

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 28 1982  
DATE ENTERED JUN 28 1982

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

William D. Bishop Cottage Development *Historic District*

AND/OR COMMON

Cottage Park Historic District

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

99-134 Atlantic Street; 256-390 Broad Street (even side);  
Cottage Place (all); 189-321 Main Street (odd side); 77-  
93 Whiting Street

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Bridgeport

N/A VICINITY OF

Fourth--

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Connecticut

CODE

09

COUNTY

Fairfield

CODE

001

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple--see attached list

STREET & NUMBER

" " "

CITY, TOWN

" N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

"

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bridgeport Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

45 Lyon Terrace

CITY, TOWN

Bridgenort Connecticut

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

State Register of Historic Places

DATE

1982

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Connecticut Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Hartford

STATE

Connecticut

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William D. Bishop Cottage Development is a 2½-block residential district in the South End of Bridgeport, located 4 blocks south of the Connecticut Turnpike and Downtown and a half-block north of the entrance to Seaside Park at its closest point. It is surrounded by a mixed residential/industrial/university neighborhood. To the north is the Marina Village housing project, a brick 3-story complex of functionalist design (1941). The opposite side of Main Street, which forms the east boundary, is occupied by warehouses, vacant lots and small commercial establishments as well as a handful of isolated Victorian dwellings which do not relate to the development theme of this nomination. The south boundary excludes several vacant lots and a fast-food restaurant with its parking area which separates the district from Seaside Park. The west boundary is formed by Broad Street, across which are university and industrial parking lots and three widely-separated, non-relating Victorian houses.

Of primary interest is a collection of 35 small wood cottages (there were 36 originally), a planned workers' development of the Bishop Realty Company. These cottages, with only minor differences, are 1½-story Carpenter's Gothic-style structures, L-shaped, with front- and side-gable roofs. They can be divided into 2 categories--those erected in the spring of 1880 and those built in the summer of 1881.

The 1880 cottages line both sides of Atlantic Street. Unlike their later counterparts, the houses on this block display differing variants. The corner houses at both Main and Broad Streets have octagonal front bays, in contrast to the flat single-window fronts of the houses in between, and squared dining room bays on the sides facing the street. The cottage at the southwest corner of Atlantic and Main Streets, seemingly intended to be a "flagship" house of the community, has a square tower with a pyramided roof rising from the recesses between its front and side projections.

In other respects, however, these houses are very much alike. They have clapboarded walls with decorative board-and-batten pediments in the gables, extending slightly more than half-way down the length of the gable windows. Characteristically, there is a side entry porch with a roof that slopes to the front which is supported by a single square post ornamented by rounded brackets. In the side of the roof opposite the entry are two dormers, decorated with ornate bargeboards and board-and-batten pediments over the windows. The roof gables apparently once contained jig-saw frets of floral design fighlighted by twin 8-pointed stars in the centers (currently extant on only 2 of the 12 cottages of this type).

The 1881 cottages face Broad, Main and Whiting Streets and Cottage Place. The only variant these contain is in the entry porch, the Cottage Place houses having a side-sloping roof supported by open half-timber work,

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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NOTE: Zip Code is 06604 unless otherwise noted

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP (Amended 1/4/81)

