National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page ____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference	Number:	<u>91000482</u>	Date Listed:	<u>05/06/91</u>
South Coventry Property Name	<u>Historic</u>	District	Tolland County	<u>CT</u> State

<u>N/A</u>

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

the Keeper σf

5761

Amended Items in Nomination:

3. Classification: Number of Resources within Property

The correct numbers are:

178 contributing buildings 2 contributing sites 4 contributing structures 1 contributing object

185 Total contributing resources

43 noncontributing buildings

43 noncontributing resources

2 buildings were previously listed.

This information was discussed with John Herzan, National Register Coordinator, CTSHPO, by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without attachment)

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

221391 NATIONAL

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property	
historic name	South Coventry
other names/site number	South Coventry Historic District(use for publication)

2. Location				
street & number	See contin	lation sheets	no	ot for publication NA
city, town	Coventry		vi	cinity NA
state Connecticut	code CT	county Tolland	code 013	zip code 06238

3. Classification			
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Res	ources within Property
x private	building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
x public-local	x district	174	<u>41</u> buildings
public-State	site	2	sites
public-Federal	structure structure		structures
	object	1	objects
		177	<u>41</u> Total
Name of related multiple prope	rty listing:	Number of cont	ributing resources previously
NA		listed in the Na	tional Register _1

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

X nomination request for determination In request for determination National Register of Historic Places and In my opinion, the property Theorem for the property results of the property for the	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, ation of eligibility meets the documentation standards for I meets the procedural and professional requirements se does not meet the National Register criteria. See of	registering properties in the et forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
	Shannahan, State Historic Preservation	
	Officer	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
In my opinion, the property meets	does not meet the National Register criteria.	ontinuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official		Date
State or Federal agency and bureau		
5. National Park Service Certification	n	
I, hereby, certify that this property is:	ρ	
entered in the National Register.	port Savage	5/6/91
determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.		
determined not eligible for the	()	
National Register.		
removed from the National Register.		
other. (explain:)		

6. Function or Use	Oursent Functions (anter actorships (non-instructions)
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic	Domestic
Industry/manufacturing facilities	Commerce/trade: business
Commerce/trade: business	Industry/manufacturing facilities
<u>Religion/religious structures</u>	Government
Government	Religion/religious structures
7. Description	
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
	foundation <u>Stone</u>
<u>Colonial/Postmedieval English</u>	walls Wood: weatherboard, shingle
Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival	brick
Late Victorian: Italianate, Queen Anne	roof <u>asphalt</u>
	other <u>concrete</u>
	metal

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The South Coventry Historic District lies in the southeastern part of the town of Coventry, Connecticut, just east of Lake Wangumbaug. The district encompasses the historic village of South Coventry, which retains, to a significant degree, its historic and architectural resources dating from the late-18th to the mid-20th centuries. The village's buildings are clustered along Main Street (Route 31) (Photograph #1) and on several side streets, and the district also extends south on Lake Street to include the village Green and the early buildings ringing it. (see Fig. 1)

South Coventry's natural features are a vital part of its visual impact. The hilly terrain (Photograph #2) rises in terraces from Mill Brook, which runs south of and parallel to Main Street, to a plateau at the Green. The brook occupies a central place in the village's significant industrial history, and along its course survive a few of the many millponds with stone dams, retaining walls, and sluiceways that were created in the 19th century (Photograph #3)(note 1). Other key physical aspects of the district are the rocky outcroppings, stone retaining walls or walls marking fields or property lines, and stone ruins of mills.

There are 218 major structures, buildings, sites, and objects in the district, of which 177 (81%) contribute to its significance. (See the attached Inventory of Historic District Resources) These include two sites, the Green and the Nathan Hale Cemetery, one object, the Nathan Hale Monument, and a number of outbuildings, primarily barns. The contributing buildings range widely in age from c.1716 to c.1940. Many of the resources are examples of recognized architectural styles, including the Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival; a sizable number of buildings, however, are stylistically ambiguous, including the 19th-century mills and the camp buildings in Patriots Park. While most of the outbuildings are plain and functional, several display clear stylistic assocations, such as the c.1860 Italianate barn at 83 Mason Street.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _2 Page ____1

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

List of Properties in the South Coventry Historic District

Street numbers are given below, where they exist, for district properties. Otherwise, parcels are listed by their lot number on the Coventry Town Assessor's maps; all or part of these parcels are included in the historic district.

Armstrong Road

28

Bradbury Lane

17, 34, 46; Map X, Block 43, Lots 1 and 23; Map T, Block 64, Lots 13A and 13C.

High Street

47, 54, 73, 99.

Lake Street

65, 75, 85, 113, 124, 155, 162, 222, Nathan Hale Cemetery (Map O, Block 35, Lot 5), Patriots Park (Map O, Block 35, Lot 2-A), and the village Green (Map T, Block 63, Lots T and 31); Map T, Block 63, Lot 6.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____ Page ____

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Main Street

855, 860, 861, 871, 900, 903, 925, 940, 943, 955, 984, 1000, 1010, 1011, 1012-1016, 1024, 1034, 1036, 1046, 1047, 1059, 1069, 1079, 1081, 1082, 1085, 1089, 1090, 1104, 1105, 1117, 1129, 1134, 1140, 1141, 1146, 1150, 1153, 1159, 1164, 1171, 1180, 1189, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1203-1209, 1220, 1260, 1264, 1265, 1275, 1276, 1284, 1294, 1295, 1312, 1343, 1365; Map T, Block 65, Lot 3; Map 37, Block 52, Lot 33B; Map 37, Block 52, Lot 33; Map T, Block 61, Lot 21; Map T, Block 61, Lot 14; Map T, Block 61, Lot 10A; Map X, Block 43, Lots 2, 20, and 21-24; Map X, Block 43, Lot 1; Map T, Block 64, Lot 10; Map T, Block 62, Lots 5, 6, 8, 9, and 12; Map T, Block 65, Lot 3.

