

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 16 1987

date entered

FEB 12 1987

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

1. Name

historic NA

and or common South Britain Historic District

2. Location

street & number East Flat Hill, Hawkins, Library and Middle Roads,
497-864 South Britain Road NA not for publication

city, town Southbury vicinity of South Britain

state CT code 09 county New Haven code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name See continuation sheet.

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Southbury Land Records, Town Hall

street & number 501 Main Street South

city, town Southbury state CT

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title See continuation sheet. has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date possibly 19 East Flat Hill after 1868
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Overview

The South Britain Historic District is located in the geographic center of the Town of Southbury on Route 172, which is South Britain Road. The district extends from the highway bridge over the Pomperaug River and dam northerly more than half a mile to the cemetery. It encompasses dam and mill sites, 18th- and 19th-century homes, churches, library, town hall, schools, stores, post office, and the cemetery, which together make up the village center of South Britain. In addition to properties fronting on South Britain Road, the district includes adjacent properties on East Flat Hill Road, Hawkins Road, Library Road, and Middle Road.

Statistical Profile

The South Britain Historic District encompasses approximately 70 acres, divided over 48 parcels, six of which are vacant lots. There are 48 major buildings, two sites, and two structures. Of the 48 major buildings, 11 are considered not to contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the district. The two sites are the cemetery and the location of a former woolen mill. The structures are the bridge and the dam. The 36 major contributing buildings break down in age and styles as follows:

8	18th century
27	19th century
1	20th century
7	Colonial Era
3	Georgian
2	Federal
10	Greek Revival
3	Italianate
2	Queen Anne
1	Colonial Revival/Shingle Style
8	vernacular

Boundary Justification

The section of South Britain Road from the bridge to the cemetery is traditionally considered to be the community center of South Britain. The district boundary respects the tradition. 497 South Britain Road, below the bridge, and 833 and 842 South Britain Road, above the cemetery, are included because they are historic structures that are visually and physically part of the community center and belong in the district for that reason. South of the boundary are open spaces and non-historic structures, while north of the district boundary are several houses less than 50 years old. To the west the Pomperaug River, lying at the foot of a hill, is the boundary to East Flat Hill Road. Above East Flat Hill Road the western line of 709, 715, 755, 759 South Britain Road parcel is the the boundary. This is a large parcel of open land, but much of it in mid-19th century was occupied by the

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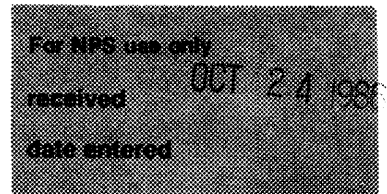
Continuation sheet

Property Owners **Item number**

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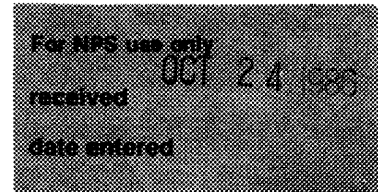
2



<u>Street Address</u> <u>Identification on tax map</u>	<u>Name of owner(s)</u> <u>Owner's mailing address if</u> <u>different from property address</u>
545 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 25	Derby, David R. & Kathryn E. Box 33, South Britain, CT 06487
547 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 24	LeRoy, Michael C. & Cynthia P.
556 South Britain Road map 24, block 79, parcel 10	Hoyt, Margaret K., est. of, c/o John W. Hoyt RFD1, Southbury, CT 06488
573 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 23	Southbury Volunteer Firemen's Association
576 South Britain Road map 23, block 79, parcel 5	Town of Southbury 501 Main St., Southbury, CT 06488
583 (aka 595) South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 22	Pierce, Agnes B. & Myron G. Box 74, South Britain, CT 06487
584-586, 598-600, 606 South Britain Road 23-25 Middle Road map 23, block 79, parcel 4	Kroha, Charles E. & Dorothy H. 4 Governor's Ave., Bethel, CT 06481
593-595 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 21	Raggeman, Edward T. & Margaret
605 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 20	Sullivan, Joan O'Shea
614 South Britain Road map 23, block 79, parcel 3	Schuler, Jill L. & Spada, Teresa E.
617 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 19	Bette, William A. Route 172, South Britain, CT 06487
624 South Britain Road map 23, block 79, parcel 2	Town of Southbury 501 Main St., Southbury, CT 06488

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Street Address
Identification on tax map

Name of owner(s)
Owner's mailing address if
different from property address

7 East Flat Hill Road
map 18, block 92, parcel 12

South Britain Congregational Church
Box 64, South Britain, CT 06487

19 East Flat Hill Road
map 18, block 92, parcel 11

Ulman, Arthur E. & Dorothy E.
Spruce Brook Road, Southbury, CT 06488

32 East Flat Hill Road
map 17, block 84, parcel 9

Tucker, Robert J.
5211 N. 26th St., Arlington, VA 22237

18 Hawkins Road
map 18, block 92, parcel 15

Delvecchio, Adrienne R.

24 Hawkins Road
map 18, block 92, parcel 16

Berbric Realty Corp.
Box 8, South Britain, CT 06487

17 Library Road
map 23, block 79, parcel 8

Davis, Edward T., IV
Box 23, South Britain, CT 06487

91 Library Road
map 23, block 79, parcel 7

Leonard, Daniel P.

