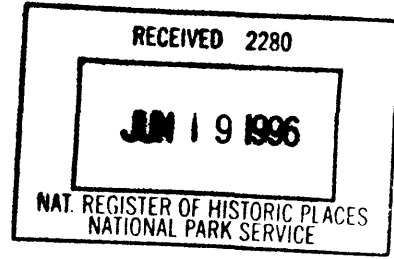


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

=====

1. Name of Property

historic name: MILLINGTON GREEN HISTORIC DISTRICT

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

street & number: Haywardville, Millington and Tater Hills Roads

city/town: East Haddam not for publication: N/A
vicinity: N/A

state: CT county: Middlesex code: 015 zip code: 06423
007

=====

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private, public-local

Category of Property: district

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>13</u>	<u>2</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 1966, 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: John W. Shannahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission. Date: 6/13/96

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: Edson H Beall. Date of Action: 7-25-96. Entered in the National Register

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Table with 2 columns: Historic/Current and Sub. Historic: DOMESTIC, AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION. Sub: single dwelling, agricultural outbuilding, school. Current: DOMESTIC, AGRICULTURE, SOCIAL. Sub: single dwelling, agricultural outbuilding, meeting hall.

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

Colonial
Greek Revival

Other Description: N/A_____

Materials: foundation STONE roof ASPHALT
walls WOOD other BRICK

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

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period(s) of Significance: c.1740-c.1860 _____

Significant Dates: See item 7_____

Significant Person(s): _____

Cultural Affiliation: _____

Architect/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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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description	Millington Green Historic District East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT	7-1
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The Millington Green Historic District is a group of fourteen 18th and early 19th-century buildings set along Millington Road, Tater Hill Road, and Haywardville Road in East Haddam, Connecticut, surrounding a small triangular parcel of land known as Millington Green. The buildings include six houses, one of which was formerly the parsonage for the Congregational Church, a former one-room schoolhouse now used as a community center, and several small associated barns and other outbuildings.

The green that is at the center of the district (Photograph 1) is mostly lawn, with a few tall shade trees along the periphery. The green was formerly the site of the 1832 Congregational Church, the second meetinghouse on the site, which was destroyed by fire in 1971. Although there are some small signs, a planter, a bench, and a flagpole on the green, the green and its fixtures are counted as one contributing site.

The district's buildings are of two architectural types, 18th-century houses in the Colonial style and early 19th-century Greek Revival-style buildings. The 18th-century dwellings (Photographs 1-3) have five-bay facades, clapboarded exteriors, small-pane sash, and large center chimneys of brick. The three include one each of 2 1/2 full stories, a 2 1/2-story house with a lean-to roof, and a 1 1/2-story house with a gambrel roof. They are oriented with their broad side facing the road.

The Greek Revival buildings in the district are all oriented with their gable ends facing the road. The two houses (Photographs 4 and 5) have corner pilasters, full cornice returns treated as entablatures, flush-boarded gables in imitation of Classical pediments, and pilaster-and-lintel entry surrounds. The Tenth District School (Photograph 6) is also in the Greek Revival style, though with plainer details.

The district exhibits a high degree of integrity, both as a whole and in its constituent properties, which for the most part exhibit appropriate window, entryway, siding, and chimney materials. The only modern building in the district, the house at 500 Tater Hill Road, reportedly incorporates an earlier schoolhouse into its design. Because its overall appearance reflects its 1952 construction, the building has been counted as noncontributing.

In the inventory of buildings that follows, the count of contributing buildings (C) includes houses, barns, and other outbuildings that

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description Millington Green Historic District 7-2
 East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

retain their historic appearance; conversely, the count of noncontributing buildings (NC) includes houses and outbuildings that appear to be of relatively recent construction. Historic names and dates were compiled from the local historic district report and signs and names placed on houses. Other dates are estimates by the preparers of this form, based primarily on architectural features.

INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	C	NC
3 Haywardville Road	10th DISTRICT SCHOOLHOUSE, c.1854, Greek Revival-style, 1 story, clapboards, two-bay gable-end facade with full cornice return, two transomed entrances, six-over-nine sash, flagpole resting on cornice. Small board-sided outbuilding. Photograph 6.	2	0
79 Millington Road	DANIEL BRAINERD HOUSE, c.1752, 2 1/2 stories with lean-to at rear (eaves of roof built out at later date), clapboards, five-bay facade, offset brick chimney (not original), twelve-over-twelve sash, front entrance with plain-board surround. Photograph 2.	1	0
87 Millington Road	DANIEL BULKLEY HOUSE, 1792, 1 1/2 stories, clapboards, wood-shingled gambrel roof, five-bay facade, brick center chimney, six-over-six sash, three gable dormers, transomed front entrance has transom lights. Board-sided sheds and barn. Photograph 3.	4	0

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description Millington Green Historic District 7-3
East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

INVENTORY (continued)

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	C	NC
82 Millington Road	WILLIAM HENRY CONE HOUSE, c.1840, Greek Revival-style, 2 1/2 stories, clapboards, three-bay gable-end facade with full cornice return, flush-boarded gable, brick chimney, six-over-six sash, front entry with pilaster-and-lintel surround, corner pilasters. Attached garage. Photograph 5.	1	0
86 Millington Road	EBENEZER DUTTON HOUSE, 1766, 2 1/2 stories, clapboards, five-bay facade, brick central chimney, twelve-over-twelve sash, front entry with molded surround and transom. Small barn. Photograph 1.	2	0
108 Millington Road	CONGREGATIONAL PARSONAGE, 1854, Greek Revival, 2 1/2 stories, clapboards, three-bay gable-end facade with full cornice return, flush-boarded gable, six-over-six sash, ten-pane rectangular window in gable, front entry with pilaster-and-lintel surround, sidelights, and transom. Board-sided barn. Photograph 4.	2	0
500 Tater Hill Road	House, 1952, 1 story, "Ranch"-style, said to incorporate earlier barn that itself was once c.1755 schoolhouse.	0	2

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 CONTINUATION SHEET**

Description Millington Green Historic District 7-5
 East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	C	NC
86 Millington Road	EBENEZER DUTTON HOUSE, 1766, Colonial-style, 2 1/2 stories, clapboards, five-bay facade, brick central chimney, twelve-over-twelve sash, slight roof overhang, front entry is molded with overlights.	2	0
108 Millington Road	MILLINGTON GREEN PARSONAGE, 1854, Greek Revival, 2 1/2 stories, clapboards, three-bay gable end facade with full return cornice, six-over-six sash, ten pane rectangular window in gable, front entry has pilaster and lintel entry surround with side and transom lights, side ell. Barn.	2	0
500 Tater Hill Road	House, c.1755 schoolhouse, which was then converted to a barn in 1854. The modern house that stands here incorporated the school/barn into its building.?	1	0

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance Millington Green Historic District 8-1
 East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

Summary

The Millington Green Historic District is significant because its historic houses, former one-room school, and the green itself recall a once-common type of settlement important to the historical development of New England: the rural crossroads, usually composed of no more than a dozen buildings, that served as a religious, commercial, and social focus for the surrounding agricultural area (Criterion A). Distinct from the main town center, villages such as Millington were small settlements related only to a portion of the larger town. As was typical, Millington grew up around a Congregational meetinghouse, the first of which was built about 1740; the 1832 successor to this structure was destroyed by fire in 1971. However, an associated parsonage, the common land that surrounded the meetinghouse and makes up Millington Green, an 1854 schoolhouse, and numerous houses of the 18th and early 19th century do survive to recall the historic appearance of the village.

The district also has architectural significance, since several of its buildings embody the distinctive characteristics of New England Colonial and Greek Revival architecture (Criterion C). Well-preserved, with their small-pane windows, brick chimneys, doorway transoms, and clapboarded exteriors intact, these buildings typify the architecture of the early New England countryside.

