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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name East Weatogue Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet NA not for publication
city, town Simsbury NA vicinity
state CT code 06 county Hartford code 003 zip code 06070

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>102</u>	<u>30</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>10</u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>124</u>	<u>33</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

John W. Shannahan 6/14/90
Signature of certifying official John W. Shannahan, 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.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

Entered in the
National Register

Melores Byers 7/19/90

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellings, secondary structures

AGRICULTURE/processing, storage, agricultural fields, animal facilities, agricultural outbuildings

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling, secondary structures

AGRICULTURE/processing, storage, agricultural fields, animal facilities, agricultural outbuildings

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Postmedieval English

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate, Queen Anne,

LATE 19TH and 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/Granite, Sandstone

walls WOOD/Weatherboards, Shingles, CONCRETE

roof ASBESTOS, WOOD shingle, METAL/

other Tin, GLASS

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Introduction

The East Weatogue Historic District runs along East Weatogue Street and Hartford Road, east of the Farmington River, in Simsbury, as shown by the accompanying district map. The district occupies approximately 490 acres of land, some of it flood plain, between the river and the hills to the east. One of the three nucleated settlements in Simsbury, the district retains an agrarian appearance with much of the acreage still in use for farm purposes. The houses, barns, and other outbuildings date from the 18th century and reflect architectural styles and building practices from the 18th century through the mid- to late-19th century on into the early-20th century.

Overview

The first buildings constructed in the district were destroyed in 1676 during an Indian attack that was part of King Philip's War. By 1730, a replacement cluster of houses had been constructed, as shown by a c. 1730 map. (See Figure 1.) Three of the houses standing in the district probably are on this map. They are No. 3, 11 East Weatogue Street, No. 22, 26 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 1), and No. 25, 85 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 2). Dating from c. 1700/1720, all are two-story five-bay central chimney central-entrance houses. In all three the front-elevation windows are spaced in a 2-1-2 rhythm. At No. 25, the rear lower section is covered by a continuing pitched roof slope that establishes it as an example of a saltbox. No. 3 has a tin-shingle roof and an early-20th-century doorway, while the broad overhang of No. 22's roof and the small windows flanking the doorway are its distinctive features. All have what appear to be, because of their small size, replacement chimneys. The barn at No. 25 may be as old as the house, while 19th-century farm-related outbuildings continue to stand on the other two properties.

Four other houses in the district were built during the 18th century. They are No. 47, 76 Hartford Road (Photographs 3, 4), No. 29, 42 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 5), No. 41, 96 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 6), and No. 2, 39 East Weatogue Street. While all fit the Colonial model of five bays, central chimney, and central doorway, they are otherwise quite different from one another. No. 47 has a row of six tombstone-shaped transom lights under a wide frieze and flat cornice cap (probably added) and large additions to the side and rear. The fine interior paneling was all taken from other houses.¹ Its original low gambrel roof was raised to the present configuration in the late 19th century. The barns and silo according to the assessor's record date from 1790, as does the house, but the wall dormer of the west barn and its quarrel glazing suggest important alterations during the 20th-century Colonial Revival period. In the first quarter of the 20th century, the owner of this house, John S. Ellsworth, also owned and operated Folly Farm, No. 43, across the street, the largest farm in the district.

See continuation sheet

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Street and number:

East Weatogue Street, west side, 3 - 85

" east side, 2 - 96

Hartford Road, south side, parcel G15-110-15 and Folly Farm

" north side, parcel G14-108-1A, H15-109-13, and 68 - 76.

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No. 29 has a low gambrel roof, perhaps suggesting the original appearance of No. 47, but is clad with vinyl siding. Its extensive greenhouses and associated outbuildings were constructed c. 1930, but its 34 acres of land have gone with the house for many generations. No. 41 is a one-story house. The small size of its windows suggests they may be filling original apertures. No. 6 is a small one-story house, badly damaged by fire, but structurally sound, and now vacant.

Houses in the Colonial configuration continued to be built into the 19th century, including No. 27, 34 East Weatogue Street, and No. 31, 56 East Weatogue Street. By early in the 19th century, however, the Federal style became popular. It is represented in the district by two examples, No. 23, 2 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 7), and No. 13, 57 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 8). Both are twin-chimney central-hall central-entrance houses with Adamesque details. No. 23 displays a well-proportioned Palladian window at its second floor. This house was partially encircled by a wraparound porch at the turn of the 20th century. No. 13 is embellished by two-story Ionic pilasters standing on paneled pedestals, while its doorway and Palladian window above are capped by unusual nearly flat arches. Its barn with cupola dates from c. 1890.

The Federal style gave way in fashion to the Greek Revival in the second quarter of the 19th century, as seen in the district by three examples. No. 5, 25 East Weatogue Street, is a conventional design with three bays in its front elevation under pedimented gable. Its fruit-and-vegetable stand, barns, and substantial cultivated acreage give a clear demonstration of the continued vitality of agriculture in the district. No. 9, 45 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 9), has similar basic Greek Revival-style features plus an added wraparound porch and an unusual two-story addition at the southwest corner whose asymmetric gable roof dies into the main roof slope. No. 45, 68 Hartford Road, is a vernacular interpretation of the Greek Revival style, of interest not so much for its architecture as for its barns next door at No. 44 (Photograph 10) and associated cultivated land at No. 42. These three properties are functionally interrelated.

The mid- to late-19th-century revival architectural styles are reflected in the district by four houses, including No. 12, 51 East Weatogue Street, and No. 15, 63 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 11). No. 12 is the only Italianate-style house in the district, somewhat unusual because it has a side entrance. There was a silo on the property when it was a dairy farm. No. 15 is the only house with recessed front porch and prominent gable-end brace in a combination of the Queen Anne and Stick styles. No. 35, 80 East Weatogue Street, stands out for its floor-to-ceiling-height windows, but has lost its Queen Anne character-defining wraparound porch. 71 Hartford Road, on Folly Farm, No. 43, is a rambling farmhouse more notable for its farm-related function than for its architecture.

The appearance of the district as recorded by the 1730 map changed very little over the next century and a half. The group of buildings depicted by the Baker & Tilden 1869 atlas map (Figure 2) reflects little change in density and use. Conditions were about the same.

With the turn of the 20th century, the Colonial Revival became the preferred style. Its most imposing example in the district is No. 34, 72 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 12), which combines a central pavilion and gabled entrance porch with a basic American Four

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Square structure. Across the street, No. 13, 73 East Weatogue Street, establishes individuality by restrained Craftsman treatment of its Colonial Revival-style features. Two other American Four Square interpretations of the Colonial Revival are No. 46, 72 Hartford Road, and No. 43, 73 Hartford Road.