115 Library Road
64 Middle Road
map 23, block 79, parcel 6

Schielke, Gordon T.
Box 24, South Britain, CT 06487

14 Middle Road
map 23, block 79, parcel 9

Tarbox, Wayne W. & Vivian P.
Box 31, South Britain, CT 06487

497 South Britain Road
map 18, block 92, parcel 28

Noyes, Oshea Gertrude
Box 147, South Britain, CT 06487

--- South Britain Road
Bridge

State of Connecticut
24 Wolcott Hill Rd., Wethersfield, CT
06109

523 South Britain Road
map 18, block 12, parcel 26

Jones, Grace D.
20 Diving St., Stonington, CT 06378

524 South Britain Road
map 24, block 79, parcel 12

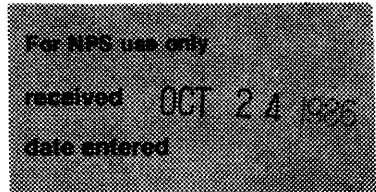
Falcone, Frederick & Fay H.
Box 592, South Britain, CT 06487

542 South Britain Road
map 24, block 79, parcel 11

Fowler, Lloyd, est of, c/o
Catherine E. McCarthy
Box 76, South Britain, CT 06487

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Continuation sheet Property Owners Item number 4 Page 3

Street Address Identification on tax map	Name of owner(s) Owner's mailing address if different from property address
625-629 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 18	Tappe, Edward A. and Beulah H. Box 92, South Britain, CT 06487
636 South Britain Road map 23, block 79, parcel 1	Thomson, John L. & Melissa P.
639 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 17	South Britain Congregational Church Box 64, South Britain, CT 06487
657 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 14	Taubman, John H. & Helen H.
662 South Britain Road map 23, block 78, parcel 18	Perry, Richard C. & Mary C. Box 128, South Britain, CT 06497
667 South Britain Road map 18, block 92, parcel 13	Scheessele, Anthony R. 455 Grassy Hill Rd., Waterbury, CT 06798
680 South Britain Road map 23, block 78, parcel 19	South Britain Congregational Church Box 104, South Britain, CT 06487
693 South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 8	South Britain Congregational Church Box 64, South Britain, CT 06487
698 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 20	McCarthy, Catherine L. Box 76, South Britain, CT 06487
709, 715, 755, 759 South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 4	Cassidy, Evangeline H. Box 45, South Britain, CT 06487
712 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 21	Koons, Walter E. jr. Box 112, South Britain, CT 06487
721 South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 7	Warde, George L. & Kang Jin
--- South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 6	State of Connecticut 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106
--- South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 22A	Bailey, Christal

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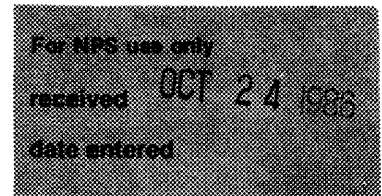
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Street Address Identification on tax map	Name of owner(s) Owner's mailing address if different from property address
731 South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 5	Cassidy, Evangeline H. Box 45, South Britain, CT 06487
740 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 22	Cassidy, Evangeline H. Box 45, South Britain, CT 06487
756 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 23	Cassidy, Evangeline H. Box 45, South Britain, CT 06487
794 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 24	Gmuer, Joseph Box 36, Southbury, CT 06488
804 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 25	Gmuer, F. W. & J. M. Box 36, Southbury, CT 06488
813 South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 3	South Britain Cemetery c/o Mrs. Henry Bassett Gilbert Road, Southbury, CT 06488
864 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 27	Heritage Court Heritage Village, Southbury, CT 06488
833 South Britain Road map 17, block 84, parcel 19	Vittorni, Frank & Elaine Pardee
842 South Britain Road map 17, block 78, parcel 26	Leheny, Vincent J. & Arlyne

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State Register of Historic Places

No

1976

State

Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street
Hartford,

CT

524, 545-547, 583, 584-586,
605, 614, 636, 693, 715
South Britain Road
WPA Census of Old Buildings

No

1930s

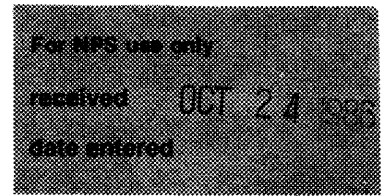
State

Connecticut State Library
231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford

CT

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South Britain Water Power Company reservoir, making it an integral part of the district's history.

On the east the boundary turns east at Library Road to encompass houses on the west side of Library Road that are part of the district cluster. On the east side of Library Road there are one house less than 50 years old and several vacant lots. Therefore the east side of Library Road is not included in the district. Further north on the east side of South Britain Road are two large vacant lots, included for visual continuity. (Photograph 21) Only that portion of 864 South Britain Road, a large parcel, that is needed for continuity is included.

The Buildings

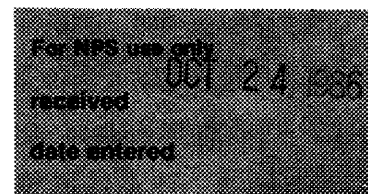
A community was established at South Britain because of the water power. The dam is located just above the southern boundary, near the bridge. (Photograph 1) Mills were located on both sides of the river. Remnants of a sawmill and shingle mill exist at 523 South Britain Road. More extensive stone foundations and stone walls of a former woolen mill are across the river on the parcel of 497 South Britain Road. The South Britain Water Power Company carried water from the river by trench or canal northerly to its 40-acre reservoir north of East Flat Hill Road. (See 1868 map.) The canal, dry, is clearly visible to the west of 32 East Flat Hill Road. The Water Power Company sold the water privileges for establishment of the mill at 24 Hawkins Road, although the present 19th-century building (Photograph 13) still in use as a factory is not the original.