Mason Street

26, 28, 30, 32, 83; Map T, Block 64, Lot 14-B; Map T, Block 62, Lot 17.

Monument Hill Road

48, 50, 54, 68; Map T, Block 65, Lot 5.

Prospect Street

6, 18, 28, 40, 46, 56, 59, 68, 83, 84, 88; Map T, Block 64, Lots 13, 12A and the pond; Map T, block 64, Lot 13B.

School Street

22, 33, 34, 43, 53A, 53B, 63, 67, 85, 93, 103, 105; Map X, Block 61, Lot 19B.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

.	_	South Coventry Historic District
Section number <u>2</u>	Page3	Coventry, CT

Wall Street

4, 7, 10, 15, 20, 30, 33, 44, 82, 96, 110, 122, 132, 135, 136, 146, 160, 167, 176; Map T, Block 63, Lot 6-1; Map T, Block 62, Lot 20.

Woods Lane

22, 32, 64, 67; Map X, Block 43, Lot 22.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____ Page _1____

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Fortunately, few changes have impaired the architectural integrity of the district's resources. Alterations and additions are generally limited to non-original synthetic sidings and replacement windows. Non-contributing principal buildings are mostly less than 50 years old. The district buildings are primarily residential, although South Coventry's historic role in town commerce, religious life, government, and education is well represented.

Most of the contributing buildings are wood-framed, and the prevalent exterior wall cladding is clapboards. Wood shingles and brick are present to a lesser degree. Many of the buildings have corrugated metal roofs, and brick or granite are the common foundation materials. Two stories is the prevalent building height, but there are also a number of one-story structures, both residential and commercial. Setbacks are fairly uniform, although they vary from one street to another; the extant mills are an exception because their location is a function of the course of Mill Brook.

All of the buildings dating from the 18th century are residential, and they display the typical features of the period. The two-story Lyman House at 113 Lake Street, built in 1772, for example, has a five-bay facade with central front entrance, 12-over-12 sash windows, and a large central brick chimney (Photograph #4). A more elegant design is the c.1775 Dr. Samuel Rose House on High Street, in which denticulated cornices embellish the roofline and first-floor openings of the facade. The district also contains a few one-story Colonial homes, of which the Thomas Porter House (c.1716) at 222 Lake Street is the best preserved.

The district's two examples of the Federal style differ completely from one another. Occupying a prominent location, the John Boynton House (c.1800) at 1365 Main Street (Photograph #5) is an elaborate interpretation, exhibiting the characteristic delicacy of the style in its arcaded front and side bays with slender supporting pilasters, a design element repeated in the unusual monitor roof, and a semielliptical fanlight over the front entrance. 1069 Main Street (c.1800) is a much less ambitious building whose stylistic identity is established by the attenuated proportions of the front entrance and the large blind fanlights in the side gables. The placement of the front entrance in the third bay of the seven-bay facade, together with the location of the two chimneys, suggests that two bays at the right end of the house may have been added onto a more customary five-bay plan.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Greek Revival buildings are the most numerous of any style, and they offer a range of plans and features. Dominating Main Street is the First Congregational Church (1849)(Photograph #6); its two-story pedimented portico with six fluted Ionic columns is the most monumental among the village's four temple-plan Greek Revivals. An imposing variation is the Wellwood Store (Photograph #7), which is traditionally dated to c.1784 and later received a one-story Doric portico.

Wall Street has a row of four one-and-one-half-story Greek Revivals with five-bay facades and central entrances, roofline entablatures, and pilasters at the corners. (see Photograph #8 of 4 Wall Street) Similar in plan, 106 Depot Road is distinctive because of its masonry construction and stylistic restraint. Several one-story Greek Revival houses on Main Street have three bays and gable fronts. At 1104 Main Street (c.1820), the entrance porch is recessed into the right front corner, while at 1082 Main Street (c.1853) the wings at either end contain recessed porches.

The Italianate style is represented in the district by some of the grandest designs, among them the boxy Henry Mason and Addison Kingsbury houses, both c.1860. (see Photograph #9 of the Mason House) Their wealth of appropriate features includes round-arched windows in molded surrounds and wide roof overhangs supported by heavy curvilinear brackets. The Capron-Phillips House (c.1864)(Photograph #10), which is individually listed on the National Register, displays an asymmetrical plan and elaborate porch ornamentation. The most imposing Italianate design is the Coventry Methodist Church of 1867, which lost the top of one of its towers in the 1938 New England Hurricane. (Photograph #11)

46 Prospect Street (c.1890)(Photograph #12) exhibits the asymmetrical massing, complex roofline, and elaborate decorative detailing of the Queen Anne style. At 28 Prospect Street (c.1900)(Photograph #13), a more complex Queen Anne plan is blended with a Colonial Revival-style classical portico of clustered columns on pedestals. The American Legion Hall on Wall Street (c.1900) is typical of many rural institutional designs that were built toward the end of the Queen Anne's popularity and show the influence of the oncoming Colonial Revival style in their restraint and overall symmetry.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number7	Page3	South Coventry Historic District
		Coventry, CT

The district contains a few examples of other defined architectural styles, many vernacular buildings, and six industrial buildings surviving from the dozen or so complexes that stood along Mill Brook in the mid-19th century. Articulating the Georgian Revival style in elaborate fashion is the Booth and Dimock Memorial Library (1912) (Photograph #14), with a central domical cupola. Among the many well-executed features of this brick building are Palladian windows in the facade flanking a pedimented portico and in the side elevations. A recent (1989) rear addition carefully follows the proportions of, and bases its detailing on, the original. The representative Bungalow at 84 Prospect Street (c.1915) is embellished with clustered Tuscan porch columns, a Colonial Revival influence.

