

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 95001345 Date Listed: 11/27/95

Washington Green Historic District Litchfield CT
Property Name: County: State:

Multiple Name _____

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

Patricia Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

11/27/95
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

The district is nominated for Criterion A, but no Area of Significance was indicated on the form. In consultation with the SHPO the form is amended to add Community Development as an Area of Significance.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

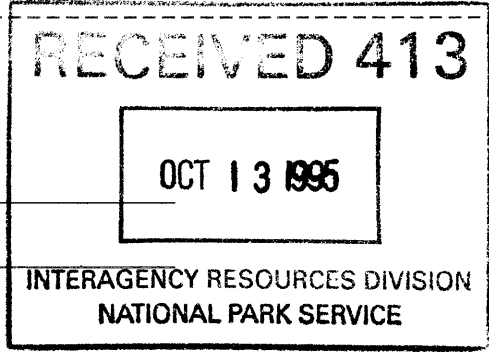
1345

PROPERTY NAME Washington Green Historic District, Washington, CT

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1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Washington Green Historic District

Other Name/Site Number: NA

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 12 Ferry Bridge Road; The Green; odd 71-99, even 76-100 Green Hill Road; odd 1-21, even 6-16 Kirby Road; odd 1-9, even 4-8 Parsonage Lane; 6 Roxbury Road; 1, 2, 5 Wykeham Road, 113, 114 Woodbury Road

Not for publication: NA

City/Town: Washington Vicinity: Washington Green

State: CT County: Litchfield Code: 005 Zip Code: 06793

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property

Private: x

Public-local: x

Public-State:

Public-Federal:

Category of Property

Building(s):

District: x

Site:

Structure:

Object:

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

57

1

58

Noncontributing

15 buildings

2 sites

5 structures

 objects

22 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

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4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

John W. Shamahan 10/12/95
Signature of Certifying Official Date
John W. Shamahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- Entered in the National Register _____
- Determined eligible for the _____
National Register
- Determined not eligible for the _____
National Register
- Removed from the National Register _____
- Other (explain): _____

Patrick Andrus 11/27/95
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

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6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic:	<u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub:	<u>single dwelling, hotel</u>
	<u>COMMERCE</u>		<u>general store</u>
	<u>SOCIAL</u>		<u>clubhouse</u>
	<u>EDUCATION</u>		<u>school, library</u>
	<u>RELIGION</u>		<u>religious structure</u>
	<u>LANDSCAPE</u>		<u>park</u>
Current:	<u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub:	<u>single dwelling, hotel</u>
	<u>COMMERCE</u>		<u>general store</u>
	<u>SOCIAL</u>		<u>clubhouse</u>
	<u>EDUCATION</u>		<u>school, library</u>
	<u>RELIGION</u>		<u>religious structure</u>
	<u>LANDSCAPE</u>		<u>park</u>
	<u>CULTURE</u>		<u>museum</u>

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification:
COLONIAL/Postmedieval English
EARLY REPUBLIC/Adamesque
MID 19C/Gothic Revival
LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne
20C REVIVAL/Colonial Revival

Materials:
Foundation: BRICK, STONE, CONCRETE
Walls: WOOD, BRICK, STONE, STUCCO
Roof: WOOD, SLATE, ASPHALT
Other Description: _____

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

The Washington Green Historic District consists of a group of 18th-, 19th-, and 20th-century buildings on and near the Green in the Town of Washington, Connecticut, including the Gunnery School, which abuts the Green. Most of the buildings are made of wood, painted white, giving the district an overall Colonial/Colonial Revival visual effect. At the turn of the 20th century, several stone country homes, a stone Gothic Revival church, and stone Colonial Revival library were built, as well as Shingle-style houses. The Gunnery School and the Gunn Memorial Library have added construction in modern architecture.

The topography of the Washington Green section of the town is hilly. The Green enjoys an elevated position, with grade sloping up as roads approach the Green. The dominant building on the Green is the First Congregational Church Meetinghouse, 1801, a 47' x 111' Federal clapboarded edifice with Greek Revival rear entrances and a full-width one-story Colonial Revival front porch, which is supported by Ionic columns. (Site 2, Photograph 1) On the interior the sanctuary is 37' to the peak, while the 16'-square tower rises over a Palladian window to a crowning arcaded belfry. The church faces south toward the two-acre Green and its H-shaped parish house, known as the Judea Parish House because of the original name of the ecclesiastical society. (Site 3, Photograph 2) Several houses face north toward the Green and the church. In this row a ca.1770 one-story

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Nationally:___ Statewide:x Locally:___

Applicable National Register Criteria: A x B ___ C x D ___

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

Areas of Significance:	Period(s) of Significance		Significant Dates
<u>ARCHITECTURE</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1945</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Significant Person(s): _____

Cultural Affiliation: _____

Architect/Builder: Ehrick K. Rossiter

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

Overview

The Washington Green Historic District is significant historically because its resources document the development of a colonial settlement into a community dominated by second homes of affluent families and as long-established preparatory school. It is significant architecturally because the distinguished buildings surrounding the Green record the history of the growth of the 18th-century community in terms of a sequence of architectural styles. The Colonial style of the original houses, built with post-and-beam mortise-and-tenon framing, was followed by the classical influence of the Georgian style and in the Federal style of the third meetinghouse of the First Congregational Church. Greek Revival-style buildings, notably Saint John's Rectory, were built well into the 19th century. Picturesque styles such as the Gothic Revival almost passed the district by in new construction, but are present in significant alterations. Toward the turn of the century, classical revival trends were re-asserted in the Colonial Revival buildings of

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: 85

UTM References: Zone Northing Easting Zone Northing Easting

A	<u>18</u>	<u>4510060</u>	<u>640990</u>	B	<u>18</u>	<u>4509500</u>	<u>640900</u>
C	<u>18</u>	<u>4509360</u>	<u>640380</u>	D	<u>18</u>	<u>4510030</u>	<u>640270</u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the district is shown by the dotted line on the Washington Green Local Historic District Site Numbers map. This is the Local Historic District increased to include the northeast corner of the Gunnery campus (G23 and G24).