Several 19th- and 20th- century houses in the district are vernacular, without architectural style. No. 37, 86 East Weatogue Street (Photograph 13), is representative of a row of three built in 1927. It is frame, almost perfectly plain, yet is significant because of its brownstone ashlar foundations, paired windows at second-floor front, and shed-roof side entry.

There are many other farm buildings in the district. The greatest number are at Folly Farm, No. 43. Near the entrance at the foot of the Hartford Road hill are two farmhouses and beyond them barns and a riding ring (Photograph 14). To the south and east are the great gambrel-roofed barn and new interior riding ring structure, and other barns, silos, coops, sheds, cribs, and another house (Photograph 15). Earlier in the 20th century, the farm was famous for its prize herd of Jerseys; now it is devoted to raising sheep and caring for riding horses. Elsewhere are several tobacco barns, dating from the late 19th century when cultivation of broadleaf tobacco was the chief agricultural pursuit in central Connecticut. The barn at No. 5 is typical (Photograph 16). A dairy farm presence is well documented by the hay and cow barns at No. 24 (Photograph 17).

In the following listing of properties, the street number, if any, is given first. (Parcels without dwelling houses usually have no street numbers.)

The map, block, and lot number of the parcel, taken from the Town Assessor's maps and cards, is given next.

On the following line is given the name(s) of the owner(s). If the mailing address of the owner(s) is different from the address of the property, the mailing address is shown on the next line.

The Letters C or NC near the left margin indicate whether the resource on that line is considered to contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the district, or to be non-contributing.

Dates of buildings are taken from the Assessor's records or the report of the Historic District Study Committee, in most cases. Occasionally, visual estimate is used; such dates are identified with the letter V.

The number in the left margin is an arbitrarily assigned property number; parcels carry corresponding numbers on the district map.

¹Ellsworth, Abigail Eno, A record of Some of the Old Houses of Simsbury. (Simsbury, 1935) np.

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description	
23	Phelps Tavern 2 East Weatogue Street G14-109-14 6 acres Caldeira, Constantine and D.M.			
	C dwelling	1863/ c. 1800 V	2-story frame Federal house with brown- stone ashlar foundations and terrace.	
	C barn	1888	2-story red frame building. (Photograph 7)	
1	3 East Weatogue Street G14-108-1A 1.6 acres Lanza, M.H. & K.H.			
		C dwelling	c. 1840	1-story frame vernacular house. Roof covered with tin shingles.
2	9 East Weatogue Street G14-108-1B Coldwell, Gertrude B.			
		NC dwelling	1954	1-story house.
		NC shed	1964	
3	Joseph Phelps House 11 East Weatogue Street G14-108-1 Willis, M.G. & P.W.			
		C dwelling	c. 1717	2-story frame Colonial house. Roof covered with tin shingles.
		C barn	1883	1½-story frame barn
		C garage	1900	1-story frame building
		C kennel	1888	1-story frame building
		C shed	1900	1-story frame building
NC horse barn	1982	1-story frame building		

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
24	16 East Weatogue Street H14-109-15 20 acres Caldeira, Constantine		
	C hay barn	1920	1½-story frame building
	C cow barn	1920	1-story concrete building
	C shed	1920	1-story frame building
	C barn	1920	1-story frame building
NC greenhouse	1981	metal and plastic building (Photograph 17)	
4	19 East Weatogue Street H14-108-4 Stewart, H.R. & E.J.		
	NC dwelling	1976V	2-story frame. School on property, 1822-1930; existing structure "completely rebuilt" (Assessor's card) in 1976 and second floor added. (Photograph 18)
5	Charles Cornish House/ 25 East Weatogue Street H14-108-3 41 acres Eptstein, Louis		Farm
	C dwelling	1835	2½-story frame Greek Revival/Federal house. Vinyl siding.
	NC vegetable stand	1952	1-story frame building
	C barn	1900	1½-story frame building
	C tobacco shed	1900	1-story frame building
NC shed	1960	1-story frame building (Photograph 16)	

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<u>Property Number</u>	<u>Address and Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
25	Captain James Cornish House 26 East Weatogue Street H14-109-15 5 acres Tate, Ralph S. & Vicki L.		
	C dwelling	1720	2-story frame saltbox
	C barn	1720	1-story frame building (Photograph 2)
26	30 East Weatogue Street H14-109-17A 3.4 acres Lanza, Susanne H.		
	NC dwelling	1956	large 1-story house
	NC garage	1984	1-story frame building
27	Asa Cornish House 34 East Weatogue Street H14-109-18 15 acres Caldeira, Constantine et al		
	C dwelling	1800	2-story frame Colonial house
	C milk house	1888	1-story frame building
	C shed/garage	1888	1-story frame building
	C barn	1888	1½-story frame building
	C cow barn	1888	1-story frame and stone building
	C work shop	1910	1-story frame building
	C monument	1936	stone slab with bronze plaque (Photographs 19, 20)

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
6	Joel Cornish House 39 East Weatogue Street H14-108-6 Merrifield, Douglas M. 479 Franklin Avenue Hartford, CT 06114		
	C dwelling	1785	1-story frame saltbox. No chimney. Vacant since 1987 fire.
	C garage	1900	1-story frame building
7	East Weatogue Street (rear) G13-108-7 13 acres Epstein, Louis 25 East Weatogue Street Simsbury, CT 06070		
	C barn	1883	1-story frame building
8	41 East Weatogue Street N14-108-7A 1.4 acres Epstein, Marshall B. & Lynn C.		
	NC dwelling	1980	2-story frame house
28	42 [sic] East Weatogue Street H14-109-18A 2.3 acres Case, Elnora		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes
29	Amaziah Humphrey House Case's Flowers 42 East Weatogue Street H14-109-20 34.1 acres Case, Elnora H. (see accompanying diagram, Fig. 3, for locations of buildings)		
	C dwelling	1775	1-story frame Dutch Colonial house

