NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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United	States	Department	оf.	the	Interior
Nationa	l Park	Service			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

MATERIAL

REGISTRATION FORM	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
1. Name of Property ASPETUCK HISTORIC DISTRICT	
historic name: N/A	
other name/site number: N/A	
street & number: Redding Road, Old Redding Road, Wel	les Hill Road
not	for publication: N/A
city/town: Easton and Weston	vicinity: N/A
state: CT county: Fairfield code: 001	zip code: 06612 06883
3. Classification Ownership of Property: Public-local, Private Category of Property: District	
Number of Resources within Property: 41	
Contributing Noncontributing	
22 17 buildings sites structures objects 24 17 Total	
Number of contributing resources previously listed in Register: 0	n the National
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A	

4. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify request for determination of eligibil standards for registering properties Historic Places and meets the proceduset forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my of does not meet the National Registates.	National Historic Preservation Act that this <u>x</u> nomination ity meets the documentation in the National Register of the land professional requirements opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets the Criteria. See continuation
Signature of certifying official John Shannahan, State Historic Preservat	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	MATERITATION AND STORMS OF STORMS OF STORMS AND
In my opinion, the property meet Register criteria See continuat	cs does not meet the National cion sheet.
Signature of commenting or other off:	Cial 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):	
	Sy Signature of Keeper Date of Action
6. Function or Use	
Historic: DOMESTIC AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY Current: DOMESTIC	Sub: <u>Single dwelling</u> Barn Energy facility (dam)
oullent . Donebilo	NANO MALAYAN NATUALAN

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Aspetuck Historic District Page 3
zezzezzezzezzezzezzezzezzezzezzezzezzez
Architectural Classification:
COLONIAL Colonial Revival Greek Revival
Other Description:
Materials: foundation STONE roof ASPHALT other STONE
Describe present and historic physical appearance. \underline{X} See continuation sheet.
8. Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: <u>State</u> .
Applicable National Register Criteria: A,B,C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): G
Areas of Significance: Architecture Exploration/Settlement Health/Medicine
Period(s) of Significance: c.1750-1941 (Architecture, Settlement) 1938-1968 (Helen Keller)
Significant Dates : See Inventory, Item 7.
Significant Person(s): <u>Keller, Helen</u>
Cultural Affiliation: N/A
Architect/Builder: Not known
State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
<pre>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 #</pre>
Primary Location of Additional Data:
<pre>x State historic preservation office, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford Other state agency Federal agency Local government University Other Specify Repository:</pre>
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property: approx. 80
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A B
X See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description: X See continuation sheet.
Boundary Justification: X See continuation sheet.
11. Form Prepared By
Name/Title: Matthew Roth and Bruce Clouette, Reviewed by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator
Organization: HRC Date: October 1990
Street & Number: 55 Van Dyke Avenue 203 547-0268
City or Town: Hartford State: CT ZIP: 06106

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-1 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

Aspetuck Historic District encompasses approximately 80 acres in the towns of Easton and Weston, in Fairfield County. A long, narrow district with a north-south axis, it roughly follows the Aspetuck River, which forms the border between the two towns. The district consists of 22 major buildings (all houses), 17 outbuildings (barns and garages), and two structures (a bridge and a dam). Twenty-four of the buildings were judged to contribute to the significance of the district, with fifteen noncontributing; both structures are contributing. Overall, the district presents the appearance of a farming community from the late colonial-early national period. The houses are spaced widely apart, with substantial acreage surrounding each one that reflects the dooryard gardens and barn yards of the area's former agricultural use. Most of the houselots also feature barns. The edges of yards are marked by stone walls and picket fences, many with gates that suggest their former use as pastures. Mature deciduous trees line the streets.

Most of the buildings in the district are houses from the middle of the 18th century through the middle of the 19th century; most of them exhibit the traditional two-and-one-half-story, center-chimney, fivebay form that typified the houses in Connecticut's inland farming The district also includes one-and-one-half-story and communities. three-bay variations on this form. Several of the houses from the late 18th and early 19th centuries feature modest Georgian-derived entry ·detailing, such as slender pilasters and a molded cornice. building, the 1840 Orando Perry House, displays the impact of Greek Revival architecture in its small porch with Doric columns and flushboarded pediment. With the possible exception of several barns, the district lacks any buildings from the second half of the 19th century. In the early 20th century, Colonial Revival styling influenced the substantial modifications to many of the buildings in the district. some cases, such as the Bradley House at 7 Old Redding Road in Easton (Photograph 1), modification entailed enlargement with gable-roofed wings. In others, such as 200 Redding Road (Photograph 12), the original house received new details modeled on the high-style urban architecture of the late 19th and early 20th centuries: paneled chimneys, ornate cornices, and Adamesque window treatments. The Helen Keller House (Photograph 9), represents a true Colonial Revival dwelling, built in the 20th century after late 18th-century precedents, rather than the 20th-century modification of an earlier house.

