NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)	OMB	No. 1	024-0018
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service		OCT	6 1992
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM			
1. Name of Property historic name: CANNONDALE HISTORIC DISTRICT			
other name/site number:			
2. Location street & number: <u>Cannon, Danbury, Olmstead Hill and S</u>	Seeley	===== Roads	========
			ion: <u>N/A</u>
<pre>state: CT county: Fairfield code: 005 3. Classification Ownership of Property: private, public-local, public</pre>		=====	=========
Category of Property: <u>district</u>			
Number of Resources within Property:			
Contributing Noncontributing			
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			
Number of contributing resources previously listed in Register: $\_0$	ı the N	ation	al

Name of related multiple property listing: <u>N/A</u>

	ederal Agency Certification			
of 1986, a request fo standards Historic P set forth does	ignated authority under the s amended, I hereby certify r determination of eligibili for registering properties i laces and meets the procedur in 36 CFR Part 60. In my op not meet the National Regist	that t ty mee n the al and inion,	this <u>X</u> nominations to the documentation National Register professional requise the property <u>X</u> teria. See co	n on of irements meets nt. sheet.
	of certifying official		October 2, 1 Date	
Director	Connecticut Historical Commission			
	ederal agency and bureau			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Register c	ion, the property meets riteria See continuati of commenting or other offic	on she		National
State or F	ederal agency and bureau			
I, hereby enter deter	1 Park Service Certification certify that this property i ed in the National Register See continuation sheet. mined eligible for the		entered in National Re M. Capsery	the giater 
deter	onal Register See continuation sheet. mined not eligible for the	- <u></u>		
	onal Register ed from the National Registe	r		-
other	(explain):			
<u> </u>			gnature of Keeper	of Action
6. Functio	n or Use			
			single dwelling	
·	EDUCATION		school	
	RELIGION		religious structu	
	AGRICULTURE		agricultural outb	
Current:	DOMESTIC	Sub:		
	RELIGION		religious structu	
	COMMERCE	-	specialty store	<u> </u>

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

7. Description Architectural Classification: COLONIAL GREEK REVIVAL LATE VICTORIAN Other Description: <u>N/A</u> Materials: foundation <u>STONE</u> roof <u>ASPHALT</u> WOOD\_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_ walls 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: <u>state</u>. Applicable National Register Criteria: <u>A,C</u> Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : A,B,D Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE COMMERCE EDUCATION Period(s) of Significance: <u>c.1800-1940</u> Significant Dates: <u>N/A</u> Significant Person(s): <u>N/A</u> Cultural Affiliation: <u>N/A</u>\_\_\_\_\_ Architect/Builder: <u>Not known</u>

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

Page 3

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Geographical Data	Cannondale Historic District	10-1
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

Norwalk North Quadrangle, 1:24,000

UTM References

A: 18/631780/4565360 18/631880/4565270 **B**: C: 18/631960/4565090 18/632020/4565090 D: E : 18/632060/4565060 F: 18/632060/4565000 G: 18/632180/4565000 H: 18/632330/4564820 18/632210/4564810 I: J: 18/632270/4564520 K: 18/632330/4564430 18/632390/4564140 L: M: 18/632300/4564130 N: 18/632200/4563960 0: 18/632100/4563950 Ρ: 18/632030/4563850 Q: 18/632090/4563830 R: 18/632050/4563650 S: 18/632000/4563550 T: 18/631880/4563600 18/631940/4563660 U: ٧: 18/631860/4563700 18/631870/4563760 W: X: 18/631840/4563860 Υ: 18/631790/4563600 18/631720/4563640 Z: 18/631700/4563550 AA: BB: 18/631640/4563540 CC: 18/631600/4563700 DD: 18/631720/4563880 EE: 18/631640/4563920 FF: 18/631660/4564020 GG: 18/631720/4564040 HH: 18/631720/4564180 II: 18/631800/4564300 JJ: 18/631710/4564360 KK: 18/631740/4564440

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Geographical Data	Cannondale Historic District	10-2
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