Families associated with the mills lived in houses along South Britain Road. The oldest house is probably 584-586 South Britain Road. (Photograph 5) Its gambrel roof and 5-bay west elevation still retain their original appearance, but much about the house has been changed. 524 South Britain Road is an example of a twin-chimney, central-hall house in the Georgian style with Adamesque detail in its portico and cornice. (Photograph 2) 545-547 South Britain Road, across the street, has similar portico and cornice and is further distinguished by being an early example of a double house, unexpected in this semi-rural location. (Photograph 3)

The second quarter of the 19th century was the period of greatest mill productivity and therefore greatest domestic construction. Houses in the Greek Revival style, popular at that time, outnumber those in other styles. Two of the Greek Revival houses are constructed of brick: 657 South Britain Road is nicely detailed, with granite dressing, while 24 Hawkins Road, then and now on the same parcel as the facotry, has a Neo-Classical Revival porch, probably added. (Photograph 12) Earlier traditional houses received Greek Revival style alterations during these years. The

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Congregational Parsonage at 639 South Britain Road is a case in point. It is a central-chimney 18th-century house, but its doorway is flanked by pilasters, there is a frieze at its roof line, and its gable ends are treated as pediments.

The Federal and Greek Revival styles are represented by churches at the intersection of East Flat Hill Road. The Congregational Church has the three front doors, 2-story fluted pilasters and Gibbsian tower associated in Connecticut with the work of David Hoadley, and is patterned after his design. (Photograph 15) The Methodist church across the street is an austere example of the Greek Revival style, now delapidated. (Photographs 15 & 18)

The Italianate style of the Civil War era found expression in the 1873 Town Hall at 624 South Britain Road, now altered (Photograph 10), and in the houses at 709 and 842 South Britain Road. 709 and 842 South Britain Road are different, the first having arched windows and gabled roof, (Photograph 17) the second having tall paired rectangular windows and flat roof (Photograph 23), but both are good examples of their types.

715 South Britain Road is a Colonial Era house with five bays, central chimney, central entrance, clapboards and small-pane windows. (Photograph 17) From its exterior appearance, now delapidated, and from reports of its interior condition, it appears that this house has the greatest integrity of any 18th-century house in the district.

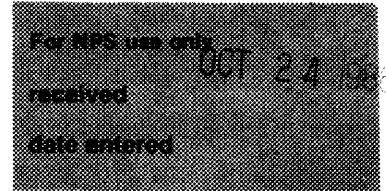
Two other styles, the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival, are represented in reverse time sequence. The Queen Anne, the older style, is seen in the newer building, the store of 1907 at 667 South Britain Road (Photograph 14), while the Colonial Revival, with the Rustic feature of high cobblestone foundations, is found in the South Britain Library of 1900, with influence of Shingle Style, at 576 South Britain Road. (Photograph 5)

Families important in the history of South Britain are buried in the cemetery, which dates from early in the 19th century. The names Bradley, Mitchell, Canfield, and others, are found carved on stone of schist, marble, brownstone, and granite. One monument is Britannia metal, made by the Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport. (Photograph 22) The burying ground occupies a pleasant site, above the highway. (Photograph 21)

Most of the non-contributing buildings clearly belong in that category because they are less than 50 years old or have been severely and insensitively altered. 23-25 Middle Road is an example of the latter, being an old blacksmith shop and hall but altered beyond recognition. Two or three buildings, however, are marginal, especially 593-595 South Britain

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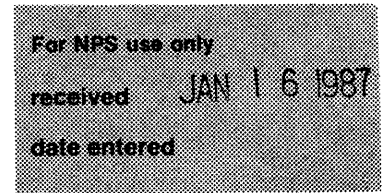
Road. This building may be a Greek Revival store, but with present portico, siding, and external stairway has been classified as non-contributing. (Photograph 7)

Buildings for all community functions are included in the district: factory, houses, schools, churches, town hall, and stores. Generally of frame construction, they portray the architectural styles in vogue during the years of South Britain's development from the time of settlement to the time of the Civil War.

Inventory of the district follows.

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Inventory

Dates taken from the Assessor's records are indicated by suffix A. Dates estimated by visual approximation are indicated by suffix V. When date from other source is used, the source is indicated.

The designation C or NC before the description indicates whether the property is considered to contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the district, or is non-contributing.

The name given to the structure is taken from the 1868 Beers Atlas map, unless otherwise indicated.

<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
East Flat Hill Road		
7	1880A 1850V	C F. Mitchell House. Vernacular 1-story, 17x27' 3-bay house covered with clapboards. Wide gable roof. Entrance in left bay is protected by shed-roofed portico on round columns. Glazed front door has sidelights. Now, with additions, the Congregational Church Parish House.
19	1850A	C Greek Revival 1-story gable-roofed 26x28' house covered with vertical matched boards on brownstone ashlar foundations. Door is surmounted by plain pilasters and plain frieze under flat cap. Added exterior chimney to right of door and window. Formerly the South Britain School, possibly moved from the location at intersection shown on 1868 map.
32	1750A	C Vernacular 1-story gable-roofed 38x26' house covered with clapboards, built into the side of a bank. On the street elevation basement level is at grade. It has a Greek Revival doorway at left and two 8-over-8 windows at right. Above, at the first floor, are two 12-over-8s. Toll house.
	1750A	Shed