The cultural landscape of the district retains a high degree of

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Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-2 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

historic integrity. There are only five houses built in the last 50 years; because all are on three-acre lots, they do not impair the overall character of the district, which depends on wide spacing among buildings and ample open land.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-3 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

TOWN OF EASTON

Old Redding Road:

- 7 Old Redding Road. Bradley House, c. 1780 dwelling, 5-bay with central entry, 2 and 1/2 stories, center chimney, gable roof, wood shingles. The glazed transom over the entry appears to be original, but the cornice and Colonial Revival porch date from the early 20th century. Wings added to either side. House is contributing, garage noncontributing. (Photograph 1)
- 19 Old Redding Road. Complex of three buildings on top of a small knoll, set back from the street: c.1940 cottage, substantially altered; recent building surrounding a swimming pool; recent garage. Three noncontributing buildings.
- 35 Old Redding Road. Captain Moses Dimon House, c. 1750, 5-bay with central entry, 2 and 1/2 stories, center chimney, gambrel roof, clapboards. Foundation of granite blocks. Entry features a sixpanel door, glazed transom, and simple hoodmold, which could be original features; molded cornice apparently reworked in the early 20th century. The plaque on this house gives the date c.1725 and, according to research in the Fairfield Land Records (see Farnham, p. 36) it is possible that Dimon built a house at or near this location at that time. The scale and what remains of the original features, however, seem out of character for what would have been the first dwelling in the area of Aspetuck Corners; more likely, Dimon or one of his relatives built the original part of this house a generation or so after initial settlement. The house was substantially reworked twice in the early 20th century, once by architect Cameron Clark and then by Gustav Pfeiffer. Besides altering the cornice, this work resulted in the large wings to the rear that doubled the size of the house. House is contributing, recent garage and barn noncontributing. (Photograph 2)
- 45 Old Redding Road. Orando Perry House, 1840, 4-bay with entry offset to right, 2 and 1/2 stories, chimney offset to left, gable roof, clapboards. Greek Revival entry features a paneled door and

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Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-4 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

sidelights over recessed panels; small gabled entry shelter with flush-boarded pediment, plain entablature, on Doric columns. Round-arched attic lights. Recent garage. House is contributing, garage noncontributing. (Photograph 3)

Redding Road:

- 25 Redding Road (a/k/a 35 Redding Road). Dwelling, c. 1790, 5-bay with central Georgian entry, 2 and 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingles, two recent chimneys at left end of ridge and off-center to right. Entry: slender fluted pilasters, plain frieze, molded cornice, sidelights, paneled door. One contributing building. (Photograph 4)
- 65 Redding Road. Peter Williams House, 1810, 5-bay with central entry, 2 and 1/2 stories, center chimney, gable roof, wood shingles. Original Georgian entry details include slender fluted pilasters, sidelights over recessed panels, glazed transom; Colonial Revival porch features very heavily proportioned posts and entablature. Wings added to both sides of house. Barn: gable roof, post-and-beam, vertical-board siding. Two contributing buildings. (Photographs 5, 6)
- 70 Redding Road. Ebenezer Thorp House, c. 1750, 3-bay with central entry, center chimney (rebuilt to smaller-than-original scale), gable roof, clapboards. Entry: double-leaf, paneled door, glazed transom, splayed-lintel surround. Wings to either side, including a relocated barn attached to the right side of the house. Substantial recent alterations included lessening the roof slope and possibly raising the eaves, rebuilding the chimney, attaching the barn to the house, and complete residing. Garage with apartment to rear of house. Two noncontributing buildings. (Photograph 7)
- 95 Redding Road. Recent ranch-type dwelling, c. 1970, set back from the road. One noncontributing building.
- 105 Redding Road. Recent reproduction "saltbox" dwelling, set back from the road. One noncontributing building.
- 135 Redding Road. David Bradley House, 1790, 5-bay with central Georgian entry, 2 and 1/2 stories, center chimney, gable roof,

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Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-5 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

clapboards. Entry: slender pilasters, denticular cornice, paneled door. House is contributing, recent (or altered) garage noncontributing. (Photograph 8)

