

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED **NOV 24 1982**  
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

N/A

AND/OR COMMON

Goshen Historic District

**2 LOCATION**

*CT 63 and 4, and Gifford Rd.*

STREET & NUMBER

The intersection of state Routes 4 and 63, including parts of those routes and part of Gifford Road.

N/A -- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Goshen

N/A VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th -

STATE

Connecticut

CODE  
09

COUNTY

Litchfield

CODE

005

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY                                     | OWNERSHIP                                 | STATUS  | PRESENT USE  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)         | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH  | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS           | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                 | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT              | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC                    |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION                |
|  | N/A                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> NO                         | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:                          |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple Ownership (see continuation sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

" "

CITY, TOWN

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Goshen Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Town Office Building  
Rte. 63 North P.O. Box 175

CITY, TOWN

Goshen

STATE

CT

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey  
(Goshen Academy - CONN 148)

DATE

1941

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

DC

# 7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION                                |   | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED     | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED        |   |   |

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Goshen Historic District comprises about 50 buildings in the center of the town, around the intersection of State Routes 4 and 63. Goshen is one of the highest places in the state, and most of the structures are on the high ridge followed by Route 63. The land drops off sharply to either side. Most of the land in the district is open, and while some is used for pasture, in general it is not extensively cultivated. The buildings for the most part sit close to the tree-lined street, and are spaced quite closely together. In addition to the residences, the district's historic buildings include two churches, the Goshen Academy, a store dating from about 1825, the 1895 Town Hall, and the remains of a forge, part of a carriage-making business, now preserved as a monument. Although there are a few 18th-century houses and some from the Victorian period, the majority of the dwellings are either Federal or Greek Revival in inspiration.

The architectural integrity of the buildings is generally intact. Although asphalt-shingled roofs are nearly universal, aluminum and other inappropriate siding materials are rare, and even then, some houses have been sided with close attention to preserving detail. Most houses have early if not original sash, doors, and chimneys. As noted in the inventory which follows, several houses have small barns which, while of uncertain age, appear to date back to the 19th century. Interiors have been changed, but most retain their mantels and other woodwork. Few houses have out-of-scale additions or modifications which obscure the house's form or significant features. Exceptions to these generalizations include #12, a small 18th-century gambrel-roofed house whose porch and built-out bay mask the house's original lines; #24 and #40 (Fig. 16) which appear to have lost detail due to siding; and #13 (Fig. 9) whose added portico (c.1910) has greatly altered the facade. Most buildings are inhabited, with some serving as part-time residences, but the store and Old Town Hall are presently unoccupied.

There are only a few structures which do not contribute to the district's historical character: two comparatively recent dwellings (#'s 42 and 46), a small shopping area of three modern stores (Fig. 18), a barn and the town garage, both cinderblock, a modern brick church (#50), a new parish house (#45), and two service stations, one of which is used as a tractor dealership. Of the fewer than a dozen noncontributing buildings, only the two service stations, which occupy two corners of the central intersection, seriously interrupt the march of classically-detailed, clapboarded old buildings which characterizes Goshen.

One landscape feature of note is the grove of trees on either side of Route 4 East, as one approaches the village. Known locally as swamp willows, the trees are gnarled and covered with shoots, presenting an unusual and distinctive entrance to the town.

The boundaries of the district were delineated easily: on Gifford Road, the east side of Route 63 South, and the north side of Route 4 West, there were simply no more buildings. On the east side of Route 63 North, the district is sharply defined by the large, modern brick school-library-town office complex (which was built on the site of the carriage factory). Similarly, a large barn with corrugated siding, the quarters for an animal show, forms a distinct break on the south side of Route 4 East. In all other directions, the boundary stops so as to exclude modern houses, mostly capes or ranches, which would not add to the architectural or historical significance of the district. There were no other historic buildings reasonably nearby which could have been included. In general,

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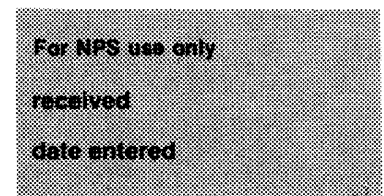
List of owners from Goshen's Assessor's records, October, 1981.

| LOT           | OWNER & ADDRESS   | CONTRIBUTING/NONCONTRIBUTING | INVENTORY #           |
|---------------|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| GIFFORD ROAD  |   |                              |                       |
| R-2           | Molinar, Audrey J.<br>Gifford Lane<br>Goshen, CT 06756                              | C                            | 12                    |
| R-3<br>(part) | Gifford, Robert R. <u>et ux.</u><br>Box 42<br>Goshen, CT 06756                      | NC                           | Land only<br>included |
| ROUTE 4 EAST  |   |                              |                       |
| L-3           | Gangwell, Theresa<br>Rte. 4<br>Goshen, CT 06756                                     | NC                           | 42                    |
| L-4Z          | Goshen Associates<br>Rte. 4 East<br>Goshen, CT 06756                                | NC                           | 43                    |
| L-5           | John E. Totino and<br>Louis P. Sancelot<br>123 81st Avenue<br>Kew Gardens, NY 11415 | C                            | 2                     |
| R-1           | Church of Christ, Congregational<br>Goshen, CT 06756                                | C                            | see Route 63S         |
| R-2           | Town of Goshen<br>P.O. Box 175<br>Goshen, CT 06756                                  | NC                           | 44                    |
| R-3           | Commerford, Robert W. & Barbara<br>Rte. 4 East<br>Goshen, CT 06756                  | C                            | 3                     |
| ROUTE 4 WEST  |   |                              |                       |
| R-2           | Goshen Oil & Auto Sales Company<br>Goshen, CT 06756                                 | NC                           | Land only             |

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ROUTE 4 WEST (Continued)

