

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JAN 8 1987

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

FEB 10 1987

## 1. Name

historic N/A

and/or common BUSH HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

## 2. Location

street &amp; number Parts of Bush Hill Road, Route 169 (Pomfret Road), and Wolf Den Road N/A not for publication

city, town Brooklyn N/A vicinity of

state Connecticut code 09 county Windham code 015

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: restaurant

## 4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership - see continuation sheet

street &amp; number

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Brooklyn Town Clerk

street &amp; number Town Hall, P.O. Box 356

city, town Brooklyn state Connecticut

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Register of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible?  yes  nodate 1986  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Connecticut Historical Commission

city, town 59 South Prospect Street state Connecticut  
Hartford

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

0

Bush Hill Historic District is a group of 20 houses, most dating from the 18th or early 19th century, with 4 associated barns and 1 carriagehouse, located in the extreme northwest corner of Brooklyn, Connecticut. The houses are ranged along two broad ridges, one on Wolf Den Road (Bush Hill) and another on Route 169 or Pomfret Road, the summits of which are joined by Bush Hill Road, resulting in an H-shaped settlement (see maps). The land in this vicinity is largely open and in agricultural use, with extensive fields of silage corn and hay. Along the roads are tall maples and stone walls, with other walls marking out fieldlines (Photograph 9). The area between the ridges (most of which is not included in the district) and the east end of Bush Hill Road are now overgrown with hardwood forest. Except for one bed-and-breakfast, the houses are still used as private residences, though a restaurant and an art gallery now occupy two of the large old barns in the district.

The district gets its character from the 18th-century vernacular houses which make up a large part of the buildings. These typically are 2 1/2 stories high, with the ridgeline of their gable roofs set parallel to the road. They have symmetrical five-bay facades with entrances in the center. A large brick chimney rises from the center of most of the houses, and the exteriors are covered with clapboards. One house (#3, Photograph 3) is of lean-to form, and one (#6, Photograph 7) is a small, gambrel-roofed, 1 1/2-story cottage. Three houses have two interior end chimneys instead of a central stack, though in one case (#8, Photograph 10) patching of the roof sheathing indicates this is a later modification. One house was modified c.1800 with a hip roof (#4, Photograph 5), and one is a south-facing house with an asymmetrical 3-bay facade and the interior chimney near one end (#9, Photograph 13). The historic houses are all sited quite close to the road.

The interiors contain a large amount of original material, including walls of raised paneling, wide-board floors, beaded post and beam casings, and stairways with turned balusters and scroll appliquees. All the contributing houses are of post-and-beam construction, many with the summer-beam floor system and flared posts associated with a mid-18th-century date.

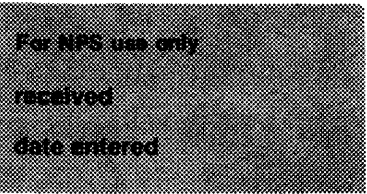
The houses are widely spaced apart, with large yards and intervening fields and woods. The five old barns or carriagehouses (see sketch map) appear to date from the late 19th century (Photograph 12).

The houses retain a great deal of their historic appearance. The clapboards, small-pane sash, and brick chimneys are in many if not most cases replacements in kind for similar original materials. Three of the houses (#s 2, 4 and 7) have later Federal or Greek Revival Classical entry treatments,

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Bush Hill Historic District

Continuation sheet

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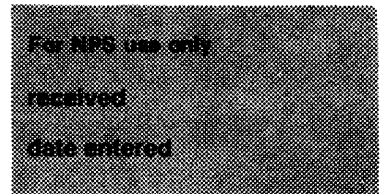
Property Owners:

Map/Lot	Owner & Address	Inventory Number	Contributing/ Noncontributing
BUSH HILL ROAD			
19/19A	Moore, Raymond A. & Barbara M. 10 Endeavor Street Trumbull, CT 06611		Land only
27/2	Tuxford, Jay & Arlene Bush Hill Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	G	Noncontributing
19/9A	Cornman, Deborah & Edward O. Homonoff Bush Hill Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	H	Noncontributing
19/9B (part)	Hillandale Family Limited Partnership c/o Hillandale Farms Pomfret Center, CT 06259		Land only
19/9	Booth, Georgy L. Bush Hill Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	I	Noncontributing
ROUTE 169 (POMFRET ROAD)			
26/20 (part)	Williams, Lester B. & Mary Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	1	Contributing
26/19	Riseman, Marion Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	2	Contributing (House & Barn)
26/19A (part)	Riseman, Henry Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234		Land only
26/18 (part)	Riseman, Henry Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234		Land only
26/11	Contino, Deborah D. Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234		Land only
26/10	Perry, Marilyn J. & Edward W. Sr. Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	A	Noncontributing

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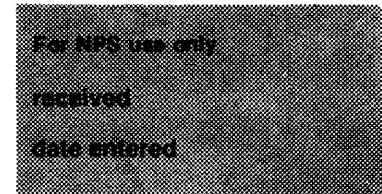
Property Owners:

26/6	Burgess, Jean S. & Wendell Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	3	Contributing
26/8	Acimovic, Aleksander & Anna Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	B	Noncontributing
26/9	Surprenant, Arthur R. & Jeannine Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	C	Noncontributing
27/8 (part)	Fallon, Emmet J. & Julia G. P.O. Box 47 Brooklyn, CT 06234		Land only
27/1-6	Anderson, Russell F. & Marilyn J. Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	D	Noncontributing
27/1-5	Montie, Robert C., Jr. & Sandra A. 66 Green Street Putnam, CT 06260		Land only
27/1-4	Danna, Stephen J. & Marcia A. Apt. 3A Carroll Avenue Danielson, CT 06239		Land only
27/1-C	Teed, David M. <u>et al.</u> Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	4	Contributing
27/1-3	Lambert, Paul E. & Barbara 159 Westfield Road Milford, CT 06460	Barn w/ #4	Contributing
27/1-2	Lambert, Paul E. & Barbara 159 Westfield Road Milford, CT 06460		Land only
27/1-7 (part)	Currier, Robert A. & JoAnn 12 Talbot Avenue Moosup, CT 06354		Land only
27/1A,1B	Koehl, Hans H. Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	E	Noncontributing
27/3	MacKenzie, Hugh M. & Mary Carol Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	5	Contributing

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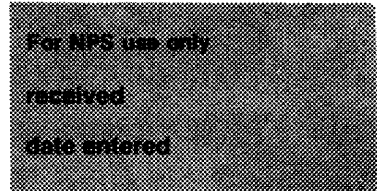
Property Owners:

27/3A	Ducharme, Raymond W. Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	F	Noncontributing
27/7 (part)	Ducharme, Raymond W. & Barbara A. Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234		Land only
27/4	Lawson, Warren Route 169 Pomfret Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234	6	Contributing
27/6 (part)	General Putnam Farm Estates c/o Robert Booth Pomfret Center, CT 06259		Land only
28/3C	General Putnam Farm Estates c/o Robert Booth Pomfret Center, CT 06259		Land only
28/2 (part)	Coville, Margaret Lapsley Pomfret, CT 06259	7	Contributing
WOLF DEN ROAD			
18/18A,18B (part)	Tolsdorf, Judith C. Wolf Den Road, Brooklyn, 06234	10	Contributing
18/18 (part)	Hillandale Family Limited Partnership c/o Hillandale Farms Pomfret Center, CT 06259		
18/19B (part)	Hillandale Family Limited Partnership c/o Hillandale Farms Pomfret Center, CT 06259		
18/19 (part)	Booth, Georgy L. Pomfret Center, CT 06259	Barn w/ #10	Contributing
19/18A (part)	Booth, Georgy L. Pomfret Center, CT 06259	10	Contributing
19/1 (part)	Francis, Donald S. & Janice A. RFD 2 Box 147 Pomfret, CT 06259	J	Noncontributing

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Property Owners:

19/8	State of Connecticut Division of State Police Department of Public Safety 100 Washington Street Hartford, CT 06106	Radio Tower	Noncontributing
19/2	Booth, Richard A. & Nancy H. Pomfret, CT 06259	9	Contributing
19/7A	Booth, Richard A. & Nancy H. Pomfret, CT 06259		Land only

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Description (continued):

and one (#5, Photograph 6) has a Colonial Revival portico appended to its original period entrance.

