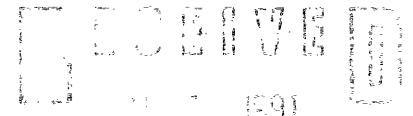


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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 18). 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 Brookfield Center Historic District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet NA  not for publication  
city, town \_\_\_\_\_ NA  vicinity  
state CT code CT county Fairfield code 001 zip code 06804

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>67</u>	<u>10</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>        </u>	<u>1</u> objects
		<u>67</u>	<u>12</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA

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] 6/27/91  
Signature of certifying official Director, Connecticut Historical Commission Date  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature] 8/15/91  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling/secondary structure  
COMMERCE/TRADE/department store  
GOVERNMENT/city hall  
EDUCATION/school  
RELIGION/religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling/secondary structure  
COMMERCE/TRADE/department store/office  
building  
RELIGION/religious structure

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

See continuation sheet

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/CONCRETE  
walls WOOD/weatherboard/shingle  
BRICK/STONE/ASBESTOS/METAL/aluminum  
roof WOOD/shingle ASPHALT  
other \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Brookfield Center Historic District runs in a north-south direction along a rocky ridge in the geographic center of the Town of Brookfield, northeast of the City of Danbury, Connecticut. The district looks down on the Still River which lies in a parallel north-south valley to the west. The center of the district, which has almost the same boundaries as the local historic district,<sup>1</sup> occurs at the intersection of Whisconier Road with Obtuse Hill, Junction, and Silvermine Roads. Here are located two churches, town hall, early school, and the village store. (Photograph 2) The balance of the district is essentially a spine of residential properties running north and south from the center. (See statistical summary, p. 7-2, and district map.)

Since the area was settled as early as c. 1700, there are several 18th-century houses in the district. One of the oldest is 150 Whisconier Road, a 1½-story saltbox with the distinctive feature of small horizontal windows at the second floor. (Photograph 3) Another example is 169 Whisconier Road, which has twin chimneys and central hall, an early configuration for its c. 1740 date. It is a large house with a high roof. (Photograph 8)

The Federal style is represented in the district by vernacular buildings with Federal details, rather than by completely developed buildings. For example, 167 Whisconier Road has a Federal doorway surrounded by reeded pilasters and lintel, and a fret molding under the raking cornices and along the eaves of the side elevations. Semi-elliptical attic windows are found in 140 Whisconier Road.

The Greek Revival, on the other hand, is fully articulated in several houses. The example at 9 Winding Road, with temple-form pediment facing the street, displays chaste simplicity in its Doric portico (the fluted columns have no bases) and unusual glazing in its transom and attic windows. (Photograph 12)

At 148 Whisconier Road the side and transom lights and attic window are glazed in the more conventional paired-muntin-fret pattern, but protection is afforded the front entrance by the less conventional shed-roofed hood. A Greek Revival addition to an older house at 6 Long Meadow Road forms an imposing portico. (Photograph 15)

The mid-19th century brought construction of the present edifice of the Congregational Church (1854) at 160 Whisconier Road. While its general form is late Greek Revival, the arched sections connecting the tops of the pilasters and the sawn foliate cresting over the front entrance (perhaps added) foretell the end of the century. Diagonally across the street the first Town House, built in 1796, was replaced in 1875 with the present Italianate edifice which is distinguished by the chamfered posts and flared pyramidal

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1720-1937  
1792-1930s

Significant Dates

1720-1937  
1858, 1886, 1900

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Antinozzi Associates, Frederick H.  
Beckwith, Mr. Nash of Bridgeport

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Brookfield Center Historic District is significant architecturally because it consists of a group of residential, religious, and municipal buildings which are good examples of many styles of the 18th-20th centuries with a concentration from the 19th century, pre-1875. The buildings exist in their original relationship to one another in a good state of preservation, free of intrusions, giving an accurate sense of how the village developed over time.

Historical Background

After settlement, c. 1700, the nominated area first gained local identity in 1754 by the establishment of the Parish of Newbury, named for the neighboring towns of New Milford, Newtown, and Danbury. The same three municipalities each yielded some land, in 1788, to form the Town of Brookfield, named after the Reverend Thomas Brooks, the first Congregational minister, who served from 1755 to 1796. Population reached its 19th-century peak of 1445 in 1840 when, in addition to farming, there was modest industrial activity of gristmills, sawmills, manufacturing of combs and hats, and an iron forge at the village of Brookfield Iron Works (now Brookfield) north of the Center.

The center of religious and political life was at the crossroads of Brookfield Center, where the first church was built, the town hall, Center School, and tavern. In addition to the present store, there was a second across the street north of 169 Whisconier Road and a third, with taylor shop, south of 164 Whisconier Road. An early animal pound was located south of 140 Whisconier Road where a cabinet repair shop was conducted which expanded into a carriage manufactory. The Grange at 145 Whisconier Road and several ministers residences filled out the list of public and religious buildings.

