th Century.

HOME OF MRS. FORBES MORSE

Located two miles north of the junction of Nettleton Hollow Road and Connecticut Route 47, and at the foot of Potash Hill Road, this house was built c. 1775 by Captain Gideon Hollister for his son, Preston, who was married in that year. According to tradition, Preston was not happy with his marriage and went off to join the American Army during the Revolution. He died in service and the homestead became the property of his half-brother, Gideon. His son (also named Gideon) married in 1815 and set up housekeeping in part of his father's house and his children were born there. In 1827, the younger Gideon moved out and occupied the house just to the south of the homestead so that his brother, Truman--a strong abolitionist and teetotaler--could begin his married life in the old house. All told, seven generations of Hollisters lived in this house and the family thoroughly pervaded much of Nettleton Hollow.

The house itself is of the central chimney plan, two and one-half stories in height, with a sharp roof angle and long (apparently original) lean-to. Alterations have been made in the house over the years though it today exists as a fine example of the simple, functional, rural architecture of the mid-18th Century.

HOME OF MRS. H. HEINEMANN

The Nettletons are said to have arrived in the Hollow which now bears their name about 1789. In that year, Daniel Nettleton Sr. and his wife, the former Eunice Baldwin, arrived on horseback from Milford, Connecticut. Here they built a home and raised a large family. Apparently, the Nettletons followed the old custom (also observed by the Hollisters) of permitting a newly married son to set up housekeeping in a portion of the old homestead. When the next son married, the first was expected to establish a home of his own.

In 1814, Samuel Nettleton had this house built across the meadow from the old homestead while his parents and brother, Lyman, remained in the old house. The original Nettleton homestead was taken down in 1867 by Samuel's nephew, Treat Nettleton, who then moved into the octagonal house built for him by Simeon Calhoun.

The Samuel Nettleton house is an unpretentious one and one-half story structure typical of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The "ell" which is attached is supposed to have been added shortly after the house was built. Much of the interior detail of the house is original. The structure remained in the Nettleton family for well over a century.

HOME of MRS. SIDNEY A. HESSEL

This house was built for Almon Galpin in the 1840's. Almon was a member of a family which had occupied a dwelling further to the south in the Hollow. In 1876, Mr. Galpin sold the home to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fenn (Ruah Hollister) and it was occupied for many years by them.

The house itself has been substantially altered and expanded over the years. When built, it must have been a rather small, simple structure. However, as its roof line runs at right angles to the highway it apparently was built with at least some elements of Greek Revival architecture in mind.

In the rear of the house is a saw mill which was designed to run on power supplied by Sprain Brook. The date "1851" is inscribed on a beam in the mill and may very well indicate the date of construction as an 1854 map of the Hollow notes the structure as a saw mill.

HOME OF MRS. JOAN T. SATIN

Located just to the south of the Hollister Homestead, this structure was built by Captain Gideon Hollister for his son, Gideon, in 1827. The younger Gideon had lived for several years of his married life in the Old Homestead and all of his children were born there. Following the custom of the day, he moved out when his younger brother, Truman, married and set up housekeeping in the old house to the north.

About 1842, Gideon sold the house to Garry Newton and moved to Woodbury near Hotchkissville. Several different families occupied it during the last half of the 19th Century but curiously enough, the house re-entered the Hollister family in the 1890's.

The Gideon Hollister house has been much altered through the years but, through its association with this well-known Washington family, holds an important place in the history of Nettleton Hollow.

HOME of MRS. JOHN V. DORR

One of two Washington octagons, this structure is an excellent example of an architectural "craze" which swept the United States during the middle of the 19th Century. The originator of this fad seems to have been a New York phrenologist, Orson Squire Fowler, whose book on the subject of octagon building appeared in the early 1850's.

According to architectural authorities, both Washington octagons were built by the same man--Simeon H. Calhoun--shortly after his return from service in the Civil War. The Nettleton Hollow house was built for his neighbor, Treat Nettleton, in 1867. When the octagon house was completed, Mr. Nettleton razed the old homestead which stood nearby.

The octagon itself has two square rooms on the ground floor plus several others of varying shapes. The living room fireplace is in the center of the home with a straight center stairway back of it. Though the house has been somewhat altered over the years (a kitchen extension, porch, and bay window have been added) it remains a singular example of an important, though somewhat bizarre, period in American architectural history.

HOME of MR. & MRS. ROBERT MIDDLEBROOK

One of the oldest houses in Nettleton Hollow, this structure is assumed to have been built by Benjamin Beach about 1750. A member of the ubiquitous Hollister Clan, Sherman Preston, purchased the house in 1831. According to Hollister family tradition, the house was very old then and in a state of disrepair. Sherman Preston, a Deacon of the Congregational Church, resided in the dwelling and repaired the adjacent barn adding a new roof of straw to the latter building. Throughout the remaining years of the 19th Century this house remained in the Hollister family.

This house was built as a small, story and a half, central chimney dwelling. As in the case of many other early homes in the vicinity, the massive chimney stack was of stone though topped with brick above the roof line to impress the neighbors! Though many changes have been made over the years, the basic outline of this simple farm home remains evident. It is located on the east side of Nettleton Hollow Road and sits atop a small knoll. Like the neighboring Morse and Payne houses, this structure is painted red--a color much favored by the early inhabitants of Connecticut.

HOME of MR. & MRS. WALTER E. UMLA

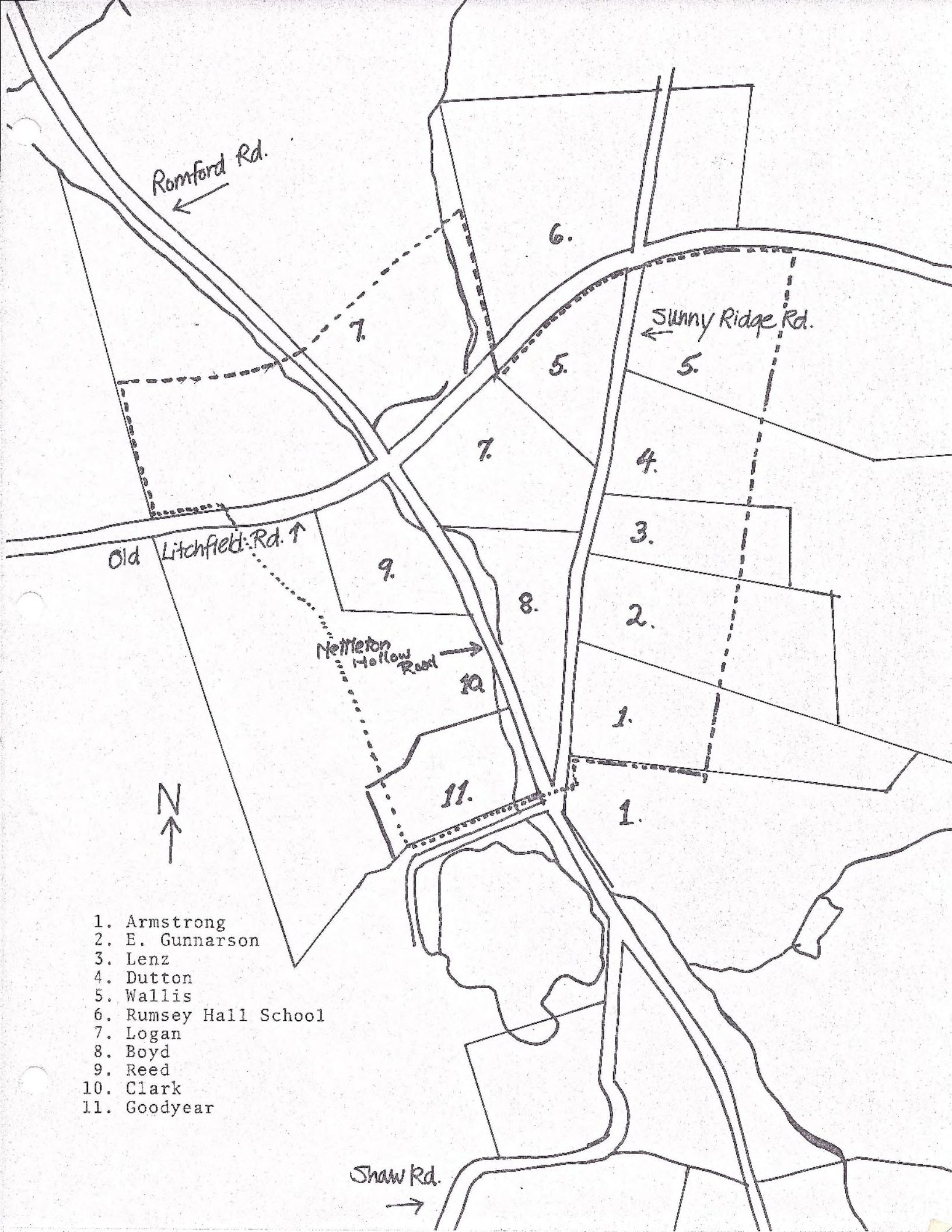
At the intersection of Nettleton Hollow Road and Wykeham Road stood the blacksmith shop of a Mr. Riggs. Because of the nature of the highway through the Hollow, Riggs served an important function as a shoer of the horses and oxen engaged in hauling goods over this route.

