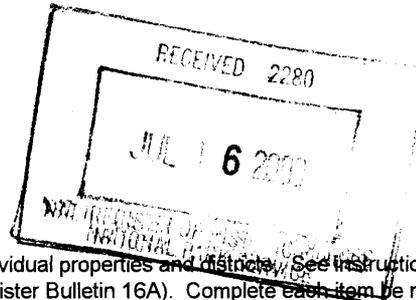


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Graniteville Historic District

other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number Rope Ferry Road (Route 156) - see Item 7 for addresses  not for publication

city or town Waterford  vicinity

state Connecticut code CT county New London code 011 zip code 06385

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 7/15/03  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the 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] 8/28/03  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Graniteville Historic District  
Name of Property

New London County, CT  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
24	7	buildings
2	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
26	7	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
 EXTRACTION: extractive facility  
 EDUCATION: school

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
 SOCIAL: meeting hall

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival  
 Gothic Revival  
 Italianate

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite  
 walls Wood  
 roof Asphalt  
 other Brick

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Graniteville Historic District  
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### Description:

Ranged along Rope Ferry Road (Route 156) in Waterford are a group of 31 houses and other buildings, predominantly plainly detailed and mid-19th-century in origin. Nearly all the buildings were at one time associated with granite quarrying, formerly a major industry in Waterford. Since at least the 1860s the settlement has been known as "Graniteville," an appellation that also was applied to the residence of quarry-owner John B. Palmer (Photograph 8). In addition to residential buildings, the district includes the ca.1878 two-room Graniteville School (Photograph 12) and three barns, including a simple small board-sided barn with an unusual stone end and a Gothic Revival-detailed barn with a cupola (Photograph 11).

Most of the buildings are plain structures with little in the way of decorative architectural detail. Some date from ca.1800, before the granite industry took hold, and exhibit the three or five-bay broad-side-facade, center-chimney form common in vernacular New England architecture as far back as the Colonial period. The mid-19th-century buildings mostly have their gable ends facing the road, and many of those also have little architectural embellishment. Others exhibit Greek Revival elements such as pilaster-and-lintel entrance treatments, full cornice returns, and corner pilasters. Two features normally associated with earlier Federal-style architecture persisted in the gables of Waterford's Greek Revival-period houses: fanlights and three-part windows simplified from the arched Palladian window (Photographs 1, 3, and 13). One house has exceptionally intricate porch detail of the type commonly referred to as Carpenter Gothic (Photograph 2).

Modern siding materials predominate in the district, but most houses retain their historical form and at least some of the detail that identifies their period. The condition of most of the buildings appears to be good, with the exception of the John Palmer House, which appears to be in danger of being lost to irreversible deterioration. There are five houses of modern construction (Photograph 4 and 5), counted as noncontributing buildings.

The district includes two small discontinuous portions, both of which are former granite quarries located in the woods north of Rope Ferry Road, on either side of the power-transmission line that marks the end of the district. That on the west side, known as "Somers's Prospect," is the smaller and consists of a shallow excavation surrounded by discarded stone (Photographs 14 and 15); it was begun in 1902 and probably never reached commercial operation. The other, on the east side, appears to have been a larger operation, judging from the amount of quarried stone still in place, though the excavation itself is somewhat indistinct. The east-side quarry, dates of operation unknown, includes remains of a timber derrick that was secured by three cables anchored to eyes set in stone and a fourth that appears to have been secured to a tree; the tree has since grown around the cable. There also are the remnants of a hosting mechanism (Photographs 16-18). Because of the scatter of stone that surrounds each of the former quarries, their boundaries must be regarded as only

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**Graniteville Historic District**  
**Waterford, New London County, CT**

approximate; further field investigation and research in land records could shed further light on the physical extents. Although not directly adjacent to the district, separated in each case by open land or modern residential construction, these small quarries were included in the nomination because they directly relate to the district's role in preserving Waterford's granite-quarrying heritage.

The boundary for the main part of the district was delineated so as to form a continuous concentration of 19<sup>th</sup>-century houses associated with granite quarrying. Modern construction in the form of a large residential health-care facility and the St. Paul in Chains Church forms a distinct visual break at the northeast end of the district, even though Graniteville, as defined in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century, continued along Road a short distance to the west. At the southwest end, the district stops at a point where there is a large swath of open land for a power transmission line; on the south side of the road, a house of modern construction is excluded. Generally, the boundary follows the rear property lines of the houses fronting on Rope Ferry Road, cutting across exceptionally large lots and driveways to back lots.

