See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received JAN

8 1986

date entered

FEB 6 1986

Type all entries	—complete applic	able sect	ions		
1. Nam	ne				
historic	N	/A			
and/or common		Sterling	Hill Historic [District	
	ation	recrimg	HILL HISCOLIC L	,1501100	
street & number	. (Green La	ne and Route 14 <i>1</i>	1	N/A not for publication
city, town Ste	rling and Plaim	nfield	N/A vicinity of		
state Con	necticut	code	09 county	Windham	code 015
3. Clas	sification	1			
Category X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X private both Public Acquisitic in process being conside	on A	itatus X occupied X unoccupied work in progress ccessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use X agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence X religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Pro	perty	1		
name				e continuation sh	eet
street & number					
city, town			vicinity of	sta	te
5. Loca	ation of L	egal	Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	Sterling	Town Clerk (se	e also continuati	on sheet)
street & number		Route 14	A Box 178		
city, town		Oneco		sta	te Connecticut
	resentati	on in	Existing	Surveys	
title State Rec	gister of Histo	ric Plac	ces has this pro	operty been determined	eligible?yes _X_ no
date 1985				_	state county loca
depository for su	urvey records	Connect	ticut Historical		•
city, town	-	59 Sout	th Prospect Stre	et sta	te Connecticut

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
excellent _X_ good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered _X_ altered	original site moved date	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sterling Hill Historic District is a group of 14 houses with related outbuildings and one church perched upon a broad ridge at the western edge of the Town of Sterling, Connecticut. To the west the land slopes sharply downward toward the Ekonk section of Plainfield, while to the east the land drops off more gently. The principal road in the district is the east-west State Route 14A, known also as Plainfield Pike, with Green Lane running northward at the summit of the hill near the district's focal point, the Greek Revival-style Sterling Hill Baptist Church (Photograph 1). Near the church the houses are located close together (photograph 4), but further away from the intersection the houses are set quite far apart with extensive intervening open land.

Seven plainly detailed 18th-century houses make up the largest single type of historic resource in the Sterling Hill district. Two-and-one-half stories high, with the ridge of their gable roofs set parallel to the road, most have clapboarded exteriors, large brick center chimneys, and symmetrical five-bay facades with central entries. One house was originally a "half-house" with rooms on only one side of the chimney (Photograph 8). There are two Federal-style houses, traditional in form but having elaborate doorways and other architectural detail, and two of the 18th-century houses have later modifications which reflect the influence of the Federal style (Photographs 5 and 7). The most elaborate house in the district, with quoins, pilastered entry, festooned fanlight glazing and finely detailed cornice, is the Perkins house, #9 (Photographs 10 and 11), a central-hall house with the middle part of its facade extended forward into a pedimented pavilion.

Three houses in the district are 1 1/2-story houses from the early 19th century, one of which is oriented with its gable end turned toward the street and has a Victorian porch and bay window (Photographs 9, 15, and 16). Only two of the district's 15 major structures were judged noncontributing: a ranch-type house built c.1950 (Photograph 17) and a Bungalow-influenced 1939 house (Photograph 16).

Two of the properties, #'s 10 and 5 are part of operating farms. Among the numerous 20th-century barns, silos, and sheds associated with these properties are older frame barns on stone foundations which appear to date from the middle 19th century or earlier (Photograph 13); the Smith house, #12, also has an old barn nearby. Because of the continuance of agriculture, much of the land in the district is still open and in meadow, with stone walls demarcating the fields.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

4

Page

1

Property Owners (continued):