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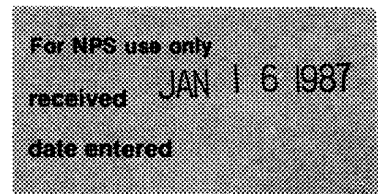
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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Hawkins Road		
18	1800A	C Vernacular 1-story gable-roofed 25x22', 4-bay house covered with clapboards. Entrance in second bay from the right. Windows are 6-over-6. Shed dormer. Exterior chimney on left side elevation. Not on 1868 map. 20x30' rear addition.
	1930A	Barn
24	1850A	C Mrs. B. Chatfield House. Greek Revival 2-story gable-roofed 31x57' brick 3-bay house. Entrance in right bay has side lights and transom lights. The two windows are 2-over-2. Wide, possibly Colonial Revival, front porch wraps around to the right. The rear wall of the house is frame, covered with clapboards. Roof is covered with metal shingles.
24 rear	c. 1866 (Sharpe)	C Bradley, Hoyt & Co. Vernacular 4-story frame gable-roofed factory. Brick 1-story shed-roofed section on the east. The 4-story section has 12-over-12 windows and a square roof monitor. A 2-story section, from the turn of the century, has 2-story porches on its east and west elevations, with turned posts and spindle railings. Fenestration has been altered, but there is a diamond-shaped window in the attic gable. A 2-story section to the south dates from early 20th century. Overall dimensions 75 x 300'. There is a free-standing ell-shaped 2-story frame warehouse to the west. Yard with sheds. 8 acres. Canal system destroyed by 1955 flood. (Photo 13)
Library Road		
17	1780V	C D. Noble House. Vernacular, 1-story, gable-roofed 34 x 24' house covered with clapboards, on sloping site. Part of the basement is at grade. Some 12-over-12 windows, but fenestration has been altered. Small central chimney. Roof covered with wooden shingles. Alterations and additions. Some aluminum siding. (Photograph 6)

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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Library Road (cont.)		
	1900A	Barn with two attached sheds.
91	1880A 1850V	C Calvin Lines House. Greek Revival 2-story gable-roofed 39x72' 3-bay house covered with clapboards. Door in right bay has double elliptical glazing. Windows are 6-over-1. The gable end pediment has recessed tympanum with central rectangular window. Extensive Colonial Revival alterations. (Photograph 8)
115	1880A	C Vernacular 2-story gable-roofed 36x20' house covered with clapboards, with 24x30' 1-story wing. Central doorway.
(64 Middle Road)	1850A	Garage with apartment above.
Middle Road		
14	1800A	C G. Smith House. Colonial Era 2-story gable-roofed 35x24' 4-bay house covered with clapboards, facing south, perpendicular to the road. Windows are 12-over-12.
	1900A	Barn with vertical siding.
	1950A	Garage
	1800A	Garage
23-25	1760A	NC Vernacular 1-story gable-roofed 24x61' structure with aluminum siding. Modern shed-roofed porch. 12-over-12 windows. Former hall and blacksmith shop, but historic character of building is no longer apparent.
South Britain Road		
497	1802A	C B.C. Bradley House. Colonial Era 2-story 36x28' gable-roofed 5-bay central-entrance house covered with clapboards on front elevation, with shingles on side elevations.
	1802A	Cottage

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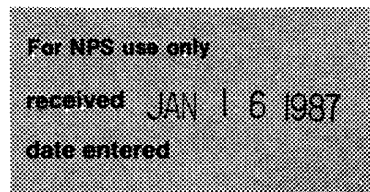
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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
South Britain Road (cont.)		
	c. 1802A	Cottage
	1802A	Shed
		Garage
		The parcel is 10.7 acres. It abuts the Pomperaug River at the dam. Northwest of the house the land rises steeply. In this area there are stone foundation walls of at least one former building.
---	1939 incised in concrete	NC Steel-span bridge with concrete roadway.
523	c. 1800A	C Mill House. (There was a shingle mill behind the house at the edge of the river.) Traditional 1-story 30x22' gable-roofed 5-bay central-entrance house.
524	1800A	C Miss H. E. & S. E. Canfield House. Georgian 2-story 38x38' gable-roofed 5-bay central entrance house covered with clapboards. Twin chimneys are located in from the end walls.
	1967A	Garage
542		Vacant lot. Foundations of large blocks of stone remain from a former building.
545-547	1752A	C M. M. Canfield/C. Muirhill House. Georgian 2-story 42x32' gable-roofed 5-bay central-entrance double house covered with aluminum siding to resemble clapboards, on stone ashlar foundations. Twin chimneys are located in from the end walls. Windows are 12-over-12. Roof is covered with metal shingles. Built by Zephania Clark.
		Garage

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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
South Britain Road (cont.)		
556	1800A	NC M. Canfield House. Vernacular 2-story 18x40' gable-roofed house covered with asbestos siding. Windows are 1-over-1 and 2-over-2. Door is off center. Metal awnings. (Photograph 4)
	1940A	Garage
573	1950A	NC South Britain Fire House. 1-story 24x36' building of concrete blocks covered with weather boards.
576	1900V	C South Britain Public Library. Shingle Style central-entrance 1-story 20x30' hipped-roof building covered with wooden shingles. The cobblestone foundations have large round openings.
583	1810V	C C. B. Smith House. Federal 2-story 30x32' gable-roofed 3-bay house, covered with clapboards. Windows are 6-over-6, with flat caps. The doorway has leaded side lights and fan-light and a Victorian-era shed-roofed hood that is supported by jig sawn brackets with drop finials. Barn.
584-586	1739A	C H. Curtis House. Colonial Era 1-story gambrel-roof 34x28' central-chimney house covered with clapboards. Middle Road elevation has three 12-over-12 windows and two modern doors. South Britain Road elevation has five bays with central door.
593-595	1850V	C The structure may be the S. L. Tuttle store shown on the 1868 map. It has post-and-beam construction. Vernacular 2-story 24x47' gable-roofed 3-bay building with 24x27' extension to the rear, covered with aluminum siding to resemble clapboards.