The house now standing on the property was built in 1873 by George Hollister who had purchased the land from the Riggs' in 1858. The original Riggs home was taken down by Hollister when the "new" house was completed.

SUNNY RIDGE HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. The Logan Homestead
2. The Home of Mr. & Mrs. Gordon T. Wallis
3. The Home of Mr. & Mrs. Richard G. Dutton
4. The Home of Mr. & Mrs. Francis T. Boyd

The Sunny Ridge Historic District is essentially a part of Nettleton Hollow, yet separated from that District by some non-critical properties. It represents what at one time was an important crossroads, with two inns, and was the center of life in Nettleton Hollow.



Romford Rd.
←

Sunny Ridge Rd.
←

Old Litchfield Rd. ↑

Nettleton Hollow Road →



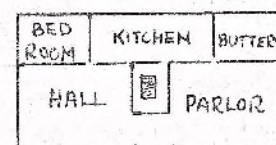
- 1. Armstrong
- 2. E. Gunnarson
- 3. Lenz
- 4. Dutton
- 5. Wallis
- 6. Rumsey Hall School
- 7. Logan
- 8. Boyd
- 9. Reed
- 10. Clark
- 11. Goodyear

Shaw Rd.
→

THE LOGAN HOMESTEAD

Located at the junction of Nettleton Hollow Road and Connecticut Route 109 (the Old Litchfield Road) this structure was built in 1748 by a John Loggin. Loggin had come from Woodbury and was one of Judea's first settlers. His homestead is probably the oldest extant structure in the Hollow and forms the northern terminus of the Historic District.

According to family reports, the house was built as a typical mid-18th Century structure of a story and a half with a "catslide" roof which nearly touched the ground in the rear. Originally, it was but two-thirds its present length with a central fireplace and main entrance in the middle of the south-east wall. The absence of ornamentation and original five-room first-floor plan conform to the standard of the day.



After the original John came a line of three or four Matthew Logans who were the tavern-keepers. The house was known for years as the Rising Sun Inn and a large blue and yellow sign near the corner advertised that fact. The Inn was a main feature of the Albany-New Haven Road and its proprietor would be alerted to the imminent arrival of a stage by the coachman's horn sounded far down the Hollow.

In the first half of the 19th Century, one of the Matthews lengthened the house by one-third, added a long wing behind the kitchen, and raised the roof to two full stories and a garret. Through the middle of the second-floor was created a ballroom decorated with red and green stenciling.

Following the coming of the railroad (1870's), the Inn's importance declined and eventually the road was moved away from the front door to create the spacious lawn of the present. The beauty of the structure was thus enhanced and the Logans are still proud of the fact that this property has been occupied only by "Logans and Indians."

THE HOME of MR. & MRS. GORDON T. WALLIS

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon T. Wallis on Sunny Ridge Road, next door to the Duttons, was built at about the same time as the latter house - 1847-48, presumably by the same Canfield brothers, for Mr. Sheldon Logan.

Mr. Logan left the house to his housekeeper shortly before World War I. She in turn sold it to a Canadian Army officer, a Major Osborne, who after occupying it for a number of years, sold it to the Hoadley family.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Hurley Bogardus purchased the house late in the 1950's from the Hoadley estate. They in turn sold the house to the Wallises in 1970.

HOME of MR. & MRS. RICHARD G. DUTTON

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Dutton on Sunny Ridge Road was built in 1847-48 by Lewis and Daniel Canfield for Russel B. Bloss. The cost for building the house was \$1250.00, exclusive of the timber, boards and planks which were furnished by the owner. Mr. Bloss also agreed to "board said Canfields and all their workmen while building said house - except when they work at home."

There have been several owners of the house. A Mrs. Moore, who left it to a Mrs. Mason who in turn sold it to the Hasbrouck family. The Hasbroucks agreed to purchase the house in 1913 but Mrs. Hasbrouck and her daughter Elsa were trapped in Paris by World War I, and the deal was not finally concluded until 1917.

The Hasbroucks used the house as a summer home until near the conclusion of World War II when it became their year-round residence.

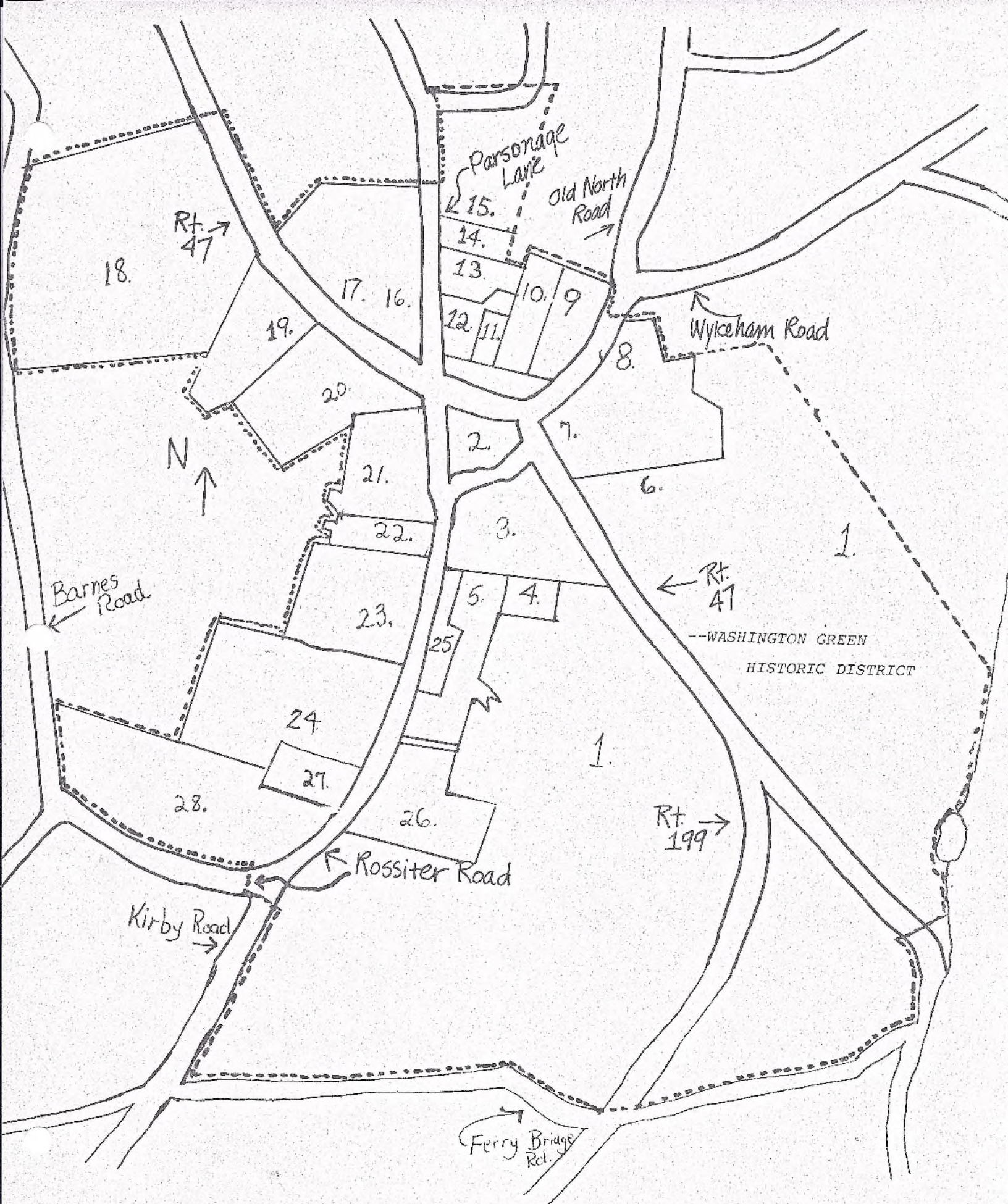
Several years ago the house was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mowbray who in turn sold it to the Duttons in 1973.