- 163 Redding Road. Helen Keller House, 1946, Colonial Revival, 4-bay with entry offset to left, 2 and 1/2 stories, center chimney, gable roof, wood shingles, denticular cornice, paneled door with sidelights, pedimented entry shelter on Tuscan columns, gambrel-roofed wing to left, gable-roofed wing to right rear. One contributing building. (Photograph 9)
- 169 Redding Road. Fanton House, c.1800, 5-bay with central entry (3-bay second story), 2 and 1/2 stories, center chimney (rebuilt), gable roof, clapboards. Entry has Colonial Revival carved-panel door and transom with "bulls-eye" panes. Two large wings added to right of original house. Substantially altered barn serves as a garage. House is contributing, barn/garage noncontributing. (Photograph 10)
- 195 Redding Road. c. 1960 "Colonial" dwelling, gambrel roof. One noncontributing building. (Photograph 11)
- 200 Redding Road. Dwelling, c. 1780, with Colonial Revival alterations, 5-bay with central entry (6-bay second story), center chimney (rebuilt with recessed panels), gable roof, clapboards, flush-boarded gable ends, overhang at second story and attic. Colonial Revival alterations include the rebuilt chimney, secondstory fenestration, modillion cornice, flush-boarding and oval lights in the gable ends, and the entry with bell-shaped transom lights and a porch with sunburst carving in the pediment. Post-and-beam, gable-roofed barn with vertical-board siding. Two contributing buildings. (Photograph 12)
- 215 Redding Road. c. 1800 dwelling, 4-bay with entry offset to left, 2 stories, gable roof, wood shingles; c.1935 alterations include the lowering of the roof slope, concrete steps and plain entry shelter. Contributing outbuildings include a barn with fieldstone walls and vertical-board gable ends, and an early 20th-century garage with fieldstone walls. Another outbuilding, a garage with second-floor apartment, is noncontributing. Three contributing buildings, one noncontributing. (Photograph 13: barn).
- 235-239 Redding Road. Dwelling, c.1790, 3-bay with central entry,

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Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-6 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

center chimney, gable roof, clapboards. Colonial Revival entry with fluted pilasters, molded cornice, triglyph frieze, pent-roof shelter. Barn altered into dwelling. One contributing building, one noncontributing. (Photograph 14)

Welles Hill Road:

12 Welles Hill Road. Gershom Bradley House, c.1770, 3-bay with central entry, center chimney (rebuilt), gable roof, clapboards. Colonial Revival entry porch. Addition to rear (including garage), shed addition to right. One contributing building. (Photograph 15)

TOWN OF WESTON

Old Redding Road:

- Bridge, Old Redding Road over Aspetuck River (CT. Department of Transportation bridge # 4933). Reinforced-concrete arch, 1941, 20' span with 21'-wide roadway, spandrels and parapets faced with cobblestones. One contributing structure. (Photograph 16)
- Orando Perry mill site, north of Old Redding Road at the Aspetuck River. Mid-19th-century rubble-stone dam with raised abutment on west bank that served as a foundation for the grist mill located on the site in the mid-19th century; drain or tailwater opening in downstream face of west abutment. Atop the west abutment is a small 1-story gable-roofed, wood-shingled building, probably erected c.1935 by Gustav Pfeiffer. One contributing structure, one contributing building. (Photograph 17)
- 7 Old Redding Road. Colonial Revival, 1938, 5-bay with central entry, two off-center chimneys, gable roof, clapboards; porch with Tuscan columns, paneled door, and oval-glazed sidelights and transom.

 Large 2-story addition to rear, solarium addition on right side.

 Garage: 1-story, gable roof. House is contributing, garage noncontributing. (Photograph 18)
- 10 Old Redding Road. 1973 reproduction "Colonial" house. Noncontributing.

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Description (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 7-7 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

- 12 Old Redding Road. 1972 reproduction "Colonial" house. Noncontributing.
- 14 Old Redding Road. Redfield Wakeman House, 1786, 5-bay with central entry, center chimney, gable roof, wood shingles, paneled door, addition to rear. Small gable-roofed shed with rubble foundation (contributing) and large recent barn (noncontributing). Two contributing buildings, one noncontributing. (Photograph 19)

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Significance (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 8-1 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