Boundary Justification:

The district boundary is drawn to encompass those properties fronting on or closely associated with the Washington Green.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: David F. Ransom, Consultant, reviewed by John F.A. Herzan, National Register Coordinator

Org.: Architectural Historian

Date: January 1995

Street/#: 33 Sunrise Hill Drive

City/Town: West Hartford

State: CT

ZIP: 06107

Telephone: 203 521-3387

frame central chimney five-bay cottage, with additions, is one of the oldest houses in the district. (Site 4, Photograph 2)

The 1774 five-bay central-chimney building at Site 5 (Photograph 2), known as the Red House although it is now painted white, is well-documented. Able Mott was the builder. The front yard was dug out in the 1920s to give the present appearance of high stone foundations. The basement has a large fireplace; the first floor is decorated with original paneling and original tempera frescoes of eagles, deer, and vines. Rear dormers are also original.

The ca.1770 cottage (Site 4) for many years was the residence of the headmaster of the Gunnery School, whose expansive grounds extend south, southeast, and southwest of the Green. An important component in the school complex on the west side of Green Hill Road is the Knoll, which was formerly the estate of Alfred S. Bourne, president of the Singer Sewing Machine Company. The house was built in 1889 for Edward Van Ingen in the Shingle style at about the turn of the century. When he bought it, ca.1920, Bourne enlarged the building and reclad it in the Tudor Revival stone and stucco half-timbering which it features today. The house has dormers in its slate roof and tall brick and stone chimneys, all of which present a commanding presence on the garden front. (Site G13, Photograph 3) The Knoll's carriage house, with contemporary addition, is the school's dining hall (Site G9), while its tall thick ashlar perimeter stone walls run for hundreds of feet in several directions, in one place making an exterior wall for the estate's Gate House. (Site G6) The school built several buildings in the 1920s in stucco using the Colonial Revival style with hipped roofs and lanterns, of which the library is typical. (Site G17, Photograph 4).

The school's grounds continue on the east side of Green Hill Road with a mixture of Colonial Revival, Greek Revival, and contemporary construction. The Drama Barn, formerly the Gymnasium, is a shingled hipped-roof building with tall multi-paned windows and an extension to the north under bracketed roof. (Site 20, Photograph 5) The Field House is a 42' x 66' gambrel-roofed interpretation of the Colonial Revival style, in contrast to the large contemporary masonry athletic center (Site G21, Photograph 6) and large one-story metal building which is the hockey rink. (Site G23)

In addition to the former headmaster's house, six other 18th-century houses in the district include 10 Kirby Road, which was built as a store in 1733 and enlarged in 1811 and 1860. (Site 25, Photograph 2) The 1860 work brought a peaked window with peaked glazing and hood to its side elevation, one of the few examples in the district of the influence of the Gothic Revival style in domestic architecture. (See also 6 Parsonage Lane, Site 14, Photograph 7.) The Gunn Memorial Historical Museum now occupies the Willis House at 1 Wykeham Road, 1781, a frame five-bay gable-roofed vernacular Federal house covered with clapboards. (Site 7, Photograph 8)

Among architectural styles popular in the 19th century, the Greek Revival is represented in the district by a correct and well-preserved example in St. John's Rectory, 1843, a three-bay house with gable end toward the street and wing to the south. (Site 16, Photograph 7) The Corner House at 81 Green Hill Road was built at about the same time, ca.1840, as a shop, which was enlarged from time to time and altered to its present Colonial Revival appearance. (Site 20) The Italianate style is found in porch additions, as at 6 Parsonage Lane, 1850 (Site 14, Photograph 7), and a wing addition at 86 Green Hill

Road. (Site 10) An example of the Queen Anne style in frame is the house with asymmetry, bays, and high roofs at 78 Green Hill Road, 1886. (Site 19)

At the turn of the 20th century, the talented New York City architect Ehrick K. Rossiter became a summer resident of Washington Green, designing three significant structures for the district. First was his own house, the Rocks, 1888 (Site 28, Photograph 9), a large rectangular house comparable in scale and pretension to the Knoll. But Rossiter's conical-roofed tower, shingled siding, and Colonial Revival details place his house more in the Shingle style. Rossiter worked equally well in other styles. The Gunn Memorial Library is a disciplined work in the Colonial Revival, with Rustic influence in the cobblestone building material for the walls. (Site 8, Photograph 8) The interior is fully finished in well-designed Colonial Revival millwork, well-maintained. King & Tuthill drew the plans for an addition five times the size of the original library in buff brick perched on a cliff, completed in 1994. (Site 8, Photograph 10) Rossiter's third building was St. John's Episcopal Church (Site 17, Photograph 11), Gothic Revival in the Ecclesiological tradition of the Episcopal Church. It is a stone edifice with pronounced buttresses, pointed-arched openings, and square tower at one side. The church interior, which is approximately in original condition, features dark-stained wood trim and pews, tile floor, and leaded, but not stained-glass, windows. The only wall decoration is a group of paintings by H. Sidney Mowbray commissioned by the church at the time it was built.

