Redding Center
National Register Historic District
Redding, Connecticut

Worth preserving

Redding Center's charm gains national registry status

Redding Center's charm at last has received the recognition it deserves.

A collection of 19 houses, a church, three town-owned buildings, nine barns, two garages, three sheds, a carriage house, a greenhouse and a cemetery have won a place on the National Register of Historic Places.

The center, comprised of 55 acres at Lonetown Road and Cross Highway, joins another part of Redding, Georgetown, on the register.

The tearing down of a 1840-built house in Georgetown five years ago prompted Elizabeth Varcoe, a native, to assemble the documentation that would convince preservationists of architecture and history to grant the center stature. Ten years ago residents turned down the historic designation out of fear that they would be hampered in remodeling or selling their property. This time there were no objections filed to the proposal.

Now it will not be so easy to tear down, renovate or otherwise tamper with the district's architectural gems. Coupled with a recent change in zoning regulations affecting all of Redding, the value of Redding Center should gain added protection. The change requires owners of homes more than 50 years old to apply for demolition permits. A 90-day review period follows to allow planners to suggest alternatives.

The major styles of the early years of the republic can be found in the district, among them Colonial, Federal, Italianate, Colonial Revival and Greek Revival.

Mrs. Varcoe, who chairs the Redding Historic Study Committee, is not resting on any of her deserved laurels. She has begun research into campsites and graves of Indians who populated the area when the European settlers arrived.

The more residents can understand and appreciate their heritage, the greater will be their commitment to preserving it.

F O R W A R D

The Redding Center Historic District stands as a legacy of the past and is a unique example of historic significance to the Town of Redding. In recognization of this the Connecticut Historical Commission approved the District for listing on the State Register June 4 1992, the Federal Government listed the District on the National Register of Historic Places October 1, 1992.

In 1988 the Redding Historic Study Committee surveyed, mapped and listed 110 historic homes in Redding. This project was funded with the assistance of a matching grant-in-aid from the U.S. Department of InteriorNational Park Service, in accordance with State and Federal requirements. It was the recommendation of this survey that the Redding Center District was the only area in Redding that qualified for a district listing on the National Register of Historic Places In 1990 the Committee assisted by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator, prepared the nomination.

REDDING HISTORIC STUDY COMMITTEE

Elizabeth V. Varcoe, Chairman
Admiral Lauren McCready
Ebba Anderson
Josephine Kulowiec
Virginia Gilligan
Margaret Wixted (retired)

PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER, 1992, this document was prepared by the Redding Historic Study Committee and sponsored by the Town of Redding.

CONSULTANTS - Steven Bedford and Nora Lucas
Preservation Computor Services, Inc.
Mamaroneck, N.Y.

COVER: The cover is a rendering by a Redding native, artist RICHARD COOKE

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: REDDING CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 4, 9, 10, 15, 19, 20, 24, 25 (A), 25 (B), and Read Cemetery, Cross Highway; 61, 65, 66, 69, 72, 73, 78, 85, 89, 93, 95, 96, 100 Hill Road; 4,1 0, 15, Lonetown Road, 118 Sanfordtown Road

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Redding

vicinity: N/A

state: CT county: Fairfield code: 001 zip code: 06896

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Local, Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property: 46

Contributing	Noncontributing	
41	7	buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
42	7	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ____ nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

_____ _____
Signature of certifying official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register _____ _____
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined eligible for the National Register _____ _____
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined not eligible for the National Register _____ _____
____ removed from the National Register _____ _____

____ other (explain): _____

_____ _____ _____
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic:	Domestic	Sub:	Single Dwelling
	Agriculture		Barn
	Religion		Church
	Government		Town Hall
Current :	Domestic	Sub:	Single Dwelling, Barn
	Religion		Church
	Government		Town Hall, Municipal Service Buildings

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Colonial
Colonial Revival
Greek Revival
Italianate

Other Description: _____

Materials: foundation stone roof wood shingle, asphalt

walls wood other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. _X_ See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: State.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1767 - 1929

Significant Dates : 1767 - 1929

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
_X_ See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

_X_ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_ previously listed in the National Register
_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_ designated a National Historic Landmark
_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

X State historic preservation office
_ Other state agency
_ Federal agency
_ Local government
_ University
_ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately 55 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A __ _____ _____ B __ _____ _____
C __ _____ _____ D __ _____ _____

_X_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: _X_ See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: _X_ See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Nora Lucas and Steve Bedford

Organization: Preservation Computer Services, Inc. Date: January 1992

Street & Number: 306 Beach Avenue Telephone: (914) 698-3689

City or Town: Mamaroneck State: NY ZIP: 10543-2704

The Redding Center Historic District encompasses approximately 55 acres near the geographic center of the Town of Redding, in Fairfield County, Connecticut, and includes the original Town Hall and the Congregational Church. The district is located at the crossroads of Redding's major historic and current routes: Lonetown Road (Route 107) runs north/south and Cross Highway runs east/west. Hill Street, running northeast from Cross Highway to Lonetown Road (Route 107), connects the two streets in a triangle. See the Map of the Redding Center Historic District, Figure 1, for the exact boundaries.

The Redding Center Historic District is the center of earliest settlement in the community. Although comprising predominantly nineteenth-century architecture, the district also contains a number of eighteenth-century and early twentieth-century dwellings. Several of the eighteenth-century houses have retained their typical vernacular saltbox, center-chimney form. The most dominant architectural style is the Greek Revival. Four Greek Revival houses remain substantially unaltered. Five others are composite examples: some have been modified from their earlier Federal origins; and other Greek Revival houses were modified in the Italianate or Colonial Revival styles. The remainder of Redding Center's historic buildings are almost equally divided among the Colonial, Federal, Italianate, and Colonial Revival styles and are interspersed in a random pattern throuought this compact district.

The district consists of 46 resources, 39 of which contribute to the significance of the district. Seven resources are considered non-contributing. Of the 39 contributing resources, 19 are residences, one is a church, three are municipal buildings, nine are barns, two are garages, three are sheds, one is a carriage house, one is a greenhouse, and one is a cemetery. Of the seven non-contributing resources, three are residences, three are municipal buildings, and one is a nursury school building.

In general the district presents the appearance of an early farming community from the Colonial through the Greek Revival periods, with some turn-of-the-century Colonial Revival contributing infill. The district is now in rural, residential use, and streets are lined with mature deciduous trees. For the most part, the residences are spaced widely apart, and surrounded by substantial acreage which contributes to the rural, farm-like appearance of the district. A number of the properties feature barns, gates, and stone walls, relics of their use as farms. The Read Cemetery (Photograph 1) is centrally located in the district. Unlike its neighboring towns such as Fairfield, Redding has preserved its traditional rural qualities as a result of suburbanization.

Most of the buildings in the district are residences dating from the early to the middle of the nineteenth century. Many of these buildings, such as 9 Cross Highway, 19 Cross Highway, 4 Lonetown Road (Photograph 2), 61 Hill Road (Photograph 3), 85 Hill Road, and 118 Sanfordtown Road, exhibit the traditional two or two-and-one-half-story, center-chimney, five-bay form that typified houses in Connecticut's inland farming communities. However, the district also includes one-and-one-half-story and three-bay and four-bay variations of this form, such as 4 Cross Highway (Photograph 4), 10 Cross Highway, and 24 Cross Highway. This plan is articulated in Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival modes. The barn at 4 Cross Highway (Photograph 5) is one of nine that survive in the district.

Several of the buildings feature delicate Federal detailing, such as the Adamesque leaded glass entry fanlight and elliptical window in the gable end of 4 Cross Highway (Photograph 4), and the blind elliptical fanlight at 25

Cross Highway (Photograph 6). The Samuel Jarvis House, 25 A Cross Highway (Photograph 7), is an excellent Federal dwelling which was modernized with Greek Revival and Italianate modifications.

66 Hill Road (Photograph 8) (remodelled between 1825 and 1845) and 85 Hill Road (Photograph 9) (1840) both exhibit classical Greek Revival forms with gabled pedimented ends and full-height corner pilasters. The former has a portico and the latter a gabled portico, each sheltering an entry formed by sidelights and topped by a multi-light horizontal transom. A more modest execution of the style is found at 118 Sanfordtown Road, notable for its prominent Greek Revival entry with transom and sidelights. The Congregational Church, 25 B Cross Highway (Photograph 10), with its typical pedimented gable ends and portico and pilastered tower, is significant as a textbook example of the Greek Revival style.

With the exception of two Italianate-style houses, 15 Cross Highway and 69 Hill Road (Photograph 11), all of the buildings in the Redding Center district date from before the second half of the nineteenth century or from the early twentieth century. Each of the aforementioned buildings is an excellent example of various interpretations of the Italianate style.

During the early decades of the twentieth century, Redding continued as a farming and summer residential community. The buildings dating from this period are Colonial Revival in style. In the Redding Center district two well-detailed Colonial Revival houses exist: 65 Hill Road (Photograph 13) (1929), a Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling with a typical Doric portico, and 73 Hill Road (Photograph 14) (1920), a modest cross-gabled one-story cottage that also has a Doric porch. Additionally, a number of earlier houses have been renovated in the Colonial Revival mode. The Redding Town Hall (1882) is a clapboard building with Colonial Revival motifs such as a steep roof and multi-pane windows. 20 Cross Highway has undergone many historic alterations, the most significant of which was Colonial Revival in inspiration: double-height porticos with Palladian windows at the east and west elevations dramatically changed the appearance of the house in the early 20th century.