Summary

Aspetuck Historic District is significant because it embodies the distinctive architectural and cultural-landscape characteristics of a farming community from the late colonial and early national periods (Criterion C). The widely spaced distribution of houses, most accompanied by a barn and all with ample yards that once served as pasture, field or garden recalls the appearance of an inland Connecticut farming community when agriculture was the basis of the local economy. The predominant type of building in the district -- the traditional center-chimney, gable-roofed dwelling -- is also characteristic of Connecticut farming communities of the late 18th and The district also embodies the distinctive early 19th centuries. characteristics of Colonial Revival architecture, in which the more ornate buildings of the late 18th and early 19th centuries were reinterpreted as houses that were at once commemorative and commodious. The historic significance of the district (Criterion λ) derives from its origins as an outlying community of the town of Fairfield, an outlying community which entered a long slow decline into the 19th century, only to become an affluent suburb of Bridgeport and then New York in the 20th century. Finally, the district gains significance because one of its buildings was the long-time home of Helen Keller, who lost her hearing and sight at an early age, and whose long struggle to overcome these handicaps has provided inspiration to millions (Criterion B).

<u>History</u>

The area that became the town of Easton was originally part of the northern expanse of the town of Fairfield, an expanse that was divided into the "Long Lots" by the Fairfield proprietors. The Long Lots were a means to solidify claims on the land, rather than actual homesteads, and not until the 1720s did Fairfield people begin to settle in the northern reaches of the town. There were two clusters of northern outlyers, one to the west and one to the east of the Aspetuck River. The western group successfully petitioned the General Assembly for their own parish, Norfield, in 1756. Six years later, in 1762, the families east of the river also received a charter for the parish they named North Fairfield. The area in this district, which lies along the river, stood between the two parishes. In 1787 the two parishes were incorporated as the town of Weston, and the town of Easton broke off

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 8-2 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

from Weston in 1845.

Agriculture was the basis of the local economy from initial settlement through the time that Easton was incorporated as a town in 1845. The millseat in the Aspetuck Historic District, developed by Moses Dimon in the 18th century and operated by the Perry family in the 19th, processed grain and lumber for both parishes. The value of the millseat had been amplified by its location between the two parishes, an advantage that Perry and several of his neighbors also exploited by operating stores in the vicinity. However, because the boundary between Easton and Weston followed the Aspetuck River, this area, which became known as Aspetuck or Aspetuck Corners, was relegated to a remote corner of both towns once Easton was incorporated: the civic institutions and commercial functions of both towns were miles away from Aspetuck.

Like most of the later-settled farming communities of Connecticut, Aspetuck was characterized by hilly terrain and rocky soil, and was ill-equipped to resist the decline of agriculture in the state during the 19th century. Some farmers sold milk and produce to the expanding neighborhoods in the nearby industrial city of Bridgeport. A later owner of the Perry Mill operated a wooden-toy factory on the site. But for most of the sons and daughters of Easton farmers, earning a living meant moving away, and between 1850 and 1900 the town's population fell from 1,432 to 960, a decline of almost one-third.

In the early 20th century, the land and resources in Easton became valuable again, not for what they were but for what they were near. The Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, a privately owned water company, began to acquire land and water rights in Easton for the reservoirs to supply that city. Bridgeport Hydraulic built three major reservoirs in Easton, and today owns some 43 percent of the land in the town. Aspetuck Corners escaped the effects of the damming that submerged dozens of farms, and served another role in relation to the nearby urban industrial communities, that of quiet retreat for the chief beneficiaries of industrial growth. As well-to-do people from Fairfield County and New York City bought the idle or struggling farmsteads of Aspetuck, the area made a seamless transition from agricultural backwater to affluent suburb, which it remains today.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 8-3 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

Architecture

Many of the houses in the district typify the dwellings of Connecticut farmsteads from the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The houses at 25 Redding Road (Photograph 4), 65 Redding Road (Photograph 5, 6), and 135 Redding Road (Photograph 8), 7 Old Redding Road in Easton (Photograph 1), and 14 Old Redding Road in Weston (Photograph 19) all feature the braced-frame post-and-beam construction, center chimney, and five-bay fenestration that characterized the vernacular Connecticut dwelling of that period. Moreover, several examples display the use of Georgian, or Federal, details in the characteristically limited fashion of rural communities. These farmers did not build fully realized Federal houses, but rather dressed up their entries with pilasters, sidelights, and perhaps a molded lintel. As much for their limited application as for their stylistic derivation, these details mark the houses as the distinctive products of their particular time and place. The Orando Perry House (Photograph 3) illustrates the partial adaptation of later 19th-century architectural style to the country house. Perry, a millowner and storekeeper, was one of the wealthier citizens of Aspetuck in the mid-19th century, a status reflected in the Greek Revival entry treatment he bought for his house.

