

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JUL 23 1985
date entered 10/28/85

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic N.A.
and or common Belltown Historic District

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet. N.A. not for publication
city, town East Hampton N.A. vicinity of
state Connecticut code 09 county Middlesex code 007

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 type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" 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 Ownership
street & number See #2
city, town East Hampton N.A. vicinity of state Connecticut

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. East Hampton Town Clerk
street & number Town Hall, East High Street
city, town East Hampton state CT

6. Representation in Existing Surveys See continuation sheet.

title State Register of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1985 federal state county local
depository for survey records Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street
city, town Hartford state CT

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Belltown Historic District is located in the center of East Hampton, a town in central Connecticut. It contains an exceptionally large concentration of contributing historic buildings: 147 of the 176 buildings in the district (84%). Although settlement in this area dates from the early eighteenth century, ninety-four percent of the contributing historic buildings were built after 1800, the period associated with the industrial development of the town as a bell-manufacturing center. Seventy-four percent of this latter group were built in the nineteenth century, which includes the majority of the domestic, industrial, institutional, and commercial architecture in the district. Two historic sites, functioning stone dams, also dating from the nineteenth century, are also located in the district. One is part of a historic mill complex; the other is associated with a small number of industrial archaeological sites in the southwestern portion of the district.

In form and appearance the Belltown district is typical of many small New England mill towns and it appears today much as it did at the end of the nineteenth century. The central focus of the district is its nineteenth-century institutional and commercial core, located in a small valley surrounded by hills that crest 100-200 feet above the town center. Principal residential streets include Main Street, the north-south spine of the district, Barton Hill and Crescent streets on the slope of Barton Hill to the west, West High and East High streets, which form the northern border of the district, and Skinner and Watrous streets. Industrial activity is concentrated along Summit Street, a steeply sloping street which extends to the northeast up from the center of town, and Bevin Boulevard and Bevin Court, offshoots of this street to the north. The mill buildings clustered in this area historically utilized the waterpower of Pocotopaug Creek, the outflow from Pocotopaug Lake, which is dammed in several places as it flows in a southwesterly direction through the district, dropping 150 feet from the lake. Other historic mills are located below the center of town on the west bank of this stream.

The surviving historic architecture includes all the principal components of an industrial community. In addition to a large body of domestic architecture (120), the district also contains a number of representative examples of other types of buildings which still retain their historic function. Fifteen brick- and wood-framed mill buildings are located in four separate mill complexes.* Eleven commercial buildings, mostly of wood construction, four wood-framed churches, two schools, and two libraries are also included in the district. Only one of the library buildings, one church, and one school no longer serve their original purpose.

Although the mill buildings, as well as three of the churches and one school, are relatively large in scale, the remainder of the buildings, both domestic and commercial, are similar in size and style. A major exception is the Belleville Store/Carrier Block in the center at 80 Main Street, a three-story mansard-roofed, wood-framed building. This uniformity is intensified by their similarity of form and materials. The majority of the domestic and commercial buildings present their gable ends to the street. Virtually all of this group are constructed of wood--either post-and-beam or balloon-framed--and are two-and-one-half stories in height. (The exceptions are Inventory #85 and 116.) Rarely does the setback vary, which gives a pleasing uniformity to the streetscapes. Only along the west side of Main Street, along a steeply sloping area between the commercial area and West High Street, are the houses set back a distance from the street. These hill sites, however, provide an appropriate setting for the late nineteenth-century houses located there.

*Mill complexes, regardless of the number of buildings, are listed as one item on the inventory.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
..... prehistoric	..... archeology-prehistoric	..... community planning	..... landscape architecture	..... religion		
..... 1400–1499	..... archeology-historic	..... conservation	..... law	..... science		
..... 1500–1599	..... agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	..... literature	..... sculpture		
..... 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	..... education	..... military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/		
..... 1700–1799	..... art	..... engineering	..... music	..... humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	..... commerce	..... exploration/settlement	..... philosophy	..... theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	..... communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	..... politics/government	..... transportation		
		..... invention		..... other (specify)		
Criteria A, C						
Specific dates	1800–1935	Builder/Architect	Unknown			

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Belltown Historic District, which encompasses the industrial center of East Hampton, Connecticut, is historically significant as the only mill town in the nation known to be exclusively devoted to bell making, a highly specialized industry which prospered for over 100 years (Criterion A). A significant cohesive and distinguishable entity, the district contains a full range of historic resources which illustrate in their diversity of scale, function, or level of architectural style the social and economic development of the town. Exceptionally well-preserved buildings of all types dating from 1748 to 1935 can be found in the district (Criterion C). Examples of most of the major nineteenth-century architectural styles are represented, including a large group of late Greek Revival-style residential buildings. Several outstanding examples of Second Empire, Italianate, and Colonial Revival styles date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the most prosperous period in the town's distinguished industrial history.

Industrial History

The catalyst for early industrial development was an outsider, William Barton. A native of Wintonbury (Bloomfield), Connecticut, Barton had been a munitions maker at the Springfield Armory during the Revolution. He came to East Hampton in 1807, arriving at a crucial period in the town's history. Land shortages created by a century of sustained population growth, combined with the decline of shipbuilding and trade at East Hampton's river port of Middle Haddam, had brought the town's economy to a standstill. Many farmers and their sons had already left town for upstate New York.

Barton, the first of three generations of bell makers in town, only remained in East Hampton for eighteen years, but he had a major impact on the future direction of the town. Not only did he have a specialized knowledge of brass metallurgy, which he shared with others through the apprentice system, but a process for making a specialized product. He is credited with inventing a one-piece, sand-mould casting process for brass bells which remained the basic method used by the industry for the rest of the century.

The early years of the bell industry had little impact on the appearance of the town. Because the early bell-making process was more of a craft than an industry, farmer-mechanics could easily set up shop in an outbuilding on the family farm. Hand tools were used exclusively; even the large bellows used to maintain the charcoal fire were operated by hand or foot treadles. Barton's first shop (no longer standing) was a small foundry near his gambrel-roofed house at 25 Barton Hill Street (Inventory #12; Photograph #1). His sons, along with several of the Bevin brothers, who later were to become the largest bell manufacturers in town, received their training there. The Bevin brothers were the first to utilize water power to make bells. Their extensive bell factory complex (Inventory #34; Photograph #7), which is still in operation, includes a small one-and-one-half-story wood-framed mill building dating from about 1830, their first shop on Pocotopaug Creek. It was moved to its present site when the Bevins' mill pond was enlarged and the factory was relocated to the present dam site.

The scale of production increased dramatically in the decade between 1840 and 1850 when other firms followed the lead of the Bevins and set up small factories on the creek, often

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 145

Quadrangle name Middle Haddam and Moodus

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References See continuation sheet.

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries N.A.

