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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hilltop Farm

other names/site number Hilltop Farm Historic District (use for publication)

2. Location

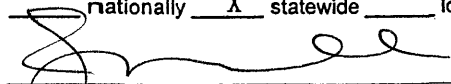
street and number 1550-1760 Mapleton Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Suffield N/A vicinity

state Connecticut code CT county Hartford code 003 zip 06078

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



November 10, 2004

Signature of certifying official/Title Jennifer Aniskovich, State Historic Preservation Officer Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments)

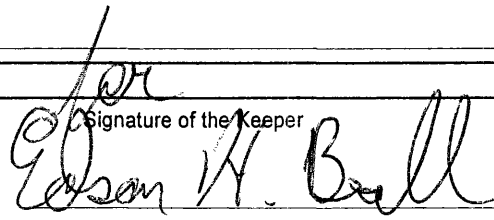
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, (explain) _____



Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

1.12.05

Hilltop Farm Historic District, Suffield
Name of property

Hartford, Connecticut
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
14	3	building(s)
0	1	sites
17	1	structures
0	0	objects
31	5	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

- AGRICULTURE/processing
- AGRICULTURE/animal facility
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural field
- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure

Current Functions

- NOT IN USE
- LANDSCAPE/conservation area
- EDUCATION/school
- DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

- LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVAL/Colonial Revival
- LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVAL/Spanish Colonial Revival
- MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

Materials

- foundation CONCRETE; STONE/Granite
- walls WOOD/Clapboard, Shingle; STUCCO; SYNTHETICS/vinyl
- roof ASPHALT; CERAMIC TILE
- other GLASS

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

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LOCATION AND SETTING

The Hilltop Farm Historic District is located along Mapleton Avenue in the northeastern corner of the Town of Suffield, Connecticut. The topography of the aptly named Hilltop Farm is dominated by a gently sloping hill, with a maximum height of 181 feet. From the top of the hill, the land slopes to the east toward the Connecticut River, which forms the district's eastern boundary. The northern boundary of the district is the state line between Suffield and Agawam, Massachusetts. On the south, the district is bounded by a late-twentieth-century residential subdivision that was developed on land that was originally part of the farm. The western boundary is formed primarily by Mapleton Avenue, but juts out west of the road to incorporate a 41-acre agricultural field that is historically associated with the farm. Development along Mapleton Avenue in the areas adjacent to the district is characterized by low-density historic period and modern residential development with a significant amount of open space that is characteristic of the area's history as an agricultural settlement.

George Hendee, co-founder of the Indian Motorcycle Corporation, developed Hilltop Farm in the early twentieth century as a country estate and gentleman's farm. By the mid-1920s, the farm contained nearly 500 acres. Subsequent owners subdivided the estate and sold off parcels for other uses. The Hilltop Farm Historic District includes eight contiguous parcels that encompass 236 acres of land. Seven of the parcels contain buildings, structures, and/or agricultural fields that contribute to the feeling and association of the historic estate. The remaining parcel contains a non-contributing residence that was developed in 1984.

The most intact collection of historic agricultural buildings and structures is located in the southern half of the district. This area is made up of four parcels of land and contains a massive Dairy Barn that is the district's centerpiece. The Dairy Barn and a number of chicken houses, sheds, farm worker houses, and other agricultural outbuildings is located on an 8-acre tract on the east side of Mapleton Avenue that is currently owned by the Connecticut Culinary Institute (photograph 1). The Town of Suffield is the current owner of an adjacent 76-acre tract along the Connecticut River that contains several historic field barns and agricultural outbuildings, as well as an active nesting ground for American bald eagles (photograph 2). The Charles and Betty Stroh House parcel at 1606 Mapleton Avenue and the former Lewis Zenas Sikes Farmstead at 1550-1568 Mapleton Avenue contain buildings and structures that predate Hendee's period of ownership of the property. The Stroh property consists of 3 acres and is located immediately southwest of the Dairy Barn. It contains a mid-nineteenth-century farmhouse that Hendee occupied while his manor house was being constructed and later served as the farm manager's residence (photograph 3). The former Lewis Zenas Sikes Farmstead consists of two acres and includes a Greek Revival-style main house, a Dutch Colonial Revival-style house, and four late nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings (photograph 4).

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Hendee's manor house complex was developed at the center of his holdings between the Connecticut River and Mapleton Avenue. The current parcel consists of 56 acres of land. The Mediterranean Revival-style manor house was razed in 1961 to make way for the non-contributing St. Alphonsus College, a sprawling four-story educational classroom building that was erected by the Order of the Holy Redeemer and now houses the Suffield branch of the Connecticut Culinary Institute. The remaining contributing buildings on the parcel are Hendee's carriage house and an early 1940s caretaker's cottage (photograph 5).

Open fields that contribute to the agricultural setting of the district include a 41-acre parcel west of Mapleton Avenue that is currently owned by the Town of Suffield (photograph 6) and a 49-acre parcel north of the manor grounds currently owned by Connecticut Light & Power (photograph 7). The non-contributing Kaufmann House is located on a 1.2-acre parcel at 1680 Mapleton Avenue (photograph 8).

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Dairy Barn Parcel

The most impressive building within the district is the Dairy Barn that was constructed by Hendee in 1914. It is set back from Mapleton Avenue, on the south slope of the hill. The building is a massive, two-story, Colonial Revival-style, ground-level stanchion barn with a high drive. It has a cruciform-shaped plan, made up of two main blocks, with a milk house ell projecting to the west from the southwest corner of the north-south building. A small ell also projects from the west end of the east-west building. A projecting high-rise entrance flanked by attached cylindrical silos extends from the center of the north elevation.

The barn has a wood frame structural system on a poured, concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboards and wood shingles, and have simple, wood trim. The main portion of the roof is a cross gable, with clipped gables on the east and west ends and a projecting hood over the hay track on the south end. The roof has wall dormers on the east and west slopes, small, gable dormers on the north and south slopes, and seven, pyramidal hip-roofed cupolas with louvered vents.

The fenestration of the building is made up primarily of four-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows and one-over-one windows with fixed upper sash and tilting, awning sash below, all in flat, rectangular, wood surrounds. The first floor of the north-south block has 17 of these windows evenly spaced along the length of the west side and 12 along the east side. There are few windows on the second story of the building.

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The north elevation of the barn is dominated by the presence of two, cylindrical silos flanking the projecting, centered, high drive entrance (photograph 9). The silos are approximately the same height as the barn roof, and are capped by conical, asphalt-shingled roofs. They are lined with ceramic tile and have wood-framed roofs. A projecting, molded band around the silos continues across the north elevation of the entrance bay at the roof fascia level. The entrance, which directly accesses the second story hay loft, is made up of a double-leaf, swinging wood door, each leaf with six square panels in two rows at the base, three rows of three panes of glass above, and a row of three wood panels along the top. The westernmost leaf has an integrated pedestrian door that takes up four of the door's wood panels and two glass panes. The roof of the entrance bay is curved from the peak to the silos, and overhangs the entrance, where decorative brackets are located underneath the overhang.

The west elevation of the barn is made up of the northwest ell, north-south building, and milk house. A simple cornice band between the stories ties the northwest ell, west end of the east-west building, and north-south building together. The northwest ell is a one-story, clipped gable roof structure. It has a gable-roofed entrance portico on the west end that is supported by columns. The ell has two entrances: double leaf, sliding, wood doors with panels below multipane glass on the south elevation and a double leaf, swinging door on the west elevation.

The west elevation of the north-south building has two, slightly projecting, second-story wall dormers as its dominant elements. The gable-roofed dormers have cornice returns and modillions under the overhang at the mid-wall cornice level. The milk house is a one-story ell with an end gable roof, connected to the north-south building by a small hyphen. The ell has wall dormers on the north and south sides, each over a triple window. The milk house floor is elevated from the surrounding grade, and it has a sliding loading dock door on its west elevation. The dock door is constructed of wood with four panels below 12 panes of glass. A matching pedestrian door under a hip-roofed hood is located on the south elevation. Additionally, the hyphen has a wood pedestrian door on its south elevation.

The south elevation of the north-south building contains a double-leaf, swinging, wood door with wood panels in the bottom half and six glass panes above. It also has a 12-panel, wood hayloft door at the peak of the gable end, with a bracketed, gable hood covering the projecting hay track.

The east elevation of the barn has a dividing wood band at the level of the sills of the first story windows, below which the wall cladding is wood shingle, rather than the clapboard that covers most of the building. This band and the shingle siding continue along the south and east elevations of the east-west building. A centered wall dormer on the east elevation of the north-south building is over a first-story entrance and a hayloft access door. The entrance consists of double-leaf, swinging, wood doors, each leaf having four wood panels in the bottom half and four glass panes above. The hayloft door is a sliding, wood door with multi pane glass in the top half. A pedestrian entrance at the south end of the elevation consists of a flat

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wood door with four glass panes in the top half. The east-elevation doors open into a fenced yard, at the east end of which is the Manure Shed. At the intersection of the north-south and east-west buildings, a one-story, shed-roofed ell runs along the south wall of the east-west building. It has six-pane, wood sash windows and two doors made up of vertical wood boards, all on the south elevation. The south elevation of the east-west building has a single, sliding, wood door with three panes of glass at the top, located at the east end of the elevation. The east elevation has a centered, external, sliding door of vertical wood planks. The top of the east wall has a wide band of wood louvers for hayloft ventilation.

