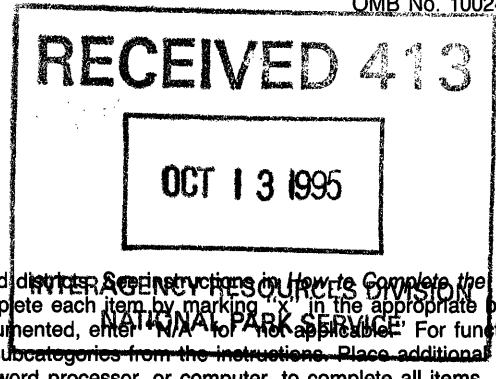


1348

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 on 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 classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only 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 _____

other names/site number Kettle Creek Historic District

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet. NA not for publication

city or town Weston NA vicinity

state Connecticut code CT county Fairfield code 001 zip code 06883

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.)

[Signature] 10/12/95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

John W. Shannahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission
State of 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 sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall
Entered in the
National Register.

Date of Action
11-22-95

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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
10	3	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
10	3	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

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling/secondary structure
DOMESTIC/tavern

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling/secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Postmedieval English
LATE 19TH and 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/
Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
walls weatherboard
roof asphalt
other

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

c. 1740 - 1895

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 15

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 Zone Easting Northing
2 Zone Easting Northing

3 Zone Easting Northing
4 Zone Easting Northing
 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 Reviewed by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

name/title Jan Cunningham, National Register Consultant

organization Cunningham Associates Ltd. date 6/15/95

street & number 37 Orange Road telephone (203) 347 3072

city or town Middletown state CT zip code 06457

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 resources.

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 See item 2.

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 9/10 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

Farnham, Thomas J. *Weston: the forging of a Connecticut town.* Canaan, New Hampshire, Phoenix Publishing for the Weston Historical Society, 1979.

Report of Weston, Connecticut Historical Commission: Proposed Kettle Creek District, n. d.

Report of Weston, Connecticut Historical Commission: Proposed Revised Kettle Creek District, n. d.

Town of Weston, *Atlas of Fairfield County*, 1867.

10. Geographical Data

UTM References:

1. 18 636520 4560770
2. 18 636620 4560830
3. 18 636660 4560630
4. 18 636740 4560630
5. 18 636740 4560500
6. 18 636680 4560480
7. 18 636740 4560340
8. 18 636650 4560290

Verbal Boundary Description:

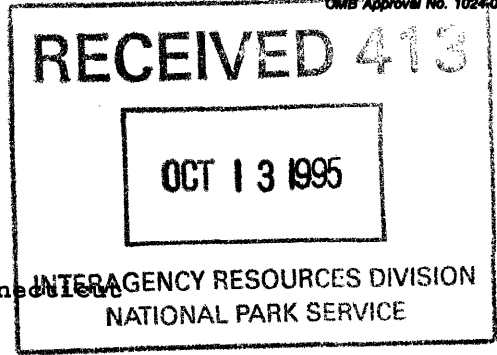
The boundaries of the district are shown on the attached map which was drawn from the map included in the study report of the Kettle Creek District.

Boundary Justification:

The district boundaries were drawn to encompass the maximum number of contiguous contributing properties associated with the district in its period of significance. Because National Register guidelines for selecting boundaries require consideration of visual continuity and/or changes in architectural or historic character, the boundaries differ from those of the local historic district as follows: Properties on the north were excluded because the physical barriers to visual continuity caused by the slope and direction of the highway. Because of the high concentration of non-contributing modern houses beyond 1 River Road in the local district, the boundary ends with this property. There are two historic properties in the local district to the west on Broad Street that were excluded. One, a 1928 Tudor Revival set back and above the road, was excluded because of major differences of scale and architectural period. Farther to the west, an eighteenth-century house that is architecturally and historically compatible with the district had to be excluded because it is not visible from 9 Broad Street, the last historic resource in the district.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**



Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 2 Page 1

Location

Broad Street: 3
Old Weston Road: 2, 30/5/5
River Road: 1
Weston Road: 48, 54, 62, 68