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jan Cunningham, Executive Director Edited by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

organization Greater Middletown Preservation Trust date 2/24/85

street & number 27 Washington Street telephone (203) 346-1646

city or town Middletown state CT 06457

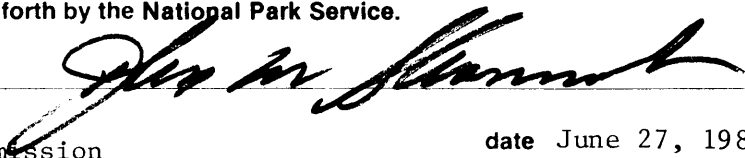
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 - CT Historical Commission

date June 27, 1985

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register


Keeper of the National Register

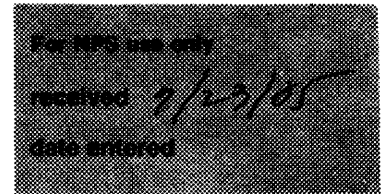
date 10/28/85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet East Hampton, Connecticut Item number 2, 6

Page 1

2. Location

2, 5-8, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 25, 26, 29, 31-35, 38-45, 47, 48, 53 Barton Hill Street; 29 Bevin Boulevard; 4, 8 Bevin Court; 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 Crescent Street; 1, 2, 8, 14, 16 East High Street; 3, 6-8, 10-15, 18, 22, 24-30, 35-37, 39, 41-43, 46, 47, 50-52, 55-57, 60, 62, 64, 70, 72, 73, 75, 77, 80, 81, 87-89, 91, 93-95, 97, 101, 102, 107, 108, 111-113, 116, 118-24, 127-130, 132, 134, 137, 138, 141, 142, 145, 146, 148, 149, 151-154, 160-162 Main Street; 6 Niles Avenue; 2 Oak Knoll Road; 5, 25 Skinner Street; 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15-18 Summit Street; 4, 9 Watrous Street; 2, 3, 7-11, 13, 16, 17, 22-29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38-40, 42, 47, 49 West High Street. See also map/block/lot #6A/60/2; 2A/50/1; 20/50/23.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Preservation Plan for Connecticut (Vol. II, The Inventory), 1974.

The History and Architecture of East Hampton, published by the Greater Middletown Preservation Trust, 1980.

Connecticut: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites, Matthew Roth, 1981.

Industrial Archaeological Survey of Northern Middlesex County, 1978.

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Belltown Historic District

Continuation sheet East Hampton, CT

Item number 4,7

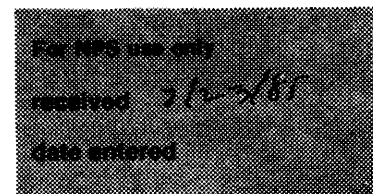
Page 3

Inventory #	Building/Site*	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
1.	2 Barton Hill Street PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE 20th-century garage, ca. 1950	NC	
2.	5 Barton Hill Street EAST HAMPTON FIREHOUSE Modern, 1970	NC	
3.	6 Barton Hill Street B. B. HALL HOUSE Greek Revival, 1855	C	
4.	7 Barton Hill Street DANIEL NILES HOUSE Center-Chimney Colonial, ca. 1790-99	C	
5.	8 Barton Hill Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1870	C	
6.	11 Barton Hill Street Early 20th-century Domestic, 1915	C	
7.	13 Barton Hill Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
8.	14 Barton Hill Street CONGREGATIONAL PARSONAGE Italianate, 1868	C	
9.	17 Barton Hill Street Residence Modern Cape, 1941	NC	
10.	19 Barton Hill Street Residence Modern, 1950	NC	
11.	20 Barton Hill Street Residence Modern, 1968	NC	

*Inventory numbers for this nomination only.

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
12.	25 Barton Hill Street WILLIAM BARTON HOUSE Center-Chimney Colonial, ca. 1765	C	1
13.	26 Barton Hill Street PHILO BEVIN HOUSE Second Empire, 1850-80	C	2
14.	29 Barton Hill Street Queen Anne, ca. 1870	C	
15.	31 Barton Hill Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1890	C	
16.	32 Barton Hill Street WILLIAM H. BEVIN HOUSE Greek Revival/Italianate, 1868	C	
17.	33 Barton Hill Street Bungalow, ca. 1930	C	
18.	34 Barton Hill Street RICHARD S. CLARK HOUSE Greek Revival, ca. 1855	C	
19.	35 Barton Hill Street Early 20th-century Domestic	C	
20.	38 Barton Hill Street EMMET B. RICH HOUSE Greek Revival, 1880	C	
21.	39 Barton Hill Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1929	C	
22.	40 Barton Hill Street Residence Modern, 1951	NC	
23.	41 Barton Hill Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1929	C	

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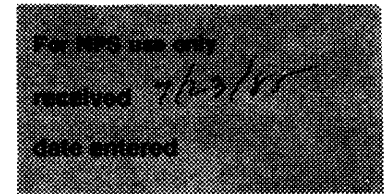
Item number 4,7

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
24.	42 Barton Hill Street GORDON VAN TINE HOUSE Bungalow, 1923	C	
25.	43 Barton Hill Street Bungalow, ca. 1930	C	
26.	44 Barton Hill Street Late 19th century Domestic Ca. 1870	C	
27.	45 Barton Hill Street Colonial Revival, 1932	C	
28.	47 Barton Hill Street CHAUNCEY BEVIN HOUSE Greek Revival, 1847	C	3
29.	48 Barton Hill Street HIRAM VEAZEY CHILDS HOUSE Queen Anne, 1902	C	4
30.	53 Barton Hill Street WILLIAM BEVIN HOUSE Colonial Cape, 1748	C	5
31.	29 Bevin Boulevard HENRY S. SMITH HOUSE Octagon, ca. 1855 (originally faced west onto Main Street)	C	6
32.	4 Bevin Court Colonial Revival Ca. 1910	C	
33.	8 Bevin Court Colonial Revival, ca. 1930	C	
34.	Bevin Court BEVIN BROTHERS MANUFACTURING CO. (mill complex and dam) 19th-century industrial, 1830-1920	C	7

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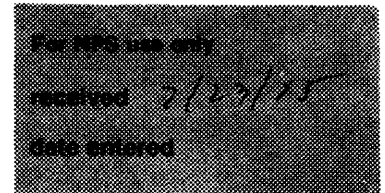
Item number 4,7