34 Bradbury Lane (c.1880) is one of several examples of utilitarian mill housing that exhibit decorative front porch detailing. The Old Town Office (1876)(Photograph #15), also a restrained design, is distinguished by brick hood molds. Patriots Park, on the shores of Lake Wangumbaug, contains several c.1935 buildings that are remnants of Camp Nathan Hale, a summer facility operated by the Salvation Army from the late 1920s until the town bought the property within the past decade. The extant buildings of this complex are modest in design and size, one-story in height, and sheathed in weatherboards.

The Kingsbury Box Factory and Kenyon Mill (c.1868 and 1859, respectively) (Kingsbury Factory, Photograph #16; Kenyon Mill, Photograph #17) are the district's most nearly intact 19th-century industrial facilities. Built with heavy wood framing and clapboard exterior sheathing, their straightforward plans are marked by bands of large double-hung sash windows and minimal ornamentation. The Kenyon unfortunately has lost its cupola, a feature that graced many of the village's mills, and has received a long concrete-block addition.

Several outbuildings display some sophistication in design, evident particularly in the louvered cupolas with bracketed overhanging roofs in the buildings at 1117 Main Street and 83 Mason Street. At the highest point in the district on Lake Street is the Nathan Hale Cemetery, which contains grave markers in the varied materials, styles, and proportions of 18th- through 20th-century funereal art. The centerpiece is the granite Nathan Hale monument (1846).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Notes.

 The nomination is an inventory of the district's historical and architectural resources only, and it does not cover archaeological resources. In the opinion of Nicholas Bellantoni, the Connecticut State Archaeologist, the district may contain significant pre-European artifacts in addition to the archaeology associated with the 19th-century industries along Mill Brook.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____ Page ____

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Inventory of Historic District Resources

The inventory includes all resources of any consequence on each parcel of real property within the historic district. Contributing ("C") and non-contributing ("NC") resources are indicated in the inventory by the use of C or NC, as appropriate, before the description of each. For those properties without clear street addresses, town assessor's map/block/lot information is listed. Construction dates are derived from the Historic Resources Survey of Coventry Village, from visual analysis, or from the town assessor's records. Dates of major alterations are listed if known. Photograph references appear at the ends of entries. The inventory numbers of buildings included in the Historic and Architectural Resources Survey of the Coventry Village area are also listed; these numbers correspond to those shown on the survey map.

Style, Use, Date, and Architect (If Known)

Armstrong Road

28	С	Kenyon Mill, c.1859,	with non-original
		concrete block wing.	(Photograph # 17)
		(Inventory # 1)	

Bradbury Lane

17	С	Double house, c.1840, with non-original front doors and exterior chimney.
34	С	Double house, 19th century, with asbestos siding and non-original fenestration.
	С	Stucco barn/garage, 19th century, with

asphalt siding on part.

South Coventry Historic Distric		South Coventry Historic District
Section number7	Page	6 Coventry, CT
46	С	Town Garage, 20th century, with attached fieldstone building, c.1865.
<u>High</u> Street		
47	C NC	Greek Revival house, c.1808 (sign), c.1840(visual), substantially altered and enlarged with side wings. (Inventory # 7) Barn/garage, mid-20th century.
54	С	Dr. Samuel Rose House, c.1775, altered with Colonial Revival porch on ell. (Inventory # 8)
	С	Barn/garage, c.1875.
73	NC	Ranch-style house, c.1965.
99	С	Old Congregational Church Parsonage, c.1790, raised to second story at later date; altered also with non-original doors and porches. (Inventory # 9)
	C	Garage, early-20th century.
<u>Lake Street, East</u>	Side	
65	С	Boynton's Mill, c.1815, with non-original
	С	siding. (Inventory # 12) Barn, 19th century, with non-original siding.
75	C C	House, c.1935. Garage, c.1920.

Section number7	Page _7	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
85	NC	House, c.1955.
113	С	Lyman House, center-chimney Colonial, c.1772, with non-original wing, porch, and deck added to the rear. (Photograph #4) (Inventory # 13)
	С	Barn, 19th century.
155	NC NC	House, 1985. Shed, 1986.
Map T, Block 63, Lots T & 31		Village Green, 18th century, with soldiers' memorial (1930), old artillery piece (c.1890), and tablet marking site of first Coventry church.
<u>Lake Street, West</u>	Side	
124	С	House, late-19th century, with Colonial Revival porch and non-original siding.
162	С	House, c.1850, with non-original siding and some fenestration.
	С	Shed, early-20th century.
Map O, Block 35,		
Lot 5	С	Nathan Hale Cemetery, with Nathan Hale monument (1846) and grave markers from 18th century to present. (Inventory # 14)
222	С	Thomas Porter House, c.1716, with non-original rear dormer and side wing. (Inventory # 15)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7_ Page ___8____