- |               |  |    |                       |
|---------------|--|----|-----------------------|
| R-2A          | Harold Burns <u>et al.</u><br>P.O. Box 717<br>Torrington, CT 06790           | C  | 21                    |
| R-3           | Burns, Marin, Cooke<br>P.O. Box 717<br>Torrington, CT 06790                  | NC | Land only             |
| R-4<br>(part) | Hilton, Richard F. & Charlotte<br>Governor Prince Road<br>Brewster, MA 02631 | NC | Land only<br>included |

ROUTE 63 NORTH

- |               |   |    |           |
|---------------|---|----|-----------|
| L-1           | Grusauskas, Michael<br>Goshen, CT 06756                         | NC | 49        |
| L-2           | Grusauskas, Michael<br>Goshen, CT                               | C  | 22        |
| L-3           | Grusauskas, Mary<br>Goshen, CT 06756                            | C  | 23        |
| L-4           | Anstett, Leon <u>et ux.</u><br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C  | 24        |
| L-5           | Anstett, Leon E. & Barbara<br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756  | C  | 25        |
| L-6           | Morehouse, Charles E.<br>Goshen, CT 06756                       | C  | 26        |
| L-7           | Weber, Edward J. & Nancy L.<br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C  | 27        |
| L-7A          | Hobart, Brian T.<br>37 Arbutus Bend<br>Waterbury, CT 06702      | NC | Land only |
| L-8<br>(part) | Nodine, Johanne<br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756             | C  | 28        |

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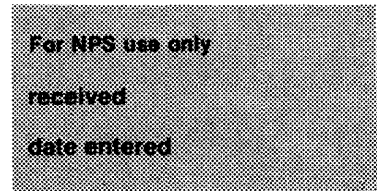
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ROUTE 63 NORTH (Continued)

|                |  |         |          |
|----------------|--|---------|----------|
| L-9            | Marcia Evans<br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756                     | C       | 29       |
| L-10           | John M. & Joanne M. Buslewicz<br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756    | C       | 30       |
| L-11           | Clara E. Schweitzer<br>Goshen, CT 06756                              | C       | 31       |
| L-12           | St. Thomas of Villanova Church Corp.<br>Goshen, CT 06756             | C       | 32       |
| L-13<br>(part) | St. Thomas of Villanova Church Corp.<br>Goshen, CT 06756             | NC<br>C | 50<br>32 |
| L-14<br>(part) | Nesbitt, Robert A. & Addie May L.<br>Goshen, CT 06756                | C       | 34       |
| R-1            | Town of Goshen<br>P.O. Box 175<br>Goshen, CT 06756                   | C       | 1        |
| R-2            | Hunt, Aita H.<br>Rte. 63 North<br>Goshen, CT 06756                   | C       | 41       |
| R-3            | O'Neil, Michael O. & Charlene B.<br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C       | 40       |
| R-4            | Wistrom, Arthur W. <u>et ux.</u><br>North Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C       | 39       |
| R-5            | Murphy, Mark E. and Rosalyn G.<br>Goshen, CT 06756                   | C       | 38       |
| R-6            | Grusauskas, Mary J.<br>Rte. 63<br>Goshen, CT 06756                   | C       | 37       |
| R-7            | Patton, David A. and Susan<br>Goshen, CT 06756                       | C       | 36       |

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ROUTE 63 NORTH (Continued)

|     |  |   |    |
|-----|--|---|----|
| R-8 | Town of Goshen<br>P.O. Box 175<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 35 |
|-----|--|---|----|

ROUTE 63 SOUTH

|     |  |    |    |
|-----|--|----|----|
| R-1 | Krilyno, Stephen<br>Rte. 63, South<br>c/o K-P Trucking Co.<br>Groton, CT 06756 | NC | 48 |
|-----|--|----|----|

|     |  |   |    |
|-----|--|---|----|
| R-3 | Goshen General Store<br>c/o Salvati and Grogan<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 20 |
|-----|--|---|----|

|     |   |   |    |
|-----|---|---|----|
| R-4 | Larson, Phyllia G.<br>Rte. 63 South<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 19 |
|-----|---|---|----|

|     |   |   |    |
|-----|---|---|----|
| R-5 | Bartholomew, Mabel M.<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 18 |
|-----|---|---|----|

|     |                                     |   |    |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|----|
| R-6 | Mitchell, Julie<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 17 |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|----|

|               |  |   |    |
|---------------|--|---|----|
| R-7<br>(part) | Malone, Laurence<br>Route 63 South<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 16 |
|---------------|--|---|----|

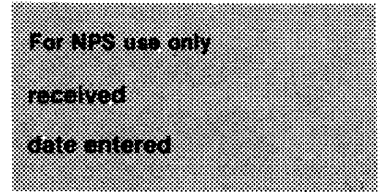
|     |  |   |    |
|-----|--|---|----|
| R-8 | Darr, Robert W. & Hollis J.<br>Old Middle Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 15 |
|-----|--|---|----|

(Lot R-9 has been divided between Lots R-8 and R-10)

|      |  |   |    |
|------|--|---|----|
| R-10 | Gouverneur, Minor F.H. and Carolyn<br>South Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C | 14 |
|------|--|---|----|

