

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

APR 25 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Mechanic Street Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet not for publication
city, town Stonington vicinity Pawcatuck
state Connecticut code CT county New London code 011 zip code 06379

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>413</u>	<u>44</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>414</u>	<u>46</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<u>0</u> objects
			<u>46</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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] April 20, 1988
Signature of certifying official Date
Director, Connecticut Historical Commission
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): _____

Patrick Andrus 6/7/88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwelling
DOMESTIC/ Multiple dwelling
INDUSTRY/manufacturing
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
RELIGION/church EDUCATION/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
INDUSTRY/manufacturing
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
EDUCATION/school

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Workers' Housing
Greek Revival
Gothic
Queen Anne /Italianate/ Mansard
Colonial Revival/ Bungalow

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation granite
walls wood/ weatherboard
brick
roof asphalt
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Mechanic Street Historic District consists of about 14 blocks on the west bank of the Pawcatuck River about two miles up river from the ocean. Located in the Pawcatuck section of Stonington, Connecticut, it contains a large concentration of houses dating from about 1830 to 1920 and a major nineteenth-century mill complex, occupying about 25 acres of the river bank in the eastern part of the district (Photograph #s 1, 2, 3).

From Mechanic Street, which borders the factory complex, the district slopes up to the west with the rest of the north-south streets running along a level plateau approximately 30-40 feet above the river. They are Lester Avenue and Prospect, Moss, William, and Courtland streets. Palmer Street, the only connector between these streets, runs uphill from the factories to the west (Photograph #s 4, 5). West Broad Street (Route 1), the Boston Post Road, which forms the northern boundary of the district, also runs from east to west. A railroad line runs through the district from the northeast to the southwest with a grade crossing at Palmer Street. Several small streets complete the district: Wilford Court, Chase, and Cedar streets; the last originally ran from Mechanic to Moss streets, but was cut off by the railroad.

Structures in the district include the granite abutments for an elevated spur line at the south end of the district on Mechanic Street. The railroad bridge has been removed. Modern flood gates have been installed in two locations on Mechanic Street (see sketch map of the district for locations). An earthen dike runs along the riverbank alongside the mill complex as further protection from flooding.

The mill complex contains seven major interconnected historic industrial buildings constructed between 1855 and 1920 and one small free-standing mansard-roofed building which served as a company office, built about 1875. Several small modern buildings have been added to the complex along with a major addition at the south end (about 1970). (See Inventory #s 449-461; Photograph #s 2, 3).

Six of the larger historic mills were constructed of brick on granite foundations. The seventh building is a three-and-one-half story wood-frame building constructed prior to 1880. It has a low double-pitched gable roof. Several of the brick mills utilize quarry-dressed granite for sills, lintels, or string courses; one has a polished granite column at the north corner supporting a recessed entrance. This building also displays corbelled brickwork on its stepped cornice, a feature found on several of the turn-of-the-century brick pier mills. One of the most prominent features of the complex is an extensive one-story building which runs along Mechanic Street for about 500 feet with a saw-tooth monitor for half of its length.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Atlas of New London County, Connecticut. New York: F.W. Beers, 1868.
Atlas of Washington County, Rhode Island. New York: F.W. Beers, 1868
Bevan, John. Map of the Village of Westerly. Jersey City, 1849.
Harwood, Pliny, Leroy. History of Eastern Connecticut. New Haven: Pioneer Publishing Co., 193
Hinckley, Elias B. Pawcutuck in Olden Times. Westerly, 1926.
Insurance Maps of Westerly (including Pawcutuck, Connecticut). New York: Sanborn Map Co.,
May 1907.
Map of the Village of Westerly, Rhode Island. Surveyed by John Bevan. 1849, 1851.
Reid, J.A. & R.A. Reid. The Westerly Directory. Westerly, Rhode Island, 1881, 1884.
Sampson, Murdock & Co. The Westerly Directory. Westerly, Rhode Island, 1885, 1888.
United State Federal Census, 1880.
Vollmer Associates, Inc. "Design Study Report, Elimination of the Palmer Street Crossing,
Stonington, Project No. 59-109." (Prepared for the Department of Transportation, State
of Connecticut, 1979.
Westerly Public Library, Local History Collection.

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:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Westerly Public Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 147

UTM References

A
Zone Easting Northing
C

B
Zone Easting Northing
D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The district is bounded on the east by the Pawcatuck River, on the north by the rear property lines on the lots on the north side of West Broad Street, on the south by the boundary delineated on the map of the district, and on the north by the rear property lines of lots on Moss, William, and Courtland streets as delineated on said map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The district boundaries were drawn to encompass the maximum number of contributing resources associated with the industrial and residential development of the Mechanic Street District. The eastern boundary is clearly established by the Pawcatuck River, a physical barrier. The northern boundary was drawn to include West Broad Street, which has strong associations with the rest of the district, both historical and architectural.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By Edited by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

name/title Jan Cunningham, National Register Consultant
organization Cunningham Associates Ltd. date 12/9/87
street & number 98 Washington Street telephone (203) 347 4072
city or town Middletown state CT zip code 06457

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 2 Page 1

Location

3, 5, 10 Cedar Street

3 through 15 Chase Street (odd numbers only)

12 Chase Street

3, and 7 through 38 Courtland Street (odd and even numbers)

3 through 40 Lester Street (odd and even numbers)

26½ through 120 Mechanic Street (odd and even numbers)*

3 through 71 Moss Street (odd and even numbers)

7 through 51 Palmer Street (odd and even numbers)

1 through 61 Prospect Street (odd and even numbers)

-- corner of Prospect and East Cedar Streets (no street number listed by assesor)

100, 100½, 101 & 106 through 171 West Broad Street (odd and even numbers)

1 through 26 Wilford Court (odd and even numbers)

1 through 41 William Street (odd and even numbers)

*Note: The mailing address of the industrial buildings is as follows:

Harris Graphics, Inc. 100 Mechanic Street (included above as 80 through 120)