LL: 18/631800/4564460 MM: 18/631810/4564620 NN: 18/631780/4564640 OO: 18/631820/4564860 PP: 18/631920/4564940 QQ: 18/631860/4564980 RR: 18/631760/4565330 SS: 18/631810/4565240 TT: 18/631750/4565350

# USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

9. Major Bibliographical References	
X See continuation sheet.	
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	
<ul> <li>preliminary determination of individual list requested.</li> <li>previously listed in the National Register</li> <li>previously determined eligible by the Nation</li> <li>designated a National Historic Landmark</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Buildings Surv</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Engineering Re</li> </ul>	al Register ey #
Primary Location of Additional Data:	
_ Other state agency 59 S	ecticut Historical Commission outh Prospect Street ford, Connecticut 06106
10. Geographical Data Acreage of Property: <u>approx. 202</u>	
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone E	asting Northing
A B C D	
<u>x</u> See continuation sheet.	
Verbal Boundary Description: See continua The boundary is shown on the accompanying from Wilton Assessor Maps 21, 22, 34, 35	<pre>map, scale 1"=200', traced</pre>
Boundary Justification: See continuation The boundary includes the historic extent the two contiguous villages of Zion Hill follows property lines except where in exclude excessive back acreage.	of the built-up sections of and Cannondale. The boundary
	onal Register Coordinator
Name/Title: Bruce Clouette and Matthew Roth	
Organization: <u>Historic Resource Consultants</u>	Date: <u>March 4, 1992</u>
Street & Number: 55 Van Dyke Avenue	Telephone: 203-547-0268
City or Town: <u>Hartford</u>	State: <u>CT</u> ZIP: <u>06106</u>

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-1
-	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

Cannondale Historic District extends along both sides of the Norwalk River in a rural section in the north-central part of Wilton, Connecticut. Approximately half of the buildings are arrayed along Danbury Road (Route 7) in a regular but widely spaced pattern; most of the rest are clustered around the Cannondale railroad depot, with another half-dozen buildings on Seeley Road, which parallels Danbury Road on the eastern side of the river. The area has a mix of commercial and residential uses, although many of the businesses occupy former dwellings that retain their residential character. Buildings in the district date from the late 18th century to the mid-20th century. The Greek Revival style is particularly well-represented, with a wellpreserved church as well as several prominent residences. Victorianperiod and Colonial Revival buildings also abound, as well as vernacular buildings from the entire period of significance. Streetscapes generally reflect the mix of residential, agricultural, and small-scale commercial uses that historically characterized the area. Along Danbury Road, the increasingly business and retailoriented activity of recent years has not, for the most part, altered the generous spacing between buildings, although widening of the road has diminished the setback of several properties. Along Seeley Road, the widely spaced houses and outbuildings continue to suggest the former agricultural use, as well as the area's early 20th-century role as a weekend and summer retreat for well-to-do New York people. The cluster of buildings around the depot continue to exhibit the scale and texture of a small late 19th-century commercial center.

In the early 19th century the village of Cannondale (formerly known as Cannon's Station or simply Cannon's), along the Norwalk River, was distinct from the uplands immediately north and west, along Danbury Road. The Norwalk and Danbury Railroad, completed in 1852, made Cannondale the commercial center for all the surrounding residents, and more people built homes in the vicinity. Increasing building density erased the former division of open land between the two areas, until they formed the pattern of continuous settlement that exists today. At least as early as the 1860s, the area constituted a town school district, and it was served by a single post office, which adopted the present name, Cannondale, in 1915.

Following is the inventory of the district's resources.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description Cannondale Historic District 7-2 Wilton, Fairfield County, CT