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South Britain Historic District, Southbury, CT
Continuation sheet Description Item number 7

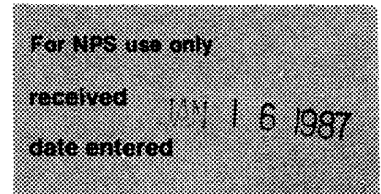
Page 9

<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
South Britain Road (cont.)		
598-600	1928A	NC Was the site of a shop on the 1868 map. Later Cassidy's Meat Market. Present 1-story frame gable-roofed 40x46' building houses two stores, one of which also serves as the Post Office. Without significant architectural features. Aluminum siding. Concrete foundations. (Photograph 9.)
605	1835V	C George Smith House. Greek Revival 2-story 28x46' gable-roofed 3-bay house covered with clapboards.
	1950A	Cabin
	1940A	Garage
606	1800A	NC 2-story gable-roofed 22x46' 2-bay house covered with aluminum siding. Enclosed front porch. Rectangular attic window.
614	1800A	NC Former Colonial Revival or perhaps older 2-story 38x44' gable-roofed house. Modern architecture addition on the right has enclosed second-floor deck. Portico altered. Windows in several glazing patterns.
	1955A	Shed
617	1950A	NC Assembly of God Church. Vernacular 1-story frame 24x52' gable-roofed structure, covered with clapboards.
624	1873 Curator	C Old Town Hall. Vernacular 2-story 24x47' gable-roofed 2-bay structure, covered with clapboards. In the central recessed entranceway the double door has panels formed by raised moldings. Over the doorway is a pedimented hood supported by small paired jig-sawn brackets. Now a museum.
		Shed

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Description

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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
625-629	1850V	C I. Bradley House. Vernacular 2-story 24x28' gable-roofed 3-bay house covered with clapboards on ashlar stone foundations. Granite porch step and floor.
636	1789A 1835V	C Post Office. Anson Bray House. Greek Revival 2-story 23x26' gable-roofed 3-bay structure with recessed 22x22' wing at left that is older. Cornices return. Wooden shingles on roof. (Photograph 11) Garage.
639	1785A	C Congregational Church Parsonage. Colonial Era, with Greek Revival alterations, 2-story 34x28' gable-roofed 5-bay central-chimney central-entrance house covered with clapboards, on brownstone ashlar foundations Windows are 12-over-12.
	1880A	Garage
657	1770A	C Mrs. S. Curtiss House. Greek Revival 2-story 26 x 28' gable-roofed 3-bay brick house. Windows are 12-over-12, with granite lintels and sills. The attic window is framed in granite on four sides. Fluted Ionic columns support a shed-roofed portico. Rear service buildings are attached to the house. First library housed here.
662	1760 owner	C Methodist Parsonage. Traditional 2-story gable-roofed 13x28' 3-bay, central-chimney central-entrance house covered with clapboards, on brownstone ashlar foundations. Greek Revival doorway.
	1780A	2-story barn with vertical siding and sliding doors.
	1780A	Shed

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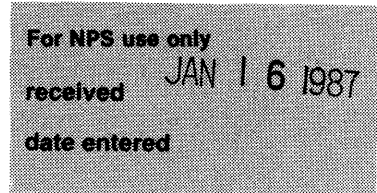
<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
667	1905A	C C. Lines Store. Queen Anne 2-story 56x42' gable-roofed commercial building covered with clapboards and imbricated shingles. 2-story porch seven feet wide runs across front and wraps around right side. Porch has spindle railing and turned posts. Replaces earlier structure destroyed by fire. Second floor is apartments with 2-over-2 windows. Above the porch paired gables are joined by a segmental roof section. Vacant lot.
683	1825 Kelly	C Congregational Church. Winton and Hall, joiners. Federal 40 x 61' gable-roofed structure covered with clapboards on gneiss ashlar foundations. The front has pavilion, tower and spire. The pavilion's three paneled front doors are under pediments supported by fluted consoles. The central pediment is curvilinear while the flanking pediments are triangular. They are 1869 alterations that replaced semi-circular fanlights. At second floor level, over the doors, are three 6-over-6 windows. Interior from 1869 with the exceptions of the ceiling which is earlier and the Gothic window which is later. (Photograph 16)
698	1832 Owner	C Methodist Church. Greek Revival 30x50' gable-roofed structure covered with clapboards on sides and rear, matched boards on front, on gneiss ashlar foundations. The front elevation has four plain pilasters. The entire design is modest, restrained, and well proportioned. Physical conditions is severely deteriorated.
	1800A	C Academy. Greek Revival structure with Italianate alterations. 2-story, 29x39' gable-roofed house, covered with clapboards. Front elevation has central door flanked by 6-over-6 windows. The owner believes that a school was conducted here from c. 1829 to c. 1856, about the time that public schools were started locally. Greek Revival privy. (Photograph 19)

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South Britain Historic District, Southbury, CT