Toward the end of the 19th century, an unusually large number of private schools were conducted in the district. Three were of some size and longevity.<sup>1</sup> The first was St. Paul's School, which was built by the Reverend Henry D. Noble in 1858, subsequent to his term as rector of St. Paul's Church, 1844-1858. A boarding school, St. Paul's accommodated 16 scholars at a cost of \$300 per year, continuing to 1869. There were morning and evening prayers, and the students attended St. Paul's Church. St. Paul's two buildings were the schoolhouse, 3 Longmeadow Hill Road (Photograph 14), and the headmaster's house next door. Both retain their distinctive features, the schoolhouse its cupola and the residence its stepped rear roof line. (Figure 3)

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 43 prox.

UTM References

A 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone    Easting    Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone    Easting    Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The district boundary is indicated by the heavy line on the map drawn at scale of 1" = 200'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

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

name/title David F. Ransom/Consultant  
organization Connecticut Historical Commission date 25 November 1990  
street & number 59 South Prospect Street telephone (203) 566-3005  
city or town Hartford state CT zip code 06106

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

Brookfield Center Historic District  
Brookfield, CT

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street & number

2 Junction Road  
1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20 Long Meadow Hill Road  
4 School Street  
139, 140, 141, 143, 145, 147, 148, 149, 150, 152, 153, 155, 157, 159, 160, 162, 163,  
164, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 172, 174, 176, 177, 178, (69-10), (69-57), 179,  
181, 182, 183, 184, 185-187, 186, 188 Whisconier Road  
8, 9 Winding Road

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Brookfield Center Historic District  
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Architectural Classification

COLONIAL/Dutch Colonial/Post Medieval English  
EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal  
MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival/Gothic Revival  
LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate/Queen Anne  
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival/Tudor Revival/Late Gothic Revival  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENT/Bungalow/Craftsman

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Brookfield, CTSection number 7 Page 1

roof of its entrance tower.<sup>2</sup> (Photograph 8) The next year, in 1876, Center School was erected directly across the street from the Town House. In the 1950s, when a brick wing to the north was added, the original building was faced with brick, but its distinctive small central tower with low pyramidal roof remains. (Photograph 7)

The Gothic Revival style is represented by one house, St. Paul's Rectory, 9 Long Meadow Hill Road. The pointed-arch window at the top of its central projecting tower and the pierced trefoils of its porch brackets are characteristic of the style. (Photograph 16)

The Italianate style was most fully developed in the district at 164 Whisconier Road (1876), whose repetitive segmental shapes and heavy brackets with pendants qualify it as the High Victorian Italianate. (Photograph 9) A more restrained expression of the Italianate is given by St. Paul's School at 3 Long Meadow Hill Road. (Photograph 14, Figure 3)

After the Civil War, little building took place in the district for the balance of the century. Consequently, some late-19th-century styles are not represented in the district. The Queen Anne, however, is present, but, as in the case of the Federal style, only in details and alterations. A case in point is the added projecting Queen Anne 2-story bay with cutaway corners at 155 Whisconier Road. (Photograph 5)

In the early-20th century, Curtis School built a gymnasium (1907), 184 Whisconier Road (rear in the Rustic style fashionable at the time. The rubble-stone hipped-roof building is easily identified as a product of the years (1905-1920) when the Rustic mode, associated with the Arts-and-Crafts movement, was in vogue. (Photograph 13) As the century progressed, Arts-and-Crafts movement, was in vogue. (Photograph 13) As the century progressed, little in the way of Colonial Revival architecture was built until 1930, when the stone-and-clapboard house at 149 Whisconier Road took its place in the district with pleasant proportions and classically derived trim (tripartite bay window, semi-elliptical attic window) typical of the Colonial Revival. (Photograph 2) St. Paul's Church, 174 Whisconier Road, the last of the contributing buildings in the district (1937), in a sense turned the clock back by its design with pointed-arch openings and castellated tower, patterned after a Dorset, England, model. (Photograph 11)

The newest building in the district is on-going construction on the vacant corner of the main intersection. It is to be St. Joseph's Church, and will be sited at the diagonal with the tower and front entrance facing the corner.

Scattered along Whisconier Road, several surviving 19th-century barns add to the rural sense of the district. The 3-story bank barns at 149 Whisconier Road and 155 Whisconier Road are among the largest.

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Brookfield Center Historic District  
Brookfield, CT

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Statistical Analysis

There are 60 properties in the district. Each property may consist of more than one parcel, have more than one building, or be vacant land.