#### Contributing Buildings

#### CANNON ROAD

- 8 NELSON S. HURLBUTT HOUSE, 1922, Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gambrel roof, wood shingle, 3-bay facade, central entry with Tuscan-columned portico.
- 15 CATHERINE AND LEWIS AMBLER HOUSE, c.1905, Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard and wood shingle, front porch (now enclosed) with cobblestone rail and paired Tuscan columns; two outbuildings are noncontributing and listed below.
- 20 GODFREY ACADEMY, 1849, vernacular, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, bargeboard added post-1965; modern west wing; moved to this location from Danbury Road in 1961.
- 22 CANNONDALE STATION, 1892, Victorian Vernacular, 1 story, gable roof, wide overhanging eaves on large chamfered brackets, bargeboard with geometric motif, stickwork peak ornament. (Photograph 1)
- 24 CHARLES GREGORY STORE (Post Office), c.1850, vernacular, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, plain frieze and molded cornice with partial return, rear wing added c.1895. Smaller house to rear is also contributing: c.1900, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard with shingled peaks.
- 25 CANNON GRANGE HALL, 1899, Victorian Vernacular, 1 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard with scalloped shingles in gable ends, stickwork peak ornament. (Photograph 2)
- 32 GREGORY GRISTMILL TENANT HOUSE, c.1900, vernacular, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard with shingled gable ends; additions on north side.
- 33 B.F. BROWN BOARDING SCHOOL, 1857, vernacular with Greek Revival entry, 3 stories, gable roof, clapboard, high brick basement with brownstone window lintels, pilaster-and-lintel entry with sidelights and transom. Barn to rear is also contributing. (Photographs 7 and 8)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-3
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

- 34 CANNONDALE SCHOOL, 1872, Victorian Vernacular, 1 story, gable roof, clapboard, hip-roofed entry shelter on large brackets, pedimented window surrounds, ogee-roofed cupola with roundarched openings; moved to this location from corner of Olmstead Hill and Danbury roads in 1979. (Photograph 5)
- 37 HELEN GODFREY HOUSE, c.1900, Victorian Vernacular, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle; porch (turned posts, jigsawn brackets, molded rail on turned balusters) wraps around right side to meet 2-story cross-gabled ell.
- 43 LOCKWOOD ACADEMY, 1851, vernacular with Greek Revival influence, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, pilasterand-lintel entry, simple stepped entablature with partial return; barn to rear is also contributing. (Also known as 42 Cannon Road.) (Photograph 9)
- 49 AARON LOCKWOOD HOUSE, c.1867, vernacular, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, simple stepped entablature with partial return, altered entry.
- 63 MARJORIE W. HANDS HOUSE, 1939, (Southern) Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard with flush-boarded facade, central chimney, two-story inset gallery with plain square posts.
- 68 cottage, c.1940, 1 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle.
- 109 JESSE GREGORY HOUSE, c.1800 with 20th-century additions and alterations, Federal/Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard; original portion is 5-bay, central-hall plan, with remnants of pilaster-and-lintel entry treatment; Tuscan-columned porches, windows and surrounds, entablature, and extensions to either side represent 20th-century alterations. (Photograph 10)

#### DANBURY ROAD

426 DAVID HENRY MILLER III HOUSE, 1907, Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, hip roof, clapboard, Tuscan-columned porch wraps around both sides and on south side meets porte-cochere with shallow pediments, hip-roofed dormers; barn to rear is

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-4
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

contributing. (Photograph 11)

- HIRAM AND MARY CANNON JONES HOUSE, c.1835, Greek Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, Ionic portico with full entablature, pilaster-and-lintel entry with leaded sidelights and transom, addition to right rear sheltered by open porch with Doric columns; barn to rear is also contributing, garage is noncontributing. (Photograph 12)
- 444 SAMUEL MARVIN HOUSE, c.1810, Federal, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle, 3-bay, four-room plan with interior chimney, pilaster-and-lintel entry with sidelights and transom, oval gable-end windows with radial muntins; 2-story kitchen wing (1899) and recent rear addition. Barn to rear is also contributing. (Photograph 13)
- 454 GEORGE GODFREY HOUSE, c.1848/c.1870, vernacular, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard; original part now right-side ell, with 3-bay facade and simple pilaster-and-lintel entry; later portion is 2-bay; open porch with chamfered posts added when house was expanded.
- 462 JOHN HURLBUTT HOUSE, c.1840, Greek Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, pilaster-and-lintel entry, reeded corner boards, pedimented gable-end with flush-boarding; c.1900 additions to right and rear, recent wing to left.
- 470 ZION HILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1844, Greek Revival, 1 high story, pilastered facade with recessed entry, pilasterand-lintel entry treatment, pilastered belfry topped by smaller stage with squat corner towers; Fellowship Hall, to southeast, is noncontributing. (Photograph 16)