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
35.	2 Crescent Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1870	C	
36.	4 Crescent Street WILLIAM NICHOLS HOUSE Worker's Housing, ca. 1900	C	
37.	6 Crescent Street Residence Modern, 1935	NC	
38.	8 Crescent Street Residence Modern, 1940	NC	
39.	10 Crescent Street WILLIAM NICHOLS HOUSE #2 Worker's Housing, ca. 1900	C	8
40.	1 East High Street UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (Bethlehem Lutheran Church) Greek Revival, 1855-56	C	
41.	2 East High Street MOSES COMSTOCK HOUSE Greek Revival, 1853	C	
42.	8 East High Street Farmers and Mechanics Bank Modern, 1984	NC	
43.	14 East High Street DAVID BUELL HOUSE Federal, ca. 1804-1806	C	
44.	16 East High Street DAVID BUELL HOUSE #2 Greek Revival, ca. 1844	C	
45.	3 Main Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
46.	6 Main Street 20th Century Domestic with Italian Renaissance influence, 1930	C	
47.	7 Main Street Late 19th-Century Domestic, ca. 1870	C	
48.	8 Main Street Colonial Revival, 1890	C	
49.	10 Main Street Residence Modern, 1950	NC	
50.	11 Main Street WILBUR F. ACKLEY HOUSE Greek Revival, 1865	C	
51.	12 Main Street Queen Anne, ca. 1890	C	
52.	13 Main Street Queen Anne, ca. 1880	C	
53.	14 Main Street SETH ALVORD HOUSE Colonial Cape, ca. 1798 Carpenter Gothic additions, ca. 1880	C	
54.	15 Main Street HORATIO H. ABBE HOUSE Greek Revival, 1865 Italianate-style detail, 1871	C	9
55.	18 Main Street Italianate, ca. 1860	C	
56.	22 Main Street FRANK ACKLEY HOUSE Greek Revival, ca. 1873	C	

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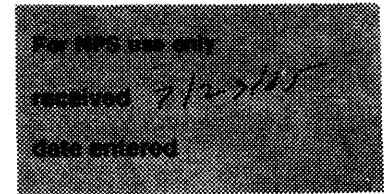
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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
57.	24 Main Street Late 19th-century Domestic Ca. 1880	C	
58.	25 Main Street Mid-20th century Domestic, 1940	NC	
59.	26 Main Street Italianate, 1860	C	
60.	27 Main Street 20th century Domestic, 1931	NC	
61.	28 Main Street Federal/Greek Revival, ca. 1830	C	
62.	29 Main Street MASONIC HALL Italianate, 1871-1874	C	
63.	30 Main Street Greek Revival, 1880	C	
64.	35 Main Street Residence Modern, 1984	NC	
65.	36 Main Street HENRY RUSSEL HOUSE Greek Revival, ca. 1860	C	
66.	37 Main Street Greek Revival, ca. 1850	C	
67.	39 Main Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1925	C	
68.	41 Main Street CHAUNCEY AND PHILO BEVIN HOUSE Greek Revival, 1856	C	
69.	42 Main Street HERMAN RICH HOUSE Greek Revival with Italianate- style details, 1866	C	

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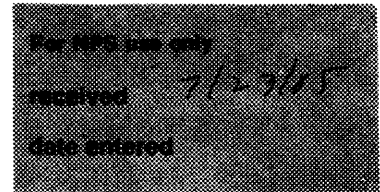
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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
70.	43 Main Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1914	C	
71.	46 Main Street HARRY STRONG HOUSE Queen Anne, 1898	C	
72.	47 Main Street STUART D. PARMELEE HOUSE Greek Revival, 1843	C	10
73.	50 Main Street ALFRED WILLIAMS HOUSE Greek Revival, 1845	C	
74.	51 Main Street Queen Anne, 1890	C	
75.	52 Main Street SMITH-FIELD HOUSE Colonial, ca. 1780 Stick-style details, 1880	C	11
76.	55 Main Street AMERICAN LEGION POST 64 Colonial Revival, 1950	NC	
77.	56 Main Street SEARS-HILL HOUSE Italianate, 1876	C	12
78.	57 Main Street POST OFFICE Colonial Revival, 1937	C	
79.	60 Main Street 18th century Domestic Remodeled ca. 1960	C	
80.	62 Main Street CHATHAM LIBRARY Late 19th-century Domestic, 1898	C	

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
81.	64 Main Street 19th century Domestic with Victorian-period detail, ca. 1880	C	
82.	Main Street SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Greek Revival, 1948	C	
83.	70 Main Street CHATHAM HALL Late 19th century Commercial, 1899 (south); 1915 (north)	C	
84.	72 Main Street FAMILY PRACTICE BUILDING Late 19th-century Commercial, ca. 1870	C	
85.	73-75-77 Main Street BUCKLAND BLOCK 19th-century Commercial, 1871-1876	C	
86.	80 Main Street BELLEVILLE STORE/CARRIER BLOCK Ca. 1850 (rear); 1900 (front)	C	13
87.	81 Main Street DICKSON MARKET/EAST HAMPTON LIBRARY Early 20th-century Commercial, ca. 1915	C	
88.	87 Main Street D. BARTON STORE 19th-century Commercial, ca. 1884	C	
89.	88 Main Street 19th-century Commercial, ca. 1890	C	
90.	89 Main Street 19th-century Domestic/Commercial Ca. 1870; storefront addition, 1984	C	
91.	91-93 Main Street 19th-century Domestic/Commercial Ca. 1880; 20th-century addition	C	

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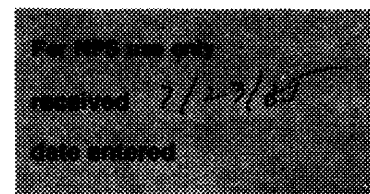
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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
92.	94 Main Street CENTER SCHOOL Italianate, 1866	C	14
93.	95 Main Street SEARS STORE Late 19th century Commercial, Ca. 1877	C	
94.	97 Main Street SIEBERT'S OPERA HOUSE 19th-century commercial, 1897	C	
95.	101 Main Street 19th-century industrial Ca. 1900	C	
96.	102 Main Street CHEVRON STATION Modern, 1959	NC	
97.	107 Main Street 18th century Domestic Ca. 1790; remodeled 1970	C	
98.	108 Main Street Greek Revival, ca. 1860	C	
99.	111 Main Street ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH/GRANGE Stick, 1909	C	
100.	112 Main Street NILES-SMITH HOUSE Greek Revival, ca. 1850	C	
101.	113 Main Street SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE CO. Modern, 1952	NC	
102.	116 Main Street PHOEBE A. WATROUS HOUSE Queen Anne, 1896	C	

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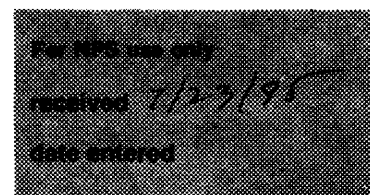
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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
103.	118 Main Street PARMELEE-NILES HOUSE Italianate, 1852	C	
104.	119 Main Street Residence Modern, 1950	NC	
105.	120 Main Street Greek Revival, ca. 1840	C	
106.	121 Main Street Bungalow, ca. 1930	C	
107.	122 Main Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
108.	123 Main Street Residence Modern, 1958	NC	
109.	124 Main Street LUCINA C. NICHOLS HOUSE Italianate, 1869	C	15
110.	127 Main Street Residence Modern, 1972	NC	
111.	128 Main Street Late 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
112.	129 Main Street Residence Modern, 1949	NC	
113.	130 Main Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
114.	132 Main Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1920	C	