Property Owners as of 5/3/95

3 Broad Street	(31/1/23)	William O. & Carolyn A. Kimberly
2 Old Weston Rd.	(31/1/5) (30/5/5)	MacLennan Farnell
1 River Road	(31/1/1)	Alan & Myra Aronow
48 Weston Road	(31/1/11)	Ronald A. & Constance E. Caruso
54 Weston Road	(31/1/10)	George W. Litteral & Nancy Reardon
62 Weston Road	(31/1/7)	Donald C. & Linda S. Berquist
68 Weston Road	(31/1/6)	Francis J. Antonucci, Trustee 253 Post Road, Westport, CT 06880

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

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 1

The Kettle Creek Historic District is located on Weston Road (Route 57) in the southwest section of the Town of Weston. Part of an existing local historic district of the same name, the nominated district is less than a half mile in length and encompasses the core of the crossroads village that evolved here in the mid- to late eighteenth century. The district name was taken from the historic school district here and Kettle Creek nearby (see attached map for boundaries of both districts and Item 10 for boundary justification). On the west side of the highway, the district extends from Broad Street north to the intersection of Old Weston Road. There is only one property on the east side of the highway and it is located at the intersection with River Road.

The district consists of 13 buildings located on eight contiguous properties. Of the ten contributing buildings, four are houses built between about 1740 and 1895. The rest of the contributing buildings are secondary structures, including several barns (one converted to a residence) and other outbuildings. There are three non-contributing buildings in the district: two houses built about 1950 and one modern garage.

The one-story Cape form is utilized in the three oldest houses in the district. One built at the corner of Broad Street and Weston Road about 1750 was originally a three-bay Cape with a rubble foundation (Inventory #9; Photograph #s 1, 2). There is a distinct flare to the eaves of the front slope of the gable roof. Before two additional bays on a concrete foundation were added, probably in the early twentieth century, the doorway and chimney were located at the original north end of the building. An associated barn stands to the north of the house. A second Cape, built c. 1770, is located at the corner of Old Weston Road (Inventory #3; Photograph #3). There is now an entrance in the west gable end but it is probable that there once was an earlier entrance in the center of the north-facing elevation, the side facing the road. In the 1930s gabled dormers were added to both slopes of the roof and the south slope was extended to create a porch. Because the land falls away there, the south elevation has an exposed basement level and the porch above is supported by posts. Across the road to the north is an associated barn, which has been dated to 1812. To the rear of the barn is Kettle Creek, which flows through the "kettle," a shallow dish-shaped ledge formation from which the creek takes its name. This property was also the former site of the Kettle Creek School.

The third Cape in the district also has a flared gabled roof and its front slope extends over an open porch, a type often called Dutch Colonial (Inventory #5; Photograph #s 4, 5). Internal evidence indicates the dormers may be original. The facade under the porch is flushboarded. About 1790 a two-story three-bay addition was constructed at the south end of the original Cape for an inn known as Scribner's Tavern (Photograph #5). The entrance to the inn is on the left side of the addition. With its hood, sidelights, and narrow pilasters, it may be an early twentieth-century remodeling. The doorway itself, with its fanlight, is more typical of the period of the addition. It opens into a large entrance hall, where, instead of an open staircase, there is a steep double-run staircase behind the rear wall of the hall. Now divided into finished rooms, the second floor of this section was originally one open and unfinished room, the sleeping quarters for the inn. A barn/carriage house located across the road, once associated with this house, has been converted to a residence (Inventory #13).

The last historic house to be built in the district appears to date from the mid-nineteenth century, but actually is an early example of the Colonial Revival style and built about 1895 (Inventory #1; Photograph # 6). It has a gable-to-street orientation and a full facade pediment, which contains a fanlight set within a shallow triangular recess. Another feature of this house, which may be original, is located at the northwest rear corner. There the first floor is recessed and contains a second entrance, which, with its

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Continuation Sheet**

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 2

five-pane overlight, resembles the one on the facade. On the east elevation, there is a large five-sided two-story bay addition.

The later non-contributing Colonial Revival houses in the district are both located on the west side of Weston Road and generally set back from the street. The one at #62 is a one-and-one-half-story house which displays small rectangular six-pane windows under the eaves (Inventory #12; Photograph #4). The other is a more conventional example, two stories in height, with a three-bay facade.