Yardney Electric Co. 78 Mechanic Street (included above as 58 through 78)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 2

Vernacular housing in the district includes two basic types: workers' housing (mill-built multiple dwellings) and privately owned and built houses. This latter group includes owner-occupied dwellings, as well as rental property for families or individuals (rooming and boarding houses). Although they were leased to mill employees, they cannot be strictly categorized as workers' housing. Most of the private houses are small vernacular interpretations of the styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The few examples of larger, more stylish houses are found only on West Broad Street. It is clear that West Broad was a more fashionable street in the immediate post-bellum period, when houses of the factory managers or owners were built there, while the workers were expected to live below West Broad to the south. By the end of the nineteenth century, however, groups of identical smaller houses were built both on West Broad Street and the side streets in the district. Because of the large number of houses in each general category, only brief descriptions of each stylistic group, or type, will follow, tracing the general development chronology of the district.

The first group of houses predates the establishment of industry in the district; all were built in the Greek Revival period. They are concentrated on Mechanic Street and scattered along West Broad Street, the two oldest streets in the district. (Photograph #6) Most of the larger houses built in this style are rectangular in plan with a gable-to-street orientation and a pediment. A few have integral side ells, often found in farmhouses of this style or period (Inventory #11; Photograph #9). The smaller cottages rarely display pediments, but can be typed and dated by their proportions and pitch of the roof (Photograph #7).

Interspersed among these houses on Mechanic and lower Palmer streets are the first of the mill-built workers' housing, simple gable-roofed, two-to-three-story buildings which are an elongated version of the earlier Greek Revival-style houses (Inventory #s 145, 147, 148, 150, 151, 254; Photograph #10). A distinctive and almost universal feature of these houses, all built about 1865, is the use of small windows under the eaves at the second story, and exaggerated cornice returns. Several have double entrances with the high frieze and cornice of the Greek Revival style.

Other mill-built housing in the district includes duplexes dating from the 1890s on Prospect Street and Wilford Court. The Prospect Street examples are quite plain (Inventory #s 302, 303, 304; Photograph #11). The Wilford Court duplexes are distinguished by their Italianate-style door hoods (Inventory #s 372, 376, 379; Photograph #12). The last of the mill houses were built in the twentieth century. There are three dissimilar versions of the double decker at the end of Wilford Court and one Perfect Six on Mechanic Street. This latter house is the only one of its type in Stonington (Inventory #s 388, 389, 390, 137; Photograph #8).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 3

The majority of the privately owned houses date from the late nineteenth century. Ranging in size from small cottages to large two-and-one-half-story houses, they are wood-framed, cross-gabled versions of the Carpenter Gothic or Queen Anne styles. A front porch connecting the main block to the side ell is a universal feature, often displaying the only decorative details of these otherwise plain houses. Patterned shingles can often be found in the gable peaks. A distinctive group of cottages of the Queen Anne style was built in Prospect Street in 1897 (Inventory #s 284, 286, 288, 290, 292; Photograph #13). Another well-preserved group can be found on Moss Street (Inventory #s 215, 218, 222; Photograph #14). The largest versions of this type were multiple dwellings for at least two families, classified as tenements or "flats" when they were built. Examples of these are found on Lester and Moss streets (Inventory #s 66, 214, 217; Photograph #s 15, 16) and on West Broad Street as well (Inventory #s 319, 322, 323; Photograph #17). An unusually large single-family example is located at 140 West Broad Street (Inventory 343; Photograph #18).

Moss Street contains the largest group of Carpenter Gothic cottages. Most of these still display scroll-sawn decorative trim in the gables or as column brackets. (Inventory #s 164, 177, 179; Photograph #s 19, 20). One exceptional example is located at 6 Moss Street (Inventory #157; Photograph #21). This style overflowed onto West Broad Street, with two fine examples at the northwest corner of this intersection (Inventory #s 334, 335; Photograph #22).

Several mansard-style houses are scattered around the district; the larger three-story versions were boarding houses such as the restored Rosie O'Neil's Boarding House on Prospect Street (Inventory #299; Photograph #23). A smaller two-story example on Moss Street is unique to the district (Inventory #183; Photograph #20). It is characterized by unusual incised carving on the friezes, pediments, and dormers, all highlighted by a contrasting paint scheme.

William and Courtland streets were the last to be developed in the district. There the Queen Anne influence still predominates but is heavily influenced by the Colonial Revival (Inventory #s 396, 398; Photograph #24). Another popular style there was the gambrel form of the Colonial Revival (Inventory #s 437, 441; Photograph #25). A few Bungalows and American Four Squares are also found on these streets. Isaac Sherman, a local builder, had an office in one of the Four Squares at 8 Courtland Street; his house was a Queen Anne/Colonial Revival on William Street, a building which combines most of the individual features found on the smaller gambrels along these side streets (Inventory #337; Photograph #26).

A complete inventory of the district follows. Dates of construction were either taken from survey forms or estimated in the field. Associated outbuildings, garages or barns, that are not dated and classified as contributing appeared to be either contemporary with their respective houses or at least 50 years old. Industrial buildings are listed separately at the end of the inventory.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 4

INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING AND NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