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
115.	134 Main Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1870	C	
116.	137 Main Street HENRY STRONG HOUSE Italianate, ca. 1859	C	
117.	138 Main Street Colonial Revival, 1924	C	
118.	141 Main Street ELIAS D. ROOT HOUSE Italianate, 1870	C	
119.	142 Main Street MAYO S. PURPLE HOUSE Colonial Revival, 1910	C	16
120.	145 Main Street CLAUDIUS L. HILLS HOUSE Late 19th-century Domestic Ca. 1858-1864	C	
121.	146 Main Street BENJAMIN STILLMAN HOUSE Colonial Cape, ca. 1745	C	
122.	148 Main Street Late 19th-century Domestic with Stick-style influence, ca. 1900	C	
123.	149 Main Street JAMES DICKSON HOUSE Stick, ca. 1880	C	28
124.	151 Main Street Residence Modern, 1970	NC	
125.	152 Main Street Colonial Revival, 1913	C	

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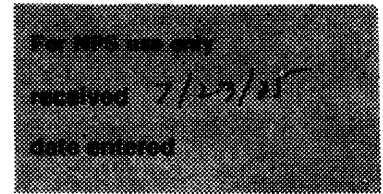
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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
126.	153 Main Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
127.	154 Main Street Residence Modern, 1935	NC	
128.	160 Main Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1860	C	
129.	161 Main Street CHARLES A. STRONG HOUSE Italianate, 1858	C	
130.	162 Main Street Greek Revival, ca. 1850	C	
131.	6 Niles Avenue RODERICK DAY HOUSE Italianate, 1869	C	
132.	2 Oak Knoll Road LLOYD CONE HOUSE Arts and Crafts, 1926-1928	C	17
133.	5 Skinner Street J. C. BARTON CO., INC. 19th-century industrial complex Ca. 1880	C	
134.	25 Skinner Street N. N. HILL BRASS CO. (Pressure Pack, Inc.) 19th-century industrial complex Ca. 1890	C	27
135.	4 Summit Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
136.	6 Summit Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1920	C	

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
137.	7 Summit Street CENTER SCHOOL Early 20th-century institutional with Mission-style influence, 1912; remodeled 1938	C	
138.	SW corner of Summit and Watrous streets FIREHOUSE Shingle style, ca. 1890	C	
139.	10-12 Summit Street VEAZEY AND WHITE BELL CO. (factory complex) 19th-century industrial Ca. 1860-1914	C	18
140.	11 Summit Street APOLLAS ARNOLD HOUSE Colonial Cape, ca. 1790	C	
141.	13 Summit Street MERRICK AND CONANT SILK MANU- FACTURING CO./SUMMIT THREAD 19th-century industrial, 1880 Additions, 1914	C	
142.	15 Summit Street AUGUSTUS H. CONKLIN HOUSE Queen Anne, 1877	C	19
143.	16 Summit Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
144.	17 Summit Street BRYAN PARMELEE HOUSE Gambrel-roofed, colonial period Ca. 1750; alterations, 1904	C	
145.	18 Summit Street Colonial Revival, ca. 1910	C	

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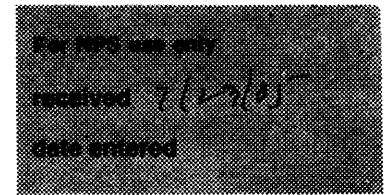
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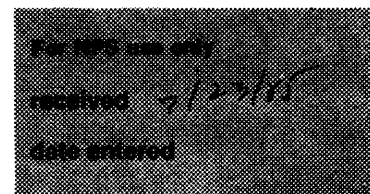
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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
146.	Watrous and Railroad streets Late 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1890	C	
147.	4 Watrous Street Worker's Housing, ca. 1870	C	
148.	9 Watrous Street DAVID WATROUS HOUSE Italianate, 1852	C	
149.	2 West High Street LIBERTY SAVINGS BANK Modern, ca. 1965	NC	
150.	3-5 West High Street 19th-century commercial, ca. 1860	C	
151.	7 West High Street Mid-20th-century commercial, 1950	NC	
152.	8 West High Street Queen Anne, ca. 1890	C	
153.	9 West High Street Greek Revival, ca. 1850	C	
154.	10 West High Street HUBBARD BARTON HOUSE Federal, 1831	C	
155.	11 West High Street Greek Revival, 1865 (severely altered)	NC	
156.	13 West High Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1870 Remodeled 1960	C	
157.	16 West High Street Late 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
158.	17-19 West High Street Early 20th-century Domestic, ca. 1900 (severely remodeled in 1970)	NC	

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Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
159.	22 West High Street HIRAM VEAZEY HOUSE Italianate, 1851	C	20
160.	23 West High Street MIDDLETOWN PLATE GLASS CO. Modern, ca. 1960	NC	
161.	24 West High Street Mid-19th-century Domestic, 1840	C	
162.	25 West High Street Stick, ca. 1870	C	
163.	26 West High Street Queen Anne, ca. 1890	C	
164.	27 West High Street NOAH'S ARK DAYCARE, INC. Modern, ca. 1970	NC	
165.	28 West High Street LEWIS UTLEY HOUSE Federal, ca. 1830	C	
166.	29 West High Street Bungalow, 1930	C	
167.	32 West High Street 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1890 with Gothic Revival-style influence	C	
168.	33 West High Street (perhaps older structure) Remodeled 1959	NC	
169.	35 West High Street BELLTOWN SUNOCO Commercial, ca. 1940	NC	
170.	36 West High Street Stick, 1870	C	

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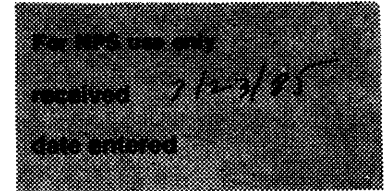
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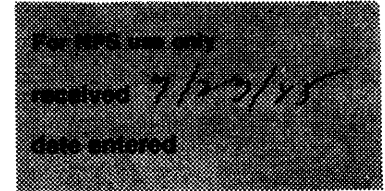
Inventory #	Building/Site	Contributing/Non-Contributing (C/NC)	Photograph #
171.	38 West High Street Colonial Revival, 1923	C	
172.	39 West High Street Greek Revival, ca. 1890 (severely altered)	NC	
173.	40 West High Street Residence MODERN, 1977	NC	
174.	42 West High Street Early 20th-century Domestic, ca. 1920	C	
175.	47 West High Street ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH Gothic Revival, 1896	C	21
176.	49 West High Street Late 19th-century Domestic, ca. 1880	C	
177.	Dam, ca. 1830 Pocotopaug Stream 25 m. brownstone with 8 m. spillway	C	

Industrial Archaeological Sites (Surveyed 1978)

Site#	Description
S-1	Industrial site: Scythe factory, hoe factory, Clark and Watrous Co., bells and coffin trimmings, ca. 1840-1900. Standing ruins of brownstone dam, small foundation and earth dike for pond (now drained). Surface finds included slag, coal, and partial pouring ladle.
S-2	Industrial site: Site of the former Niles and Paramalee Co., bell and coffin trimmings, 1853-1884. Site disturbed by modern industrial development. No surface collection or standing ruins.
S-3	Industrial site: Possibly W. E. Barton Bell Manufacturing, ca. 1860 -1880. Standing ruins of three stone foundations. Surface finds included slag, coal, scrap iron, and barrel bands. Associated with first level of dam to north (Site #177). One of the foundations may be N.N. Hill's original factory.

