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Name of Property		County and Sta	ate		
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[X] private	[X] building (s)	Contributio	ng Noncontributi	ing	
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6. Function or Use					
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7. Description					
Architectural Classific (Enter categories from instructions	a fill See ?!	Materials (Enter categori	es from instructions)		
Late Victorian/		Foundation	Stone brick Concrete	e	
Queen Anne		Walls	Wood		
		Roof	Asphalt shingle		
		Other	Decorative finishes: to metal	tin/pressed	

Narrative Description

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

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet	Fairfield Grange #133
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	
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NPS Form 10-900a	

7. Narrative Description

The Greenfield Hill Grange #133 is located on the northwestern side of Hillside Road in the Greenfield Hill neighborhood of Fairfield, Connecticut. The surrounding rolling landscape was once largely farmland for flax, but now consists of suburban houses of varying size. The building sits on a lot that slopes away from the street, to the northwest, exposing the basement at the rear of the building. The building itself is a rectangular, two-story, wood framed, cross-gable roofed, novelty-sided and clapboarded structure topped by a false belfry (i.e. lacking bells and any form of easy access). It was built in 1897, and enlarged in 1931 with a cross-gable addition at the rear of the building, which contains a kitchen and backstage facilities. The easterly foundation is stone and brick, while the westerly section foundation is concrete.

Eastern Facade

Facing the street, the novelty-sided eastern facade is the main entry point to the building (Photo 1). The foundation is not visible due to a concrete slab porch floor in front of the building. Three of four bays of a wrap-around, shed-roofed porch shelter the first floor and entry. This open portion of the porch is supported by slim, stylized Tuscan columns, and roofed in asphalt shingles. Gutter leaders run down the northernmost column, obscuring its circular shape. The fourth, the southernmost, bay of the porch, was enclosed in the 1970s.

The entry to the building is centered in the façade's windowless ground floor. The entry consists of paired paneled stile and rail doors. The lower two-thirds of each door is three-paneled, while the upper third glazed with 8 lights (4x2). The second story fenestration consists of a single opening of paired 12/2 double-hung sash with flat heads and side rails. The opening is topped by the grange sign. A diamond-shaped four-light fixed sash window located in the gable end completes the main body of the eastern façade. Undecorated barge boards hang from the projecting eaves. The hipped roof false belfry is set back approximately three feet from the raking cornice. It consists of a flush-boarded base surmounted by a post in each corner. The upper ends of the posts are decorated with curved brackets.

Northern Elevation

This simple elevation is enlivened by four bays of 2/2 double hung sash windows that form the mass of the original 1897 building (Photo 2). There is also a simple entry on the

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westernmost bay of the ground floor of this section. The cross-gabled addition has windows placed in an asymmetrical fashion in response to its interior uses-kitchen, stairs, bathrooms, and backstage (Photo 3). A hooded window in the gable end peak completes the openings.

Western Elevation

This three bay elevation has an exposed concrete foundation that is partially obscured by a lean-to shed appended to the southern end of the elevation at ground level (Photos 3 and 4). A single three-light hopper window, located towards the north of the façade, provides light to the basement at this level. Three pairs of double hung sash window with exterior storm sash define the first floor and provide light to the kitchen. On the upper level, just below the overhanging eave, single windows with double-hung sash flank a paired window with the same sash treatment.

Southern Elevation

As the ground slopes upward to the east, the concrete foundation becomes less visible. The three bays of the 1931 addition are demarcated on ground floor by a pair of windows on the each end of the façade, while the second floor has three evenly spaced windows (Photos 4 and 5). A hooded window is located gable end of the 1931 addition. The ground floor of the southern elevation of the 1897 portion of the building is covered by a wrap-around porch that has been enclosed with modern sash. The sash on the ground floor of the southern exterior wall of the building, now the northern wall of the porch, matches that on the northern elevation.

Interior.