HOME OF MR. & MRS. FRANCIS T. BOYD

This frame house, located in the angle of Nettleton Hollow Road and Sunny Ridge Road, was certainly in existence by 1790. The main house is built around a large central chimney with four fireplaces, and a kitchen wing behind. The wing may be the earliest structure as it is entirely constructed with trenails, not an iron nail used in its construction. There are entrances on all four sides of the building. It was at one time a post-house on the New Haven-Albany turnpike, and an inn for the common sort, whose betters lodged at the "Rising Sun" (Logan Homestead). The barn on the property is also very old but in good condition.

GREEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
(Buildings to be Included)

1. The Gunnery
2. Meeting House of Congregational Church - 1801
3. Judea Parish House - 1873
4. The Gunnery - Residence of Mr. & Mrs. C. Burgess Ayres,
The Gold Cottage - 1770?
5. Dr. & Mrs. Henry Fearon - The Red House - 1773
6. Washington Club Hall
7. The Museum of Gunn Memorial Library (Willis House) - 1781
8. The Gunn Memorial Library - 1908
9. Mr. H. Malcolm Baldrige - 1925
10. Miss Julia L. Turner - 1795
11. Mr. John B. Young, Jr. - 1913
12. Mr. & Mrs. Donald Chadwick - 1790
13. Mrs. Marian Fowler - 1790
14. Mr. John Anderson
15. Parsonage Congregational Church
16. St. John's Rectory - 1843
17. St. John's Church - 1917
18. Mr. Alfred Bellinger
19. Ms. Ruth F. Baker
20. The Corner House (Dr. J. F. Beineke) - before 1840
21. Woodruff House - 1790
22. The Gunnery - P.O. and Drug Store - 1851
23. Mr. & Mrs. Henry Burn - 1949
24. Mr. & Mrs. Donald Smith - Blythe Hall - 1843
25. Mr. & Mrs. Walter Umla - 1773
26. Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Lauriat - The Abbey - 1819
27. Miss Frances Colby
28. Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Tidyman



THE WASHINGTON GREEN

The Green in Washington, Connecticut, is an area of about two acres of carefully maintained greensward with beautiful trees and surrounded by many stately and historic buildings, all painted white, and all of which are described in the body of this report.

The Green has been owned by and presided over since 1741 by the First Congregational Church in Washington, the original name of which was Judea Parish by which name Washington was known when it was part of Woodbury. The bounds of the Green, which is bisected by Route 47, extend up to the front steps of the houses to the north of the Meeting House.

Several colorful events take place on the Green during the year. In June the graduation processions of Wykeham Rise and The Gunnery Schools form on the Green before proceeding into the Meeting House. In Mid-July each year, the Green Fair, sponsored by the Congregational Church, is held, and the proceeds are restricted by vote of the Trustees to the care and maintenance of the Green. This occasion attracts people of all ages from Washington and the surrounding towns.

The final event of the year is the Christmas Carol singing in the Meeting House when each participant, in evening dress, ski clothes or what have you, receives a lighted candle, and all gather on the Green after midnight service to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

An integral part of Washington Green--both historically and aesthetically--is The Gunnery. Founded in 1850 by the local educator-abolitionist, Frederick William Gunn, it has the distinction to be one of the state's oldest independent schools. The son and nephews of Harriet Beecher Stowe and the children of John C. Fremont, the first Republican candidate for President, were educated here. Several buildings fronting on The Green are owned by the school and, in days past, The Green itself served as the school's baseball diamond.

The southern approach to The Green (from Woodbury) passes through The Gunnery with the main campus on the left and athletic fields and facilities on the right. The present baseball field has been in use since the 1880's when the Town decided that no more baseball would be played on The Green itself. Mr. Gunn, a baseball enthusiast, purchased a neighboring pasture so that "his boys" would be able to continue to play the national game.

For the purposes of this report, several individual structures owned by the school deserve additional mention.

"Beebe House"--a single family residence, this is the first school dwelling to be encountered on the right side of Route 47. It is an example of "country" Greek Revival architecture dating from the period 1820-1845/50. With its roof line at right angles to the highway and its heavily pedimented gable, this house is in many ways typical of the period. An unusual feature, however, is the front door which is positioned in the center of the facade. Most frequently, Greek Revival structures with "off-center" doors which opened on to long hallways. Interestingly, this building stands directly across from the site of the original "Gunnery"--a large, rambling, turreted Victorian frame structure taken down in the 1920's to make room for "Gunn" Dormitory which presently occupies this location.

The "Schoolhouse"--located immediately to the south of Gunn Dormitory is the school's academic building which began life as an outbuilding for the original Gunnery. Though much changed over the years, the original lines can still be detected in this venerable structure which has served in its present capacity since the last quarter of the 19th Century.

"Morehouse"--to the north of Gunn--and on the same side of Route 47 stands a single-family dwelling known as Morehouse after the family of that name which once occupied it. As is often the case, portions of this house were built at different times with the oldest section rumored to date from the 18th Century. The outward appearance of Morehouse, however, is that of a small, country village cottage of the mid-19th Century.

"Whittlesey"--Immediately to the north of Morehouse stands a school structure which technically fronts on The Green, though a recent (1962) extension of the First Congregational Church's Parish House has effectively eliminated any view of Whittlesey. This building is of considerable age and before having its exterior altered in the early 20th Century must have looked very much like Museum of the Gunn Memorial Library which it faces across Route 47. This would, then, indicate a date of construction somewhere in the 1780's (there is some evidence to indicate 1779 or 1780) and would thus qualify Whittlesey to stand among the first homes on The Green. Built as a two and a half story central hall home with heavily pedimented gables and a main door ornamented with side lights, it is a good example of a large country village home of the late 18th Century, though its interior has been completely changed.

"Bourne Hall" (The Knoll)--In the late 1950's The Gunnery purchased the Alfred S. Bourne property which abutted that of the school. Set in beautifully landscaped grounds, this addition included a gate house and garage (now the school dining hall) as well as the main house called by the Bournes "The Knoll." Built as the Great Depression struck the nation, the work provided by this estate helped to keep the full effects of that economic disaster from being felt in Washington. The great stone wall which bounds the Bourne property on three sides was, in itself, an effective private WPA project. The Knoll, now called Bourne Hall, is barely visible from Route 47. Built in the English Tudor style, it has a first story of stone topped with two in the "half-timbered" or exposed frame style. Though the interior has been substantially altered for school use, the magnificence of the original can still be seen. Of particular interest is the view from the Chapel-reading room over a recently restored sunken garden and pool. Bourne Hall, then, is an excellent example of the type of home built by American industrialists (Bourne of Singer Sewing Machine Co.) in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.

THE MEETING HOUSE of the FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH On the Green

Built in 1801, this structure is the third Meeting House of the Society and is considered an outstanding example of the early 19th century style in ecclesiastical architecture. It is assumed that Charles Bulfinch's Pittsfield, Mass. meeting house was the inspiration for this structure. Many of the architectural details are markedly classical in inspiration.

Much has been written about this Meeting House of what was originally the Judea Parish, but it is all summed up on a plaque on the front of the building:

"This Church was organized in 1741. The first Meeting House, a log shed was built in 1742. The second church was raised in 1754 and destroyed by fire in 1800. The first service in this, the third church, was held on Thanksgiving Day 1801. The original spire and belfry was torn down in 1845 and only partially restored, were completed in 1910 and the clock and chimes added."

JUDEA PARISH HOUSE

This building was originally known as The Hall on The Green. It was built on the site of The Academy in 1873 at a cost of \$6200. The contractors were Simeon Calhoun and Charles G. Fenn; the mason was George Chase, and the chief digger was Frank Titus. It was completed in January, 1874, and formally opened on January 20, 1874.

The building was owned by The Washington Hall and Conference Room Association and was used as a Chapel and a Library until the Gunn Memorial Library was built in 1908. There was a large hall with a stage which could easily seat 400 persons.

A fire occurred in this hall in the early 1900's and the building was subsequently felt to be unsafe and the stage was removed to the new Washington Club.

During World War I, the building was extensively used for making bandages and various types of knitted goods for the armed services. After the War the building was largely unused except as a warehouse.

In 1927 the building was deeded to the Congregational Church and was extensively remodeled and dedicated as the Judea Parish House on June 21, 1929.

It was again extensively remodeled and enlarged in 1961-62.