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ROUTE 63 SOUTH (Continued)

|              |  |         |         |
|--------------|--|---------|---------|
| R-11         | Lorenzen, Ernest<br>South Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756   | C       | 13      |
| L-1,<br>L-2  | Church of Christ, Congregational<br>Goshen, CT 06756   | C<br>NC | 4<br>45 |
| L-3          | Church of Christ, Congregational<br>Goshen, CT 06756   | C       | 5       |
| L-4          | Trustees of the Goshen Academy<br>Frederic Wadhams, Treasurer<br>Beach Street RD<br>Goshen, CT 06756   | C       | 6       |
| L-5          | Fitzgerald, John and Theresa<br>South Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756   | NC      | 46      |
| L-6          | O'Neill, Thomas M. & Marilyn C.<br>South Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756  | C       | 7       |
| L-7          | Joseph Morgan<br>Route 63 South<br>Goshen, CT 06756  | C       | 8       |
| L-7A         | Rebillard, Cynthia L. & Kallgren, Carl P.<br>Goshen, CT 06756  | C       | 9       |
| L-8          | Siegel, Natalie F.<br>South Street<br>Goshen, CT 06756   | C       | 10      |
| L-9          | Gifford, Robert<br>Box 42<br>Goshen, CT 06756  | NC      | 47      |
| L-10,<br>10B | Pearson, Mrs. Norman & Dr. Anson G. Stocking<br>14921 Emory Lane<br>Rockville, MD 20853<br><br>Stocking, Marjorie<br>Box 164<br>Goshen, CT 06756 | C       | 11      |

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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Existing surveys:

1982

State Register of Historic Places

State - Goshen inventoried 1966

Records with Connecticut Historical Commission  
Hartford, CT

Antiquarian & Landmarks Society Survey

Local - 1964

Records with Connecticut Historical Commission  
Hartford, CT



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the district boundary follows rear property lines, but it cuts across large tracts so as to avoid excessive acreage.

The houses in Goshen for the most part may be grouped into five categories. The 18th-century houses (#'s 2, 12, 19, and 33) are 2½ stories (except for the 1½-story #12), with five-bay main facades and 3-4" overhangs at both the second and attic stories (Figs. 1 and 2). Federal-period houses are either of the type with the five-bay main facade (Fig. 17), or have the gable end turned toward the street (Fig. 5). The Greek Revival houses mostly continue this orientation, but with bolder detail and heavier pilasters and entablatures (Fig. 8). The last type of house form is derived from the Greek Revival, but is very plain and has only a pilaster-and-lintel doorway to indicate its antecedents, or in some cases, not even that. Many of these plain houses (Figs. 13 and 14) are said to have been put up by Simon Scoville, the carriagemaker. Finally, there are houses which cannot be put into any of the four above types: the later 19th-century houses, and a few which are unique: the Lavallette Perrin House (Fig. 15), combining Greek and carpenter-Gothic elements, and the Myron Norton House, the only stone house in the district (Fig. 7).

In the inventory which follows on the next page, siding and underpinning materials are not mentioned unless they differ from the norms, clapboard and cut stone.

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### Inventory and Individual Summaries

(Numbers correspond to those on the sketch map and property list)

#### Contributing buildings and sites:

1. OLD TOWN HALL, Shingle style (?), 1895, 2½ stories, rectangular in plan, entrance in the center of the gable end, portico formed by smooth columns above which is a tower with bell-cast hipped roof. Exterior is clapboarded except for the tower, which has bands of wood shingles. Tall windows on the sides; two quarter-circle windows in the gable of the main facade. Fig. 3.
2. MOSES WRIGHT HOUSE, before 1760, 2½ story with added lean-to, 5-bay main facade, large central stack, fieldstone foundation. Windows have six-over-six sash; casings extend out from the walls. Central entrance has a transom and double doors. Interior has been greatly altered. Reportedly, wide beaded weatherboards can be seen in the attic. Fig. 1.
3. Greek Revival, c. 1840, 2½ story, gable end to street, secondary wings. Offset doorway has pilaster-and-lintel treatment. Modern exterior chimney on west side. Small barn, c. 1870, with shaped window caps.
4. GOSHEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Greek Revival, 1832, Benjamin E. Palmer of Brooklyn, Connecticut, architect. Equivalent of 2½ stories high. Full-width portico across front on four fluted Doric columns. Two of the original three entrances now made into windows; they have semicircular transoms, pilasters with fret ornament, and fluted soffits (Fig. 4). The windows above have molded frames with corner blocks. The side windows are quite long, reflecting the removal of the gallery. First stage of the tower is square in plan, has a clock, and has plain pilasters and a dentillated cornice. Belfry stage has clustered Ionic columns engaged at corners, modillions, and square louvered openings. Lantern stage (replacement, 1894, of original steeple) is octagonal, has round-arched openings, engaged Tuscan columns, dome. Interior was changed and has few original features. Fig. 5.
5. GILES GRISWOLD HOUSE, Federal, 1833, 2½ stories, gable end to street, L-shaped plan. Full cornice return, elliptical louver in gable. Offset doorway has plain pilasters, transom, and cornice with breaks above the pilasters. Porch on ell has fluted Doric columns. Interior details include two mantels and window trim of the fluted frame with corner blocks type.
6. GOSHEN ACADEMY, Federal, 1824, 2½ stories, gable end to street, full cornice return, flush-boarded in gable. Central entrance has original panelled door, molded cornice with breaks above plain pilasters. Hexagonal belfry has rectangular openings, small dome. Above entrance is original large, gilded American eagle with wings outstretched. Now used as a historical museum. Fig. 6.