Another modest example of the Colonial Rvival style is the property at 65 B Hill Road (Photograph 15) (ca. 1920). Although non-contributing properties, 72 Hill Road (Photograph 16) (1959) and the Redding Post Office, (Photograph 17) (1951), are designed in compatible Colonial Revival styles that do not detract from the integrity of the district. The district's substantial open space continues to maintain the area's original rural setting.

Redding Center Historic District Inventory

Key: Address, Building Name, Style, Date C/NC (Contributing or Non-contributing), Outbuilding(s)

Note: Barns determined to be Contributing (C) are at least 50 years old and in many cases older. Exact dates are in many cases impossible to determine.

Cross Highway

4 Cross Highway, Jared Olmstead House, Federal, 1821, C; Barn C

This two-story, gable-roofed, four-bay, central-chimney Federal house is surfaced with shingles and rests on a stone foundation. Simply detailed, the windows have 12/12 sash. Of note is the elliptical window in the gable end. The off-center entry is flanked by fluted Federal pilasters and paneled capitals, and is topped by a diamond and incised frieze. This all enframes a delicate, leaded fanlight and a new door. The decorative elements, in particular the diamond-pattern frieze, match those of several other houses on nearby Redding Road.
(Photograph 4)

A contributing barn is on the property. The barn is a one-bay, gable-roofed building resting on a stone foundation. It is surfaced with vertical side boarding and has an asphalt shingled roof. Its wide double door is found on the long (north) side.
(Photograph 5)

Cross Highway, Read Cemetery, 1786 - 1860 C

This small square cemetery is located on the north side of Cross Highway in the triangle formed by the original village green. Surrounded by stone walls, the cemetery has grave markers dating from 1786 to about 1860. Many are carved in the naive style with funerary attributes, such as angels, that were typical of the period.
(Photograph 1)

9 Cross Highway, Heritage House, Vernacular, 1795, Altered ca. 1840, C; Barn, C

This five-bay, central-entry house has a prominent gabled portico with an arch supported by narrow Doric columns. Two stories in height with a gable roof, the house has 6/6 windows with simple surrounds, is shingle surfaced, and has a stone foundation. An Italianate-style bay is found to the west and there is a flat-roofed, two-story addition to rear.

There is a contributing three-bay, gable-roofed barn surfaced with board and batten siding at the rear of the property.

10 Cross Highway, Colonial Saltbox, 1753, Greek Revival Alteration, 1847, C; 2 Barns, C

This two-part, two-story house is a combination of a saltbox and a Greek Revival dwelling. Both sections of the building rest on a stone foundation. The older section is articulated as a five-bay saltbox. Its central entry is topped by a denticulated frieze and is flanked by paired 12/12 windows with prominent, convexly molded cornices. The cornice at the eaves is simple and blocky. The Greek Revival addition is surfaced with flush-board siding and has 6/6 windows with plain pedimented cornices. The side entry is sheltered by a Doric entry porch and the entry is topped by a narrow horizontal transom.

There are two one-bay deep, gable-roofed barns surfaced with vertical siding built into a hill at the rear of the property. They have asphalt shingles on the roof.

15 Cross Highway, Italianate, 1880, C; Barn, C

This two-story, gable-roofed, Italianate-style house is surfaced with clapboard. The house has 6/6 windows throughout and a Colonial Revival entry on the west facade. A prominent one-story Italianate bay is found on the south elevation.

There is a two-bay, gable-roofed barn surfaced with vertical siding at the rear of the property. The foundation of the barn has been rebuilt with concrete block and has two new garage doors.

19 Cross Highway, ca. 1770, with Transitional Federal/Greek Revival Alterations, C; Barn,C
This two-story, five-bay, double-pile, central chimney, saltbox house is surfaced with wood shingles and rests on a fieldstone foundation. It should be noted first for its 9/6 windows, its corner pilasters, and its central entry. The entry's transom is Federal in style, although a later entry porch is articulated in the Greek Revival-style entry portico with heavy Tuscan posts that support a Greek entablature.

There is a gable-roofed, two-bay barn surfaced with vertical siding, to which two modern garage doors have been added on the eastern elevation. The building retains some Greek Revival details such as vernacular Greek Revival window cornices and open-bed pedimented gable ends with Greek Revival detailing in the frieze band. The barn is surfaced with vertical board siding and has an wood-shingled roof; it is located at the rear of the property.

20 Cross Highway, Colonial, ca. 1767, with Greek Revival/Colonial Revival Alterations, ca. 1830 and 1925, C; Barn, C; Shed, C

This large two-and-one-half-story Greek Revival house with cross-gable roof is surfaced with wooden shingles and rests on a fieldstone foundation. The house is dominated by large two-story projecting Colonial Revival porticos east and west. Frieze band windows are found on the side elevations. Each gable end contains a Palladian window. The house has large 2/2 windows. Ground-floor windows are floor-to-ceiling height with simple surrounds. A Colonial Revival entrance is found towards the north and there are several small one-story additions to the south. Its center-hall Georgian plan may indicate a very early house, but it was later altered in the Greek Revival and then the Colonial Revival modes.

Two outbuildings are found at the rear of the property. One is a large hip-roofed shed with wooden clapboards and 6/6 double-hung windows. The other is a three-bay barn with cross-gable roof, surfaced with wood shingles and ornamented with Italianate detailing and 6/6 double hung sash.

24 Cross Highway, Vernacular, ca. 1790 with Alterations, C; Barn,C

This two-story asymmetrically massed house with cross-gable roof is surfaced with clapboards and rests on a fieldstone foundation. The main section of this late Georgian/Federal/Greek Revival-style house has its gable end to the street, and additions appear to flank the house to the north and south. The central open-bed pediment of the main three-bay, side-entry section contains a horizontal, pedimented Greek Revival window. Of particular note is the entry, which is sheltered by a one-bay, gable-roofed portico articulated as an open-bed pediment with a denticulated cornice that is supported by narrow Tuscan columns. This pediment enframes a semi-circular fanlight which has retained some of its leading and original boarding around the fanlight. There is a contributing barn at the rear of the property.

25 Cross Highway Town House (Old Town Hall), Federal, 1834, C

This simple one-story, gable-roofed, three-bay, central-entry building is surfaced with clapboards and rests on a fieldstone foundation. The front gable end is articulated with prominent returns with Federal moldings; these enframe a blind elliptical fan. 20/15 windows flank the entry. The side elevations have 12/12 windows. **(Photograph 6)**

25 (A) Cross Highway, Samuel Jarvis House, Federal with Greek Revival and Italianate Modifications, 1789, C; Carriage House, C; Shed, C

This two-story, gable-roofed, five-bay, central-entry, central-chimney, double-pile house is surfaced with wooden shingles and rests on a fieldstone foundation. It has received Greek Revival and Italianate-style additions. The gable end contains a late-Georgian or perhaps early Federal elliptical fanlight in the gable end. The eave moldings are attenuated Federal-style moldings, but the corner boards are articulated as Greek Revival pilasters. A three-bay Italianate porch with paneled posts and Doric columns extends across part of the south side of the building (the facade); the side ends of the shed-roofed porch are articulated as closed-bed pediments. The porch shades the central entry, which has Greek Revival sidelights; beneath the eaves of the porch is a horizontal transom with Greek Revival-style lights. This porch motif is repeated on the south side elevation; the sidelights of an entry on this elevation have been filled in. To the west there is an Italianate bay window. The moldings on the horizontal cornices of the windows vary, and are a combination of Federal and Greek Revival. **(Photograph 7)**

Two outbuildings are found at the rear of the property; the first is a saltbox-roofed, three-bay carriage house with 6/6 windows. The other is a two-bay shed that is surfaced with clapboards and that has an asphalt roof.

25 (B) Cross Highway, Congregational Church, Greek Revival, 1837, C; Schoolhouse, NC

Although the congregation was founded in 1733, this building dates from 1837. The two-story, gable-roofed Greek Revival building is surfaced with clapboard and rests on a high fieldstone basement. The facade is two bays wide and the side elevations extend five bays. Designed in a typical Greek Revival style, the main gable is articulated as a pediment, in which a square tower is engaged. The pedimented gable ends have blind tympani, and are defined by strong architraves and friezes. The entry portico, which has double entries, is articulated as a smaller pediment, projecting from the facade. It is seemingly supported by Doric pilasters with entasis. These pilasters flank a pair of one-story entries, articulated as Doric pilasters united by Greek Revival cornices. Above each of these doors is a 9/9 window. Projecting from the gable roof is a square tower that is supported at the corners by corner pilasters with strongly attenuated moldings that are almost Federal in style. The tower is surfaced with flushboard siding. The tower tapers, the second story being slightly smaller, although similarly detailed. It is topped by a parapet with small corner spires, typical of early nineteenth-century ecclesiastical architecture. The windows of the north and south side elevations have prominent attenuated moldings, indicating a late Federal influence.
(Photograph 10)

A non-contributing, ca. 1960, modern Colonial Revival four-bay, one-story, nursury school house with 6/6 double-hung windows is found at the rear of the property.

Hill Road

61 Hill Road (Great Pasture Road), Colonial, ca. 1807, C

This two-story, five-bay, gable-roofed, central-chimney Colonial house is surfaced with clapboards and rests on a stone foundation. The central entry is double-width and has plain surrounds and narrow horizontal transom. The windows have 12/8 sash and plain surrounds. The clapboards have been replaced. The roof is surfaced with wood shingles.