RESIDENCE of MR. & MRS. C. BURGESS AYRES

This building, owned by the Gunnery School since 1935, is the present residence of the Headmaster. It was built in the early 1770's and although the exact date is not known, it is one of the oldest houses on the Green. Though many additions and alterations have been made, the original lines of the building can easily be seen. It was built as a one-and-one-half story central chimney cottage. There are three fireplaces off the central stack.

Originally there was a ballroom on the first floor, formed by swinging up a hinged wall between the living room and the adjacent bedroom to the rear and hooking the partition to the ceiling.

The first documented event of an uncommon nature was the bankruptcy of Edmond Richmond, the owner in 1815. The Superior Court awarded individual parcels of the house to 14 of his creditors - an example being: "To Abel Stilson, October 1815, beginning 5'5" from west end of said house and extending south through the house and across the garden to Gershom Fenn's land." It was prized off to Mathew Logan. Appraised value \$50.80.

A long-time owner of the cottage was Cornelius Gold. It was during his ownership that the building was painted a heavy goldish yellow and was subsequently known alternately as the Gold Cottage or the Yellow Cottage.

Since the Gunnery acquired the Yellow Cottage in 1935, it has been used as a dormitory and faculty residence. It was extensively renovated in 1970-71 before becoming the Headmasters' residence.

RESIDENCE of DR. & MRS. HENRY D. FEARON

Perhaps the most historic house on the Green, this building which was known as the Old Red House for years, was built in 1773 by Abel Mott for Joel and Leman Stone, brothers who kept a store in the building immediately west of their home.

A detailed history of this house is in the Gunn Memorial Library, but, briefly, it is said that during the Revolutionary War the two Stone brothers took opposite sides, Joel being a Tory and Leman a patriot. Joel's assets were confiscated and he was forced to leave town. Eventually he received an indemnity from the Crown in the form of 30 pounds sterling annually, plus a tract of land in what is now the Province of Ontario, Canada, where he settled.

The house remained in the Stone family for some years and after several interim owners was purchased by Mr. Gersham Fenn along with the store next door, in 1811. The Fenn family sold the house to Mr. Cornelius Gold in 1882 at which time it was painted red and remained so for some forty years.

The house is a fine example of a central chimney, two and one-half story house. Although it has been altered externally several times, it still has its original panelling, three fireplaces and stencilled walls in the two upper chambers.

WASHINGTON CLUB HALL

This building, located on Route 47 adjacent to property of The Gunnery School, was erected about 1906.

The Hall was built by Mr. C. B. Gold assisted financially by several other residents of Washington. It was deeded to the Washington Club in 1907 and has been used for many club, town and scholastic events since that time.

The stage in the building was moved from its previous location in the Judea Parish House and the accoustics were designed so that plays and musical evenings could be properly enjoyed.

MUSEUM of the MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Known for years as the Willis House, this structure was built in 1781, and originally had a gambrel roof. From the floor plan, it is apparent that at one time the house had two chimneys, although only one now exists. The house is typical of the late 18th, early 19th century "central hall" type. The portico (Greek Revival) and the porch were added later, probably.

Various families owned this house over the years, and in 1930, Mrs. June S. Willis advised the Library Trustees that she was leaving the house to the Library for a museum. After repairs to the building, the move by the Museum to the Willis House was completed in 1965.

THE GUNN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The present building was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on Friday, May 29, 1908. It was named after Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Gunn who founded The Gunnery School, and also started the first library association in Washington in 1852. This was shortly followed by a more formal association which issued and sold shares of stock to buy books which were then auctioned off to borrowers by Mr. Gunn.

In 1881 this association was replaced by "The Washington Reading Room and Circulating Library Association." This became a free library in 1898.

Mr. E. W. Van Ingen, in 1902, set the wheels in motion for the present library by proposing The Gunn Memorial Library name be adopted and if \$25,000 could be raised, he would contribute \$10,000 toward a building and maintenance fund. This and other \$500 to \$5,000 gifts left \$10,000 to be raised. This the townspeople did through nearly every device known to fund raisers.

Mr. E. K. Rossiter, a Washington resident and well-known architect, designed the building. The construction was all done by Washington residents using local lumber and stones from the stone walls of neighboring farms.

The ceiling paintings were executed by a famous muralist living in Washington, Mr. H. Siddons Mowbray, as a memorial to his wife.

In the central group of four paintings, the one on the south wall shows Pluto carrying off Proserpine to the nether world. Opposite this is Mercury restoring her to Ceres, so bringing life to the world.

On the west, is Ceres presiding over the vine and grain, while opposite is a group personifying fruit and flowers.

The octagonal panel on the west end shows Ceres in the course of her wandering about the world giving seeds to the husbandman; at the other end she is enthroned as the personification of the bounteous earth.

The lunettes at each end contain figures presenting quotations from Emerson.

HOME of MR. MALCOLM BALDRIGE

The home of H. Malcolm Baldrige, situated on a rocky knoll opposite the Gunn Memorial Library, faces the Green and was built about 1925 for Mrs. Hattie Franklin.

The main section of the house is one and one-half stories high with raised portion of the roof, center front, having a dormer window at either end and a wider, lower one of different design between. The roof extends over the wide porch all across the front.

At the rear of the main house, facing East, is an apartment of one story. This apartment was built at the same time as the rest of the building.

The only change to the exterior appearance of the house was the addition of a garage on the southwest side of the house from which a door opens onto the front porch.

There were several owners of the house before Mr. Baldrige bought it.

THE HOME of MISS JULIA TURNER

The house now owned by Miss Julia L. Turner is one of the oldest on the Green, built in 1795 as a story and a half with a lean-to. In September, 1796, when the Rev. Ebenezer Porter was installed as minister, the occasion was solemnized by several days of festivities, including three balls given the same night for those of different ages. The youngest set was entertained in this house, then known as Squire Marshall's.

When Daniel Canfield bought the house two years later, he wished to add another story, but found that it would cost \$200 to raise the ceilings, which were and still are seven feet six inches from the floor. He compromised by making the upstairs ceilings ten feet high. The house stayed in the Canfield family through the death of Daniel N. Canfield, and in the mid-1890's passed into the hands of his daughter, Florence (Mrs. Frank H. Kinney). Shortly after her father's death, it was rented to Mrs. Vincent Weaver and then, until about 1923, to Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Woodruff. About 1899 one of the small rooms was given over to the D.A.R. for their historical room.

There were three flights of stairs to the second floor, one leading from opposite the front door, one from the kitchen and one from the woodshed (where the side porch is now located) to the workshop above. The west half of the front of the house had a porch with posts and wood trim ornately cut in the decorative style of the day. There was a central chimney in the west half of the house, which originally had fireplaces and later a Franklin stove. The kitchen had a fireplace and brick ovens, backed up to which was a fireplace in the dining room, but these were blocked off.

When Dr. Herbert B. Turner bought the house about 1920, he engaged the famous architect, Ehrick K. Rossiter, who did an excellent job remodeling the interior. Partitions of the smaller rooms gave way to form larger rooms, beautiful in their simplicity and design. The living room has heavy exposed beams, darkened with age, and the woodwork of the windows, doors and fireplace is equally dark in contrast to the white walls.

HOUSE of MR. JOHN B. YOUNG, JR.

This house was built in 1913 for Dr. Harry E. Stewart who had come to Washington from New Haven as an assistant to Dr. Frederick Wersebe.

The building has two and one-half stories of suburban design. Originally there was a gymnasium on the top floor as Dr. Stewart was avidly interested in physical education.

One of the several owners of the house, Mr. Henry S. Mowbray, an architect, made substantial internal changes so that the house now contains three apartments.

RESIDENCE of MR. & MRS. DONALD W. CHADWICK

This imposing two and one-half story house on the north side of the Green was built in 1790 for Samuel Leavitt. The house was built with superb taste and the carved woodwork which decorated the original parlor, painted an ivory white, is still to be seen and admired.

It is said that Samuel Leavitt, the first Leavitt to live in old Judea, made enough money in one year dealing in cattle and hogs to build this, the first of three Leavitt houses.

From Samuel Leavitt the house passed to his son William and then to Simeon Mitchell. Originally the house had a pitch roof but a mansard roof was built for Mitchell in 1867.

The house was purchased in 1940 by Mr. Edwin Fickes, Mrs. Chadwick's father, and was thoroughly restored by Myron Holmes at which time the present gambrel roof was constructed.

HOME of MRS. MARIAN H. FOWLER

A house with an interesting history is the home of Mrs. Marian H. Fowler, the first house on Parsonage Lane north of the Green. Built about 1790 by Samuel Leavitt for his store, it originally stood facing the Green where the John B. Young, Jr. house now stands. It was connected with the Leavitt mansion by a covered wooden passageway. Early in its history it was moved to its present location and for a while was used as a school before being converted into a dwelling house.