Historic Significance

The area that would become known as Millington was first settled by Europeans in the early years of the 18th century, with Jonathan Beebe and his family arriving in 1704 from New London. Several families from the surrounding towns soon joined Beebe, and by 1732 the Connecticut General Assembly had granted the residents of Millington the right to establish an ecclesiastical society separate from those in East Haddam and Moodus, to which they had previously belonged. The name Millington, which applied originally to the whole northeast part of the Town of East Haddam, is said to have come from the numerous saw and grist mills located on the several fast-flowing streams nearby. Around 1740 the Second Ecclesiastical Society built its first meetinghouse on the common land that today forms Millington Green. Connecticut law required at least one school in each town or ecclesiastical society, and when Millington built its first schoolhouse, around 1754, it too was located on the green.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance

Millington Green Historic District
East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

8-2

The meetinghouse and the school provided the nucleus for subsequent development. Because most of the families from the surrounding area could be expected at least once a week for religious services, the green area was a natural locale for the small commercial enterprises that were established to serve the local community. The David Brainerd House (Photograph 2), for example, originally was built as the dwelling house of a 45-acre farm. When James Dixson bought the property in 1765, he added tavern-keeping to his agricultural activities. Dr. Augustus Mather, the owner of the property in the 1790s, also kept a tavern there. Another Millington physician, David Johnson, Jr., ran a tavern in the house at 86 Millington Road (Photograph 1).

At least three of the properties on Millington Green at one time included small buildings that housed general stores; none have survived to the present. The store that Ebenezer Dutton had built next to his house in 1766 was moved by Daniel Bulkley to the north end of the green in 1788, near the gambrel-roofed house at 87 Millington Road, where it remained in operation at least until 1849 and perhaps longer. In 1835 Dr. Mather's son Eleazer built a small general store next to his house that continued in business until the 1850s. William H. Cone, who built the house at 82 Millington Road (Photograph 5), also ran a store in Millington which, under his son and other subsequent owners, remained in business until about 1919.

Although Millington's taverns and stores probably had as their primary market the local population, the village's present out-of-the-way ambience is somewhat misleading. In the early 19th century, Millington Road was part of a direct route from Goodspeed's Landing on the Connecticut River to Colchester and Lebanon, large inland towns. Although the establishment of the Haddam and Colchester Turnpike in 1815 provided an alternative road, it is likely that Millington continued to receive the advantage of through traffic as well as local business. Millington's sense of being a place was undoubtedly aided by the establishment of a post office in 1831. The post office moved from store to store, a pattern that depended upon the political winds of the times and continued well into the 20th century. Millington probably lost its only real chance at commercial growth in 1868, when plans by local residents for a railroad to connect Colchester and Old Lyme by way of Millington fell apart because of lack of capital.

Millington Green also provided a social focus for families working the farms in the surrounding area. As early as 1732 a trainband was organized in the Second Ecclesiastical Society, and by the time of the

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance Millington Green Historic District 8-3
 East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

Revolutionary War, there were two militia companies in the Millington part of East Haddam. In the 19th century, Millington had a space for meetings and social events known as Cone Hall, located on the second floor of the house at 86 Millington Road (Photograph 1). In the 20th century, there were oyster suppers at the Congregational Parsonage hosted by a Ladies Literary Society, dances on the green, and baseball games in which a Millington team played teams from surrounding villages.

Lastly, the presence of a district school contributed to the status of Millington as a central place. The school served East Haddam's Tenth District, an extensive area of outlying farms with Millington Green, or Millington P.O. as it was sometimes known, at its center. Built as a replacement for an earlier schoolhouse in 1854, and enlarged about 1890, the present schoolhouse continued in operation until 1937, when the dozen remaining students were transferred to Moodus. The schoolhouses of Millington must have provided much of the cement bonding the community together. With two dozen students of all ages grouped together in a single room, such district schools provided people with a chance to get to know not only their immediate age cohort, but also neighbors who were both older and younger by several years. The schoolhouse has been maintained as a community center since 1939. Along with the historic houses and the green itself, the schoolhouse helps perpetuate Millington's identity as a separate place with a history stretching back more than two centuries.