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Site#	Description
S-4	Industrial site: Patent Bell Manufactory, 1850-1920. Standing ruins of three structures, a concrete hardstand, a drain pit of stone and ledge with remnants of iron water conduit in place, and concrete stanchions, spaced at 1 meter intervals extending back to dam (Site#177). Associated with second level of dam when pond above was enlarged. Surface finds included leather harness with attached bells (cast) and stamped, wheeled, bell toys.
S-5	Industrial site: Skinner Sawmill dam. 1800 - 1900. Standing ruins of collapsed dam, with concrete cap and concrete sluiceway at west end. Associated with #S-6.
S-6	Industrial site: Skinner grist and sawmill, 1800 - 1974. Standing ruins of two stone, brick and concrete buildings, and remains of stone sluice. Sawmill supplied lumber for shipbuilding in Middle Haddam; up to seven up-and-down saws powered by water from dam at #S-5. Wagon and box factory in 20th century, Burned to ground in 1974.

Sources:

1978 Industrial Archaeological Survey of Northern Middlesex County. Filed with the Connecticut Historical Commission. Surface finds on file at the Wesleyan Archaeology Laboratory, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. Original survey by author.

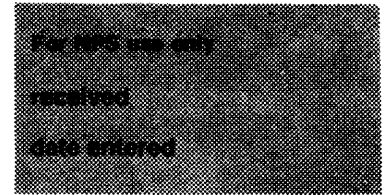
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AMENDMENT September 11, 1985

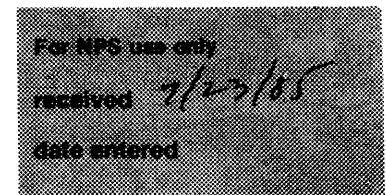
The following are changes to the Belltown Historic District National Register nomination prepared on 2/24/85:

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 78. | 57 Main Street
POST OFFICE
Colonial Revival, 1937 | NC | (Item 4,7; p. 9) |
| 82. | Main Street
SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Neo-Greek Revival, recon-
structed 1948
Parish Hall, 1905 | NC

C | (Item 4,7; p. 10) |

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Modern intrusion in the district is quite limited, adding to its cohesiveness. Three of the non-contributors are modern public or public service buildings, built in relatively unobtrusive locations (Inventory #1, 2, 101). Quite a few of the other post-1935 buildings blend with the district because of their compatible function and form. Some of these are clustered on Barton Hill (Inventory #9-11); the rest are scattered along Main Street.

Although a few well-preserved eighteenth-century domestic buildings remain in the district, the majority of historic residential buildings were constructed in the nineteenth century. Generally they are vernacular buildings which exhibit influences of the Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne styles. Several "high-style" examples from the late Victorian period are also included in the district, which were built in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

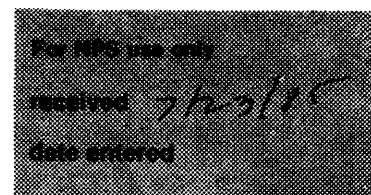
An exceptionally large group of well-preserved, vernacular Greek Revival-style buildings remain in the district. Houses were built in this style for fifty years (1840-1880). While no two are exactly alike, all but one of these buildings utilize the gable-to-street temple form. They are distinguished by the variety of window forms in the pediment, ranging from the rectangular to triangular, to finally in the later examples, the paired, narrow windows of the Victorian period. Numerous examples of this style are clustered on upper Main Street and again on Barton Hill. (For the better representative examples, see Inventory #28, Photograph #3; and Inventory #72, Photograph #10.)

The Italianate style developed in almost the same time period (after 1850) and utilized the same gable-to-street form. It can only be distinguished from the Greek Revival style by the type of architectural detail and its more vertical appearance. A typical example can be found at 22 West High Street (Inventory #159; Photograph #19). Only a few of these houses were built in the cube, or cruciform plan, with low-pitched hip roofs. One of the better examples of this latter type is located on Niles Avenue (Inventory #131). The oldest school in the district was also built in this style. It is distinguished by brackets, and window and door hoods (Inventory #92; Photograph #14).

Three houses stand out from their neighbors as fully realized and for East Hampton very individualistic examples of their architectural style. Two were built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. One of them is the Philo Bevin House, the only example of the French Empire style in the district (Inventory #13; Photograph #2). Three stories in height, fully bracketed bays and cornices, a dormered slate roof with a cupola, and an exceptional portico with a two-story addition on the north side distinguish this building. It occupies a commanding position at the crest of Barton Hill. The other exceptional house is also on an elevated site overlooking Main Street from the west side (Inventory #77; Photograph #12). A much more elaborate Italianate-style house, it is two-and-one-half stories in height, with a three-story facade tower. Scrolled bargeboards with pendant drops, and projecting bracketed eaves, distinguish the projecting bays of this elaborately detailed house. A fully detailed carriage house is located to the southwest. The third example of exceptional merit is the early twentieth-century Mayo Purple House at 142 Main Street (Inventory #119; Photograph #16). Colonial Revival style in form with a broad gambrel roof facing the street, it also exhibits Queen Anne-style influence with an octagonal tower in the southeast corner. A double-columned veranda extends across the facade and the north elevation.

A complete inventory of the buildings and sites in the district is included below and located by inventory number on the district map.

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utilizing earlier grist or saw mill sites. Production increased fifteen-fold in this period, only limited by access to markets. Bells were still sold by peddlers, which limited the size of the product. Small, cast sleigh and hand bells of brass and iron were manufactured almost exclusively. Several firms also made coffin trimmings, a popular side-line which made use of scrap metal. Access to raw material, however, was not a problem. East Hampton factory owners had worked out a mutually beneficial arrangement with the Portland brownstone quarry companies. Raw material, principally copper, zinc, and iron, was brought up the Connecticut River as ballast on the return voyages of the quarry ships and transported by wagon on the Middle Haddam-Hebron turnpike. It ran from the Connecticut River landing directly to East Hampton center.

Despite the early success of the bell industry, East Hampton, like many rural New England villages, continued to espouse eighteenth-century values and traditions well into the nineteenth century. This essential conservatism is most evident in the domestic architecture built in this period. The Greek Revival style remained popular for forty years after it became unfashionable in more urban centers. More importantly, domestic architecture continued to reflect a society apparently largely undifferentiated by class, an eighteenth-century phenomenon in central Connecticut. Although several of the owners of the water-powered shops, such as Chauncey Bevin and Stuart Parmelee (Niles and Parmelee Company: Inventory #S-2), were the first to build houses in the Greek Revival style (Inventory #28, 72), similar houses were built by handymen, mechanics, and clerks who worked in the bell factories (Inventory #20, 69). At least one was built in this style by a factory owner as rental property for his employees (Inventory #68).