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7. Federal, c. 1820, 2½ stories, L-shaped plan, gable end to the street. Full return of the narrow cornice, flush-boarded gable with an ordinary window. Offset entrance has a transom, dentillated cornice with breaks above fluted pilasters. Interior features include a pilastered parlor mantel, two plainer ones, and a spiral stair railing.
8. MYRON NORTON HOUSE, Greek Revival, 1840, 2 stories high, nearly square in plan with ell to rear, low hipped roof with monitor. Walls are a coursed ashlar of roughly shaped stone with smoother quoins. Front corners are recessed so as to form entrance shelters for the double doors at each end of the main facade. At each of these corners is a smooth column. A plain but heavy entablature runs across the front and sides. To the rear are a small barn with plain pilastered corners and another large one with a cupola. Fig. 7.
9. Plain 2-story building, probably before 1900, now a residence but perhaps formerly an outbuilding. Gable roof, central entrance on 3-bay south facade, modern end chimney, small shed nearby.
10. FREDERICK LYMAN HOUSE, Greek Revival, c. 1840, 2½ stories, gable end to the street, L-shaped plan, roof covered with copper sheet pressed to resemble shingles. Full return of cornice. Gable window is rectangular with molded frame and corner blocks. Offset entrance is recessed and has sidelights, transom, heavy lintel, and pilasters with carved capitals. Original panelled door. In the jambs of the doorway is a Greek fret ornament. Chief interior feature is the extensive use of corner blocks in door and window trim; these have an unusual leaf carving in them. Figs. 8 & 22. Ironwork porch on south side.
11. ERASTUS LYMAN HOUSE, Federal, 1802, 2½ stories, ridge parallel to the road, rectangular in plan, ell to the rear, two brick chimneys, near the ends, 5-bay main facade with central entrance. Partial corner return at the gable ends, rectangular gable windows (1852 view shows semi-elliptical lights). Windows have modern sash and simple caps. Entrance flanked by fluted pilasters. Entrance porch and porch along the south side are iron filigree.
12. Gambrel-roofed house, 1½ stories high, dated 1769 in tax records. 3-bay main facade with central transomed entrance. Greatly altered: large ell to the rear, east front bay built out, modern porch across the rest of the facade, recent end chimney.
13. MOSES LYMAN HOUSE, Federal-Colonial Revival, c. 1815; remodelled c. 1900 (sign on house 1790; tax records, 1800). Irregular plan, wings to either side of a central rectangular mass. Gable end to the street, 2½ stories high, four brick corner chimneys. Porch on front of south wing is original, but the two-story, full-width portico in front, supported on grouped Tuscan columns, is a 20th-century elaboration. The entrance is in its original location and has sidelights and a transom and a Greek fret decoration of uncertain age. Formal garden, also 20th century, in ruins. Fig. 9.

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14. WILLIAM BROWN HOUSE, Federal, c. 1810, 2½ story, gable end to street, L-shaped plan. Full return of the dentillated cornice, flush-boarded gable, rectangular gable window. Windows have twelve-over-twelve sash. Central entrance has transom, fluted pilasters, and dentillated cornice. Fig. 10.
15. Plain house, 1899, some Eastlake detail. Rectangular plan, gable end to the street, 2½ stories high, clapboarded with wood shingles in the gable. Bay window to the right of the entrance, which is sheltered by a porch with a frieze of spindles. The porch continues along the south side. Small barn to the rear.
16. Federal, c. 1820 (sign on house, 1749; tax records, 1800), 2½ stories, gable end to the street, L-shaped plan. Full cornice return, elliptical louver in the flush-boarded gable. Offset doorway has a transom, fluted pilasters, and molded cornice with corresponding breaks. Fig. 11. Small barn in rear.
17. Federal, c. 1820, 2½ stories, gable end to street, 2-story ell with other wings to the rear, large central brick chimney. Full cornice return, round arched windows in gable. Some twelve-over-twelve windows, offset entrance like #16, above, Victorian porch across ell.
18. Italianate ? Queen Anne ? 1875, 2½ stories, rectangular plan, gable end facing the street. Cornice has paired brackets. Large bracketted dormers on either side of the roof. Open porch on south side with square columns on tall pedestals. Offset doorway with original door with double arched windows.
19. DR. ELISHA SILL HOUSE, 1772, 2½ stories high, ridge parallel to the street, central hall plan, 2 brick chimneys, near ends, 5-bay facade with central transomed doorway. Entrance portico is modern. Partial return of the cornice at the gable ends; above the second-story windows the bed moldings form breaks. There is a 3-4" overhang at the second story and again at the attic story. The interior is well-preserved with fireplace panelling in several rooms, dadoes, elaborately cased summer beams, and room cornices. Two barns to the rear, one with attached cart shed. Figs. 2 & 20.
20. GOSHEN GENERAL STORE, c. 1825, Federal, 2½ story, gable end to the street, asbestos siding. Some small-pane sash, rectangular gable window. Central entrance has plain pilasters, molded cornice. Gable is brought forward to form a full-width portico resting on two square columns but formerly on four round columns. Modifications include exterior chimney, large store windows on the first story. Fig. 2.
21. Plain Greek Revival, c. 1860, 2½ story, gable end to the road, L-shaped plan, asbestos siding, rectangular gable window. Central entrance has sidelights, plain lintel, and fluted pilasters, the latter of which may not be original.