Ground floor

One enters from the east into a small vestibule, lined with wooden wainscoting, topped by embossed wall covering in a vertical pattern of bands of lines alternating with a floral pattern in a vertebrate band (Photos 6 &7). The ceiling is covered with coffered metal that transitions to the wall through a metal egg and dart ogee cornice. Decorative nail heads match the pattern of the metal. The doors leading to the assembly room (west) and the closet (south) are framed by banded architraves with bull's-eye corner blocks. To the north is a small arched wicket for the box office and a steep stair leads up to the theatre.

Proceeding westerly one enters the assembly hall/ dining area (Photo 8). Its walls are decorated in the same pattern as the vestibule, while wooden columns support the beam

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that runs longitudinally to support the theatre above. The beams are encased in a stylized egg and dart metal covering. Doors are located at the northwestern and southwestern corners of the room, providing access to stairs that lead up to the theatre. The stairwell walls are decorated in the same manner as the ground floor walls.

A pair of double doors located on the western wall provide access to the kitchen. The kitchen has been modernized over the years with Formica counters and c. 1950 cabinets, but the decorative scheme used on the walls and ceiling of the rest of the first floor is repeated in the remaining kitchen wall spaces.

Second Floor.

The second floor consists of a complete theatre (photos 9 & 10). The front of the house has a metal-covered hipped ceiling articulated as large coffers. Each ceiling angle juncture is decorated with metal egg-and-dart pattern ovolo molding. The molding pattern is also repeated at each ceiling/wall juncture. Like the ground floor, decorative nail heads match the pattern of the metal. Like the ground floor, the walls of the theater seating area are covered in a vertical wood wainscoting topped by embossed wall covering in a pattern of small squares. Metal tie rods connect the northern and southern walls at the height of the springing of the hipped roofs.

The most striking feature of the second floor is the raised stage with proscenium arch, original footlights and lighting system, located on the western side of the building. Fluted Tuscan pilasters flank the arch while its voussoir area is undecorated. The elevated (approximately 4 feet) back stage area is reached by narrow sets of stairs just off the northern and southern stairwells. Each stairwell has a prompting window with access to the stage. The stage itself is an approximately 15×22 -foot space that is walled off from the rest of the back stage area. There are entry points on each wall and a 3-foot wide corridor that runs behind the stage. Small dressing rooms are located in the northwestern and southwestern corners of the building. (see plans)

Greenfield Hill Grange # 133

Name of Property

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.)

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

#

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
-] previously listed in the National Register
-] previously determined eligible by the National Register
-] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

[] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture; Art

Social History

Period of Significance

1896-1967

Significant Dates

1897

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Frank Perry Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- [] State Historic Preservation Office
- [] Other State agency
- [] Federal Agency
- [X] Local Government
- [] University
- [X] Repository name: Town of Fairfield town clerk's office
 - Fairfield Historical Society

Fairfield Connecticut County and State

	County and State
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8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Greenfield Hill Grange #133 is a well-preserved example of a particularly rural building type, of which fewer than 70 remain in Connecticut. It is also one of more elaborate grange buildings in Connecticut and should be particularly noted for its intact interior. It should be considered eligible under Criterion C as an excellent example of its building type and under Criterion A as an embodiment of a populist agrarian movement that verges on extinction in the state.

Background history of the Grange Movement

The Order of Patrons of Husbandry, more commonly known as the Grange was founded on 4 December 1867, in Washington, D.C. A small group of seven men planned an inclusive fratemal organization that "would bring the farmers of the country together in a fraternity which would bind them as closely as the Masonic fraternity binds its people for the mutual benefit and interests of the men who till the soil" [Gordon, 1949, p. 5]. It was to unite private citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population. The general program was populist, suffragist and progressive. Grange activities included general lectures of both public and agrarian interest from animal husbandry to public speaking, agricultural fairs, political meeting and lobbying on matters of interest to farmers including Land Grant institutions, the good roads movement, and cooperative sales and marketing. In 1874, the National Grange declared;

We desire a proper equality, equity, and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American Republic.(1874 Declaration of Purposes of the National Grange http://www.geocities.com/cannongrange/cannon nationalhistory.html)

The first State Grange in Connecticut was organized in 1875. Connecticut became the 33rd State Grange organized under the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry with 20 Subordinate (local) Granges comprising the institutional membership of the organization.