99 ATLANTIC STREET	Earl C. Sullivan 19 Rocky Ridge Drive Trumbull CT 06611
100 ATLANTIC STREET	Pedro Gonzalez 100 Atlantic Street
105 ATLANTIC STREET	Louise Brown 105 Atlantic Street
106 ATLANTIC STREET	Flora L. McNemar 106 Atlantic Street
112 ATLANTIC STREET	Nicholas & Maria Andriolas 112 Atlantic Street
113 ATLANTIC STREET	Christine & Redden Spain 113 Atlantic Street
121 ATLANTIC STREET	Lottie & Herman Johnson 121 Atlantic Street
122 ATLANTIC STREET	Raymond J. Timmons 122 Atlantic Street
127 ATLANTIC STREET	George & Edna Denese 127 Atlantic Street
128 ATLANTIC STREET	Mary Wegrzyn 128 Atlantic Street
133 ATLANTIC STREET	Kathryn Provasoli, trustee 133 Atlantic Street
134 ATLANTIC STREET	Eugeniusz & Stanislaw Kropivnicki 134 Atlantic Street
256 BROAD STREET	Dorothy P. Lansdale 256 Broad Street
258 BROAD STREET	Edna M. Hearst 258 Broad Street
262 BROAD STREET	Barry Comen 262 Broad Street
264 BROAD STREET	Samuel & Lillian Motan 264 Broad Street
268 BROAD STREET	Nathaniel W. Plotkin 268 Broad Street
270 BROAD STREET	Carolyn H. Davis 270 Broad Street
274 BROAD STREET	Thomas Hardiman 274 Broad Street
282-8 BROAD STREET	University of Bridgeport 219 Park Avenue
294-6 BROAD STREET	Broad Street Associates 268 Broad Street
368 BROAD STREET	Rudolph & Elizabeth McCalaster 368 Broad Street
376 BROAD STREET	Peter & Stella Maikos 376 Broad Street

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384 BROAD STREET	Brian T. McCray 384 Broad Street
390 BROAD STREET	Diego Luquis 390 Broad Street
3 COTTAGE PLACE	William & Barbara Bush 3 Cottage Place
4 COTTAGE PLACE	James T. Sullivan 842 Ruth Street Bridgeport 06606
9 COTTAGE PLACE	Lidell & Ruby Pettway 9 Cottage Place
10-12 COTTAGE PLACE	Gorbach Properties Inc. 407 Clinton Avenue Bridgeport 06605
15 COTTAGE PLACE	Miguel & Alicia Marrero 15 Cottage Place
16 COTTAGE PLACE	Marilyn Jones 16 Cottage Place
27 COTTAGE PLACE	William & Doris Gathers 27 Cottage Place
28 COTTAGE PLACE	Lester & Mattie McPhail 28 Cottage Place
33 COTTAGE PLACE	Helen Worden 33 Cottage Place
34 COTTAGE PLACE	Lucille & Earl Noble 34 Cottage Place
39 COTTAGE PLACE	Jesse & Agnes Askew 39 Cottage Place
40 COTTAGE PLACE	Carlos & Gloria Ortiz 40 Cottage Place
189-91 MAIN STREET	University of Bridgeport 219 Park Avenue
195-9 MAIN STREET	Vernon Murphy 195 Main Street
203 MAIN STREET	Timothy & Kathleen Mulloy 203 Main Street
211-13 MAIN STREET	University of Bridgeport 219 Park Avenue
225 MAIN STREET	Charles Dowd 294 Broad Street
295 MAIN STREET	Diego & Myrna Torrens 295 Main Street
303 MAIN STREET	Marshall Rucker & Effie Riddick 303 Main Street
309 MAIN STREET	Sea Breeze Cafe Inc. 309 Main Street
317-21 MAIN STREET	Stavros Frankis 319 Main Street
77 WHITING STREET	Juan & Iris DelValle 77 Whiting Street
85 WHITING STREET	Phillip & Carmen Russell 85 Whiting Street
93 WHITING STREET	Ernesto & Nora Garcia. 93 Whiting St

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with the others front-sloping with open spindlework across the top. Generally speaking, they have one-story octagonal bays in front, board-and-batten sections above coupled second-story windows, and bowstring-arch decorations in the gables.

At the present time only one of the cottages has been demolished. Located at the north west corner of Main Street and Cottage Place, it has been replaced by a non-contributory industrial structure, of cinder-block construction faced with red brick, which is one-story high with a flat roof. Another cottage at 319 Main Street was raised up one floor and a restaurant inserted beneath in the early part of the present century. The remainder of the original components have escaped major remodeling other than the application of various kinds of maintenance-free siding (on 22 out of 35 structures), porch enclosures, and removal of decorative wood trim.