By the Civil War the bell industry was well established and a stratified society was in place. Twenty-three men were listed in the 1860 census as bell manufacturers; they owned one-third of the taxable wealth of the town. Farming still remained the principal occupation, but half of the work force in town were employed in the bell factories, both men and women. Many of the laborers were Irish immigrants. They began arriving in East Hampton around 1860 and were later to become a significant presence in the town. St. Patrick's Church (Inventory #175; Photograph #21) was their second and permanent church home. A servant class, all women, emerged in this period--employed by the bell manufacturers in their homes, and also at Buell's Hotel (Inventory #43).

Predictably enough, in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, industrial competition was intense. With an overcrowded field, trade secrets were no longer shared with competitors, but jealously guarded (the first patents were taken out at this time); smaller under-capitalized firms went out of business. The companies that emerged as leaders included the Bevin Brothers, Veazey and White, and East Hampton Bell. These long-established firms made cast bells of various types. The Gong Bell Company, a relative newcomer to the field, the first to specialize in belled toys, was another major firm. The factory built by Veazey and White on Summit Street in 1860 is the earliest brick mill remaining in town (Inventory #159; Photograph #20). Hiram Veazey's career pattern was quite typical. The son of a farmer, he learned the bell trade in one of the early water-powered shops in the 1830s before going into business for himself. His partner, Alfred White, was the first to successfully cast larger brass bells used in churches and schools.

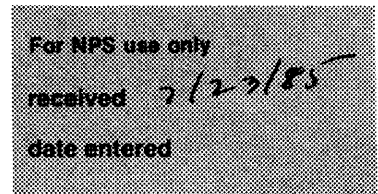
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The older established firms had a clear advantage because they controlled the best dam sites on Pocotopaug Creek. Their willingness to take risks, however, and experiment with new technologies and improved production or marketing methods, was a major factor in their success. Chauncey Bevin, for example, brought a Scottish immigrant, John Hodge, to East Hampton to set a new process for smelting brass. The Hodge pit furnace revolutionized the industry because it was an efficient producer of fine-grade brass from lower-grade metals. The process not only increased the Bevin company's production but it was a vital factor in the continued growth of industry as a whole as other companies soon adopted the process. Casting was only the first step in the process. Finishing and polishing of the raw castings, done completely by hand in the early years, eventually was partially mechanized. Jason Barton, a grandson of William, invented a process for tumbling small bells in barrels to remove the burrs from the castings. Water turbines were introduced in Belltown mills at this time. (Only one company ever converted from water to steam power, and not until the twentieth century.) "Runners," outside salesmen, took orders for a wide range of bells of all types, including chimes and sleigh bells, cow bells, and belled, wheeled toys, which were shipped to the retailers by rail after 1873.

Norman N. Hill is credited with developing mass-production techniques that revolutionized the industry. Hill, who began as a finisher and salesman for the Barton Company, was the second member of his family to be involved in the bell industry; his father was a wood turner who made handles for hand bells. N. N. Hill perfected a process for stamping bells from sheet metal, increasing his production dramatically. Two men could make 25,000 bells a day by stamping, as opposed to 500 with the earlier casting process. Cast bells continued to be made on a limited basis until 1979 at the Bevin Brothers Company using their nineteenth-century pit furnaces, but stamped bells were the major product in the twentieth century.² Hill's first factory, a wood-framed building, burned to the ground below the dam near Skinner Street (Inventory #S-177), but further upstream he built a large brick factory, believed to be the largest in the world devoted exclusively to bell production (Inventory #134; Photograph #27). Standing ruins of several bell factories (possibly including Hill's first building), and the remains of their water turbine system, exist in the area below the dam (Inventory #S-2 through S-5).

The competitive spirit among the leaders of the bell industry in the late nineteenth century is evident in the houses they built in this period. Philo Bevin, the youngest brother, now president of the family firm, was one of the first to break away from the traditional pattern of architectural conservatism. His lavish Second Empire-style house on Barton Hill, the first in town to have central heating, confirmed his status as the wealthiest bell manufacturer. Horatio Abbe, a founder of the Gong Bell Company, was one of his major competitors. Soon after becoming president of the firm he radically altered his Greek Revival-style house, built just six years earlier, in a self-conscious attempt to be more up-to-date.

These stylish houses were exceptional. Most people, including the working class, still lived in solid, middle-class housing. There seemed to be little need for workers' housing per se. Although Crescent Street was laid out and developed about 1900, the smaller Victorian cottages built there were owned by skilled workmen such as engravers or pattern makers (Inventory #36; Photograph #9). Most of the unskilled laborers and their families rented existing older houses remodeled by the bell companies for boarding houses or multiple-family use (Inventory #144).

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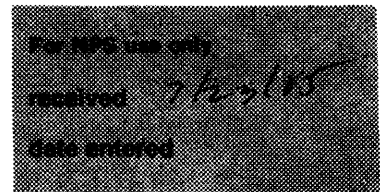
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Architectural Significance

The mill buildings that define the town are still the dominant architectural element. They are generally well-preserved, distinctive examples of late nineteenth-century brick mills. The best preserved is one of the earliest, the Veazey and White foundry (Inventory #139; Photograph #18). Although some of the later buildings have stair towers, and a limited amount of corbelling, this utilitarian building could have served as a model for most of the remaining industrial architecture. It retains all of its essential features: the low gable roof with exposed rafter ends, and segmental-arched windows separated by plain brick pilasters.

The small, late nineteenth-century, wood-framed commercial buildings which are clustered in the town center are also quite functional. Generally well preserved, their gable-to-street facades have retained their brackets or decorative shingles. One recently restored example is exceptionally notable for its dormered mansard roof (Inventory #86; Photograph #13). A small masonry commercial block (two buildings) and the present brick library (originally a store) do provide some contrast. Although compatible in scale, they are architecturally modest buildings (Inventory #83, 87).

A wider range of styles can be found in the institutional architecture of the district. The most distinguished of the churches is a wood-framed building constructed in the Gothic Revival style (Inventory #175; Photograph #21). Judging by its relatively high degree of architectural sophistication, this church may have been architect-designed. Well preserved and fully elaborated, it utilizes most of the features more commonly found in masonry churches of this style: lancet-arched windows, pseudo-buttresses, and an elaborate, pinnacled spire. A much smaller church in the south end of the district is by contrast a rather simple building, a small shingled, country-builder's version of the Stick style. It is distinguished by diamond-shaped windows and a unique open, one-stage bell tower (Inventory #99). The original district school built in 1866 is another well-preserved institutional building of the Italianate style. Distinguished by an unusual degree of decorative detail, pilastered and bracketed entrance-ways, as well as scrolled brackets under the eaves, it has served the town for over 100 years, first as a school, and then sixty years as the town hall.