For the 60 houses and institutional buildings in the district, the breakdown by Contributing/Non-contributing, age, and styles is as follows:

Contributing/Non-contributing

51 Contributing  
9 Non-contributing

Age

7 18th century  
34 19th century  
19 20th century

Style

1 Dutch Colonial  
6 Colonial  
1 Georgian  
3 Federal  
6 Greek Revival  
2 Gothic Revival  
5 Italianate  
1 Queen Anne  
14 19th-century vernacular  
1 Tudor Revival  
1 Rustic  
12 Colonial Revival  
1 American Four Square  
1 Dutch Colonial Revival  
5 20th-century vernacular

There are 17 major outbuildings, of which 16 are Contributing.

1

See Item 10, Boundary Justification.

2

The Town House appears on the 1867 Beers map (Figure 2). In 1867 the main east-west road ran north of the building; today it is south of the building. (Compare district map.)



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Brookfield Center Historic District  
Brookfield, CT

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Inventory

In the following inventory, dates are taken from the Historic District Study Committee Report, unless otherwise indicated; A indicates the date was taken from assessor's records; V indicates visual approximation. The numbers in parentheses below the street address are the map and lot numbers from the assessor's records. The C or NC in the left margin indicates whether the resource is considered to contribute to the historical and architectural significance of the district, or to be non-contributing. MH indicates the date was furnished by the Municipal Historian.

<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
C 2 Junction Road (68-12)	1812	John A. Peck, Jr. House. 2-story frame Colonial 5-bay twin-chimney central-entrance house covered with weathered wooden shingles. Windows are 6-over-6 with central second-floor tripartite window. Gable-roofed front door hood may be mixture of old and new components. 19th-century ell is embellished with sawn porch post brackets. Now serves as third parsonage of Congregational Church.
C	19C A	Barn.
C	19C A	Shoemaker's shop.
C 1 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (69-50)	1807 MH	Deacon Luther Smith House; Emily C. Hawley House. 2-story frame Greek Revival 4-bay twin-chimney house with gable roof parallel to street. Entrance in second bay from right is protected by shed-roofed portico supported by fluted Doric columns.
C	19C V	2-story frame 23' x 34' bank barn.

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Address	Date	Description
C 3 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (69-52)	1858	St. Paul's School. 2-story frame Italianate 3-bay house with gable end to street. Porch supported by paneled posts on pedestals. Door in right bay under segmental opening. Windows are 2-over-2; attic window opening is peaked. Bracketed roof overhang embellished with dentil course. Each face of belvedere is pierced by paired arched windows. Consoles and brackets at belvedere's corners; central finial flanked by curved supports on its roof. (Photograph 14, Figure 3)
C 4 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (69-53, 54)	1792 1773	Peter Hubbell-David Keeler House. 2-story frame Colonial 5-bay central-chimney central-entrance shingled house with high gabled roof. First-floor windows 12-over-12, second-floor 12-over-8. Front door has 6-light transom under flat cap.
C 5 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-58)	1800 A	Home of Rev. Henry Noble, headmaster of St. Paul's School, 1858-1869. 2-story frame Colonial 5-bay central-entrance house. 1-story shed-roofed rear addition, as seen in Figure 3. Central chimney has been removed.
C	c. 1900 V	2-story frame barn.
C 6 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (69-55, 70-33)	1792	Dr. Philo Merwin House, "Shadow Oak." 2-story frame house. Greek Revival 3-bay front added, c. 1845 V. Door in left bay, without side lights. First-floor windows floor to ceiling. Second-floor front is matched smooth boards. Hipped roof slopes down at south front eaves. Doric tetra-style frieze with triglyphs. (Photograph 15)
C	19C A	1-story frame barn.

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Address	Date	Description
C 7 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-57)		Vacant land included for visual continuity.
C 9 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-56)	1878 1870A	St. Paul's Rectory, to 1970. 2-story frame Gothic Revival house with asbestos siding over clapboards. Shed roof of porch is supported by Italianate posts whose sawn brackets are perforated by trefoils. Central projecting tower has pointed-arch opening with paired lancet glazing, one still with colored glass. (Photograph 16)
NC 10 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-32)	1920 MH	1-story frame Colonial Revival house.
NC 11 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-5)	1952	Long 1-story frame Colonial Revival house.
C 12 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-34)	1922 1915 A	2-story frame American Four Square hipped-roof house covered with clapboards at first floor, wood shingles at second. 1-over-1 windows. Gable-roofed dormers.
C 13 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-54)	1930	1-story frame house with lines of Tudor Revival, <i>i.e.</i> , front elevation is dominated by steeply pitched high cross gable.
NC 14 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-64)	1979 A	2-story frame Colonial Revival house.
C 16 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-35)	1927	2-story frame Dutch Colonial Revival 5-bay house with 6-over-6 windows.
C 17 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-53)	1929	1½-story frame Colonial Revival cottage.