#	Address	Name/ Style/ Date	C/NC	Photograph #
1.	3 Cedar Street	Queen Anne cottage, c.1890	C	
2.	5 "	Queen Anne cottage, c.1890	C	
3.	10 "	Modern, after 1940	NC	
4.	3 Chase Street	19th-c. mill cottage, c.1890	C	
5.	5 "	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
6.	7 "	20th-c. mill cottage	C	
7.	7 ½ "	19th-c. cottage to rear	C	
8.	9 "	19th-c. Mill cottage, c.1890	C	
9.	12 "	Thavenet Machine Shop, 1928	C	
10.	13 "	Bungaloid, 1914	C	
11.	15 "	Greek Revival, c.1840	C	9
12.	15 "	Barn assoc. with #11	C	
13.	— "	Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center 1982	NC	
14.	3 Courtland Street	Queen Anne/ Colonial Revival, 1904	C	
15.	7 "	American Four Square, c.1915	C	
16.	8 "	American Four Square, c.1915	C	
17.	8 "	Garage assoc. with #16, c.1915	C	
18.	9 "	American Four Square, c.1915	C	
19.	9 "	Garage assoc. with #18, c.1915	C	
20.	11 "	American Four Square, c.1915	C	
21.	11 "	Garage assoc. with #20, c.1915	C	
22.	12 "	Modern ranch, c.1950	NC	
23.	14 "	Modern ranch, c.1950	NC	
24.	15 "	ALBERT HILL HOUSE American Four Square, 1914	C	
25.	15 "	Garage assoc. with #24, 1914	C	
26.	16 "	Bungaloid, c.1915	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 5

27.	16	Courtland Street	Garage assoc. with #26, c.1915	C
28.	17	"	20th-c. vernacular, c.1920	C
29.	17	"	Garage assoc. with #28	C
30.	18	"	WILLIAM MAXWELL HOUSE Bungalow, 1928	C
31.	18	"	Garage assoc. with #30, 1928	C
32.	19	"	GEORGE L. BRANT HOUSE Bungalow, 1915	C
33.	19	"	Garage assoc. with #32, 1915	C
34.	20	"	Georgian Revival, c.1920	C
35.	20	"	Garage assoc. with #34, c.1920	C
36.	21	"	Bungalow, 1914	C
37.	21	"	Garage assoc. with #36, 1914	C
38.	22	"	American Four Square, Sears Roebuck type, 1914	C
39.	23	"	American Four Square, c.1915	C
40.	23	"	Garage assoc. with #39, c.1915	C
41.	25	"	Modern residence	NC
42.	25	"	Garage assoc. with #41	NC
43.	26	"	Colonial Revival, c.1940	NC
44.	27	"	JOHN T. JOHNSON HOUSE Bungalow, 1926	C
45.	27	"	Garage assoc. with #44, 1926	C
46.	29	"	20th-c. vernacular, c.1900	C
47.	29	"	Garage assoc. with #46, c.1900	C
48.	30	"	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C
49.	32	"	Modern residence	NC
50.	32	"	Garage assoc. with #49	NC
51.	33	"	Modern residence	NC
52.	34	"	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C
53.	35	"	19th-c. cottage, c.1890	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 6

54.	36	Courtland Street	Modern residence, c.1950	NC
55.	37	"	HALSEY A. BURDICH HOUSE Colonial Revival, 1915	C
56.	38	"	CHARLES HIGGINBOTHAM HOUSE Bungaloid, 1926	C
57.	3	Lester Avenue	MASONIC HALL Italianate, 1857	C
58.	6	"	Cape, 1937	C
59.	7	"	Cape, c.1940	NC
60.	8	"	NOYES FARM HOUSE Greek Revival, c.1840	C
61.	8	"	Garage assoc. with #60	C
62.	9	"	CONSTANCE T. CRANDALL HOUSE American Four Square, c.1910	C
63.	10	"	Modern residence	NC
64.	11	"	American Four Square, c.1905	C
65.	12	"	20th-c. vernacular, 1929	C
66.	13	"	BURLEIGH THOMAS TENEMENT Queen Anne, 1903	C
67.	13	"	Garage assoc. with #66	C
68.	15	"	G. T. LOOMIS HOUSE Colonial Revival, 1905	C
69.	15	"	Garage, 3-bay, assoc. with #68	C
70.	16	"	20th-c. bungaloid, c.1915	C
71.	16	"	Garage assoc. with #70	C
72.	17	"	E. MACOMBER HOUSE Colonial Revival, 1903	C
73.	17	"	Garage assoc. with #72	C
74.	18	"	Dutch Colonial, c.1930	C
75.	18	"	Garage assoc. with #74, c.1930	C
76.	19-21	"	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1900	C
77.	20	"	Modern cape, c.1940	NC
78.	22	"	Bungaloid, c.1915	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 8

79.	22	Lester Avenue	Garage assoc. with #78, c.1915	C
80.	23-25	"	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1920	C
81.	24	"	Dutch Colonial, c.1930	C
82.	24	"	Garage assoc. with #81, c.1930	C
83.	26	"	Queen Anne/ Colonial Revival, 1913	C
84.	26	"	Garage assoc. with #83, 1913	C
85.	27	"	FREESTONE HOUSE Queen Anne, 1900	C
86.	28	"	20th-c. cape, c.1925	C
87.	28	"	Garage assoc. with #86	NC
88.	29	"	Queen Anne/ Colonial Revival, c.1910	C
89.	30	"	WILLIAM TOWERS HOUSE Colonial Revival, 1928	C
90.	30	"	Garage assoc. with #89, 1928	C
91.	31	"	20th-c. vernacular, c.1920	C
92.	33	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C
93.	35	"	Colonial Revival, c.1910	C
94.	35	"	Garage assoc. with #93	C
95.	36-38	"	Colonial Revival, c.1910	C
96.	37	"	20th-c. vernacular, c.1920	C
97.	39	"	SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Neo-Gothic Revival, 1912	C
98.	40	"	Modern cottage, c.1945	NC
99.	40	"	Garage assoc. with #98	NC
100.	26 1/2	Mechanic Street	19th-c. shop	C
101.	28	"	DEACON TAYLOR PENDLETON HOUSE Greek Revival, c.1850	C
102.	--	"	Modern warehouse	NC
103.	29	"	Colonial	C
104.	30	"	WILLIAM B. DODGE HOUSE Greek Revival, c.1840	C
105.	31	"	Greek Revival, c.1840	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 9