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<u>Property Number</u>	<u>Address and Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
29 Cont.)	Amaziah Humphrey House		
	NC 2 show room	1930	1-story frame building, altered, with shingled pent roof and plate-glass show window
	C 3 greenhouse	1930	1-story glass structure. (All greenhouses have concrete foundations. Several have plastic-film covering.)
	C 4 shed	1930	1-story frame building
	C 5 greenhouse	1930	1-story glass structure
	NC 6 greenhouse	1957	1-story glass structure
	C 7 attached shed	1900	1-story frame structure
	C 8 greenhouse	1930	1-story glass structure
	C 9 shed	1900	1-story frame building
	C 10 wood storage	1900	1-story frame building
	C 11 barn	1900	1-story frame building
	C 12 garage	1900	1-story frame building
	C 13 tool shed	1930	1-story frame building
	C 14 attached garage	1930	1-story frame building
	C 15 garage	1930	1-story frame building
	C 16 greenhouse	1930	1-story glass structure
	C 17 shed	1930	1-story frame structure
	C 18 greenhouse	1930	1-story glass structure

(Photograph 5)

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
9	George Cornish House 45 East Weatogue Street H14-108-8 O'Connor, Denis & Eileen T.		
	C dwelling	1826	2-story Greek Revival house
	C tool shed	1883	1-story frame building (Photograph 9)
10	East Weatogue Street G13-108-9 15.3 acres Epstein, Louis 25 East Weatogue Street Simsbury, CT 06070		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes
11	49 East Weatogue Street, rear H14-108-9B Biele, Paul, & Battaglia, Regina		
	NC dwelling	1983	modern house
12	Eliza Case House/ Pine Home (dairy) Farm 51 East Weatogue Street H13-108-9A 1.3 acres Stanton, Duncan A. B. & Barbara H.		
	C dwelling	1840/1850	2-story frame Italianate house
	C coop	1840	1-story frame building
	NC shed	19th C.	1-story frame building, "collapsing" (Assessor)

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
30	52 East Weatogue Street H14-109-21 A & B 4 acres Okenquist, Eugene H. & Vera R.		
	NC dwelling	1955	1½-story brick house
	NC garage	1955	frame building
	NC shed	1955	frame building
31	Simeon Humphrey House 56 East Weatogue Street H13-109-21 2.3 acres Baierwick, Doris O.		
	C dwelling	1830	2-story frame house
	C coop	1900	1-story frame building
	NC garage	1979	1-story frame building
13	Calvin Northrup House 57 East Weatogue Street H13-108-10 4 acres Mielert, Wolfried H. & Anita L.		
	C dwelling	1823	2-story Federal house
	C barn	1890	2-story shingled building
	C shed	1890	1-story frame building
14	East Weatogue Street (rear) H13-108-10A 3 acres Mielert, Wolfried H. & Anita L.		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes

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<u>Property Number</u>	<u>Address and Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
15	Arthur E. Humphrey House 63 East Weatogue Street H13-108-11 3.1 acres Ragle, Dwight M. & Barbara C.		
	C dwelling	1890	1½-story frame Queen Anne house
	C garage	1911	1-story frame building
	NC barn	1863	1-story frame building
32	64 East Weatogue Street H13-109-25 1.5 acres Mack, Gerald R. & Nancy M. 75 Latimer Lane Weatogue, CT 06039		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes
16	65 East Weatogue Street H13-108-11A 3.2 acres Stephens, Charles B.		
	NC dwelling	1976	2-story frame contemporary house
33	East Weatogue Street H13-109-25A Wright, R.L. & P.S. 18 Hickory Hill Way West Granby, CT 06090		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes
17	East Weatogue Street H13-108-12 6.6 acres Baierwick, Doris O. 56 East Weatogue Street Simsbury, CT 06070		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes

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<u>Property Number</u>	<u>Address and Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
34	Emmett & Ann Ellsworth Schultz House 72 East Weatogue Street H13-109-26 3 acres Davidson, Bruce T. & Gail C.		
	C dwelling	1911	American Four Square house
	C carriage house/stable	1911V	2-story frame building
	C fence	1911	cobblestone piers connected by weathered rails
18	73 East Weatogue Street H13-108-14 1.4 acres Mead, Dianne L.		
	C dwelling	1910	2-story Colonial Revival/Craftsman house
	C garage	1910	frame building
19	East Weatogue Street H13-108-13 36.5 acres Epstein, Louis 25 East Weatogue Street Simsbury, CT 06070		
	C tobacco shed	1900	1-story frame building
	C tobacco shed	1900	1-story frame building
	C tobacco shed	1900V	1-story frame building
20	East Weatogue Street H13-108-13A 2.6 acres Roskear Farm Owners Association, Inc. c/o Stich Associates 819 Farmington Avenue Farmington, CT 06032		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
35	Lemuel S. Ellsworth House 80 East Weatogue Street H13-109-28A 1.2 acres Gengras, Mark G. & Julia C.		
	C dwelling	c. 1880	2-story frame Queen Anne house
21	East Weatogue Street H13-108-15A Cobbledick, James R. 85 East Weatogue Street Simsbury, CT 06070		
	C		vacant land
36	East Weatogue Street H13-109-28 25 acres Private Open Space Roskear Farm Owners Assoc. Inc. c/o Stich Associates 819 Farmington Avenue Farmington, CT 06032		
	C cow barn	1927	2-story frame building
	C barn	1927	1-story frame building
	C stable	1927	1-story frame building
22	James Cornish House 85 East Weatogue Street H13-107-17A Cobbledick, James R.		
	C dwelling	1700	2-story frame Colonial house
	C shed	1883	1-story frame building
	NC garage	1974	2-story frame building

(Photograph 1)

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
37	86 East Weatogue Street H13-109-20 Somerville, Skelley & Kandace		
	C dwelling	1927	2-story frame vernacular house (Photograph 13)
38	88 East Weatogue Street H13-109-19 Smith, William M.		
	C dwelling	1927	2-story frame vernacular house; roof covered with tin shingles
	C tool house	1927	1-story frame building
39	90 East Weatogue Street H13-109-29 Caplan, Stephen, trustee 297 Currier Drive Orange, CT 06477		
	C dwelling	1927	2-story frame vernacular house covered with vinyl siding
	C garage	1927	1-story frame building
40	92 East Weatogue Street H12-109-29A Larson, Ellis C.		
	NC dwelling	1956	1-story house
41	96 East Weatogue Street H12-109-30 Davidson, J.R. & J.M.		
	C dwelling	1767	1½-story Colonial house
	NC garage	1960	frame building
	NC tool shed	1960	frame building

(Photograph 6)