The craftsmanship of the district's residential architecture is exceptional. These generally simplified vernacular versions of standard eighteenth- and nineteenth-century styles utilize simple forms and straightforward post-and-beam construction.

Although most of the domestic architecture dates from the nineteenth century, several well-preserved houses remain from the colonial period. One of the best examples is the exceptionally well-preserved 1748 saltbox built by William Bevin, an early settler of East Hampton and the progenitor of this distinguished family (Inventory #30; Photograph #5). His four great grandsons, all born in this house, established the Bevin Brothers Bell Company.

The country builders of the early to mid-nineteenth century began to demonstrate some understanding of classical form and proportion. These qualities are most evident in the large number of well-preserved vernacular Greek Revival-style houses in the district. Very little

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applied detail is employed, but an understanding of the classical mode is clearly stated in the fully pedimented temple forms with plain-board entablatures. Two of the more notable examples are Inventory #29, Photograph 3; and Inventory #72, Photograph #10. A greater degree of sophistication is present in the Italianate-style house built for Hiram Veazey (Inventory #159; Photograph #20). This well-preserved example demonstrates how easily carpenter-builders could make the transition to this style by applying detailing to the same gable-fronted form.

More stylish expressions of popular taste were built after the Civil War. Exceptional, locally distinguished examples of several Victorian styles demonstrate a level of craftsmanship not previously displayed in the district. Two of the better examples are the Second Empire-style Philo Bevin House (1872) on Barton Hill (Inventory #13; Photograph #2) and the Italianate-style Sears-Hill House (1876) on Main Street (Inventory #77; Photograph #12). While certainly not designed in the most up-to-date style, these buildings, nevertheless, are the most architecturally significant houses in East Hampton. The Bevin House is particularly distinguished for its wealth of hand-carved detail and excellent state of preservation.

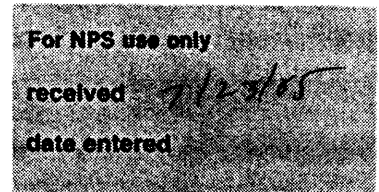
Notes

1. This nomination is based primarily on the original research for the architectural survey of East Hampton completed in 1980. The research files are located at the Greater Middletown Preservation Trust. The survey forms and the publication based on the survey are deposited with the archives of the Connecticut Historical Commission at the University of Connecticut at Storrs, Connecticut.

2. The nineteenth-century pit-furnace process was videotaped as part of the Brass Workers' History Project before the Bevins modernized their plant. Matthew Roth, Connecticut: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites, 1981, p. 145.

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Potter, Lucy G. and Ritchie, William A., ed. Janice Cunningham. The History and Architecture of East Hampton. Middletown, CT: The Greater Middletown Preservation Trust, 1980. (Original research on file with the GMPT.)

Price, Carl F. Yankee Township. Hartford: 1936.

Maps

1859 Walling Map

1874 Beers Atlas

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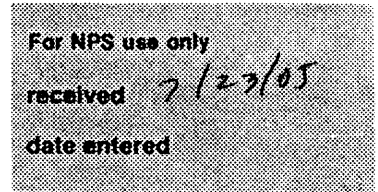
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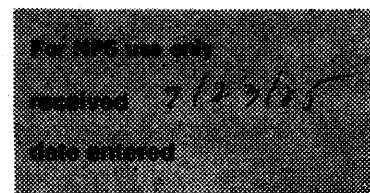
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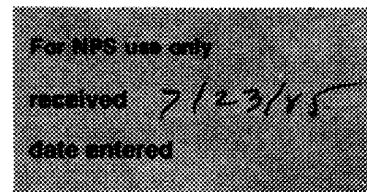


VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Beginning at the northeast corner of the intersection of Maple and West High Streets, the district boundary extends in a northeasterly direction from Lot 39, Block 39A (as shown on the East Hampton Tax Assessor's Map 1A), crosses Main Street, to the eastern property line of Lot 15, Block 63A, Map 5A. Here the boundary turns in a southerly direction, crossing East High Street, and continues east at ninety degrees along the south side and front (north) property lines of the said street until it meets the east property line of Lot 7, Block 62. Turning southeast, then southwest, along rear (south) property lines, the boundary continues southwest until it meets the southeast corner of Lot 277, Block 80, Map 10A. It then turns south along rear property lines until it intersects with the southeast corner of Lot 5, Block 62, Map 5A. Moving east from this point, it continues until it meets with the northeast corner of Lot 17A, Block 62. The boundary then turns southeast, then southwest, along the said property's western and southern lines, to meet a point opposite the southeast corner of Lot 5, Block 62, Map 5A. Next it extends in a southeasterly direction until it meets the northeast corner of Lot 30, Block 62. Continuing east to cross Bevin Boulevard, the district boundary heads in a northerly direction until it meets a point at Bevin's Pond. It then follows the contour of the pond to its most southeastern point and extends south, until it reaches the northeast corner of Lot 21, Block 62A, Map 6A. It then extends southeast to the southeast corner of Lot 20, Block 62A and crosses Summit Street. Next the boundary runs along the eastern and southern property lines of Lot 19, Block 59, Map 6A. Continuing southwest along rear property lines, it then turns south after intersecting with the eastern property line of Lot 12A, Block 59. Next it crosses Railroad Avenue and intersects with the southeast corner of Lot 2, Block 60 where it turns to the west. It then crosses Watrous Street to a point directly across from the eastern property line of Lot 1, Block 57. Turning ninety degrees to the south and crossing Walnut Street, the boundary extends in a southerly direction along rear (east) property lines of Main Street until it intersects with the southern boundary of Lot 24, Block 56, Map 7A. Here it turns in a westerly direction to a point opposite the said lot, crossing Main Street at ninety degrees to head south, then west along the eastern and southern property lines of Lot 17, Block 50, Map 20. From here the district boundary heads in a northerly direction until it meets the south property line of Lot 7, Block 49, Map 2A. Following this line of the said lot, the boundary then takes a southwesterly direction along rear (east) property lines until it meets the southeast corner of Lot 23, Block 50, Map 20. Heading northwest, then northeast, the district boundary continues to a point opposite the southeast property line of Lot 3, Block 48A, Map 2A. Next it crosses Skinner Street at ninety degrees and runs along the southwest and northwest property lines of said lot. Next the boundary crosses Walnut Street at ninety degrees to intersect with

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the rear (west) property line of Lot 32, Block 48. Here it turns to the west along Barton Hill Street, following rear (south) property lines until it meets the southwest corner of Lot 28, Block 48. The boundary then turns at ninety degrees to extend southwest on Crescent Street. At the southwestern corner of Lot 23, Block 48, it turns north, then west at its northwest corner and continues along the rear property lines of the south side of Barton Hill Street. Upon meeting the west property line of lot 1, Block 48, it turns north, then east, to meet a point opposite the southwest corner of Lot 46, Block 47. Crossing Barton Hill Street at ninety degrees and continuing north, then east of the said lot, the boundary extends in an easterly direction until it crosses Oak Knoll Road. Turning ninety degrees and heading north the boundary follows the property lines of Lot 39, Block 47, to the east, then south, to meet a point opposite the northwest corner of Lot 81, Block 47, Map A. Following rear (south) property lines and continuing southeast, it intersects with the rear property line of Lot B6, Block 47 and extends north, adjusting to the property lines of Lot 22, Block 47, to intersect with the rear (south) property line of Lot 10, Block 47, Map 1A. Here it turns in a southwesterly direction to connect with the western property line of Lot 1, Block 47 and then turns north, crossing West High Street, to connect with the first point. The boundaries include all outbuildings within the listed properties.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries of this district were based on visual coherence, continuity, thematic consistency, and topography.