Map/Block/Lot	Owner & Address	Inventory Number	Contributing/ Noncontributing
	GREEN LANE		
3828/25/6	Charles & Mary Sowles 38639 2nd Street East Palmdale, CA 93550	1	Contributing
3828/24/40	Sterling Hill Baptist Church Route 14A Moosup, CT 06354	2	Contributing
	ROUTE 14A (PLAINFIELD)		
32/60/3	Mark F. & Robin C. Seaman RFD Box 417 Moosup, CT 06354	13	Contributing
	ROUTE 14A (STERLING)		
3828/24/38	Evelyn L. & Richard B. Young & Joyce A. Zavistoski RFD Box 477 Moosup, CT 06354	3	Contributing
3648/33/11	Herbert F. & Flora Van Cleaf RFD Moosup, CT 06354	4	Contributing
3648/33/10	Kenneth S. Bosworth Box 64 Sterling, CT 06377	5	Contributing
3648/33/8	Charles A. & Marjorie A. Krull NRRO P.O. Box 2008 Naval Base Branch Portsmouth, NH 03801	6	Contributing
3648/33/7,7A	Norman & Dorothy Bunning RFD Moosup, CT 06354	15	Noncontributin

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Sterling Hill Historic District

Continuation sheet

Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

4

Page

2

Property Owners (continued):

Map/Block/Lot	Owner & Address	Inventory Number	Contributing/ Noncontributing
3648/33/5	Wesley & Antoinette Love	_	Land only included in
	Moosup, CT 06354		district
3828/25/4	Doris L. Nye RFD Box 408 Moosup, CT 06354	7	Contributing
3828/25/3	Richard D. & Phyllis J. Hughes RFD Moosup, CT 06354	8	Contributing
3648/33/6	Arvid & Bonnie Bell Ruden RFD Box 411 Moosup, CT 06354	9	Contributing
3828/25/2	Francis J. & Joseph Amaral P.O. Box 121 Oneco, CT 06373	10	Contributing
3648/33/2	Ernest Frink RFD Moosup, CT 06354	11	Contributing
3648/33/1	Harold L. Frink RFD 1 Box 414 Moosup, CT 06354	-	Land only
3828/25/1	Evelyn L. Roper Squaw Rock Road Moosup, CT 06354	12	Contributing
3648/26/1	Percy & Marylou Sanborn RFD Moosup, CT 06354	14	Noncontributin

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

5

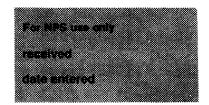
Page 1

Location of Legal Description (continued):

Land records for that portion of the district in the Town of Plainfield:

Plainfield Town Clerk
Town Hall
8 Community Avenue
Plainfield, Connecticut 06374

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT **Item number**

7

Page

Description (continued):

The houses have been altered over time, but in nearly all cases they retain their characteristic form and appearance. Three of the 18th-century houses have smaller chimners replacing their large central stacks, and two have been sided with modern materials. Victorian and early 19th-century six-over-six sash have replaced original windows. Most interiors were extensively remodelled in the early 20th century, though original stair-cases, fireplaces, and mantels remain in several cases. None of the house has been "restored" with modern reproduction material; what is seen today is authentic and represents the survival of genuine historic fabric.

INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

GREEN LANE

- 1. House, c.1790, 2 1/2 stories, shingled, fenestration altered, modern side chimney (Photograph 2).
- 2. Sterling Hill Baptist Church, 1797 (remodelled 1859), Greek Revival, paneled pilasters, entablature under eaves, belfry with spire (Photographs 1 and 3).

ROUTE 14A

- 3. Dorrance Homestead, c.1716, 2 1/2 stories, original house with rooms to right of large chimney, with later 2-story addition to left; Greek Revival doorway (Photograph 8).
- 4. H.C. Call house, c.1830, 1 1/2 stories, gable end to street, bay window, entry under Italianate side porch (Photograph 9).
- 5. Willard Putnam House, c.1800, Federal-style, 2 1/2 stories, central brick chimney, doorway with paneled door, fanlight, fluted pilasters, pediment (Photographs 4 and 6). Modern barns and one old barn to rear.
- 6. John Douglas House, c.1759, 2 1/2 stories, central brick chimney, c.1820 doorway with sidelights, entablature, and pilasters (Photographs 4 and 5). Interior includes some wainscot and stair detail.
- 7. James Dorrance House, c.1790 (remodelled c.1830), $2\ 1/2$ stories, entry with sidelight, entablature, and pilasters; triangular attic window in gables; long addition to rear; interior includes stairway with turned balusters; fence with stylized pineapple finials, round rails over panels (Photographs 1, 4, and 7).

