

available. Connecticut's forests presently yield 25 cords of fuel wood per acre per year and 113 board feet of saw timber per acre per year. If forests were properly managed, the yields would easily double.

Thus, forestlands and the wood they produce contribute positively to the economy. In addition, forestlands have considerable recreational, wildlife, and water quality values. In many subdivisions, however, house sites are often completely cleared and all trees removed. Although this practice may be economical, it results in increased runoff of water and encourages large, fertilized lawns.

## **HISTORIC FEATURES**

Killingworth and the town of Clinton to the south were founded in 1663 as the Plantation of Hammonasset (Hommonoscit) by an act of the Connecticut General Assembly. The original lots were laid out along what is now Main Street in Clinton. In 1667, the town was named Kenilworth, after the place in England from which one of the settlers came. In England, Kenilworth was also referred to as Killingworth, and the latter through misspelling became the name used by the town. In 1669, Uncas, Sachem of the Mohegans, and his son Joshua sold the lands in Killingworth to the inhabitants. The Congregational Church was formed in 1667 and the first minister was the Rev. John Woodbridge, a graduate of Harvard. Dr. Abraham Pierson became minister in 1694. He was among a group of clergymen who in 1701 formed the Collegiate School which later was named Yale College. He was its first rector or President and held classes in his home in Killingworth until his death in 1707. He was succeeded as pastor by Jared Eliot who was also an agriculturalist, scientist, and the most prominent physician in the Colony.

Settlement of the northern portion of Killingworth began in the early part of the 18th century. Descendants of the original settlers and new settlers obtained grants of land from the proprietors of the town. In 1730, the inhabitants of North Killingworth, known as the farmers, petitioned to form a separate society because it was so difficult to travel to church and town meetings in the south. They were organized in a parish (the North Society or Second Ecclesiastical Society) in 1735. The General Assembly granted permission for the establishment of a church in 1737 and the Rev. William Seward served as pastor from 1738 to 1782. A society house (equivalent to a town hall) was built in 1736 and the first meetinghouse (church building) was completed in 1743. The Emmanuel Episcopal church building was completed in 1816. The present Congregational church building was completed in 1820. The North Society, which retained the name Killingworth, was separated from the First Society, which assumed the name Clinton, by an act of the legislature in 1838. While Clinton was active in business, shipping, and fishing, Killingworth was largely a town of farms and small, water-powered mills. In the second half of the 19th century and into the 20th century, the population declined and many residents departed for the Midwest as farming here became less profitable.

The tangible legacy of Killingworth's past is the approximately 150 houses that survive from before 1870, two early nineteenth century churches, eight graveyards, eight one-room schoolhouses, and the remains of the sites of early development and industry (Table 1-1). All of these cultural assets add considerably to the charm and variety of Killingworth's countryside and must be preserved. The fact that our historic structures and sites are slowly disappearing makes the task of preserving them urgent.

Because Killingworth was an outlanders' settlement, it does not have a town green or real main street around which to plan. Two of the most historically significant buildings are on Route 81 just north of the traffic circle and adjacent to the commercial district. These are the Old Ely House, the

house for the second pastor Henry Ely, and the Killingworth Congregational Church, dedicated in 1820. A house, now the Killingworth Café, northeast of the junction of Routes 80 and 81 was built around 1790 on the site of the original parsonage. These landmarks, thirteen other historically significant buildings, and the historic site of our first churches are located within the extended town center along Route 80 and 81.

**Table 1-1. Historically Significant Sites in the Town of Killingworth**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Owner</b>
<b>Schools, School Sites</b>		
Black Rock District	Route 148, moved to Recycle Way	Killingworth Historical Society (KHS)
Center District	Route 80 & 81 Circle	Town of Killingworth
Chestnut Hill District	Chestnut Hill Road	Private
Lane District	Route 81 & Pond Meadow Road	Private
Pine Orchard District	Route 148, moved to Parmelee Farm	Town of Killingworth
Roast Meat Hill District	Roast Meat Hill Road	Private
School Site		
Southwest District	Green Hill Road, moved to Fire Tower Road	Private
Stone House District	Little City Road	Private
Tower Hill School Site	Titus Coan Road & Deep River Turnpike	Private
Union District	Roast Meat Hill Road	KHS
<b>Cemeteries</b>		
Union District	Roast Meat Hill Road	Town of Killingworth
Southwest District	River Road	Town of Killingworth
Pine Orchard District	North Chestnut Hill Road	Town of Killingworth
Parker Hill District	North Parker Hill Road	Town of Killingworth
Lane District	Lovers Lane	Town of Killingworth
Stone House District	Little City Road	Town of Killingworth
New Pine Orchard District (Emmanuel Church Cemetery)	Bunnell Bridge Road	Town of Killingworth
Evergreen	Green Hill Road	Private Association
<b>Mill and Factory Sites</b>		
Old Ironworks (Eliot)	Ironworks Road	CT Water Company
Ironworks	Chatfield Hollow	State of CT
Hydroelectric Plant	Chatfield Hollow	State of CT
Abner Lane Mill	Abner Lane Road	Private
A. Lane Axe Handle Mill	Schnoor Road	Private
Axe Handle Mill	Pond Meadow Road	Private
Isbell Rake & Hub Mill	Birch Mill Road	Private
Scranton Circular Sawmill	County Road	Hammonasset Fish & Game