65 Hill Road, Colonial Revival, 1929, C

This two-story, gambrel-roofed Dutch Colonial Revival house is surfaced with shingles and rests on a stone foundation. The building's central entry is sheltered by a gabled portico with an arched spandrel supported by slender Doric columns (one of which is being replaced). The entry itself is flanked by 3/4 height sidelights resting on paneled bases. The entry is flanked by paired 8/1 windows, and single 8/1 windows light the second story. The gambrel ends have semi-circular windows.
(Photograph 13)

65 (B) Hill Road, Colonial Revival, ca. 1920, C

A second house on the property of 65 Hill Road, it is a simple gable-roofed house set back from the road and surfaced with clapboard.
(Photograph 15)

66 Hill Road, Greek Revival, dated by Historical Society ca. 1795, Substantially Remodeled in Greek Revival Style in 1825 and 1845, C

This two-story, five-bay, gable-roofed Greek Revival house is surfaced with clapboards and rests on a fieldstone foundation. The windows have 6/6 sash and simple surrounds. The gable-roof ends are articulated as closed-bed pediments that enframe horizontal 15 light windows with eared surrounds. A simple frieze extends beneath the eaves. At each corner, laurels top corner pilasters which have fret decoration. The central entry is shaded by a one-bay Doric entry that has Doric posts with Greek key fretwork decoration. The entry itself is flanked by paneled pilasters en ressant and is topped by a frieze decorated with alternating swagged garlands and laurel, and paterae motifs. While these decorations may, in fact, be later, they are repeated on the frieze of a single-bay porch on the western elevation. To the east is a one-story addition.
(Photograph 8)

69 Hill Road, Vernacular, ca.1870, C

The form of this two-story, gable-roofed house is vernacular in nature, but its ca. 1870 date is reinforced by some typical Italianate detailing. A pair of one-story, Italianate-style bays, one to the right of he entry, and one is on the east elevation, as well as 2/2 window sash throughout are details generally associated with the Italianate mode. The house is surfaced with clapboard.
(Photograph 11)

72 Hill Road, Colonial Revival, 1959, NC

This one-story, three-bay, gable-roofed house has a central chimney and rests on a concrete foundation. It is surfaced with vinyl siding and has vinyl casement windows
(Photograph 16)

73 Hill Road, Redding Nursery, Colonial Revival, 1920, C; Greenhouse, C; 2 Barns, C

This one-and-one-half-story Colonial Revival dwelling with cross-gable roof is surfaced with shingles and rests on a stone foundation. The house has a projecting gable-roofed entry portico with an arched spandrel that rests on Doric posts. Above the entry door is a shell with a blind frieze. An ell-shaped porch supported by the same Doric posts extends to the west. To the east of the entry, beneath the main cross gable, is a projecting bow window. To the east of the house is a greenhouse, as the property is used as a commercial nursery. The greenhouse is contributing, and is a one-story, gable-roofed glass structure. **(Photograph 14)**

To the rear of the property are two contributing barns. One is two bays wide and the other is three bays wide, and each has a gable roof, is surfaced with vertical siding, and has various asymmetrically placed shuttered openings.

78 Hill Road, Early Federal, 1811, C

This two-story, gable-roofed, five-bay, central-entry house is surfaced with clapboards ending in corner boards and rests on a stone foundation. The entry has a paneled door and is topped by a narrow five-light horizontal transom and flanked by fluted pilasters all topped by a denticulated cornice. The 12/12 windows have simple surrounds.

85 Hill Road, Greek Revival with Italianate Alterations, 1840, C; Barn, C; Garage, C

This five-bay, two-story, central-entry Greek Revival house is surfaced with tightly-laid wood shingles and rests on a stone foundation. The corners of the house are ornamented by full-height paneled pilasters which support a blind frieze that, in each of the gable ends, forms the base of an enclosed tympanum. Chimneys flank the house and bisect the gable ends. The entry is sheltered by a shallow gabled pediment topping a multi-pane transom above a paneled door flanked by 3/4 height sidelights. The windows have 6/6 sash and, at the first floor, deep cornices which might indicate a later nineteenth-century alteration. A one-story, shed-roofed addition is found to the east.

There are two outbuildings: one is a two-bay, shingle-surfaced, gable-roofed garage; the other is a three-bay, gable-roofed barn with vertical siding, and garage doors at the ground-floor level.

89 Hill Road, 1967, NC

This is a contemporary gable-roofed, wood-sided building capped with an asphalt-shingled roof. Double-hung windows of varying configurations punctuate the facades and a two-car garage is incorporated in the basement.

93 Hill Road, 1968, NC

This is a contemporary gable-roofed, wood-sided building capped with an asphalt-shingled roof. Windows of varying configurations punctuate the facades.

96 Hill Road, Police Station, 1965, NC

This three-bay, gable-roofed building has 8/8 double hung sash and is surfaced with aluminum siding.

95 Hill Road, Fire Company No 1., Station, ca. 1980, NC

This gable-roofed building is two bays wide, is surfaced with brick, and has aluminum siding in its gable end. A Colonial Revival-style entry faces the street.

100 Hill Road, Colonial Revival, Town Hall, 1882, ca. 1910 Alterations, C

Originally constructed in 1882 as a school, the building was then remodeled ca. 1910 as the Town Hall. Today it is a long, low clapboarded structure with gable roof and 8/8 Colonial Revival-style sash. The two entries are articulated as cross-gables. To the east is a small addition containing the vault.

Lonetown Road

4 Lonetown Road, Federal, 1825-1827, with Italianate Alterations, ca. 1870, C

This two-story, gable-roofed, five-bay, central-entry Federal house is surfaced with clapboards and rests on a fieldstone foundation. The house is center-hall Georgian in plan. The Federal central entry is surrounded by fluted pilasters with a denticulated cornice and a horizontal transom. Within the pilasters is a second set of pilasters which are topped by small finials that flank the transom. Narrow sidelights flank another set of pilasters which, in turn, flank the door. In each gable end is a large arched window with keystone motif. The eave is modillioned and prominent Italianate cornices top each of the 6/6 windows. The detailing of the shed porch additions found to the north and south is also Italianate in style. A large historic shed addition is found towards the rear.
(Photograph 2)

10 Lonetown Road, Colonial Revival, Redding Post Office, 1951, NC

This is a three-bay, one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed building on a concrete foundation. It is surfaced with clapboards and has a central entry flanked by 6/6 double hung sash.
(Photograph 17)

15 Lonetown Road, Vernacular, 1868, C; Garage, ca. 1930, C

This five-bay, two-story house is surfaced with clapboard. Its 12/2 windows have deep cornices, typical of the Italianate style. The house has a blind frieze band. A one-bay screened porch is on the south elevation. The entry has narrow half-height sidelights and a prominent horizontal cornice. Its symmetry and restrained detailing may be a result of remodeling ca. 1930, when the Colonial Revival style was popular in Redding.
(Photograph 12)

A ca. 1930 contributing hipped-roofed garage that is two bays across and surfaced with shingles is found on the property.

118 Sanfordtown Road, Greek Revival, 1821, C; Barn, C; Shed, C

This house consists of two side-by-side, gable-roofed sections of roughly the same height. The northernmost section is articulated as a two-story, gable-roofed, three-bay, side-entry house, surfaced with wood shingles, resting on a fieldstone foundation. To its south is an historic three-bay wing, also gable-roofed, which is surfaced with wood shingles and rests on a fieldstone foundation. Windows throughout are 6/6. The gable end of the more prominent northern section contains a Greek Revival-style horizontal window. The prominent Greek Revival-style entry is articulated by Greek Revival sidelights flanking the entry. The sidelights are flanked, in turn, by pilasters with blocky capitals which support the cornice. A small bay window is found on the south side of the house.

There are a contributing barn and shed at the rear of the property. The mid-nineteenth-century barn is two bays wide, has a cross-gable roof, and is surfaced with vertical board wood siding. The large early-20th-century shed is two bays wide, is surfaced with vertical board wood siding, and has a gable roof topped by a ventilator.

Significance Statement

The Redding Center Historic District is significant because it embodies the distinctive architectural and cultural-landscape characteristics of a rural Connecticut community from the late colonial period through the early twentieth century (Criterion C). The area is the crossroads of the historic center of Redding and consists of the most cohesive collection of architecturally significant properties in the community. The resources found in the Redding Center Historic District mirror the development and building patterns that occurred historically in the town. The spacious distribution of buildings, accompanied by many barns and large yards, maintains the appearance of a nineteenth-century inland Connecticut farming community. The dominant building type in the district, the traditional center-chimney, center-entry, gable-roofed dwelling, is also characteristic of Connecticut farming communities of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Many of these were altered in the early nineteenth century and appear as excellent examples of Greek Revival-style buildings. The few later properties in the district – the Italianate-style dwellings of the late nineteenth-century and the Colonial Revival-style houses of the early twentieth-century – embody the distinctive characteristics of their respective styles and contribute to the district's significance as an example of a farming community that survived as such until the early part of this century. The district includes the Read Cemetery, which contributes to the significance of the district because of the quality of the grave stones. (Exception D).

The cultural landscape of the district retains a high degree of historical integrity. The subsequent use of this area as a summer residential community has helped to preserve the district's rural qualities. There have been only six buildings built in the last 50 years; the three residences are each built on large lots and do not impair the overall character of the district. The remaining three are municipal buildings all set back from the village green and executed in restrained Colonial Revival modes.

The historic and architectural character of the district is principally derived from its origins as an outlying farming community. One section of Redding, Georgetown, became a successful manufacturing center in the nineteenth century, but Redding Center Historic District remained rural and its economy was agriculturally based.