The interior of the barn consists of the hayloft and milking stanchions below. The floor of the milking level is concrete, and steel columns support the ceiling. The ceiling and most of the walls are plastered. Wood wainscoting is applied to the walls in the west end of the east-west building. The milking stalls run along the exterior walls of the first level, with the exception of the north wall of the west end of the east-west building, which has two isolation stalls and an office. A walkway runs between the rows of milking stalls. The individual stalls are separated by pipe railings set into the concrete floor. A concrete food trough runs along the outside edge of the length of the stalls, and a waste gutter is recessed into the floor at the rear of the stalls, defining the outside edges of the walkway. A manure trolley runs throughout the building. It consists of a metal bucket suspended from a track that is mounted to the ceiling just behind the stalls. The trolley track continues to the east elevation door, where it appears to have run out to the Manure Shed.

The hayloft is kept largely as an open plan to allow for maximum storage space (photograph 10). A small room with storage space above is partitioned off along the south wall of the east-west building. The only other interruptions of the open space are: a section of line shafting used to operate handling machinery suspended from a pair of trusses in the east-west building; bracketed posts supporting the roof along the length of the north-south building; and boxed, wood hay handling shafts that rise from the floor to the roof. These shafts open through trapdoors in the ceiling of the stall area below, and have a series of doors at increasing heights along the sides so that they can be opened to adjust to differing levels of hay stacked in the loft. A hay track runs along the ridge of the roof of the north-south building.

The interior and exterior of the barn are in good condition and retain a high degree of architectural integrity.

A Manure Shed was constructed in 1914 to the west of the Dairy Barn, at the edge of the yard. It is a one-story, vernacular, utilitarian structure, with a rectangular plan and a front gable roof. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles and has a center cupola with a pyramidal hip roof and wood louvers on the sides. The shed's roof is pierced by an interior, cinderblock chimney at the east end of the north slope, and has a slight overhang on all sides with a simple fascia. The structure is constructed on a tall, poured concrete foundation, and has a wood frame structural system clad with clapboards.

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The structure has entrances at the east and west ends, but does not have windows. The west entrance consists of a double-leaf door in a rectangular opening, framed by a flat, wood surround. The doors are constructed of horizontal wood boards, and have a designed cutout at the top, which leaves a semi-elliptical opening between the top of the doors and the door frame. The east entrance doors, which are of the same design, have been removed from their hinges, but remain at the structure. The opening at the top of the east elevation doors has been filled. Large vents with wood louvers are located at the peak of the gables on both ends of the structure. The Manure Shed has metal tracks on the ceiling that match those on the ceiling in the barn. The openings at both ends of the building allowed the manure trolley track to enter through the west doorway, pass through the building, and exit via the east doorway. The cutouts in the doors allowed the doors to close around the track. The Manure Shed is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

A Corn Crib is located to the east of the Dairy Barn, at the edge of a grazing field. It is a small, one-story, utilitarian structure that was constructed about 1915. The crib has a rectangular plan, and is elevated off the grade of the site on six concrete piers, one at each corner and one each in the center of the spans of the longest sides of the structure. The Corn Crib has a wood frame structural system, with its walls slanted from a small base to a wider plate at the roof. The exterior walls are covered with clapboards applied with spaces between to allow for ventilation. The building has a front gable roof with an asphalt shingle exterior layer, and overhangs the walls on all four sides. The entrance to the structure is centered on the north-facing elevation, and consists of a wood door with three horizontal panels below fixed glass panes, within a flat, wood surround. A single, six-pane, fixed, wood sash window is centered on the south elevation of the crib. The Corn Crib is in good condition. It does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

A Chicken Manure Shed was constructed about 1914, to the northeast of the Dairy Barn, south of the Hen Emporium. It is a one-story, vernacular, utilitarian, structure with a square plan. It has a hip roof that overhangs the walls on all elevations and is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The structure has a wood frame structural system and a poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls of the Chicken Manure Shed have wood clapboard siding. The north elevation of the structure has a centered entrance in which a five-panel, wood door (now off its hinges, on the ground in front of the entrance) once hung. A smaller, three-panel door hangs on broken hinges in the center of the east elevation. Both doors are framed with flat, wood surrounds. The Chicken Manure Shed is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered since its construction.

Two farm worker residences are located north of the Dairy Barn (photograph 11) The Administrator's Residence, located to the northeast of the Dairy Barn, is a one-and-one-half-story, vernacular style building with a rectangular plan, which was constructed about 1920. The building has a side gable roof,

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clad with asphalt shingles and pierced by a shed roof dormer centered on the south slope, and by a brick chimney at the ridge. The structural system of the building is a wood frame atop a rusticated concrete block foundation. The exterior walls of the building have clapboard sheathing on the first story, with wood shingles above. The east half of the south-facing facade has an enclosed porch containing the primary entrance. A second entrance is centered on the north elevation, and consists of a wood door in a flat, rectangular, wood surround, under a gable roof hood that is supported by thin brackets. The fenestration of the building consists of modern, one-over-one, replacement windows with aluminum, triple-track storm windows in flat, wood surrounds. The building is in good condition. The only alterations to it appear to be the replacement windows.

The Herdsmen's Residence is located to the northwest of the Dairy Barn. It is a one-and-one-half-story, Craftsman-style bungalow, with a rectangular plan that was constructed about 1920. A one-story, gable roofed, enclosed entrance porch is located at the rear (east elevation) of the building, and a full-width, one-story porch is integrated into the main roofline on the west elevation. The building has a side gable roof with a centered, three-bay, shed-roofed dormer on the west elevation and a wall dormer of the same size on the east elevation. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles and pierced by an interior, brick chimney on the north end of the west slope, near the ridge. The house is constructed atop a brick foundation, with a wood frame structural system and clapboard exterior sheathing. Its primary entrance is located within the porch on the west elevation, and consists of a wood door in a flat, wood frame, with an aluminum screen door. A second entrance is located on the north elevation, and consists of a four panel wood door with two, small glass panes under the top stile, in a flat surround, with a shed-roofed hood supported by simple consoles. A third entrance is enclosed within the rear entrance porch. Fenestration of the building consists of six-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows in flat, wood surrounds. A projecting, shed-roofed bay containing three windows is located on the south elevation of the first floor, near the east corner of the building. Ornamental details of the building include a band of shingles along the gable rakes, gunstock posts supporting the porch roof, and wood lattice under the porches. The building is in good condition, and does not appear to have been altered since its construction.

A one-story, utilitarian Garage is located to the north of the Herdsmen's Residence. The garage was constructed about 1920, on a rectangular plan, with seven bays on its east elevation. It has a saltbox roof clad with asphalt shingles. The longer west roof slope provides a shorter exterior wall height on the west elevation than the east. The building has a concrete foundation and a wood frame structural system, and its exterior walls are clad with drop siding. The entrances to the seven bays contain two door types: the two northernmost bays, center bay, and one bay to the south of the center contain modern, overhead, wood doors, while the other three bays have double-leaf, swinging doors with three horizontal panels beneath eight, fixed, glass panes set in two rows. The garage is in fair condition. Its only alterations appear to be the replacement doors.

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The connected Hen Emporium and Poulterer's House are located to the northeast of the Dairy Barn (photograph 12). The Poulterer's House is a two-story, vernacular building that housed an egg candling room and freezer on the first floor and an apartment for the poultry manager on the second. The building has a rectangular plan and is constructed atop a concrete foundation. It has a wood frame structural system and its exterior walls are clad with wood clapboards on the first floor, below a second floor covered with wood shingles. A small entrance porch is recessed into the southeast corner of the building. The residence has a front gable roof clad with asphalt shingles and pierced by an interior, brick chimney on the north slope, near the ridge. The primary entrance to the building is located within the porch, and consists of a four panel door with two fixed glass panes under the top stile, in a flat, wood surround. A second entrance on the porch is a four-panel, wood door, also in a flat, wood surround. Fenestration of the building consists of one-over-one, modern windows on the second story, and modern, triple, casement sash on the first story. Both types of windows are in simple, wood surrounds. The Poulterer's House is in good condition. The only alteration to it since its construction appears to be the replacement of windows.

The Hen Emporium is made up of two long coop wings that extend from the west and north elevations of the Poulterer's House. Both wings have side gable roofs, clad with asphalt shingles, and pierced by cylindrical, metal ventilators at the ridge. The structure is constructed atop a concrete foundation and has a wood frame structural system. Its exterior walls are clad with wood clapboards. The structure has an entrance at the north end of the small wing, consisting of a modern, wood panel, overhead, garage door. A wood panel door with glass panes in the top half is located in the gable over the garage door that was installed in 1992. Fenestration of the structure consists primarily of six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows in flat, rectangular surrounds. The large coop wing has a mix of eight-pane, fixed, wood sash windows and fixed, one-over-one sash windows. Both wings of the structure have a row of small openings along the base of the exterior walls for the birds to pass through. The structure is in fair to good condition. The west end of the large wing was shortened in 1983, and is patched with plywood. This, and possible window replacements on the large coop wing, appears to be the only alteration to the structure.

An Incubator House is located to the north of the small wing of the Hen Emporium. It is a one-story, utilitarian structure with a rectangular plan, built with walls approximately 3 feet high, so that the roof eaves are close to the ground. The structure was built about 1915, and has a side gable roof with a centered gable dormer that houses an entrance door. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles and is pierced by a vent at the ridge and an interior, brick chimney on the north slope. The Incubator House has concrete walls and wood framing supporting the roof. The exterior of the walls are concrete, except for the gable ends, where the exterior sheathing material is clapboard. The centered entrance on the south elevation contains a double-leaf, vertical wood board door in a flat, wood surround. A second entrance is

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centered on the east elevation, and consists of a double-leaf, wood door with a single panel below two vertical columns of three panes of fixed glass. The only windows on the structure are fixed, six-pane, wood sash windows. The Incubator House is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered since its construction.

The remains of three agricultural storage sheds are located north of the Hen Emporium. These utilitarian wood frame structural systems had gable roofs and simple rectangular plans. All three structures have collapsed because of deterioration of their framing materials.