The district is generally well maintained, effectively displaying its architecture as developed over the centuries from mortise-and-tenon houses for Colonial settlers through school-building campaigns to the country homes of affluent urban owners.

Inventory

In the following Inventory C or NC indicates whether the resource is considered to be Contributing or Non-Contributing to the architectural and historic significance of the district. Year is the date of construction, usually taken from the Assessor's records, occasionally from the Historic District Study Commission Report, and rarely by visual estimate (indicated by ?). The Map No. is the number from the Local Historic District Map or, if preceded by the letter G, from the Gunnery School Map, both of which are attached.

C/ NC	Address	Year	Map No.	Description
C	12 Ferry Bridge Road	ca.1810	29	2-story frame wooden-shingled gable-roofed house with roof overhang, covered by clapboards, 42' x 65'. Moved 1970 from near the Green.
NC		1971	29	3-car gable-roofed cinder-block garage.
C	71 Green Hill Road	1935	18	2-story frame Colonial Revival weathered wood-shingled mansard/hipped-roof house.

				Entrance on side. One of few buildings in district not painted white.
NC			18	In-ground pool and pool shed.
NC		1956	18	Small shingled house.
C		1935	18	Weathered wood-shingled 3-car garage.
C	75 Green Hill Road	1886	19	2-story frame Queen Anne clapboarded house on cobblestone foundation. Gable roof with strong cross gable; windows in 1-story 3-sided bay have multi-paned transoms.
C		mid-20C?	19	1-car frame gable-roofed garage
C	76 Green Hill Road	1917	17	St. John's Episcopal Church, Ehrick K. Rossiter, architect. Fieldstone Gothic Revival building with buttresses and pointed-arch fenestration; transepts plan; 17' x 18' tower capped by polygonal tower.
C		ca.1920	17	1-story frame Colonial Revival/Arts and Crafts low-hipped-roof bungalow, 24' x 42'. Upper sash of windows diagonally glazed.
NC		1955	17	1-story frame Parish House.
C	80 Green Hill Road	1843	16	St. John's Rectory. 2-story frame text-book Greek Revival 3-bay house with gable end toward street.
NC		1989	16	2-car frame garage.
C	81 Green Hill Road	ca.1840	20	The Corner House. 2-story frame gable-roofed 5-bay house with one chimney off center to north. Built as shop; enlarged from time to time. Colonial Revival portico; frieze with triglyphs; oriel; wing.
C	82 Green Hill Road	1790	12	2-story frame Colonial/Colonial Revival clapboarded gambrel-roofed 5-bay house; twin chimneys; central Palladian window.
C	84 Green Hill Road	1915	11	Frame Colonial Revival house. Gambrel roof gable end toward street; clapboards at first floor, wood shingles above; wraparound porch; tripartite attic window.

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NC	Green Hill Road Map 8-3, parcel 14			Vacant lot.
C	86 Green Hill Road	1795	10	1-story frame Colonial 4-bay house with door in second bay from left. Large 2-story plain Italianate addition to west.
C	92 Green Hill Road	1906	6	Washington Club Hall. T-shaped Colonial Revival stucco building, 36' x 92', with Tuscan portico. Casement windows have pulvinated friezes under their pediments. (Photograph 12)
	99 Green Hill Road		1	The Gunnery, 21.7 acres.
C	The Green	ca.1770	G4	Cottage (No. 4 on district map). 1-story frame Colonial central-chimney 5-bay house covered by clapboards, with 2-story addition to east; 46' x 27'.
NC		1966	G14	Science Building. Cast-concrete.
NC		1967	G10	Bache Dormitory, vertical wooden siding.
NC		1967	G11	Butler Dormitory, vertical wooden siding.
NC		1968	G12	Emerson Dormitory, vertical wooden siding.
C		ca.1920	G16	Elizabeth A. Kempton Memorial. Colonial Revival weathered wood-shingled 1-story 1-room studio. Burned 1981; rebuilt 1982.
C		ca.1885/ca.1920	G17	Schoolhouse & Tisch Library. 2-story Colonial Revival stucco L-shaped building, incorporating an early Gunnery outbuilding.
C		1929	G8	Brinsmade Hall. 2-story Tudor Revival stucco dormitory and laboratory, 94' x 91'. 1-story modern addition.
C		1925	G7	Van Sinderen Dormitory. Stucco, hipped-roof building, 33' x 85'.
C		1927	G1	Gibson Dormitory. Colonial Revival hipped-roof stucco building, 35' x 73'.
C		late 18C/ca.1850	G2	Morehouse. Frame vernacular gable-roofed 3-bay clapboarded house on brick foundation.