Architectural Significance

Millington's buildings typify the architecture of New England rural areas in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Those from the 18th century (Photographs 1-3) epitomize "plain style" vernacular house-building in form, material, and overall simplicity of architectural embellishment. The most typical form of the period -- the house set broadside to the road, with a symmetrical five-bay facade and large center chimney -- is embodied by these examples, as are the standard exterior materials of clapboarded siding and small-pane windows. Millington's three Colonial-style houses even present the theme with variations: the house at 86 Millington Road is the common 2 1/2-story house, while that at 79 Millington Road has a lean-to roof and 87 Millington Road is a 1 1/2 story gambrel-roofed variant.

The buildings at Millington Green from the period 1830-1860 reflect the

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Significance

Millington Green Historic District
East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

8-4

numerous changes in American architecture introduced by the Greek Revival. In this period, house builders departed from age-old tradition and turned to an external model for inspiration, the Classical Greek temple, an ideal form that carried connotations of democracy and culture. In addition to incorporating Classical details such as pilasters and entablatures, seen in the district in the entrances of the houses at 82 and 108 Millington Road (Photographs 4 and 5), many builders adopted a form that would further the resemblance to the temple. This required a shallower pitch to the roof, so as to better reproduce the proportions of the Greek ideal, as well as turning the end of the house so that the gable, now treated as a pediment supported on corner pilasters, could face the road. Finally, the resemblance could be furthered by finishing the gable with matched boards, in imitation of the masonry of a Classical temple's tympanum, a feature seen in two of Millington's three Greek Revival buildings.

The architectural significance of the district is sustained by its overall high degree of integrity, with nearly all the buildings exhibiting appropriate window, entryway, siding, and chimney materials.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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:

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approx. 28 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	___	_____	_____	B	___	_____	_____
C	___	_____	_____	D	___	_____	_____

X See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet. The boundary is shown on the accompanying map, scale 1"=200'.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet. The boundary includes all contiguous historic properties around the Millington Green. The boundary coincides with that of the Millington Green local historic district.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Bruce Clouette and Maura Cronin, edited by John Herzan,
Conn. Hist. Commission

Organization: Historic Resource Consultants Date: June 10, 1995

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

City or Town: Hartford State: CT Zip: 06106

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Geographical Data Millington Green Historic District 10-1
 East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

UTM REFERENCES:

- 1: 18.720380.4595860
- 2: 18.720680.4595960
- 3: 18.720800.4595800
- 4: 18.720740.4595690
- 5: 18.720680.4595640
- 6: 18.720580.4595600
- 7: 18.720450.4595620

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Photographs

Millington Green Historic District
East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT

Photos-1

All photographs:

1. Millington Green Historic District
2. East Haddam, Middlesex County, CT
3. Photo Credit: HRC, Hartford, CT
4. May, 1995
5. Negative filed with Connecticut Historical Commission
Hartford, CT

Captions:

Millington Green and house at 86 Millington Road camera facing southwest
Photograph 1 of 6