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-5
-	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

- 475 I.EWIS HURLBUTT HOUSE, 1909, Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle, wraparound porch with fluted Doric columns, Palladian window in front gable end, gable-roofed dormers; carriage barn to rear is also contributing. (Photograph 15)
- 481 NOAH PARTRICK HOUSE, 1837, vernacular, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, 3-bay facade with central entry, simply molded cornice with partial return, recent 1-story wing.
- 487 CHARLES SCRIBNER HOUSE, c.1830, Greek Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, 4-bay facade with pilaster-and-lintel entry and original one-panel door, pedimented and flushboarded gable end, c.1910 Colonial Revival porch with Tuscan columns; garage is noncontributing.
- 490 c.1795 center-chimney house, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, 3-bay facade with plain entry, flush eaves, small shed addition to rear.
- 493 WILLAM NICHOLS HOUSE, c.1800/c.1840, Greek Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard; originally center-chimney dwelling reworked in Greek Revival style c.1840 by addition of corner pilasters, entablature, pedimented gable ends, and pilaster-and-lintel entry with sidelights and transom; barn is also contributing.
- 496 THADDEUS QUICK HOUSE, c.1845, Greek Revival with late 19thcentury alterations, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard; original features include paneled corner pilasters, entablature with partial return, and pilaster-and-lintel entry with sidelights; Victorian features include 1-story bay windows on front and side; entry shelter with <u>faux</u> Doric columns probably Colonial Revival feature; barn (Photograph 17) to north is also contributing.
- 503 GEORGE NICHOLS HOUSE, c.1840/c.1870, vernacular, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, vinyl siding, original portion is 5-bay with center entry, with cross-gable wing added c.1870; also added at that time were porch with square chamfered posts and round-arched attic lights; new chimney; garage is noncontributing. (Photograph 18)

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-6
-	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

- 516 JOHN CHAPMAN HOUSE, c.1840, vernacular, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, truncated frieze-band windows on front, Colonial Revival portico, lean-to additions to right rear; barn to north are also contributing. (Photograph 19)
- 523 ALLEE-WHITE HOUSE, c.1820/c.1885, Federal/Victorian Vernacular, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard and wood shingle; originally 3-bay Federal house extended to north in 1880s by addition of two more bays; also added then was cross-gabled front wall dormer; modern porch, additions to rear; barn is also contributing, four other outbuildings noncontributing. (Photograph 20)
- 526 vernacular house, c.1840, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, partial return of molded cornice; added Italiante porch, with chamfered posts; barn to south is also contributing.
- 530 Greek Revival house, c.1850, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, 5-bay with central entry, later portico with Tuscan columns, added bay window on right side; 2-story ell to right rear; barn is also contributing.
- 532 carriage barn, c.1905, 1 1/2 stories, gable roof, novelty siding, converted to residence.
- 539 AZOR BELDEN HOUSE, c.1788, Colonial, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle, center chimney dwelling with original massing and early 12-over-12 sash; Greek Revival entry treatment installed in late 1940s; additions to rear; barn is also contributing.

## OLMSTEAD HILL ROAD

411 GERSHAM AND MARY ANN PARTRICK HOUSE, c.1875, Victorian Vernacular, 2 stories, gable roof, clapboard; original (front) portion is simple two-bay dwelling with full porch featuring heavy turned posts and small pediment over entry bay; cross-gable addition to rear left, and shed addition to rear. Barn is also contributing.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-7
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

414 CHARLES PARTRICK HOUSE, c.1880, Victorian Vernacular, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle, mass-produced Italianateinspired applied decorative treatments include round-arched attic windows and porch with square posts, jigsawn vine brackets, and plain balustrade. Two barns are also contributing; one garage is noncontributing (listed below).

#### SEELEY ROAD

25 vernacular house, c.1920, 1 1/2 stories, wood shingle.