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C	ca.1780/ca.1830	G3	Whittelsey. 2-story frame gable-roofed clapboarded house with added east bay and hipped-roof dormers, 53' x 38'.	
C	1889/1920	G13	Edward Van Ingen-Alfred S. Bourne House; The Knoll; Bourne Hall. Large 2-story Tudor Revival/Rustic stone and stucco house; slate roof; irregular plan; gabled dormers; tall brick and stone chimneys. Originally a Shingle-style house designed by Ehrick K. Rossiter; altered by Roderick Barnes.	
C	1920	G6	Gate house for The Knoll. 2-story Tudor Revival frame and stone building, 29' x 32'. Grounds perimeter wall becomes house wall; tripartite windows.	
C	1920	G9	Gilbert G. Browne Memorial Hall. Tudor Revival carriage house for The Knoll converted to dining hall. Modern 1-story addition.	
C	1928	G18	Gunn Hall. Colonial Revival stucco dormitory with lantern rising from hipped roof.	
	100 Green Hill Road	1	The Gunnery	
NC	1953	G21	Ogden Miller Memorial Athletic Center, McCutcheon Gallery and Art Studios. Large 2-story contemporary masonry building. (Photograph 13)	
C	ca.1910?	G20	Drama Barn. Old Gymnasium; 2-story weathered wood-shingled 71' x 41' building with tall multi-paned windows and hipped roof.	
C	ca.1840	G19	Beebe House. 2-story frame Greek Revival 3-bay house with front door in central bay; synthetic siding.	
C	ca.1920?	G22	Field House. 1-story Colonial Revival gambrel-roofed stucco building with radially glazed attic window and long shed dormer.	
NC	(& 21 Wykeham Road)	1965	G23	Bristow Rink & equipment building.

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C		1900	G24	Olin House. 2-story frame 24' x 29' building.
C		1900	G24	2-story frame barn with vertical siding and sagging ridge line.
C	1 Kirby Road	1790	21	Woodruff House. 3-story frame Georgian 5-bay hipped-roof house with 6/1 windows. Wide 1-story porch with round columns and balustrade; large ell, ca.1969. Built as 1 1/2-story house; long served as inn.
C	3 Kirby Road	1851/1880	22	2-story frame shingled store & Post Office. Multi-paned shop windows; picket fence at lot line; roof gable with flared eaves. Post Office since 1851.
C	6 Kirby Road	1801	2	First Congregational Church Meetinghouse. Frame Federal/Greek Revival clapboarded 47' x 111' building. 16'-square tower crowned by arcaded belfry. Colonial Revival front porch.
C	The Green	1873	3	Judea Parish House. 2-story frame hipped-roof H-shaped building altered to Colonial Revival style and wing added in 20th century.
C	8 Kirby Road	1794	5	Red House. 2-story frame gable-roofed Colonial house with 12/8 windows and 6-pane front door transom. Original interior paneling and frescoes. 1-story wing to east.
NC		1971	5	2-car frame flat-roofed garage.
C		ca.1920?	5	2-car frame gable-roofed garage.
C	10 Kirby Road	1773	25	2-story frame Colonial/Gothic Revival clapboarded house. First-floor windows floor-to-ceiling; central cross gable has peaked window, peaked glazing, and hood mold. Built as store; enlarged in 1811 and 1860.
NC	11 Kirby Road	1949	23	2-story frame large Georgian Revival hipped-roof house, Wakefield Worcester, architect.
NC		1989	23	2-car frame gable-roofed garage.

NC		1987	23	In-ground pool.
C	13 Kirby Road	1843	24	Blythe Hall; Headmaster's house. 2-story frame Greek Revival/Colonial Revival house. Flush-boarded gable end toward street has dentil course under cornice. Shallow central pavilion on side surrounds entrance. Paneled pilasters define pavilion and corners of house.
C		ca.1945	24	2-car frame gable-roofed garage.
C	16 Kirby Road	1820	26	The Abbey. 2-story frame gable-roofed central-chimney clapboarded house. Central portion built on Site 3 as public hall; moved 1870s; north wing added 1919.
NC		1989	26	Frame gable-roofed office.
NC		1988	26	In-ground pool.
C	17 Kirby Road	1908	27	1-story frame weathered wood-shingled building, 46' x 26'. Gable roof with cross gables; built as carriage house for Blythe Hall next door.
C	21 Kirby Road	1888	28	Ehrick K. Rossiter House; The Rocks; Ehrick K. Rossiter, architect. Large rambling Shingle style house with weathered-shingle siding, stone porch with square shingled columns, multi-paned windows, central conical roofed-tower; 98' x 25'; 5.36 acres.
NC			28	In-ground pool.
C		ca.1900	28	Stone shed with hipped roof.
C		1884	28	2-story Colonial Revival stucco carriage house, 50' x 47'.
C		ca.1900?	28	Circular stone gazebo with conical roof; 8' diameter.
C		ca.1930	12	2-car frame garage.
C	4 Parsonage Lane	1790	13	2-story frame gable-roofed 3-bay clapboarded house. Central opening now glazed as French doors; flanking first-floor windows floor-to-ceiling. Built as store on Site 11; moved to become school.