Generally speaking, the crests of the hills are the boundaries of the district to the west and east. To the west on Barton Hill Street, just below 48 and 53 Barton Hill Street, the district ends at the intersections of Maple Avenue and Forest Street to exclude modern development (on the north side) and vacant land (on the south side). To the east where the industrial area is located, the district extends up Summit Street, Bevin Road, and Bevin Court to include the mill and residential buildings. Further up Summit Street beyond its intersection with Bevin Court is a residential neighborhood with a considerable number of modern non-contributing buildings.

East High and West High streets form the northern boundary. At the intersection of these streets, at the beginning of Main Street, is a small commercial center with historic houses extending up West High Street to the top of the hill. Modern development and vacant farm land occur beyond this point. On East High Street on the south side the district extends to include three historic houses. Beyond these buildings is the modern town hall and commercial development. The north side of East High

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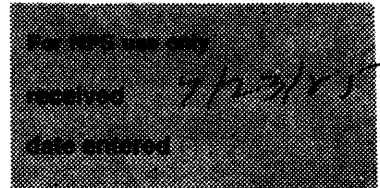
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Belletown Historic District

Continuation sheet East Hampton, Connecticut

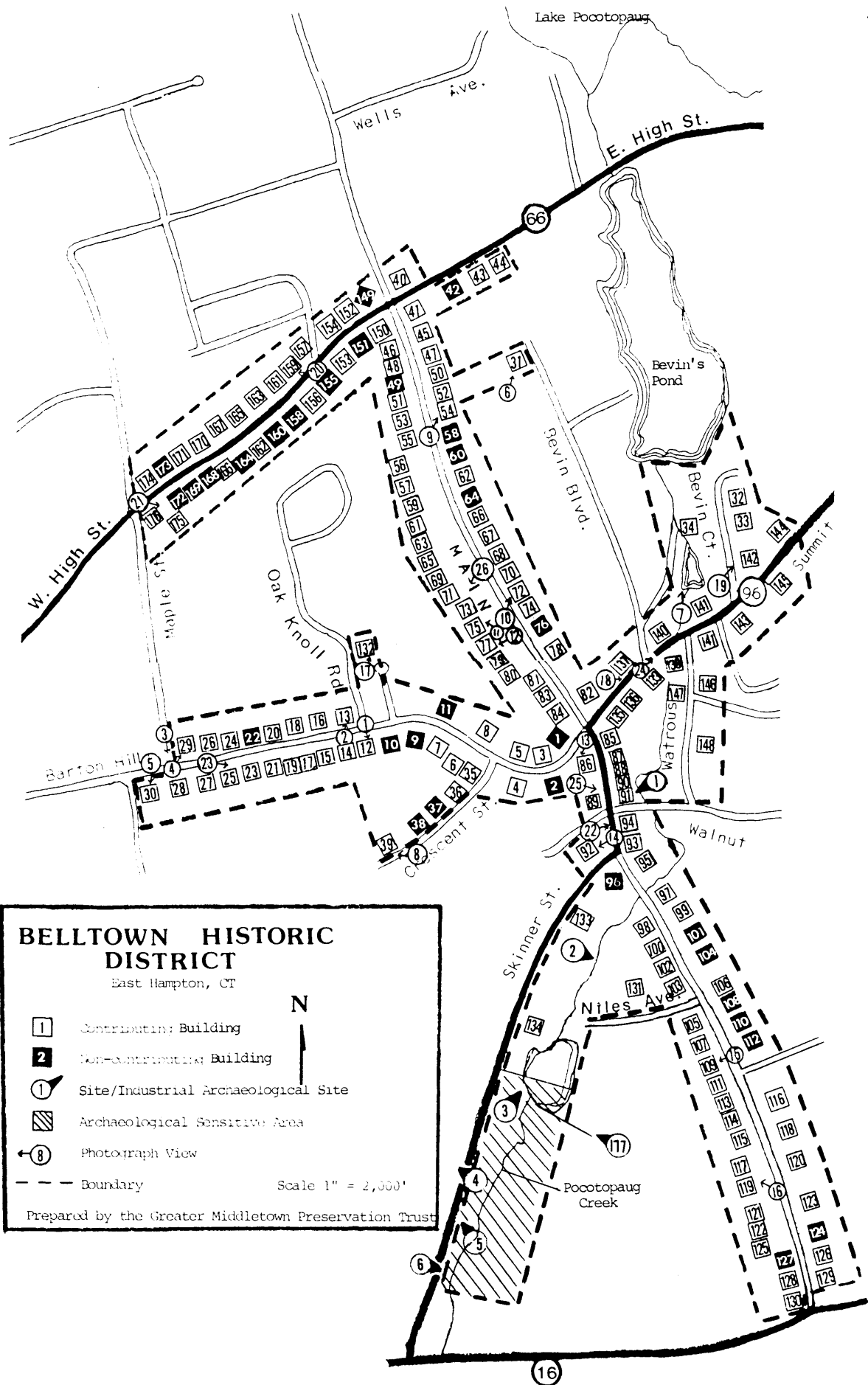
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Street is excluded completely after the church at the intersection because of the presence of a modern shopping mall.

To the south the district ends at Route 16. From the center of town up Main Street to this point is a residential neighborhood of late-nineteenth-century and early-twentieth-century housing; many of these are associated with the historic theme of the district. The north side of Skinner Street, which extends from the center to the west to meet Route 16, has been totally excluded. Although several historic houses are located here, they are generally lacking in integrity and are widely separated, so visual continuity is lost. The east side of Skinner Street is included because of the presence of two mill complexes, a dam, and the industrial and archaeological remains of bell factories along Pocotopaug Creek.



BELLTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
 East Hampton, CT

N
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- 1 Contributing Building
- 2 Non-Contributing Building
- ① Site/Industrial Archaeological Site
- ▨ Archaeological Sensitive Area
- ← ⑧ Photograph View
- - - Boundary

Scale 1" = 2,000'

Prepared by the Greater Middletown Preservation Trust