Although it has not at this point been documented, the architects of the development were almost certainly the firm of Palliser, Palliser & Co. The designs are so similar as to be almost identical to plans published in their pattern books (particularly Plate V in Palliser's American Cottage Homes and Plate VI in Palliser's Model Homes). The Victorian Gothic architecture mingled with early Queen Anne detail is typical of the firms earlier (Bridgeport-based) work.

There are six additional buildings within the district boundaries. The earliest of these, 225 Main Street, is a small 2-story end-gable Greek Revival house with a center entrance and central chimney. Despite the application of asbestos siding, it remains strongly suggestive of its period of origin with its light paint color, dark exterior blinds, and 6-over-6-pane window sash.

294-8 Broad Street is a 3-story Italianate duplex that dates from 1875. It is square and has a hip roof with a small front gable centered over the main entry.

A block of brick row houses, built circa 1882, stands at the south west corner of the district. They are of eclectic design, combining elements of Victorian Gothic, Queen Anne and Romanesque styles in their facades. The block is composed of 6 units: 2 double bay-window-fronted units on either side of a flat-front double central pavilion, the central units perched slightly higher atop English basements. The facade of this block has recently been renovated with much of its original character restored by effect of polychromed paint color and cleaned brickwork.

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An attribution to the Pallisers is also almost certain with this structure as well, as it combines many design elements (incised floral lintel decoration, chamfered mouldings, slate roofs peaked with glazed tile etc.) common to their other row house commissions of this period.

The 2-family Queen Anne houses at 191 and 195-9 Main Street were built by 2 brothers in 1894 and 1888 respectively. They are similar in design, with front-gable roofs, central octagonal bays, and entry porticos on either side. At 317-21 Main Street is a late-19th-century 4-unit apartment house with a storefront underneath. It is 3 stories high with a flat roof. A bracketed and dentillated cornice, double-window fenestration and paired octagonal bay windows are its distinguishing characteristics.



# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

N/A.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.09

QUADRANGLE NAME Bridgport

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 minute

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 | 65,20,2,0 | 4,5,58,8,9,0

B 18 | 6,15,20,9,0 | 45,5,8,92,0

C 18 | 6,52,1,50 | 4,55,8,70,0

D 18 | 6,15,21,2,0 | 4,5,5,86,8,0

E 18 | 65,2,1,2,0 | 4,5,5,8,66,0

F 18 | 65,2,0,9,0 | 45,5,8,65,0

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Item 10 page 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles W. Brilvitch

Consultant

Bridgport Architecture Conservancy

October 1979

128 Walnut Street

203-336-5737

Bridgport

Connecticut

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

DATE

May 21, 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Entered in the  
National Register

DATE

6/28/82

ATTEST: Melona Byers  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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tenements, and a block of brick row houses.

The probable Palliser row houses at 256-70 Broad Street are important as an element of an apparent major effort by the firm to acquaint Bridgeport with this type of urban architecture. Up to this time, the city's dwellings outside the fire zone were almost entirely of wood-frame, detached construction. Between 1880 and 1884 the Pallisers were responsible for a large number of these brick blocks in many sections of the city, usually built as income property for wealthy citizens who resided elsewhere. At least a dozen of these survive<sup>3</sup>. Apparently these blocks did not find favor in Bridgeport, and only a handful were constructed between the time of the Pallisers' departure and the beginning of the World War I housing boom. In fact, the original design concept for the Bishop Development as outlined in the Bridgeport Standard of 12 November 1880 called for "four or five" blocks of row housing with only 12 cottages--the popularity of the cottages would seem to have been the reason for the alteration in plans.

Originally the cottages were named after tree species ("Elm Cottage", "Oak Cottage" etc.) rather than numbered, with signs over their entrances. The Bridgeport Standard of 22 May 1882 commented "The idea is a very pretty one, and useful as well, as it enables a stranger to distinguish one from the other, a very important consideration when it is remembered that the cottages are almost exactly alike in outward appearance".