The following inventory describes the buildings and sites that make up the district. Dates of construction and information on early owners were primarily taken from the architectural and historical survey of Waterford (Wagner1997), supplemented by additional research with historical maps and the U. S. Census manuscript schedules for 1850 and 1860. Small buildings such as sheds and garages were not counted because they were considered not of sufficient size and scale.

### Inventory of Resources

#### Buildings:

House, 174 Rope Ferry Road, Italianate, ca. 1868. Two and one-half stories, sided, round-arched gable window, brick chimney. Home of blacksmith Lyman Brainard (1860s). One contributing building.

House, 176 Rope Ferry Road, Greek Revival style with Gothic Revival porch, ca. 1850. Two and one-half stories, sided, pilaster-and-lintel, sidelighted entry, paneled corner pilasters, full cornice return, three-part window in gable, brick center chimney. Elaborately detailed Gothic-Revival porch (enclosed on side) features shallow pointed-arched openings defined by scalloped jig-sawn ornament, pendants, and vine-motif filigree. Home of stone-cutter Francis Gilbert (1860s). Photographs 1 and 2. One contributing building.

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House, 180 Rope Ferry Road, Bungalow style, ca. 1915. One and one-half stories, roof slopes over front porch, large shed dormer, overhanging eaves, cantilevered bay window on south side, sided. One contributing building.

House, 181 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1840. Two stories, hip roof, three-bay facade, sided. Entry has sidelights and transom. Later open porch sheltering entry and added bay windows. Garage to rear has been converted to residential use. Home of stone-cutter Robert McCawley (1850s-1870s and blacksmith Robert McCawley, Jr. One contributing building and one noncontributing building.

House, 187 Rope Ferry Road, 1958, one story, hip roof siding. One noncontributing building.

House, 190 Rope Ferry Road, Greek Revival style, ca. 1852. Two and one-half stories, sided, pilaster-and-lintel entry, paneled corner pilasters, full cornice return, fanlight in gable. Home of quarry-foreman Lewis Parks (1850s-1870s). Photograph 3. One contributing building. Note: mailing address of house is 186 Rope Ferry Road.

House, 192 Rope Ferry Road, Colonial style, ca. 1800. One and one-half stories, five-bay facade later extended by three bays. Home of stone-cutter Abel Davis (1850s-1860s). One contributing building.

House, 193 Rope Ferry Road, Greek Revival style, ca. 1843. Two and one-half stories, sided, pilastered doorway with transom. Full cornice return, three-part window in gable. Later open entry porch. Brick central chimney. Home of stone-cutter Daniel McCawley (1860s-1870s). One contributing building.

House, 198 Rope Ferry Road, Greek Revival style, ca. 1850. Two and one-half stories, sided, doorway with pilasters, transom, and sidelights. Paneled corner pilasters, full cornice return. Ca.1900 hip-roofed porch across front. Small brick chimney. Home of nurse Harriet Burdick (1850s-1870s). One contributing building.

House, 199 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1868. Two and one-half stories, wood-shingled, six-over-six sash, brick central chimney. Home of fisherman James Howard and stone-cutter Harvey Howard and Charles B. Wood (1860s). One contributing building.

House, 200 Rope Ferry Road, Colonial style, ca. 1800. One and one-half stories, three--bay broad-side facade, sided, brick center chimney (rebuilt). One contributing building.

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House, 202 Rope Ferry Road, Colonial style, ca. 1800. One and one-half stories, five-bay broad-side facade, sided, brick center chimney. Home of stone-cutter Albert Lamphere (1850s). Photograph 4. One contributing building.

House, 204 Rope Ferry Road, "Ranch" style, 1967, wood shingled. One noncontributing building.

House, 205 Rope Ferry Road, "Ranch" style, 1962, wood shingled. One noncontributing building.

House, 207 Rope Ferry Road, "Ranch" style, 1960, sided. One noncontributing building.

House, 209 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1800. One and one-half stories, sided, entry with sidelight. Small barn to rear. Home of farmer Thomas Prentice and stone-cutter Leander Watrous. Two contributing buildings.