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The early Grange movement in Connecticut failed due to poorly defined rules and regulations that led to disputes between sections of the state; improper instruction in and understanding of the rituals associated with the fraternal organization; lack of proper coordination in developing cooperatives; low dues and little money.

The second attempt at organizing a State Grange in Connecticut met with much more success when representatives from 16 Subordinate Granges met in South Glastonbury, CT in 1885. New members joining the State Grange during 1885 and 1886 received what is known today as the Fifth Degree or Pomona (County) Grange degree. In late 1887, the Connecticut State Grange designated local applicant organizations the first Degree of Flora (Sixth Degree, local).

In 1885, Lebanon Grange No. 21 completed the first hall in Connecticut built specifically for the purpose of housing a Grange chapter. To date, there has been no systematic architectural survey of grange buildings in the state. Based on the state grange history, The Greenfield Hill Grange and the Cannon Grange in Wilton, built in 1899 are among the more substantial grange structures in the state.

Organization

A Subordinate Grange such as Greenfield Hill is a "Local" Grange. This unit of the organization is built around the community. Men, women and youth are admitted on equal terms. Those who are a minimum of 14 years of age are eligible for full membership. Each member has one vote. The local Grange elects its own officers and controls its own affairs in community matters. It confers the first four ritualistic Degrees. Although regular business Grange meetings are for members only, the educational and literary programs are frequently open to the public, as are the numerous community activities the local Granges provide. All Grange activities are for the purpose of developing leadership, improving community life, and expanding opportunities for all people. The organization has been a champion of rural free delivery, consumer cooperatives, good roads, progressive income tax systems, and community farming. It constantly fought the railroad monopolies. Approximately 300,000 people are members of the Grange in 3,600 communities nationwide. In the State of Connecticut, there are over 70 communities with a Subordinate Grange. These numbers are dwindling as Connecticut loses its agricultural communities.

Greenfield Grange #133

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In the nineteenth century, the Greenfield Hill community was an agricultural village of about 1,500 whose primary crop was flax (Connecticut State Grange, 1900, p. 432). The genesis of Grange #133 was actually the result of a disputed effort to create a grange in Fairfield. Neither Southport nor Fairfield could agree on a location for a grange building so Greenfield went ahead and formed its own. The first meeting was held in 1893 at Greenfield Academy. The first master of the grange, Simeon Pease, worked to increase the membership from an initial 18 charter members to 40, and soon more than 100 people would come to attend the open portions of their meetings. The success of the grange continued and soon Greenfield Hill #133 became one of the largest and most influential granges in the state. They acted locally as well, placing hitching posts on the Greenfield Hill Green in 1893.

In 1896, the Grange began to discuss building their own structure and by February 1897, a committee had drawn up plans for a new building. On February 2, 1897, the designs were put out to bid. On March 2, 1897, the bids were opened with Grange Brother Frank Perry submitting the low bid of \$1,158. The Grange was donated a lot from the Pease family on April 6,1897 [however, the deed was not recorded until 1930], and the building frame was erected in a community-wide raising on Saturday, April 24, 1897. The local dramatic club, the Greenfield Dramatic Club, appears to have been responsible for the elaborate stage and theatre equipment for the Grange minutes from June 1, 1897 note the intention of the club to furnish the Grange Hall. On June 19, 1897 the building was accepted and dedicated. [Grange Minutes volume 1]. In 1898, Greenfield Hill hosted the Grange Pomona (county) meeting in its new building.

For the next 65 years, Grange events and fairs at the site were well attended. The annual lecture series and plays were presented to groups of 50 to 100. Membership on average totaled 200 or more. The Grange fair was an important summer event when Fairfield was a more rural community. In 1956, over 2000 attended the fair with its competitive exhibits of vegetables, food, flowers, 4-H programs, dressmaking, and animals. Until recently, the fair continued to operate with much lower attendance. To many, the Grange epitomized populist rural values, a rarity in rapidly suburbanizing Fairfield county.