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Map O, Block 35, Lot 2-A		Patriots Park (town-owned), formerly Camp Nathan Hale (owned by Salvation Army, 1929-c.1980).
	С	"Dining Hall," c.1935.
	С	"Candy Store," c.1935.
	С	Well house, c. 1935.
	С	Cottage, c.1940.
	NC	Cottage, c. 1955.
	С	Cottage, c.1935.
	NC	Meeting Hall, mid-20th century, with non-original doors and rear deck.
	NC	Open pavilion, c.1980.
	NC	Band shell, 1986.
	С	Garage, c.1935.
	NC	University of Connecticut Boat House, c.1980

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9 South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Main Street, North Side

860	С	House, c.1890, with non-original siding.
940	с	House, Center-chimney Colonial, c.1780, with some non-original fenestration. (Inventory # 22)
984	C C	Italianate house, c.1855. (Inventory # 24) Barn/garage, 19th century.
1000	С	Greek Revival house, c.1840, with non-original siding, windows, and front porch.
	NC	porch. Shed, mid-20th century.
1010	NC	Commercial building, 20th century.
1012 - 16	C C C NC	House, 19th century, with non-original asbestos siding and front and side porches. Shed, 19th century. Coop, 19th century. Shed, mid-20th century.
1024	С	Greek Revival house, c.1840, with non-original wood-shingle siding and enclosed front porch.
	С	Garage, early-20th century.
1034	С	House, 19th century, with non-original siding, windows, and front porch.
	С	Fieldstone garage, 19th century.
1036		

Section number7	Page _10	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
1046	С	House, c.1870, with non-original siding, blinds, and windows; attached garage, 20th century.
1082	С	Greek Revival house, c.1853, with non-original windows and porches. (Inventory # 27)
	С	Barn/garage, 19th century.
1090	С	Greek Revival house, c.1838, with non-original windows and front bay. (Inventory # 30)
	С	Barn/garage, 19th century.
1104	с	Greek Revival house, c.1820, with a few non-original windows. (Inventory # 31)
	С	Barn/residence, 19th century, with non-original door, some windows, and rear exterior stairway.
	С	Fieldstone garage, 19th century.
1134	С	Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, Georgian Revival, 1912, with rear wing, 1989. (Photograph # 14) (Inventory # 35)
1140	С	Wellwood Store. c.1784, altered with Greek Revival portico and c.1860 Italianate side wing. (Photograph # 7) (Inventory # 36)
	С	Barn/garage, 19th century.
	С	Barn, 19th century.
1146	С	House, c.1875.
1150	С	Italianate house, c.1875, with non-original rear two-tier porch. (Inventory # 38)
1164	С	House, c.1875, with non-original siding and entrance canopy.
	С	Garage, 19th century, with non-original siding.

Continuation Onect		South Coventry Historic District
Section number <u>7</u>	Page 1	1 Coventry, CT
1180	С	Greek Revival house, c.1845, with non-original Colonial Revival porch, some fenestration, and front door. (Inventory # 40)
	С	Barn, 19th century.
1194	с	Italianate house, c.1870. (Inventory # 41)
1220	С	Bidwell Hotel and Tavern, Greek Revival, c.1822 with substantial alterations, including non-original two-tier Colonial Revival porch, siding, and blinds. (Inventory # 43)
	С	Retaining wall with stone bunkers, in rear yard, 19th century.
1260	С	Bidwell Tavern, c.1880, with modern rear addition, 1981, and deck, 1989. (Inventory # 44)
	NC NC	Ranch-style house, c.1960. Shed, mid-20th century.
1264	С	Greek Revival house, c.1840, with non-original two-tier front porch, siding, and metal blinds.
1276	с	Greek Revival house/commercial building, c.1850, with 19th-century rear addition. (Inventory # 46)
1284	NC	House, c.1950, with non-original siding and porch.
1294	С	House, c.1920.
1312	NC C	House, 19th century, with non-original siding and fenestration. Barn, 19th century, with non-original garage door.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12 South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Main Street, South Side

855	С	House, c.1900.
861	С	House, c.1900.
871	C C	House, c.1900. Garage, early-20th century.
903	NC	House, c.1960.
925	C NC	C. H. Kenyon House, Gothic Revival, c.1875, with non-original enclosed two-tier side porch. (Inventory # 21) Garage, mid-20th century.
943	С	House, early-19th century, with non-original windows and front door.
955	С	Greek Revival house, c.1860, with non-original wood shingle siding. (Inventory # 23)
1011	C NC	House/commercial building, Greek Revival, c.1840, with non-original asbestos siding, windows, and portico components. Garage, 1988.
1047	NC	Commercial building, 1980.
1059	C NC	House, 19th century, with non-original siding, windows, and probably front pavilion and porch. Shed, mid-20th century.