Town of Suffield Hilltop Parcel

The 76-acre parcel located east and southeast of the Dairy Barn parcel consists of open agricultural fields and wooded areas that contain nine structures. A Calf Barn, which was constructed about 1915, is located to the southeast of the Dairy Barn. It is a one-and-one-half-story, utilitarian building with a rectangular plan. The barn has a side gable roof clad with asphalt shingles, and a wood frame structural system. Its exterior walls are sheathed with drop siding, and it has flat cornerboards and trim. The primary entrance to the building is located at the east end of the north elevation, and consists of a wood, paneled door in a flat, wood surround. A hayloft doorway is located on the west end of the building, but the door is not extant. Fenestration of the building consists of three-pane, fixed, wood sash windows in flat, wood surrounds set just under the eaves. The building is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered since its construction.

The Bull Barn was constructed about 1915 to the southeast of the Dairy Barn and east of the Calf Barn. It is a one-story, utilitarian building with a rectangular plan. The building has a side gable roof clad with asphalt shingles and a wood frame structural system with vertical wood board exterior sheathing. The building has three entrances on its west elevation. Each consists of a vertical board door in a flat, wood surround. Two are located side by side, and the other is toward the south end of the building. A vertical wood door to the hayloft is located on the north end of the building. The fenestration of the building consists primarily of six-pane, hopper-style, wood sash windows in flat, wood surrounds. The Bull Barn is in good condition, and does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

A non-contributing Breeding Shed, which was constructed about 1972, is located to the south of the Bull Barn. It is a one-story, utilitarian structure, with a rectangular plan. The shed has a front gable roof, clad with asphalt shingles. It is constructed with a wood frame structural system, and has vertical wood board exterior sheathing. The entrance to the shed is located on the west elevation, and consists of a vertical wood board door in a flat wood surround. Fenestration of the structure consists of fixed, multipane, wood

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sash windows in flat, wood surrounds. The breeding shed is in good condition, and does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

Chicken House # 1 is a one-and-one-half-story, rectangular plan building located to the east of the Dairy Barn and northeast of the Bull Barn. It is a utilitarian structure that was constructed about 1915 atop a concrete foundation, and has a wood frame structural system. A saltbox roof clad with asphalt shingles with a wide overhang on the south-facing facade caps the building. An empty entrance opening is centered on the south elevation, and a second, with a wood door, is located on the second floor of the west end of the building. Fenestration of the structure consists of eight-pane, fixed, wood sash windows across the south elevation's first floor, with three-pane, awning-type, wood sash windows above. The Chicken House is in poor condition, with missing siding and roofing materials, broken windows, and trees encroaching on the structure. It does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

A Root Cellar is located to the northwest of the Chicken House. Constructed about 1920, the root cellar consists of a poured concrete wall with a doorway opening facing southeast, making up the south wall of a single room cut into the side of a small hill.

Chicken House # 2 is a ruin located to the northeast of the Dairy Barn. The remains consist of a collapsed roof and structural members and suggest that the building was of similar size and design to Chicken House # 1.

The district contains three contributing tobacco sheds that were constructed about 1900. Tobacco Shed # 1 is located in the fields to the east of the Dairy Barn. It is a one-story, rectangular-plan structure, utilitarian in design, which was constructed about 1900. It has a saltbox roof that overhangs the front (south elevation) of the structure by approximately 4 feet. The shed has a wood frame structural system, with exterior materials of wood clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof cladding. An entrance is located at the west end of the south elevation, however it does not have a functioning door. A wood door is propped in the opening. The structure is in poor condition, with missing roofing and sheathing, and deteriorated internal structural elements.

A Tobacco Shed #2 is located at the east edge of the fields to the southeast of the Dairy Barn. It is a one-story, utilitarian structure, with a rectangular plan that was constructed about 1900. The shed has a front gable roof and a wood frame structural system with vertical wood plank exterior siding. The entrance to the structure is located on the south end, and consists of a double-leaf, swinging shed door of vertical wood planks, the eastern leaf of which is missing. The shed is in poor condition, with missing roof and wall cladding.

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A Tobacco Shed #3 is located at the south edge of the fields to the southeast of the Dairy Barn. It was constructed about 1900. It is a one-story, utilitarian structure, with a rectangular plan. The shed has a front gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles, and a wood frame structural system with vertical wood plank exterior siding. The entrance to the structure is located on its west end, and consists of a double-leaf, swinging barn door of vertical wood planks. The shed is in poor condition, with missing roof and wall cladding.

Sikes Farmstead Parcel

The former Lewis Zenas Sikes Farmstead at 1550-1568 Mapleton Avenue contains two residences and four agricultural outbuildings that contribute to the district. The former Lewis Zenas Sikes House at 1550 Mapleton Avenue is a two-family residence that was constructed about 1850. It is a two-and-one-half-story, Greek Revival-style building. The house has an L-shaped plan, with a one-story porch on the southwest corner. The building has a front gable roof, clad with asphalt shingles and pierced by a brick chimney at the ridge. It has a wood frame structural system, with exterior walls clad with wood clapboards. The primary entrance to the building is located in a one-story entrance bay within the porch on the west corner of the south elevation, and has a flat, wood surround. Fenestration of the building consists primarily of one-over-one, double-hung, replacement windows in flat, wood surrounds. A single, two-over-two, double-hung, wood sash window is located in the facade's gable end. A porch wraps around the south and west sides of the one-story entrance bay. It has a flat roof that is supported by boxed columns and modern unfinished four-by-four-inch posts. Greek Revival-style elements of the building include the facade pediment, corner pilasters, and symmetrical fenestration. The building is in good condition. Alterations include the replacement windows and replacement posts supporting the porch roof. It was moved back on the lot from its original position immediately fronting Mapleton Avenue in the mid-twentieth century.

1568 Mapleton Avenue is a two-story, Dutch Colonial Revival-style residence that was constructed by Hendee about 1920 to house farm personnel. The building has a rectangular plan, with a full-width porch on the west-facing facade, and a cross-gambrel roof clad with asphalt shingles. It has a wood frame structural system constructed atop a rusticated concrete block foundation. Its exterior wall covering is wood clapboard with wood trim. The primary entrance to the building is located in a recessed bay at the southwest corner of the west elevation, under the porch, and consists of a wood panel door with a single pane of glass in the top half, in a simple, wood surround. A second entrance is located at the west end of the south elevation, in a simple, wood surround, under a gable hood supported by square posts. Fenestration of the building consists of one-over-one, double-hung sash windows in simple, wood surrounds, with aluminum, triple-track storm windows. The south elevation has a paired window in the gambrel end, and a triple window below. The front porch of the building has a flat roof supported by

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Doric columns that are connected by a balustrade with square balusters. It is accessed via wood stairs, and has sections of wood lattice screen enclosing the underside. The second story of the building projects approximately 1 foot over the first story. A mullion band under the overhang continues around the overhanging porch roof as it wraps around the building. The building is in good condition, and does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

The Sikes Tobacco Shed is located just behind the residence at 1568 Mapleton Avenue. The shed was constructed about 1900. It is a one-story, utilitarian structure with an L-shaped plan made up of the main barn mass and a small, shed-roofed ell on the west end of the south elevation. The shed has a side gable roof clad with asphalt shingles, and a wood frame clad with vertical wood board exterior sheathing. A pedestrian entrance is located on the south side of the ell. The shed is in fair condition, and its only alteration appears to be the addition of the ell.

A Storage Shed is located to the south of the Sikes Tobacco Barn. It is a small, utilitarian structure with a rectangular plan. It has a side gable roof clad with asphalt shingles, supported by a wood frame structural system. The exterior walls of the building are clad with wood siding. The primary entrance to the structure is located at the east end of the north elevation, in a simple, wood surround. Fenestration consists of fixed, wood sash windows in flat, wood surrounds. The structure is in good condition. It does not appear to have been altered since its construction.

The Sikes Barn, to the east of the Sikes House, is a two-story, utilitarian, ground-level stable barn that was constructed about 1910. The building has a concrete foundation and a wood frame structural system with drop siding. It has a front gambrel roof, with flared eaves that is clad with asphalt shingles and pierced by a metal, central cupola. The primary entrance to the building is located on the west elevation, and consists of a sliding door of vertical wood boards. Additional openings to the inside of the building include an west elevation hayloft door. Fenestration of the building consists of six-over-six, wood, hopper style sash windows and fixed, six-pane, wood sash, all in flat, wood surrounds. The north elevation of the building has ten windows on the first floor to provide ventilation and light. The Sikes Barn is in good condition. The most significant alteration to its original appearance was the removal in the mid-twentieth century of a grain silo that was attached to southwest corner.

The "Guernsey Cow" Roadside Stand is located to the south of the Dairy Barn, adjacent to the Sikes Barn. It is a one-story, utilitarian building that was constructed about 1915 as a farm stand. The building was originally located at the edge of Mapleton Avenue before being moved to its current location in 1935. The building has a flared, side gable roof clad with asphalt shingles. It has a wood frame structural system with wood clapboard exterior siding, and is currently set on a temporary foundation. The primary entrance is located on what is now the south elevation of the building. Fenestration of the building consists of one-over-one, sash windows in flat, wood surrounds. A small, shed roof that was erected in

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the mid-twentieth century to protect a gas tank projects from the north end of the east elevation. The "Guernsey Cow" is in good condition. Its only alteration appears to be the addition of the shed roof on the east elevation.