- 36 POLLY AND WILLIAM WAKEMAN HOUSE, c.1830/1907+, Federal/Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard; nucleus is 3-bay Federal House that retains its plan, central chimney, and details such as gable-end Palladian window; most of present structure consists of wings added between 1907 and 1940; barn is also contributing.
- 45 HANNAH LOUNSBURY HOUSE, c.1852, vernacular/Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, originally plain, 3bay, central-hall-plan house; 2-bay west wing and Colonial Revival entry treatment added post-1950; barn is also contributing.
- 67 c.1850/1938 house, vernacular/Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, clapboard, 3-bay facade modified in 1938 with addition of Colonial Revival entry treatment and two prominent wall dormers; additions to right and rear; garage is noncontributing.
- HICKOCK HOUSE, c.1810/1915+, vernacular/Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 stories, gable roof, wood shingle; originally 5-bay center-chimney dwelling with molded cornice (partial return); 20th-century wings added to north and west sides; barn is also contributing, garage and cottage noncontributing.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-8
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

## Contributing Site

Danbury Road ZION HILL CEMETERY, adjacent to Zion Hill Methodist Church, c.1840 burying ground, approx. 1 acre, arranged as parallel rows of east-facing burials; predominantly mid-19th-century white-marble markers. (Photogaph 16)

#### Contributing Structure

30 Cannon Road CHARLES GREGORY DAM (Photograph 4), c.1900, coursed-rubble spillway and abutments; wheelpit with draft tube for turbine-based power system incorporated into west abutment. Atop west abutment is former Charles Gregory gristmill that was extensively remodeled in late 1920s and late 1970s.

#### Contributing Objects

Cannon Road East of railroad depot, at entrance to Cannon Crossing shopping area, are two c.1925, reservoirhead gasoline pumps, and c.1900 turbine that was removed from Gregory Grist Mill wheelpit; three contributing objects. (Photograph 3)

### Noncontributing Buildings

- 15 Cannon Road two outbuildings
- 26 Cannon Road CHARLES GREGORY BARNS, both c.1900, 2 stories, gable roof, and altered by addition of large windows on principal elevations. (Photograph 6)
- 30 Cannon Road CHARLES GREGORY GRISTMILL, c.1900 gristmill coverted into residence in late 1920s and extensively remodeled in late 1970s.

436 Danbury Road garage

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-9
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

- 450 Danbury Road c.1970 house (Photograph 14)
- 470 Danbury Road METHODIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL, brick, 1956.
- 487 Danbury Road garage
- 489 Danbury Road c.1970 house
- 499 Danbury Road c.1965 house and outbuilding
- 503 Danbury Road garage
- 523 Danbury Road four outbuildings
- 531 Danbury Road Christian Science Church
- 414 Olmstead Hill garage Road
- 8 Seeley Road 1953 house with attached garage
- 22 Seeley Road c.1950 house
- 27 Seeley Road c.1950 house
- 67 Seeley Road garage
- 105 Seeley Road garage and cottage

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Description	Cannondale Historic District	7-10
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

# Noncontributing Structures

Seeley Road over Norwalk River c.1950 concrete-beam bridge

Cannon Road over Norwalk River c.1950 concrete-beam bridge

- Railroad rightof-way Single-track railroad, Metro North Danbury Line (formerly New Haven Railroad); appears completely rebuilt, with no historic features.
- Power Line Power line on skeleton towers, c.1945, paralleling track along railroad right-of-way.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance	Cannondale Historic District	8-1
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