Of the 25 major buildings in the district (20 houses, 4 barns, and 1 carriagehouse), 15 or 60% contribute to the character of the district. The noncontributing buildings are modern houses interspersed among the historic houses (Photographs 16 through 19). The visual impact of most of the 10 noncontributing structures is lessened by their setback far from the road and by intervening trees.

The boundary of the district includes all nearby historic houses and generally follows either property lines or treelines defining open fields (see Boundary Justification). At the northeast edge, the district abuts Putnam Farm, a property with an 18th-century house which is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Inventories of contributing and noncontributing buildings follow. Garages, sheds, and other structures not substantial in size and scale are not counted. Barns are described alongside their respective houses.

INVENTORY OF CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

Pomfret Road

1. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1790, 5-bay facade, central entry with transom and molded surround, large brick center chimney, mixed 12-over-12 and 2-over-2 sash (Photograph 1). Interior includes wide-board floors, beaded frame casings (no summers) and c.1810 stairway and simple mantels.

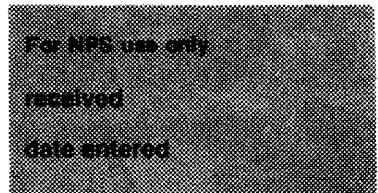
2. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1780, 5-bay facade, central entry with Greek Revival-style pilaster-and-lintel treatment (Greek key motif in pilasters) and sidelights, brick center chimney, 6-over-6 sash (Photograph 2); interior includes wideboard floors, stairway with scroll appliquees and turned balusters, paneling, chair rail, cornice moldings, and one elaborate Federal-style mantel. Summers above ceiling plaster on second floor. Property includes a large old barn now used as an art gallery.

3. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories with lean-to at rear, c.1750, 5-bay facade, central entry with transom and molded surround, large brick center chimney; later corner pilasters, 6-over-6 sash (Photograph 3). Interior includes stairway with turned balusters and applied scrolls (Photograph 4); reproduction wainscoting and beam casings, authentic paneled doors. Framing has flared posts and summers.

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Description (continued):

4. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories with hip roof, large brick central chimney, 5-bay facade with central entry; early 18th century with later modifications: jack-arch lintels over windows, 9-over-9 sash, pilastered vestibule with pediment treatment (Photograph 5). Framing with summers (one front-to-back) and flared posts; wide-board pine floors, feather-edged wainscot. Property includes extensive open fields and large barn on adjacent lot to north. (W.P.A. Census of Old Buildings, Brooklyn #26).

5. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1815, overhanging attic story, 5-bay facade, central entry with pilasters and fanlight under gable-roof portico (probably 20th century), two brick interior end chimneys, pilastered corners, 12-over-12 sash (Photograph 6). (W.P.A. Census of Old Buildings, Brooklyn #3).

6. Small clapboarded gambrel-roofed house, 1 1/2 stories, of uncertain date, 2-over-2 sash, small center chimney, entry on two-bay east elevation (Photograph 7).

7. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1790, 5-bay facade, central entry in Greek Revival-period pilastered enclosed vestibule, large central chimney. Interior includes fireplaces and Classical mantels (Photograph 10).

Wolf Den Road

8. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1770, 5-bay facade, central entry with transom and simple splayed lintel (reproduction), two large brick chimneys, 8-over-12 sash (Photograph 10); framed with summers above ceiling level, with flared posts on second story; interior woodwork includes beam and post casings, wide-board floors, cornice moldings, paneled fireplace walls (Photograph 11), and stairway with turned balusters and appliquees in scroll and prince's-feather motifs. Property includes large c.1870 barn with bracketed cupola (now a shop and restaurant - Photograph 12), Victorian-period carriagehouse, and extensive open fields. (W.P.A. Census of Old Buildings, Brooklyn #14).

9. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1740, large offset chimney; asymmetrical 3-bay south-facing facade; secondary entrance in gable end racing road (Photograph 13). Nine-over-six sash. Rightmost part of facade, now blank wall, originally recessed so as to include only the rear portion of the house (interior clapboards in attic). Interior features one wall of paneling, beaded beam casings. Framing includes summers and flared posts.

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Description (continued):

10. Clapboarded house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1750-1790, 5-bay facade, central entry with simple molded surround, overhanging attic story, two brick interior end chimneys, 6-over-6 sash (Photograph 14). Framing of south part only has summer flared posts. Property includes barn and extensive open land.

INVENTORY OF NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

Pomfret Road

- A. One-story house, c.1940.
- B. Ranch-style house, c.1960.
- C. Ranch-style house, c.1970 (Photograph 15).
- D. Colonial-style house, 2 1/2 stories, 1984; set far back from the road (Photograph 16).
- E. Colonial-style house, 2 1/2 stories with lean-to, c.1980 (Photograph 17).
- F. Stone-faced ranch-style house, c.1960, set back from road among trees (Photograph 18).

Bush Hill Road

- G. Brick ranch-style house, c.1980 (Photograph 19).
- H. Colonial-style house, 2 1/2 stories, c.1980, sited far back from the road.
- I. One-and-a-half story house, said to be a remodeling of an old house; large dormer, porch, and asymmetrical facade create modern appearance.

Wolf Den Road

- J. Hip-roofed house, 1 1/2 stories, c.1940.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400-1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ humanitarian
___ 1800-1899	___ commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
___ 1900-	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other (specify)

Criteria A, C

**Specific dates** See inventory, item 7 **Builder/Architect** Not known

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

### Summary

Bush Hill Historic District is significant because of its unusually high concentration of well-preserved 18th-century farmhouses and because it retains the open fields, stone walls, and tree-lined roads which provide an appropriate setting for the houses, one which recalls the area's historical development as an outlying farming district. The district's houses exemplify rural 18th-century Connecticut domestic architecture: they embody the distinctive characteristics of that period's form and method of construction (Criterion C). Typical 18th-century features -- post-and-beam framing, central chimneys, five-bay facades, clapboarded exteriors, gable roofs, interior paneling -- are well-represented in the district, as are variants such as the gambrel roof, the lean-to, and the "half-house" form with rooms on only one side of the chimney. Changes over time are evident not only in framing differences among the houses but also in the appearance of the two-chimney, center-hall plan. The distribution of the houses throughout the district is also significant because it illustrates the historical development of settlement patterns in Connecticut (Criterion A). The wide spacing of houses with nearby fields and woodlots represents the most common Connecticut settlement pattern of the 18th century, when most families lived on farms in outlying areas such as Bush Hill.

### Architectural Importance

The district's old houses are typical of Connecticut's vernacular architecture of the 18th century in their siting, form, materials, and method of construction. The orientation of the house with the ridgeline parallel to the road was the most common arrangement, with a south-facing orientation (such as #9) a distant second in frequency, though probably more common in eastern Connecticut than in most regions of the state. The symmetrical five-bay, center-entry facade was the dominant form, as it is in the district. Eighteenth-century Connecticut houses, such as those in the district, made use of available wood resources, including oak or chestnut post-and-beam framing, clapboarded exteriors, wide-board flooring, and interior wall coverings of feather-edged wainscot or raised paneling in pine. The generally plain appearance of the houses is evident in the most common entrance treatment, a transomed doorway surrounded by a series of molded boards (#s 1, and 3, Photograph 1). Another typical 18th-century feature found in several of the district's houses is the winding stairway with turned balusters and applied scrolls (Photograph 4).