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

7

Page

2

Description (continued):

- 8. Robert Dixon House, c.1790, 2 1/2 stories, c.1900 entrance porch, modern siding material (Photograph 4).
- 9. Judge Oliver Perkins House, c.1800, Federal style, 2 1/2 stories, central pavilion, quoins, pedimented entry, pilasters, fanlight, and ornate cornice; two brick chimneys (Photographs 10 and 11). Interior includes one mantel.
- 10. Gallup Homestead (Dorrance Inn), c. 1732, 2 1/2 stories, attic overhang, modern entry porch (Photograph 10); barns include some old structures on stone foundations (Photograph 13).
- 11. House, c. 1800, 1 1/2 stories, central entry within 3-bay facade, small old chimney and modern side chimney, aluminum siding (Photograph 15).
- 12. Francis Smith House, c.1796, 2 1/2 stories, central brick chimney, Victorian entry hood (Photograph 14); old frame barns perhaps c.1860.
- 13. House, c.1840, 1 1/2 stories.

INVENTORY OF NONCONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

ROUTE 14A

- 14. House, 1939, 1 1/2 stories, Bungalow style (Photograph 16).
- 15. House and garage, c.1950, one story (Photograph 17).

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Cl	neck and justify below	
prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1700–1799 X 1800–1899	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	community planning landscape architectu conservation law economics literature education military engineering music X exploration/settlement philosophy industry politics/government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
Criteria A, (C	invention	other (specify)

Specific dates See Inventory, Item 7 Builder Architect Not known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary

The Sterling Hill Historic District is significant as a representative example of a particular 18th- and early 19th-century Connecticut settlement type, the upland-ridge village crossroads (Criterion A). Unlike many such centers, Sterling Hill was relatively unaffected by subsequent change in the 19th century or even in recent times, so that it retains much of the appearance it had in its earlier years, with a cluster of old houses, barns, a church, and open fields separated by stone walls. The houses on Sterling Hill are also significant because they embody the characteristic architecture of the period (Criterion C). There are the plain center-chimney houses typical of the 18th century, as well as the finely detailed, elegant dwellings which appeared in the Connecticut countryside in the Federal period.

Historical Development

English settlement of the area which became known as Sterling Hill began in the years shortly after 1700; the place was incorporated in 1721 as part of Voluntown. Voluntown, where some land was reserved for rewarding English veterans of the Indian wars, remained an isolated, thinly populated town throughout the 18th century. Settlement occurred principally along the flat uplands atop ridges such as Sterling Hill, and subsistence agriculture was virtually the only economic activity. Among the houses of early families are the Isaac Gallup Homestead (#10, Photograph 12, later known as the Dorrance Inn), a house believed to date from 1732, and #3, the home of Reverend Samuel Dorrance, Voluntown's long-time minister (Photograph 8), which is said to date from c.1716. It is perhaps a measure of Voluntown's isolation from the major centers of the colony that the town's established church was not originally Congregational but rather an affiliate of the Presbyterian church of Scotland, a fact which does not seemed to have alarmed the colony's religious leaders.

The pattern of the pre-1780 houses on Sterling Hill (#'s 3, 6 and 10) was typical of 18th-century agricultural areas in Connecticut: widely separated houses and accompanying barns sited close to the road, with fields delineated by stone walls (actually stone bases for wooden rail fences) running back from the thoroughfare. Sterling Hill today continues to maintain much of this appearance. The persistence of agriculture has retained the open land, old barns (as well as new), and wide spaces between homesteads which characterized Sterling Hill in the past.