Ownership of the building presumably passed from Samuel Leavitt to his son, William, who continued to operate the store, and from him to Simeon Mitchell. The latter sold it to Paul Farrand, from whom it was purchased by Edward P. Hickox, Mrs. Fowler's father, and it has since remained in the family.

As may be expected, changes have been made in the structure. A porch which once extended across the front of the house has been removed and inside partitions have been changed to enlarge the rooms. The heavy beams used in its construction still remain and in the present dining room is an original corner cupboard.

RESIDENCE of MR. & MRS. JOHN ANDERSON

The residence of Mr. & Mrs. John Anderson on Parsonage Lane was built about 1850 and is known as the Seeley house. The Henry W. Seeley family purchased the house from Miss Fannie Brown in 1920. Mr. Seeley died in 1959 but Mrs. Seeley lived there until her death in 1971.

PARSONAGE of FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Erection of this building was started in 1852 and was completed in "due course" and has provided a home for the minister of First Congregational Church since that time.

A separate building at the rear of this lot was constructed during the ministry of The Rev. Tertius van Dyke, 1925-1935, as a Pastor's study and garage. After Mr. van Dyke's death, it was made a memorial to him.

RECTORY of ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

This is by far the best example of Greek Revival architecture on the Green. The house was built by the Canfield Brothers in 1843 for Woolsey and Jane Leavitt and is chronologically the "third" Leavitt house.

It conforms in all essentials to the typical country Greek Revival style - its floor plan, orientation and details serving as "text-book" examples of that period in architectural history.

The building became the property of St. John's in 1901.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. John's Church started in Davies Hollow (Romford) and was moved to its present location close to the Green in 1815. The first meeting in the Church was held on October 12, 1816 and it was consecrated two days later on October 14 by the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Brownell, third Bishop of Connecticut.

This Parish was the first one in Connecticut to have women in the vestry.

Funds were raised entirely from offerings and gifts to build a new church during the early 1900's. Ehrich Rossiter was the architect and Herbert W. Faulkner and Henry Siddons Mowbray gave their services for the wood carvings and paintings in the Church.

The cornerstone was laid in 1917 by Archdeacon Humphrey and the Masonic Lodge. The first service was on Easter Day 1918, and the building was consecrated in May, 1918 by Bishop Brewster, the fifth Bishop of Connecticut.

On May 28, 1941, the Church was struck by lightning and the interior was badly damaged by fire and smoke. The building was promptly restored and services resumed on October 28, 1941.

HOME of MR. ALFRED BELLINGER

Home of Alfred Bellinger, built in 1933 to replace a structure which burned. Mr. Bellinger's father lost his life in the fire.

RESIDENCE of MRS. RUTH F. BAKER

The Victorian residence, now owned by Ruth F. Baker et al of Bridgeport, Connecticut, is located almost at the top of the Green Hill on Route 47 opposite St. John's Church.

This building, used now as a weekend residence by the present owners, was built in 1886 and was occupied by Dr. William Ford, the local doctor, for many years. The Fords made many additions to the building to accommodate patients and boarders.

Mrs. Alice Snow, widow of Howard B. Snow, a Waterbury lawyer, bought the house in 1924 and raised five children there during some twenty years of ownership.

HOME of DR. & MRS. FREDERICK BEINEKE

"THE CORNER HOUSE"

This structure, the second of three Leavitt houses, started out as a hatter's shop and though its date of origin is not known, it is much older than the Rectory of St. John's Church, the third Leavitt house, which was built in 1843.

During the first half of the 19th century, the building was enlarged into a house by the Canfield brothers for Samuel Leavitt's oldest son and namesake. It was framed with hand-hewn beams from the Leavitt trees. The architectural detail of this building is obviously Federal in nature, though it is not known if the detail is original.

The house remained in the Leavitt family and then descendants, through Miss Louise Van Ingen. It then became the property of Mrs. Irving Cabot and on Mrs. Cabot's death in 1967, it became the property of the First Congregational Church and was used as the parsonage during the rest of the tenure of the Rev. William L. Inderstrod. It was purchased by Dr. J. Frederick Beineke early in 1974.

THE WOODRUFF HOUSE

This structure is thought to have been erected about 1790 as a one and one-half story house with a sloping roof. It was painted red.

In 1796 an inaugural ball was held in this building, which was then the Peter Powell Tavern, for Rev. Ebenezer Porter who came to Washington in 1795 as a supply preacher in the Congregational Church.

Later the building came to be known as the "White Inn," and in 1900 it was taken over by William A. Watts who made extensive changes in it. At one time it sported a mansard roof and a third floor ballroom.

Later on it was operated as an Inn by Oscar Peterson whose family sold it to the Washington Green Corp. in 1949 when it was converted into seven housekeeping apartments. It became the property of the Congregational Church in 1964.

A modern clinic and office space for three doctors was added to Woodruff House in 1968.

===== GUNNERY SCHOOL - POST OFFICE - DRUG STORE =====

This building was built in about 1851 and while there have been numerous owners, it has always housed the Green Post Office and a drug store. The building was purchased by The Gunnery School in 1949 at which time it was extensively rebuilt. It was enlarged again in 1960.

At one time or another the building housed a barber shop in the basement - the first in Washington; a cigar factory, the second to be licensed in Connecticut; and a wagon maker above the drug store. The wheel and frame of the elevator to raise and lower the wagons or carriages are still in the attic of the building.

An apartment on the second floor has replaced the business establishments and this has been occupied by various families over the years.

===== HOME of MR. & MRS. HENRY J. BURN =====

This Georgian Colonial house was designed by Wakefield Worcester for Mrs. C. C. McWhinney and was built in 1949 on land conveyed to Mrs. McWhinney on July 8, 1949 by Margaret Ann Holmes.

The house was built on part of the cellar hole of the Brownley Inn which had been razed in 1940.

An interesting feature of this property is the large mulberry tree on the southeast part of the land. This tree was planted by General Daniel B. Brinsmade for the cultivation of silk worms and their cocoons, the leaves of the tree being planned as their food. The silk worm experiment was a failure but the tree still remains.

HOME of MR. & MRS. DONALD W. SMITH

This house, known as Blythe Hall, was built in 1843 by General Daniel Brinsmade for his son, Thomas Franklin Brinsmade. It was a house typical of the era, -- two stories with a one and one-half story ell.

The house was enlarged in 1869 and an annex of several stories was built to the south of the main house.

Mrs. Brinsmade ran a boarding house for many years, and then in 1902 it was leased to Miss Fanny E. Davies who founded the Wykeham Rise School. The school remained at this site until 1907 when it moved to its present location.

At some point, the annex was razed and the building was remodeled and the porch which extended across the north side was removed by Mr. Myron Holmes in the 1940's.

RESIDENCE of MR. & MRS. WALTER UMLA

This house was built in about 1773 as a store owned and operated by Joel and Leman Stone who lived in the house immediately to the East.

Sometime after 1811, the store was converted into a one and one-half story house for Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Fenn. Mrs. Fenn was the sister of Frederick W. Gunn, founder of the Gunnery School.

In 1860 the house was purchased by Henry James Church and was then converted to a two and one-half story house with two gables being added on the east and west and an ell extended on the south side. A porch was also added on the north and west sides and the entrance was changed from the north to the west. The porch was removed in 1959.

The house remained in the Church family until 1961 when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Norman D. McDonald. Mrs. McDonald is the present Mrs. Umla.

HOME of MR. & MRS. CHARLES E. LAURIAT

The central portion of this house, known as The Abbey, was built about 1819 as a meeting house on the site of the present Judea Parish House. Downstairs were several small rooms, while upstairs the large vaulted ceiling room was used for town and church meetings and for the presentation of dramatics. The walls were lined with shelves containing the books of the first library. The librarian read off the titles of the books at a weekly auction and assigned them to the highest bidder for one week.

Mr. Frederick Gunn had a private school downstairs for a few years in the late 1850's before he had to leave town because of his interest in the underground railway. This may have been called Judea Academy.

The house was moved to its present site by Mr. Gunn in the 1870's and at the same time he moved the one room district school from its location near the Meeting House and joined it to the back of the main building. For a year or two this was the Judea Female Seminary, but after the death of Mr. Gunn it became the home of his widow, Abigail Brinsmade Gunn, familiarly known to generations of Gunnery boys as Aunt Abbey, and the house became known as The Abbey.