The district's houses utilize the post-and-beam framing of the 18th century, visible on the interior as corner posts and beams covered by beaded casings.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 350

Quadrangle name Danielson

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References See continuation sheet

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

N/A

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

edited by John Herzan,

name/title Bruce Clouette & Matthew Roth, partners, National Register Coordinator

organization Historic Resource Consultants date April 7, 1986

street & number The Colt Armory  
55 Van Dyke Avenue telephone (203) 547-0268

city or town Hartford state Connecticut

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local


As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Director, Connecticut Historical Commission date January 2, 1987

For NPS use only

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

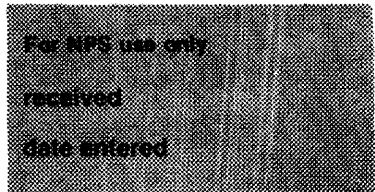
 date 2/10/87  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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Significance (continued):

The houses demonstrate a variation in heaviness of framing members usually associated with a chronological progression toward lighter house-frames. Summers (beams running down the middle of rooms to support floor joists) are found in many of the houses, with the larger ones in houses with pronounced splay, or shoulders, on the corner posts. Other houses have smaller summers detectable only by parallel cracks in the ceiling plaster, and some have dispensed with them in favor of full-length joists. Houses without summers also have relatively small corner posts with no splay at the top. At least two houses (#s 4 and 10) are substantially different in the framing of the north and south halves; they were probably enlarged at a date subsequent to their original erection.

The trend toward the two-chimney, center-hall plan is evident in two houses modified from their original form (#s 8 and 10), and in house #5, built c.1815. The early 19th-century taste for Classical ornament can be seen in a number of houses which had entrance and corner pilasters added, along with Federal-type mantels and other modifications. These alterations have significance in their own right as reflections of changing architectural ideas.

The architectural significance of the district's houses is enhanced by their generally high state of integrity. Unlike many areas of old houses in Connecticut, the Bush Hill district is characterized by clapboards, small-pane sash, and appropriately sized brick chimneys, and there are no old houses which have been sided with modern composition materials.

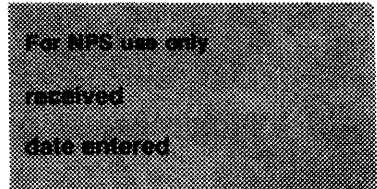
Listings on the State Register of Historic Places indicate that Bush Hill accounts for a large proportion of the town's historic buildings outside of the immediate town center, and may be the only extensive contiguous group of 18th-century houses left in Brooklyn.

Historical Development

At the beginning of the 18th century what became the town of Brooklyn was not within the bounds of any organized town, but was part of a large tract of land in eastern Connecticut claimed by Major John Fitch. In 1703 Richard Adams of Preston bought a large piece of land from Fitch, including what would become Brooklyn, and then sold off portions to others. In 1714 the area was split between the towns of Canterbury to the south and Pomfret to the north. Settlement proceeded slowly, in part because parcels of hundreds or thousands of acres were held by absentee landowners. By 1723 there were enough English people in the area that became Brooklyn that a train band or militia unit was formed. And in 1728, 32 families petitioned to become a

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   Brooklyn, CT

Significance (continued):

separate church, a request granted in 1731, when Brooklyn parish was set up within the town of Pomfret. Not until 1786 did Brooklyn become an independent town.

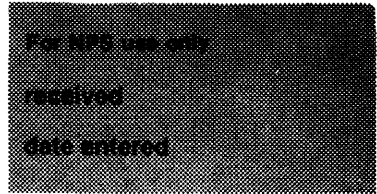
English settlement of Brooklyn, as in most areas in Connecticut settled in the 18th century, occurred mostly along broad upland ridges like those in the district, which offered good drainage and protection from flooding. Farms of 50 to 150 acres were most common, with much of the cleared acreage adjacent to and across the road from the farmer's house. Houses were consequently spaced widely apart, grouped in a linear pattern along the high ground. In many areas the grouping of houses reflected settlement by related families.

Today this pattern is no longer evident in most areas of the state. The village centers popularly associated with New England towns are primarily an early 19th-century phenomenon, the product of turnpikes, small-scale manufacture, commerce, and market-oriented agriculture. Other areas of Connecticut's colonial countryside have been built over with industrial cities or 20th-century subdivisions. Bush Hill, however, retains many of the features of the 18th-century landscape. Although no one would claim the area is unchanged, the many well-preserved old houses, the wide spaces separating them, the farmland, the stone walls, and the other landscape features act together to suggest the 18th-century appearance of Brooklyn's countryside.