C		ca.1920?	13	2-car gambrel-roofed clapboarded garage.
C	6 Parsonage Lane	1850	14	1 3/4-story frame Italianate/Gothic Revival/Arts and Crafts wood-shingled 3-bay house. Wide front porch with Italianate posts; second floor has three pointed-arch windows over band of three raised panels; rafter ends visible.
C	8 Parsonage Lane	1852	15	The Parsonage. 2-story frame twin-chimney house with 6/6 windows, derived from Greek Revival style; Italianate front porch removed and wing added in 1990.
C		ca.1930	15	Pastor's Study. 1-story frame gable-roofed clapboard building, 20' x 40'.
NC			15	In-ground pool.
NC		1989	15	2-car frame garage.
C	6 Roxbury Road	1925	30	Benham House. 2-story frame gable-roofed twin-chimney house with aluminum siding, 37' x 25', with second-floor central Palladian window.
C	1 Wykeham Road	1781	7	Willis House; Gunn Memorial Historical Museum. 2-story frame Colonial 5-bay gable-roofed house covered with clapboards, 35' x 46'. Brick foundation, in part.
C	2 Wykeham Road	1925	9	1-story wood-shingled house with ridge line parallel to front lot line. Wide front porch is surmounted by two cross gables joined by central shed-roofed gable.
C	5 Wykeham Road	1908	8	Gunn Memorial Library, Ehrick K. Rossiter, architect. 1-story Colonial Revival/Rustic cobblestone building with finely detailed interior. Large buff-brick addition, 1994, King & Tuthill, architects.
C	113 Woodbury Road	ca.1860	31	Frame gable-roofed 4-bay 28' x 28' house covered with clapboards; porch has cross gable; ell.
C	114 Woodbury Road	1910	32	2-story frame gable-roofed house covered with clapboards, with wraparound porch.

Gunnery School and in large country homes, such as the Shingle style residence designed for himself by Ehrick K. Rossiter. These fine examples, and others, of well-preserved buildings strongly support the architectural significance of the district.

History - Criterion A

The buildings of Washington Green well chronicle the 18th-century settlement, 19th-century development, and 20th-century resort history of the district. Following initial settlement in 1734, the Washington Green Congregational Church was organized as the Judea Ecclesiastical Society of Woodbury in 1741. The present church building is evidence of the growth of the community in population and wealth sufficient to support the Federal edifice, Greek Revival alterations, and the major Colonial Revival portico which was made possible by the district's status as a resort community. The 18th-century houses, such as those on Kirby Road, the 19th-century store, and the turn-of-the-20th century homes together with St. John's Church are artifacts in the sequence of development.

The experience of Washington Green as an attractive location for country and summer homes is paralleled by other communities in northwest Connecticut. Norfolk, in particular, is similar in that Alfredo S.G. Taylor, a New York architect, designed even more buildings for Norfolk than did Rossiter in Washington Green. (See Alfredo S.G. Taylor Thematic National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.) There was some cross-fertilization: Rossiter designed the Stoeckel Music Shed as well as one or more houses in Norfolk and St. Michael's Church in Litchfield.

In addition to Edward Van Ingen and Alfred S. Bourne, who between them created the Tudor Revival Knoll (G13), which is now an administration building for the Gunnery School, others sought country and summer homes in Washington Green. Prominent families from urban centers bought 18th- and 19th-century properties as second homes, following the lead of such prominent taste setters as H. Siddons Mobray, the painter, and Ehrick K. Rossiter, architect, leading to the present circumstance of at least ten property owners in the district having principal residences elsewhere.

Architecture - Criterion C

The First Congregational Church Meetinghouse (Site 2) and the Green (Site 3), which the church owns, are central to the Washington Green Historic District. The first building on the site, a wooden shed put up in 1742, was followed by the second meetinghouse in 1754, which burned in 1800. The third church, the present edifice, was constructed in 1801 in the Federal style then prevailing throughout New England. The Adamesque details of Palladian window below the tower and elaborate Ionic portico are consistent with the times. The two well-proportioned Greek Revival doorways on the sides at the rear reflect the Greek Revival style of later in the century, while the spire and belfry are replacements from 1845, and the clock and chimes were added in 1910. The Colonial Revival front porch, a gift of Ehrick K. Rossiter (perhaps designed by him), and the tower balustrade also date from 1910. In all, the meetinghouse is a study in the evolving architectural styles of the district.

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The fertile soil of the area's rolling hills attracted the first settlers in 1730s. Early houses were 1 1/2 stories high, as seen on the Green at Site 4. The population increase brought pressure for the town to be set off from others and incorporated, which it was in 1779. With the population growth came a store at Site 25, an inn (Site 21), and a school (Site 11, now at Site 13), all on the Green in the 18th century. Two-story houses with five-bay fenestration came late in the century on the Green at Sites 5, 7, and 10, the last being exceptional for its four-bay fenestration. Throughout the development of the 18th century, architecture on the Green reflected the religious, residential, commercial, and educational needs of the growing community. All the buildings were altered and most enlarged over time in response to changing conditions and needs.

The early 19th century brought the Greek Revival style to the Washington Green in the rear doorways of the church and in the gable-end-to-street house at Site 16, a fine statement of the classical proportions and detailing of the style. Mid- and later-19th-century modes such as the Gothic Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne are rare in the district, and when they do appear are likely to be alterations, as noted in Section 7, Description. Lack of more vigorous interpretations of these styles in the district may be due in part to the 19th-century development of an area a mile to the north known as Factory Hollow where mills were located near available waterpower. When the Shepaug Railroad was built in 1872, its route went through Factory Hollow and the railroad station was built there, giving rise to the community known today as Washington Depot. A post office was established on the Green, however, in 1859 (Site 22), and has been there ever since. Most of the town's commercial and government activity, nonetheless, is at Washington Depot, leaving the Green relatively undisturbed as an 18th- and early 19th-century architectural statement.