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22. DAVID WADHAMS HOUSE, Federal, 1803, 2½ stories high, ridge parallel to the street, rectangular in plan with an ell to the rear, 2 brick chimneys near the ends, 5-bay main facade with central entrance. The modillioned cornice returns partially at the gable ends. In the gable are a semi-elliptical and two quarter-round lights. The doorway has a semi-circular transom and a modern enclosed portico. Above is a Palladian window with the head of the central window louvered. Interior features include one "Grecian" marble mantel, c. 1850, and two Federal pilastered mantels with fluted friezes. The parlor has a room cornice with modillions (Fig. 21).
23. Greek Revival, c. 1830, 2½ stories high, rectangular plan with wing to the rear, gable end to the street. Plain corner pilasters, full return of the heavy cornice entablature, which is carried up the rakes of the gable. The triangle thus formed has flush-boarding. The windows have six-over-six sash and simple caps; there are small shuttered windows in the frieze. The offset entrance has sidelights, plain pilasters, and a heavy lintel. Modern porch on the south side.
24. Plain house, c. 1840, 2½ stories high, rectangular plan, gable end to the street, artificial siding (prob. aluminum), entrance is modern and is on the south side. Short windows with eight-over-eight sash. Only clue to its style is the full return of the narrow molded cornice.
25. Greek Revival, plain, c. 1830, 1½-story, gable end to the street, one-story ell. Windows have six-over-six sash. Partial cornice return. Entrance is in the ell.
26. Plain house, c. 1865, 2½ stories high, L-shaped plan, gable end to the street. Bay window in the front. Entrance is in the ell, which has peaked dormers along its roof.
27. Plain house, c. 1865, 2½ stories high, gable end to the street, wing in the rear. Rectangular gable window. Small barn nearby. Fig. 13, background.
28. Bracketted, c. 1870 (tax records: 1895), "Nodine's Smoke House." 2½ stories high, rectangular in plan with ell to the rear, ridge parallel to the street, 5-bay main facade with central entrance (one window has been made into an additional door. Small brick chimneys near the ends. Italianate detailing includes cornice brackets, round-headed gable windows, a bracketted 2-story bay window on the south side, and a bracketted open porch across the front.
29. Plain house, c. 1860, 2½ stories high, gable end to the street, L-shaped plan with the entrance in the ell, six-over-six sash, and small barn in the back.
30. Greek Revival, plain, c. 1860, 2½ stories, L-shaped plan, gable end to the street, rectangular gable window, enclosed porch across the front. Offset entrance, partially hidden behind porch, has plain pilasters. Small barn.

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31. Greek Revival, plain, c. 1860, 2½ stories, gable end to street, L-shaped plan, wood shingled siding. Pilastered entrance behind open porch across front. Six-over-six sash, rectangular gable window. Small barn in back. Nearly identical to #30.
32. ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, Gothic Revival, 1876. Equivalent of 1½ stories high, rectangular in plan, with the gable end to the road. Central entrance with enclosed gable-roofed portico. Board-and-batten in the gable. The windows have pointed hoodmolds, there is stick-style bracing in the gable, and bargeboard in the peak of the entrance portico. In back is the old Catholic cemetery. Fig. 12.
33. Catholic Rectory, 1776. 2½ stories high, rectangular in plan with an ell to the rear, central chimney, 5-bay main facade, ridge parallel to the road. Aluminum siding installed with no loss of architectural detail. 3-4" overhang of second and attic stories. Interior details include simple mantels. The main entrance has a transom and a pilaster-and-lintel treatment which seems to be of a later period.
34. Greek Revival, c. 1840. 2½ stories, gable end to street, rectangular plan. Plain corner pilasters, full cornice return, rectangular gable window. Offset doorway is recessed and has plain pilasters, sidelights and a transom.
35. SCOVILLE FORGE, c. 1850. Remains of one of four forges from a mid-century carriage manufactory. Visible is a short brick stack and stone hearth which show some evidence of having been rebuilt or repointed at least. Park-like setting. Archeological potential would appear low, since the site now includes a driveway, playground, and tennis courts, and just north (out of the district), a large school - town office - library complex. Fig. 13.
36. Greek Revival, c. 1850, 2½ story, gable end to the road, L-shaped plan, wood-shingle siding. Central entrance has a plain pilaster-and-lintel treatment. There are peaked dormers in the ell. Small barn in back. Fig. 14.
37. Greek Revival, c. 1840, 2½ stories, ridge parallel to the road, 5-bay main facade (first story does not line up, perhaps indicating reworking). Panelled pilasters at the corners, a heavy cornice across the front with full return across the gable ends. Gable windows have molded frames with corner blocks. The doorway is plain and (now) on the extreme left of the main facade. Barn in back.
38. Greek Revival, c. 1840 (tax records: 1790), 2½ stories, ridge parallel to the street, 4 bay main facade, rectangular plan with ell to the rear. Gable windows have molded frames and corner blocks. The offset doorway is flanked by pilasters which support a narrow lintel.

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39. LAVALETTE PERRIN HOUSE, c. 1843 Greek & Gothic Revival. 2½ stories high, gable end to the street, L-shaped in plan, shallow-pitched roof, flush-boarded exterior. Every window and door in the house has a pilaster-and-lintel frame, including those windows on the second floor. Offset doorway with sidelights, added portico. Wave-like bargeboard in both the main part and the ell. 1852 view shows this bargeboard, early if not original. Fig. 15.
40. 2nd Empire, c. 1880, 2½ stories, irregular plan, gable of main part faces the street, hipped-roof tower on the south side. Iron cresting both on the tower and the adjacent two-story bay window. Narrow paired windows in front, segmental-headed windows in bay. The exterior is quite plain but has been aluminum-sided, so other details may have been lost. Fig. 16.
41. DAVID THOMPSON HOUSE, 1803, Federal, 2½ stories, ridge parallel to the street, 5-bay main facade, rectangular plan with an ell to the rear, 2 brick chimneys near the ends. Nearly identical to # 22. Partial return of the modillioned cornice at the gable ends. South gable has a semi-elliptical and two quarter-round lights, but the north gable has a rectangular window. The central entrance has a semi-circular transom and above, a Palladian window glazed with interlacing arcs. There is an open porch across the front and south side. Windows have twelve-over-twelve sash.

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Noncontributing buildings:

42. Modern cape, 1940.
43. Shopping area, three stores, c. 1976, modern "colonial" style. Fig. 18.
44. Cinderblock town garage.
45. Modern one-story frame parish house.
46. Modern cape, 1947.
47. Cinderblock four-bay barn, gambrel roof.
48. Service station, 1956, now a hardware store; large storage building to rear.
49. Service station, 1930, stucco, curved parapet. Fig. 19.
50. New brick church, L-shaped with colonnade in front.