In the 18th century, most of the farms in the district were owned by members of the Putnam and Williams families. Israel Putnam, Connecticut's Revolutionary War hero, lived in the center of Brooklyn but his sons maintained his original farmland along Spaulding and Pomfret roads. Although most of the area's farms were not exceptionally large, some of the 18th-century owners were sufficiently prosperous to be called "Esquire" in the legal records, such as Roger W. Williams (#8) or Joseph Scarborough (#4). The latter house also is said to have been used as a tavern, a local tradition consistent with its location on Pomfret Road, the major thoroughfare leading north from Canterbury to Pomfret and Woodstock; it was improved in the early 19th century as the Norwich and Woodstock Turnpike. Long-established families such as the Williamses continued to occupy the area into the 19th century, and were joined by new families such as the Dyers (#8) from Rhode Island. Orchards and dairy farming eventually replaced the generalized, largely subsistence farming of the earlier period. Railroads, factories, and urban growth entirely bypassed this part of Brooklyn, so that until the building of modern houses in the last 20 years, Bush Hill remained relatively unchanged from its early 19th-century appearance.

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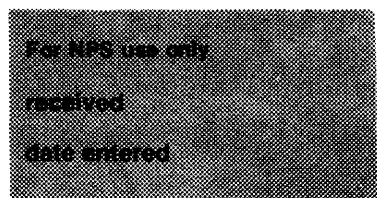
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Bush Hill Historic District

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Geographical Data (continued):

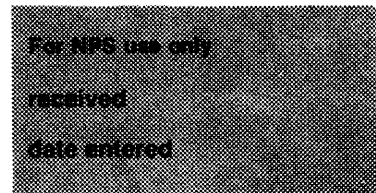
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Geographical Data (continued):

Verbal Boundary Description

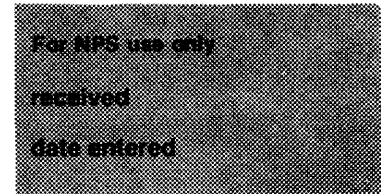
Beginning at the north end of the district, on Route 169 (Pomfret Road), at a point on the east side of the road 300' north of the center of the house on Lot 2, Brooklyn Assessors' Map 28, the boundary runs easterly at right angles to the road 400' back from the centerline of the road, then runs southerly parallel with the road until it reaches the northern line of Lot 3C. It runs eastward and then southward along that property line to Spaulding Road. It runs west along the north edge of Spaulding Road to a point 1200' back from the centerline of Route 169. It then crosses Spaulding Road and runs south to a point 400' from the centerline of Spaulding Road, then west for 500'. It then runs southerly in a straight line to a point on the southern line of Lot 7, Map 27, which is 600' back from the centerline of Route 169. From there, the boundary runs westerly along that line for 300', then turns and continues southerly in a straight line to the northeast corner of Lot 9, Map 26, continuing along the rear property lines of Lots 9, 10, and 11 to Barrett Hill Road. In a straight line it crosses Barrett Hill Road and continues to the northernmost corner of Lot 19, Map 26, then runs southeasterly to the next corner of that lot. In a straight line it runs to a point 300' back from the centerline of Route 169 and 300' southeasterly along the road from the center of the house on Lot 20, Map 26. From there the boundary runs westerly to Route 169, then follows northerly along the eastern edge of Route 169 to a point opposite the southeast corner of Lot 6, Map 26. It crosses Route 169 and runs westerly along the line of Lot 6, then northerly along the line of Lots 6 and 8, then westerly along the line of Lot 1-6, Map 27, to a point on a stone wall which is 689.88' back from Route 169. It crosses Lot 1-6 to the southwest corner of Lot 1-5 and continues along the rear lines of Lot 1-5, 1-4, 1-3, and 1-2. It turns westerly and follows the line of Lot 1B, turning northerly toward Bush Hill Road until it encounters the southeast corner of Lot 19A, Map 19. It runs westerly along the rear line of that lot to the southwest corner. From there, the boundary runs in a straight line to a point 600' east of the center of the intersection of Bush Hill and Wolf Den roads. The boundary runs southwest to a point 400' back from the centerline of Wolf Den Road in line with the north line of Lot 19A, Map 18. It then runs to Wolf den Road, crosses the road, and continues southerly along the western edge of the road approximately 950' to the north side of a utility right-of-way. From there, it runs westerly along the northern edge of the right-of-way to a point 200' back from the centerline of Wolf Den Road. It then runs in a straight line to the southwest corner of Lot 18A, Map 18, and continues along the line of that lot to the westernmost corner (where Lots 18, 18B, and 18A meet). From there, the boundary runs northerly to a point on the southern line of Lot 18A, Map 19, which is 600' back from the centerline of Wolf Den Road. It then runs northwesterly to a corner of Lot 1, Map 19, which is on the boundary between Lot 1 and Lot 5, Map 12, and which is on a continuation of the rear property