In 1931, as described in the Grange's files, the Grange expanded its facilities to include a large kitchen and wrap-around porch. This 25-foot by 40-foot cross-gable addition appears to have encased or subsumed approximately 15 feet of the original building. leaving the proscenium arch intact, but adding much needed exits and backstage space.

With the exception of the porch partial enclosure in 1977, the building remains essentially untouched since the 1931 addition. When compared architecturally to most of

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the grange buildings in Connecticut, Greenfield Hill Grange #133 is an excellent example of its type. Its elaborate late 19th century interiors are rare survivors of popular taste in public or private buildings of the late 19th century. The eclectic juxtaposition of the interior wall coverings seems to project the populist and positivist nature of the movement. The metal ceiling treatment had only recently become available, and according to Dr. Pamela Simpson, a recognized expert on metal ceilings¹ the patterns in the building are among the earliest available. In addition this large amount of decorative material reflects the popular taste for interiors of the time as seen in such magazines as *House and Garden*. The exterior, emulating a schoolhouse becomes a metaphor for the didactic and civic nature of the Grange movement and belies the animation of the interior decoration.

In keeping with the populist and pragmatic aims of the society, most of the surviving grange buildings in the state are single story structures with non-descript, almost residential exteriors. A literature search has, to date, not revealed any pattern books guidelines for the design and construction of a grange hall. Since the movement, like freemasonry, does have some ritual material that is not available to non-members, there may exist some guidelines for grange hall construction but these guidelines may be part of Grange ritual. The interiors of almost all grange buildings are usually extremely plain. Most have a single large room with some form of small raised dais, or stage, but no others appear to have the elaborate interior decoration found in Greenfield Hill Grange nor do they have the complex theatrical arrangement found on the upper floor. In fact, when other grange's theatrical entertainments achieved a degree of success, they often "went on the road" to Greenfield Hill. Of the 70 grange buildings in Connecticut, the Greenfield Hill Grange's interiors are among the best preserved and most substantial in the state. A brief canvas of SHPOs in New England in late June 2007 indicated that this was the most elaborate interior yet identified in a New England grange building.

¹ Email correspondence with Dr. Simpson, 6/27/07 through 6/30/07. She noted that the 1897 date was an early use of metal ceilings.

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(8-86)	OMB No. 10024-0018

9. Bibliography

NPS Form 10-900a

There are no current titles on grange architecture

Clark, Gordon. The Grange: Friend of the Farmer. Grange Press, 1949

Connecticut State Grange. The Connecticut State Granges. New Haven: Industrial Publishing, 1900

Simpson, Pamela. Cheap, Quick, & Easy. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1999

All records of the Greenfield Hill Grange #133 are on file with the Fairfield Historical Society, Fairfield, CT

Name of Pro	lill Grange # 133)			Fairfield, C	onnecticut	
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10. Geogra	phical Data					
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	daries of the property on	a continuation sheet.)				
Boundary Jus	stification					
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11. Form P	repared By (*	See Continuation Sheet	for authors*)		
name/title	Steven M Bed	ford. Ph.D.				
organization	N/A			Date	May 15, 200	7
street & numb	er 11 Shafer	Rd		Telephone	860-489-990	8
city or town	New Hartford			stateCT	zip code	06057
Additional	Documentatio	n			-	
Submit the followin	g items with the complete	d form:				
Continuation	Sheets					
	Sheets					
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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 seg.)

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, D.C. 20603.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The boundaries are indicated on the base map below. Boundary was selected to conform to land owned by the Grange.

Boundary Description:



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11. Form Prepared By:Steven Bedford, Ph.D.11 Shafer Rd, New Hartford, CT 06057

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Name of Property Fairfield County, Connecticut County and State

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Greenfield Hill grange # 133

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Additional Documentation

List of Photos Greenfield Hill Grange

Photographer: Steven Bedford Date: June 2006 Negatives on file: digital images submitted on gold CD to CT SHPO

- 1. View west: main facade
- 2. View southwest: northern elevation
- 3. View southeast: northern elevation and western elevation
- 4. View east: western and southern elevations
- 5. View north: detail of western end of southern elevation
- 6. View north: entry vestibule
- 7. View west: entry vestibule interior walls and ceiling
- 8. View west: lower floor interior
- 9. View east: upper floor interior
- 10. View west: upper floor interior