9. Major Bibliographical References	9.	. M	ajor	Bibliog	raphical	References
-------------------------------------	----	-----	------	----------------	----------	------------

GPO 894-785

Bayles, Richard M. <u>History of Windham County, Connecticut</u>. New York, 1889. 1880.

		and and New 1	OLK. New I	laven, 1821. (contin	ued)
graphical	Data				
Oneco		5	Qua	adrangle scale 1:24 000	
Northing		B Zone	Easting	Northing	J
		D F H			<u></u>
description and jus	tification	***************************************			
nuation sheet					
nd counties for prop	erties overla	apping state or c	ounty bound	daries _{N/A}	
	code	county		code	
	code	county		code	
m Prepare	d By				
Bruce Clouette	& Matthew	Roth partner	odited	hy Toha Haran Nat	1
				Register Coordin	
		cants (late May	30, 1985	
*		t	elephone	(203) 547-0268	
Hartford		•	state (Connecticut	
te Historic	: Prese	ervation	Office	r Certificati	on
			Office	r Certificati	on
nificance of this propert	ty within the s		Office	er Certificati	on
nificance of this propert nationalX_ s State Historic Preserva	ty within the sistate	tate is: local r the National Hist e National Registe	coric Preserva r and certify t	tion Act of 1966 (Public Lathat it has been evaluated	
nificance of this propert nationalxs State Historic Preserva	state ation Officer for inclusion in the set forth by the	tate is: local r the National Hist e National Registe	coric Preserva r and certify t	tion Act of 1966 (Public La	
nificance of this propert national X s State Historic Preserva inate this property for i riteria and procedures s	state ation Officer for inclusion in the set forth by the	tate is: local or the National Hist e National Registe e National Park Se	coric Preserva r and certify t ervice.	tion Act of 1966 (Public La	
nificance of this propert nationalX_ s State Historic Preservationate this property for interial and procedures servation Officer signates.	state ation Officer for inclusion in the set forth by the	tate is: local or the National Hist e National Registe e National Park Se	coric Preserva r and certify t ervice.	ntion Act of 1966 (Public Law hat it has been evaluated	
nificance of this propert national X s State Historic Preservationate this property for interia and procedures servation Officer signate thannahan, Director	state ation Officer for inclusion in the set forth by the ure or, Connect included in the	local or the National Hister National Park Servicut Historic Commission	coric Preserva r and certify to prvice.	ntion Act of 1966 (Public Law hat it has been evaluated	
national X s State Historic Preservationate this property for interia and procedures servation Officer signate thannahan, Directorily that this property is	state ation Officer for inclusion in the set forth by the ure or, Connect included in the	local or the National Hister National Park Selection Historic Commission The National Register Registe	coric Preserva r and certify t ervice.	ntion Act of 1966 (Public Law hat it has been evaluated	
nificance of this propert national <u>X</u> s State Historic Preserva inate this property for i riteria and procedures s servation Officer signate hannahan, Directo	state ation Officer for inclusion in the set forth by the ure or, Connect included in the	local or the National Hister National Park Selection Historic Commission The National Register Registe	coric Preserva r and certify t ervice.	tion Act of 1966 (Public Lar hat it has been evaluated date 12/26/85	
	need property approximated property approxim	Northing Northing description and justification nuation sheet code code code prepared By Bruce Clouette & Matthew Historic Resource Consult The Colt Armory 55 Van Dyke Avenue	ated property _approx. 25 acres Oneco see continuation sheet	Ated property approx. 25 acres Oneco see continuation sheet	And counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries nuation sheet Code County Code

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet Ste

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number 8

Page

Significance (continued):

Sterling Hill became more densely settled toward the end of the 18th-century, in part because of increased travel on the road now known as Route 14A. The road was a major link between Rhode Island and central Connecticut, as evidenced by the route the French Armies took, camping overnight on Sterling Hill in 1781 and 1783 before continuing on their journeys. Many of the houses on Sterling Hill, including #'s 3, 7, and 8, are said to have served at one time or another as taverns, and #10 is the Dorrance Inn described at length by the Marquis de Chastellux, one of the French officers surveying the army's route. The other road, Green Lane (originally Great Lane) was known as the road to Brooklyn, the seat of Windham County. (Even in 1800, none of the intervening communities --Moosup, Central Village, Wauregan, Danielson -- existed: all developed later as mill-related villages.)