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Bush Hill Historic District

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Geographical Data (continued):

Boundary Description (continued):

line of Lot 2, Map 19. It runs northerly along that line and the rear line of Lot 2, then easterly along the north line of Lot 2 to Wolf den Road. It runs northerly along the western edge of Wolf Den Road a short distance, then crosses to the northwest corner of Lot 7A. It runs easterly along the north line of Lot 7A, then southerly along the east line of Lot 7A to the southeast corner. From there, the boundary runs easterly in a line with the southern line of Lot 7A, crossing Lot 9B and meeting the western line of Lot 9. It follows along the western line of Lot 9 in a northerly direction, then turns and follows easterly along the northern line. From the northeast corner, the district boundary runs to the northwest corner of Lot 9A, then runs northeasterly to the northeast corner of that Lot. It then runs across Lot 2, Map 27, to the northwest corner of Lot 3A. It runs easterly along the northern line of that lot, then crosses Lot 2 again to the southwest corner of Lot 4. It follows the line of Lot 4 northerly and easterly to Route 169, crosses Route 169, and then runs northerly along the eastern edge to the first point.

Boundary Justification:

The theme of the Bush Hill District is the architectural and historical significance of the area's 18th-century houses and the rural, agricultural appearance of the district which gives the houses an historically appropriate setting. Series of recently built buildings define the southern edge of the district on Wolf Den Road and Route 169 and the northern edge on Route 169 and the western side of Wolf Den Road.

Vacant land at the edges of the district was not included except for a reasonable perimeter around the houses at the edges of the district (such as the 300' from the center of the houses on Route 169 at the extreme north and south ends) or where a field across the street was associated with the opposite property, such as the field on the east side of Wolf Den Road at the northwest corner of the district. The inclusion of such land is justified because it preserves the setting of the houses, which in their original farm extents included land on both sides of the road.

Defining the setback from included roads was done according to 3 criteria: first, rear property lines were used wherever they included a reasonable amount of land, usually 700' or less. Secondly, the included depth for unusually extensive properties was chosen to reflect the average depth of adjacent properties and to approximate the treeline defining the open land next to the road. Thirdly, straight lines across large properties were used