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
42	Hartford Road G15-110-15 15 acres Edmund J. Holcomb 65 Hartford Road Simsbury, CT		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes
43	Folly Farm Hartford Road G15 and 16-110-12, 13, 16, 17 155 acres Folly Farm Associates 6 Cedar Hill Road West Simsbury, CT 06092		
	C 69 Hartford Road dwelling #1	1883	1½-story vernacular frame house
	C 71 Hartford Road dwelling #2	1883	2-story Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house
	C 73 Hartford Road dwelling #3	1926	2-story American Four Square house on foundations of earlier house that burned
Most of the buildings on the farm are located on the accompanying diagram (Figure 4).			
	C 03 garage	1926	frame building
	C 04 ice house	1926	stone and frame building
	C 05 ice house	1926	stone and frame building
	C 06 garage	1926	frame building
	NC 07 shed	1950	frame building
	NC 08 silo	1940	concrete structure; former barn associated with this silo was destroyed by fire
	C 09 shed	1940	three-sided frame building

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<u>Property Number</u>	<u>Address and Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
43 cont.	Folly Farm cont.		
C 10	garage	1940	frame building
C 11	tool shed	1940	frame building
C 12	cow shed	1940	frame building
C 13	feed room	1940	frame building
C 14	cow barn	1940	frame building
C 15	stable	1940	frame and cement-block building with novelty siding at first floor and green gambrel roof enveloping second floor and loft
C 18	silos	1940	cement-block structure
C 20	shed	1940	metal building
C 24	barn	1900	frame building
C 25	barn	1900	frame building
NC 26	shed	1950	cement block building
C 27	feed room	c. 1900	frame building
C 28	silos	1900	frame building
C 29	barn	1900	frame building
C 30	barn	1900	frame building
NC 31	shed	1950	frame building
NC 32	stable	1984	metal building
NC 33	sheep barn	1986	frame building
NC	2 riding rings	c. 1982	frame structures

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Property Number	Address and Owner	Date	Description
44	Hartford Road H15-109-13 2 acres Holcomb, Edmund J . 68 Hartford Road Simsbury, CT 06070		
	C 02 tool shed	1883	1-story frame building
	C 03 barn	1883	1½-story frame building
	C 04 cow barn	1883	1-story frame building
	C 05 horse barn	1883	1-story frame building
	C 06 milk house	1883	1-story frame building
	C 07 silo	1935	concrete structure
	C 08 barn	1883	1-story frame building

All buildings have vertical-board siding.

(Photograph 10)

45	68 Hartford Road H15-109-13A Holcomb, Edmund J. & Dagmar B.		
	C dwelling	1853	2½-story frame Greek Revival house
	C 02 barn	1883	1½-story frame building
	C 03 garage	1900	1-story frame building
	C 04 shed	1900	1-story frame building
46	72 Hartford Road H15-109-12 Holcomb, Dorothy S.		
	C dwelling	1921	2½-story American Four Square house
	C garage	1918	frame building

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East Weatogue Historic District
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<u>Property Number</u>	<u>Address and Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
47	Ann Toy House 76 Hartford Road H15-109-10, 11, 12 acres McKone, John R., & Tuley, Bruno J.		
	C dwelling	1790	2½-story Colonial house
	C silo	1790	frame structure
	C barn	1790	1½-story frame building
	C shed	1790	1-story frame building
	NC greenhouse	1950	1-story glass structure

The U-shaped parcel wraps around to the intersection of Hartford Road and East Weatogue Street
(Photographs 3, 4)

48	Hartford Road and East Weatogue Street G14-108-1A 56 acres State of Connecticut Real Estate Department 165 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106		
	C		vacant land used for agricultural purposes; formerly part of No. 43, Folly Farm.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1710-1940

Significant Dates

See Item 7

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

NA

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The East Weatogue Historic District is significant historically because it is an exceptionally well preserved rural village which has survived in spite of its proximity to the major city of Hartford, Connecticut. (Criterion A) The district is significant architecturally because it displays good examples of architectural styles from the Colonial to the Colonial Revival in their original setting and relationship to one another, little altered over time. (Criterion C)

Historical Significance

In the 17th and 18th centuries, settlers came to East Weatogue, as they did to most New England communities of the time, to farm. But they did not necessarily reside on the acreage farmed, and all the farm acreage of a family was not necessarily contiguous. The practice was to have a home lot clustered with other home lots to form a community, and to have wood lots, pasturage, etc., at outlying locations. East Simsbury was a cluster of home lots for farmers who had some acreage nearby and some elsewhere, a common practice. The Humphrey family at No. 31, for example, owned parcels at other locations into the 20th century.

Records of agricultural production for East Weatogue in the 18th and 19th centuries are not at hand, although crops generally raised at the time were corn, beans, squash, tobacco, rye, wheat, and potatoes. Facilities for processing the crops, such as gristmills, fulling mills, and sawmills, were part of the agrarian economy. While none of these three was present in East Weatogue (for lack of waterpower), an abattoir was located there in the 19th century for slaughter of animals grown on nearby farms; brownstone from its building was used to build the wall separating No. 13 from the street. Toward the end of the 19th century, broadleaf tobacco became an important cash crop. It needed careful storage near the growing fields. The presence of tobacco sheds in the district documents

9. Major Bibliographical References

Dodge, Mary H. The Story of the Toys. Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1910.

East Weatogue Historic District. Report of the East Weatogue Historic District Study Committee. Simsbury: 1987.

Ellsworth, Abigail Eno. A Record of Some of the Old Houses of Simsbury. Simsbury: nd [c. 1936].

Ellsworth, John E. Simsbury 1642-1935. Simsbury: The Simsbury Committee for the Tercentenary, 1935.

Ellsworth, John S. Interview with Martha Zablocki, 31 July 1968. On tape at Simsbury Historical Society.

See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 490 prox.

UTM References

A
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The district boundary is shown by the dotted line on the accompanying map drawn at scale of 1" = 400'. The boundary follows lot lines as recorded in the Simsbury Land Records and noted by map, block, and lot numbers in Item 7. The southern boundary of the district is the southern boundary of Folly Farm as shown on a map entitled "Property of Folly Farm Associates, Total Acreage ± 155 Acres" drawn at scale of 1" = 200'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David F. Ransom/Consultant, Reviewed by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator
 organization Connecticut Historical Commission date 6 January 1990
 street & number 59 South Prospect Street telephone (203) 566-3005
 city or town Hartford state CT zip code 06106

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the importance of the crop. In the 20th century, dairy farming became important, as evidenced by the cow barns and silos remembered or in place. Today, some dairy farming continues along with growing fruits and vegetables for city markets, as at No. 5, and sheep raising at Folly Farm, No. 43. The agricultural function continues to be important in the district.

