

PH0021199

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: Litchfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.3.09.0007	DATE 3/11/71

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Woodbury Historic District #1

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
see continuation sheet la

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: COUNTY: CODE: CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
List of owners not available

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Woodbury Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:  
Woodbury Connecticut 09

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

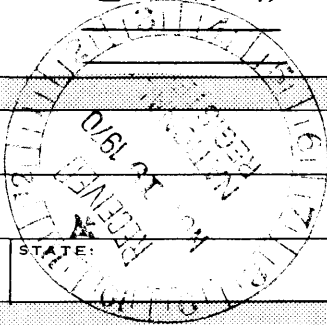
DATE OF SURVEY: 1967     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:  
Hartford Connecticut 09

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  Ruins  Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered  Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved  Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Woodbury Historic District #1 is a residential community bounded by open fields and woods. It has a variety of Colonial and Federal houses within it and includes a number of Greek Revival and Victorian buildings as well. The impression that the town creates is that of the restraint and simplicity of the Federal period, perhaps because most of the structures have been painted white—a phenomenon which produces incongruous effects in some instances (for example, where the heavy decoration of some Victorian buildings has been made "inconspicuous"). However, the general effect of the white painted exteriors is to create a sense of unity and serenity.

Within the district are one hundred forty-two houses, five public buildings, three greens, two schools, nine churches and religious properties and three privately supported historic structures. Some houses still stand which were built as early as 1680. In general a continuous series of houses exist which embody the history of the town from 1674 to the present.

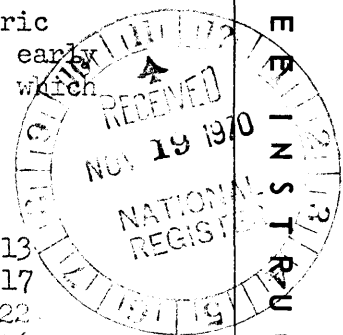
The numbers of houses of each historical period are:

1. The Early Colonial Period (1674-1740)	13
2. The Late Colonial Period (1741-1788)	17
3. The Federal Period (1789-1838)	22
4. The Pre-Civil War Period (1829-1865)	36
5. The Post Civil War Period (1866-1900)	17
6. The 20th Century Period (1901-1969)	<u>37</u>
Total	142

The historic district functions as a commercial area and serves approximately 5,000 people for their everyday needs. The most significant part of the town's commercial life are the antique dealers, at least twenty-seven shops exist in Woodbury and nineteen of these are located in the historic district. Individuals skilled in related crafts and professions such as the restoration of furniture and paintings have been drawn to the area, and several nationally known artists now live in the town and surrounding country-side.

Some of the buildings in town deserving special mention are:

The Glebe House, built in 1746 and now owned by the Seabury Society, is open to the public. Here on March 25, 1783, ten of the fourteen Episcopal Clergymen in Connecticut met to choose their candidate to be head of an American episcopacy. They named Samuel Seabury, who, failing to satisfy bishops in England, journeyed on to Scotland where he was cordially received and on November 14, 1784 was consecrated by three Scottish bishops. Thus he became the first bishop of the national church in the United States. Located on Hollow Road.



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The Hurd House, oldest house in Woodbury and the oldest of the one-room over one-room construction in Connecticut, built in 1680 and now owned and being restored by the Old Woodbury Historical Society. Located on Hollow Road.

Old Blacksmith Shop, also the property now of the Old Woodbury Historical Society. This building dates from about 1825 and was the shop of a blacksmith until recent years. Hollow Road.

King Solomon's Lodge Number 7. In 1765 certain Free Masons in the Woodbury area were granted a charter by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, then the only Grand Lodge in Colonial America and there were few local lodges outside of Boston. These Woodbury Masons were contemporary with Paul Revere who, at age 25, was accepted into Saint Andrew's Lodge in Boston, 1756. Then in 1791 the Woodbury Lodge received a charter from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut and became King Solomon's Lodge Number 7. The building on Signal Rock was built in 1839. Main Street.