Historical Background

The Town of Redding was originally a part of the Town of Fairfield, which was founded in 1637. In 1668 Fairfield purchased another tract of land then called Northfield, which comprised what is now known as Redding.

Land grants in what is now the Town of Redding began in 1671, with a grant of eight acres to Richard Osborn for his services in the Pequot War, but the land had not yet been surveyed and Captain Osborn's survey was not authorized until 1693. In 1709 most of the surveys were completed by Fairfield's surveyor John Meredith. John Read, for whom Redding was named, and who was probably the town's earliest settler, purchased several of the early grants and was, according to his records, living at Lonetown, northwest of Redding Center, by 1711.

The Redding Center Historic District, located at the intersection of Cross Highway and Lonetown Road that connected Fairfield with Danbury and Bethel to the north and Newtown and Ridgefield to the east, became the community's religious and political focus. As in most Connecticut towns, the Congregational Church was the first religious body organized in the Town of Redding. In 1729 the Congregational Society obtained release from the mother-town of Fairfield to assume parish privileges and three months later, in August, the Society of Redding voted 70 pounds and a house and wood for a minister. Construction of the first church was begun in 1732 to the west of the site of the present church, in the Redding Center Historic District.

As the location of the Congregational Meetinghouse, Redding Center served as the focus of religious and public life for the town. In 1834, the Old Town House was built to be "devoted to public purposes." The Congregational Church (burned in 1842) and the 1838 Methodist Church (now the Congregational Church) were located near each other on Cross Highway, with the Redding Town House in between. Although little is known of the actual events that occurred in Redding Center, the area, with two churches and the Town House, must have served as the social center of this farming community. Virtually every resident in the town would have had to visit the area frequently either to attend church or the town's public meetings.

The remainder of buildings in Redding Center were primarily farmsteads, although Zalmon Read, the son of John Read, built and operated a carriage-making establishment at 24 Cross Highway in the early nineteenth century.

Although no substantial commercial activity occurred in Redding Center, the periods of prosperity and decline experienced by the overall community seem to be mirrored in Redding Center's development patterns. The tremendous manufacturing prosperity of the mid-century was reflected in the many ornately detailed examples of the Greek Revival found in Redding Center. In the nineteenth century, the Georgetown section of Redding, like many Connecticut towns, developed a thriving industrial base. The community's most prominent industry was the Gilbert and Bennet Wire Works, which operated from 1818 until a massive fire in 1899. The majority of the community, however, including Redding Center, remained agrarian.

With the decline of industry, after the turn of the century, the town's residents increasingly reverted to farming as their main source of income, probably a major factor in the preservation of Redding Center's rural appearance. Coupled with a return to farming, Redding in the early twentieth century also became a popular summer retreat. Most of the houses specifically built as summer residences were outside of the district. Some of the Redding Center houses may have been used as summer homes for wealthy city dwellers seeking a rural escape.

Architectural Significance

The Redding Center Historic District contains excellent examples of buildings in the Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Colonial Revival styles.

Many of the houses in the district typify the dwellings of Connecticut farmsteads from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. They are in an excellent state of preservation and are good examples of their type.

The houses at 24 (A) Cross Highway (Photograph 7), 61 Hill Road (Photograph 3), 66 Hill Road (Photograph 8), 4 Lonetown Road (Photograph 2), and 78 Hill Road all feature the braced-frame post-and-beam construction, center chimney, and five-bay fenestration that characterized the vernacular Connecticut dwelling of that period. 4 Cross Highway (Photograph 4) and 10 Cross Highway are four-bay variations on the type. Moreover, several examples, including 4 Cross Highway (Photograph 4) and 61 Hill Road (Photograph 3), display the use of Georgian or Federal details in the characteristically limited fashion of rural communities. Ornamentation of these houses was rather simple or non-existent.

Greek Revival buildings dominate the district; they are the best-designed architectural resources in Redding Center. Both institutional and residential in type, they are complemented by the earlier Colonial and Federal resources as well as by the later Italianate dwellings.

With the advent of Redding's relative wealth in the 1830s and 1840s, residents of Redding Center remodelled many of their houses in the then-popular Greek Revival mode. In a departure from the original treatment of their dwellings, many were now elaborately decorated, with ornamental friezes and elaborate entryways. Since most of the Greek Revival houses were renovations, relatively few followed the typical 'temple front' formula in which the end gable of the house faced the street. 66 Hill Road (Photograph 8) is one of the best examples of the Greek Revival in Redding and further research may uncover the sources for the decorative treatment of the exterior. 118 Sanfordtown Road and 4 Lonetown Road (Photograph 2) are more typical examples of the style. The Congregational Church (Photograph 10) is a textbook example of a rural Greek Revival-style church.

Although Redding remained a prosperous town in the late nineteenth century, relatively few new houses were built in Redding Center. Those few that were built were Italianate in style. The examples in Redding Center, 15 Cross Highway and 69 Hill Road, are rather subdued. There seems to be little explanation for this. Perhaps the extensive Greek Revival-style expansions were deemed adequate to last for several generations; in any event, these buildings contribute to the historic character of the district, maintaining the image of a 19th-century farming town in Connecticut.

The relative decline of Redding in the first half of this century limited the production of the then-overwhelmingly popular Colonial Revival-style dwellings mostly to minor alterations of existing structures such as those that occurred at 20 Cross Highway. 65 Hill Road (Photograph 13), however, is a good example of a typical Dutch Colonial Revival-style house of the late 1920s, while 73 Hill Road (Photograph 14) should still be considered significant as typifying the taste of Redding's inhabitants during the first third of this century. Town Hall is an excellent example of the successful renovation of a building into the Colonial Revival style during the early twentieth century.

In summation, the Redding Center Historic District, traditionally and currently the focus of Redding's community life, is significant as a collection of well-preserved and well-designed examples of rural dwellings and public buildings dating from the late eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries.

Hurd, D. Hamilton, History of Fairfield County: Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of its Prominent Men and Pioneers, J. W. Lewis and Co., Philadelphia, 1881.

Lucas, Nora, and Steven Bedford, Historic and Architectural Survey of Redding, Connecticut, Redding Historic Study Committee and Connecticut Historical Commission., Redding and Hartford, Ct, 1988.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide To American Houses, Alfred A. Knoph, Inc., New York, 1984

Todd, Charles Burr, The History of Redding Connecticut, Newburgh Journal Company, Newburgh, New York, 1906.

Redding Remembered, published by the Redding Oral History Project, John Read Middle School, 1979.

Redding Remembered II, published by the Redding Oral History Project, John Read Middle School, undated.

UTM Coordinates

E. N.

A: 18635500.184573880
B: 18635820.184573710
C: 18635900.184573570
D: 18635000.184573170
E: 18634980.184573240

Boundary Description

The boundary is shown on the accompanying map Figure 1. Map of Redding Center Historic District, (scale unavailable).

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes historic buildings and structures located in the vicinity of the area known as Redding Center. The boundary follows rear property lines.

Photo Identification and Caption List

The Negatives for this file are located at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town of Redding, 100 Hill Road, Fairfield County, Connecticut,

Photograph 1
R/1/8/91
Cross Highway, Read Cemetery
1786-1860, C

Photograph 2
R/1/14/91
4 Lonetown Road,
Greek Revival, 1825-1827, C

Photograph 3
R/2/14/92
61 Hill Road,
Colonial, ca. 1807, C

Photograph 4
R/2/2/92
4 Cross Highway, Jared Olmstead House
Federal, 1821, C

Photograph 5
R/2/3/92
4 Cross Highway, Barn at Jared Olmstead House
Vernacular, 19th C, C

Photograph 6
R/1/13/91
25 Cross Highway, Town House (Old Town Hall)
Federal, 1834, C

Photograph 7
R/1/12/91
25A Cross Highway, Samuel Jarvis House, Federal with Greek Revival and Italianate Modifications, 1789, C

Photograph 8
R/2/15/92
66 Hill Road,
Greek Revival, ca. 1795, remodeled 1825 & 1845, C

Photograph 9
R/1/3/91
85 Hill Road, Greek Revival with
Italianate Alterations, 1820, C

Photograph 10
R/1/11/91
25B Cross Highway, Congregational Church
Greek Revival, 1837, C