Strong families were responsible for the growth and viability of the East Weatogue community. The Phelps family was one of the first. Joseph Phelps, Sr., was granted the land for No. 47 before 1688. His descendant David built the house for his son Roswell. Joseph Phelps built No. 4, and Noah Phelps, a hero of the Ticonderoga engagement in the Revolutionary War, lived there. No. 23, on its prominent corner location, was operated as Phelps Tavern.

The Cornish family built No. 5, No. 25, No. 27, No. 6, No. 9, and No. 22. Equally impressive, the Humphrey family built and farmed Nos. 29, 31, 13, 15, 45, 44, 42, and 17. Humphrey descendants own and occupy No. 29 and No. 31 to this day.

One family that arrived from England in the second quarter of the 19th century held a strong influence in the district through the 20th century. Their arrival stemmed from the visit to England by Richard Bacon, the manager of the Newgate copper mine, located near East Weatogue, who was in search of a more reliable time-delay fuse. He entered into an agreement with an English manufacturer, William Bickford, returned to East Weatogue, and began the manufacture of the fuses at No. 3 in a building that soon burned down. A monument on No. 27 (Photographs 19 and 20) commemorates the replacement factory. The English company sent out a bookkeeper, Joseph Toy, in 1839, who soon became a principal, and, after another explosion in 1851, moved the factory west of the river where, as the Ensign-Bickford Company, it continues to be the principal manufacturing firm and largest employer in Simsbury.

Joseph Toy's three daughters married men who became active in the firm. One of them was Lemuel S. Ellsworth. His farm at No. 36 continues today, in part, as private open space. John S. Ellsworth's Folly Farm, No. 43, is the largest in the district, and Ellsworths owned other land as well, including the substantial acreage at No. 19.

The land and the people worked together to form a community of exceptional longevity. Today the houses and the fields continue to give the sense of place that can only be developed gradually over the centuries. The architecture of the houses and the agricultural function of the land constitute an entity that is a significant cultural resource. The continued use of the land over the centuries for agricultural purposes complements the historic architecture that has survived in well preserved condition in the shadow of a large city.

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Continuation SheetEast Weatogue Historic District
Simsbury, CTSection number 8 Page 2Architectural Significance

The houses in the district remain a concentration of fine 18th- and early-19th-century structures. They are well-preserved examples of historic styles and building types. Because over time the houses have responded to need for changes, they are a living record of a community and the changes that have occurred in its fabric. But the relationship of the buildings to one another, set close to the scenic road and interspersed with large tracts of open land, has not changed. In details, several appear to have lost their massive central chimneys, at least from the ridge up, while some have new sash in enlarged apertures. No. 3 adopted a 19th-century technological development when its roof was covered with tin shingles, while No. 29 adopted a 20th-century material when its exterior walls were covered with vinyl siding, an insensitive alteration. Overall, however, the value of the resources, the vast majority of which have survived, far outweighs the losses.

The broad array of architectural styles found in the East Weatogue Historic District reflects the changes in aesthetic taste and in building materials and methods that have occurred over almost three centuries. Houses built in the early 18th century were constructed in the manner which the settlers knew from their English heritage, both with respect to appearance and methods and materials. The heavy posts and beams were fastened by mortise and tenon to form a rectangular structure, usually of two stories in height under a gable or pitched roof, around a heavy central masonry chimney. Properties No. 3 and No. 22 well fit this norm. Variations on the norm included a continuous rear roof slope over a rear one-story section, forming a saltbox, as seen at No. 25, and houses smaller in both height and ground plan. No. 41 is as large as the others in plan, but only one story high, while No. 6 is both smaller in plan, having only three bays instead of the usual five, and lower in height, being one story high. The range of variations found in the district on what is essentially one street block contributes to the significance of the district.

The first changes to the original house type came in the forms of plan and embellishment. Twin chimneys made possible a central through-hallway and at about the same time decorative details based on classical precedent were added. No. 23 and No. 13 are good examples of both these changes. Renewed interest in antiquity, and in Greek history in particular, led to popularity of the temple form of three windows to the street under a pediment, of which No. 5 and No. 9 are examples, but the post-and-beam mortise-and-tenon method of construction continued to be followed.

The balloon-frame method of construction, utilizing many small pieces of wood fastened by nails, was a major change in building method. Its advent coincided with a major change in taste toward the romantic and picturesque architectural styles which could best be articulated in the varied and asymmetric forms made possible by the balloon frame. These developments came together in the second half of the 19th century -- a time when there was but a modest amount of building activity in the district. No. 12, an Italianate house, and No. 15 and No. 35, Queen Anne houses, are the few examples. Missing from the district are examples of houses in the picturesque and romantic styles of Gothic Revival, Stick, and Shingle.

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East Weatogue Historic District
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After the turn of the 20th century, the Colonial Revival became the accepted style, with a fine example in No. 34, a large and pretentious house whose hipped roof and clipped dormers belong to the American Four Square interpretation of the Colonial Revival. Its vernacular neighbors No. 37, No. 38, and No. 39 are stark and plain by contrast.

Porches played an important role in the appearance of the houses. No. 23 was built without a porch and received a long wraparound porch in the 19th century, which has been removed. No. 9 was built without a porch but received a wraparound porch, which remains in place. No. 35 was built with a wraparound porch, which, regrettably, was removed.

Other architectural details distinguish the district. In 18th-century houses, the small windows flanking the door of No. 22 are unusual while the row of six tombstone-shaped transom lights of No. 47 is noteworthy. Adamesque features of good quality are found in early-19th-century houses, the Palladian window and semi-elliptical windows of No. 23 and the two-story Ionic pilasters on paneled pedestals of No. 13. The late-19th-century gable-end brace, imbricated shingles, and corbelled chimney of No. 15 appropriately fit the period. From the early 20th century, the quarrel glazing and wall dormer of No. 47's barn and the pavilion and gabled entrance porch of No. 34 well represent the Colonial Revival style. Such fine details reinforce the quality of the examples of the several architectural styles represented in the district.

The farm buildings that accompany the houses also changed over time in method of construction from heavy timber to balloon frame, and in some cases to concrete and glass. Concrete was preferred for cow barns and silos, as at No. 24 and No. 43, glass for the greenhouses. The multiplicity and variety of farm outbuildings in the district make them one of its chief resources.