After its use as a Gunnery dormitory, it was purchased by Dr. George T. Jackson of New York in 1912 for use as a summer home. The house passed to his son, Dr. Arthur H. Jackson, in 1919 and he put on the wing on the north side of the house in 1925, with the downstairs being used as his office.

Mr. and Mrs. Lauriat purchased the house from Dr. Jackson in 1958.

RESIDENCE of MISS FRANCES COLBY

The present house of Miss Frances Colby was originally the carriage house for Blythe Hall which was owned by Miss Colby's family for years.

It was presumably built at about the same time as Blythe Hall in 1843.

RESIDENCE of MR. & MRS. ERNEST R. TIDYMAN

"THE ROCKS"

The Rocks was built by Ehrick Konsett Rossiter, an architect, in 1887-1888 on six acres of land purchased in 1882 from George S. Brown and J. C. Brinsmade.

The first building on the property, a carriage house, was built in 1884 and was the family's summer home until The Rocks was completed.

The erection of The Rocks was delayed because Mr. Rossiter bought 515 acres of land, now known as The Steep Rock Reservation, in 1884.

Numerous additions and alterations were made on the Tudor style house over the years starting in 1895.

The Rossiters sold The Rocks in 1919 to Mr. Henry Sutphen and since then numerous families have owned the property, which is now the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Ernest R. Tidyman.

STEEP ROCK -- Historical District

The area known as Steep Rock is perhaps one of Washington's proudest achievements. Over 1200 acres of beautiful woods and streams have so far been preserved in all their unspoiled grandeur.

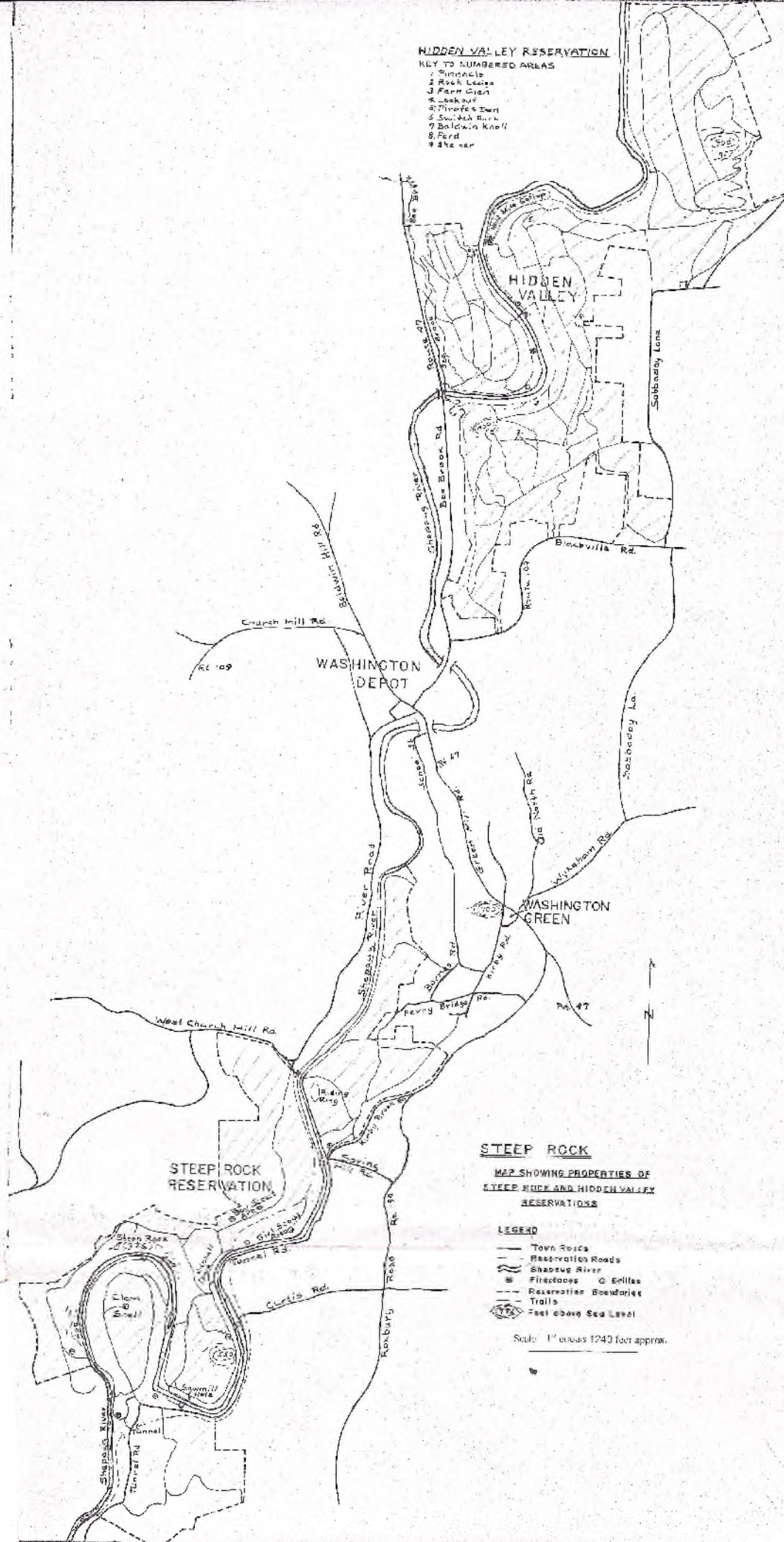
The land on which Steep Rock is located was originally purchased by Ehrick Rossiter in the 1880's. Through his foresight the land was given special protection by being turned over to a group of Trustees who would attempt to ensure its preservation, maintenance and improvement. A decade ago, the area was incorporated as "Steep Rock Association, Inc." Accordingly, Steep Rock property is private property, legal title to which is held by the Trustees. Although it is not public property in the sense that a State or Town Park would be, it should be noted that the original deed stated in part that Steep Rock was "...for the use and enjoyment of citizens and residents of Washington and Litchfield County and their guests and friends and of the general public."

In addition, over the last several years significant archeological discoveries have been made in and around Steep Rock pointing to Indian cultures that go back thousands of years before Christ. With the ancient Indian locations disappearing throughout New England at a frightening rate, it would be hoped that these small but important historical signposts could be forever protected in a Washington Historical District.