House, 210 Rope Ferry Road, "Ranch" style, 1960, sided. One noncontributing building.

House, 213 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1870. Two and one-half stories, sided, shed-roofed porch on turned posts. Photograph 9. One contributing building.

House, 215 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1870. Two and one-half stories, sided. Photograph 9. One contributing building.

House, 217 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1850. One and one-half stories, sided. Photograph 9. Home of stone-cutter Amos Gilbert (1860s). One contributing building.

House, 218 Rope Ferry Road, Italianate style, remodeled ca. 1860 from an existing house. Two and one-half stories, five-bay broad-side facade, sidelighted entry, bracketed cornice and bracketed porch on pedestaled square columns, finely cut granite fence posts and gate posts. "Graniteville," home of quarry owner John B. Palmer. Photographs 8 and 9. One contributing building.

House, 220 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1840. One and one-half stories, sided, windows enlarged, added bay window. Home of stone-cutter James Davis (1860s). One contributing building.

House, 221 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1870. One and one-half stories, sided. One contributing building.

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House, 227 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1850. One and one-half stories, clapboarded exterior, two-over-two sash, brick center chimney. Board-sided barn to south, ca. 1870, is Gothic Revival style, with pointed windows in the gable and doors suggestive of tracery. Home of physician O. B. Matthews (1850s) and quarryman Philo Gates. Photographs 10 and 11. Two contributing buildings.

Graniteville School, 239 Rope Ferry Road, Italianate style, ca. 1878. One and one-half stories, clapboarded exterior, bracketed cornice, pent roof over double entry, six-over-six sash, small brick chimney. Granite steps and high foundation. It formerly had a belfry. Remains of granite foundation for privy at rear. Discontinued as a school in 1930; now used as a Boy Scout hall. Photograph 12. One contributing building.

House, 243 Rope Ferry Road, 1944, "Cape" style, three-bay facade, eight-over-eight sash, cobblestone foundation. One noncontributing building.

House, 249 Rope Ferry Road, Greek Revival style, ca. 1850. Two and one-half stories, sided exterior, corner pilasters, full cornice return, pilaster-and-lintel entry, gable fanlight, brick center chimney. Stone walls along road, modern picket fence supported on old granite posts. Board-sided barn to rear is built into bank, with a granite end wall (west end). Home of stone-cutters Savilion Chapman (1850s), Joseph Walter (1860s), and Joseph Walters, Jr. (1870s). Photograph 13. Two contributing buildings.

**Sites:**

"Somers's Prospect," part of 255 Rope Ferry Road, about 200 feet north of road just west of the power line right-of-way (discontiguous from the rest of the district). Former granite quarry, started in 1902, consisting of a shallow excavation approx. 50 feet by 100 feet and 6 to 10 feet deep. At least one split still has feathers left in place. Surrounding the pit are scattered pieces of quarried stone. Photographs 14 and 15. Counted as 1 contributing site.

Former granite quarry, part of 241A Rope Ferry Road, about 1,000 feet north of road immediately east of the power line right-of-way (discontiguous from the rest of the district). Extent of excavation is difficult to discern, but substantial piles of quarried stone remain. Artifacts in place include a timber derrick with iron fittings, a drum hoist with reduction gearing, and what appear to be derrick cables anchored by eyes set in stone (3) and by a loop wrapped around a tree. Photographs 16-18. Counted as 1 contributing site.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark an "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, structure
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1860-1930

**Significant Dates**

See Item 7

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 Building 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

Name of repository:

Connecticut Historical Commission,  
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Graniteville Historic District  
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### Statement of Significance:

#### Summary

The historic resources that make up the Graniteville Historic District are significant for their associations with granite quarrying, an industry that figured large in the social and economic history of Waterford (National Register Criterion A). Nearly all the houses in the district are known to have been home to one or more of the many quarry owners, stone-cutters, and blacksmiths<sup>1</sup> who worked the town's quarries in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Moreover, the two small abandoned quarries are important because they recall the working lives of the people who inhabited the houses. Although no definitive inventory exists of the town's former quarries, it is known that some have been obliterated by modern development, including the largest one at Millstone Point, which is currently an electric-power generation station. Graniteville's emergence as a distinctive place is also recalled by the ca. 1878 Graniteville School, a replacement for an earlier district school that was located further west.