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UTM References

A 18/683030/4636450	RR 18/682260/4635480
B 18/683020/4636280	SS 18/682380/4635760
C 18/683130/4636280	TT 18/682310/4635820
D 18/683120/4636080	UU 18/682420/4636000
E 18/683470/4636030	VV 18/682300/4636160
F 18/683470/4636000	WW 18/682380/4636360
G 18/683270/4636020	XX 18/682890/4636200
H 18/683240/4635820	YY 18/682930/4636450
I 18/683490/4635790	
J 18/683380/4635340	
K 18/683310/4635350	
L 18/683290/4635240	
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FF 18/682040/4634500	
GG 18/682320/4634040	
HH 18/682240/4634600	
II 18/682100/4634640	
KK 18/682100/4634920	
LL 18/682020/4634960	
MM 18/681980/4635000	
NN 18/681780/4635320	
OO 18/681790/4635540	

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East Weatogue Historic District
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Boundary Justification:

The rationale for the boundary of the nominated district is to include all the land of all properties fronting on the selected sections of East Weatogue Street and Hartford Road, based on the cluster of buildings and structures which has historic and architectural significance. While derived from considerations of architecture, the district also recognizes the historic use of associated land for farming purposes, and includes such land within the boundary. A local historic district of smaller size already exists; it is shown on the district map.

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East Weatogue Historic
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Simsbury, CT

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Photographs were taken by D.F. Ransom in November 1989. Negatives are on file at the Connecticut Historical Commission.

Photograph 1
Property No. 22
View northwest

Photograph 12
Property 34
View northeast

Photograph 2
Property 25
View northeast

Photograph 13
Property 37
View northeast

Photograph 3
Property 47
View northwest

Photograph 14
Property 43
View west

Photograph 4
Property 47
View northeast

Photograph 15
Property 43
View southeast

Photograph 5
Property 29
View northeast

Photograph 16
Property 5
View west

Photograph 6
Property 41
View northeast

Photograph 17
Property 24
View south

Photograph 7
Property 23
View north

Photograph 18
Property 4
View north

Photograph 8
Property 13
View southwest

Photograph 19
Property 27
view southwest

Photograph 9
Property 9
View northwest

Photograph 20
Detail of Photograph 19

Photograph 10
Property 44
View northeast

Photograph 11
Property 15
View northwest

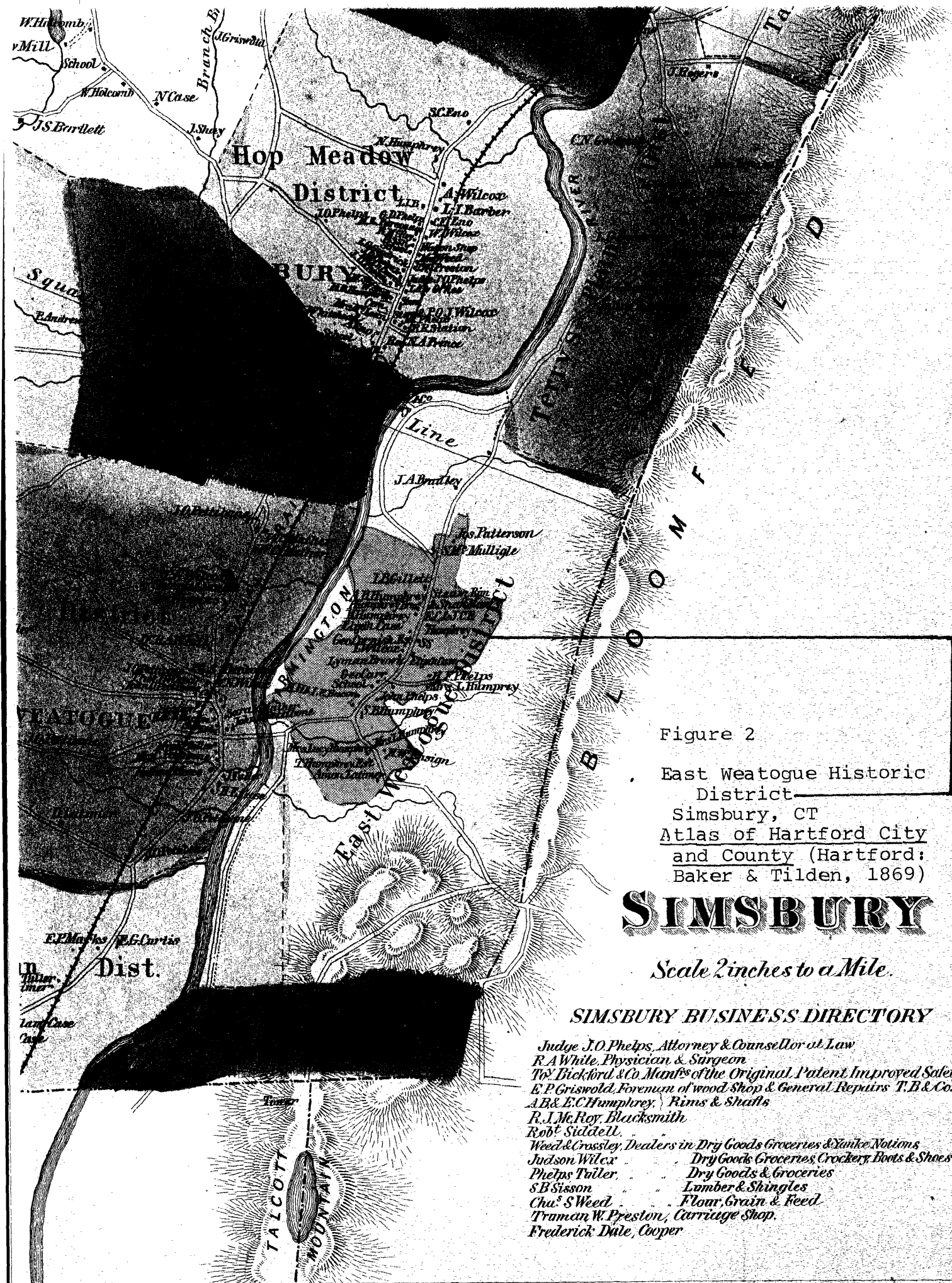


Figure 2

East Weatogue Historic District
 Simsbury, CT
 Atlas of Hartford City and County (Hartford: Baker & Tilden, 1869)

SIMSBURY

Scale 2 inches to a Mile.