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 12



<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
	1800A	Barn, mortise-and-tenon construction.
709	1850A 1870V	C Italianate 2-story gable-roofed 34x44' house covered with clapboards, built in T-shaped plan. Not on 1868 map.
	1850A	C 17x18' cottage, in rear, not visible from the street. Vernacular 2-story gable-roofed, covered with wooden shingles.
712	1795A	C Dr. Baldwin House. Georgian 2-story 38x59' gable-roofed, 5-bay, twin-chimney, central-entrance house covered with shingles, on stone foundations. Picket fence. Early in 19th century served as Miss Pierce's Academy for Fashionable Young Ladies, which later moved to Litchfield. Dr. Baldwin was South Britain's first physician. Shingles cover earlier clapboards which are still in place.
715	1780A	C S. Johnson & Miss N. Mitchell House. Colonial Era 2-story 36x30' gable-roofed 5-bay central-chimney central-doorway salt-box covered with clapboards, on stone foundations. Roof is covered with wooden shingles. The double door has a 6-pane transom. First-floor windows are 12-over-12. WPA Census of Old Buildings form records this structure as the Dunham House, built prior to 1735, and points out that the salt-box is integral, not added. The chimney is stone except for the brick top section. The interior at that time had some 19th-century alterations but the front stairway had closed string with square balusters on the diagonal, flared corner posts, a completely paneled fireplace wall, and one summer beam, cased. Stencilling on walls. From 1807-1822 was the home of Rev. Bennett Tyler who left to become president of Dartmouth College.
721	1870A	C Italianate 2-story gable-roofed 3-bay house 24x26' with 26x22' rear addition, covered with clapboards, on brownstone foundations.
	1870A	Barn.

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Continuation sheet

Description

Item number 7

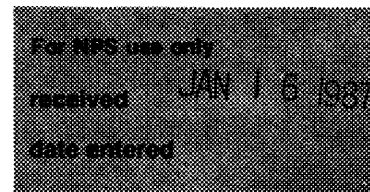
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<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
---		.02 acre. Drainage ditch, possibly related to former South Britain Water Power reservoir.
726	1986A	NC "Log Cabin" house.
731	1800A	C Queen Anne 2-story gable-roofed 20x36' 2-bay with central doorway. Windows are 12-over-12 with wooden drip molds the height of the upper sash. Scalloped barge boards have a finial on each cusp. 3-pane attic window. Deteriorated. (Photograph 20)
	1940A	Shed, 20x36'
740		Vacant lot. 8 acres.
755	1940A	NC 2-story concrete block structure.
756	1835V	C George Canfield House. Greek Revival 2-story gable-roofed 30x40' 3-bay house covered with clapboards, on stone foundations and with stone steps. George Canfield's harness and saddling shop was located near the street south of the house.
	1900A	Barn and shed.
759	1940A	NC Vernacular 1-story 2-bay gable-roofed 30x24' cottage with 2-over-2 windows, covered with clapboards.
794		Vacant lot.
804	1950A	NC 2½-story frame 48x24' house faced with brick.
813		C South Britain Cemetery. Front retaining wall of granite blocks. Monuments in schist, brownstone, granite, and marble dating from second decade of 19th century. One monument of Britannia metal made by Monumental Bronze Co., Bridgeport. Monuments are carved with names significant in South Britain history, including Bradley, Mitchell, and Canfield. 2 acres.

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South Britain Historic District, Southbury, CT

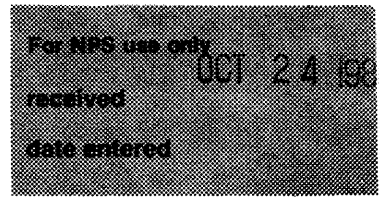


Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 14

<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
864		Vacant land. Portion of 48-acre parcel.
833	1870A	C Greek Revival 1½-story gable-roofed 24x24' 2-bay house with central entrance, covered with dark brown shingles.
	1976A	Garage
842	1804A 1870V	C O. Mitchell House. Italianate 2-story flat or low hipped-roof 2-bay T-shaped 28x88' house covered with asbestos shingles, on brick foundations
	1920A	Shed.
	1930A	Shed, barn

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South Britain Historic District, Southbury, CT

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Description

Item number

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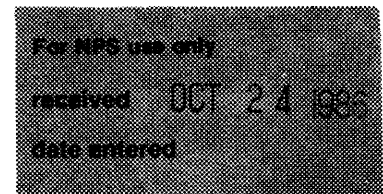
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Total number of contributing and non-contributing resources by resource type:

	<u>Contributing</u>		<u>Non-Contributing</u>	
Structures	1		1	
Sites	2			
Buildings:				
Houses	25		6	
Barns	9			
Garages	1		10	
Warehouse	1			
Churches	2			
Town Hall	1			
School	1			
Shops/hall			5	
Library	1			
Store	1			
Privy	1			
	—		—	
Total	46	+	22	= 68

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South Britain Historic District, Southbury, CT

Continuation sheet

Significance

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1

1766 in the home of Moses Downs, 662 South Britain Road, which later was to become the Methodist parsonage.

As South Britain developed in the 18th century, it came to rival Southbury center in importance. The location of the annual Town Meeting alternated between the two. At the end of the Civil War, South Britain had the strength and influence to have the new Southbury Town Hall of 1873 constructed at 624 South Britain Road, just at the time the district's period of industrial decline set in. The seat of Southbury town government continued at this location in South Britain until 1964.

Architecture - Criterion C

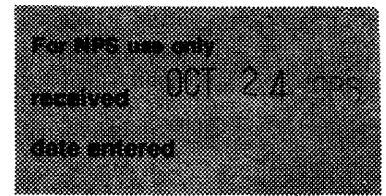
The district is composed of good examples of American architectural styles from the time of settlement to after the Civil War. While the individual buildings have been altered over time, most of them retain their essential stylistic characteristics and, equally important, continue in their original relationship to one another. There are few intrusions. The relative integrity of the district as a whole is a chief factor in its significance.