The district's houses are relatively plainly detailed, and its architectural merits are not the primary justification for its recognition as a heritage resource. Nonetheless, a number of the buildings have architectural interest as examples of 19<sup>th</sup>-century architectural styles (National Register Criterion C), including the Italianate style, represented by the bracketed cornices of the John Palmer House and Graniteville School, and the Gothic Revival style, represented by the porch and barn details at 176 and 227 Rope Ferry Road, respectively.

#### Historical Background of Graniteville

Graniteville began to coalesce as a settlement of quarry owners and workers in the 1830s, as families such as the Prentices, Champions, Johnsons, and Beebes, farmers and fishermen, sold land in this vicinity for the quarrymen to build houses for their households. Rope Ferry Road was at that time one of two major east-west roads in Waterford, connecting Jordan Village (and by extension, New London) with the village of Niantic in East Lyme, on the other side of the Niantic River, and there were both established quarries and unexploited outcroppings of granite in the near vicinity. One of the first to come was Warren Gates (1797-1867), who came to Waterford in 1832 from East Hampton, where he had operated a small granite quarry in the Cobalt section of town. Gates had obtained a contract for building stone from the Harlem Railroad, then under

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<sup>1</sup>Quarries required a large force of blacksmiths to keep the drills and chisels sharp. Tool-sharpening was a constant process in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century quarry.

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construction, and he needed a better source of granite. He leased part of the Millstone Point quarry, located a half-mile to the south, and began work with 15 men. After completing his railroad contract, he went on to furnish stone for several forts and lighthouses, including forts in New York Harbor, Hampton Road, Virginia, Charleston, South Carolina (Fort Sumter), and Key West, Florida. He also furnished paving blocks for Mexico City's Grand Square and the building stone for New York City's old reservoir. Statistics from the industrial censuses indicate that Gates's quarry typically employed 30 to 40 people; in 1860 the works produced 2,000 tons of finished granite, worth \$8,000; 2,000 tons of rough-cut stone, worth \$4,000; and a like quantity of "wall stone," worth \$500. It is not known where in Graniteville Warren Gates himself lived, but son Philo Gates, who was a partner with his father in the quarry business, lived in the house at 227 Rope Ferry Road in the 1860s (Photograph 10).

John B. Palmer operated an even larger quarry business. He began as a quarryman working for others at Millstone Point. Then in 1862, he leased a portion of the quarry on his own, eventually employing several hundred workers. His house (218 Rope Ferry Road, Photograph 8) is the largest and one of the most architecturally elaborate houses in Graniteville, a name that he applied to the estate itself.

At the other end of the spectrum was Patrick Somers (1850-1934), born in Ireland but a resident of Graniteville for some 60 years, the whole of which time he pursued his trade as a stone-cutter. Around 1902 he opened a small quarry for himself known as "Somers's Prospect" (Photographs 14-15); however, it appears that this quarry, which may have had stone that split irregularly in the horizontal plane, did not reach commercial viability. It is not known exactly where in Graniteville he resided.

Many other names from Waterford's granite industry are associated with the houses in the district, as noted in the inventory. In many cases households had more than one member employed in the quarries, or had boarders living with the family who also worked in the quarries. A few were owners or foremen, though the distinction between workers and owners (or leasers, to be more precise) was not as great for this settlement of home-owning individuals as it was with the later, more mechanized quarry operations of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In the 1840s many of the area's quarry workers had banded together in a cooperative to work the stone and though short-lived, it remained possible for stone-cutters to set off on their own, as the careers of both John B. Palmer and Patrick Somers showed.

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### Importance in Waterford History

Granite quarrying was an important part of Waterford's history for more than 200 years. The town's involvement with granite extraction goes well back into the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when, as part of what was then New London, a quarry located a short distance south of the district was a source of granite millstones for grinding grain; the area is still known today as Millstone Point. In a deed of 1737, Edward Buor reserved the right to quarry millstones at this location, and in addition to supplying local millers, some of these stones were exported to the West Indies. In 1788, the quarry came into the possession of the Gardiner family, which owned it continuously through the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Gardiners leased the quarry to a succession of operators, including Warren Gates and John B. Palmer, until 1893, when Henry Gardiner assumed the management of the entire operation.