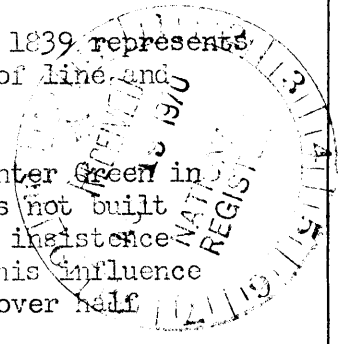
St. Paul's Episcopal Church built 1785 by the Episcopal Parish of Woodbury, organized 1740. It has been suggested that St. Paul's steeple served as a model for the spires on churches built by David Hoadley between 1813 and 1830. Main Street.

First Congregational Church built 1817 by the First Ecclesiastical Society of the First Congregational Church organized 1670. This, the third building of the Ecclesiastical Society of Woodbury, although apparently planned by Harmon Stoddard resembles St. Paul's spire and has been considered a Hoadley-type church. Main Street.

North Congregational Church built in 1816 by the Strict Congregational Society organized 1816. The belfrey tower on this church is said to be the only example of Asher Benjamin influence in Connecticut. The pilastered porch and spire reflect Hoadley influence. Main Street.

Methodist Episcopal Church organized 1792 and built 1839 represents the late Federal Period with a pleasing simplicity of line and proportion. Main Street.

St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church dominates the Center Green in harmonious accord with the other churches yet it was not built until 1902. This accord we owe to Michael Skelly's insistence that this be so. He was the town's blacksmith but his influence as a townsman had been felt in many other ways for over half a century. Main Street.



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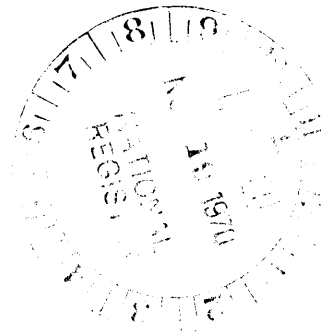
(Number all entries)

1a

AREA INCLUDED IN WOODBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT NUMBER 1

District Number 1 extends through the center of the Town of Woodbury for some two miles on both sides of Main Street (U.S. Route 6). The southern limit of the district is the Davis parcel #1 on the west side of the street and the Bull parcel #2 on the east side of Main Street. The northern limit is the Stewart parcel #127 on the west side of Main Street at Flanders Road and the Morgan parcel #168 at the boundary of the Regional School #14 property.

Included also are the following streets running off Main Street (1) Hollow Road and Bycamore to Pomperaug River, (2) Judson Avenue to Pomperaug River, (3) School Street, (4) Orenaug and Park Roads up to Orenaug Park, (5) Pleasant Street including the Lerriman parcel #128. Both sides of the streets indicated are included to a depth of 200 feet, making a total of 4 miles of streets, of which 2 miles are on Route 6, and 2 miles of the side streets enumerated.



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1680 to the present.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art          | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Woodbury Historic District is significant because its architecture and historic sites embody the history of the area since the seventeenth century. Nearly every type of house from the time of settlement to 1828 can be found in the area and it has some interesting Victorian houses as well. At present a considerable number of artists, authors, composers, photographers and skilled artisans with national reputations live in Woodbury and it is a community which provides a congenial atmosphere for people whose lives are devoted to the arts.

The town was founded in 1673 when fifteen families from Reverend Zechariah Walker's church in Stratford settled on land purchased from the Potatuck Indians. The homelots were laid out along a Main Street which almost followed the Indian Trail. In 1674 the General Court gave the name of Woodbury to the plantation at Pomperaug; in 1779 a part of Woodbury was set off to Washington, in 1787 another part to Southbury; in 1796 another to Roxbury and in 1807 a fourth part to Middlebury.