# 6 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION ✓ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                              | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE  | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE                       | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                         | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                            | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE ✓   | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY                       | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)       |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES (see Item 4)

BUILDER/ARCHITECT (see Item 4)

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Goshen Historic District is significant as an extensive, well-preserved and concentrated collection of early rural vernacular architecture (Criterion C). Moreover, the district is important for local history (Criterion A): because it comprises the center of town, it includes buildings associated with important institutions in Goshen, such as the churches, the Academy, and the Town Hall. Other structures, such as the store or the remains of the forge, recall aspects of Goshen's economic history. And finally, many of the houses are associated with persons who in one way or another figure in the history of the town.

Federal- and Greek Revival-detailed houses predominate in Goshen. The Federal-period houses are quite plain in comparison with those in nearby Litchfield, lacking the elaborately carved ornament or complex cornices found there and elsewhere nearby. Nevertheless, many elements common in the architecture of the period may be seen within the district: Palladian, elliptical and semi-elliptical windows, fanlights, and pilastered mantelpieces (Fig. 21). Several houses have an entranceway (Fig. 11) which shows the Adam influence on country building: slender fluted pilasters, a band of dentils above the transom, and a cornice of narrow moldings, convex in shape, with breaks over the pilasters. A simpler version, with plain pilasters and frieze, is found in other buildings, such as the Academy or the Goshen Store. The attenuated proportions of the doorway, the small-scale ornament, and the subtle shape of the cornice epitomize the principles of lightness and grace espoused by the Scottish Adam brothers, late 18th-century architects whose influence was felt throughout the English-speaking world.

The district's Greek Revival buildings present a clear contrast to the Federal motifs. The pilasters are thicker, the entablatures heavier, and where there is ornament (Fig. 4) it is bolder and decidedly Greek rather than simply classical in inspiration. Often, however, there is only the pilaster-and-lintel entrance to provide a basis for stylistic categorization.

Nevertheless, there are several buildings from the early 19th century which are of architectural importance in their own right. The Congregational Church (Figs. 4 and 5) was designed by Benjamin Palmer of Brooklyn, Connecticut, a carpenter-builder who also built the Windham County Courthouse in Brooklyn and directed the reconstruction of the Burlington Congregational Church. The Goshen Church (1832) is a transitional building: the three arched entrances and the multi-stage tower are similar to Federal-period churches in the region, while the proportions of the columns and the fret design around the doors are Greek. The central location of the building, its high visibility, and its interesting details make it a pivotal structure.

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- Woodford, E.M. Map of the Town of Goshen. Philadelphia: Richard Clark, 1852.  
(cont.)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 160

QUADRANGLE NAME West Torrington

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24 000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,8 6,4,7,8,6,0 4,6,3,2,7,5,0

B 1,8 6,4,7,7,9,0 4,6,3,2,7,0,0

C 1,8 6,4,7,9,3,0 4,6,3,2,4,1,0

D 1,8 6,4,7,8,2,0 4,6,3,2,3,7,0

E 1,8 6,4,7,9,3,0 4,6,3,2,0,9,0

F 1,8 6,4,7,8,8,0 4,6,3,2,0,8,0

G 1,8 6,4,7,9,8,0 4,6,3,1,7,0,0

H 1,8 6,4,7,6,0,0 4,6,3,1,6,7,0

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southeast corner of Lot L-5 Route 4 East, as shown on Goshen Assessor's Map 57, the district boundary runs southwesterly along the road and then

## LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A   | N/A  | N/A    | N/A  |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
| N/A   | N/A  | N/A    | N/A  |

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Bruce Clouette, Consultant, edited by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

ORGANIZATION Connecticut Historical Commission DATE February 26, 1979

STREET & NUMBER 59 South Propect Street TELEPHONE (201) 566-3005

CITY OR TOWN Hartford STATE CT

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE 

TITLE Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

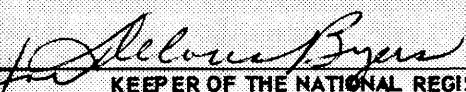
DATE November 10, 1982

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Entered in the  
National Register

DATE 12/27/82

  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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The Goshen Academy building (#6, Fig. 6) is also significant, in part because the number of surviving academies from this period is not great. Except for the cupola, the building (1824) is not markedly different from contemporary dwellings. However, the large gilded eagle on the front is a major piece of architectural sculpture with few if any peers in Connecticut. The carver of the large wooden bird is not known, but the carving is apparently original to the building, known as Eagle Hall. It is tied into the framing members with iron rods.

Among the residences, the two large Federal houses (#'s 22 and 41) are interesting because they are nearly identical in form and detail and because they are the most elaborate residences of that period. Their Palladian windows, modillioned cornices, and fine interior woodwork (Fig. 21) come closest to the standards of Federal architecture found in the larger towns. Among the Greek Revival houses, the most richly-detailed is the Frederick Lyman House (#10, Fig. 8). The carved capitals of the entrance pilasters and the Greek fret on the doorway jambs are complemented within by the interior woodwork, an extensive system of molded boards and carved corner blocks (Fig. 22). The device is common in Greek Revival houses, but it is rarely carried out so extensively. Other houses of exceptional architectural significance include the Moses Wright House, c.1750, a good example of the lean-to form, and the Dr. Elisha Sill House, 1776, whose several rooms of raised panelling, fine beam casings, cornices and dadoes (Fig. 20) are outstanding because of their completeness.

Three buildings are so unusual that they merit special attention. The Myron Norton House (#8, Fig. 7), 1840, stands out in several respects: it is the only stone house in the district; it is the only Greek Revival house that departs from the usual gable-roofed form, having a square plan and hipped roof with monitor; and it has two identical entrances at its cut-away front corners. The columns are said to have been salvaged from the previous church building. Although hipped roofs are found in other substantial houses of the period, the combination of the roof, the columns and cut-away corners, and the stone quoins make this house a highly individual specimen of Greek Revival architecture.