The earliest traditional style, based on the central chimney, is well represented by 584-586 South Britain Road and 17 Library Road, both altered but both still clearly exhibiting their early origins. The next style, called Georgian and based on the twin-chimney and central-hall plan, is found at 524 and 545-547 South Britain Road. Their classical revival details such as triangular porch pediments and dentil courses under the eaves marked the beginning of elaboration on what had been plain structures. The elaboration was carried forward in the Federal style at 583 South Britain Road with its characteristic leaded side lights and fanlight. The Congregational Church is an example not only of a fully developed Federal-style design, but also of later alterations in a different style, a not unusual development in the history of South Britain buildings. At the church alterations were made in the Renaissance Revival mode fashionable later in the 19th century, specifically by the replacement of fanlights with curvilinear and triangular pediments over the three front doors.

The style most used in South Britain was the Greek Revival style because its period of popularity, the second quarter of the 19th century, coincided with South Britain's most active period of development. The two brick houses at 657 South Britain Road and 24 Hawkins Road are somewhat unusual for the Greek Revival style because they use that material, and they are the only two masonry structures in the district. Several older houses were fitted with the Greek Revival details of pilasters flanking the doorway and gable ends made to work as pediments.

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Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

The Methodist Church at 696 South Britain Road is unusual because it has not been altered and because it is a fine example of the Greek Revival style. The front elevation of the church is disciplined, restrained, chaste in its simplicity and classic proportions.

The two Italianate houses at 709 and 842 South Britain Road were built in the same final years of development that brought construction of the Town Hall. These are significant because they are the last structures of the continuous period of development in the district from the time of settlement to the time of declining industrial strength.

Two buildings date from after the period of development. Both have good integrity. The Library at 576 South Britain Road appears to be unchanged. Its cobblestone foundations, shingled siding, windows, and hipped roof with broad overhang all appear to be original in a combination of the Rustic and Colonial Revival styles. At the 667 South Britain Road commercial building the store fronts may not be original, but its distinctive 2-story porch and idiosyncratic roof line clearly identify it with the Queen Anne style.

Collectively, the 36 major contributing buildings of the South Britain Historic District give a clear record of the development of the community. Individually they are good examples of the pertinent architectural styles, working together to record and demonstrate through architecture the 18th- and 19th-century development of South Britain.

1.

No explanation has come to hand of why the name South Britain was chosen.

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Continuation sheet

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8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
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		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates See Item 7

Builder/Architect See Item 7

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary

The 18th- and 19th-century structures of the South Britain Historic District are good examples of the architectural styles in vogue during the district's period of development. The comprehensive variety of building types gives an unusually complete sense of the district's historic integrity. The history of the water power-dependent community can be clearly read from its architecture. (Criterion C - Architecture)

Historical Note

The district was settled early in the 18th century. Gristmill, sawmill, and fulling mill to serve the surrounding agricultural community were in existence near the dam prior to the Revolutionary War. Simeon Mitchell became a mill owner in 1798 and his son-in-law, Burton Canfield, built a 3-story mill for making carpet yarns for the weavers in New Haven, which operated until 1845. This enterprise was located at or near 523 South Britain Road, later becoming the site of the shingle mill shown on the 1868 map.

Other early industry included a tannery, shoe shops, and comb shops. The Curtiss Woolen Mill employed 50 people, while Benjamin Curtiss manufactured German silver into thimbles, spoons, spectacle frames and closures for overalls. The Hawkins shop also processed metal.

The Curtiss Woolen Mill was located across the river on the 497 South Britain Road parcel. It was succeeded by the Bradley satinnet factory, which operated profitably during the Civil War, then burned down. In 1866 Bradley, Hoyt & Co. built the mill that still stands, much enlarged, at 24 Hawkins Road.

The South Britain Water Power Company went forward with its ambitious scheme to develop capacity of 300 horsepower, starting in 1853. By that time the increasing advantages of steam power and the increasing dependency of industry on railroads, which did not come to the district, boded ill for the success of the Water Power Company. Its facilities never were used. The period of development and growth for the district had come to an end.

South Britain¹ as an entity had its beginnings in 1761 when four months of "winter preaching" was granted on the grounds that travel to the Southbury church was a hardship. When this permission expired in 1765, it was followed by a successful petition to the General Assembly for a separate South Britain parish or ecclesiastical society. Its first meeting was held in

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 70

Quadrangle name Southbury, Newtown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References See continuation sheet.

A	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
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B	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
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C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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E	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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F	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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G	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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H	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

The district boundary is shown by the dotted line on the map drawn to scale of 1" = 200'. For boundary justification, see Item 7.