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Continuation Sheet

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 7 Page 3

<u>Inv.#</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name/Style/Date</u>	<u>C/NC</u>	<u>Ph. #</u>
1.	3 Broad Street	Colonial Revival, c. 1895	C	6
2.	3	garage, c. 1920	C	
3.	2 Old Weston Road	Cape, c. 1770	C	3
4.	2	barn, early 19th-century	C	
5.	1 River Road	SCRIBNER'S TAVERN. Cape c. 1740 with c. 1790 addition	C	4, 5
6.	1	garage	NC	
7.	1	corncrib, 19th-century	C	
8.	1	shed (former wellhouse)	C	
9.	48 Weston Road	Cape, c. 1750	C	1, 2
10.	48	barn, 19th-century	C	
11.	54	Colonial Revival, 1951	NC	
12.	62	Colonial Revival, c. 1950	NC	7
13.	68	former 19th-c. barn associated with 1 River Road, now converted to house	C	

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 8 Page 1

The Kettle Creek Historic District, which includes one of the earliest settlement areas in the Town of Weston, is architecturally significant for its well-preserved collection of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century houses. Together they embody the early settlement period of this crossroads village as well as its later growth as a way station on one of the town's more travelled highways, thus serving as a representative illustration of the historical patterns of development in Weston.

Architectural Significance

Much of the collective architectural significance of the Kettle Creek Historic District is derived from its well-preserved examples of the Colonial Cape style. Compatible in scale, type, and period, these cornerstones of the district clearly evoke its eighteenth-century heritage, a historic ambience further enhanced by their well-preserved settings and associated structures. In addition, through their various building histories, they reflect the several stages of development of the colonial period in Weston.

An indigenous and popular colonial form found throughout Connecticut, the Cape was especially favored during the early eighteenth-century settlement of the coastal hinterlands. Certain features of those in the district, the flared eaves and the integral facade porch, are often attributed to Dutch influence. Scattered examples of the Dutch type are found north of New Haven and throughout the Western Uplands, the regional geographic context for the district.

Quite possibly the oldest example in the Kettle Creek Historic District is the original part of the Scribner's Tavern. Individually significant because of its antiquity and exceptional state of preservation, which includes even the original flushboarding of the facade, this house epitomizes the full expression of the Dutch Cape, where the low gabled roof sweeps out over the piazza, or porch, and is supported by posts. Although gabled facade dormers are often a later addition to houses of this type, here they appear to be original construction. Like many house of this period, the Scribner Cape was a "starter house" with an end chimney, although that feature was enclosed within the frame of the structure. Some colonial houses were more directly oriented to the south, but here the chimney stack positioned at the north end gives the living space considerable solar exposure. Although almost inevitably houses of this size were enlarged with additional bays, or even raised another story later in their history, few examples remain in their original state. Sometimes they became the kitchen wing of a later main block, as was done here. Since the tavern addition is essentially a separate house, the original portion remains intact, substantially adding to its significance. The only perceptible change is the doorway openings cut through the wall for access between the buildings.

The image of the "half house" of the Cape form is also illustrated by another significant and somewhat later example at 48 Weston Road, one which sets the tone upon entering the district from the south (Inventory #9; Photograph #1, 2). With its rubble foundation, low plate, and windows tucked up under the flared eaves, its mid-eighteenth-century origins are evident. Here too the chimney stack was placed on the north side of the original house. As indicated by the concrete foundation under the addition, this example was not enlarged until the early twentieth century, a notable delay. Although the associated farmland to the west and north is no longer part of the property, its stone retaining walls and nearby barn contribute to the historic character of the farmstead.

Although somewhat less well-preserved, the c. 1770 Cape at 2 Old Weston Road is the third and last example in the district (Inventory #3; Photograph #3). As was more common in the late colonial period, when farming was better established and the town had become more

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Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 8 Page 2

populated, this Cape was a full-size center-chimney house from the start. The age and form of the barn, as well as its traditional siting, add to the significance of the property. Perhaps taking a cue from the older part of Scribner's Tavern, the twentieth-century porch addition on the south side suggests a Dutch Colonial Cape, a thoroughly compatible remodeling.