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Brookfield Center Historic District  
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Address	Date	Description
C 19 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-52)	1934 MH	Deyo House. 1-story frame Colonial Revival cottage.
C 20 Long Meadow Hill Rd. (70-49)	1825 MH	Noah Starr Taylor House. 2-story frame Greek Revival 5-bay house with gable roof parallel with street. In central Ionic portico, abaci project from entablature. House is dramatically sited on rise.
C	1800 early 20C V	1-story frame Colonial Revival cottage.
C 4 School St. (69-38, 87-3)	1892	2-story 2-bay frame gable-roofed vernacular house with 1½-story wing to south. Windows are 1-over-1. Hipped-roof front porch.
C	19C V	1½-story frame 24' x 48' barn with vertical siding. Remodeled 1989.
C 139 Whisconier Rd. (86-21)	1930 1938 A	1-story frame Colonial Revival bungalow with shed-roofed dormer and shingled siding.
c 140 Whisconier Rd. (86-1)	1830	Captain Sidney Hawley-David Peck House. 2-story frame vernacular 4-bay house with central chimney, central entrance, and 12-over-2 windows. Semi-elliptical attic windows.
NC 141 Whisconier Rd. (86-28)	1972	2-story frame vernacular house with gambrel roof and stained shingled siding.
NC 143 Whisconier Rd. (86-2)	1975 V	2-story frame vernacular house with shingled siding.
C 145 Whisconier Rd. (86-20)	1880	"Hill Crest Hall." 2-story frame vernacular 8-family apartment house with gable roof and single and paired 1-over-1 windows. Originally tobacco shed, then unit in Greene School of Music, grange, firehouse, and post office. (Photograph 1)

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Address	Date	Description
C 147 Whisconier Rd. (86-19)	1869 1920 V	Frank W. Pickney House. 2-story frame Federal 3-bay house with added wing. Doorway with leaded side lights and semi-elliptical transom is protected by portico with dentil course.
C	19C V 19C A	2-story 20' x 40' frame barn on stone foundation. Frame 10' x 12' shed.
C 148 Whisconier Rd. (86-4)	1812	2-story frame Greek Revival house with shed-roofed hood over doorway. Side and transom lights and attic window are glazed in paired muntin-fret pattern typical of Greek Revival style.
C	19C V	1½-story frame barn with small pane windows.
C 149 Whisconier Rd. (86-18)	1930	2-story asymmetrical Colonial Revival house with stone first story and clapboards above. Tripartite bay window; semi-elliptical attic window. (Photograph 2)
C	19C V	3-story frame bank barn with gable roof and vertical siding. Former unit of Greene School of Music.
C	19C A	1-story frame 21' x 24' barn.
C 150 Whisconier Rd. (86-5)	1720	"Appleyard," "Back-Log," 1½-story frame Colonial 5-bay saltbox with central chimney and central doorway. Windows at first floor are 12-over-12, at second floor 8-pane (two tiers of four). Paneled doorway surround under flat cornice defined by dentil course. Plank construction. Unit of Greene School of Music. (Photograph 3)
C	19C A	1-story frame gable-roofed cottage with shingled siding.
C	19C A	Barn.

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Address	Date	Description
C 152 Whisconier Rd. (86-6)	1870	2-story frame vernacular structure with gable roof at 90 degrees to street. Three bays in street elevation, five on sides. Re-modelled from barn c. 1900 as dormitory for Greene School of Music.
C	Early 20C A	Frame 2-car garage.
C 153 Whisconier Rd. (86-16)	1842	First parsonage of Congregational Church. Built by Harry Sherman. 2-story frame Greek Revival 4-bay house on granite-slab foundations. Side porch entry may be alteration. 1929 photograph shows porch across front of house as well. Served as residence of Prof. H.W. Greene. (Photograph 4)
C 155 Whisconier Rd. (86-13)	1826 MH	Charles Hawley House. Built as 2-story frame 5-bay Greek Revival house with central chimney and central entrance. 2-story projecting Queen Anne bay with cutaway corners is late 19th-century alteration (visual). Frieze under eaves runs around house. 1-story modern south wing. Former dormitory for Greene School of Music. (Photograph 5)
C	c. 1842 MH	2-story vernacular house.
C	19C V	Large 3-story frame bank barn, 28' x 50'.
C 157 Whisconier Rd. (86-12)	1760	Isaac Hawley House. 2-story frame Colonial 5-bay saltbox with gable roof, central chimney, and central door. Dentil course under eaves.
C 159 Whisconier Rd. (86-11)	1866	2½-story frame Italianate 4-bay house with low hipped roof. Windows are 6-over-6, except for horizontal attic openings in frieze on side elevations. Sawn posts and brackets support front porch. Fine new glazed and paneled front door. Interior remodelled 1990 when house became St. Joseph's Rectory. (Photograph 6)