Photograph 11
R/2/17/92
69 Hill Road,
Vernacular, c1870, C

Photograph 12
R/2/10/92
15 Lonetown Road,
Vernacular, 1868, C

Photograph 13
R/1/6/91
65 Hill Road,
Colonial Revival, 1929, C

Photograph 14
R/1/4/91
73 Hill Road, Redding Nursury
Colonial Revival, 1920, C

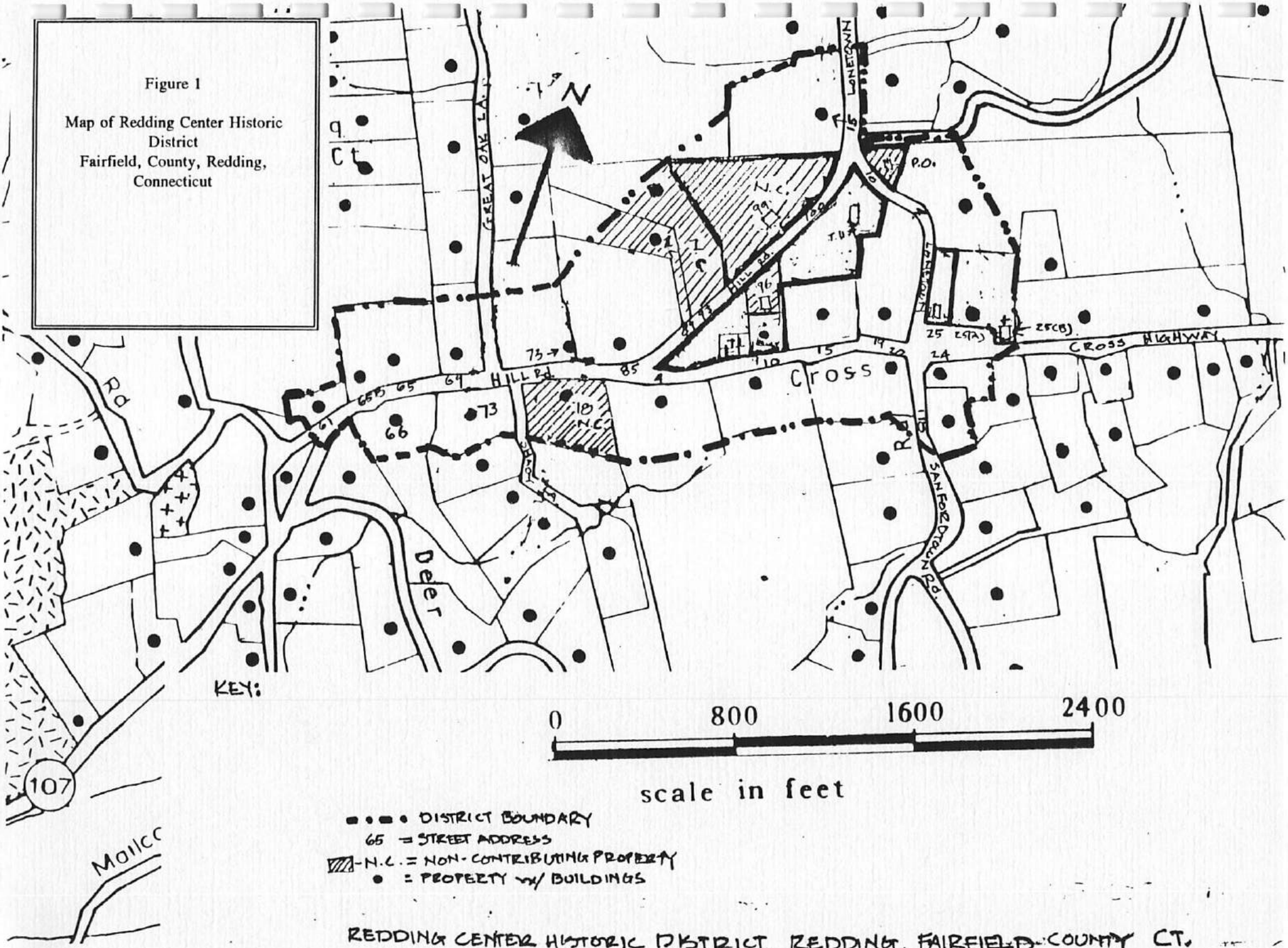
Photograph 15
R/2/19/92
63 Hill Road, Separate House on the Property
Colonial Revival, ca. 1920, C

Photograph 16
R/2/18/92
72 Hill Road,
Colonial Revival, 1959, NC

Photograph 17
R/2/9/92
10 Lonetown Road, Redding Post Office
Colonial Revival, 1951, NC

Figure 1

Map of Redding Center Historic District
Fairfield, County, Redding, Connecticut

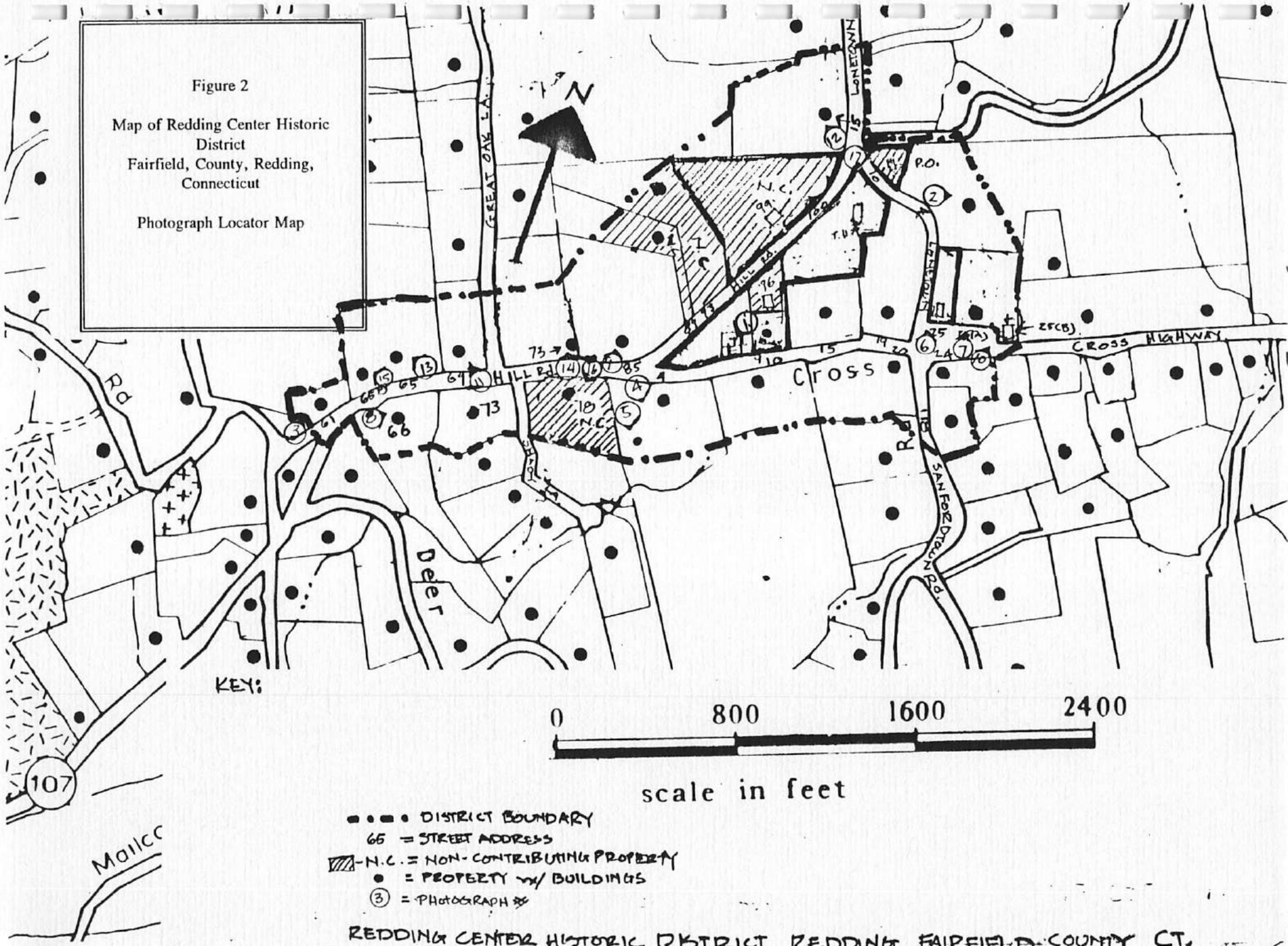


REDDING CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, REDDING, FAIRFIELD COUNTY CT.

Figure 2

Map of Redding Center Historic District
Fairfield, County, Redding, Connecticut

Photograph Locator Map



REDDING CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, REDDING, FAIRFIELD COUNTY CT.

REDDING CENTER H.D.