A well-preserved and quite unique 1895 Colonial Revival is located at 3 Broad Street (Inventory #1; Photograph #6). Although its construction date (which is undisputed) does extend the historic architectural range and add variety to the district, this anachronistic building is more representative of the earlier nineteenth century. In fact, it could easily be mistaken for a transitional Federal/Greek Revival farmhouse. Such a style and form were rarely, if ever, utilized in the Colonial Revival. Although a decided classical influence permeated the early Colonial Revival, it was primarily Roman in origin and expressed in Georgian motifs. More conventional expressions of the Colonial Revival are found on the exterior of the c. 1790 portion of Scribner's Tavern, in the detailing of the frieze and part or all of the Federal Revival doorway. Similarly, the later compatible additions to the district were the Colonial Revivals built in more traditional two-story form (Inventory #s 11, 12; Photograph #7).

Historical Background and Significance

The Town of Weston was first settled in the early 1700s when descendants of Fairfield proprietors moved north onto their allotments in the land reserve. When there was a large enough population to support a church society in the western half, the parish of Norfield was founded. The eastern half developed in a similar fashion, with the area there becoming known as North Fairfield Parish; together the two parishes merged as the Town of Weston in 1787. In 1847 the eastern part broke away and became the Town of Easton.

Instead of congregating in a nucleated town center, as might have been done in the earlier colonial period, Weston's people settled on individual, widely separated farmsteads along the course of the rivers and streams, a dispersed settlement pattern commonly found in the second-tier towns along the coast. The relative poverty of the first settlers is reflected in the preference for the smaller Colonial Cape-style farmhouses found in the district. Over time some settlement nodes situated near major thoroughfares evolved into crossroads villages and later became the nuclei of the town's seven school districts.

Such was the case with the Kettle Creek Historic District. By the time improvements were made to the Weston-Danbury road, a major colonial highway which followed the path of much of the present Route 57, this village could support a tavern and a store. It is said that travellers who took the packet boat from New York to Saugatuck (Westport) could continue north by stagecoach and stop at Scribner's Tavern (Inventory #5; Photograph #s 4, 5). Although Scribner had added on to his house for the tavern, he spent little on the amenities; travellers slept in an open dormitory on the second floor. The tavern apparently remained in business at least until after the Civil War since it is identified on the 1867 historic map as belonging to H. Scribner & Son. Farm products were probably bartered for necessary farm and household goods at the village store located in the Cape at the crossroads (Inventory #9; Photograph #s 1, 2). For a time, a post office was located here. Other elements of this increasingly self-sufficient community were a blacksmith shop on the west side of the highway across from the tavern and a sawmill nearby, where Kettle Creek joins the main branch of the Saugatuck River, but neither structure has survived. After the Kettle Creek School District was established in 1795, one of the earliest in town, its one-room district school stood near the site of the barn associated with 2 Old Weston Road. It was moved in the early twentieth century to be