Stroh House Parcel

The Stroh House, at 1616 Mapleton Avenue, is a two-story, Colonial Revival-style residence that was constructed in 1885. It appears that the Colonial Revival details were added to the building in one of its later renovations. The building has an irregular plan, with a wood frame structural system supporting a cross gable roof that is sheathed with wood shingles. The exterior walls of the building are clad with asbestos shingles. A battered, brick chimney is centered on the exterior of the west wall of the house. The primary entrance was originally located on the north elevation of the building, but was removed in favor of the current main entrance on the west elevation in the mid-twentieth century. Fenestration consists of six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows in simple surrounds. Ornamental details on the building include the pedimented gable end on the west elevation, cornice returns on the south elevation, and a projecting window bay on the south elevation. A two-bay, front gable-roofed garage is attached to the south side of the house. The house is in good condition. It appears to have been altered only through additions to the building's mass. The parcel contains the non-contributing Stroh Garage and Stroh Shed, which were added to the property in the late twentieth century.

Hendee Manor House Parcel (Connecticut Culinary Institute)

The Connecticut Culinary Institute building was constructed as a seminary in 1962. The Hilltop Manor house was demolished and the new building constructed on its site. The building is a three-story, modern style structure with a complex plan made up of a long main mass running north to south, with an ell off the east side at the south end, a large block attached to the east side at the north end, and a ship's prow-shaped entrance ell projecting west from near the center of the west side. The exterior walls of the main mass and ells of the building are of buff colored brick with limestone, while the entrance ell is exclusively of limestone. The main mass of the building has a flat roof, and the entrance ell has a curved gable, standing seam metal roof that comes to a point at the west end. The building has modern, metal sash windows throughout, and modern, metal-framed doors.

The Carriage House was constructed by Hendee in 1914 as an original component of his manor house complex. It is a one-and-one-half-story, Mediterranean Revival-style building that reflects the design of the manor house that was razed in 1960. It combines a four-bay garage on the ground floor and an apartment in the upper story. The building has a roughly rectangular plan, and is constructed with a concrete foundation and wood frame structural system. It has a hip roof clad with clay tiles and pierced by a stone chimney on the east slope. Hip-roofed dormers are located on each of the four roof slopes.

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The walls of the building are clad with stucco. There are four garage bays located on the west elevation of the building, three together and one separated in both location and ornament. The three similar bays have wood paneled, overhead doors with simple, wood surrounds. The single bay also has a wood panel, overhead door, but is flanked by pilasters supporting a simple entablature with a flat frieze and slightly projecting cornice. Two pedestrian entrances consisting of wood panel doors in simple casings, are located at the south end of the west elevation. The southernmost of the two has a transom with geometric tracery. The south elevation has a simple pedestrian entrance as well. The north elevation has a paired entrance, with both doors under a single, tiled, shed roof hood that is supported by heavy, scrollwork consoles. Each entrance contains a wood panel door with glass in the top half, which is set within a wood surround. The fenestration of the building consists of fixed, rectangular windows with geometric tracery and double-hung windows with similar tracery in the top sash over a single-pane bottom sash. The sash are constructed of wood, and are set in simple, wood surrounds. The building is in excellent condition, and does not appear to have been altered since it was constructed.

A Caretaker's House is located along the driveway to the former site of the farm's main house. The house was constructed about 1942 after the manor house was purchased by Karl Bissel of the Hampden Brewing Company. It is a one-and-one-half-story, vernacular style residence with an L-shaped plan. The house has a concrete foundation and a wood frame structural system. The exterior wall coverings consist of brick on the enclosed porch, manufactured clapboard on the gable ends, and stucco on the balance of the exterior walls. The roof of the building has a cross gable form and is clad with asphalt shingles. It is pierced by a central, brick chimney, and has a gable-roofed dormer on the north slope of the roof. The primary entrance to the building is located on the east elevation, and leads to an enclosed porch. The entrance consists of a wood panel door with three horizontal glass panes in the top half, flanked by half-height, two-pane sidelights with a single-pane transom. The fenestration of the building consists of six-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows in flat surrounds. A triple window is located on the north elevation. A garage is located under the west end of the building. The house is in good condition. The enclosure of the porch and stucco may be alterations.

The non-contributing Sikes Family Burial Plot is located northwest of the Connecticut Culinary Institute building. It consists of two historic period gravestones and a boulder with a bronze tablet. The tablet was placed by George Hendee to commemorate other members of the Sikes family that were buried in the plot.

Kaufmann House Parcel

The Kaufmann House at 1680 Mapleton Avenue is a non-contributing building that was constructed in 1984, on a parcel at the west end of the Hen Emporium. It is a one-and-one-half-story, ranch house with a complex, gable roof. The building has an irregular plan, with a two-bay garage attached at the south

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end. The fenestration of the building includes modern one-over-one, casement, and fixed sash. The primary entrance is a modern, double-leaf door, flanked by sidelights.

DISTRICT DATA SHEET

Name/Function	Date Constructed	Resource Type	Contributing/ Non-Contributing
Dairy Barn Parcel			
Dairy Barn	1914	Building	Contributing
Manure Shed	1914	Structure	Contributing
Corn Crib	ca. 1915	Structure	Contributing
Chicken Manure Shed	ca. 1914	Structure	Contributing
Herdsman's Residence	ca. 1920	Building	Contributing
Administrator's Residence	ca. 1920	Building	Contributing
Garage	ca. 1920	Building	Contributing
Poulterer's House	1914	Building	Contributing
Hen Emporium	1914	Structure	Contributing
Incubator House	ca. 1915	Structure	Contributing
Shed Ruins (3)	ca. 1915	Structures	Contributing

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Name/Function	Date Constructed	Resource Type	Contributing/ Non-Contributing
Town of Suffield Hilltop Parcel			
Calf Barn	ca. 1915	Building	Contributing
Bull Barn	ca. 1915	Building	Contributing
Breeding Shed	ca. 1972	Structure	Contributing
Chicken House # 1	ca. 1915	Structure	Contributing
Root Cellar	ca. 1920	Structure	Contributing
Chicken House # 2 Ruins	ca. 1920	Structure	Contributing
Tobacco Shed # 1	ca. 1900	Structure	Contributing
Tobacco Shed # 2	ca. 1900	Structure	Contributing
Tobacco Shed # 3	ca. 1900	Structure	Contributing
Sikes Farmstead Parcel			
Lewis Zenas Sikes House 1550 Mapleton Avenue	ca. 1850	Building	Contributing
1568 Mapleton Avenue	ca. 1920	Building	Contributing
Sikes Tobacco Shed	ca. 1900	Structure	Contributing
Storage Shed	ca. 1900	Structure	Contributing

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Sikes Barn	ca. 1910	Building	Contributing
“Guernsey Cow” Roadside Stand	ca. 1915	Building	Contributing
Stroh House Parcel			
Stroh House 1606 Mapleton Avenue	1885	Building	Contributing
Stroh Garage	ca. 1980	Building	Non-Contributing
Stroh Shed	ca. 1980	Structure	Non-Contributing
Hendee Manor House Parcel (Connecticut Culinary Institute)			
Connecticut Culinary Institute 1760 Mapleton Avenue	1962	Building	Non-Contributing
Carriage House	1914	Building	Contributing
Caretaker’s House	ca. 1942	Building	Contributing
Sikes Burial Plot	1827	Site	Non-Contributing
Kaufmann House Parcel			
Kaufmann House 1680 Mapleton Avenue	1984	Building	Non-Contributing

(end)

Hilltop Farm Historic District, Suffield
Name of property

Hartford, Connecticut
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the last 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1913-1954

Significant Dates

1913 - Hilltop Farm property purchased by George Hendee

1940 - Hendee sells property to Charles Stroh

Significant Person

George Hendee

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Max Westhoff, architect/Carl Rust Parker, landscape architect/Napolean Russell, builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository _____

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SUMMARY

Hilltop Farm Historic District is significant under criteria A, B, and C at the local level in the areas of agriculture, architecture, and landscape architecture. Under Criterion A, the district possesses significance as an example of an early-twentieth-century gentleman's farm that reflected a trend among wealthy American businessmen toward establishing pastoral retreats away from the hectic urban business centers where they worked. In addition, the district is a good and relatively intact example of an early-twentieth-century Connecticut dairy, poultry, and breeding farm that represents scientific farming principals of the period. Under Criterion B, the farm is significant for its association with George Hendee, founder and president of Hendee Manufacturing Company, a pioneer manufacturer of motorized bicycles that ultimately became the Indian Motorcycle Company, the largest motorcycle manufacturer in the United States. The fortune that Hendee amassed was used to develop the estate and engage in a variety of philanthropic pursuits that marked the years of his retirement. Under Criterion C, the district possesses significance as a relatively intact early-twentieth-century designed landscape and for the large Colonial Revival-style dairy barn that serves as its centerpiece. The remaining carriage house is a representative example of the work of noted architect Max Westoff, who likely designed the barn, as well. The layout of the estate and farm complex was the work of Carl Rust Parker, a prominent landscape architect from Portland, Maine.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

George Hendee and the Founding of Indian Motorcycle

George M. Hendee was born on October 19, 1866, in Watertown, Connecticut to William G. Hendee, a silk thread manufacturer, and Emma Dwight Upton Hendee. He attended public school in Watertown and spent summers on his uncle's farm in Rowe, Massachusetts, where it is likely he gained his fondness for agriculture. He moved to Springfield, Massachusetts in 1878 when his father took a position as superintendent of the Springfield Silk Manufacturing Company. He learned how to ride high wheel bicycles at the age of 15 and began competing as an amateur racer the following year (Hendee 1931). During his five-year racing career he established himself as America's first bicycle racing hero by winning five consecutive National Amateur High Wheel Championships, establishing world record times at all distances between 1 and 20 miles, and compiling an astounding record of winning 302 of the 309 races he entered (Hickok 2004; Youngblood 2001:10).

Hendee's renown as a racing champion created opportunities for him in the bicycle industry after he retired from racing in 1886. The end of Hendee's racing career coincided with the beginning of the transition from the high wheeler to the "safety" bicycle, which was introduced in America in the late

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1880s. The safety bike was so-named because its two equal size wheels and pedal crank, chain, and gear drive system was far easier and safer to operate than the high wheeler. Improvements to the design, most notably the invention of the pneumatic rubber tire in 1888 and coaster brakes, helped to make the safety bike a viable alternative to the horse for everyday personal transportation and it was subsequently adopted on a wide scale throughout America. To meet the great demand for the vehicles hundreds of bicycle manufacturing companies were established (Wright 2001:13).