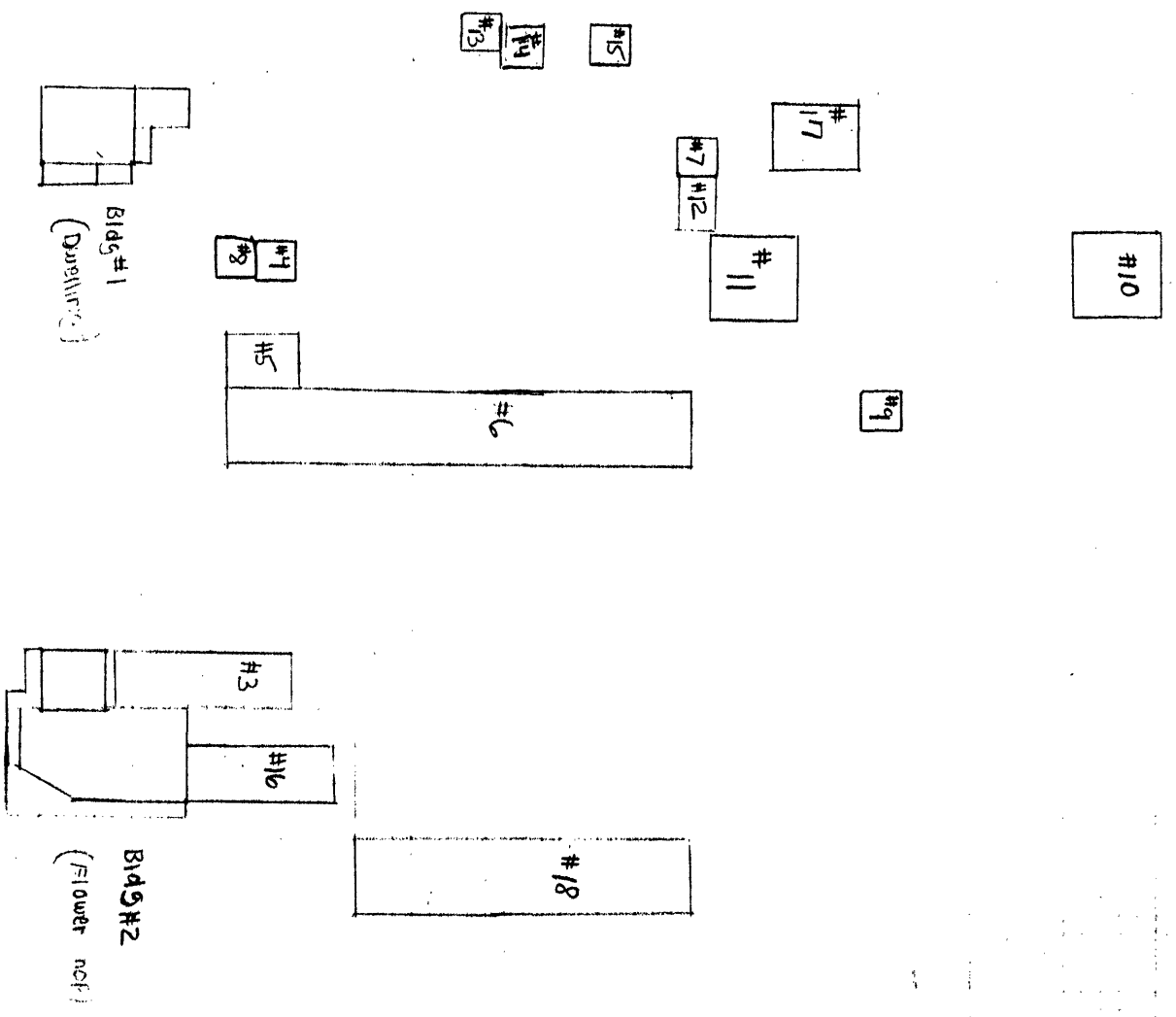
SIMSBURY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

- Judge J.O. Phelps, Attorney & Counselor at Law
- R.A. White, Physician & Surgeon
- T.W. Bickford & Co. Makers of the Original Patent Improved Safety Fuse
- E.P. Griswold, Foreman of Wood Shop & General Repairs T.B. & Co.
- A.B. & E.C. Humphrey, Rims & Shafts
- R.J. McRoy, Blacksmith
- Robt. Suddell
- Weed & Crossley, Dealers in Dry Goods Groceries & Yankee Notions
- Judson Wilcox, Dry Goods Groceries, Crockery, Boots & Shoes
- Phelps Toller, Dry Goods & Groceries
- S.B. Sisson, Lumber & Shingles
- Chu. S. Weed, Flour, Grain & Feed
- Traman W. Preston, Carriage Shop.
- Frederick Dale, Cooper

42 East Weatogue St.
Case, Elnora H.

MAPH-14 Block 109 Parcel # 9

01 of 01
CARD NUMBER



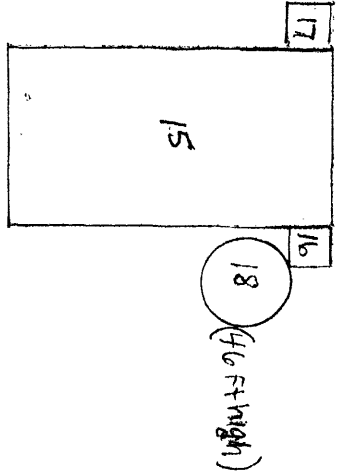
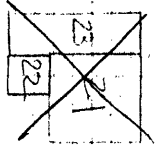
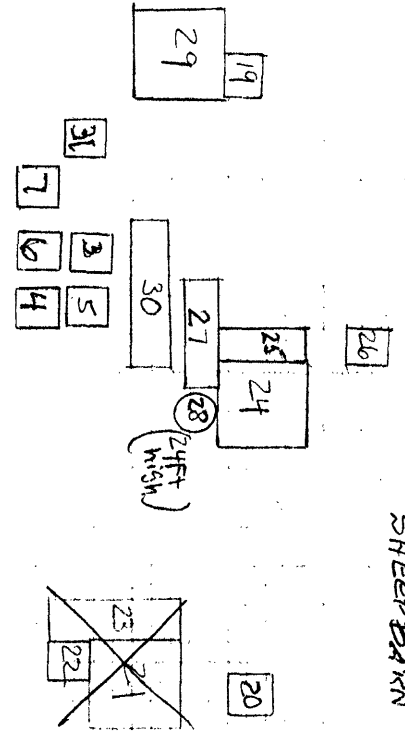
East Weatogue Historic
District
Simsbury, CT
Property No. 29
Figure 3