HIDDEN VALLEY RESERVATION

KEY TO NUMBERED AREAS

1. Pinnacle
2. Rock Ledges
3. Fern Glen
4. Lookout
5. Firefall Tower
6. Swatch Rock
7. Baldwin Knoll
8. Ford
9. 4th car



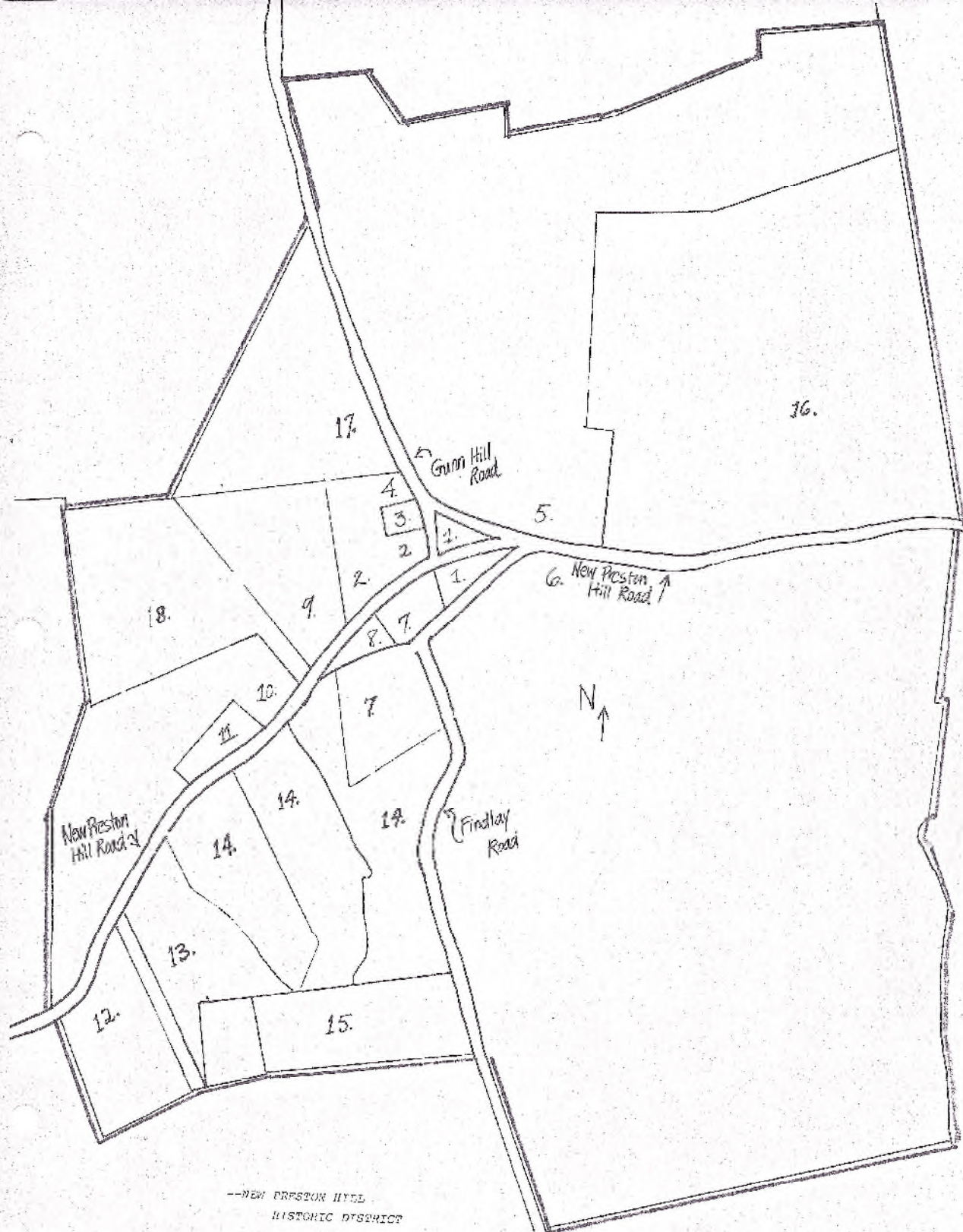
STEEP ROCK

MAP SHOWING PROPERTIES OF STEEP ROCK AND HIDDEN VALLEY RESERVATIONS

LEGEND

- Town Roads
- Reservation Roads
- Shepogue River
- ⊗ Fireplaces
- ⊗ Ellipses
- Reservation Boundaries
- Trails
- ⊕ Feet above Sea Level

Scale: 1" equals 1240 feet approx.



Key to map--

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. The Common | 10. Mehland |
| 2, 4. Ecclesiastic Society,
Parsonage and Church | 11. Colmery |
| 3. Donaghy-Pearce | 12. O'Neil |
| 5. Farkas | 13. Vandemark |
| 6. Bashkiroff | 14. Smith & Fino |
| 7. Manashaw | 15. Helen O. Johnson |
| 8. Kihl | 16. Francis Cherniske |
| 9. Grizzard | 17. Andrew Cherniske |
| | 18. Fuehrer |

NEW PRESTON HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- I. The Common
2. Hill Congregational Church, First Ecclesiastical Society - 1824
3. District School No. 9 (Heirs of Anthony Lombardo) - 1850
4. Parsonage of the Hill Church - 1810
5. John Ferris Home (Mrs. Ann Farkas) - ?
6. Whittlesey - Patterson House (Mrs. Vladmir Bashkiroff) - 1809
7. Newton's Tavern (Mr. Jerome Manashaw) - before 1800
8. Home of Mrs. Harold Kihl - 1790
9. Home of Mr. George Grizzard - 1850
10. Canfield-Ferris Home (Mr. Michael Meland) - 1815?
- II. New Preston Turnpike Tollhouse (Miss Naomi Colmery) - 1790

NEW PRESTON HILL

New Preston Hill became a community center soon after the first settlers came in the 1740's. In October 1753 forty residents petitioned the general assembly of the Colony of Connecticut for an Ecclesiastical Society, whose bounds ran from the Woodbury, New Milford line, to Merryall, north to Kent, west to "East Greenwich," now Warren, south to the Shepaug River and so to the starting point. The petition was granted and the Society organized in November of 1753. An Ecclesiastical Society was more than for church support; it was the local government to all intents and purposes. Their first acts were to lay out a burying ground and approve the location of two schools. They also built a meeting house and in 1757 the Church as such, was organized.

THE COMMON

A triangular piece of land East of the Church and Tavern. It is now bisected by a relocation of the New Preston Hill Road, which formerly ran along the South side of the Common. This was the Training Ground, where on each first Monday of May the militia bands drilled.

THE HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

This stone structure was erected in 1824. It stood on the site of the second church, erected here in 1769. It was refurbished and restored in 1961 and is used for worship by the New Preston Congregational Church during the summer.

THE DISTRICT SCHOOL NO. 9

A stone one room schoolhouse owned by Robert Donaghey and Edward W. Pearce, was used as a school until 1907. It was built, according to the assessor's records, in 1850 or earlier. A fireplace and porch have been added, but the original blackboard and paneling remain.

THE PARSONAGE

The Parsonage of the Ecclesiastical Society, on Gunn Hill Road, next to the Church and Schoolhouse, is of frame construction, sided with shingles, probably built about 1810 and originally occupied by Beers Beardsley, a cobbler. It was the scene of a murder, Mr. Beardsley's suicide, and other tragedies. It has been owned by the Ecclesiastical Society since 1869.

THE JOHN FERRIS HOME

The John Ferris home, delapidated and vandalized, is now boarded up. It is quite old and now owned by Mrs. Ann Farkas of New York, who has built a modern house behind it.

VALIRA FARM

Valira Farm, home of Mrs. Vladmir Bashkiroff, built about 1809 by the Rev. Samuel Whittlesey. He resigned from the church in 1817, because of financial difficulties (perhaps by building the house) and sold it to Deacon Isaac Patterson. In the early 1900's it was stuccoed and enlarged. A number of buildings, barns, studios, etc. surround it to make it an estate.

NEWTON'S TAVERN

Newton's Tavern is located opposite the Church, facing the old road. The new road runs behind it. Built possibly before 1800, it is now owned by Jerome Manashaw. Newton's Tavern is built of stone.

HOME OF MRS. HAROLD KIHLE

This is a frame house located between the old and the new road. It is reputed to have been built in 1790.

HOME OF MR. GEORGE GRIZZARD

This Victorian Farmhouse on the north side of the road was built about 1860.

HOME OF MR. MICHAEL MELAND

The earliest known owner of this house was Colonel Canfield, (name not title) a harness maker. This house was built in the early part of the last century. It was enlarged and the north wing and second floor added by James Ferris, a Civil War veteran and blacksmith.

THE TOLLHOUSE

The Tollhouse is a frame house north of the road, with a well in the dooryard.

The New Preston Turnpike once ran between the well and the house, connecting to other pikes to make a beacon to the Hartford highway, used by George Washington on three occasions. The toll house was built about 1790. This is now the summer home of Miss Naomi Colmery of New York.

On a level area to the west of the Toll House is reputed to be the site of the first log church.

HISTORIC DISTRICT ORDINANCE

Section 1.

To promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of buildings, places and districts of historic interest by the maintenance of such as landmarks in the history of architecture, of the Town of Washington, of the state, or of the nation, and through the development of appropriate settings for such buildings, places and districts, the following historic districts are hereby established in the Town of Washington:

- A. The Nettleton Hollow Historic District, consisting of all the land and properties within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point in the Woodbury-Washington Town Line 1,000 feet westerly of the westerly highway line of Nettleton Hollow Road measured on a line intersecting said highway line at right angles; thence northerly along a line parallel to and 1,000 feet distant westerly from said highway line to a point opposite the northerly corner of the intersection of Nettleton Hollow Road and Tompkins Hill Road; thence easterly in a straight line through said northerly corner to the easterly highway line of Nettleton Hollow Road; thence along the said easterly highway line to a point 500 feet northerly of the northerly line of Carmel Hill Road; thence easterly on a line at right angles to said easterly highway line 1,000 feet; thence southerly along a line parallel to and 1,000 feet distant easterly from said easterly highway line to the point where said parallel line intersects the Washington-Woodbury Town Line; thence westerly along said Town line to the point of beginning.
- B. Sunny Ridge Historic District, consisting of all the land and properties within the following boundaries: Beginning at the southwesterly corner of land of Mylert and Ruth Armstrong described in Washington Land Records Vol. 75, Page 312 on the easterly highway line of Nettleton Hollow Road; thence easterly 500 feet at right angles to said easterly highway line; thence northerly on a line parallel to and 500 feet distant easterly from said easterly highway line to a point opposite the intersection of Nettleton Hollow Road and Sunny Ridge Road; thence on a line parallel with and 500 feet distant easterly from the easterly highway line of said Sunny Ridge Road to the southerly highway line of the Washington-Litchfield Road, known as Connecticut Route 109; thence westerly and southwesterly along said southerly line of said Route 109 to a point opposite the southwesterly corner of land of Rumsey Hall School and the southeasterly corner of land of Verna Logan; thence northerly crossing said Route 109 and continuing northerly along the Logan-Rumsey Hall boundary line to the point where a line parallel to and 500 feet distant from the northerly highway line of said Route 109 intersects said boundary line; thence southwesterly and westerly on a line parallel to and 500 feet distant from said northerly highway line of Route 109, crossing Romford Road to the point where said line intersects the westerly line of land of said Logan; thence southerly along said westerly line of Logan to the northerly line of said Route 109; thence east-