Hendee initially found work in the industry as a traveling salesman for the Springfield Roadster Manufacturing Company and traveled widely throughout the United States. In 1888 he took a position with W.W. Stall, a bicycle manufacturing company in Boston, and traveled to England as the company's representative. There he met and married his first wife, Edith Cordwell of Trickingham. Upon his return to the United States, he took charge of the retail end of the firm's business in Boston, but soon left to head the bicycle department of Hurlburt Bros. & Company, a large sporting goods firm in New York City. In 1893 he returned to Springfield and opened a retail bicycle store on Main Street. Looking to expand his business, he took in a partner and established a factory for the production of his "Silver King" and "Silver Queen" models of two-wheel safety bicycles. The initial venture failed, but Hendee was able to buy back some of his stock and managed to weather the financial difficulties. In November 1897 he incorporated the Hendee Manufacturing Company and resumed production of his two bicycle lines (Hendee 1931; White 1945:139).

The Hendee Manufacturing Company was soon producing about 4,000 bicycles per year. Some of the units were produced as job orders for export commission firms, which required custom nameplates attached to the standard Silver King frame. Finding it a nuisance to create different nameplates for each exporter, Hendee decided to provide only one brand name for export to overseas market, and named it "American Indian." The choice of the name may have been a reference to one of Hendee's maternal ancestors who was said to be Native American or simply to make it clear that the exported products were made in America, as many of the famous brands of the time were produced in Europe. Whatever its origin, the name proved to be a commercial success and was used by the company's advertising department to produce highly effective promotional literature that resonated with prospective buyers (Wright 2001:13; Youngblood 2001:12).

In 1900 Hendee became interested in expanding Indian's product line to include motorized bicycles. At that time, he owned half interest in the Springfield Coliseum where he sponsored bicycle races that featured Indian products. He often employed motorized "pacers," that ran ahead of the pack to break the air and reduce wind resistance on the cyclists behind. Most pacers of the time used a DeDion engine, which was invented by Count Albert DeDion of France in 1895 and was widely distributed through a worldwide network established by him and his partner, Georges Bouton. The engine was usually mounted on a tandem bicycle. The front rider steered the pacer while the rear rider was responsible for keeping an eye on the cyclists and making adjustments to the notoriously unreliable engine. Hendee noted later that it

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was necessary to have five or six pacers on hand to insure the completion of the race, and even so, it was not uncommon for all to break down forcing the cyclists to finish the race on their own (*Indian News* 1931:3; Wright 2001:33).

Although flawed and underpowered, the DeDion engine served as the inspiration for the nascent American motorcycle industry. In 1899 Oscar Hedstrom, a Brooklyn, New York machinist, discovered a way to improve the performance of the engine by developing a superior carburetor that produced more controlled and consistent fuel/air mixture (Youngblood 2001:11). Hedstrom was born in Sweden in 1871 and immigrated to New York with his parents in 1880. At the age of 16 he took a job at a watchmaker's shop where he learned the use of machine tools, forging, and metallurgy. In his spare time he indulged his passion for bicycle racing and building high-quality custom bikes from his home shop. He later worked for a time at the Orient Factory in Waltham, Massachusetts, which produced pacers and other experimental vehicles using the DeDion engine. Hedstrom took on the challenge of tinkering with the DeDion engine in hopes of producing a faster and more reliable tandem pacer. In 1899 he partnered with Charles Henshaw to manufacture his pacer and soon proved its success at cycling races in New York (American Motorcycle Hall of Fame (AMHF) 2004b; Wright 2001:33).

Word of Hedstrom's pacer reached Hendee as he was searching for a better pacer to use for his bicycle races. In the fall of 1900 Hendee approached Hedstrom about the idea of building a prototype that could be mass-produced at the Hendee Manufacturing Company for sale to the general public. The two reached an agreement that constituted the founding of Indian Motorcycle Company in January 1901, although the official name of the company was not changed from Hendee Manufacturing Company to Indian Motorcycle Company until 1923. Hendee was able to secure capital for the venture from his business contacts in Springfield. The prototype machine was built by Hedstrom at the Worcester Bicycle Manufacturing Company in Middletown, Connecticut, and was successfully demonstrated on the streets of Springfield in May. It consisted of a typical diamond frame, single seat bicycle with Hedstrom's motor attached to the front and rear bars. The engine was started by pedaling and pulling back a steering neck mounted ignition lever after sufficient momentum had been achieved. While Hendee's plant was capable of mass-producing the rolling chassis, it had no facilities for the manufacture of the engine. The partners decided to subcontract that work to the Aurora Automatic Machinery Company in Illinois and Hedstrom went there in the fall to oversee production (*Indian News* 1931:3; Wright 2001:35).

The Hendee/Hedstrom partnership was an ideal match of individual abilities. Hedstrom's creative engineering genius kept Indian ahead of all other brands by introducing new features each model year. Hendee was responsible for running all facets of the business during its formative years, acting, in his words, "as purchasing agent, selling agent, financial man, credit man, advertising man, traveling man, shipping clerk, and demonstrator, and under(taking) any other odd job that came along" (Hendee 1931). As part of his role in promoting the company's products, he often rode Indians in grueling long-distance races to prove their durability and performance edge over competitor's bikes (Youngblood 2001:16-17).

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During the first model year of 1902, Indian sold 143 motorcycles and showed a financial loss of some \$25,000. Indian faced competition from numerous companies that sought to gain a share of the emerging market. Motorcycle historians have estimated that as many as 200 brands were in production during the first two decades of the twentieth century. Many of these companies used engines copied from Hedstrom's design that Aurora was licensed to produce for its own Thor brand motorcycle and sell to other manufacturers on a royalty basis. Indian's greatest single competitor during its early years was the Marsh motorcycle built by the Atlantic Automobile Company in Brockton, Massachusetts. Soon, however, Harley-Davidson, an obscure brand founded in a small shed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1903, would emerge as the dominant challenger (Youngblood 2001:13-16).

By 1905, with production up to more than 1,000 units per year, Indian began to emerge from the pack as the leading motorcycle producer in America. The following year, the contract with Aurora was canceled and engine production was moved to Springfield. To accommodate the growing operation Hendee purchased the former Springfield Industrial Institute building on State Street and converted it for use as a factory. In keeping with the company's nomenclature, the factory became known as the "Wigwam" and Hendee and Hedstrom were given the titles of "Big Chief" and "Medicine Man," respectively (*Indian News* 1931; Youngblood 2001:13).

With all operations under one roof, production tripled to 3,000 bikes in 1908. The following year, Indian abandoned its pedal-aided bicycle line and introduced its first true motorcycle with a hand crank starter and a "loop" frame platform that was designed to cradle the engine (Youngblood 2001:18-19). To keep up with the increasing demand, Indian expanded its workforce and became the largest employer in Springfield with a payroll of more than 3,200. The Wigwam was also expanded at regular intervals, and by 1914 the Springfield plant consisted of 11.5 acres of manufacturing floor space, 7 miles of assembly lines and was considered the world's largest factory (Indian Motorcycle Corporation 2003). The company at that point was capitalized at \$12 million. Indian Motorcycle dominated the national market and had 17 factory branches throughout the United States and Canada. International sales accounted for about 50 percent of business and branch offices were established in London and Melbourne. Hendee later claimed, "there was not a civilized country on the globe into which Indian Motorcycles were not being shipped" (Hendee 1931).

The year 1913 marked the turning point of Indian's fortunes. Sales reached an all-time peak at 32,000 units sold, almost 42% of the domestic market, but then began a steady decline. A number of factors contributed to the ultimate demise of the company. Hedstrom, the innovative genius behind Indian's product line, retired in 1913. Hendee retired from his position as general manager in 1915, but stayed on as president until the end of 1916 when he went into full retirement. John Alvord, who also ran several other businesses and spent most of his time in New York, replaced Hendee as president. The general guidance of the company was left to a board of directors, which lost sight of the core business and chased

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profits in order to keep investors happy. Ill-fated side ventures, including unsuccessful attempts to produce shock absorbers, automobile air circulation systems, and boat motors, ate away at the company's cash reserves. In management's thirst for profit, costs were cut, quality suffered, and little attention was given to continuing Indian's tradition for innovative design (Youngblood 2001:23, 26).

The biggest single factor in Indian's decline was the emergence of the automobile as America's preferred choice for personal transportation. The drop in Indian sales had direct correlation to the mass production of Henry Ford's Model T, which put automobile ownership within the reach of the middle class. Indian experienced a brief up tick in sales during World War I by providing about 60 percent of the total motorcycles used by the American forces. At the end of the war, however, the European nations imposed high tariffs on imports in an effort to promote the rebuilding of internal manufacturing infrastructure. As a result, Indian exports dropped precipitously and by the late 1920s Indian production was down to about 5,000 units per year. Other motorcycle companies suffered similar fates and by the end of the decade only Indian, Harley Davidson, and Schwinn remained as viable American producers. The onset of the Great Depression further exacerbated the economic slide and Schwinn announced in 1931 that it was abandoning its line of motorcycles (*Duryea Times* 2001:4-5; Youngblood 2001:26, 29, 34).