In the 1790s the area experienced two important changes. In 1794, the north part of Voluntown was incorporated as the separate town of Sterling, named after a physician who promised to build the town a library in return for the honor (a promise unfulfilled). Sterling was in an unusual position: it had no church within its borders. Worshippers attended services in the surrounding towns, including the Congregational churches in Plainfield, South Killingly and Voluntown and Baptist meetings in nearby Rhode Island. sequently, in 1797 the residents of Sterling Hill decided to provide a place for town meetings, which in other towns were held in church buildings. Although occasional religious services were held, the present Sterling Hill church was primarily intended for the town's civil meetings, and thus ranks among the earliest secular public buildings in the state. In 1812 the trustees of the meetinghouse made it available to Sterling Baptists, and it remains a Baptist meetinghouse today. The building was thoroughly remodeled in the Greek Revival style in 1859.

The second change of the 1790s was the incorporation of the New London and Windham County turnpike and consequent improvement of the main road through Sterling Hill. The company's charter allowed it to build a better road and collect tolls on a route running from the Rhode Island border to Norwich, Connecticut (one tollgate was near the house of tollkeeper Francis Smith, #12). The road connected with other important routes, such as the one leading through Plainfield to Worcester, Massachusetts, and another connecting Hartford and Norwich. The turnpike increased travel through the village, benefitting the tavernkeepers of Sterling Hill. More importantly, it provided a wider market for the area's farmers. Around 1800 there was a noticeable turn toward supplementing subsistence agriculture with marketable

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CTItem number

Pa

8

Page

2

Significance (continued):

commodities such as livestock and wool. A period of prosperity ensued, at least for the larger landowners, and corresponds with the building and remodelling of several Sterling Hill houses in the more elaborate Federal style.

By 1800 Sterling Hill appeared as a model Connecticut village. Timothy Dwight, travelling from Rhode Island, which he found "destitute of beauty . . . [with] very few proofs either of skill or success," described Sterling Hill in much more attractive terms:

At Sterling, we were pleasantly advertised that we had entered the State of Connecticut by the sight of a village, with a decent church and school-house in its centre, and by the appearance of comfortable dwellings and better agriculture. The country was rough, here also; but it wore the appearance of having been dressed. Every thing looked as if the activity of man had been successfully, as well as diligently, employed to render life easy and desireable (Travels, v.2, p. 38).

The great dynamos of the 19th century, however, left Sterling Hill virtually untouched. Railroads passed through nearby communities such as Plainfield, a quarry operated in Oneco just to the east, and textile manufacture created whole new villages everywhere along the Moosup and Quinebaug Rivers. Railroads and industry passed by Sterling Hill, and except for some Victorian alterations to one house, the Hill's physical appearance remained frozen in time.

Architectural Significance

Most of Sterling Hill's houses are typical of New England vernacular building practices in the 18th century. The traditional house form -- gable roof with the ridgeline parallel to the road, a symmetrical five-bay facade with a central entry, and a large central chimney -- is found throughout the Most have clapbooarded exteriors, the most common type of Although most of the houses have exterior covering in the houses' period. been modified with later doorways and sash, they retain their characteristic form. Two variants are found in the district. The original portion of the Dorrance homestead (Photograph 8) was a "half-house," with rooms on only one side of the chimney stack and a correspondingly offset entrance. The Gallup house (Photograph 12) shows the attic-story overhang construction which was popular (but never universal) in the 18th century. Such an arrangement, consisting of four to six inches of projection on the gable ends, may have some utility in simplifying the end upper corner joints, but it was probably

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Fac HPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

Page

8

ge .