Z 4

43
 SEE 30F5CD
 SHEEP BARN

FOLLY FARM ASSOCIATION
 HARTFORD ROAD

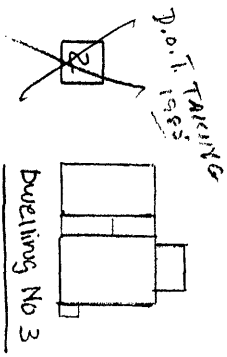
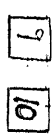
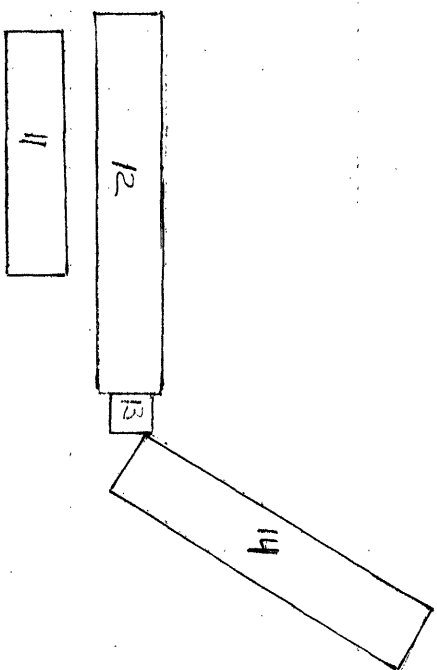
32
 (SEE 30F5 CD)
 STABLES + RINK



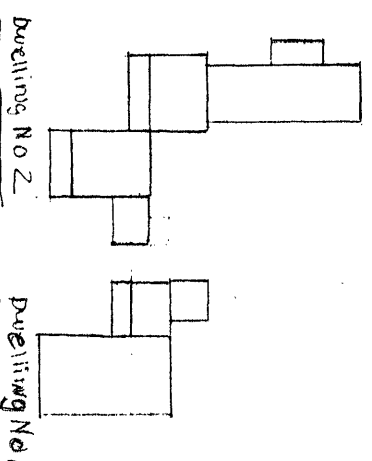
MHC 15, 6/16 - PARCEL 12, 13 + 16 R+13
 PARCEL ID

01 OF 0
 CARD NUMBER

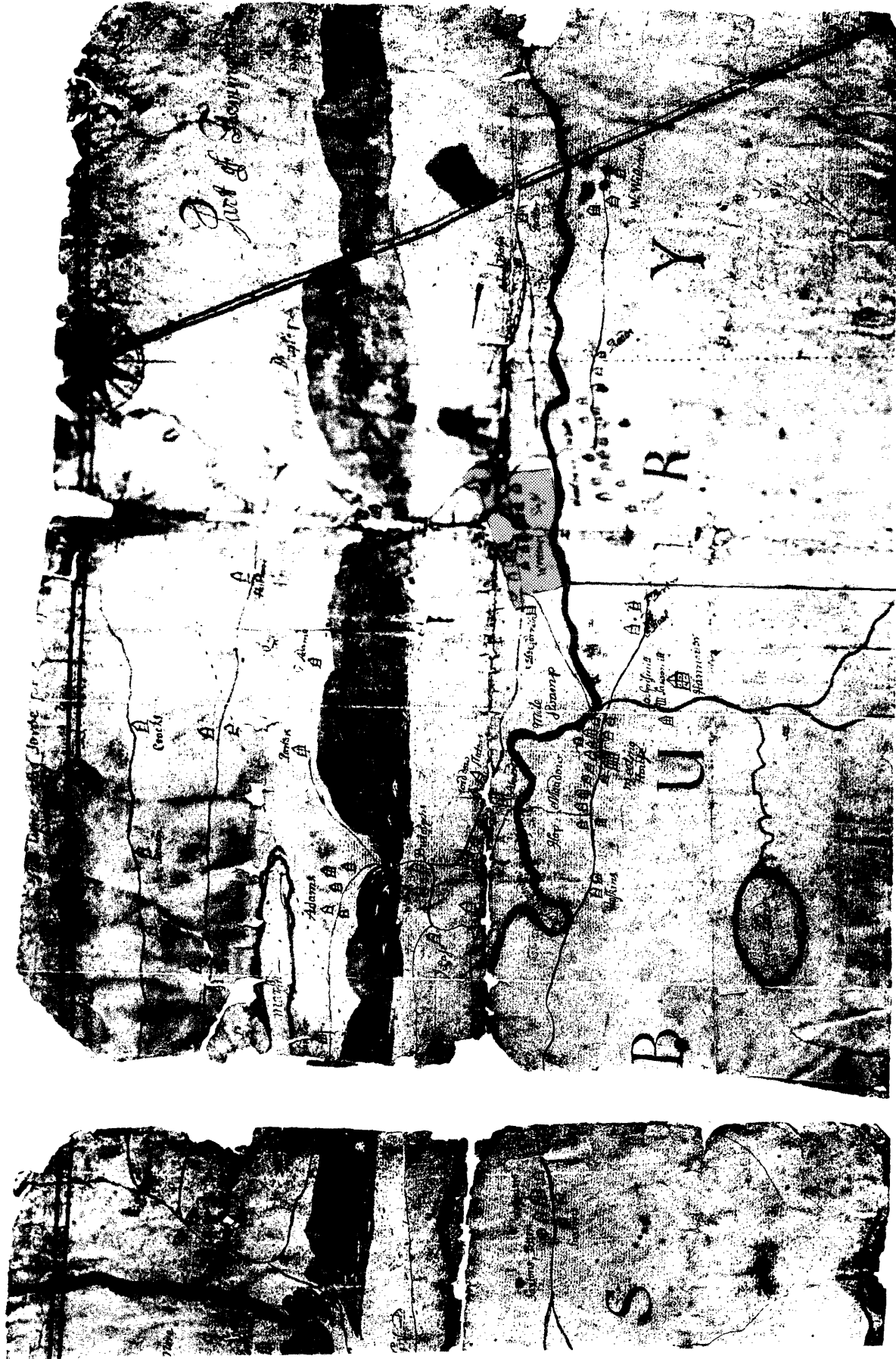
East Westogue Historic
 District
 Simsbury, CT
 Figure 4



8 (32 Ft high)



Property No. 43



MAP OF ANCIENT SIMSBURY ABOUT 1730.

East Weatogue Historic District
Simsbury, CT

Ellsworth, John E.,
Simsbury 1642-1935
(Simsbury: The Simsbury
Committee for the Tercenten-
nary, 1935), opp. p. 16.
Figure 1