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Brookfield Center Historic District  
Brookfield, CT

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Address	Date	Description
C 160 Whisconier Rd. (68-11)	1854	First Congregational Church. On site of 1757 meetinghouse. Mr. Nash, of Bridgeport, architect (Pierce, p. 11). Front of church, both pavilion and steeple, is smooth tongue-and-groove boarding. Flat arches with rounded corners separate shallow paired pilasters. Outside style is transitional, vernacular. Heavy brackets support cornice over door; and cornice is embellished with sawn foliate cresting; these details do not appear to be original. Three 30-over-30 windows pierce each side elevation. Foundations and front steps are granite. Substantial additions to southwest are frame and brick. (1907, 1939, 1954, 1963 - MH) (Photograph 7)
C 162 Whisconier Rd. (69-34)	1876 1762 MH	Center School, later Town Hall (second). South section is original 1-story vernacular school. Vault built there 1939. When Town Hall moved from 165 Whisconier Rd., north portion, with roof at right angles to older section, was built in 1950s. Now rental property. Original section was frame, now faced with brick, as is addition. (Photo 7)
C 163 Whisconier Rd. (86-10)	1757 (sign on building)	Jeremiah Northrop House. 2-story frame Georgian 5-bay twin-chimney central-entrance house. Fine portico, c. 1924, with dentil course, supported by clustered fluted posts, protects doorway flanked by fluted pilasters and side lights. Flat-roofed wing to north. Now St. Joseph's Convent.
NC	1991	St. Joseph's Church. Structural frame, under construction, uses both steel and microlams. Ground plan is at diagonal; tower will face intersection. Antinozzi Associates, Stamford, architects.

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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
C 164 Whisconier Rd. (69-33)	1876 1860 A	Judge Benjamin Griffin Mansion. 2-story frame 3-bay High Victorian Italianate house with central entrance and tower. Segmental shape of porch entry is repeated in tower roof. Sawn porch post brackets. Sawn roof brackets with pendants. Standing-seam metal roof (1989). Sited above street. (Photo 9)
C 165 Whisconier Rd. (69-35)	1875	Town House (Beers map). High 1-story gable-roofed frame Italianate 30' x 52' structure with central tower. Portico's chamfered posts, raised embellishment in pediment, and flared pyramidal roof of tower are prominent features. Tall windows are 4-over-4 under flat molded caps. In recent decades housed Joyce Memorial Library; now Brookfield Historical Society. On site of 1796 Town Hall. (Photographs 7, 8)
C 166 Whisconier Rd. (69-32)	c. 1868 MH	Village Store, built by Henry Smith Peck. Long 2-story frame vernacular building with roof line parallel to the street. First floor has large 9-pane shop windows; second floor five 6-over-6. Long front porch is supported by chamfered posts on plain pedestals with molded capitals. Interior, matched bead-board ceiling. (Photograph 10)
C 167 Whisconier Rd. (60-36)	1825	Henry L. Peck House. 2-story frame Federal/Greek Revival 3-bay house. Windows are 12-over-12 first floor, 6-over-6 second. Doorway with side and transom lights surrounded by reeded pilasters and lintel. Fret molding defines raking cornices and runs under eaves of side elevations. (Photograph 8)
C	c. 1900 V	Frame shed.



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Address	Date	Description
C 168 Whisconier Rd.	1868 MH	Henry Smith Peck House.
C 168 Whisconier Rd. (69-31)	1860	1½-story frame house altered (1962) to Colonial Revival style. Gable-roofed portico supported by round columns with entasis is flanked by paired 6-over-6 windows. (Photograph 10)
C 169 Whisconier Rd. (69-37)	1740 1787 A	Daniel Jackson House. 2-story frame gable-roofed Colonial house with twin chimneys and central entrance. High roof. First-floor windows 9-over-9; second floor 12-over-12. Matched pine plank floors throughout. In 1920s was Old Post Road Inn.
C 170 Whisconier Rd. (69-30)	1845	2-story frame gable-roofed house remodelled (1955 - MH) from carriage house to residence. Weathered vertical siding. Entrance under central cross gable is flanked by pilasters with molded capitals. Windows are 8-over-8.
C 172 Whisconier Rd. (69-29)	1870	Second parsonage of Congregational Church. 2-story frame 3-bay Italianate house with low hipped roof. Windows are 4-over-4, floor-to-ceiling height at first floor. Eyebrow windows in attic frieze. Porch with nearly flat roof supported by five square columns.
C	1881 MH	1½-story frame barn with vertical siding.
C 174 Whisconier Rd. (69-28)	1937	St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Stone Gothic Revival church in plan of cross modeled on example in Dorset, England, using local stone salvaged from early stone walls in fields. Doorways and principal windows have pointed arches; other windows are flat with casements. Roof line of tower is embattled, merlon at one corner being taller than others. High slate roof. Congregation's third structure, second on the site. On interior, exposed wooden beams and arched trusses are finished in dark color. Large stained-glass windows at front and back by Leonard Howard. Casement windows are leaded colored glass. Central aisle divides dark wooden pews. Compatible

