

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: OLD KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL

other name/site number: N/A

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2. Location

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street & number: 185 Broad Street

city/town: Killingly

not for publication: N/A
vicinity: Danielson

state: CT county: Windham code: 015 zip code: 06239

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: public-local

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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. See cont. sheet.

Signature of certifying official: [Handwritten Signature] Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

Date: February 20, 1992

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

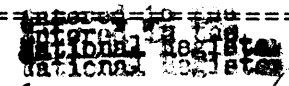
Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:



- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
determined not eligible for the National Register
removed from the National Register
other (explain):

Signature of Keeper: [Handwritten Signature] Date of Action: 3/26/92

6. Function or Use

Historic: EDUCATION Sub: school

Current: RECREATION AND CULTURE Sub: other: activity center

7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Renaissance

Colonial Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation LIMESTONE roof SLATE
walls BRICK other CONCRETE
LIMESTONE BRICK

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : _____

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1908-1927

Significant Dates: 1908, 1927

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Hartwell, Richardson & Driver, architects
A. Fales & Sons Company, builder

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
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X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office Connecticut Historical Commission
- Other state agency 59 South Prospect Street
- Federal agency Hartford, CT 06106
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property: approx. 3/4 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>19</u>	<u>260280</u>	<u>4631800</u>	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.

The nominated property includes the parcel shown as Lot 16, Block 8, Map 100-4 in the records of the Killingly Assessor and known as 185 Broad Street.

Boundary Justification: ____ See continuation sheet.

The boundary includes the entire historic lot associated with the school.

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11. Form Prepared By Reviewed by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator
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Name/Title: Bruce Clouette and Matthew Roth

Organization: Historic Resource Consultants Date: June, 27, 1991

Street & Number: 55 Van Dyke Avenue Telephone: 203-547-0268

City or Town: Hartford State: CT ZIP: 06106

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description	Old Killingly High School Killingly, Windham County, CT	7-2
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arched heads. The other decorative details of the additions match those on the original portion of the building, except that in place of limestone, the trim is a cast concrete-based material. The side elevations of the added wings are slightly different, reflecting the fact that the south wing accommodated an auditorium and front stairwell leading to a side entrance (Photograph 1), whereas the north wing accommodated classrooms, with the stairwell at the rear.

The interior of the school features long transverse corridors on each floor. Classrooms (Photograph 7) have plaster walls, hardwood floors, extensive blackboard areas and, in the older part of the school, built-in cupboards. The corridors (Photograph 8) have dropped ceilings and modern classroom doors, but the original hardwood floors, chair rail, baseboard, and molded door surrounds remain; in the first-floor corridor a large marble plaque inscribed in Latin marks the location of a memorial water fountain, the plumbing and fixtures for which are no longer in place. Fire doors and wire-glass partitions separate the corridors from the stairwells, which have exposed brick walls and steel stairs and railings. Notable interior spaces include a small cafeteria in the north wing and, in the south wing, a gymnasium in the basement and an auditorium (Photograph 9) occupying the top two stories. The auditorium has a small stage and is plainly finished except for simple two-story pilasters and, in the balcony along the east wall, theater seats with special end castings featuring the school's monogram (Photograph 10).