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Plans

First floor:

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Second floor

OMB No. 10024-0018

Greenfield Hill grange # 133

Name of Property Fairfield County, Connecticut County and State



 NPS Form 10-900a (8-86)
 OMB No. 10024-0018

 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
 Greenfield Hill grange # 133

 National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet
 Greenfield Hill grange # 133

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 Photo Key First Floor
 County and State
 County and State



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section na Page 5

OMB No. 10024-0018

Greenfield Hill grange # 133

Name of Property Fairfield County, Connecticut County and State

Photo Key Second Floor





Second Floor - Existing Conditions The Granifold Hill Grange #183 1973 Hudee Road Fantesk C reveal w spile Jay 20, 2008

Measured By

TUCKER CHASE ARCHITECT 88 Academy Hill Tetrace Stratford, CT 06615 205 575 1095



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 07001440

Date Listed: 1-25-08

Property Name: Greenfield Hill Grange #133

County: Fairfield

Page

State: CT

Multiple Name: N/A

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusion, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination

Section 8: Statement of Significance

The Period of Significance was erroneously recorded as 1896-1967. The Period of Significance should be 1896-1957, reflecting the on-going use of the Grange Hall.

Notification and Distribution

The Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

This notice was distributed to the following: National Register property file Nominating Authority, without nomination attachment

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Greenfield Hill Grange #133 NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CONNECTICUT, Fairfield

DATE RECEIVED: 12/12/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/03/08 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/18/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/25/08 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07001440

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	Ν	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	Y	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	Y	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT	RETURN	REJECT	DATE
ACCEPT	NETONIA	TTO DCT	

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM. /CRITERIA A &	
REVIEWER Barbara Wyalt	DISCIPLINE HUStonan
TELEPHONE 202-354-2252	DATE 1-25-08

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.























TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

RECEIVED

Town Hall - Fairfield, Conn.

OCT 0.2 2007 Commission on Culture & Tourism

FAIRFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Ms. Cora Murray Historic Preservation & Museum Division Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism 59 South Prospect Street Hartford, CT 06106

September 30, 2007

RECEIVED 2280 DEC 1 2 2007 REGISTEF NATION STURIL PLAC

Dear Ms. Murray,

The Fairfield Historic District Commission is pleased to endorse the nomination by the State Preservation Board, of the Greenfield Hill Grange #133 to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Greenfield Hill Grange is one of the remaining vestiges of the rural community which was key in the development of agriculture in Fairfield County. In early September, a harvest festival took place at the Grange. Flower and vegetable exhibits demonstrated to those who attended, an overview of past cultural activities that were the the "Realty Shows" of another era.

With Historic Designation, perhaps more people will become aware of the significance of the Grange and its place in the community and will continue to revive many more of its traditions.

Sincerely,

Ellen Smld

Ellen Gould, Chair 203.255.2994 findgould@mac.com



"Vairo, Stacey" <Stacey.Vairo@ct.gov> 01/24/2008 11:42 AM EST To: Barbara_Wyatt@nps.gov cc: Subject: Fairfield Grange

Hi Barbara,

I spoke with Steven Bedford, the consultant for the Fairfield Grange. He confirmed that his end date for the period of significance was a typo and he meant 1957. He's sending the map – I'll forward it along to you ASAP.

Thanks,

Stacey

RECEIVED 2280 DEC 1 2 2007 AT. REGISTER DI USTURIC PLACES NATIONAL PAOK SERVICE

TO: Jan Matthews, Keeper National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Cora Murray, National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this 11th day of December	-
2007, for nomination of the Greenfield Hill Grange #133	-
to the National Register of Historic Places:	

X	Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form	
	Multiple Property Nomination form	
X	Photographs	
X	Original USGS maps	
×	Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)	
×	Pieces of correspondence	
	Other	_
COMMENT	'S:	
X	Please insure that this nomination is reviewed	

This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67

The enclosed owner objections do _____ do not _____ constitute a majority of property owners.

Other: _____