#### Summary

Cannondale Historic District is significant because it embodies the distinctive architectural and cultural-landscape characteristics of a small commercial center as well as an agricultural community from the early national period through the early 20th century (Criterion C). The historic uses of the properties in the district include virtually the full array of human activity in this region -- farming, residential, religious, educational, community groups (the Grange), small-scale manufacturing, transportation, and even government (the building that housed the first Cannondale Post Office). The close physical relationship among all these uses, as well as the informal character of the commercial enterprises before the rise of more aggressive techniques to attract consumers, capture some of the texture of life as lived by prior generations. The buildings also include excellent examples of Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian, and Colonial Revival houses; vernacular houses from the entire period of significance; barns from the 19th century; a range of school buildings from early examples that resemble houses to the B.F. Brown Boarding School, with its clearly institutional character; and specialized buildings such as the railroad depot. The historic significance of the district (Criterion A) derives from its changing role in the life of the town, from clusters of farmsteads around a small centrally located gristmill, to an important commercial district in Wilton once the railroad opened in 1852, to an area whose commercial presence substantially declined upon the advent of automotive transport and whose bucolic qualities then attracted an increasing degree of leisure use beginning in the early 20th century.

#### <u>History</u>

The area that became the Town of Wilton was originally part of the northern expanse of the Town of Norwalk. The earliest Anglo-European settlers arrived in the first decade of the 18th century. By 1726, some 30 families who had established farms in the area successfully petitioned to create their own parish, build their own church, and seat their own minister. The first church was built close to the southern boundary of what is now the Town of Wilton, a short distance west of the north-south thoroughfare known in the 18th century as "County

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance	Cannondale Historic District		
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT		

Road," which closely followed the course of what is today known as Route 7 or Danbury Road. This placement of the church established the institutional center of Wilton far to the south of this district. Dozens of families had nonetheless settled farms in this area during the 18th century, and by 1790 John Cannon had established a small general-goods store near the river crossing.

Cannondale emerged as a central place in the life of Wilton during the middle decades of the 19th century, with the construction of the Zion Hill Methodist Church and the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad. The church, constructed in 1844, contributed an institutional aspect to the architecture and use of the area, but the opening of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad in 1852 fundamentally distinguished the district from so many other increasingly marginal agricultural communities in Convenient freight access allowed the Cannondale store to Connecticut. increase the volume and diversity of its offerings, and the increased foot and wagon traffic around the adjacent depot represented a substantial increase in the store's share of the local market. addition to the store building itself, the long-time commercial role of Cannondale is conveyed by the two early 20th-century gasoline pumps that stand nearby. Freight access also stimulated a host of processing enterprises, of which scant physical sign remains except for the gristmill, dam, and the now-removed turbine which powered the mill. Tn the second half of the 19th century, other small enterprises nearby produced wagons and wagon parts, tools, and hardware products.

Even at the height of manufacturing, in the 1880s, farmers still outnumbered nonfarmers in the area by a factor of two to one. Thus Cannondale retained substantial open land that was used for pastures and fields. In the early 20th century, this rural landscape combined with the Colonial Revival fashion in architecture to attract well-to-do New Yorkers to the area. Many of the farms gained a new use as weekend and summer retreats, and later as retirement homes. Several houses in the district were built in the 20th century specifically for this new purpose, notably the Marjorie W. Hands House on Cannon Road.

## Significant Architecture

The district's buildings embody the distinctive characteristics of several periods and styles of architecture. The houses at 490 and 539 Danbury Road are representative of the center-chimney, gable-roofed clapboarded house typical of 18th-century Connecticut domestic

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance	Cannondale Historic District		
	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT		

architecture. Others stand as typical examples of Federal-style architecture, with its emphasis on delicate Classical and geometric ornament (Photographs 10, 13). The district gains its distinctive character from its many well-preserved Greek Revival houses more than from any other style. The Hiram and Mary Cannon Jones House (Photograph 12), for example, has the temple-front form and bold detailing, especially the Ionic portico, that form the core of the style. The Zion Hill Church is also a quintessential example, featuring not only the standard form and details but also the flushboarding (in the gable-end) that imitated the masonry construction of the temples from which this style drew its inspiration.

The Victorian buildings in the district also add to its architectural The railroad depot (Photograph 1) represents a significance. specialized form of Gothic-influenced Victorian styling, with its portion of vertical-board walls and heavy stickwork bargeboard and eave brackets, the latter also serving the utilitarian function of supporting a generous roof overhang that protected people waiting for trains from the fickleness of New England weather. The Grange (Photograph 2) exhibits the Victorian practice of using mass-produced wooden ornament to dress up an otherwise plain building, in this case a long rectangular meeting hall that gains some distinction and visual interest by the use of patterned shingles in the peak and some simple decorative peak bracing. Even the more vernacular Victorian houses, and those made over in that period, feature the porch ornament, mixed shingled and clapboarded exterior, and often an ornamental gable treatment that characterized Victorian architecture as a whole.