The Lavalette Perrin House (#39, Fig. 15) is of interest because it combines Greek Revival and Carpenter Gothic details. An engraving of the house less than ten years after its construction shows it nearly as it appears today, so it is not unreasonable to consider it as all of a piece. The pilaster-and-lintel motif used on every window and door opening relates the house to the other Greek Revival-detailed houses in the district, whereas the bargeboard is a Gothic element. Such combinations were quite common in the patternbooks of cottage designs popular at the time. However, there are not many actual executions of these Romantic flights of fancy.

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The final unusual building is the Town Hall (#1, Fig. 3), erected in 1895 and now unoccupied. When it was built, it provided office space for the clerk and selectmen, and a large meeting room with a stage. With its rectangular plan, gable-end-to-the-street orientation, quarter-round windows and full cornice return, it would resemble its earlier neighbors, were it not for the shingled tower in front. The old Town Hall is a pivotal building because of its position on a key corner, its compatibility with the earlier structures, and its intrinsic historical significance as the first official town building.

The architectural importance of the district goes beyond the individual virtues of the buildings, however, for it is the grouping of so many historic houses along Route 63 that gives the district its character. Except for the two service stations and one modern house, there is an uninterrupted line of old and distinguished buildings. The repetition of details (entire entranceways are virtually identical), materials (the cutstone underpinnings and clapboarded exteriors), and the scale and shape of the houses, mostly 2½ stories tall with the gable end to the street, gives the district an exceptional degree of coherence.

Goshen was a rather small settlement throughout the 18th century, but in the early years of the 19th century the population expanded. The town benefited from the building of turnpikes from Litchfield to Canaan (1799), from Goshen to Sharon (1802) and from Litchfield to Cornwall (1814), making Goshen into a crossroads of some note. There were several stores in the center, of which only one (#20) survives, though now vacant. Two merchants, David Wadhams and David Thompson, ran a store in Goshen and built the two nearly identical Federal houses north of the intersection, apparently carrying their partnership in business over to their taste in houses. Moses Lyman, whose house was the now-enlarged #13, also was a storekeeper. These buildings, as well as the preponderance of early 19th-century houses in the district, illustrate how important these years were in the history of the town.

Most of the residents in the early 19th century were not merchants but rather farmers, including Giles Griswold, who lived in #5, and Moses and Erastus Lyman (#'s 13 and 11), the latter two pursuing full-time farming after retiring from business. Much of the effort of Goshen's farmers went into commercial dairying. The town was famous for its "Pineapple Cheese," a cheddar the shape and color of that fruit. Not only did the cheese industry consume most of the milk of Goshen's farms, it also called for thousands of wooden cheese boxes each year, which were locally produced. After 1850, many Irish immigrants came to Goshen to work as farm laborers. St. Thomas' (#32) is the second Catholic church on the site and was built in 1876. It is important as a symbol of the Irish role in the town's economic history.

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There was hardly any industry in this part of town. An exception was the carriagemaking business of Simon Scoville, who began as a blacksmith about 1840 and expanded until he had several forges and a large painting shop. He is said to have built many of the plain houses on either side of Route 63, near the site of the carriage factory. The partial forge which remains is locally significant as a reminder of this once-important industry. Its value for industrial archeologists - while not actually determined through test digging - would seem limited due to the construction of the driveways, tennis courts, and municipal complex on the site.

The Goshen Academy, like most of its contemporaries, was established by private subscription of prominent townspeople. Its original purpose was partly to prepare scholars for college, and also to provide general education for young people with the time and money to attend. Girls were admitted from the earliest years. In time, the academy came to serve as Goshen's public secondary school, until outgrown in the 20th century. Notable graduates include T.S. Gold, a pioneer in Connecticut scientific farming associated with the Cream Hill Agricultural School (a National Register site in nearby West Cornwall). The Academy is now the research and exhibition headquarters of an active local historical society.

In the nineteenth century, the church was an essential landmark in nearly every Connecticut village. Indeed, it was the church building itself which identified a location as a distinct entity. Goshen was no exception, and the Congregational Church here played an important social role. In the years just before the present building was erected, the Goshen congregation was active in promoting missionary work in the Pacific islands. The Lavalette Perrin House (#39) is also associated with the church: Perrin was the minister from 1843 to 1857. The present parsonage (#5) was given to the church in 1851 by Giles Griswold's will.

In short, the buildings of the Goshen National Register district convey a real sense of time and place. Most of the houses, with some noticeable and significant exceptions, are simple dwellings with just a few stylistic details typical of 19th-century rural architecture. Moreover, many of the necessary components of village life - churches, stores, a school, the remains of a small factory, and private residences - are preserved in good condition, providing the physical context for local history.

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9

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"Oviatt House, Goshen." Colonial Dames Collection, State Library, Hartford.  
Porter, Samuel (comp.). "Scrapbooks." Goshen Historical Society. Important  
source of early pictures and information.