Section number	_ Page _1	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
1069	С	Federal-style house, c.1800, with some non-original windows and later two-bay addition at one end. (Inventory # 25)
	С	Garage/shed, 19th century.
1079	С	Center-chimney Colonial house, c.1800, with some non-original windows, Greek Revival front entrance, and two-bay addition on one end. (Inventory # 26)
1081	С	House, 19th century, with non-original siding, windows, and porch.
1085	С	Greek Revival house, c.1840, with non-original siding. (Inventory # 28)
1089	С	Italianate/Gothic Revival house, c.1855, with altered original porch and also non-original porches. (Inventory # 29)
1105	С	James S. Morgan House, c.1855, with some non-original porch supports and siding. (Inventory # 32)
1117	С	Queen Anne house, c.1860 (Owner's date), c.1890 (visual), with non-original siding. (Inventory # 33)
	С	Barn/garage, 19th century.
1129	С	Capron-Phillips House (National Register of Historic Places), c.1864, Italianate, with non-original elevated entrance steps on side. (Photograph # 10) (Inventory # 34)
	С	Barn/garage, 19th century (now used in part for retail purposes).
1141	С	Coventry Methodist Church, Italianate, 1867; part of one tower destroyed by 1938 hurricane. (Photograph # 11) (Inventory # 37)

Section number7	Page <u>1</u>	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
1153	NC NC	Commercial building, 1951. Open shed, mid-20th century.
1159	NC	Commercial building, 1950.
1171	С	First Congregational Church of Coventry, Greek Revival, 1849, with modern rear wing, c.1985. (Photograph # 6) (Inventory # 39)
	С	House, c.1890, with non-original metal blinds.
	С	House, c.1850, with non-original siding, blinds, and wood fire escape.
1189	С	House, 19th century, with non-original siding and side wing.
1193	NC	Gasoline station, c.1960.
1195	С	Coventry Visitors' Center (Old Town Office), Victorian Vernacular, 1876. (Photograph # 15) (Inventory # 42)
1197	С	Commercial building, 19th century, with non-original front door and display window.
1199	С	Commercial building, 19th Century, with non-original front door, display windows, and foundation.
1203-1209	NC	Commercial building, c. 1945, remodeled 1988.
1265	с	Coventry Volunteer Fire Association, c.1880, with modern rear addition. (Inventory # 45)
1275	С	Stone walls (ruin of old mill building), 19th century.
	NC	Commercial storage/industrial building, 19th and 20th centuries.

Section number7	Page <u>15</u>	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
1295	c c	Industrial building, 19th century, with later additions, c.1925, c.1935, and c.1965. (Inventory # 47) Millpond and random ashlar and concrete dam and retaining walls, 19th and 20th
1343	С	centuries. Italianate house, c.1875. (Inventory # 48)
1365	С	Boynton House, c.1800, with side wing that may date from 18th century. (Photograph #5) (Inventory # 49)
<u>Mason</u> <u>Street</u>		
26	C C NC NC	House, c.1890, with non-original vinyl siding. Garage, 19th century. Garage, 20th century. Shed, 20th century.
28	С	Kingsbury Box Factory, c.1868. (Photograph # 16) (Inventory # 50)
30	С	Morgan Silk Mill, c.1865, with later additions (19th and 20th centuries). (Photograph #3) (Inventory # 51)
32	С	Kingsbury Carriage House, late-19th century. (Inventory # 52)
83	c c	Henry Mason House, c.1860. (Photograph # 9) (Inventory # 53) Carriage house, c.1860.

Section number <u>7</u>	Page <u>16</u>	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
<u>Monument</u> <u>Hill</u> Road		
48	С	District #1 School, Greek Revival, c.1830, with non-original enclosed front porch. (Inventory # 54)
50	С	House, mid-19th century, with non-original
	С	siding. Shed, 19th century, with non-original
	С	siding. Garage, 19th century, with non-original siding.
54	С	House, mid-19th century, with non-original siding, enclosed side porches, and metal blinds.
68	С	Italianate house, c.1860, with some non-original fenestration, exterior chimney, and attached garage.
Prospect Street		
6	C C C	Italianate house, c.1870. (Inventory # 55) Garage, 19th century. Barn, 19th century.
18	С	Queen Anne house, c.1900.
28	С	Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house, c.1900. (Photograph # 13) Inventory # 56)
40	с с	House, c. 1875. Barn, 19th century.
46	С	Queen Anne house, c.1890, partly sheathed with non-original siding. (Photograph # 12) (Inventory # 57)
	С	Garage, c.1900.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number7	_ Page _1	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
56	с	Queen Anne house, c.1890. (Inventory # 58)
59	С С С С С	House, c.1890 Shed, early-20th century. Coop, early-20th century. Barn, 19th century. Greenhouse, early-20th century.
68	NC NC	House, c.1950. Garage, mid-20th century.
83	C NC NC	Queen Anne house, c.1890, with modern deck on side and glazed front porch. Garage, c.1980. Shed, c.1980.
84	С	Bungalow/Craftsman house, c.1915. (Inventory # 59)
88	С	House, c.1850.
<u>School</u> Street		
22	NC	House, mid-20th century, with extensive alterations (e.g., non-original siding, dormers).
33	C NC C C	House, c.1880, with some non-original fenestration and exterior dormers. Garage, mid-20th century. Garage, early-20th century. Shed, c.1900.

Section number7	Page _ <u>18</u>	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
_		
34	С	Queen Anne house, c.1890, with non-original siding and blinds.
	NC	Garage, mid-20th century.
43	С	Double house, c.1880, with non-original siding and metal blinds.
	С	Barn/garage, 19th century.
53A	С	House, 19th century, with non-original siding, altered porch, and rear addition.
53B	С	House, early-19th century.
	С	Garage, 20th century.
63	С	House, early-19th century, with non-original siding, porch, and metal blinds.
	NC	Shed, mid-20th century.
67	С	House, mid-19th century, with non-original siding and metal blinds.
	NC	Shed, mid-20th century.
85	С	Queen Anne/American Four Square house, c.1910.
	NC	Shed, late-20th century.
93	С	House, c.1940, with non-original siding.
103	С	Queen Anne house, c.1890, with non-original dormer and deck.
	С	Barn/garage, early-20th century.
105	С	House, c.1930.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