An event of tangible and long-lasting influence on the architecture and buildings of the Washington Green Historic District did occur in the mid-19th century when Frederick William Gunn (1816-1881), brother of the abolitionist John Gunn (1798-1883), opened his Seminary and Boarding School for Boys, in 1850. The school was, and is, a presence on the Green (although as early as the 1880s the school's baseball diamond was moved to its present location east of Green Hill Road, on the grounds that no more baseball would be played on the Green itself). The Gymnasium/Drama Barn (G20) and Field House (G22) followed in the Colonial Revival style and the Athletic Center (G21) was erected more recently in modern architecture.

The school's academic, administrative, and dormitory buildings continued on the west side of Green Hill Road, close to the Green and south of it. Colonial Revival was the preferred style for the stucco buildings, built ca.1920s, with small-pane windows and roof lanterns.

Another major development that influenced the district's architecture was its growth in popularity at the turn of the 20th century as a country residence for affluent people from New York City and elsewhere. The design and construction of his Shingle-style home, the Rocks (Site 28), in 1888 by the New York architect Ehrick K. Rossiter (1854-1941) was seminal to this new influence. Born in Paris, France, Rossiter studied architecture at Cornell University before entering into practice in New York with Frank Ayres Wright (1855-1949), in a partnership that lasted into the 20th century, when Rossiter opened his own office.

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The influences of Gunn and Rossiter came together in the district's library. Frederick W. Gunn and his wife, Abigail Brinsmade, started the first library association in Washington in 1852, two years after founding the school. In 1881 the association evolved into the Washington Reading Room and Circulating Library Association, which in turn became the Gunn Memorial Library. Rossiter designed its Colonial Revival/Rustic building in 1908. Its cultural significance is enhanced by the ceiling murals executed by Washington resident H. Siddons Mowbray and by exterior and interior busts in bronze by the English sculptor A. Bertram Pegram (1873-1941).

Rossiter's third building was St. John's Episcopal Church, 1917 (Site 17), in the Gothic Revival interpretation of heavy stone walls and relatively little fenestration favored by the medieval references of the Ecclesiologists. Altar paintings in the church are by H. Siddons Mowbray. St. John's has been at its location near the Green since 1815.

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):

B. Building removed from its original location, but which is significant primarily for architectural value.

The several buildings in th district which have been moved, as noted in inventory, meet the consideration because they are significant primarily for their architectural value.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Litchfield County (Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Company, 1881), pp. 651-660

Arthur H. Hughes and Morse S. Allen, Connecticut Place Names (Hartford; Connecticut Historical Society, 1976), p. 620.

J. Frederick Kelly, Early Connecticut Meetinghouses (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1928), p. 258.

David F. Ransom, "Biographical Dictionary of Hartford Architects," The Connecticut Historical Society Bulletin 43(Winter/Spring 1989)1-2:88.

David F. Ransom, Gunn Memorial Plaques, SOS! Survey Questionnaire Form (Washington, D.C.: National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, 1994).

David F. Ransom, Alfredo S.G. Taylor Thematic Nomination, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1982).

Report of the Historic District Study Commission (Washington, Connecticut: 1975).

Chandler Saint, owner of 8 Kirby Road, conversation, September 18, 1995.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- Previously Listed in the National Register.
- Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
- Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: # _____
- Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other: Specify Repository: _____

List of Photographs

Photographs were taken in January 1995 by D.F. Ransom. Negatives are on file at the Connecticut Historical Commission.