106. 32	Mechanic Street	JOSEPH BURDICK HOUSE Colonial/ Federal, c.1830	C
107. 34	"	Greek Revival, c.1840	C
108. 35	"	19th-c. cottage, c.1880	C
109. 36	"	Mill House, c.1850 (connected to #107 with storefront)	C
110. 36	"	Garage assoc. with #109	NC
111. 37	"	19th-c. cross-gable	C
112. 38	"	Mill House, c.1850	C
113. 38	"	Garage assoc. with #112	NC
114. 39	"	19th-c. vernacular, c.1880	C
115. 40	"	ABIEL BARBER, JR., HOUSE Greek Revival, c.1855	C
116. 40 rear	"	19th-c. shop, n.d.	C
117. 41	"	Greek Revival, c.1850	C
118. 41	"	Garage assoc. with #117	C
119. 42	"	HORACE R. HALL HOUSE/OFFICE Gothic Revival, c.1860	C
120. 42	"	Garage assoc. with #119	NC
121. 42 ½	"	Greek Revival mill cottage, c.1850	C
122. 45	"	Greek Revival, c.1840	C
123. 45	"	Garage assoc. with #122	C
124. 46	"	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1880	C
125. 46	"	19th-c. mill cottage, c.1850	C
126. 46 ½	"	19th-c. mill cottage, c.1850	C
127. 47	"	Greek Revival, c.1845	C
128. 47	"	Garage assoc. with #127	C
129. 48	"	Modern commercial	NC
130. 50	"	Modern Commercial	NC
131. 51	"	Greek Revival, c.1840	C
132. 55	"	PELEG S. BARBER HOUSE Greek Revival, c.1840	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 10

133. 55	Mechanic Street	Garage assoc. with #132	C	
134. 56	"	Greek Revival, c.1845	C	
135. --	"	Flood Gates, 20th-c structure	NC	
136. 57-59	"	LORRAINE MILL HOUSE duplex, 1900	C	8
137. 63-65-67	"	LORRAINE MILL TENEMENT Perfect Six, c.1920	C	8
138. 69	"	Greek Revival, c.1840	C	
139. 69	"	Garage assoc. with #138	C	
140. 69 ½	"	19th-c. vernacular, c.1890	C	
141. 71	"	Greek Revival, c.1840	C	
142. 73	"	Queen Anne/ Colonial Revival, c.1910	C	
143. 73 rear	"	19th-c. vernacular, c.1850	C	
144. 75	"	SAMUEL PICKENS HOUSE Greek Revival, 1840	C	
145. 77	"	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, c.1865	C	
146. 77	"	Garage assoc. with #145	C	
147. 79	"	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, c.1865	C	
148. 81	"	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, c.1865	C	
149. 81	"	Garage assoc. with #148	C	
150. 83	"	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, c.1865	C	
151. 85	"	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, c.1865	C	
152. 87-89	"	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK DUPLEX, c.1865	C	
153. 113	"	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1880	C	
154. ---	"	19th-c. Railroad Bridge abuttment with Flood Gates adjacent	C/NC	

Note: Industrial buildings on Mechanic Street are listed separately at end of inventory.

155. 3-5	Moss Street	Queen Anne/ Greek Revival, 1860	C	
156. 3-5	"	Garage assoc. with #155	C	
157. 6	"	Carpenter Gothic, 1870	C	21
158. 6	"	Garage assoc. with #157	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 11

159.	7	Moss Street	19th-c. cottage, c.1895	C	
160.	7	"	Garage assoc. with #159	C	
161.	8	"	19th-c. cross-gable, 1883	C	
162.	8	"	Garage assoc. with #161	C	
163.	9	"	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1880	C	
164.	10	"	Italianate, c.1880	C	19
165.	10	"	Garage assoc. with #164	C	
166.	11	"	Queen Anne, 1898	C	
167.	12	"	PELEG/SIMEON SLOCUM HOUSE 19th-c. cross-gable, 1870	C	
168.	12	rear "	Converted barn, c.1870	C	
169.	13	"	JASON WEST HOUSE 20th-c. vernacular, 1910	C	
170.	13	"	Barn	C	
171.	14	"	American Four Square, c.1915	C	
172.	14	"	Garage assoc. with #171	C	
173.	15	"	CHARLES PALMER HOUSE Queen Anne, 1898	C	
174.	15	"	Barn assoc. with #173	C	
175.	16	"	S.or P. SLOCUM HOUSE Italianate, 1870	C	20
176.	17	"	Colonial Revival, c.1910	C	
177.	18	"	JOHN MACDONALD HOUSE Carpenter Gothic, c.1875	C	20
178.	19	"	MYRON A. KENYON HOUSE Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
179.	20	"	Carpenter Gothic, 1877	C	20
180.	20	"	Garage assoc. with #179	C	
181.	21	"	Modern cape	NC	
182.	21	"	Garage assoc. with #181	NC	
183.	22	"	RAY GREEN HOUSE Mansard, 1874	C	20
184.	22	"	Garage assoc. with #183	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 12

185.	22½	Moss Street	19th-c. vernacular, 1874	C
186.	23	"	ELMER E. VINCENT HOUSE Queen Anne, 1898	C
187.	23	"	Barn assoc. with #186	C
188.	24	"	Spanish Colonial Revival, 1927	C
189.	25	"	HERBERT L. HOXIE HOUSE Queen Anne/ Colonial Revival, 1898	C
190.	25	"	Garage assoc. with #189	C
191.	26	"	CALVIN DAVIS HOUSE Mansard, 1874	C
192.	26	"	Barn/garage assoc. with #191	C
193.	27	"	A. G. MARTIN HOUSE Free Classic, c.1902	C
194.	27	"	Barn/garage assoc. with #193	C
195.	28	"	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1875	C
196.	29	"	Free Classic, c.1900	C
197.	29	"	Garage assoc. with #196	C
198.	30	"	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C
199.	30	"	Garage assoc. with #198	C
200.	31	"	OSCAR W. GATES HOUSE 19th-c. cross-gable, 1897	C
201.	32	"	Carpenter Gothic, 1870	C
202.	32	"	Garage assoc. with #201	C
203.	33	"	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1895	C
204.	34	"	Mill cottage, c.1900	C
205.	35	"	HENRY S. GAVITT HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, 1905	C
206.	36	"	Mill cottage, c.1900	C
207.	36	"	Barn/garage assoc. with #206	C
208.	37	"	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1905	C
209.	37	"	Garage assoc. with #208	C
210.	38	"	20th-c. domestic set back, c.1930	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 13