South Coventry Historic District Section number 7 Page 19 Coventry, CT Wall Street, North 7 С Italianate house, c.1860, with non-original siding. 15 С House, 19th century, with later additions. С Queen Anne house, c.1890, with non-original 33 siding. (Inventory # 64) Garage, 19th century. С 135 С Queen Anne house, c.1890. (Inventory # 67) Italianate house, c.1865, with modern rear 167 С deck. (Inventory # 71) C Barn, 19th century. Wall Street, South С Marcy House, Greek Revival, c.1840. 4 (Photograph # 8) (Inventory # 61) 10 С House, 19th century, with non-original siding, door, and fenestration. С Garage, 19th century. 20 С LeDoyt House, Greek Revival, c.1850, with non-original siding. (Inventory # 62) С Garage, early-20th century. Buel-Jacobs House, Greek Revival, c.1840. 30 С C Barn, 19th century. (Inventory # 63) С Parker House, Greek Revival, c.1840, with 44 non-original metal blinds and polygonal side porch. (Inventory # 65)

Section number7	Page _2	South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT
82	C NC	House, c.1875, with c.1990 front porch. Shed, mid-20th century.
96	C C	House, c.1875. Garage, c.1925.
110	C c	Mill Brook Farm; House, c.1850, with non-original front porch (c.1900). (Inventory # 66) Barn, 19th century. Garage, early-20th century.
122	С	House, c.1870.
132	c c	Queen Anne house, c.1890, with c.1985 front porch. Garage, early-20th century.
136	С	American Legion, Green Chabot Post # 52, Queen Anne, c.1900, with added metal fire escape. (Inventory # 68)
146	C C	S. Tillinghast House, c.1865. (Inventory # 69) Garage, c.1930.
160	с	House, c.1870. (Inventory # 70)
176	С	Addison Kingsbury House, c.1860. (Inventory # 72)
Woods Lane		
22	С	House, early-19th century, with added porch and non-original fenestration.
32	NC	House, 1949.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

South Coventry Historic District Section number <u>7</u> Page <u>21</u> Coventry, CT Map X, Block 43, С Lot 22 Barn, 19th century. С Millpond, dam, and stone retaining walls, 19th century. 64 NC House, 1959. 67 С Greek Revival house, c.1840, with non-original siding and fenestration. С Shed, 19th century. С Outhouse, 19th century. С Barn, 19th century.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this proper nationally	rty in relation to other properties: statewide x locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A B XC	D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D DE F G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance <u>c.1716-c.1940</u>	Significant Dates
	Cultural Affiliation	
Significant Person NA	Architect/Builder NA	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The South Coventry Historic District is architecturally significant because it is a cohesive village of well-preserved buildings and their surroundings that illustrate the continuum of the area's history, from the early 18th century onward. Fine examples of many period architectural styles are present, among them the Colonial, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne, together with vernacular buildings typical of small New England villages. Of particular interest are those buildings and sites that clearly express the village's historic role as the center of town life and its 19thcentury industrial heritage and milieu.

Historical Background

Settlement of South Coventry began around 1707, with people arriving from Hartford and Windsor, Connecticut, and Northampton, Massachusetts. Incorporation of the town of Coventry followed in 1712, by which time 16 families, drawn by the fertile soil, had established homes. Farming was the principal economic pursuit during the 18th century, and Mill Brook provided the waterpower for mills serving the local needs, the earliest of which, a grist mill, was established in 1716.

From time of settlement onward, South Coventry was the center of activity of the entire town. Early buildings were concentrated around the Green, which was set out by the 1730s, and along Lake Street, with others scattered along the length of Main Street. Funds for the first meetinghouse were voted in 1715, and though enlarged in 1736, this building was replaced in the 1760s by a larger one built on High Street facing the Green. During the French and Indian War and the American Revolution, the Green served as a military training

See continuation sheet

	\mathbf{x} See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of additional data:
has been requested	x State historic preservation office
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings	University
Survey #	xxOther
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Specify repository:
Record #	Booth and Dimock Memorial Library,
	Coventry, CT
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property <u>approximately 250</u>	
o 1 1 <i>,</i> 	
UTM References	
	$B \bigsqcup{1} \bigsqcup{1} \bigsqcup{1} \bigsqcup{1} \bigsqcup{1} \bigsqcup{1} \bigsqcup{1} 1$
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
	xxSee continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
The district boundaries are delineate which is based on information supplie Assessor of Coventry, CT, scale 1' = boundaries follow property lines and	ed by the Town Planner and Town 200 feet. With few exceptions, the middle of roads.
	X See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	

x See continuation sheet

11. Form Pr	epared By									
name/title	Gregory	Ε.	Andrews,	Reviewed	by	John	Herzan,	National	Register	Coordinator
organization							date	15 Ma	arch 199	1
street & number							teleph	one 203-	561-3841	
city or town							state _	CT	zip	code <u>06107</u>

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____8 Page __1

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

ground. The town's most noteworth contribution to the Revolution was Nathan Hale, who is commemorated by an impressive monument raised to his memory in 1846 in the town cemetery, which was also named in his honor.

The abundant waterpower provided by Mill Brook, which drops 250 feet over a two-mile course between Lake Wangumbaug and the Willimantic River, stimulated considerable growth in South Coventry during the 19th century. A succession of manufacturing facilities were established at 17 waterpower privileges along the brook. At the first water privilege, closest to the lake, is the village's oldest extant industrial facility, Boynton's Mill of c.1815. Contributing to industrial growth was the arrival of the railroad around 1850. The South Coventry station, located several miles outside the district, gave village manufacturers a more efficient means of tranporting production and expanded their markets.