		Association
Ambrose Parmelee Grist Mill	Kroupa's Pond	Private
Parmelee Saw Mill	Kroupa's Pond	Private
Augustus Stevens Saw Mill	Titus Coan Road	Private
Augustus Stevens Grist Mill	Titus Coan Road	Private
Kelsey Shingle Mill	Burr Hill & Pond Meadow Road	Private
Mill Site	CL & P ROW off Spencer Hill <sup>^</sup> Road	Private
Asahel Parmelee Shingle Mill and Saw Mill (made spinning and flax wheels)	Saw Mill Hollow, Off Route 148	Private
Elba Paper Mill	Paper Mill Road	Boy Scouts of America
Killingworth Manufacturing Company Paper Mill	Green Hill Road	Private
Tannery	Nineveh Falls, Route 80	Private
Additional mill sites shown on old maps, not yet documented		
<b>Ecclesiastical Buildings and Sites</b>		
First Congregational Meetinghouse Site	Chittenden Road & Route 81	Killingworth Land Conservation Trust (KLCT)
First Society House Site	Chittenden Road & Route 81	KLCT
William Seward House Site, Killingworth Inn built over it	Route 80 & 81	Private
Henry Ely House	Route 81	Private
Second Congregational Meetinghouse	Route 81	Congregational Church
Second Society House Site	Behind Congregational Church	Congregational Church
Congregational Church Parsonage	Route 81	Congregational Church
Emmanuel Episcopal Church	Emanuel Church Road	Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Former Parsonage for Emmanuel Church	Route 148	Private
Methodist Episcopal Church Site	Route 81 & Pond Meadow Road	Private
Former Parsonage for Methodist Church	Route 81	Private
St. Lawrence Church and Rectory	Hemlock Drive	Roman Catholic Church
<b>Abandoned Roads</b>		
Deep River Turnpike	Parallel Route 80	Various
Wolf Meadow Road	Roast Meat Hill Road to Route 81	Town of Killingworth, Private
Bear Swamp Road	Roast Meat Hill Road to Center Road	Private
Center Road	North of Route 80 east of Circle	Congregational Church, Private

**Miscellaneous Sites**

Titus Coan Housesite	Titus Coan Road	Private
Stagecoach Stop	Tower Hill Road	Private and Town of Killingworth
Old Town Hall	Route 81	Congregational Church
First Training Plain	Green Hill Road	Private
Second Training Plain	Route 80 east of Circle	Private
Killingworth Images Site	Green Hill & Coughlin Roads	KHS
Town Pound	Route 80 east of Circle	KLCT
Buell Homestead site	Deer Lake	KLCT
Carriage Road	Deer Lake	KLCT
Agricultural Renaissance Cairns	Deer Lake	KLCT
Gold Mine	Gold Mine Road	Private
Stone Fort	Parker Hill Road, included in Wilkinson house	Private
Indian Village Site	East of Roast Meat Hill Road, north of Route 80	Private
Indian Caves	Chatfield Hollow	State of CT
Indian Caves (Sackett's Cave)	Cockaponset State Forest	State of CT
Footings for Telegraph Poles	Abner Lane	Town of Killingworth
	Route 148	State of CT
Pondmeadow Gate	Pond Meadow Road	Private

**Environmentally –Sensitive Areas**

Cedar Swamp	East of Cow Hill Road	KLCT
Cranberry Bog	Pond Meadow Road	KLCT
Green Swamp	East of Burr Hill and Schnoor Roads	Private