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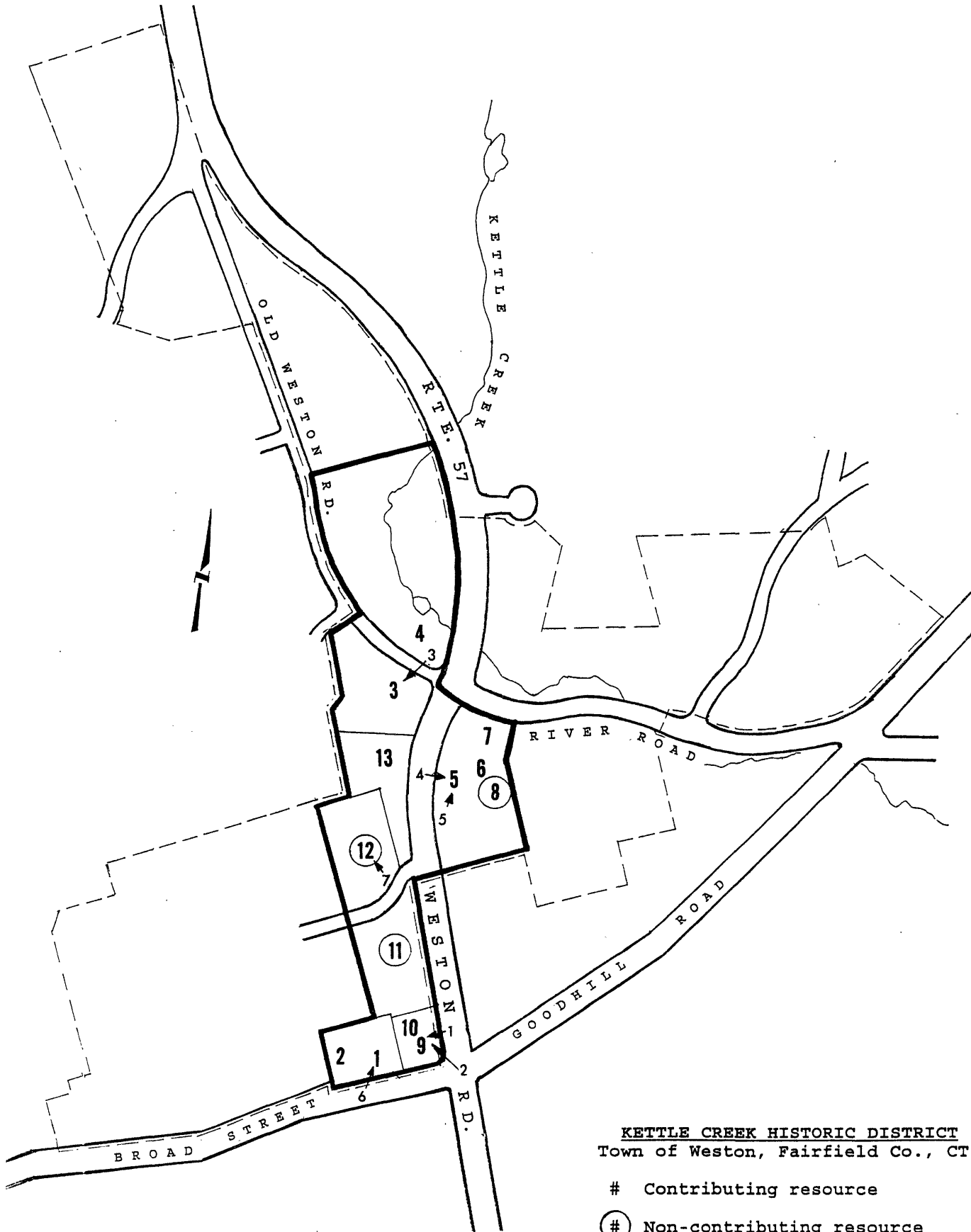
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number 8 Page 3

incorporated in a house that now stands to the north in the local historic district. Starting in the late nineteenth century, some of the larger farms were subdivided and new houses built. One of the earliest is the unusual Colonial Revival at 3 Broad Street, which dates from 1895 (Inventory #1; Photograph # 6).

In the twentieth century Weston was becoming a suburb, a process accelerated by the building of the Merritt Parkway, which has an interchange on Route 57 just below the town's southern border. All over town old houses were remodeled and/or enlarged by newcomers to the community, a trend reflected in several houses in the district (Inventory #s 3, 5, 9). By the time the state route was improved and rerouted east of Kettle Creek in the early 1950s, many more houses were built in this neighborhood and two are located in the district (Inventory #s 11, 12).



KETTLE CREEK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 Town of Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

- # Contributing resource
- Ⓢ Non-contributing resource
- # with arrow: photograph view

Bold Line: National Register District Boundary
Dashed Line: Local Historic District Boundary

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Kettle Creek Historic District, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Section number Photos Page 1

List of Photographs

Photographer: Cunningham Associates Ltd.

Date: 4/95

Negatives on file: Connecticut Historical Commission

1. 48 Weston Road, facing SW
2. 48 Weston Road with barn, facing NW
3. 2 Old Weston Road, facing SW
4. 1 River Road, facing NE
5. 1 River Road, facing N
6. 9 Broad Street, facing N
7. 62 Weston Road, facing NW