211.	39 Moss Street	Queen Anne cottage, c.1900	C	
212.	40 "	Mill cottage, c.1900	C	
213.	40 "	Barn/garage assoc. with #212	C	
214.	41 "	Cross-gable tenement, c.1900	C	15
215.	42 "	Queen Anne cottage, 1905	C	14
216.	42 "	Garage assoc. with #215	NC	
217.	43 "	THE ROBERTS HOUSE Cross-gable tenement, c.1900	C	15
218.	44 "	Queen Anne cottage, c.1900	C	14
219.	44 "	Garage assoc. with #218	C	
220.	45 "	Cross-gable tenement, c.1900	C	
221.	45 "	Shed/garage assoc. with #220	C	
222.	46 "	Queen Anne cottage, c.1900	C	14
223.	46 "	Garage assoc. with #222	C	
224.	47 "	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1890	C	
225.	48 "	JAMES & ADIA ELLIS HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, 1897	C	
226.	49 "	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1890	C	
227.	50 "	HUGH S. MARSHALL HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, 1898	C	
228.	50 "	19th-c. barn assoc. with #227	C	
229.	51 "	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
230.	52 "	Queen Anne cottage, 1898	C	
231.	52 "	Garage assoc. with #230	C	
232.	53 "	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1900	C	
233.	54 "	Modern ranch, n.d.	NC	
234.	55 "	Colonial Revival, c.1910	C	
235.	56 "	Modern cape, 1941	NC	
236.	56 "	Garage assoc. with #235	NC	
237.	57 "	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
238.	58 "	Modern, n.d.	NC	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 14

239.	59 Moss Street	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
240.	60 "	Modern, n.d.	NC	
241.	60 "	Garage assoc. with #240	NC	
242.	61 "	Queen Anne, c.1910	C	
243.	61 "	Garage assoc. with #242	C	
244.	62 "	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1900	C	
245.	62 "	Garage assoc. with #244	C	
246.	63 "	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1900	C	
247.	63 "	Garage assoc. with #246	C	
248.	65 "	Cross-gable tenement, c.1900	C	16
249.	66 "	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
250.	66 "	Garage assoc. with #249	C	
251.	67 "	20th-c. cross-gable, c.1900	C	16
252.	69 "	JAMES McCORMICK HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, 1902	C	16
253.	71 "	Mansard, 1903	C	
254.	7-9 Palmer Street	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, C.1870	C	10
255.	8-10 "	CAMPBELL & BABCOCK MILL HOUSE, C.1870	C	
256.	11 "	Mill cottage, c.1850	C	10
257.	11 "	Garage assoc. with #256	C	
258.	17 "	UNIVERSAL FOOD STORE* (Whistle Stop Restaurant) Neo-Gothic, 1935	C	
259.	19 "	Greek Revival, c.1860, deteriorated	NC	
260.	21 "	19th-c.domestic, c.1860,deteriorated	NC	
261.	22 "	Queen Anne cottage, c.1900	C	
262.	25 "	19th-c. cross-gable, c.1850	C	
263.	26 "	Mill house, c.1880	C	
264.	28 "	Mill house, c.1880	C	
265.	28 "	Barn assoc. with #264	C	
266.	29 "	E. E. CRANDALL HOUSE Mansard, c.1880	C	

*multiple peaked gables a feature used on the stores of this early store chain

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 15

267.	29	Palmer Street	Garage assoc. with #266	C	
268.	30	"	Altered Gothic cottage, c.1880	C	
269.	31	"	SHERMAN PROCTOR HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, c.1890	C	
270.	32	"	Altered Gothic cottage, c.1880	C	
271.	38	"	Queen Anne cottage, c.1900	C	
272.	39	"	Shingle, c.1900	C	
273.	40	"	F. LEE GAVITT HOUSE Queen Anne, 1901	C	
274.	40	"	Garage assoc. with #273	C	
275.	41	"	Bungalowid, 1920	C	
276.	42	"	McKENZIE HOUSE Queen Anne, 1903	C	
277.	43	"	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C	
278.	51	"	Bungalowid, c.1922	C	
279.	51	"	Early 20th-c. shop, c.1920	C	
280.	1-3	Prospect Street	19th-c. tenement, 1870	C	
281.	2	"	19th-c. tenement, 1870 Pizza Restaurant storefront	C	
282.	5	"	19th-c. domestic, 1870	C	
283.	5	"	Garage assoc. with #282	C	
284.	7	"	Queen Anne cottage, 1897	C	13
285.	7	"	19th-c. barn assoc. with #284	C	
286.	9	"	Queen Anne cottage, 1897	C	13
287.	9	"	Garage assoc. with #286	C	
288.	11	"	Queen Anne cottage, 1897	C	13
289.	11	"	Garage assoc. with #288	C	
290.	13	"	FREDERICK LaFONTAINE HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, 1897	C	13
291.	13	"	Garage assoc. with #290	C	
292.	15	"	GABRIEL LaFONTAINE HOUSE Queen Anne cottage, 1897	C	13