The houses of Aspetuck attracted two remarkably energetic restorationists of the early 20th-century Colonial Revival movement. Architect Cameron Clark, locally renowned for his "masterly handling of Colonial details, from chimneys and cornices to paneling and mantelpieces" (1), worked on some 20 houses in Aspetuck, including the Moses Dimon House (Photograph 2). He probably had a hand in the remaking of 200 Redding Road as well (Photograph 12).

Even more influential on the appearance of Aspetuck today was Gustav Pfeiffer, who gained enormous wealth from the manufacture and licensing of medicinal products. In the 1930s Pfeiffer owned most of the houses in the southern end of the district, as well as the dam and millsite. He worked on most of the houses on Old Redding Road (on the Easton side of the river), and on Redding Road (south of the intersection with Westport Road). Pfeiffer embraced early American material culture with an eclectic exuberance unburdened by the fine distinctions of the academic specialist. He traveled to the restorations at Williamsburg, Virginia, and Deerfield, Massachusetts, and entertained visions of implementing a similar enterprise on the banks of the Aspetuck. (Pfeiffer's extensive involvement in many other

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Significance (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 8-4 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

causes and organizations prevented the fulfillment of this ambition.) He lived in the Moses Dimon House, on which he bestowed extensive effort. Pfeiffer refrained from applying the lavish exterior detailing that characterized Clark's work, with the result that the restored entry of the Moses Dimon House retains the simplicity that likely characterized its original appearance. Pfieffer was also a renowned philanthropist, and his generosity was directly responsible for Helen Keller's residence in Easton.

Helen Keller

Helen Keller (1880-1968) was born in Alabama to a well-to-do family. At the age of 19 months, she was deprived of sight and hearing by a severe illness. Following her parents' appeals to the nation's leading educators of disabled people, Anne M. Sullivan (later Mrs. John Macy) came from Massachusetts to tutor the young Keller, who responded with such extraordinary prowess that she completed the regular secondary-school curriculum by the age of 19. Keller entered Radcliffe College in 1900; while a student she completed her first book, The Story of My Life. After graduating in 1904, she lived with Anne and John Macy, and wrote magazine articles about many social causes, such as women's suffrage, mineworkers' struggles to form unions, and the problems of urban slums. After World War I, Keller became active in relief efforts on behalf of those blinded in the war. This effort marked the start of the work that occupied Keller for the rest of her long career.

Keller worked concurrently with two organizations, the American Foundation for Overseas Blind and the American Foundation for the Blind. Besides serving as a director of both, she held many different staff positions and, over forty years of extensive and near-constant travel, became the most prominent and recognizable spokesperson for the blind and the deaf-blind.

In 1929 Keller began a fund-raising drive to provide an endowment for the American Foundation for the Blind. She wrote thousands of letters soliciting funds, including one to Gustav Pfeiffer, who contributed \$500. He followed with further cash contributions and, after Keller visited him in 1931, he gave the foundation 150 shares of preferred stock in his pharmaceuticals corporation. In 1932 Pfeiffer accepted an invitation to serve on the foundation's board of trustees and became one of its most active members, heading both the budget and executive committees.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 8-5 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

In 1938, Pfeiffer convinced Keller to move her small household (including a secretary and a helper) from Forest Hills, New York, to Aspetuck. He provided the land, donated much of the building cost, and helped to raise the rest. Keller named the home Arcan, a Gaelic word meaning "teacher," her name for the late Mrs. Macy. Although Keller was a citizen of the world, and her extraordinary contributions to humanity are associated with many other locales, Arcan was her home and her retreat. If not central in her work, it was central in her life, as she expressed in a letter to the Pfeiffers:

How wonderful it all is! You, Mr. and Mrs. Pfieffer, have so taken me by surprise with your delightful plotting and planning, I can hardly speak. . . . There is no counting the treasures to which the key symbolically opens the door. It means a home in New England to which affection and memory have ever bound me, a place nearer Heaven where Teacher is, a sanctuary where rural solitude will again sweeten my days.(2)

To another friend Keller wrote:

We have never loved a place more than Arcan Ridge. It is a Colonial house surrounded by meadows, woods, brooks, and the old New England stone walls you will remember. I am especially delighted with my study which has spacious bookshelves, thirty-five cubbyholes and windows hospitable to the sun.(3)

In 1946, while Keller was in Europe championing the plight of wounded soldiers and civilian victims of World War II, her cherished house burned to the ground. When she returned, Pfeiffer provided lodging in one of his other nearby houses and, with contributions from other neighbors and friends of Keller, began to build another house on the same site. This 1946 house, 163 Redding Road, was Keller's home for the rest of her life. She produced her later writings, notably the 1955 biography, Teacher, during sojourns in Easton. After a stroke curtailed her activities in 1961, she spent all her time in Easton, until her long and productive life ended in 1968.