The original occupants of the Bishop Development were the German, Irish and rural New England workers who made up the bulk of the city's labor force at the time. A listing of Cottage Place residents gleaned from the Bridgeport City Directory of 1882 (see Appendix I, Item 8 page 4) reveals that this development was the home in the 1880s of the noted inventor Charles F. Ritchel (Criterion B). Ritchel, a friend of Thomas Edison and an associate of P.T. Barnum, invented and flew a powered flying

<sup>3</sup>These include, according to a Bridgeport Architecture Conservancy survey, the Clark Marsh Block (1884), 99-115 William Street; Eli Dewhurst Blocks (1884 and 1880), 185-91 and 201-9 Harriet Street; Henry Setzer Block (1882), 526-34 East Washington Avenue; Danile H. Ferris Block (1883), 469-73 Noble Avenue; O.C. Jennings Block (1883), 1264-84 Park Avenue; Rudolph Laubscher Block (1881), 50-60 Clarence Street; P.T. Barnum Block (1880), 283-97 Hanover Street, and the Daniel E. Marsh Blocks (1882), 376-88 Barnum Avenue and 63-77 Beach Street

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machine in 1878<sup>4</sup>, and was also responsible for the invention of such diverse objects as the roller skate, magnetic can opener and convex amusement park mirror<sup>5</sup>.

The Bishop Development was an early precursor of a concept which was to bring Bridgeport housing to national prominence in later years-- that of the insular workers' village, an enclave of innovatively-designed, often identical housing units for the lower-income populace usually situated in the midst of an otherwise-unplanned urban sprawl. Preceded only by the Barnum-Sherwood Development (Division Street--1874-9), this idea was to be further developed at Bassickville (1882-4) and Armstrong Place (located in the East Bridgeport National Register District--1884-6), and reached its culmination in terms of worldwide recognition in the developments of the Remington Arms Company (1915-16) and the Bridgeport Housing Company (1917-18)<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>4</sup>Items describing this craft appeared in the Bridgeport Standard, local news page, 16 February 1878, 4 March 1878, 18 April 1878, 13 June 1878, 18 June 1878, 8 July 1878 and 23 November 1878; it was pictured on the cover of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper 13 July 1878

<sup>5</sup>A more complete list is contained in Ritchel's obituary, Bridgeport Herald 22 January 1911, page 1

<sup>6</sup>Accepted for study for possible National Register listing as a thematic nomination by the Connecticut Review Board, September 1977

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ORIGINAL TENANTS OF COTTAGE PLACE (from Bridgeport City Directory, 1882)

3 Cottage Place (Ash Cottage)	Margaret Somerset (widow of Thomas) Miss Margaret Somerset
4 Cottage Place (Locust Cottage)	Thomas Hutchins, timekeeper, Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co.
9 Cottage Place (Birch Cottage)	E.S. Votey, agency supt., American Ord- nance Co.
10 Cottage Place (Pine Cottage)	Albert B. Clough, machinist John Rhodes, molder
15 Cottage Place (Walnut Cottage)	Henry H. Smith, carpenter Eugene Smith, bundle clerk W.B. Hall Dry Goods Co.
16 Cottage Place (Laurel Cottage)	Jesse Morley, machinist
27 Cottage Place (Cedar Cottage)	Andrew Krouse, engraver, stencil cutter & die sinker
28 Cottage Place (Cypress Cottage)	Edward McGonegal, machinist
33 Cottage Place (Oak Cottage)	George Stoll, harness maker & saloon keeper Emma Rogge, dressmaker
34 Cottage Place (Spruce Cottage)	Peter Breit, machinist Peter Breit Jr., carver William Breit, tool maker
39 Cottage Place (Elm Cottage)	Arthur C. Howard, tuner, organ shop Leon A. Charter
40 Cottage Place (Maple Cottage)	C.F. RitcheI, inventor & manufacturer of toys

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The William D. Bishop Cottage Development includes the following area in the City of Bridgeport:

Starting at a point of intersection with the south street line of Whiting Street and the west street line of Main Street;

Thence southerly for a distance of 890.37 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the north property line of land now or formerly of Angelo & Clara LoConte;