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Address	Date	Description
174 Whisconier Rd. continued		1956 2-story addition to rear is built of stone, wood, and cinder block. Frederick H. Beckwith of Bridgeport was architect for 1937 and 1956 buildings.
C 175 Whisconier Rd. (69-41)	1820	Hiram Fairchild House (Beers map) 2-story frame gable-roofed Federal/Greek Revival 3-bay house, with doorway at right. 6-over-6 windows. Shed-roofed portico is supported by slender columns, and refined dentil course is under eaves but transom glazing is typical Greek Revival fret.
C 176 Whisconier Rd. (69-27)	1876	St. Paul's Cottage. 1-story frame gable-roofed vernacular cottage in irregular L shape, on high stone base.
NC	c. 1960	Frame barn.
C 177 Whisconier Rd. (69-42)	1868	2 - story frame vernacular house with gable roof parallel to street. Central entrance of glazed door under flat molded cap is flanked by 6-over-6 windows. Roof covered with tin shingles.
C	Early 20C A	Frame vernacular cottage.
C 178 Whisconier Rd. (69-11)		Vacant land included for visual continuity.
C Whisconier Rd. (rear) (69-10)		Vacant land included for visual continuity.
C Whisconier Rd. (rear) (69-57)		Vacant land included for visual continuity.

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Address	Date	Description
C 179 Whisconier Rd. (69-43)	1750	Amos Wheeler Tavern. Long 1-story gable-roofed frame Dutch Colonial house on stone terrace close to road. Roof covered with wooden shingles. Flared eaves. Long porch supported by six slender round posts. 1697 date carved in beam.
C 181 Whisconier Rd. (69-46)	1821	2-story frame vernacular 3-bay house with gable roof parallel to street. Entrance at right. Altered; may have been Federal.
C	19C A	1½-story frame gambrel-roofed barn converted c. 1970s to residence.
NC 182 Whisconier Rd. (69-26)	1975	Brookfield Public Library. High 1-story brick-faced stylized Colonial Revival building. Burton A. Bugbee, architect. On site of Curtis School building.
NC 183 Whisconier Rd. (69-47)	1943 1948 A	2-story frame vernacular 3-bay gable-roofed house with central entrance.
C 184 Whisconier Rd. (69-9, 25)	1907 sign on building	Curtis School Gymnasium. 1-story rubble-stone hipped-roof Rustic/Arts-and-Crafts building with diagonally glazed wooden casement windows. Wide roof overhang is supported by large paired scrolled brackets. Rubble-stone chimneys. Now Brookfield Playhouse. (Photograph 13)
NC 185-187 Whisconier Rd. (69-48,49)	1958	Williams Park. Named in honor of Dr. Amos Williams, who came to Brookfield in 1833 to serve community's medical needs. Wooded area with picnic tables and tennis court.
NC	c.1960	Memorial list of those who served in World War II, in peaked wooden enframement.

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Address	Date	Description
C 186 Whisconier Rd. (69-24)	1883	1-story frame vernacular 21' x 24' gable-roofed cottage. Altered.
C	19C V	1½-story frame weathered gable-roofed barn sited up hill in rear.
C 188 Whisconier Rd. (69-23)	c. 1810 MH 1790 A	Bryant Smith House. 2-story frame vernacular central-chimney central-entrance house with wood-shingled siding. Fret molding under eaves. Altered.
C 8 Winding Rd. (87-7)	1915 A	1-story frame Colonial Revival 18' x 32' cottage. Porch has round posts. Shed-roofed dormer.
C 9 Winding Rd. (87-6)	1826	Lockwood House. (Beers map) 2-story frame Greek Revival 3-bay house. Elegant portico at right has fluted Doric columns with no bases. Unusual diagonal glazing of transom light is repeated in attic window in center of smooth boarding tympanum, which is also embellished by circle corner blocks. Porch of 1-story wing at west rear has same detailing as front porch. Windows are 6-over-6. Exterior of house appears to be unaltered. (Photograph 12)
C	19C V	2-story frame barn with vertical siding.