Photograph 1

The Green (Site 2)
View northeast

Photograph 2

The Green (Site 2)
View southeast

Photograph 3

The Knoll (G13)
View north

Photograph 4

Tisch Library (G17)
View south

Photograph 5

Drama Barn (G20)
View southwest

Photograph 6

Field House (G22)
View southeast

Photograph 7

St. John's Parsonage and
Parsonage Lane (Sites
16, 14, 13)
View northeast

Photograph 8

Gunn Memorial Library and
Willis House (Sites 8, 7)
View southeast

Photograph 9

The Rocks (Site 28)
View north

Photograph 10

Gunn Memorial Library
Addition (Site 8)
View north

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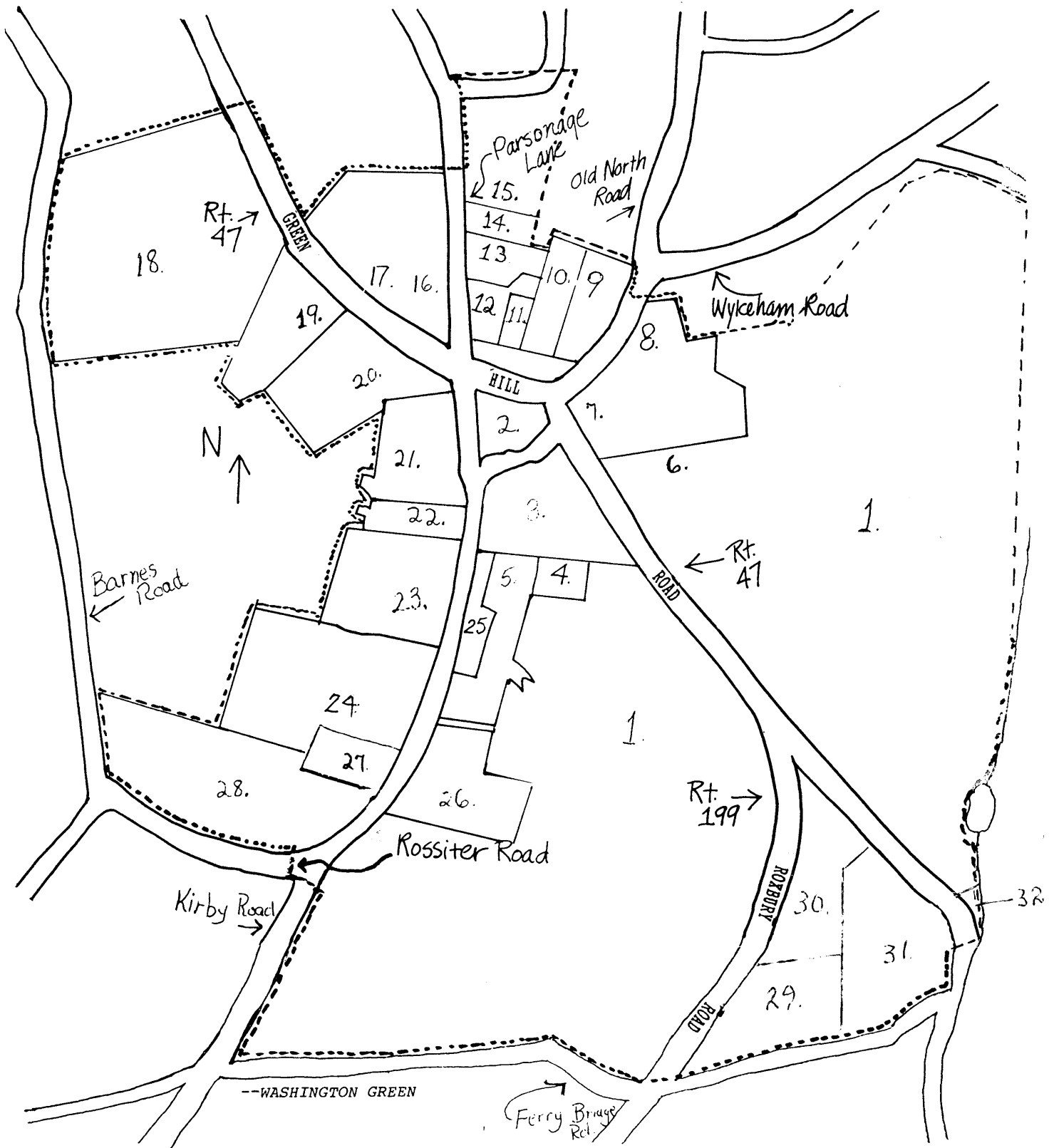
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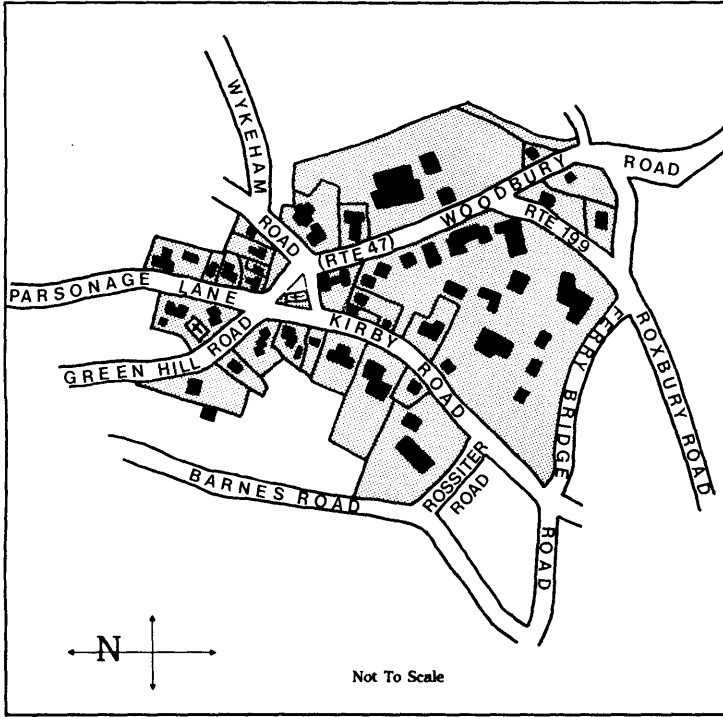
Photograph 11
St. John's Episcopal
Church (Site 17)
View north

Photograph 12
Washington Club (Site 6)
View southeast

Photograph 13
Athletic Center (G21)
View northeast



SITE NUMBERS



Washington Green Historic District

Barnes Road	Even # 50— 56
Ferry Bridge Road	Even # 2— 36
Green Hill Road (Rte. 47)	Odd # 67—107 Even # 74—108
Kirby Road	Odd # 1— 25 Except #3, #7, & #9 Even # 2— 36
Parsonage Lane	Odd # 1— 9 Even # 2— 12
Rossiter Road	Even # 2— 10
Roxbury Road (Rte. 199)	# 1— 16
Woodbury Road (Rte. 47)	Odd # 109—119 Even # 110—120
Wykeham Road	Odd # 1— 5 Even # 2— 8