UTM CO-ORDINATES

	E	N
A	18635500	18457380
B.	18635820	18457370
C.	18635900	18457350
D.	18635000	18457370
E.	18634980	18453240

55 ACRES ±

A

Redding Center Historic District
Fairfield, County, Redding,
Connecticut

U.S.G.S. Map

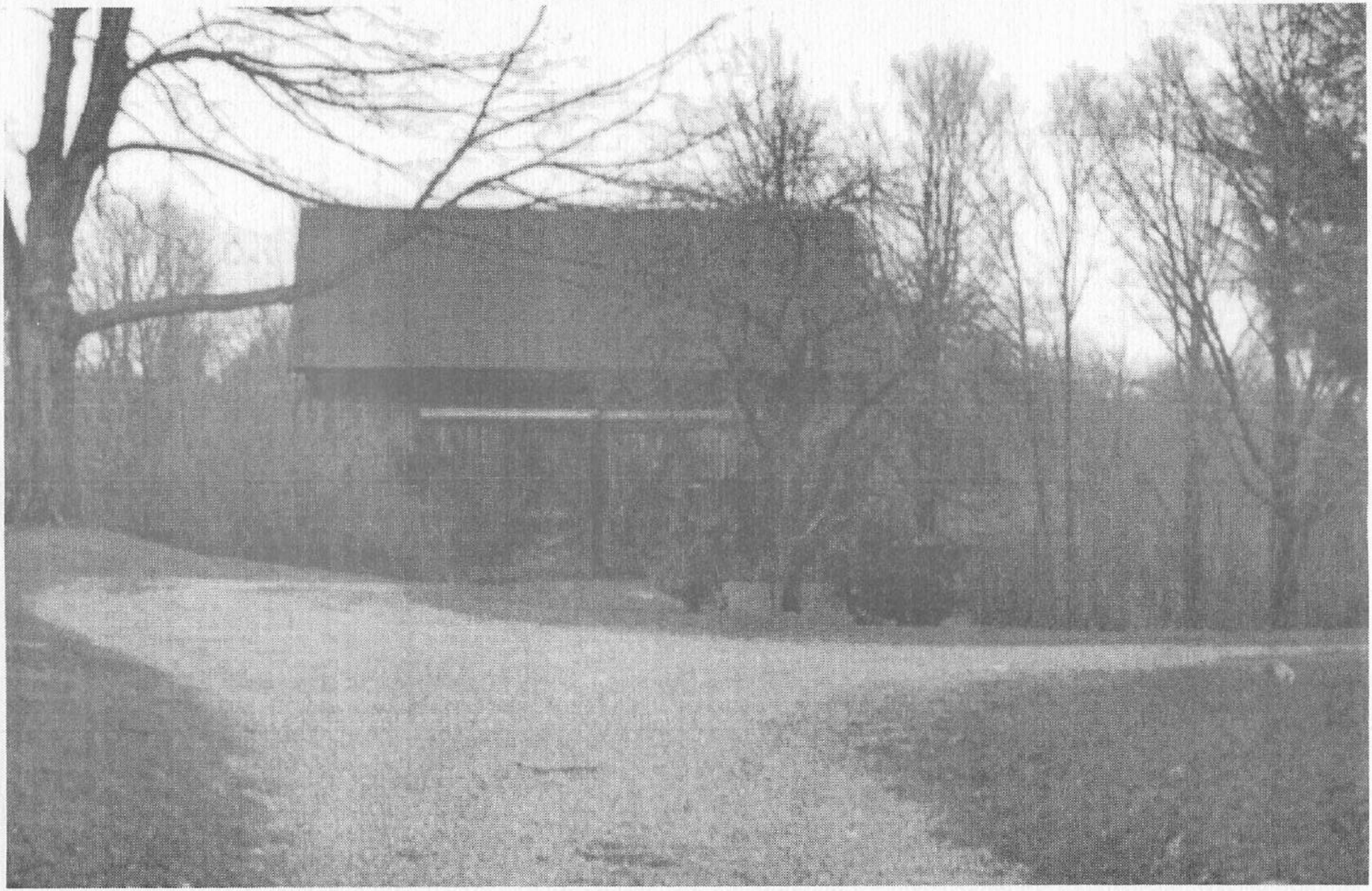
Redding Quad

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/8/91 Cross Highway Read Cemetery 1786-1860, C, Photograph 1

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/14/91 4 Lonetown Road Greek Revival 1825-1827, C, Photograph 2

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/14/92 61 Hill Road Colonial c1807, C, Photograph 3

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/2/92 4 Cross Highway Jared Olmstead House Federal 1821, C, Photograph 4



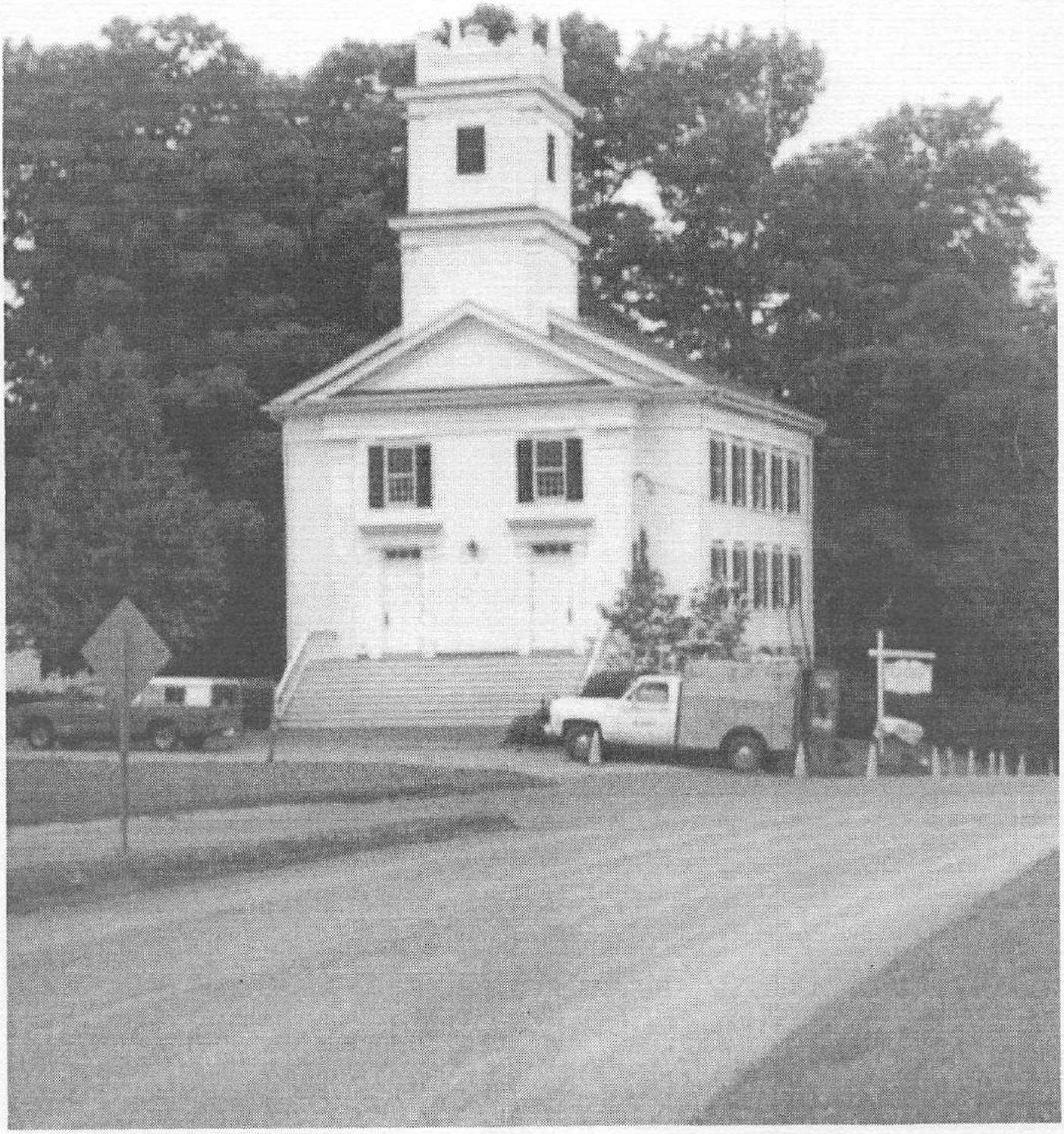
Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/3/92 4 Cross Highway Barn at Jared Olmstead House Vernacular 19th, C, Photograph 5

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/13/91 25 Cross Highway Town House Federal 1834, C, Photograph 6

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/12/91 25A Cross Highway Samuel Jarvis House Federal with Greek Revival and Italianate Modifications 1789, C, Photograph 7

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/15/92 66 Hill Road Greek Revival c1795, remodeled 1825 & 1845, C, Photograph 8

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT,
R/1/3/91 85 Hill Road, Greek Revival with Italianate Alterations, 1840, C, Photograph 9



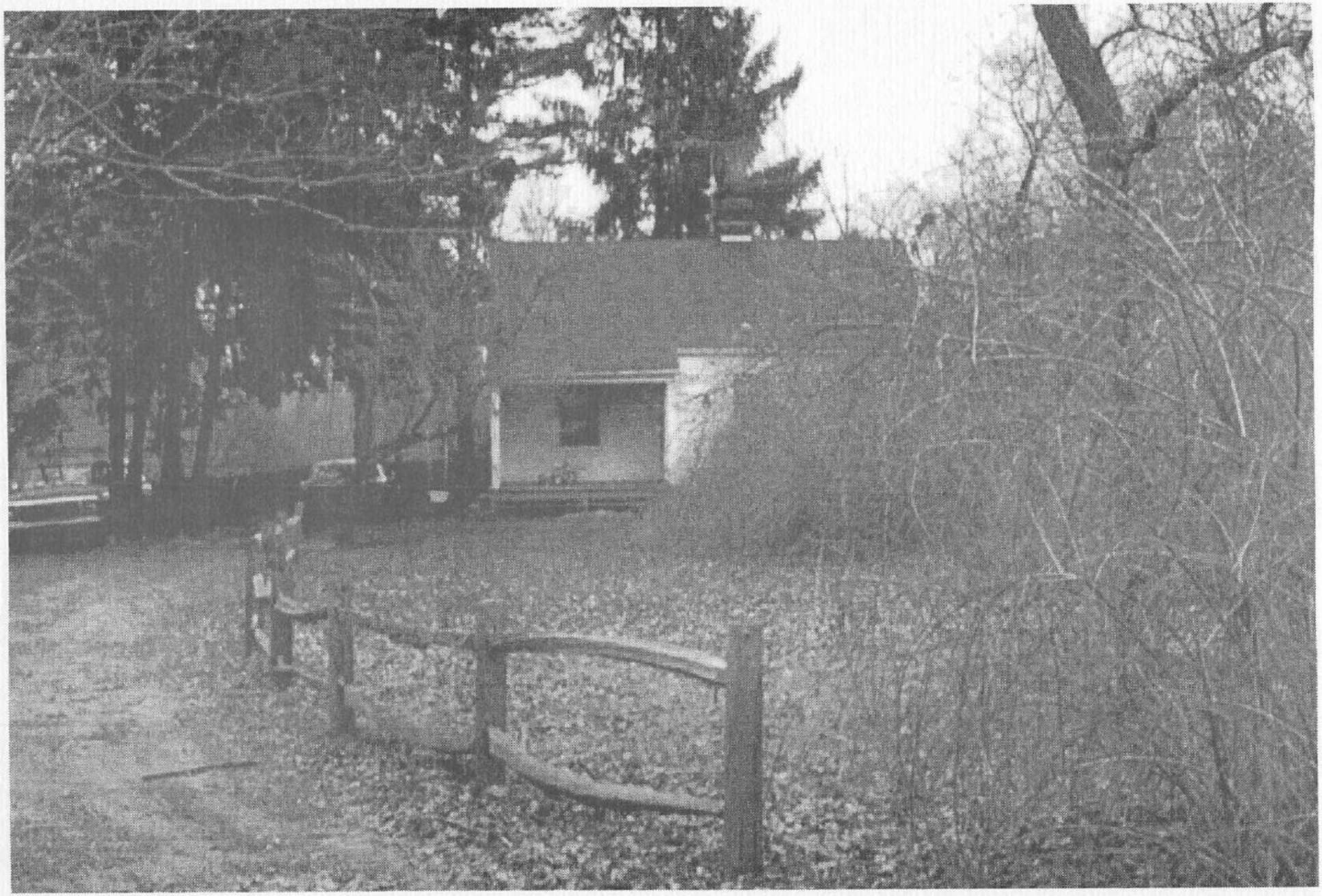
Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/11/91 25B Cross Highway Congregational Church Greek Revival 1837, C, Photograph 10