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Professor Frederick S. and Ida J. Curtis moved the Curtis School from Bethlehem to Brookfield Center in 1882, and to its long-term site at the location now occupied by the Brookfield Public Library, 182 Whisconier Road, in 1886. Buildings for the 30 pupils and five instructors included a dormitory, residence, schoolhouse, gymnasium, and caretaker's cottage on 50 acres. The boys attended the Congregational Church. Subsequent to the school's closing in the late 1930s, all buildings have disappeared except the gymnasium, 184 Whisconier Road (rear). (Photograph 13)

In 1900, when Professor H. W. Greene (1851-1924) of New York City bought 153 Whisconier Road (Photograph 4) as a summer home, his students followed him. The group soon evolved into the Brookfield Summer School of Singing, holding sessions each summer until Greene's death. The curriculum consisted of voice, opera, sight singing, elementary piano, and elements of music. In addition to Greene's home, seven other buildings in the neighborhood used for dormitory, dining hall, instruction, practice rooms, and reading rooms included the barn at 149 Whisconier Road, 150 Whisconier Road (Photograph 3), 152 Whisconier Road, and 155 Whisconier Road (Photograph 5). Operas were presented in the lower floor of Hill Crest Hall (Photograph 1) to an audience of 250. All of these Greene School of Music buildings are still standing.

More than a dozen buildings extant in the district relate to its educational history. Three are churches, two were town halls, and five are church-related residences. The presence of these buildings in the district demonstrates that historically the district was the center of the religious, educational, and political life of the Town of Brookfield.

#### Architecture

The Brookfield Center Historic District presents a good example of a wide range of architectural styles in a compact area. Most of the buildings are well preserved and, since the area is relatively free of intrusions, give a good sense of their historic relationship to one another and of the sequence of building and development in the district.

Among individual buildings of outstanding architectural significance there are several 18th-century houses. 150 Whisconier Road (Photograph 3) is different from the others because of its small longitudinal second-floor windows. The high roofs of 169 Whisconier Road (Photograph 8) and 6 Long Meadow Hill Road set them apart.

Nineteenth-century houses worthy of special mention are in both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The chaste simplicity and restraint in the Greek Revival design of 9 Winding Hill Road (Photograph 12) and the unusual glazing make it a classic of its type, while the imposing portico of 6 Long Meadow Hill Road (Photograph 15) is all the more of interest because it is an addition to an older house.

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In the Italianate style, three buildings are outstanding. St. Paul's School (Photograph 14) retains its original shape and mass (Figure 3). 172 Whisconier Road, little altered, displays the characteristic features of three bays, floor-to-ceiling-height 4-over-4 windows at the first floor, eyebrow windows in the frieze, and low hipped roof, while 164 Whisconier Road (Photograph 9) is of major interest because its Italianate features are executed in sufficient baroque extreme to qualify as the High Victorian Italianate, making the house, which is unique in the district, a major example of the style.

In the 20th century before 1940, building activity was slow; only three distinctive examples of the period were erected. They are the only three buildings in the district using stone as a material. The Curtis School Gymnasium (Photograph 13) with its rubble walls and bracketed roof overhang is the district's example of the Rustic style, while 149 Whisconier Road (Photograph 2), using stone at the first floor, is a well-designed Colonial Revival home, with typical fenestration. St. Paul's Church (Photograph 11) is a scholarly exercise in Gothic Revival studied after an English pattern, notable for the fact that the exterior and interior are cohesive and equally integral components of the whole. The fact that the edifice was constructed of material salvaged from stone walls in the neighboring fields adds to the church's relevance to the community.

<sup>1</sup> Other smaller and less permanent efforts at pedagogy in the district, identified by dates and teachers, included the following:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1792    | The town paid a singing master to conduct a singing school for four months.                             |
| 1840    | Edward Robbins conducted a school for ten years.  |
| 1852-53 | Ellen Williams  |
| 1853-55 | Julia Williams  |
| 1868-78 | Mrs. C.V.B. Booraem conducted a Select School at 177 Whisconier Road.                                   |
| 1779-81 | Emily C. Hawley   |
| 1889-99 | Wilhelmine Skidmore   |
| 1895-   |   |
| 1902    | Bible Institute, in the John N. Hawley House. Six students went out from this school to foreign fields. |
| 1907-18 | Madame Anna E. Ziegler, of New York, conducted a singing school.  |