During the revolution Woodbury was a prosperous town, fourth largest on the State's grand list with a population in 1776 of 5,325. According to Crofut about a half of Ethan Allen's men on the expedition to Ticonderoga came from Woodbury and some have believed that Woodbury contributed as many as 1,500 men and more than a half million dollars worth of supplies to the Continental Army.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

A Report of the Historic District Study Committee. Woodbury, Connecticut. (February, 1969)

F.S. Nancy Crofut. Guide to the History and the Historic Sites of Connecticut. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1937.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	41° 33' 32"	73° 12' 52"				
NE	41° 33' 32"	73° 11' 50"				
SE	41° 31' 50"	73° 11' 50"				
SW	41° 31' 50"	73° 11' 50"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 200 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Constance Luyster, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission      DATE: November 9, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford      STATE: Connecticut      CODE: 09

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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

National  State  Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer and Chairman, Connecticut Historical Commission

Date: November 9, 1970

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: MAR 11 1971

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: FEB 22 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NOTIFICATION OF GRANT-IN-AID ACTION**

Do Not Use This Space

1. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER 09-75-00049-00	2. (Reserved for use by State central information reception agency)
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3. GRANTOR: a. Federal agency  
Department of the Interior

b. Organizational unit  
National Park Service

c. Administering office - (1) Name  
Division of Grants

(2) Address - Street or P.O. Box 18th and C Streets, NW	City Washington	State D. C.	Zip Code 20240
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4. FEDERAL AGENCY GRANT IDENTIFIER: a. Code  
09-75-00049-00

b. Title  
Woodbury Historic District: **I**  
Hurd House Barn Development

c. Purpose  
The barn, constructed before 1690, will be reroofed, and architectural plans and specifications will be prepared for further restoration.

5. GRANTEE: a. Name  
CONNECTICUT Mr. John W. Shannahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

b. Address - Street or P.O. Box 59 South Prospect Street	City Hartford	State Connecticut	Zip Code 06106
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6. GRANTEE TYPE (Check only the single most applicable box)

a. State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b. Inter-state <input type="checkbox"/>	c. County <input type="checkbox"/>	d. City <input type="checkbox"/>	e. School district <input type="checkbox"/>	f. Special unit <input type="checkbox"/>	g. Community action <input type="checkbox"/>	h. Sponsored organization <input type="checkbox"/>	i. Other <input type="checkbox"/>
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7. APPLICATION RECEIPT DATE Year: 75, Month: 1, Day: 28	8. ACTION DATE Year: 75, Month: 02, Day: 27	9. EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE Year: 75, Month: 02, Day: 27	10. ENDING DATE Year: 78, Month: 02, Day: 26
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11. TYPE OF ACTION (Check as many boxes as apply to this action)

a. New grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b. Continuation grant <input type="checkbox"/>	c. Supplemental grant (identify agency in item 16) <input type="checkbox"/>	d. Change in existing grant
(1) Increase in duration <input type="checkbox"/>	(2) Decrease in duration <input type="checkbox"/>	(3) Cancellation <input type="checkbox"/>	(4) Increase (\$) <input type="checkbox"/>
(5) Decrease (\$) <input type="checkbox"/>			

12. AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION

a. Federal - (1) basic \$1,950	(2) Supplemental \$	b. State \$1,950*	c. Local \$	d. Other \$
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13. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (if none, clarify in item 16)