In 1930, industrialist E. Paul duPont took control of the company. Indian managed to weather the depression by making drastic cuts and refocusing on the production of sport bikes and supplying motorcycles for police and commercial use. World War II produced another demand for military motorcycles and Indian's sales grew to about 10,000 per year. After the war, however, Indian's problems with mismanagement, product innovation, and quality continued. While European markets were reopened as a result of the Marshall Plan, the American motorcycle industry faced stiff competition from imports that were cheaper and more technologically advanced. Ralph Rogers headed a group of investors that purchased Indian in 1945. His plan was to abandon the Indian tradition and develop a totally new bike to compete with the Europeans. He decided that the Wigwam was outdated and moved to a new plant in East Springfield. The new products proved to be a disaster. They did not conform to American Motorcycle Association racing categories and were thus ineligible to compete in sanctioned races that were important in the promotion of motorcycles. When the company finally did produce an eligible racing model, it failed miserably because of mechanical problems. The final blow came in 1949 when the British government reduced the exchange value of the Pound Sterling by 25 percent. The result was a drastic reduction in the cost of British motorcycles. Indian could no longer compete with products that were cheaper, of a higher quality, and outperformed its own. In 1953 Indian announced it was suspending production. The company's assets ultimately passed to Associated Motorcycles, LTD, of Great Britain and the brand name lived on until 1962 as a name plate attached to imported cycles (*Duryea Times* 2001:11; Youngblood 2001:35-54, 64).

The Indian trademark was in dispute for 40 years while a number of unsuccessful attempts to revive the brand were made. One group took deposits from prospective buyers and dealers, but went bankrupt. A

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receiver was named in 1995 to administrate the combined "estates" of various creditors. Finally in 1999, a \$30 million merger involving Indian Motorcycle Company, Inc., American Indian Motorcycle Company, California Motorcycle Company and its six related companies created the Indian Motorcycle Corporation of Gilroy, California. It produced fewer than 6,000 units during its first three years of operation, went bankrupt in 2003 and sold its assets in January 2004 (Crowley 2004).

George Hendee and the Development of Hilltop Farm

By 1913 the success of Indian motorcycles made Hendee a wealthy man and he began to consider retirement from the everyday operations of the company. It is reasonable to assume that the grueling pace of his life during the previous decade where he oversaw nearly every facet of the growing company's business had taken its toll. He later stated that his retirement from the business in favor of taking up agriculture "has given me a great kick and possibly will prolong my life." His love for agriculture was likely developed during the summers he spent on his uncle's farm in Massachusetts as a boy. He later credited the hard farm work he was made to do for developing the endurance and stamina that helped him during his racing and business careers (Hendee 1931).

The type of farm that Hendee sought to develop was not common in the Springfield vicinity. His interest was to raise prize dairy cows and poultry rather than crops. He also intended to build a grand estate house that was in proportion to his position as a captain of industry. His desire to stay close to his business and his deep roots in Springfield were strong factors in his search for an appropriate location for the estate. Ultimately, he settled on a spot along the scenic Connecticut River in the extreme northeast corner of nearby Suffield, Connecticut. Located along Mapleton Avenue at the Massachusetts/Connecticut state line, the area was locally known as "Crooked Lane" and was a part of the village of Mapleton. It consisted of a number of small farms developed primarily by members of the Sikes family. The first member of the Sikes family to settle in the area was Victory Sikes, a native of Springfield who was granted 50 acres on what became Mapleton Avenue in 1680 and moved his family there in 1682 (Sikes 1988:4). Over the following two centuries, the Sikes family established a number of small farms in the area, raising tobacco, which was Suffield's most significant cash crop, vegetables, fruit, dairy cattle, and poultry.

In August 1913, Hendee made the initial land purchases that would serve as the core of the estate. They consisted of seven parcels that totaled nearly 200 acres and cost about \$40,000. Among the properties were the former Zenas Sikes farmstead, which included the Sikes family burial plot and would be the site of Hendee's manor house, and the Hiram M. and D. Doremus Bement Farm where the agricultural buildings would be constructed (Baker & Tilden 1869; Sikes 1988:7). The entire purchase stretched approximately .75 miles along the west bank of the Connecticut River. Hendee wished to acquire more land at the time, but could not convince the owners to sell at a reasonable price (Anon. 1913). He was

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able to increase the size of the holdings considerably by making 10 additional property acquisitions between 1916 and 1917, and two more in 1925 to bring the total of his holdings to about 460 acres (Sikes 1990; Suffield Deed Book 68, pp. 450–452).

A contemporary description of the land that Hendee planned to develop stated that it was

“ . . . one of the choicest sites within six miles of the city (Springfield). Shielded on the one side by several small farms or little consequence and on the other but the wooded banks of the river, the possibilities of the site have hardly been realized except by those with a sharp eye for the possibilities of landscape gardening with the advantage of a long purse. To a large extent it has passed as neglected land of little value. But from little open spaces on its wooded heights one may get a vision of miles of the Connecticut river [sic] below. Looking far away to the eastern hills from the Wilbraham mountains [sic] on the north, to the hills below Rockville, Conn. On the south, he may see all that lies between. To the west he looks over a beautiful farming country and even over the hills that lie east of Southwick to the Berkshire hills [sic], to Tolland and Blandford, and around to the north where Mount Tom stands as a haughty sentinel” (Anon 1913).

Hendee hired architect Max Westhoff of Saranac, New York, to design the buildings for the estate, which he named “Hilltop Farm.” Landscape architect Carl Rust Parker of Portland, Maine was engaged to layout the grounds and Napoleon E. Russell, a Springfield contractor who had overseen construction of the additions to the Wigwam between 1907 and 1912 was hired to execute Westhoff’s designs. Site preparation and the construction of some of the agricultural buildings began in early 1914, and by the end of the summer the massive dairy barn was nearly completed. While it was under construction a local newspaper described it as a “barn calculated to be sufficient for a farm of considerable scope and dimensions. . . . The two great towers are more than ornamental . . . they’re silos and of prodigious capacity. The rest of this main floor is given up to hay storage and for farm wagons and implements. It could also store a locomotive or a whole train of cars, for it is mammoth in size. The ground floor reached from the lower level is done off in concrete and plaster and there is room for a “tie up” of an army of cattle. Off to the left of this good old-fashioned barn is a hen emporium with countless runs for thousands of biddies. Facing the main roadway, a trim administrator’s cottage is under construction.” The location of the manor house was described as a “site-for-the-gods.” The house was to be 100 feet long and have commanding views of the Connecticut River and the towns and villages bordering it for miles north and south. The initial plans called for it to be constructed of brownstone and Russell was advertising for bids to deliver the large quantity necessary to construct the house. A large greenhouse was constructed by the summer of 1914 to grow the numerous flowers and plants that Parker had specified for the grounds (*The Springfield Homestead* 1914).

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Hendee moved from Springfield to the farm in 1914 and occupied the former Bement farmhouse immediately southwest of the barn to oversee the work progressing on the estate. This house later became the farm superintendent's residence. He left most of the other farm buildings that came with his land purchases, as well, and ultimately used them for housing farm personnel and farm storage and processing facilities. (Durkee et al. 1938).

From the time of his initial move to the farm until he sold it in 1940, Hilltop Farm was his primary place of residence. In 1915 he removed himself from the daily operations of his manufacturing company so that he could spend more time at Hilltop. That same year, his first wife, Edith, died and he married his second wife, Edith Leona Hale of Gill, Massachusetts. In 1916 the manor house was completed and Hendee resigned his position as president of the Hendee Manufacturing Company to devote his full attention to developing Hilltop Farm. (*Springfield Republican* 1943; White 1945:139).

With the entrance of the United States into World War I, Hendee volunteered for service. In 1917, at the age of 51, he went to France to serve with the Y.M.C.A. on an unattached basis. He organized an efficient system for delivering mail to the organization's personnel on the front and ultimately took charge of postal deliveries for the aviation and ambulance corps. He returned home in May 1918 and resumed his agricultural pursuits, immersing himself in the study of the dairy and poultry industries. His primary attention was given to developing a herd of Guernsey cows, but he also established a model poultry plant for the breeding of white leghorn chickens. During the early 1920s he visited every important Guernsey herd in the United States and also visited the Island of Guernsey in the British Isles where the breed originated. Ultimately, he developed a prize herd of cows known as Hilltop Butterfats, which became well known throughout the cattle breeding industry for its record setting production, and Hilltop Farm known became an important local producer of milk, dairy and poultry products (Musser 1940; *Springfield Republican* 1943). During the 1930s Hendee employed more than 100 hands at the farm (Friends of the Farm at Hilltop 2003a).

In 1924, Hendee led an effort by the Melha Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine to have Springfield selected as the site of the Northeastern States' unit of the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. The first Shriners Hospital opened in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1922, and by the end of that decade, 13 more hospitals were in operation. The Springfield Shriners Hospital on Carew Street opened in February 1925 as the eleventh hospital in the system. Hendee was named the first chairman of the board of hospital trustees and devoted the remainder of his active life to running the hospital on a full-time basis. He donated generously to the hospital and worked tirelessly without compensation to provide the hospital staff with the best materials and equipment to treat handicapped children and supplied the hospital with all of its dairy and poultry products produced at Hilltop Farm. Hendee's interest in health care also led him to donate generously to the city's Wesson Memorial and Springfield hospitals, and upon his second wife's death in 1976 the three hospitals received the proceeds from his estate valued at more than \$7 million (*Springfield Republican* 1943; *Daily News* 1976).

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By 1938, Hendee began experiencing significant health problems that forced him to cut back on his activities at the farm and the hospital (Dillman 2004). Two years later, Hendee sold Hilltop Farm to Charles Stroh and William Shew for \$75,000 (Suffield Deed Book 68, pp. 450–452). He moved with his wife to a Tudor Revival-style home that he built at 1103 Mapleton Avenue where he lived until his death at the age of 76 in 1943 (*Springfield Republican* 1943; Friends of the Farm at Hilltop 2003a).