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 16

293. 17	Prospect Street	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C	
294. 17	"	Garage assoc. with #293	C	
295. 19	"	Queen Anne, c.1880	C	
296. 20	"	Queen Anne cottage, c.1880	C	
297. —	"	Greek Revival, c.1840 (corner of E. Cedar Street)	C	
298. 21	"	CATHERINE CLINE HOUSE Queen Anne, 1875	C	
299. 23	"	ROSE O'NEILL BOARDING HOUSE Mansard, 1871	C	23
300. 25	"	HUGH O'NEILL HOUSE Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
301. 25	"	Garage assoc. with #300	C	
302. 49-51	"	CREFELD MILL HOUSE, c.1890	C	11
303. 53-55	"	CREFELD MILL HOUSE, c.1890	C	11
304. 57-59	"	CREFELD MILL HOUSE, c.1890	C	11
305. 61	"	Mansard, c.1895	C	
306. 61	"	Garage assoc. with #305	C	
307. —	West Broad Street	ELM TREE INN 19th-c. commercial with 20th-c. addition, 1860/1920	C	
308. 100	"	Greek Revival cottage, c.1840	C	
309. 100 ½	"	BABCOCK HOUSE Mansard, c.1870; (moved 1910)	C	
310. 101	"	PATRICK McNAMARA HOUSE Queen Anne/storefront, c.1890	C	
311. 106	"	Queen Anne/storefront, c.1890	C	
312. 106 rear	"	C.H.HOLDRIDGE CARRIAGE SHOP/ MURPHY CHEVROLET Carriage Shop, 1907/1928	C	
313. 107	"	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
314. 107	"	Garage assoc. with #313	C	
315. 108	"	Queen Anne/storefront, c.1890	C	
316. 109	"	JOSHUA CLARKE HOUSE 19th-c. domestic, 1878	C	17

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 17

317. 111	"	SHEFFIELD'S BOARDING HOUSE Greek Revival cottage, c.1850	C	17
318. 113	"	SAMUEL B. WATROUS HOUSE Queen Anne, 1892	C	17
319. 114	"	Mill tenement, double-decker, c.1890	C	
320. 114 rear	"	GILES WILCOX BARN 19th-c. barn, (no association)	C	
321. ---	"	CHELSEA GROTON SAVINGS BANK Neo-Colonial Revival, c.1980	NC	
322. 115	"	HERBERT L. HOXIE Tenement Queen Anne tenement, c.1900	C	17
323. 117	"	GEORGE GREENMAN HOUSE Queen Anne, 1898	C	
324. 117	"	Garage assoc. with #323	C	
325. 122	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	
326. 122	"	Garage assoc. with #325	C	
327. 123	"	Queen Anne, c.1895	C	
328. 124	"	LOUDON'S Mansard, c.1880	C	
329. 124	"	Garage assoc. with #328	C	
330. 125	"	American Four Square, c.1910	C	
331. 125	"	Garage assoc. with #330	C	
332. 125 rear	"	Garage converted to apartment, n.d.	NC	
333. 126	"	Greek Revival, c.1860	C	
334. 128	"	Carpenter Gothic, c.1870	C	22
335. 130	"	Carpenter Gothic, c.1870	C	22
336. ---	"	WEST BROAD STREET SCHOOL Georgian Revival, c.1900	C	
337. 134	"	Carpenter Gothic, c.1870	C	
338. 134	"	Garage assoc. with #337	C	
339. 135	"	Carpenter Gothic, c.1870	C	
340. 136	"	Colonial Revival, c.1915	C	
341. 136	"	Garage assoc. with #340	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 18

342.	137 West Broad Street	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
343.	140 "	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	18
344.	140 "	Garage assoc. with #343	C	
345.	141 "	Queen Anne, 1892	C	
346.	141 "	Garage assoc. with #345	C	
347.	143 "	Greek Revival/Italianate, c.1860	C	
348.	145 "	Greek Revival, c.1850	C	
349.	146 "	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
350.	146 "	Garage assoc. with #349	C	
351.	150 "	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
352.	150 "	Barn assoc. with #351	C	
353.	151 "	Italianate, c.1865	C	
354.	154 "	Shingle, c.1890	C	
355.	154 "	Garage assoc. with #354	C	
356.	156 "	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1915	C	
357.	156 "	Garage assoc. with #356	C	
358.	157 "	Greek Revival, c.1850	C	
359.	157 "	Garage assoc. with #358	C	
360.	159 "	Modern cape, n.d.	NC	
361.	159 "	Garage assoc. with #360	NC	
362.	161 "	19th-c. domestic, c.1880	C	
363.	163 "	Greek Revival, c.1850	C	
364.	163 "	Garage assoc. with #363	C	
365.	165 "	Queen Anne, c.1890	C	
366.	165 "	Garage assox. with #365	C	
367.	167 "	20th-c. mill house, c.1920	C	
368.	169 "	Greek Revival, c.1840 (altered with hip roof)	C	
369.	171 "	American Four Square, c.1910	C	
370.	171 "	Garage assoc. with #369	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 19

371.	1-3	Wilford Court	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	
372.	2-4	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	12
373.	2-4	"	Garage assoc. with #372	NC	
374.	5-7	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	
375.	5-7	"	Garage assoc. with #374	C	
376.	6-8	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	12
377.	6-8	"	Garage assoc. with #376	C	
378.	9-11	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	
379.	10-12	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	12
380.	13-15	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	
381.	13-15	"	Garage assoc. with #380	C	
382.	14-16	"	CREFELD DUPLEX mill house, 1892	C	
383.	18	"	American Four Square, c.1910	C	
384.	18	"	Garage assoc. with #383	C	
385.	20	"	American Four Square, c.1910	C	
386.	20	"	Garage assoc. with #385	C	
387.	20	"	Garage assoc. with #386	C	
388.	22	"	20th-c. mill-built apt. house, 1922	C	
389.	24	"	20th-c. mill-built apt. house, 1922	C	
390.	26	"	20th-c. mill-built apt. house, 1922	C	
391.	1	William Street	Italianate, c.1870 (altered)	C	
392.	3	"	Italianate, c.1870 (altered)	C	
393.	3	"	Garage assoc. with #392	C	
394.	4	"	Modern ranch, after 1940	NC	
395.	5	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
396.	6	"	AMBROSE G. KENYON HOUSE Colonial Revival, c.1900	C	24
397.	7	"	ISAAC SHERMAN HOUSE Colonial Revival/Queen Anne, c.1910	C	26
398.	8	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	24