a. Program Number 15.904	b. Supplemental Program Number
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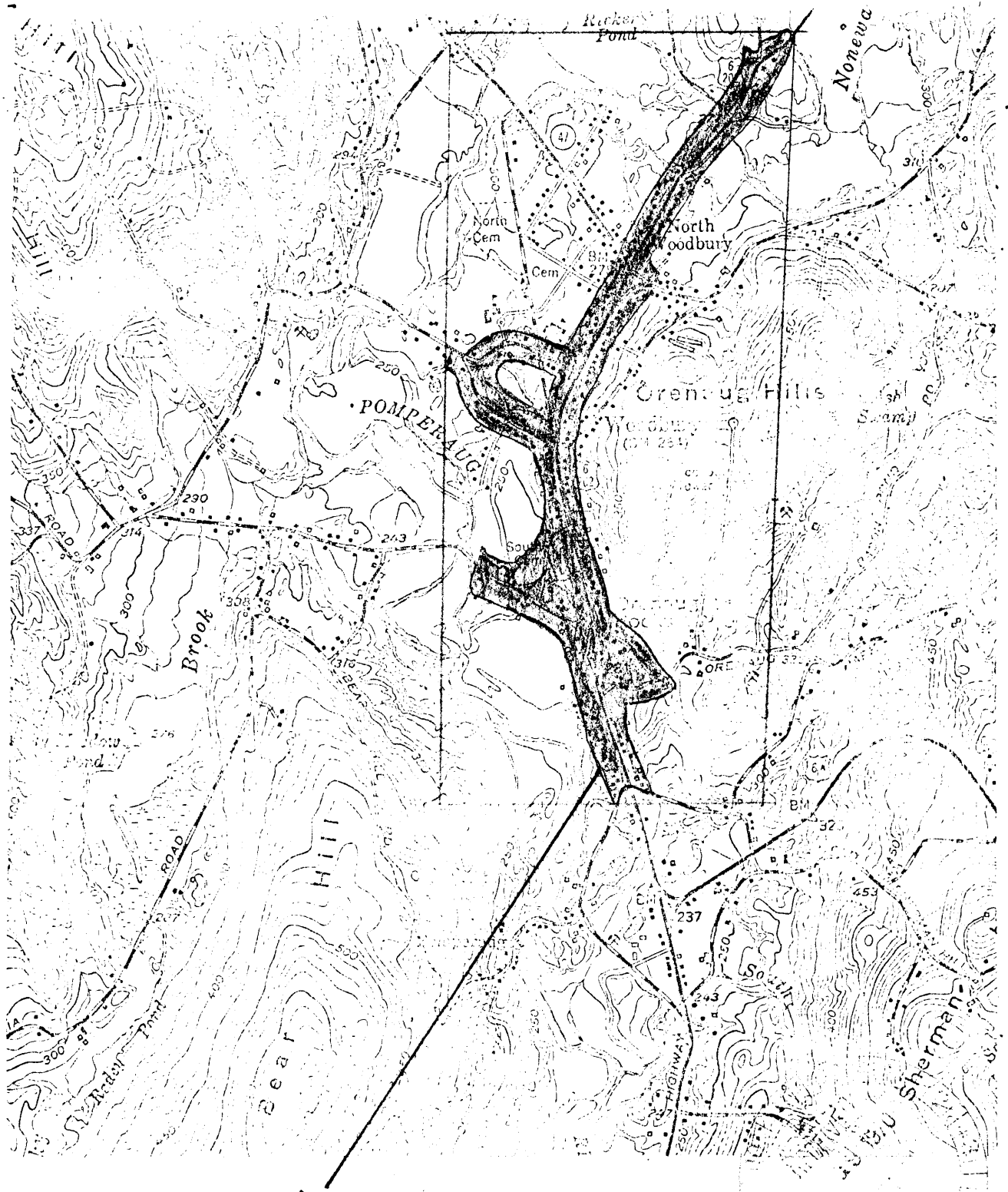
14. AUTHORIZATION

a. Federal Budget Account's 10-58-1040-0-1-405		
b. Public Laws PL Title Sec. 89 665		
c. U.S. Code 16 U.S.C. 470		

15. FACILITY LOCATION: (For facility grant actions only)

a. City Woodbury	b. County Litchfield
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16. REMARKS  
\*Woodbury Historical Society



WOODBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT

1955

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	41° 33' 32"	73° 12' 52"
NE	41° 33' 32"	73° 11' 50"
SE	41° 31' 50"	73° 11' 50"
SW	41° 31' 50"	73° 12' 50"