3

Significance (continued):

primarily decorative and does not seem to have been a direct descendent of the dramatic framed overhangs of 17th-century houses.

The vernacular practices established in the 18th century continued into the 19th, as evidenced by several Sterling Hill houses. The Federal-period #5 (Photographs 4 and 6) has only its elegant doorway and a slightly different gable-end attic-window arrangement to distinguish it from its c.1750 neighbor. Even the two small early 19th-century houses at the west end of the district, #11 (c.1800, Photograph 15) and #13 (c.1840, Photograph 16) continue the gable-roof, central entry, center-chimney form but with somewhat different proportions.

Sterling Hill also has architectural significance because of its several fine specimens of Federal architecture. In the early years of the 19th century, houses in rural areas of Connecticut began to be built (or remodeled) in a style derived from the ornate Georgian Classicism which had already made some impact on urban architecture. In addition to the use of Classical elements such as columns, pediments, and dentils, the architecture of the Federal period also introduced the geometric and foliate motifs and the sense of light, elegant ornament made popular by the Adam brothers in Britain.

The resulting free interpretation of Classical elements is clearly evident in the Judge Perkins House (#9, Photographs 10 and 11). In addition to the features derived from Georgian precedent, such as the pediment and fluted Ionic pilasters, the house embodies the Adamesque aesthetic in the delicate fluting and triglyphs which outline the doorway; the small scale of the Greek fret, coved mutules, and other ornament; the use of floral appliquees in the neckings of the pilasters; and the geometric effects in the fanlight glazing.

The doorway on the Willard Putnam House, #5 (c.1800, Photograph 6), represents the beginning of the style's emergence. The thickness of the pilasters and relative heaviness of the pediment's moldings contrast with the lighter proportions of the Perkins house's entry. But the scale of the modillions and dentils, and especially of the incised diamonds surrounding the fanlight, point to the type of ornament which typifies the Federal period. The doorway on #5 also includes two features which are uncommon, if not idiosyncratic: the paneled door with back-to-back ellipse segments (the entirety of the original is no longer evident because of the glass) and the extension of the pilaster fluting into the neckings.

(continued)

OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900-a Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

(3.82)

Sterling Hill Historic District Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

8

Page

Significance (continued):

Two other doorways, though more modest, also embody Federal-style elements, in both cases added onto older houses. The entries on #'s 6 and 7 (Photographs 5 and 7) continue the use of slender pilasters to separate the major elements and both have thin moldings outlining frieze panels. Probably dating from the end of the Federal period, these doorways add to the architectural significance of the district: they illustrate vernacular adaptations of forms found in the village's more high-style houses. doorways represent the quest for greater formality and more elaborate detail which characterized the early 19th century. The same idea is evident in the rail-and-panel fence in front of #7 (Photograph 7); with its stylized pineapple finials, it is a survival of the utmost rarity.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

F

9

Page

1

Bibliography (continued):

Plainfield Probate District. Sterling estates. Microfilm, Connecticut State Library.

The Roads Lead Back to Glory: The History of Sterling, Connecticut. Sterling, 1982.

Sterling in Retrospective. Sterling, 1976.

Terry, Marian Dickinson. Old Inns of Connecticut. Hartford, 1937.

Wood, Frederic J. The Turnpikes of New England. Boston, 1919.

Works Progress Administration. Census of Old Buildings. Manuscript, State Library, c.1935.

MAPS

Baldwin's Map of Plainfield, Connecticut, and Vicinity. Providence, 1892.

"Forty-Ninth Camp at Voluntown [Sterling Hill, Connecticut], 1782" in Howard C. Rice, Jr. and Anne S.K. Brown, The American Campaigns of Rochambeau's Army. Princeton, 1972.