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 20

399.	8	William Street	Garage assoc. with #398	C	
400.	9	"	19th-c. vernacular, c.1890	C	
401.	9	"	Garage assoc. with #400	C	
402.	10	"	Colonial Revival, 1928	C	24
403.	10	"	Garage assoc. with #402	C	
404.	11	"	JAMES F. LAWTON HOUSE Queen Anne cross-gable, 1898	C	
405.	12	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	24
406.	12	"	Garage assoc. with #405	C	
407.	13	"	19th-c. domestic c.1890 (altered)	C	
408.	13	"	Garage assoc. with #407	C	
409.	14	"	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C	
410.	14	"	Garage assoc. with #409	C	
411.	16	"	Bungaloid, c.1915	C	
412.	16	"	Garage assoc. with #411	C	
413.	17	"	Modern, after 1940	NC	
414.	18	"	HARRY CRANDALL HOUSE Craftsman/Bungaloid, 1914	C	
415.	19	"	FRED BROWN HOUSE Colonial Revival gambrel, 1904	C	
416.	19	"	Garage assoc. with #415	C	
417.	20	"	American Four Square duplex, 1915	C	
418.	20	"	Garage assoc. with #417	C	
419.	21	"	JOSEPH L. DAWLEY HOUSE Colonial Revival gambrel, 1904	C	
420.	22	"	Modern, after 1940	NC	
421.	22	"	Garage assoc. with #420	NC	
422.	23	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1905	C	
423.	23	"	Garage assoc. with #422	C	
424.	24	"	American Four Square, c.1915	C	
425.	24	"	Garage assoc. with #424	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 21

426.	25	William Street	FRED D. ROGERS DUPLEX American Four Square, 1914	C	
427.	25	"	Garage assoc. with #426	C	
428.	26	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1905	C	
429.	26	"	Garage assoc. with #428	C	
430.	27	"	THE DORE TENEMENT Queen Anne, c.1900 (altered)	C	
431.	28	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
432.	28	"	Garage assoc. with #431	C	
433.	29	"	Queen Anne/Colonial Revival, 1901	C	
434.	31	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	
435.	32	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
436.	33	"	KELLEHER HOUSE Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	
437.	34	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	25
438.	34	"	Garage assoc. with #437	C	
439.	35	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	
440.	35	"	Garage assoc. with #439	C	
441.	36	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	25
442.	36	"	Garage assoc. with #441	C	
443.	37	"	Colonial Revival, c.1920	C	
444.	37	"	Garage assoc. with #443	C	
445.	38	"	Queen Anne, c.1900	C	
446.	39	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	
447.	40	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	
448.	41	"	Colonial Revival gambrel, c.1910	C	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 22

INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS
(all located on Mechanic Street)

449.	Modern office building, 1987	NC	
450.	C. B. Cottrell wood-frame mill, before 1880	C	3
451.	C. B. Cottrell 2-story brick mill, before 1880	C	
452.	C. B. Cottrell mansard office, ca.1875	C	
453.	C. B. Cottrell 2-story brick mill, ca.1890	C	3
454.	Lorraine 1-story brick pier mill, ca.1900	C	
455.	Lorraine 3-story brick pier mill, ca.1900	C	2
456.	Lorraine 1-story brick mill with sawtooth monitor, 1910	C	
457.	C. B. Cottrell brick mill, 1920	C	
458.	C. B. Cottrell brick mill, 1920	C	
459.	C. B. Cottrell brick mill, 1900	C	
460.	Modern mill additions (south), ca.1980	C	

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 8 Page 2

In 1837 the railroad from Providence to Stonington was completed. (It passes through the district with a grade crossing at Palmer Street.) This wood-fired steam railroad was a major factor in the development of Pawcatuck as a separate industrial community, not simply as an improved method of transportation. Much of the early industrial labor force was already in place, as both Blacks and Irish immigrants came to the town with the building of the railroad. Mystic continued to prosper as a whaling and shipbuilding port, and Stonington Port became the transfer terminus for the steamboat to New York. The Westerly granite quarries became the chief industry for that town starting in 1840, and Pawcatuck rapidly developed its own industrial base. One of the earliest was a woolen mill established upriver from the district by Osesemus Stillman, an area that became known as Stillmanville.

The first company established in the district was a foundry built in 1851, the first and last industry to utilize the river for water power. It was followed in 1855 by Cottrell & Babcock, a steam-powered factory specializing in the manufacture of machinery of all kinds, textile, wood turning, and printing. The company turned exclusively to the manufacture of printing presses by 1860. Production of machinery is a labor-intensive process, employing skilled workers. Their first year in business, it took 50 men to produce 20 machines. By 1860, the work force had doubled and 50 machines were made. Following the Civil War, the company prospered to such an extent that the labor force tripled. Cottrell bought out his partner and the firm became known as Cottrell & Sons, continuing business in this location until well into the twentieth century (Harris Graphics, Inc., a modern printing press manufacturer, occupies some of the firm's buildings).

Another company was established in the district about this time, Campbell and Babcock, a woolen textile mill (probably the same Babcock formerly in business with Cottrell). Their first buildings adjoin the Cottrell factories on the south. By 1888 it became the Crefeld Mills. This company was bought out in 1897 by the Lorraine Mills, which remained in business until 1934.

Several types of housing were needed for the work force of these two major employers, a work force that had grown to "hundreds of men, single and foreign born" by 1880.¹ Mill-built housing was augmented by tenements and boarding houses built by individuals, but many of the skilled workers at Cottrell owned their own houses, especially after 1900. Since most of the workers' housing in the district was provided by the textile mills under each successive owner, it is presumed that the textile firms were the largest employer. Mill-built housing included tenements and duplexes, beginning with those built for Campbell and Babcock near the mill at the junction of Palmer and Mechanic streets. Pendleton and Hall, later Dickson & Hall, were the builders of these similar houses. Both Crefeld and Lorraine Mills built tenements and duplexes, in addition to purchasing existing houses and tenements to rent to workers. Such was the demand for housing that as the textile mill expanded, existing houses were even moved across Mechanic Street

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 8 Page 3

rather than destroyed (Inventory #36). Lorraine Mills became the largest property owner in the district. By the time the company folded in 1934, it owned 85 houses in the district, estimated as 30% of the housing stock. They were all sold in one day at auction, often to the current tenants.