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

state	<u>NA</u>	code	<u>NA</u>	county	<u>NA</u>	code	<u>NA</u>
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state	<u>NA</u>	code	<u>NA</u>	county	<u>NA</u>	code	<u>NA</u>
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>David F. Ransom/Consultant,</u>	edited by	<u>John Herzan,</u>
			<u>National Register Coordinator</u>

organization	<u>Connecticut Historical Comm.</u>	date	<u>May 6, 1986</u>
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street & number	<u>59 South Prospect Street</u>	telephone	<u>203 566-3005</u>
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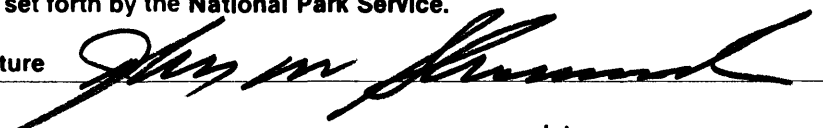
city or town	<u>Hartford</u>	state	<u>CT</u>
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12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national state local

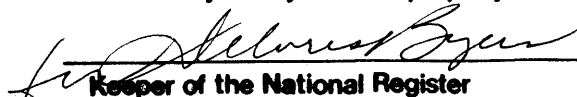
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title	<u>Director, Connecticut Historical Commission</u>	date	<u>October 17, 1986</u>
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For NPS use only

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

	<u>Keiper of the National Register</u>	date	<u>2-2-87</u>
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Attest:

date

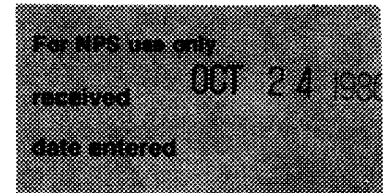
Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Geographical Data Item number 10



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Newtown Quadrangle

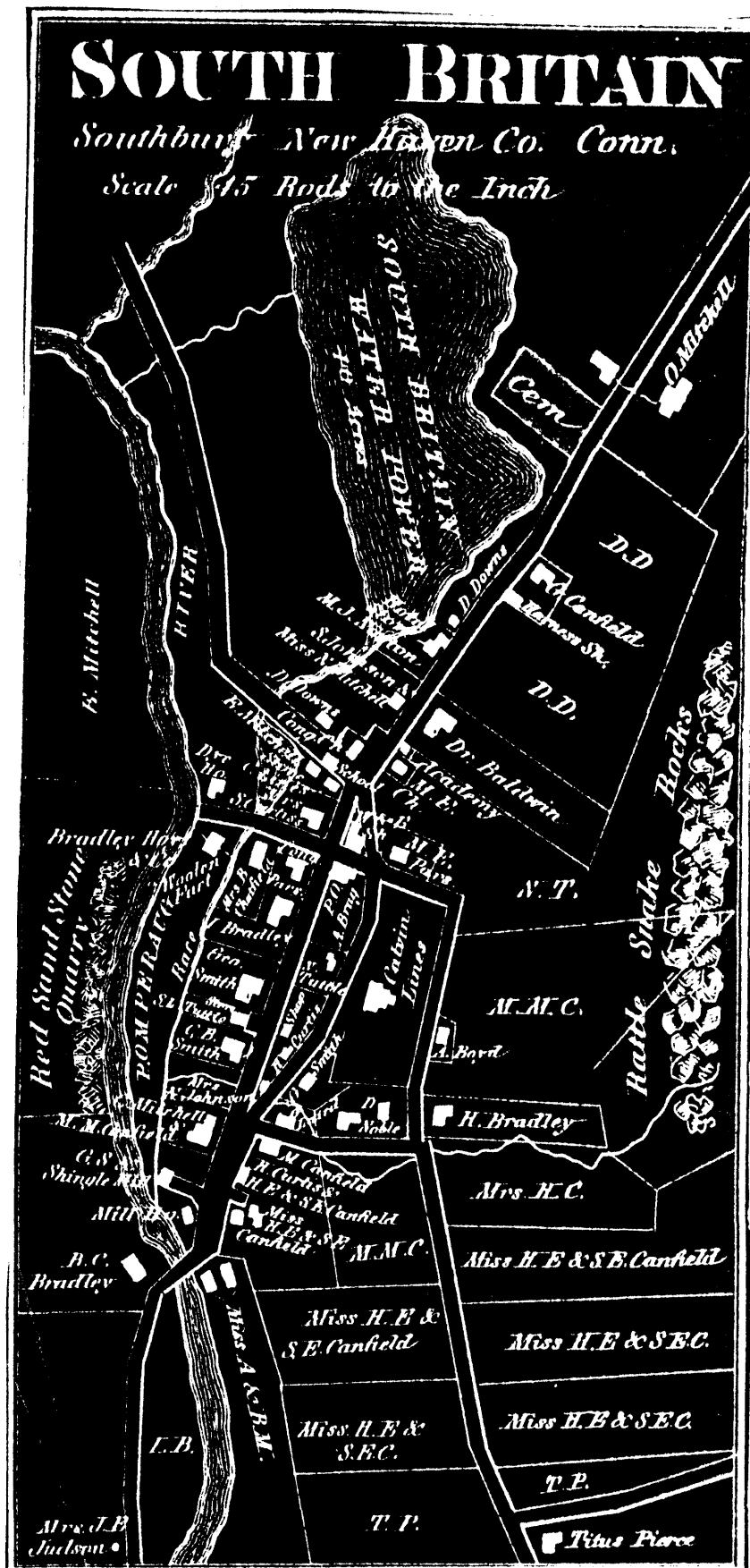
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- B 18/646060/4592250
- C 18/646110/4592240
- D 18/646140/4591920
- E 18/645860/4592160
- F 18/645930/4592190
- G 18/645880/4592280
- H 18/645800/4592280
- I 18/645420/4592460
- J 18/645830/4592760
- K 18/645810/4592800
- L 18/645880/4592820

Southbury Quadrangle

UTM References

- A 18/646130/4692240
- B 18/646270/4692870
- C 18/646120/4692030
- D 18/646300/4591870
- E 18/646280/4591850
- F 18/646310/4591760
- G 18/646160/4591770
- H 18/646160/4591870



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