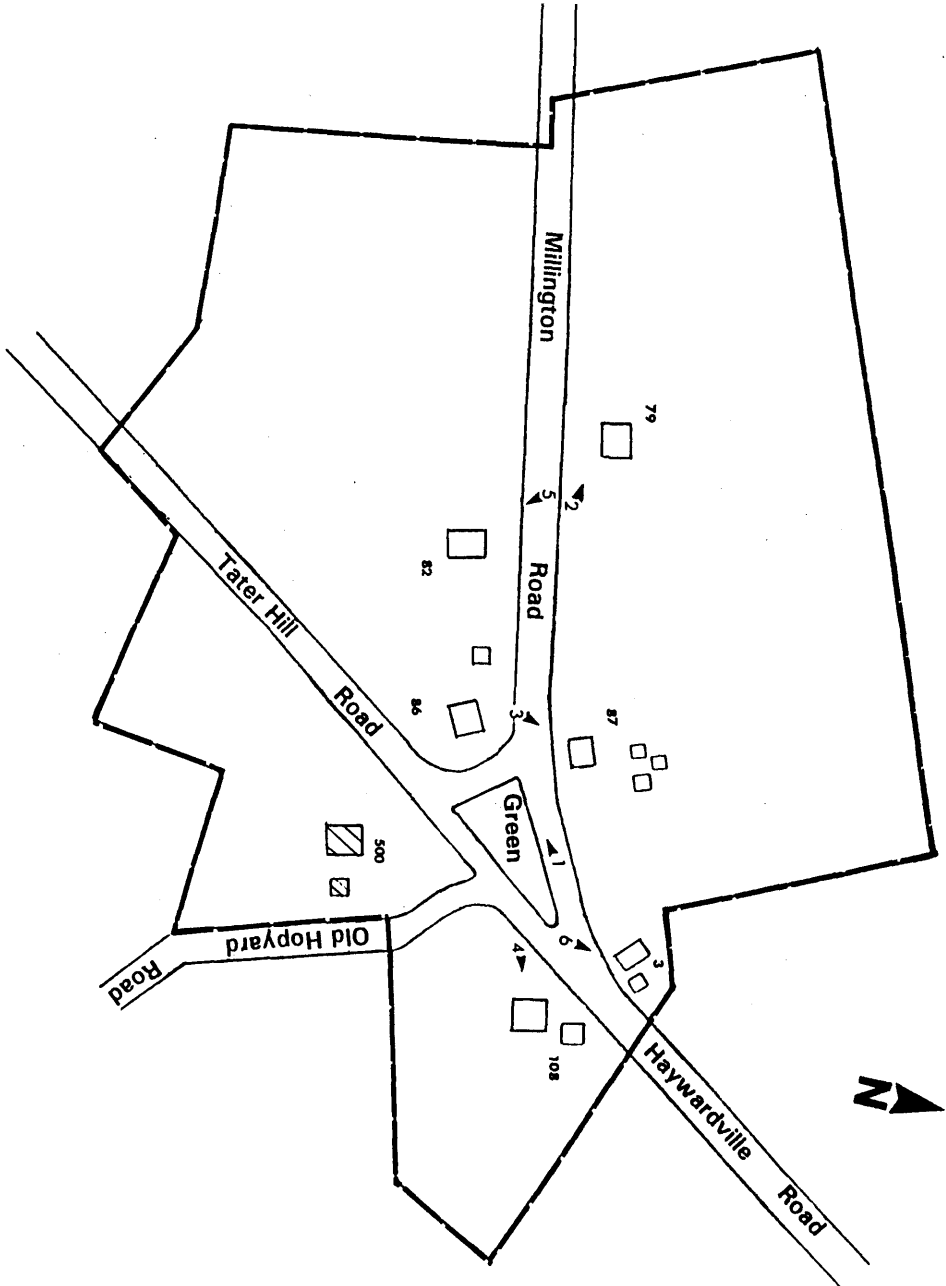
House at 79 Millington Road, camera facing northwest
Photograph 2 of 6

House at 87 Millington Road camera facing north
Photograph 3 of 6

House at 108 Millington Road camera facing east
Photograph 4 of 6





House at 82 Millington Road camera facing southeast
Photograph 5 of 6

10th District Schoolhouse and outbuilding at 3 Haywardville Road camera facing north
Photograph 6 of 6



**MILLINGTON GREEN
HISTORIC DISTRICT**

East Haddam, Middlesex County,
Connecticut

-  District Boundary
-  Photo Position
-  Contributing
-  Noncontributing