Gray, O.W. Atlas of Windham and Tolland Counties. Hartford: C.G. Keeney, 1869.

Woodford, E.M. Map of Windham County, Connecticut, 1855. Philadelphia, 1856.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CTItem number

10

Page

1

Geographical Data (continued):

Boundary Description

Beginning at the western edge of the district, at the southwest corner of Lot 3, Block 60, as shown on Map 32 in the records of the Plainfield Assessor, the boundary runs northerly along the western line of that then easterly along the lines of that lot and Lot 1, Block 25, as shown on Sterling Assessor Map 3828 (subsequent references are to Sterling properties). At the northeast corner of Lot 1, the boundary turns and runs north in a straight line with the eastern property line of Lot 1 to a point back from Route 14A. It then turns easterly and runs to the southeast corner Block 25, Map 3828. It follows the western and northern lines of Lot 5 to Green Lane. It then crosses Green Lane to a point on the east side Green Lane 350' north of the northeast corner of the intersection of Green Lane and Route 14A. It then runs back perpendicular to Green Lane for 400', then turns south making a right angle and runs to Route 14A. It runs westerly along the north edge of Route 14A, then crosses to the northeast corner of Lot 11, Block 33, Map 3648. It runs southerly along the eastern line of that lot and continues in a straight line to a point 500' back from Route 14A, then turns at right angles and continues to the western property line of Lot 10, Block 33, Map 3648. It runs northerly along the western lines of Lots 10 and 8 to the southeast corner of Lot 7A. westerly along the southern lines of Lots 7A, 7 and 6, continuing across Lot 5 in a straight line. It then runs southerly along the eastern line of Lot 2, then westerly along the southern lines of Lots 2 and 1 to Route 49. crosses Route 49 to the southeast corner of Lot 1, Block 26, Map 3648 and runs westerly along the southern line of that lot to the Plainfield-Sterling town line. It runs north along the town line to Route 14A, then crosses Route 14A to the first point.

Boundary Justification

The boundary was delineated so as to include all those structures which contributed to the themes of early domestic architecture and the historical development of Sterling Hill. To the west on Route 14A, there are no more structures for some distance, and to the east as well there is considerable open land before one encounters a group of modern (c.1970) houses. northern boundary on Green Lane was drawn between an 18th-century house (#1) and one built in 1948. For the sake of clarity, the depth of the district on Route 14A reflects as much as possible the properties' rear lot lines. several cases, however, the lots are very large and extend hundreds of feet back from the road. In these cases, the district boundary was drawn so as to include related standing outbuildings. The district boundary was run across Block 33, Sterling Assessor Map 3648, approximately along a field line marked by a stone wall, thus excluding the c.1970 one-story house which sits toward the rear of the lot.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District Sterling & Plainfield, Clitem number

10

Page

Geographical Data (continued):

The district includes the house on the southwest corner of Routes and 49 (Inventory #14). Although that house is less than 50 years old (1939) and was listed as noncontributing, it clearly shows the influence of Bungalow-style architecture. Because of the possibility of its achieving significance at a later date, and the fact that it marks the western edge of settlement on Sterling Hill, it was included.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Sterling Hill Historic District
Sterling & Plainfield, CT Item number

10

Page

3

Geographical Data (continued):

UTM References:

A:19/263120/4619250 B:19/263160/4619170 C:19/263100/4619140 D:19/263180/4618990 E:19/263090/4618940 F:19/263040/4619020 G:19/262820/4618920 H:19/262840/4618870 I:19/262760/4618850 J:19/262750/4618860 K:19/262690/4618850 L:19/262700/4618920 M:19/262660/4618900 N:19/262640/4618970 0:19/262700/4618990 P:19/262710/4618980 Q:19/262780/4619010 R:19/262760/4619090 S:19/262930/4619160 T:19/262910/4619210

U:19/262990/4619240 V:19/263020/4619220