The Gunnery

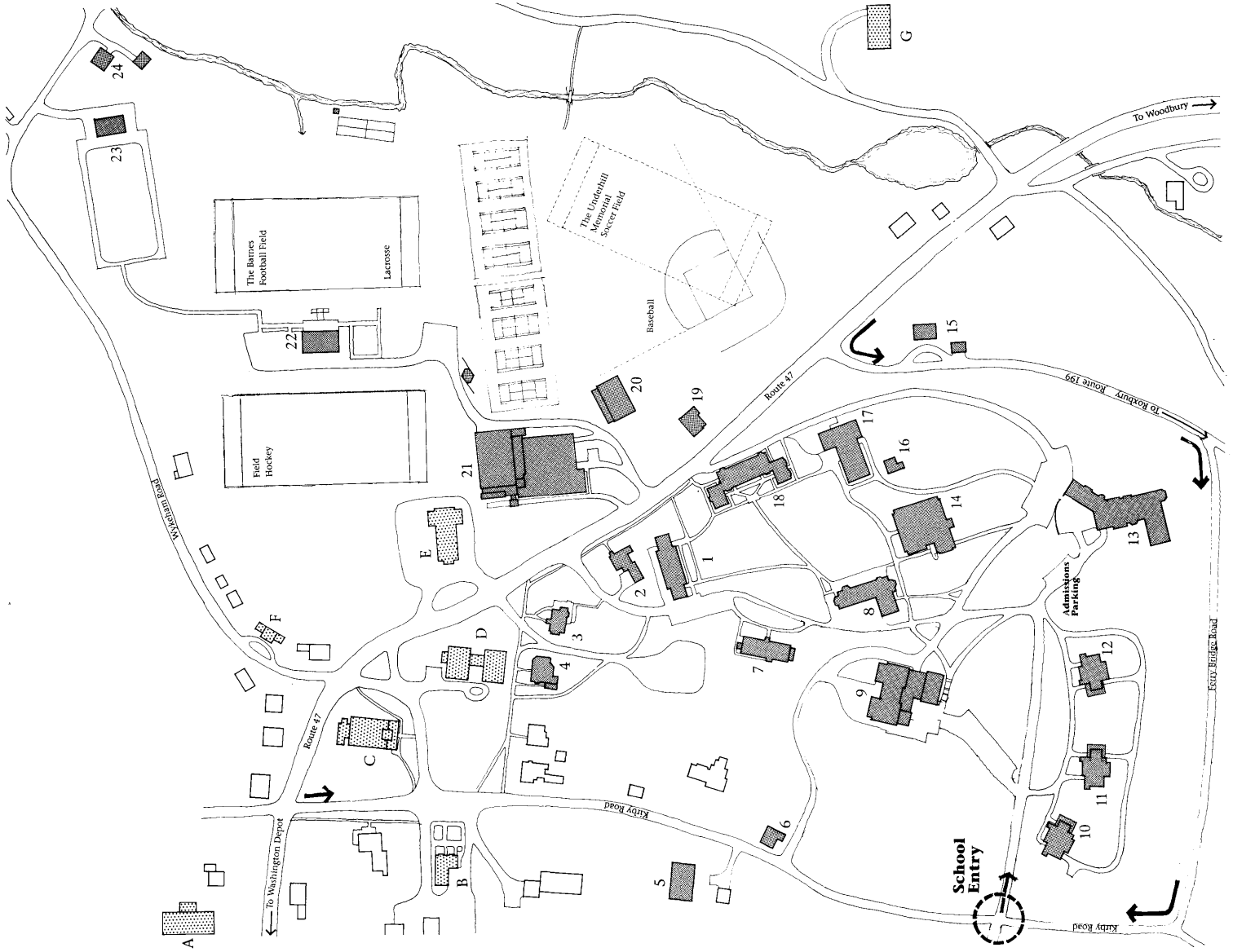
Campus Map

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- 10 Bache
- 19 Beebe House
- 15 Benham House
- 13 Bourne (admissions, administrative, & business offices)
- 8 Brinsmade (Tisch Student Center)
- 23 Bristow Rink
- 9 Browne Dining Hall
- 11 Butler
- 5 Conroy House
- 4 Cottage
- 20 Drama Barn
- 16 Elizabeth A. Kempton Memorial
- 12 Emerson
- 22 Field House
- 6 Gatehouse
- 1 Gibson
- 18 Gunn
- 2 Morehouse
- 21 Ogden Miller Memorial Athletic Center
- McCutcheon Gallery and Art Studios
- 24 Olin House
- 17 Schoolhouse & Tisch Library
- 14 Science Building
- 7 Van Sinderen
- 3 Whittelsey

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

- E Club Hall
- F Gunn Memorial Library
- C Meeting House on the Green
- G Mayflower Inn
- D Parish House
- B Post Office & General Store
- A St. John's Episcopal Church



Calhoun-Ives

Washington Green

Sunny Ridge

nomination to the

NATIONAL REGISTER of HISTORIC PLACES

An open, informational meeting concerning the nomination of the three Districts with Mr. John Herzan, National Register Coordinator for the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office and Mr. David Ransom, the Architectural Historian who prepared the nomination reports, will be held

Thursday, September 14, 1995

at 7:00 pm

in

at 7:00 pm

Bryan Memorial Hall's Upper Meeting Room

this meeting is open to all interested members of the public