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/17/92 69 Hill Road Vernacular c1870, C, Photograph 11

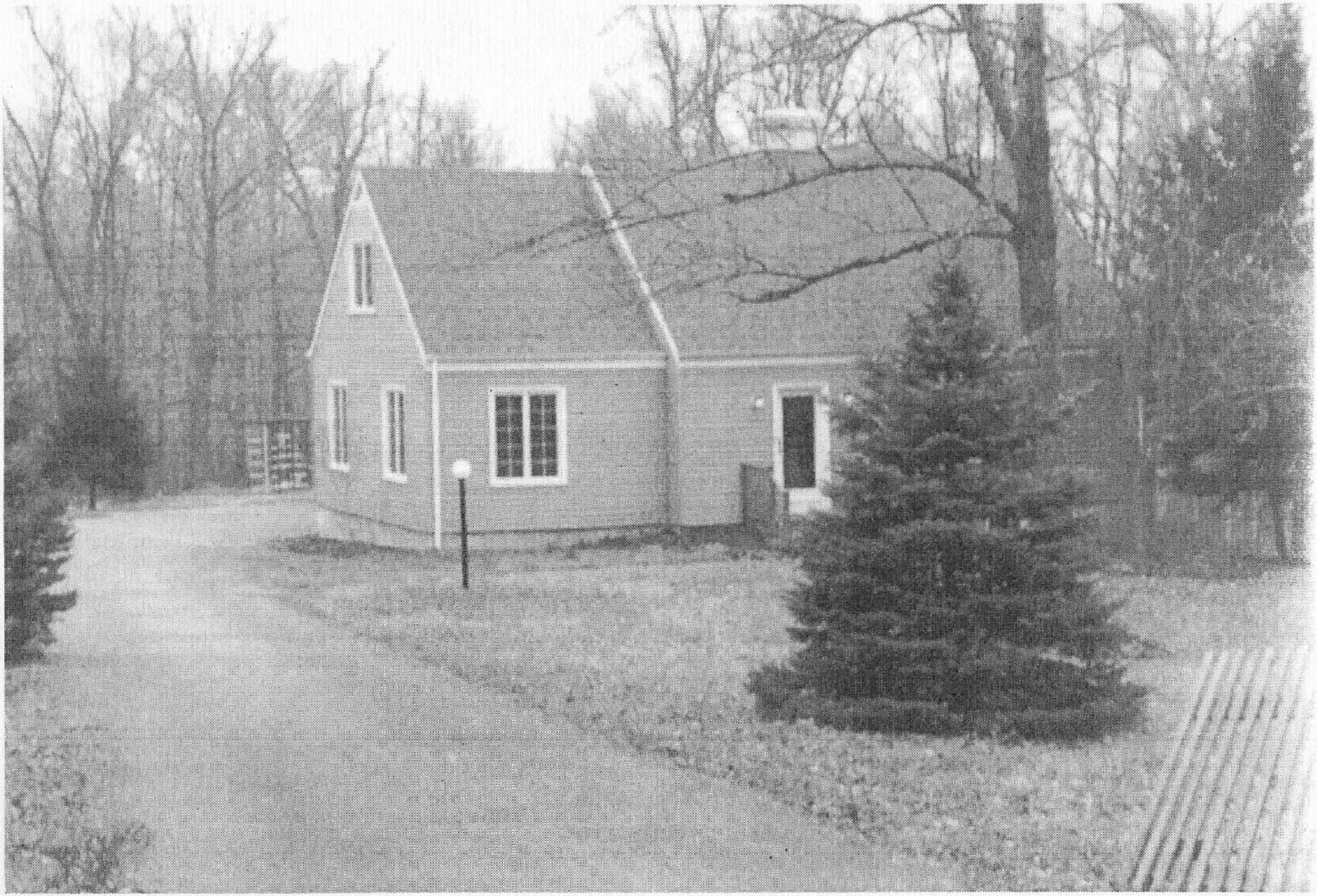
Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/10/92 15 Lonetown Road Italianate 1868, C, Photograph 12

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/6/91 65 Hill Road Colonial Revival 1929, C, Photograph 13

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/1/4/91 73 Hill Road Redding Nursury Colonial Revival 1920, C, Photograph 14



Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/19/92 65 Hill Road Separate House on the Property c1920, C, Photograph 15



Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/18/92 72 Hill Road Colonial Revival 1959, NC, Photograph 16

Redding Center Historic District, Fairfield County, CT.
R/2/9/92 10 Lonetown Road Redding Post Office Colonial Revival 1951, NC, Photograph 17

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
P.O. BOX 37127
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. For further information call 202/343-9542.

OCT 9 1992

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 9/28/92 THROUGH 10/02/92

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number NHL Status, Action, Date, Multiple Name

ARKANSAS, CHICOT COUNTY, Epstein, Sam, House, 488 Lake Shore Dr., Lake Village, 92001226, NOMINATION, 9/21/92 (Ethnic and Racial Minority Settlement of the Arkansas Delta MPS)
ARKANSAS, CHICOT COUNTY, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery, Historic Section, St. Marys St., Lake Village, 92001227, NOMINATION, 9/21/92 (Ethnic and Racial Minority Settlement of the Arkansas Delta MPS)
ARKANSAS, MONROE COUNTY, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, jct. of New Orleans and W. Ash St., SW corner, Brinkley, 92001283, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
CALIFORNIA, ALAMEDA COUNTY, University High School, 5714 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, 92001300, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
CALIFORNIA, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, Ricks, Thomas E., House, 730 H St., Eureka, 92001302, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, Southwest Museum, 234 Museum Dr., Los Angeles, 92001279, OWNER OBJECTION, 9/29/92
CALIFORNIA, TEHAMA COUNTY, Maywood Women's Club, 902 Marin St., Corning, 92001301, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
CONNECTICUT, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, Redding Center Historic District, Roughly, 4—259 Cross Hwy., including Read Cemetery, 61--100 Hill Rd., 0—15 Lonetown Rd. and 116 Sanfordtown Rd., Redding, 92001253, NOMINATION, 10/01/92
FLORIDA, DADE COUNTY, Bay Shore Historic District, Roughly bounded by NE. 55th St., Biscayne Blvd., NE. 60th St. and Biscayne Bay, Miami, 92001323, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
IOWA, CERRO GORDO COUNTY, Stockman, Dr. G. C., House, 211 1st St., SE, Mason City, 80001441, REMOVAL, 8/04/92 (Prairie School Architecture in Mason City TR)
IOWA, POLK COUNTY, Darling, Jay Norwood and Genevieve Pendleton, House, 2320 Terrace Rd., Des Moines, 91001838, NOMINATION, 9/30/92 (Conservation Movement in Iowa MPS)
KANSAS, JACKSON COUNTY, Booth Site, Address Restricted, Mayetta vicinity, 92001322, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MAINE, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, Gorham Historic District, Roughly bounded by College, Church, Cross, State and Maple Sts., including School St. from State to N of Church, Gorham, 92001298, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MAINE, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, Stimson Memorial Hall, ME 26 E side, .5 mi. N of jct. with US 202, Gray, 92001296, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MAINE, HANCOCK COUNTY, Robertson Quarry Salamander, ME 182 E side, NE of jct. with Old Rd., West Franklin, 92001292, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MAINE, OXFORD COUNTY, Fryeburg Town House, Former, ME 5 E side, 1 mi. N of jct. with Woodlawn Ave., Fryeburg Center, 92001295, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MAINE, SOMERSET COUNTY, Concord Haven, ME 16 E side, 1.7 mi. N of jct. with Berry Rd., Embden vicinity, 92001297, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MAINE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, Machias Railroad Station, 27 E. Main St., Machias, 92001293, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
MONTANA, MISSOULA COUNTY, University of Montana Historic District, Roughly bounded by Arthur, Connell and Beckwith Avds and the ridge lines of Mt. Sentinel, Missoula, 92001284, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
NEW YORK, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, Mamaroneck Methodist Church, 514 Boston Post Rd., Mamaroneck, 92001304, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
OREGON, COOS COUNTY, Brauer Building, 460 W. First Ave., Bandon, 92001308, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
OREGON, COOS COUNTY, Hub Department Store Building, 125 Central Ave., Coos Bay, 92001307, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
OREGON, LANE COUNTY, Patterson--Stratton House, 1605 Pearl St., Eugene, 92001262, NOMINATION, 9/29/92 (Eugene West University Neighborhood MPS)
OREGON, LANE COUNTY, Women's Memorial Quadrangle Ensemble, Bounded by University St., Johnson Ln. and Pioneer Cemetery, University of Oregon campus, Eugene, 92001320, NOMINATION, 10/02/92 (Architecture of Ellis F. Lawrence MPS)
OREGON, WASCO COUNTY, French, Edward, House, 515 Liberty St., The Dalles, 92001319, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
PUERTO RICO, TOA BAJA MUNICIPALITY, Santa Elena Hacienda, N of Hwys. 2 and 165 jct., Toa Baja, 82004662, NOMINATION, 9/24/92
TENNESSEE, SUMNER COUNTY, Oakland, 1998 Hartsville Pike, Gallatin vicinity, 92000841, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
TEXAS, ANDERSON COUNTY, Anderson County Courthouse, 1 Public Sq., Palestine, 92001256, NOMINATION, 9/28/92
TEXAS, CORYELL COUNTY, Mother Neff State Park and F. A. S. 21-B(1) Historic District, jct. of TX 236 and the Leon R., Moody vicinity, 92001303, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
TEXAS, LUBBOCK COUNTY, Kress Building, 1109 Broadway, Lubbock, 92001305, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
TEXAS, POTTER COUNTY, Bivins, Miles and Myde, House, 2311 W. 16th Ave., Amarillo, 92001306, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
WASHINGTON, KLICKITAT COUNTY, Appleton Log Hall, 635 Appleton Rd., Appleton, 92001294, NOMINATION, 10/02/92
WASHINGTON, LINCOLN COUNTY, Harrington Bank Block and Opera House, jct. of Third and Willis Sts., NW corner, Harrington, 92001288, NOMINATION, 10/02/92