erly along said northerly line of Route 109 to the point where a line drawn parallel to and 500 feet distant westerly from the westerly line of Nettleton Hollow Road would intersect said northerly highway line of Route 109; thence southerly on a line parallel to and 500 feet distant westerly from said westerly highway line of Nettleton Hollow Road to the southerly line of land of Merrill E., Jr. and Hollis Logan Clark; thence easterly along said southerly line of land of said Clark and land of Zachary and Julie Goodyear to the easterly line of Nettleton Hollow Road; thence southerly in the easterly line of Nettleton Hollow Road to the point of beginning.

- C. The Washington Green Historic District, consisting of all the land and properties within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point in the easterly line of Wykeham Road at the northwesterly corner of land of The Gunn Memorial Library; thence easterly, southerly and again easterly in the line of land of Lucille Ferguson and land of Helen W. Wersebe to a point 500 feet from the easterly line of Washington-Woodbury Road, Conn. Route 47, measured at right angles to said highway; thence southerly across land of The Gunnery, Inc. on a line parallel to and 500 feet distant easterly from the easterly line of said highway to the point at which said line intersects Kirby Brook; thence along the center thread of Kirby Brook to the northerly line of the Mayflower Drive; then westerly along the northerly line of the Mayflower Drive to the easterly line of said Route 47; thence westerly crossing said highway to the northwesterly corner of the intersection of said highway with Ferry Bridge Road; thence southwesterly and westerly in the northerly line of Ferry Bridge Road to its intersection with Kirby Road; thence northerly in the easterly line of Kirby Road to its intersection with Rossiter Road; thence westerly crossing Rossiter Road and along the northerly line of Rossiter Road to its intersection with Barnes Road; thence northerly in the easterly line of Barnes Road to the northerly line of land of Ernest R. Tidyman known as "The Rocks;" thence easterly in the northerly line of land of said Tidyman to the southwesterly corner of land of Donald and Esther O. Smith; thence northerly and easterly along the line of land of said Smiths to land of Henry and Marie Burn; thence northerly along lands of said Burns, The Gunnery, Inc. (the post office and drugstore) and First Congregational Church of Washington (Woodruff House) to land of Phyllis Yood Beineke; thence northwesterly along land of said Beineke to land of Ruth F. Baker; thence southerly, westerly and northerly along land of said Baker to land of Alfred R. Bellinger; thence westerly, northerly and easterly along land of said Bellinger to the westerly side of said Route 47; thence easterly crossing said Route 47 and southerly in the easterly line of said Route 47 and land of Washington Cemetery Association to the westerly corner of land of St. John's Episcopal Church; thence northerly and easterly in the line of land of said Church to Parsonage Lane; thence northerly in the easterly line of said Parsonage Lane to the northwesterly corner of land of The First Congregational Church known as The Parsonage; thence easterly and southerly in the line of land of said Church and land of John K. and Dorothy Anderson to land of

Fowler to land of Julia L. Turner; thence northerly and easterly in the line of land of said Turner and easterly in the line of H. Malcolm Baldrige to Wykeham Road; thence southerly along the westerly line of Wykeham Road to a point opposite the point of beginning; thence easterly across said road to the point of beginning.

- D. The Steep Rock Park Historic District, consisting of all the land and properties presently or hereafter owned within the Town of Washington by the Steep Rock Association. All of the land belonging to the Steep Rock Association, Inc. and shown on maps entitled "Map of Property Deeded to Trustees of Steep Rock Association Washington, Connecticut Scale 150 = 1" October 1, 1952" being Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4, filed in Washington Town Clerk's Office Maps #119a, 119b, 120a, 120b and 213a, map entitled "Hidden Valley Property of Steep Rock Association Washington, Connecticut March 1964" filed in Washington Town Clerk's Office Map #192b and map entitled "Section 6 Hidden Valley Property of Steep Rock Association Washington, Connecticut March 1964" filed in Washington Town Clerk's Office Map #208a and also all of the land conveyed to Steep Rock Association, Inc. by Edward S. Pinney by deed dated April 24, 1957 recorded in Washington Land Records, Volume 63, Page 239 and also all of the land devised to Steep Rock Association by Rowe B. Metcalf described in certificates of devise dated December 16, 1970, recorded in Washington Land Records, Volume 76, Pages 136 and 137.
- E. The New Preston Hill Historic District, consisting of all the land and properties within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point in the southerly line of New Preston Hill Road, being the northeasterly corner of land of Irene A. Bashkiroff; thence northerly across said highway and land of Francis L. Cherniske to the most easterly corner of land of Ann Farkas; thence northerly and westerly along the line of land of said Farkas to the easterly line of Gunn Hill Road; thence southerly along the easterly line of Gunn Hill Road to a point 500 feet northerly of the northeasterly corner of land of the First Ecclesiastical Society of New Preston; thence westerly across land of Andrew and Louise Cherniske to the northwesterly corner of land of George Grizzard; thence westerly along the northerly line of land of Lewis M. Fuehrer and May Pearce 400 feet, more or less, to a point where said line turns northerly; thence southerly across land of said Fuehrer and Pearce to the northwesterly corner of land of Alvin S. Meland; thence southerly in the westerly line of said Meland to the northerly line of New Preston Hill Road; thence across New Preston Hill Road to the northwesterly corner of land of Ronald and Barbara O'Neil; thence southerly and easterly along the line of land of said O'Neils to the southeasterly corner of said land; thence across land of Elsie A. and Martin O. Vandemark to the southwesterly corner of land of Helen O. Johnson; thence along the southerly line of land of said Johnson to Findlay Road and across Findlay Road to the easterly line thereof; thence southerly in the easterly line of Findlay Road to the southwesterly corner of land of said Bashkiroff; thence easterly and northerly in the line of said Bashkiroff to the point and place of beginning.

Section 2.

An Historic District Commission is hereby established which shall consist of five (5) members and three (3) alternate members, who shall be electors of the Town of Washington holding no salaried municipal office. Within fifteen (15) days after the effective date of this ordinance, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington shall appoint one (1) member of said Commission to serve for a term expiring on January 1, 1976, one (1) member for a term expiring on January 1, 1977, one (1) member for a term expiring on January 1, 1978, one (1) member for a term expiring on January 1, 1979, and one (1) member for a term expiring on January 1, 1980 and thereafter on or before January 1st in each year the Board of Selectmen shall appoint one (1) member of such Commission for a term of five (5) years commencing on such January 1st. Within fifteen (15) days after the effective date of this ordinance, the Board of Selectmen shall appoint one (1) alternate member for a term expiring on January 1, 1976, one (1) alternate member for a term expiring on January 1, 1977, and one (1) alternate member for a term expiring on January 1, 1978 and thereafter on or before January 1st in each year the Board of Selectmen shall appoint one (1) alternate member for a term of three (3) years commencing on such January 1st. Any vacancies among the members or alternate members of said Commission shall be filled by the Board of Selectmen for the unexpired term. At least one (1) member and one (1) alternate member shall be residents of one of the Historic Districts.

Within thirty (30) days after the appointment of the original members of the Commission, the First Selectman of the Town of Washington shall call the first meeting of the Commission, and at such meeting and at a meeting held in January of each year thereafter, the members of the Commission shall elect from their own members a chairman, a vice chairman and a clerk. Alternate members shall not participate in the election of officers. In case of inability to act because of absence, sickness or self-interest on the part of a member of the Commission, the place of such member shall be taken by a alternate member designated by the chairman. All members and alternate members shall serve without compensation. The Commission shall adopt rules of procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of the General Statutes and may, subject to appropriation, employ clerical and technical assistants or consultants and may accept money gifts and expend the same for such purposes.

Section 3.

The Commission shall have such powers, shall perform such functions and shall be subject to such limitations as shall from time to time be prescribed by the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut.

Section 4.

This ordinance shall take effect on _____.