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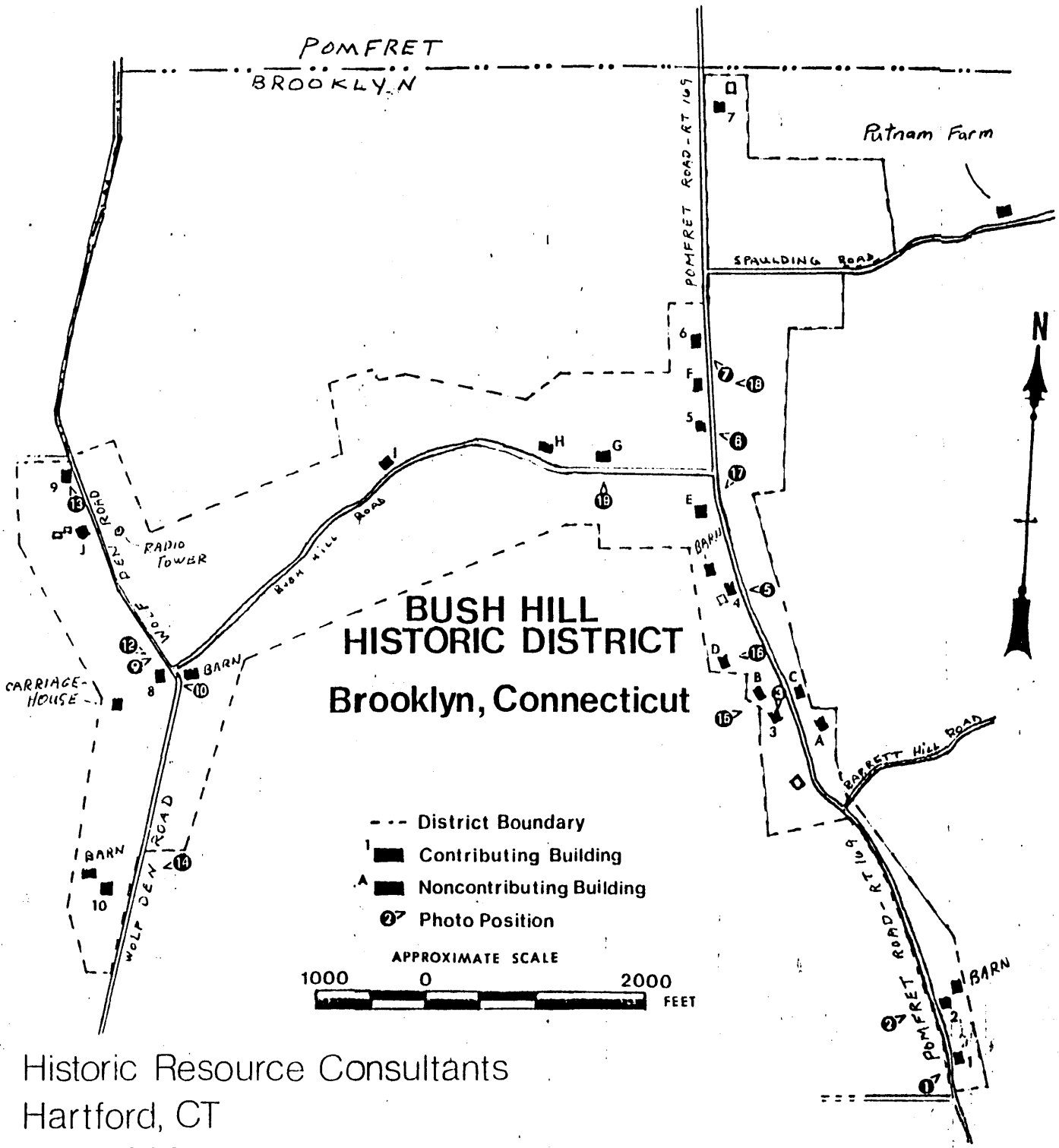
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Geographical Data (continued):

Boundary Justification (continued):

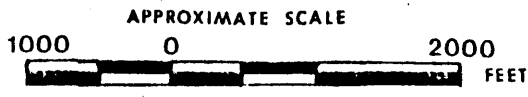
for clarity. In this way, most of the open land surrounding the houses and adjacent to the road was included without taking in extensive acreage. The inclusion of such land is justified by the historical theme of the district: in the 18th century these houses were parts of farms, and the present planting of the land with hay and corn recall the agricultural origins of the district.

An exception was the inclusion of a large cornfield at the northeast corner of Route 169 and Spaulding Road; by including the whole field, the district abuts the related National Register-listed property known as Putnam Farm.



**BUSH HILL  
HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
Brooklyn, Connecticut

- District Boundary
- Contributing Building
- Noncontributing Building
- ⊙ Photo Position



Historic Resource Consultants  
Hartford, CT  
July 1986