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 29, 1992

Henry W. Bielawa
First Selectman
Town Office Building
Route 107
Redding Center, CT 06875

Dear Mr. Bielawa:

It is a great pleasure to inform you that the Redding Center Historic District, roughly 4--25B Cross Hwy, including Read Cemetery, 61--100 Hill Rd., 0--15 Lonetown Rd, and 118 Sanfordtown Rd., Redding, CT has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, effective October 1, 1992.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of historic properties recognized by the Federal Government as worthy of preservation for their significance in American History, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture. Located in the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, the program is part of a national policy to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our cultural and national resources, and is maintained by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Listing in the National Register results in the following for historic purposes:

1. Consideration in planning for Federal, federally licensed, and federally assisted projects. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires that Federal agencies allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on all projects affecting historic properties listed in the National Register. For further information, please refer to 36 CFR 800.

2. Eligibility for Federal tax provisions. If a property is listed in the National Register, certain Federal tax provisions may apply. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 revises the historic preservation tax incentives authorized by Congress in the Tax Reform Act of 1976, the Revenue Act of 1978, the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, and Tax Reform Act of 1984, and as of January 1, 1987, provides for a 20 percent investment tax credit with a full adjustment to basis for rehabilitating historic commercial, industrial, and rental residential buildings. The former 15 percent and 20 percent Investment Tax Credits (ITCs) for rehabilitations of older commercial buildings are combined into a single 10 percent ITC for commercial or industrial buildings

TEL: (203) 566-3005
59 SOUTH PROSPECT ST. — HARTFORD, CONN. 06106
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

provisions are advantageous to a property owner is dependent upon the particular circumstances of the property and the owner. Because tax aspects outlined above are complex, individuals should consult legal counsel or the appropriate local Internal Revenue Service office for assistance in determining the tax consequences of the above provisions. For further information on certification requirements, please refer to 36 CFR 67.

3. Consideration of historic values in the decision to issue a surface coal mining permit where coal is located, in accordance with the Surface Mining and Control Act of 1977. For further information, please refer to 30 CFR 700 et. seq.

4. Qualifications for Federal grants for historic preservation when funds are available. Presently funding is unavailable. Contact the State Historic Preservation Office to determine the current status of such grants.

In Connecticut, listing in the National Register of Historic Places results in the following for historic properties:

1. Eligibility to purchase historical markers from the State Historic Preservation Officer.

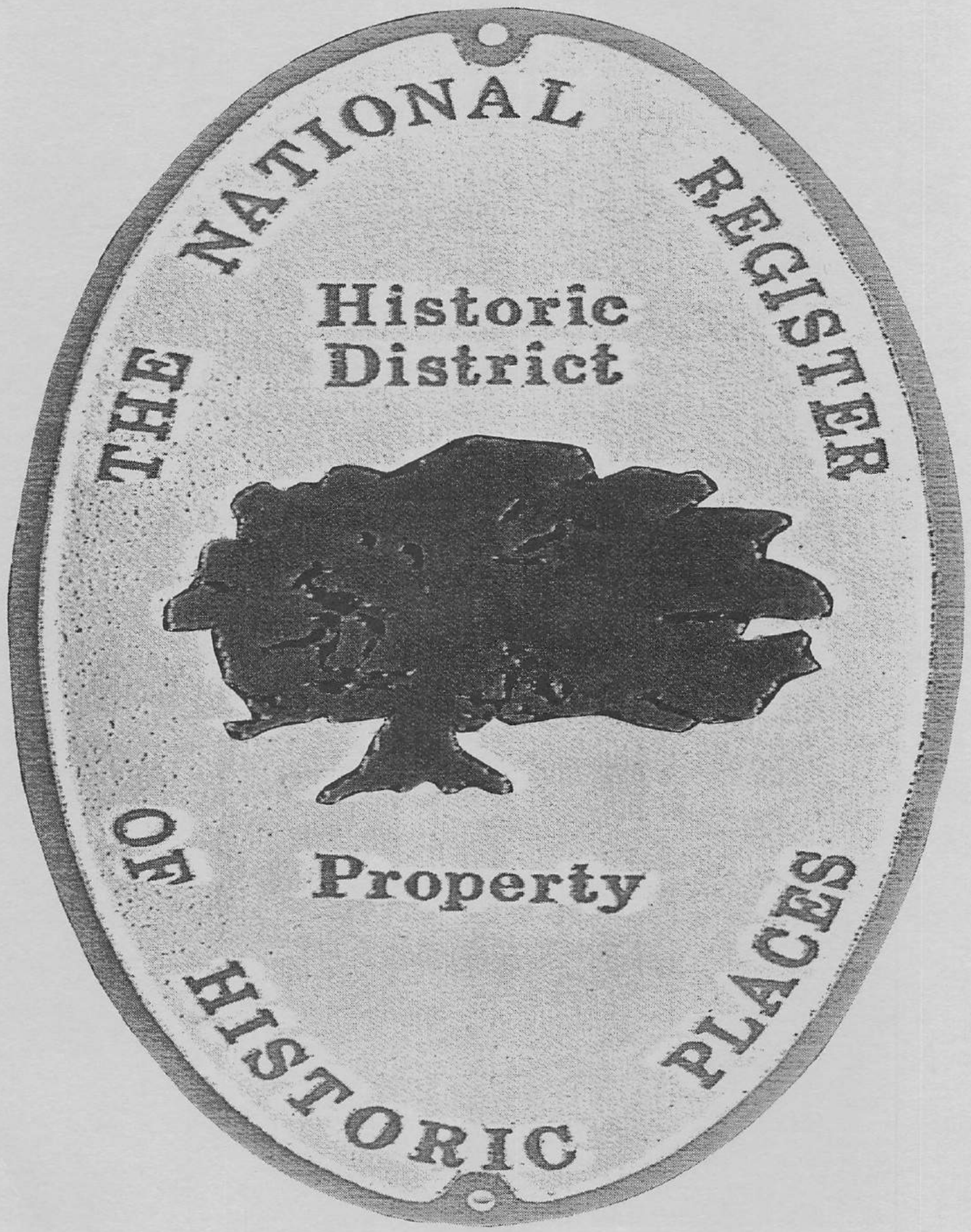
2. Application of Connecticut General Statutes, Section 22a-19a. This statute directs that the provisions of sections 22a-15 through 22a-19, inclusive, of the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act, which permit legal recourse for the unreasonable destruction of the state's resources, shall also be applicable to historic structures and landmarks of the state. Such structures and landmarks are defined as those properties (1) which are listed or under consideration for listing as individual units on the National Register of Historic Places or (2) which are a part of a district listed or under consideration for listing on the National Register and which have been determined by the State Historic Preservation Board to contribute to the historic significance of such a district. If the plaintiff in a resulting legal action cannot make a prima facie showing that the conduct of the defendant, acting alone or in combination with others, has unreasonably destroyed or is likely unreasonably to destroy the public trust in such historic structures or landmarks, the court shall tax all costs for the action to the plaintiff.

Listing does not mean that the Federal Government wants to acquire the property, place restrictive covenants on the land, or dictate the color or materials used on individual buildings. State and local ordinances or laws establishing restrictive zoning, special design review committees, or review of exterior alterations, are not a part of the National Register program and should be clearly separated from the function of the National Register as a tool in the Federal planning process.

If you have any questions regarding enrollment of this district on the National Register of Historic Places, please call or write John Herzan, National Register Coordinator.

Sincerely,

John W. Shannahan
State Historic Preservation Officer


THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Historic
District
Property
OF HISTORIC PLACES