There were several other granite quarries in town, producing both building stone and more mundane products such as pavers and curbing. The Flat Rock Quarry was started by Irish immigrant John J. Ryan about 1880 and supplied stone for several notable New London buildings, including the U. S. Customs House (1883), St. Joseph's Church, and some of the early buildings at Connecticut College. The Booth Brothers quarry on Long Neck opened in 1892; earlier, William, Francis, and John Booth had worked a portion of the Millstone quarry. Booth Brothers became a large, mechanized operation and eventually acquired several other quarries in New England; their last major project was supplying granite for the Lincoln Tunnel in the 1930s. The Goos quarry (1897) and Scott quarry (1898), Richards quarry, and Somers quarry (1902) were smaller, and all were out of business by 1923. The town's larger quarries remained in business through the 1930s, but World War II brought a halt to operations; none re-opened after the war.

For many years, the granite quarries accounted for a major part of Waterford's non-farm employment. In 1900, for example, the quarries employed 115 workers to extract and finish the stone, in addition to 6 managers and 14 blacksmiths; undoubtedly, many of the town's 25 teamsters were also dependent upon the quarries. This was far greater than the next largest industrial activities in town: textile manufacture employed a total of only 35 people that year, and papermaking 23 workers. The quarries also introduced a measure of ethnic diversity to Waterford. A good number of Irish, English, and Scottish immigrants had brought their stone-working skills to Waterford by the time the Civil War began, and later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century they were joined in the quarries by immigrants from Italy and the Scandinavian countries. Some 45% of the quarry workers were immigrants in 1870, a figure that had risen to 67% by 1900.

Granite quarrying is included as a major theme within the historic context of 19<sup>th</sup>-century industry in the state's historic-context report for Connecticut's Eastern Coastal Slope, which specifically cites the houses of Graniteville as a historic resource for that theme (Herzan 1997; pp. 60-61).

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Graniteville was also recommended for consideration for the National Register in the townwide survey of Waterford's historic resources conducted by Gay Wagner in 1997.

### Architectural Significance

On a local level, the buildings in the district have architectural significance as examples of 19<sup>th</sup>-century styles of architecture. The distinguishing characteristics of the Greek Revival style are modestly embodied in the district's several buildings that allude to the architecture of Classical Greece with corner pilasters, pilaster-and-lintel doorway trim, and full cornice returns suggestive of the pediments of ancient Greek temples (Photographs 1, 3, and 13). The bracketed cornices that are the key feature of Italianate architecture are evident in the Graniteville School and the John B. Palmer House (Photographs 8 and 12). Finally, the district has two buildings that are exceptionally interesting illustrations of the influence of Gothic forms on 19<sup>th</sup>-century American builders. The barn at 227 Rope Ferry Road not only has pointed arch loft windows but paneled doors in which the design suggests Gothic tracery (Photograph 11). The porch on the house at 176 Rope Ferry Road (Photograph 2) epitomizes "Carpenter Gothic" with its scroll-sawn vine and leaf ornament, even though the house itself is Greek Revival in origin and the porch is Italianate in its overall conception (bracketed roof, columns on pedestals). These buildings are an important part of the stock of structures in Waterford that can illustrate the architectural tastes and building practices of past generations.

### Information Potential

The principles and methods of 19<sup>th</sup>-century quarrying are well-documented in written sources, such as Gillette (1916) and Greenwell (1913). However, the two small quarries that are part of the nominated district may have some potential to add to knowledge about this particular activity. It is possible, for example, that the splitting feathers left in place at the Somers quarry, as well as the irregular shape of much of the stone that was removed, indicate a difficulty in obtaining marketable granite and hence, the reason the operation was not continued. The objects that are visible at the other quarry, particularly the hoist drum and the derrick components, may represent artifacts that are not commonly found at quarries that operated further into the modern period. In both cases, tools, personal possessions, and other objects that can illuminate the process of quarrying or the lives of the quarrymen may lie undetected beneath the surface.

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National Park Service

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- \_\_\_\_\_. Census of Population, 1850, 1860, manuscript schedules, microfilm, Connecticut State Library, Hartford.

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**National Register of Historic Places**  
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**Graniteville Historic District**

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**Waterford, New London County, CT**

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Wagner, Gay. Architectural and Historical Survey of Waterford. Town of Waterford and Connecticut Historical Commission, 1997.