U.S. Census Office. MS Schedules, Industry, 1850, Goshen; Population, 1850, Goshen.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

10

- |                       |                      |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| I: 18/647520/4632000  | J: 18/647320/4631960 | K: 18/647320/4632040 |
| L: 18/647250/4632130  | M: 18/647220/4632220 | N: 18/647280/4632320 |
| O: 18/647260/4632350  | P: 18/647060/4632360 | Q: 18/647070/4632420 |
| R: 18/647040/4632500  | S: 18/646900/4632660 | T: 18/646770/4632950 |
| U: 18/646860/4633000  | V: 18/647130/4632650 | W: 18/647320/4632740 |
| X: 18/647400/4632610  | Y: 18/647640/4632680 | Z: 18/647770/4632800 |
| AA: 18/647820/4632810 |                      |                      |

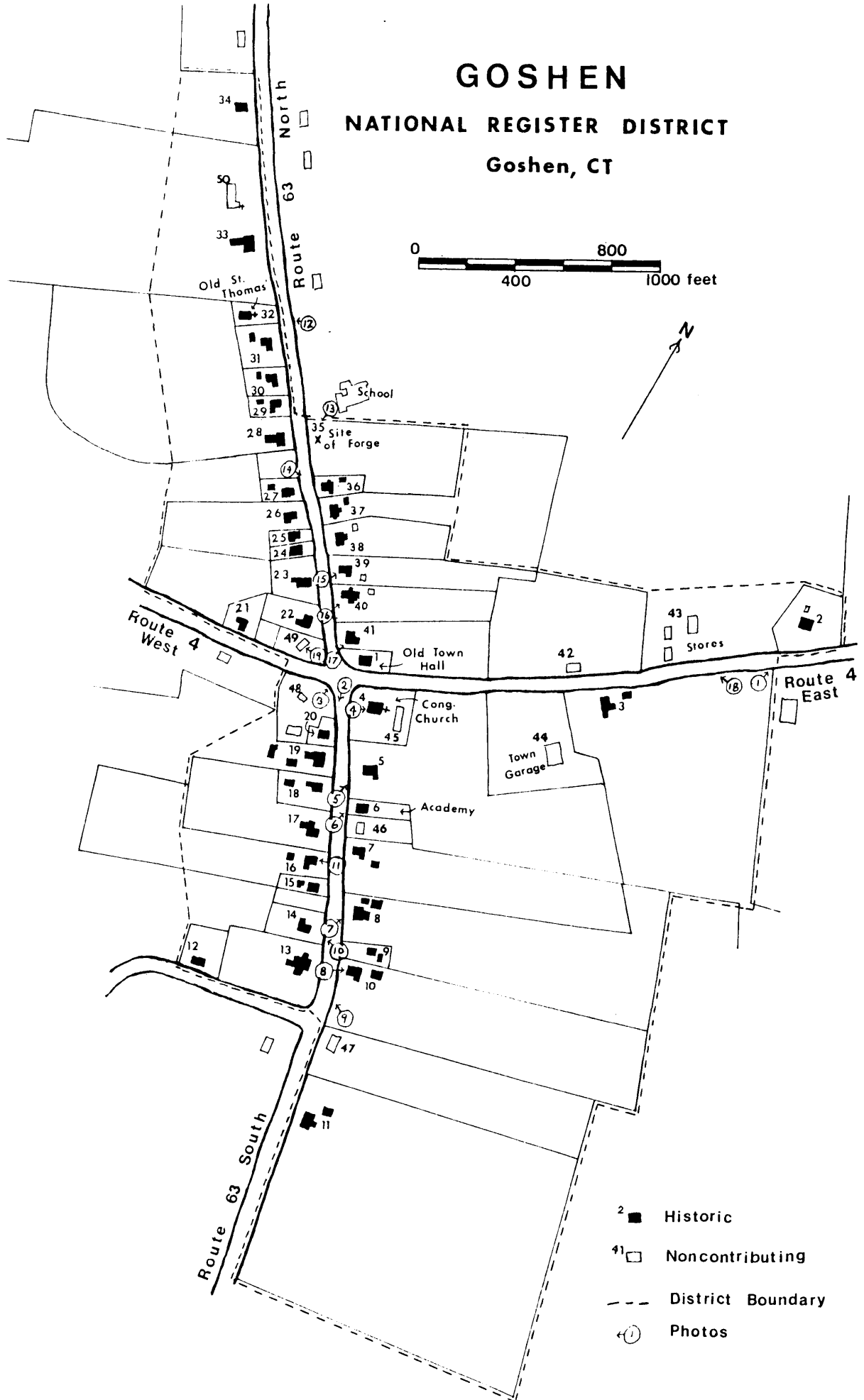
Verbal Boundary Description (continued):

crosses to the northeast corner of Lot R-3. It runs southerly along the line of Lot R-3 for about 950', then runs westerly along the southern boundary of R-3, then follows southerly along the rear property lines of Lots L-7, L-8, L-9, and L-10 Route 63 South. It runs westerly along the southern boundary of Lot L-10, then northerly along Route 63, then westerly along Gifford Road until it comes to the southwest corner of Lot R-2. It runs northerly along the wetsern line of Lot R-2, then northwesterly in a straight line to the southwest corner of Lot R-6 Route 63 South. It runs northerly along the rear line of R-6, then northeasterly in a straight line to the southeast corner of Lot L-2 Route 4 West. It follows the eastern boundary of Lot L-2 northerly, crosses Route 4, and follows Route 4 west to the southwest corner of Lot R-3. It runs northerly along the western lines of R-3 and Lot L-6 Route 63 North, continuing in a straight line to a field line in Lot L-8 Route 63 North about 500' back from Route 63. It follows this field line to its intersection with with the southern boundary of Lot L-13, then runs in a straight line to the southwest corner of Lot L-14A. It follows the southern boundary of this lot to Route 63, and then runs southerly along the road for about 1400', crossing the road to the northwest corner of Lot R-8. It runs easterly along the northern boundary of Lot R-8, then southerly along the rear line of R-8, crosses R-6, continues along the rear line of R-5, and then runs easterly along the northern boundaries of Lots R-4 and L-3 Route 4 East. From the northeast corner of lot L-3 it runs in a straight line to the northwest corner of Lot L-5, and then follows the line of L-5 to the first point.

# GOSHEN

## NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT

Goshen, CT



NOTE: Building numbers correspond to the Inventory numbers