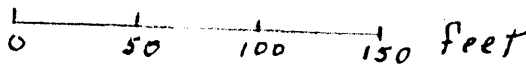
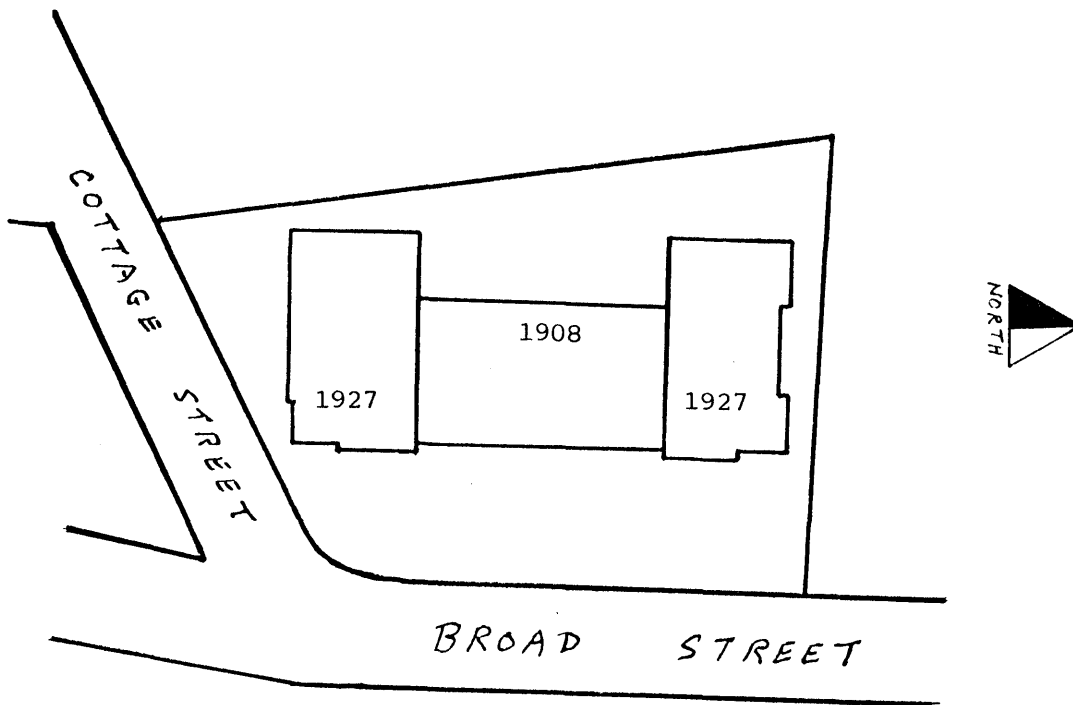
The building served as Killingly's high school from 1908 to 1965, and its junior high school from 1966 to 1990. Currently it is administered by the Killingly Recreation Department, which uses it as a facility for its programs.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description	Old Killingly High School Killingly, Windham County, CT	7-3
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SKETCH PLAN OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance

Old Killingly High School
Killingly, Windham County, CT

8-2

space was especially generous. Although the registers are now blocked up, the classrooms appear to have had air ducts leading to the large chimneys, which typically were designed to carry away hot air in warm weather and provide heated fresh air in winter. The building committee specifically cited these advantages in its final report:

The building . . . should mark the beginning of a new era of usefulness and prosperity. The matter of ventilation and lighting has received special attention, as it is believed that the success with which these features are treated has an important bearing on the health of the pupils, and furthermore that the same individuals will do at least ten per cent. better work in a perfectly lighted room, well supplied with pure air, than in one indifferently provided for in these respects (Town of Killingly, Report, 1907, p. 117).

The rapidly increasing high school population that led to the construction of the school (the enrollment went from 138 in 1906 to 180 just two years later) continued in the 1910s and 1920s. Some of the building committee's original ideas had been shelved when townspeople would not increase the \$50,000 they authorized in 1905. As a consequence, a projected third story was left off the building, as were several unspecified amenities. These shortfalls were addressed in 1925 when \$150,000 was appropriated to double the size of the building. The new space provided additional classrooms, specialized instruction areas such as science laboratories and a home economics room, a cafeteria, a gymnasium, and an auditorium. When the additions were completed in 1928, Killingly High School became complete, offering all the varied curricula and physical facilities expected of a modern high school in 1927. With few changes beyond sprinklers and better lighting, the building served its intended purpose until 1965, when the town built a new high school and moved its junior-high grades into the building. After another 20 years serving the children of Killingly and surrounding towns (even Foster, Rhode Island, sent its students here at one time), the building is now being adapted for other activities.

The new high school was one of several improvements undertaken in Killingly in the early years of the 20th century. Buoyed by commercial and industrial prosperity, townspeople in this period erected substantial buildings for a public library and for Danielson's fire headquarters, and Davis Park and other public spaces received renewed attention. Danielson, at one time a separately incorporated borough, was by far the largest settlement in the town and thus the natural choice for locating improvements such as these.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance	Old Killingly High School Killingly, Windham County, CT	8-4
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The 1927 additions seamlessly continued the original architectural detailing of the building, except that the arched end windows introduced a Colonial Revival element into the mixture of Classical and Renaissance-derived features found on the original school. The additions were planned by William T. Towner of School Plan Service Bureau, Inc. Plainfield, the next town south of Killingly, had completed a high school designed by School Plan just three years earlier, which was perhaps a factor in Killingly's seeking their services.