The history of these ventures is a cycle of creation, decline, and new efforts, a pattern typical throughout New England. Despite the turnover, activity remained fairly constant throughout the 19th century. These ventures included the expected grist, carding, and textile mills, together with paper, box, and rifle cartridge manufacturing, among others. Some of the industries prospered for decades. Morgan's Silk Mill, c.1868, grew from 10 employees to over 100 at the turn of the century. Addison Kingsbury's paper box manufactory nearby was the first building in an enterprise that expanded to five locations and produced 30,000 boxes daily by 1888.

Growth of the village paralled the industries, and Main Street replaced the area around the Green as the heart of South Coventry. While the Dr. Samuel Rose House on High Street continued to serve as an inn, by mid-century the post office had moved from Martin Lyman's house on Lake Street to the Bidwell Hotel (1822). Shops opened in Main Street homes and in new or remodeled commercial buildings, such as the Wellwood Store (c.1784, with substantial 19th-century alterations). Erection of a Congregational Church on Main Street occurred in 1849, with the old serving as town hall until a new building rose in 1876 on Main Street. The village filled in with housing that included impressive mansions for mill owners, such as the Addison Kingsbury House on Wall Street, and modest residences for mill workers (e.g., the double houses along Bradbury Lane from the mid-19th century). By the late 19th century, the village had assumed much of its present-day appearance.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number $_\frac{8}{2}$ Page $_\frac{2}{2}$

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

South Coventry's growth peaked around the turn of the century. The number of enterprises and their output stabilized and thereafter began to decline. Beginning in the late 19th century, many of the wooden mill buildings burned and were not rebuilt. Population fell after 1900, and little new construction occurred, a notable exception being the Booth and Dimock Memorial Library. Another exception, the buildings erected by the Salvation Army in the 1930s at Camp Nathan Hale, now town-owned Patriots Park, demonstrate the larger economic role assumed during this century by Lake Wangumgaug because of its popularity for seasonal recreation.

The Great Depression and the 1938 New England Hurricane brought the village's economy to an almost complete standstill, and most factories closed. By 1930, the entire town's population had fallen to 1552, fewer than the total in 1756. Since that time, construction of new buildings, both residential and commercial, has occurred at a slow pace in South Coventry, reflecting the continuing lack of a strong economy.

Architectural Significance

The South Coventry Historic District's strong sense of time and place is a product of many factors, both built and natural. The architectural resources cover the entire history of the village, from early 18th-century settlement to the mid-20th century, in cohesive streetscapes with few non-contributing buildings. The historic street pattern, established by the mid-19th century, is little changed. Historic landscape elements likewise remain mostly intact, and the rocky terrin and omnipresent stone walls marking fields and terracing the hillsides clearly establish the district's New England locale. Taken together, these features clearly set the village apart from the areas outside the district that are either more rural or have experienced modern development.

Architecturally, the buildings in the South Coventry historic district present an impressive range in style and quality, embodying the diversity that characterizes small New England villages of its age and history. The historic styles represented run the gamut chronologically from the Colonial to the Bungalow. The Dr. Samuel Rose House (c.1775), First Congregational Church of Coventry (1849), Capron-Phillips House (c.1864), and 46 Prospect Street (c.1890) are fine examples of the Colonial, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____8 Page ____3

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Anne styles, respectively, with the Greek Revival and Italianate especially well represented. A number of less sophisticated buildings, such as 34 Bradbury Lane, incorporate fancy turned and sawn front porch detailing into overall vernacular designs. Alterations incorporating features of later styles are also found, not surprisingly, throughout the district, such as the two-tier Colonial Revival porch on the Greek Revival-style Bidwell Hotel (1822). These changes have not compromised the integrity of the district; in fact, some have acquired value in their own right.

All major aspects of community life are represented by extant structures, including South Coventry's historic civic, cultural, and economic importance in the town of Coventry. The central place of the Congregational church in local and state history is represented by the First Congregational Church (1849). On Monument Hill Road, the old schoolhouse (c.1830) is evidence of the importance placed on education in community life since the town's founding. South Coventry's continuing role as a center of town affairs is demonstrated by the old Town Office (1876), which serves now as the town visitors' center, by the South Coventry Volunteer Fire Association (c.1880), and by the Booth and Dimock Memorial Library (1912, 1989). The Camp Nathan Hale buildings in Patriots Park that date from the 1930s illustrate the impact that Lake Wangumgaug's recreational value has had on both the village's and town's architecture and economy.

The associations of South Coventry's buildings and sites with its 19th-century industrial prosperity are strong, providing a significant measure of the district's significance. Surviving buildings and structures present a nearly complete picture of the village during its heyday. Their stylistic sophistication, compared to those in the village from the 18th and 20th centuries, indicates the vitality of the local economy and residents. The mill buildings, and the network along Mill Brook of mill ponds, dams, and sluiceways, graphically portray the nature of the local industrial operations. The mills are also distinctive because of their frame walls, a feature that had been replaced for safety reasons by masonry in much of the region by mid century (note 1). While the Kenyon Mill and Kingsbury Box Factory are the most nearly intact, the changes to the others document their adaptation to a succession of commercial uses. Mill-related housing is also well represented, ranging from the

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____8 Page ____

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

architectural pretensions of mill owners and managers, seen in the homes of Addison Kingsbury and C.H. Kenyon, to the functional, simply designed homes for mill workers, such as 34 Bradbury Lane.