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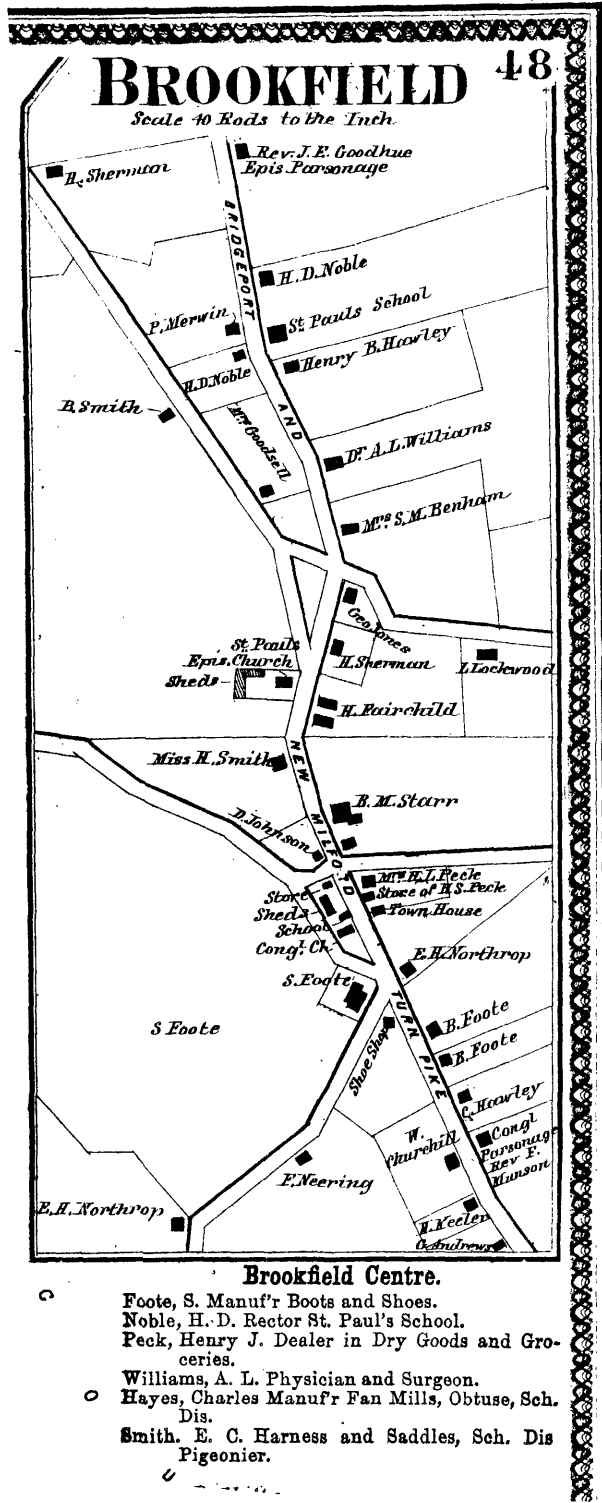
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## Boundary Justification

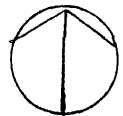
The boundary is drawn to include in the district those buildings which historically make up the religious, educational, political, and residential center of the Town of Brookfield. On the south the district terminates at the top of a rise, a visual end to the district. At the north, east, and west the district terminates when the character of the buildings changes, usually to other uses or to modern construction.

The district encompasses the same buildings as those in the local historic district, with the exception that three houses less than 50 years old on the north side of Winding Road are omitted in this documentation. Also omitted are parcels 86-42 and 43 (formerly 86-3), which are now part of the Aramon Circle development, and parcel 86-8/68-26, which is a property fronting on Junction Road. In general, the intent is the same, but whereas the local historic district boundary usually runs approximately 200' from the street, the tendency in this documentation is to use property lines where feasible, while drawing arbitrary lines as necessary to exclude back acreage of large parcels.





Atlas of New York and Vicinity  
(New York: F.W. Beers, 1867),  
Plate 48, portion.



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Figure 2



ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL, BROOKFIELD, CONN.

From cover page of flier,  
St. Paul's School, Brook-  
field, Connecticut, 1865

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Figure 3

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Photographs were taken by David F. Ransom in November 1990. Negatives are on file at the Connecticut Historical Commission.

Photograph 1  
"Hill Crest Hall"  
145 Whisconier Road  
View northeast

Photograph 2  
149 Whisconier Road  
View northeast

Photograph 3  
"Appleyard"  
150 Whisconier Road  
View west

Photograph 4  
Parsonage  
153 Whisconier Road  
View east

Photograph 5  
Charles Hawley House  
155 Whisconier Road  
View northeast

Photograph 6  
St. Joseph's Rectory  
159 Whisconier Road  
View northeast

Photograph 7  
Congregational Church,  
Center School, Town House  
View northwest

Photograph 8  
Daniel Jackson House,  
Henry L. Peck House,  
Town House  
View northeast

Photograph 9  
Judge Benjamin Griffin Mansion  
164 Whisconier Road  
South side elevation  
View northeast

Photograph 10  
Village Store and  
168 Whisconier Road  
View northwest

Photograph 11  
St. Paul's Church  
174 Whisconier Road  
View northwest

Photograph 12  
Lockwood House  
9 Winding Road  
View southeast

Photograph 13  
Curtis School Gymnasium  
184 Whisconier Road (rear)  
View northwest

Photograph 14  
St. Paul's School  
3 Long Meadow Hill Road  
View northeast

Photograph 15  
"Shadow Oak"  
6 Long Meadow Hill Road  
View west

Photograph 16  
St. Paul's Rectory  
9 Long Meadow Hill Road  
View east