The Post-Hendee Period

Stroh was a prominent attorney, civil servant, and conservationist from Bloomfield, Connecticut. Born in 1910 in West Hartford, he had a distinguished career in public service, serving as president of the state prison board, member of the board of trustees for the University of Connecticut, a superior court judge, and trustee of the Mount Sinai Hospital in Hartford. He was a notable conservationist who served as chairman of Connecticut Governor Meskill's Task Force on Farmland Preservation and the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority under Governor Grasso. Like Hendee before him, he was president of the executive committee of the Eastern States Exposition, the largest annual agricultural fair in New England, and was the attorney for the American Holstein Association (Friends of the Farm at Hilltop 2003b).

Shew, who was also an attorney, had little to do with the farm and soon dissolved his interest, placing it fully in Stroh's name. Under Stroh's ownership, Hilltop became an internationally known breeding farm for prized Holstein cattle. At one point the farm had about 10,000 laying hens, 50–60 colony houses for a few thousand broiler hens, a dairy herd numbering 150 registered Holsteins, and several thoroughbred horses. Stroh resided in the house that was previously occupied by Hendee's farm superintendent, Frank Smith, immediately southwest of the dairy barn. Stroh lived at the farm with his second wife, Betty, until he died in 1992. He was posthumously inducted into the National Dairy Shrine Hall of Fame in 1994 (Friends of the Farm at Hilltop 2003a).

Stroh began the process of subdividing and selling off a major portion of the 500-acre estate in 1941, when 56.1 acres, including the manor house and grounds, were sold to Karl Bissell. Bissell, a wealthy New York businessman, and his partner, John W. Glynn of Springfield, purchased the former Springfield Brewing Company's facility in Willimansett, Massachusetts after Prohibition ended in 1933 and named it the Hampden Brewing Company. Among its products was Hampden Mild Ale, which was one of the region's most popular brands during the mid-twentieth century (Beer and Winemaking Supplies 2002). In 1961, Bissell sold the property to the Order of the Holy Redeemer for approximately \$2 million. The Redemptorist Fathers tore down Hendee's manor house to build St. Alphonsus College, a 132,000-sq ft, four-story facility, which at its peak in the mid-1970s had an enrollment of 100 students. By the late 1980s, enrollment had declined significantly and the college finally closed in 1996. The college was purchased by the Suffield Conference Center in 1999 for \$2.25 million. It was leased in 2000 and

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subsequently purchased in 2003 by Educational Properties, LLC, for use as the Connecticut Culinary Institute (Friends of the Farm at Hilltop 2003a).

Other properties sold off by Stroh included the 49.3-acre Indian Spring Farm property, located immediately north of the manor house parcel, to Connecticut Power and Light in 1964; 159.9 acres west of Route 75 to William Morgan of Wethersfield, Connecticut, in 1981; and a 1.32 acre parcel to Edward and June Lynch in 1984. The latter parcel contains the non-contributing house erected by the Lynches adjacent to the hen emporium. Poultry operations at Hilltop Farm ended in 1986 and dairying ended in 1998, when Betty Stroh donated the entire herd to the University of Vermont, Charles Stroh's alma mater. In 1999, the remaining 250 acres of Hilltop Farm was sold by Stroh's estate to Pinnacle Developers Suffield, LLC, for the development of an assisted living facility. Protests from Suffield residents about the intentions for the property halted development of the facility. In December 2001, Pinnacle sold 127 acres, including the dairy barn and other agricultural buildings to the Town of Suffield. The remaining 118 acres was sold to a local real estate developer for a residential subdivision. From its holdings, the Town of Suffield has created a 76-acre conservation area, which includes an active nesting ground for American bald eagles. In 2004 Educational Properties, LLC purchased a 7.9-acre parcel including the dairy barn, farm manager residences, the hen house and other agricultural buildings for adaptive use as college facilities. Educational Properties has entered into a renewable 99-year ground lease with The Friends of the Farm at Hilltop, Inc., a local preservation organization that is seeking to restore the landmark dairy barn as an agricultural and educational facility (Friends of the Farm at Hilltop 2003a).

National Register Criteria Justification

Criterion A

Hilltop Farm is eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of agriculture as an excellent example of the development of the "gentleman's farm" or "estate farm" of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Gentleman's farms in New England gained popularity among the wealthy largely during the period between the 1880s and 1930s. Wealthy industrialists like George M. Hendee, who sought the pastoral ideal that was otherwise lacking in their busy, society lives, used them as estate properties and vacation homes. Hilltop Farm was typical among gentleman's farms of the day in its functions and components. Most gentleman's farms had a large estate house separated from the farm fields, where guests were entertained and family gathered for celebrations and leisure activities. Hilltop Farm was similar to the Morton Plant estate (1906) at Groton, Connecticut, in this regard. Many of these farms also had a sprawling barn complex in which all of the most advanced practices of agriculture and animal husbandry were studied and developed. In this way, the dairy barn at Hilltop Farm resembles those of the National Register-listed Shelburne Farms, in Shelburne, Vermont, and the Billings Farms, in Woodstock, Vermont.

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The barn complex at Hilltop Farm featured many of the most recent developments in dairy farming, and its poultry and vegetable facilities and practices were also among the most advanced of the day. Like most other similar concerns, Hendee employed a large staff of farm hands and supervisory personnel to work the farm. He established a prize breed of Guernsey cattle and white leghorn chickens and Hilltop Farm was an important local dairy and poultry supplier. Hendee also used farm products to supply the Springfield Shriners Hospital. Under the ownership of Charles Stroh, Hilltop Farm became an internationally known breeding farm for prized Holstein cattle.

Criterion B

Hilltop Farm is significant under Criterion B for its association with George Hendee. Hendee was America's first bicycle racing champion and was a pioneer of and played a major role in the development of the American motorcycle industry. Together with Oscar Hedstrom, Hendee established Indian Motorcycle in 1901 and in the ensuing 15 years made it into the most recognizable and largest motorcycle company in the nation. The Indian brand remains a significant part of American culture more than 50 years after the company stopped production.

Hilltop Farm was the direct result of Hendee's success at Indian. He used the fortune he amassed there to develop the estate. Hendy lived at Hilltop for 26 years, far longer than at any other address. While living at Hilltop he participated in breeding prize winning Guernsey cows and poultry and devoted himself to philanthropic work, including participating in the founding and serving as chairman of the board of trustees for Springfield's Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children.

Hilltop Farm is the most significant surviving property associated with Hendee. His other known residences include a home in Hampden, Massachusetts where he lived at for a short while working at Indian and a Tudor Revival-style residence that he constructed at 1103 Mapleton Avenue in Suffield where he lived from 1940 until his death in 1943. Hendee also owned a house on Lake Sunapee, New Hampshire, where he vacationed during the summer and indulged his love for fishing. That house burned sometime after his death. Only a small portion of the Wigwam, Indian Motorcycle's manufacturing plant in Springfield, survives. The factory was closed in 1953 and fell into disrepair. The portion that remains has been converted into residential apartments and does not possess its integrity as the major manufacturing facility it once was.

Criterion C

Hilltop Farm is eligible for listing under Criterion C as an excellent example of an early-twentieth-century agricultural landscape and for the distinctive architecture exhibited in the dairy barn. The carriage house that was part of the manor estate is a representative example of the work of prominent New York and

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Springfield architect Max Westhoff. It is likely that Westhoff designed the dairy barn, as well. Other buildings at Hilltop Farm are representative of earlier agricultural development and reflect patterns in rural New England architecture during the mid- to late nineteenth century. The landscape of the district is significant as a relatively intact example of an early-twentieth-century farm and as an example of the work of landscape architect Carl Rust Parker.

The Dairy Barn that dominates the district's landscape was constructed in 1914. As the centerpiece of the agricultural section the estate, it conformed to the latest scientific notions on animal husbandry, and contained the most modern equipment and materials of the day. It is an excellent example of an early-twentieth-century, ground-level stanchion barn executed in the Colonial Revival style. The barn's multiple wall and roof planes and fenestration express the building's sprawling mass while at the same time providing scale and unity between the elements. The design, particularly in the entrance and the placement of the silos at the north end of the building, the wall dormers, and patterns of fenestration, show a cleverly conceived building constructed to appeal to the sensibilities of the picturesque Victorian era that was ending and the Colonial Revival tastes that were emerging at the time.

The barn is representative of the trend toward industrialization of agriculture during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It incorporated modern building materials to improve sanitation and was organized to increase efficiency in the handling of materials. The use of concrete for the dairy floor was a characteristic that was just becoming popular in barns at the time of its construction. Such floors were easier to clean and were greatly responsible for ushering in the era of the modern ground-level stanchion barn design. The tile silos of the barn were advanced for the time, and later became popular during the 1920s and 1930s as a way to seal out virtually all air and outside liquid and thus protect silage from spoiling. With the desire to lessen disease transmission among cows and improve sanitation of the farm came the assignment of specific functions to specialized areas and buildings within the complex. Examples used at Hilltop Farm include the manure shed, which replaced the manure basement of earlier bank barns, and the milk room, which physically separated the animal stalls from the consumable product (Visser 1997:97-101,138-139).

The "Hilltop Manor" house (demolished 1961) and associated carriage house (extant) show another Westhoff approach to revival architectural design. The two buildings, both executed in the Spanish Revival style, invoked a completely different feeling than the Colonial Revival-style Barn. The massive Hilltop Manor was an elaborate example of its style, with many of the elements of high style examples of the style. The Carriage House, though smaller, epitomizes the style as well through its hip roof with clay tiles, stucco siding, window tracery, and low massing.