Notes.

 For a good discussion of 19th-century mill forms, see William
 H. Pierson, Jr., <u>American Buildings and Their Architects</u>, vol. 2: <u>Technology and the Picturesque</u>, <u>The Corporate and the Early Gothic</u> <u>Styles</u> (1978), pp. 42-49.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____9 Page ___1

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Local Histories

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- Boswell, John L. Catalogue of the First Congregational Church in Coventry, Connecticut. 1839.
- Cole, J. R. History of Tolland County. New York: W.W. Preston & Co., 1888.
- <u>Commemorative Biographical Record of the Towns of Tolland and Windham</u> <u>Counties.</u> Chicago: J. H. Beers & Co. 1903.
- <u>Coventry, Connecticut Centennial Celebration.</u> Official Program Old Home Week, August 25-31, 1912.
- Hayward, K. P. "Notes on Coventry, Connecticut Families," in <u>The American</u> <u>Genealogist.</u> Apr. 1952 - Jan. 1953; vol. 28, no. 2, pp. 65-67; no. 4, pp. 245-251; vol. 29, no. 1, pp. 43-46.
- Messier, Betty Brook and Janet Aronson. <u>The Roots of Coventry, Connecticut.</u> Coventry, CT.: The 275th Anniversary Committee, 1987.
- Minor, Mrs. William. "Coventry in Retrospect 250 Years." no imp.
- Porter, J.B. "Coventry, Connecticut Notes on Early History." 1952.
- Peterson, Maude Gridley. "Historic Sketch with Views of Coventry, CT." Official Program Old Home Week Bicentennial Celebration, August 25 - 31, 1912.

Maps and Views

Atlas of Windham and Tolland Counties. Hartford, CT: CG Keeney, 1869.

Map of Tolland County, 1857. Woodward & Bartlett, 1857.

View of South Coventry, Connecticut, 1878.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number __9 Page __2

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Governmental Records

Dimock, Susan Whitney, comp. <u>Births. Marriages. Baptisms and Deaths from</u> <u>the Records of the Town and Churches in Coventry. Connecticut. 1711-1844.</u> New York: The Baker and Taylor Co., 1897.

Directories

Hank's Directory of Willimantic. (includes Coventry) Meriden, CT: Hanks & Co., 1890.

Killenberger's Rockville Directory. (includes Coventry) 1879.

Price & Lee's Williamantic City Directory (includes Coventry) 1891-1923.

Miscellaneous

Andrews, Gregory, and Lewis, Barbara. <u>Historical and</u> <u>Architectural Resources Survey of Coventry, Connecticut:</u> <u>The Coventry Village Area</u>. Prepared for Town of Coventry and Connecticut Historical Commission, July 1990.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>10</u> Page <u>1</u>

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the historic district mark the visual extent of that cohesive grouping of buildings, structures, and sites most closely associated with the district's themes of importance: the historic development of the village of South Coventry, and the village's significant 19th-century industries. With few exceptions, property lines of district resources, as set forth in the current town assessor's map, delineate the district's borders.

Open space and modern or non-contributing buildings establish most of the boundaries. For example, the buildings on the west side of Lake Street, at the western edge of the district, are either modern or greatly altered. Modern residential construction also establishes the boundary on High Street. Beyond the eastern edge of the district near Armstrong Road and Main Street, the buildings become scattered and visually disconnected. The area around the 18th-century village Green is included, on the other hand, despite a ridge that separates it visually to some extent from the rest of the district, because of its central role, both historically and architecturally, in the early development of South Coventry, one of the district's themes.

UTM Coordinates:

A: 18/723930/4627640 B: 18/724720/4627330 C: 18/724750/4627620 D: 18/724910/4627600 E: 18/724980/4627310 F: 18/725470/4627050 G: 18/725300/4626840 H: 18/725340/4626730 I: 18/725190/4626630 J: 18/724740/4626720 K: 18/724150/4627070 L: 18/724030/4626870 M: 18/723850/4626820 N: 18/723510/4627160 0: 18/723600/4627440 P: 18/723850/4627440



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page _____

South Coventry Historic District Coventry, CT

Photographs

All Photographs of the South Coventry Historic District, Coventry, CT were taken by Gregory E. Andrews, in February through April, 1990. Negatives for all photographs are on file with the Connecticut Historical Commission, Hartford, CT.

Number	Description	View
1.	Main St. streetscape, from the public library	Southeast
2.	Main St. streetscape, from the vicinity of 1343 Main	St. Southeast
3.	Stone walls and mill along Mill Brook, near the Morg Silk Mill	an Northwest
4.	Lyman House, 113 Lake Stree	t Southeast
5.	Boynton House, 1365 Main St	. Southwest
6.	First Congregational Church 1171 Main St.	, Southwest
7.	Wellwood Store, 1140 Main S	t. Northeast
8.	Marcy House, 4 Wall St.	West
9.	Henry Mason House, 83 Mason St.	East
10.	Capron-Phillips House, 1129 Main St.	Southwest
11.	Coventry Methodist Church, 1141 Main St.	South

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page	Page	South Coventry Historic District
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Photographs (continued)

12.	46 Prospect St.	West
13.	28 Prospect St.	Southeast
14.	Booth and Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St.	North
15.	Coventry Visitors' Center, (Old Town Office), 1195 Main St.	South
16.	Kingsbury Box Factory, 28 Mason St.	West
17.	Kenyon Mill, 28 Armstrong Rd.	West