The district expanded with the growth of the mills and factories, first onto Lester Avenue and Moss Street, and then to William and Courtland. Babcock and Wilcox were the contractors for many of these houses (for example, see Inventory #83), along with Maxson and Sons. Isaac Sherman specialized in the American Four Squares on Courtland Street (Inventory #s 15, 16, 18, 20). Lester Avenue and Moss Street combined single- and multi-family dwellings. Here the rental properties were simply larger houses of the same type built for individual families, generally in the Queen Anne style. William and Courtland streets were limited to single family houses--all built in the early twentieth century.

Quite a few of this latter group were owned by machinists at the Cottrell factory. Nine houses have been identified as belonging to these skilled workers; four on Lester Avenue built between 1903 and 1913, the others built on Courtland Street until 1926. The foreman machinist, John T. Johnson, lived at 27 Courtland in a small bungalow, one of the last styles to be constructed (Inventory #44). Some of these men owned boarding houses elsewhere in the district. For example, Herbert Hoxie, living at 25 Moss Street, owned a tenement on lower West Broad Street (Inventory #s 25, 322; Photograph #17).

The increased prosperity of the district in the early twentieth century, reflected in the improved housing stock, was accompanied by the formation of a citizen improvement group. At their urging, trees were planted on the streets in the district and one of the last district schools in Stonington was built to serve the neighborhood on West Broad Street (Inventory #336). The recent construction of the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (Inventory #13) demonstrates the community's continued interest in the district.

Architectural Significance

The Mechanic Street Historic District displays an unusual degree of cohesion and remains a viable entity. All the components of this exceptionally large district remain in place, an operating industrial complex, and block after block of associated vernacular housing. With few exceptions, most of the district's resources appear today as they did at the time they were built. Very little modern construction has taken place; the few newer houses are located on the fringes of the district, particularly on William or Courtland streets. Most of these are compatible in scale and function and do not detract from the historic appearance of these streetscapes.

More importantly, the lack of modern intrusion elsewhere in the district leaves the historic chronology of the district intact. Even to the casual passerby, the subtle

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 8 Page 4

changes in the district's domestic architecture are obvious as one moves west from Mechanic Street. The age of this street is apparent. Although it is also the area where the houses have suffered the most from neglect or ill-advised additions or siding, a number of them have been rehabilitated and most still convey their Greek Revival-style inspiration. Between Moss and Mechanic streets a variety of houses was constructed. Interspersed among the three types of readily identifiable workers' housing are modest houses from the later nineteenth century.

It is on Moss Street that the total transition to the late nineteenth century is accomplished. The longest street in the district, it contains some 60 historic houses. The vast majority of them are derivations of the Queen Anne style, with the larger houses on the west side and the smaller ones on the east. Exceptionally well preserved, with most houses still displaying the original architectural details, the streetscape has great integrity and demonstrates the almost infinite variation made possible by machine-produced millwork, most obvious in the fine collection of Carpenter Gothics with "gingerbread" trim.

On the later streets in the district the predominant style of the twentieth century, the Colonial Revival, exerts a strong influence. Often combined with the Queen Anne on William Street, it achieves its final unmistakable form in the Colonial Revival gambrel-roofed cottages and Bungalows on both William and Courtland streets.

Notes:

1. U. S. Census, 1880, as cited in the "Historical Overview" of the Stonington Architectural and Historical Survey, 1980.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mechanic Street Historic District, Stonington, Connecticut

Section number 10 Page 2

UTM References

<u>USGS Ashaway Quad</u>		<u>USGS Watch Hill Quad</u>		1:24,000
A	19 262720 4583380	H	19 262060 4584120	
B	19 262150 4583480	I	19 262060 4584160	
C	19 262520 4583480	J	19 263000 4584310	
D	19 262520 4583580	K	19 263880 4584240	
E	19 262499 4583610	L	19 263520 4584210	
F	19 262360 4583900	M	19 263140 4584280	
G	29 263550 4583440	N	19 263140 4584250	
		O	19 263400 4584200	

Boundary Justification (continued)

Above West Broad Street to the north are two other residential neighborhoods, which contain houses dating from the late nineteenth century, generally similar to those found in the district from this period. These neighborhoods have their own historical associations, however. One called Stillmanville is associated with the development of the Stillman mill up river from the Mechanic Street District. The other is called Donnerville, and was established almost exclusively by Irish immigrants, and constructed in a limited time frame by one builder. Both of these neighborhoods were excluded because of their lack of association with the theme of the district. The southern boundary was drawn to exclude open land on the southeast, below the railroad abutment, and modern construction and open land in the rest of this area.

The western boundary was less well-defined because the concentration of historic houses declines in this area. The boundaries were drawn here to exclude the modern residential construction at the south end of William Street. On Courtland Street, which has modern infill for most of its length, the boundary was drawn to include only one and one-half blocks where there is a representative group of the architecture built in the last decades of the district's historic development and several specific properties that had direct association with the industry of the district.

The northeastern corner of the district was also a special situation. Here the boundaries were drawn to exclude buildings which had lost their integrity due to radical alteration for commercial use, specifically the last block on West Broad Street on the north side and the north end of Mechanic Street.

THE MECHANIC STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
Stonington, Connecticut

- ▣ Contributing and Non-contributing Buildings
- Non-contributing Buildings

— District Boundaries

Map by Cunningham Associates Ltd., 12/87

Note: Location of numbers only approximates the location of buildings.