The district includes significant examples of Colonial Revival dwellings. The David Henry Miller III House (Photograph 11) and the Lewis Hurlbutt House have the shingled walls and Tuscan-columned porch with small pediments that typify the 20th-century emulation of the more ostentatious buildings of the 18th century. The Miller House also features the hip roof that adorned many such houses, and the Hurlbutt House sports a stylized Palladian window in its street-facing gable end.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Significance	Cannondale Historic District		
-	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT		

# Criteria Considerations

The district includes two buildings, Cannondale School and Godfrey Academy, that were moved to their present sites from other locations within the district. Both contribute to the historical significance of the district for their association with its educational history, and the Cannondale School also contributes to the architectural significance as a well-preserved example of a Victorian school.

The church, which is owned by a religious organization, contributes to the district as a well-preserved example of Greek Revival architecture and as one of the institutions that gave the area the sense of being a settlement. Similarly, the adjacent cemetery, with its typical pattern of rows of east-facing burials marked by white marble headstones, contributes to the appearance of the district as a 19th-century community.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Bibliography Cannondale Historic District 9-1 Wilton, Fairfield County, CT

Atlas of New York and Vicinity. New York, 1867.

- McCahon, Mary. "Cultural Resource Survey of Wilton, Connecticut." Wilton, 1989.
- Hubbard, G. Evans. <u>Annals of Wilton, Volume III, Wilton Village: A</u> <u>History</u>. Wilton, 1971.
- Hurd, D. Hamilton. <u>History of Fairfield County, Connecticut</u>. Philadelphia, 1881.
- Map of Fairfield County, Connecticut. Philadelphia, 1858.
- One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the Organization of the Congregational Church, Wilton. New York, 1876.
- Cannondale: A Connecticut Neighborhood. Wilton: Wilton Historical Society, 1987.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Photograph	captions	Cannondale Historic District	Photos-1
	-	Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

#### All photographs:

 Cannondale-Zion Hill Historic District
 Wilton, Fairfield County, CT
 Photo Credit: HRC, Hartford, CT
 February 1992
 Negative filed with Connecticut Historical Commission Hartford, CT

Captions:

Railroad depot, camera facing north Photograph 1 of 20

Grange Hall, camera facing southeast Photograph 2 of 20

Gasoline pumps and turbine, camera facing northwest Photograph 3 of 20

Charles Gregory Gristmill Dam, northeast Photograph 4 of 20

Cannondale School, camera facing east Photograph 5 of 20

Charles gregory Barns, camera facing north Photograph 6 of 20

Entry, B.F. Brown Boarding School, camera facing east Photograph 7 of 20

Rear of B.F. Brown Boarding School, camera facing northwest Photograph 8 of 20

Lockwood Academy, camera facing northeast Photograph 9 of 20

Jesse gregory House, camera facing northeast Photograph 10 of 20

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Photograph	captions	Cannondale Historic District	Photos-2
		Wilton, Fairfield County, CT	

David Henry Miller III House, camera facing northeast Photograph 11 of 20

Hiram and Mary Cannon Jones House, camera facing northeast Photograph 12 of 20

Samuel Marvin House, camera facing southeast Photograph 13 of 20

450 Danbury Road (noncontributing), camera facing northeast Photograph 14 of 20

Lewis Hurlbutt House, camera facing west Photograph 15 of 20

Zion Hill Methodist Church, camera facing northeast Photograph 16 of 20

Barn at 496 Danbury Road, camera facing east Photograph 17 of 20

503 Danbury Road, camera facing northwest Photograph 18 of 20

516 Danbury Road, camera facing northeast Photograph 19 of 20

523 Danbury Road, camera facing northwest Photograph 20 of 20