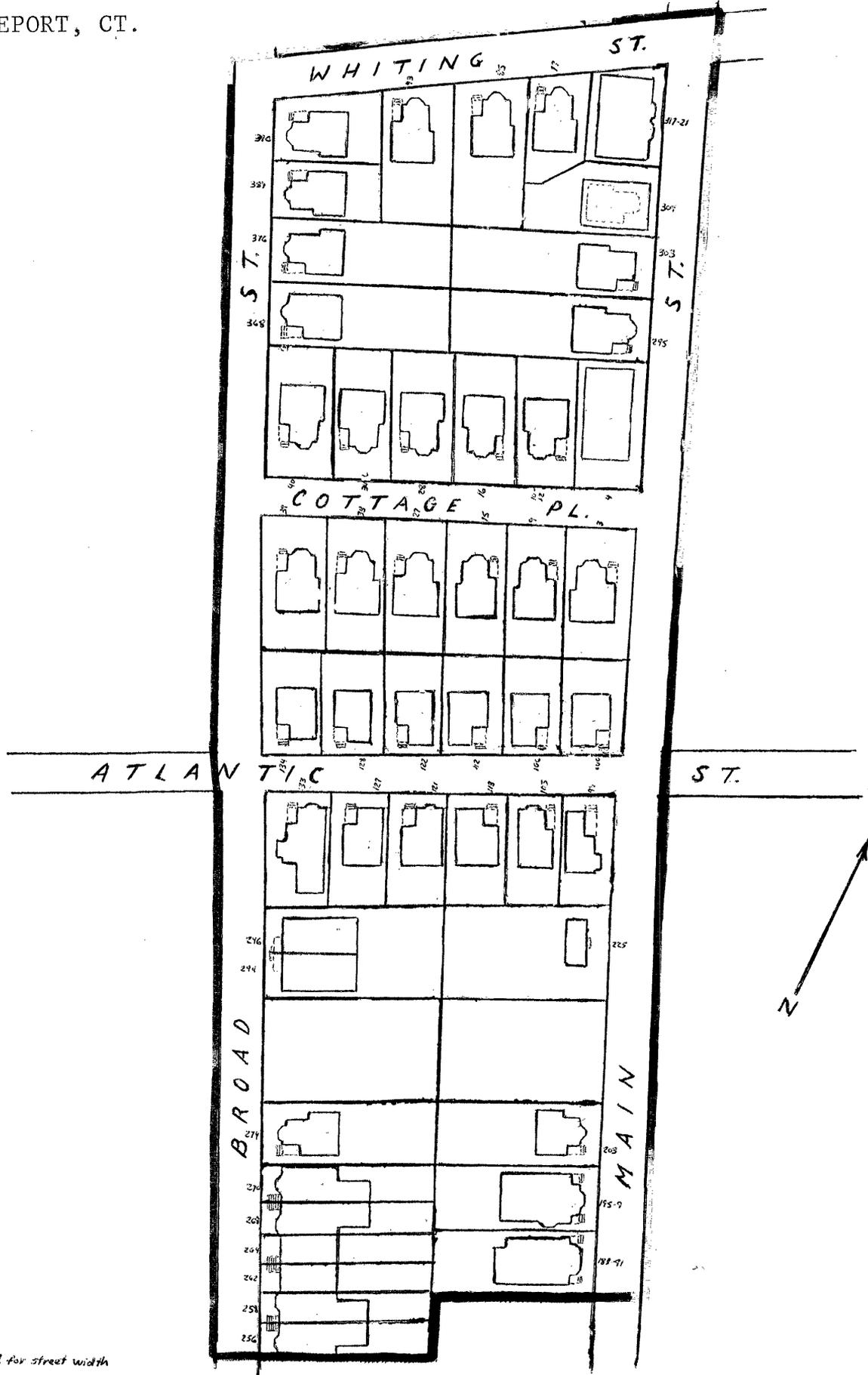
Thence westerly for a distance of 189 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the east street line of Broad Street;

Thence northerly for a distance of 793.67 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the south street line of Whiting Street;

Thence easterly for a distance of 219.49 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the west street line of Main Street.

WILLIAM D. BISHOP COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT

BRIDGEPORT, CT.



1" = 100'  
scale reduced for street width