Max Westhoff, the architect of extant carriage house and probable designer of the barn, was known as a skilled practitioner of the revival styles of architecture that were popular during the early twentieth century. He was born in Brooklyn in 1870, and worked for the New York firm of Eidlitz and McKenzie

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early in his career. About 1902, he is said to have gone to the Adirondacks to recover from tuberculosis. He retained a job with the firm of W.L. Coulter beginning in 1902, and began to assist Coulter with designs for “camps” in the mountain region. He eventually rose from an associate to a partner in the firm, and during his 18 years in the region, Westhoff designed a number of Adirondack camps for wealthy clients and also estates outside the region. His designs took cues from the chalets of Switzerland and France, Japanese houses and temples, and Colonial-era American buildings. His Colonial-inspired designs led him to be the architect for the Hancock House (1925–1926), in Ticonderoga, New York, a copy of John Hancock’s home in Boston. In 1919, Westhoff moved his practice to Springfield, Massachusetts. Among Westhoff’s most well known projects were: Camp Carolina (ca. 1913), on Lake Placid, NY; Central Connecticut Valley Historical Museum (ca. 1922), in Springfield, MA; and an addition to the Essex County Courthouse (ca. 1908), in Elizabethtown, NY. Max Westhoff died in the early 1950s (Hotaling 1999).

The contractor for the construction all the Hendee-era buildings on the estate was Napoleon Edward Russell, of Springfield. Russell was born in Montgomery, Vermont, in 1861, and moved to Springfield about 1879. His company constructed residential and industrial properties throughout its 40 years of existence. Russell appears to have first worked for George Hendee as contractor for “the Wigwam,” the Indian Motorcycle Company factory in Springfield. Russell oversaw the expansion of the former Springfield Industrial Institute building, on State Street, into a complex, which contained more than 11.5 acres of manufacturing floor space by 1912. Russell died in Springfield in 1931 (*Daily News* 1931).

Although the architecture of the district’s twentieth-century buildings is in large part responsible for their prominence on the property, their sighting and landscaping add greatly to the effect. The landscape architect responsible for this contribution is Carl Rust Parker. Parker was born in Andover, Massachusetts, in 1882. He became a draftsman with the office of Olmsted Brothers in 1901, and also served as a planting designer and supervisor of construction and planting operations in the office over the next nine years. Between 1910 and 1917, when Hilltop Farm was developed, Parker was in private practice, with offices in Portland, Maine, and Springfield, Massachusetts. His work during this time included private estates, parks, and housing subdivisions. It is likely that Parker met George Hendee through contacts in Springfield. Parker went on to work for the United States War Department in its Camp Planning Section, and for the Department of Labor, in the United States Housing Corporation, between 1917 and 1919. In 1919, he went back to work in the Olmsted Brothers firm, with which he became a member in 1950, and stayed until his retirement in 1961. Among the most significant projects that Parker worked on at Olmsted Brothers were: the Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey, the University of Maine, University of Mississippi, National Life Insurance Company, and the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Carl Rust Parker died in 1966, at the age of 84 (Anonymous 1942; Marquis 1966).

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Parker's designs for Hilltop Farm were instrumental in establishing the visual character of the property. He sited the aptly named Hilltop Manor at the summit of the hill that dominates the property's center. The house and Carriage House were connected to the road via a serpentine drive flanked by trees and shrubs intended to screen the house from view until its greatest impact would be felt. Plantings around the two buildings isolated them from the other buildings of the working part of the farm, but allowed views of the Connecticut River over the rolling fields to the east of the manor house. The Barn was sited equally as impressively, though for a different effect. It is most visible from the road across open pastures, and its mass is augmented by the absence of buildings directly abutting it. An unseen, but still impressive element of the property's landscape is a drainage and water supply system that runs throughout the property. Clay tile pipes in varying diameters from 3 to 24 inches crisscross the property, connecting buildings and running out to the Connecticut River. While little of evidence of the elaborate formal gardens around the manor house remain, layout of the buildings and the circulation and drainage systems that Parker contributed to are still in evidence. In addition, the farm possesses integrity as a designed farmscape, with a large part of its agricultural land and historic period farm buildings intact.

The Hilltop Farm Historic District contains a variety of building styles from the mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival-style to the Spanish and Colonial Revival styles of the early twentieth century. Also included in the district are a number of agricultural outbuildings whose designs and materials are reflections of their uses, rather than of any stylistic influences.

As one of the original farmsteads on the property, the Zenas L. Sikes farmstead area contains some of the oldest extant buildings in the district. The Sikes House, a Greek Revival building, is adjacent to a number of utilitarian buildings that are likely late-nineteenth-century constructions, and also one early-twentieth-century, Dutch Colonial-style, residential building, which was probably constructed during Hendee's ownership of the property. The Sikes House, which was constructed about 1850, has been altered since its construction, but retains its primary massing and Greek Revival elements. It is a rather large example of a typical style for farmhouses of the mid-nineteenth century. The outbuildings that are associated with the house, including a tobacco shed and a gambrel barn, are typical of other buildings found throughout the Hilltop Farm Historic District. The Dutch Colonial-style house was a later addition to the Sikes farmstead area, having been constructed after that complex was consumed into Hilltop Farm through George Hendee's purchases.

The Stroh House, at 1606 Mapleton Avenue, has at its core a mid- to late-nineteenth-century house. This core has been heavily altered by additions, including an end chimney, two-bay garage, and rear ells, to reach its current complex massing and modern exterior materials. Though it is one of the older buildings in the district, the significance of the Stroh House is reduced by these alterations.

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Town of Suffield

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(end)

Hilltop Farm Historic District, Suffield
Name of property

Hartford, Connecticut
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property 236 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	1	8	6	9	7	2	8	2	4	6	5	5	9	8	6
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
2	1	8	6	9	7	7	5	7	4	6	5	5	9	7	6

3	1	8	6	9	7	9	1	5	4	6	5	5	2	0	1
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
4	1	8	6	9	8	0	7	2	4	6	5	4	6	4	0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephen Olausen and Jeffrey Emidy

organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. date June 2004

street and number 210 Lonsdale Avenue telephone 401-728-8780

city or town Pawtucket state RI zip code 02860

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resource

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name

street and number telephone

city or town state zip code

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Hilltop Farm Historic District, Suffield
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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References (cont.)

5. 18/697325/4654650
6. 18/697284/4654736
7. 18/697240/4654746
8. 18/697162/4654680
9. 18/697030/4654660
10. 18/697028/4655177
11. 18/697296/4655179

Verbal Boundary Description

The district is comprised of eight parcels of land in the Town of Suffield as follows:

Suffield Assessor's
Map 35, Block 53, Lot 3
Map 35, Block 53, Lot 2
Map 82H, Block 53, Lot 4B
Map 82H, Block 53, Lot 4A
Map 82H, Block 53, Lot 4B-1
Map 82H, Block 53, Lot 4
Map 82H, Block 53, Lot 4B-3
Map 35, Block 40. Lot 15

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the district encompass the full extent of the intact portions of George Hendee's estate, including the manor house grounds, agricultural complex, and fields that lend the area its distinctive character. The district includes 236 acres of land, including the approximately 195 acres assembled by George Hendee during his initial property purchases for the estate in 1913. Between 1916 and 1925 Hendee acquired 300 additional acres of land in the surrounding area. Among the land acquired during that period was the 41-acre parcel on the west side of Mapleton Avenue, which is included in the district because it is contiguous to the agricultural complex on the east side of the road and contributes to the open agricultural feeling of the area. The remaining 239 acres are not within the district because they have either been developed for modern residential subdivision purposes or are discontiguous from the district.

(end)

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LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Dairy Barn. Hilltop Farm Historic District
2. Hartford County, Connecticut
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
5. PAL, Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, Rhode Island
6. View facing east from Mapleton Avenue
7. Photograph 1 of 14

Items 2 and 5 are the same for all photographs.

1. (left to right) Bull Barn, Breeding Shed, and Calf Barn. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing southeast, from Dairy Barn hayloft
7. Photograph 2 of 14

1. Stroh House. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing east from Mapleton Avenue
7. Photograph 3 of 14

1. (left to right) Sikes House, Sikes Tobacco Shed, Storage Shed, "Guernsey Cow" Roadside Stand, and Sikes Barn. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing northeast, from Mapleton Avenue
7. Photograph 4 of 14

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1. (left to right) Connecticut Culinary Institute and Carriage House. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing northeast, from driveway
7. Photograph 5 of 14

1. Fields on west side of Mapleton Avenue. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing southwest, from corner of Mapleton Avenue and Hickory Street
7. Photograph 6 of 14

1. Fields on the CL&P property. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing northeast, from near Sikes Burial Plot
7. Photograph 7 of 14

1. Kaufmann House. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing east, from Mapleton Avenue
7. Photograph 8 of 14

1. Dairy Barn. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. View facing south from Herdsman's Residence
7. Photograph 9 of 14

1. Dairy Barn. Hilltop Farm Historic District
3. Stephen Olausen
4. May 2004
6. Interior view of hayloft from north entrance, facing south
7. Photograph 10 of 14

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1. (left to right) north end of Dairy Barn, Herdsman's Residence, Administrator's Residence, and Hen Emporium. Hilltop Farm Historic District
 3. Stephen Olausen
 4. May 2004
 6. View facing northwest, from near Corn Crib
 7. Photograph 11 of 14
-
1. Poulterer's House and attached Hen Emporium. Hilltop Farm Historic District
 3. Stephen Olausen
 4. May 2004
 6. View facing northwest, from near Chicken House #2 ruins
 7. Photograph 12 of 14
-
1. Hilltop Farm Historic District
 3. unknown
 4. circa 1965
 6. Aerial view facing northeast
 7. Photograph 13 of 14
-
1. Hilltop Manor House (demolished). Hilltop Farm Historic District
 3. unknown
 4. circa 1920
 6. View facing southeast, from driveway
 7. Photograph 14 of 14

(end)

Hilltop Farm Historic District



District Boundary



Photograph Location

Photograph 10 is an interior view of the Dairy Barn
 Photograph 13 is an aerial view of the district
 Photograph 14 is a historic view of a demolished building