Wall, R. B. "Stories of Waterford: Graniteville." *The Day* (New London), July 2, 1915.

Walling, H. F. *Map of New London County, Connecticut*. Philadelphia: William E. Baker, 1854.

Graniteville Historic District  
Name of Property

New London County, CT  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** approx. 25 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<b>1</b>	Zone Easting	Northing	<b>3</b>	Zone Easting	Northing
<b>2</b>			<b>4</b>	■ See continuation sheet	

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bruce Clouette, Historian

organization Public Archaeology Survey Team, Inc. date March 30, 2003

street & number P.O. Box 209 telephone 860-429-1723

city or town Storrs state CT zip code 06268

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

#### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Graniteville Historic District  
Waterford, New London County, CT

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### Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property includes the properties fronting directly on Rope Ferry Road (excluding back lots) from 174 to 249 Rope Ferry Road on the north/west side and xxx to xxx Rope Ferry Road on the south/east side. It also includes two discontinuous portions, both former quarries, that lie on either side of the power line right-of-way.

### Boundary Justification:

The district was delineated so as to include a continuous concentration of historic buildings on Rope Ferry Road. At the northern end, modern institutional buildings form a distinct break from the mid-19th-century houses that characterize the district. At the western end, the district was stopped at a modern or highly modernized house on the south side of the road and at the power line right-of-way, a large swath of open space, on the north side. The two discontinuous portions, both abandoned granite quarries, were included because they are directly related to the theme of the district as a settlement of quarry workers.

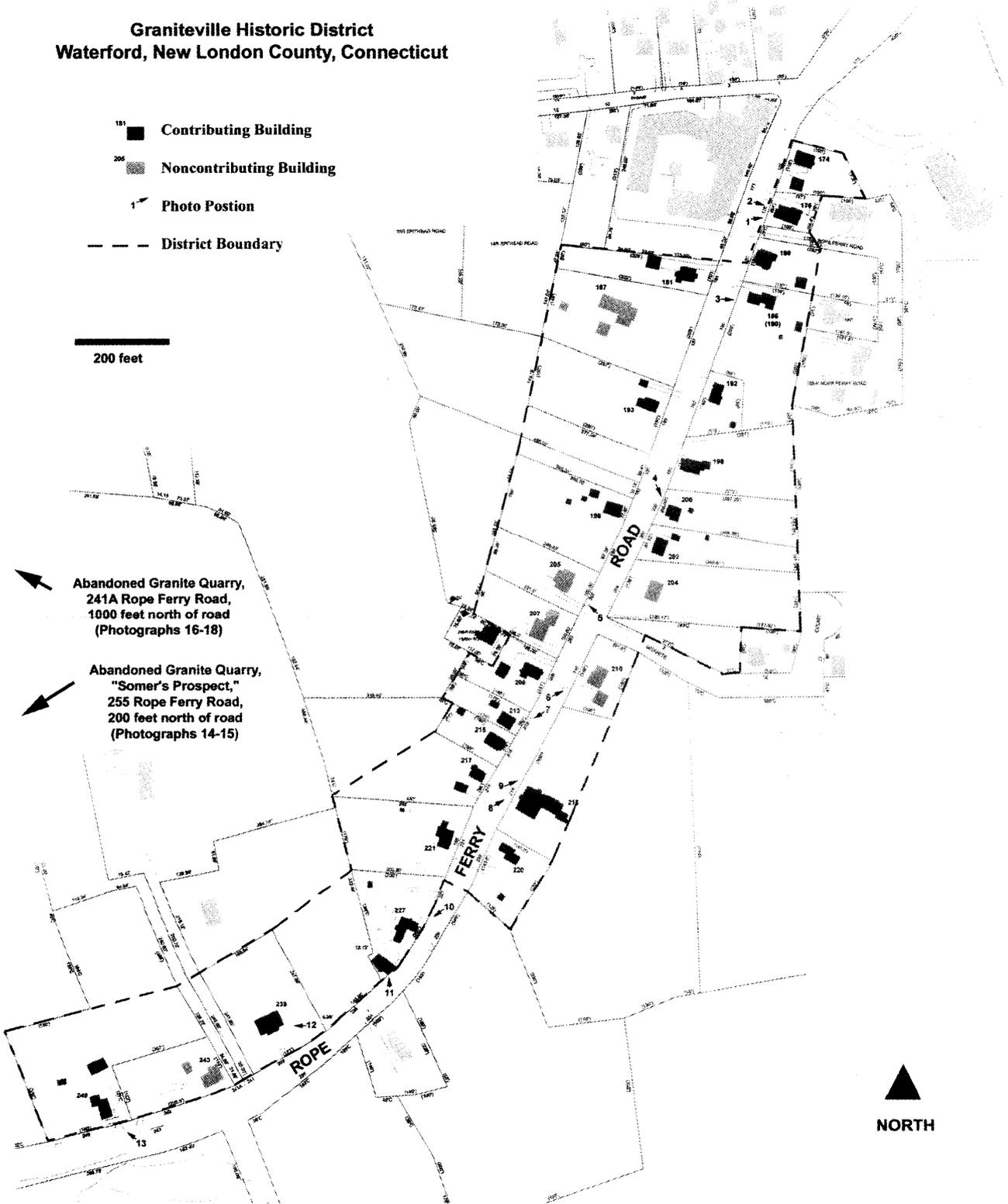
### UTM References:

- 1: 18.738100.4579530
- 2: 18.738150.4579510
- 3: 18.738100.4579200
- 4: 18.737960.4579030
- 5: 18.737780.4578920
- 6: 18.737660.4578900
- 7: 18.737650.4578960
- 8: 18.737900.4579200
- 9: 18.737970.4579480
- 10: 18.738060.4579460
- 11: 18.737600.4579120
- 12: 18.737400.4578930

**Graniteville Historic District  
Waterford, New London County, Connecticut**

- Contributing Building
- ▨ Noncontributing Building
- 1 Photo Position
- - - District Boundary

200 feet



Abandoned Granite Quarry,  
241A Rope Ferry Road,  
1000 feet north of road  
(Photographs 16-18)

Abandoned Granite Quarry,  
"Somer's Prospect,"  
255 Rope Ferry Road,  
200 feet north of road  
(Photographs 14-15)



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**Graniteville Historic District  
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**All Photographs:**

1. Graniteville Historic District
2. Waterford, New London County, CT
3. PAST, Inc. Photo
4. December 2002
5. Negative filed with PAST, Inc.

**Captions:**

- 1: House at 176 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1850, camera facing east; stone-cutter Francis Gilbert lived here in the 1860s.
- 2: Detail of porch ornamentation, 176 Rope Ferry Road, camera facing southeast.
- 3: House at 186 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1852, camera facing east; quarry foreman Lewis Parks lived here in the 1850s and 1860s.
- 4: House at 202 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1800, camera facing south
- 5: House at 205 Rope Ferry Road, typical of the modern houses in the district, camera facing northwest.
- 6: House at 210 Rope Ferry Road, typical of the modern houses in the district, camera facing northeast.
- 7: Three 19<sup>th</sup>-century houses on Rope Ferry Road, camera facing southwest (left to right): 217 Rope Ferry Road (home of stone-cutter Amos Gilbert in the 1860s), 215 Rope Ferry Road, and 213 Rope Ferry Road.
- 8: John Palmer House, 218 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1860, camera facing northeast.
- 9: Detail of granite gate post, Palmer house, 218 Rope Ferry Road, camera facing northeast.
- 10: House at 227 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1850, typical of the small plain mid-19th century houses in the district, camera facing southwest; quarryman Philo Gates lived here in the 1860s.
- 11: Barn at 227 Rope Ferry Road, camera facing north.
- 12: Graniteville School, 239 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1878, camera facing west.

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- 13: House at 249 Rope Ferry Road, ca. 1850, camera facing northwest; stone-cutter Joseph Walters lived here in the 1860s.
- 14: "Somers's Prospect" quarry, north side of Rope Ferry Road east of power line, camera facing northeast.
- 15: Detail of splitting feathers left in place, "Somers's Prospect" quarry, camera facing south.
- 16: Pile of quarried stone, with derrick cable, quarry on east side of power line, camera facing south.
- 17: Timber derrick with pulley and top cap for anchor cables, quarry on east side of power line.
- 18: Hoisting drum, quarry on east side of power line.