The house at 163 Redding Road contributes to the significance of the Aspetuck Historic District because of its association with Helen Keller. It is not 50 years old, and is therefore an exception to the 50-year criterion for eligibility. The exception is justified because of Keller's transcendent significance in 20th-century American life.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 8-6 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

NOTES

- 1. Partridge, 175.
- 2. As cited in Lash, 664.
- 3. <u>Ibid.</u>, 664.

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Bibliography (continued)

Aspetuck Historic District Page 9-1 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

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Farnham, Thomas J., <u>Weston: The Forging of a Connecticut Town</u>. Weston, 1979.

Lash, Joseph P., <u>Helen and Teacher: The Story of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan Macy</u>. New York, 1980.

Map of Fairfield County, Connecticut. Philadelphia, 1958.

"Keller, Helen Adams," in <u>National Cyclopedia of American Biography</u>, 57:277-278. Clifton, N.J., 1977.

Partridge, Helen, with Francis Mellen, <u>Easton--Its History</u>. Easton, 1972.

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UTM References

Aspetuck Historic District 10-1 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

UTM Coordinates

B: 18.640660.4565570 C: 18.640720.4565260 D: 18.640620.4565080 E: 18.640630.4564780 F: 18.640710.4564710 G: 18.640800.4564540 H: 18.640790.4564300 I: 18.640770.4563980 J: 18.640660.4564130

A: 18.640460.4565460

K: 18.640560.4564030

L: 18.640400.4564230 M: 18.640140.4564430

N: 18.640270.4564580

O: 18.640520.4564650

P: 18.640430.4565140

Q: 18.640340.4565300

Boundary Description

The boundary is shown on the accompanying map (scale 1" = 200'), traced from Easton Assessor Maps 5434, 5435, 5436-B and 5463, and Weston Assessor Map 25.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes historic buildings and structures associated with the historical extent of the community known as Aspetuck or Aspetuck Corners, with the following exception: at the southern end of Redding Road, the district stops short of the historical extent of the community in order to exclude an area where the majority of buildings would be noncontributing due to alterations or recent origin.

The boundary follows rear property lines except where it crosses properties in order to exclude excessive back acreage.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Photograph captions

Aspetuck Historic District Photos-1 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

All photographs:

- 1. ASPETUCK HISTORIC DISTRICT
- 2. Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT
- 3. Photo credit: HRC, Hartford, CT
- 4. August 1990
- 5. Negatives filed with Connecticut Historical Commission Hartford, CT

Captions:

Bradley House, 7 Old Redding Road, Easton, camera facing south Photograph 1 of 19

Capt. Moses Dimon House, 35 Old Redding Road, Easton, camera facing west Photograph 2 of 19

Orando Perry House, 45 Old Redding Road, Easton, camera facing southwest Photograph 3 of 19

House at 25 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing northeast Photograph 4 of 19

Peter Williams House, 65 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing east Photograph 5 of 19

Barn at 65 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing southwest Photograph 6 of 19

Ebenezer Thorp House, 70 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing northwest Photograph 7 of 19

David Bradley House, 135 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing northeast Photograph 8 of 19

Helen Keller House, 163 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing south Photograph 9 of 19

Fanton House, 169 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing east

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Photograph captions

Aspetuck Historic District Photos-2 Easton and Weston, Fairfield Co., CT

Photograph 10 of 19

Noncontributing house, 195 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing southeast Photograph 11 of 19

Banks House, 200 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing north Photograph 12 of 19

Stone barn at 215 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing northwest Photograph 13 of 19

House at 235 Redding Road, Easton, camera facing east Photograph 14 of 19

Gershom Bradley House, 12 Welles Hill Road, Easton, camera facing east Photograph 15 of 19

Bridge across Aspetuck River, Old Redding Road, camera facing west Photograph 16 of 19

Dam at gristmill site, Aspetuck River upstream of Old Redding Road, camera facing north
Photograph 17 of 19

7 Old Redding Road, Weston, camera facing northeast Photograph 18 of 19

Redfield Wakeman House, 14 Old Redding Road, Weston, camera facing southeast Photograph 19 of 19