

*H*ANDBOOK

for the VOTERS

of

NORTH

BRANFORD,

Connecticut

This booklet has been prepared as a public service by the North Branford League of Women Voters. The League gratefully acknowledges the help of the town officials in the preparation of this material.

The League of Women Voters is not connected with any political party. It is an independent national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The League does not ally itself with, or support, any political party or candidate. It does, after careful study, take a stand for or against specific issues and policies. To all citizens it offers information on the workings of government, on legislative issues, and on the records of candidates.

Active membership is open to all voting women twenty-one years of age or over. Associate membership is open to non-voting women and to men who wish to support the League.

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NORTH BRANFORD

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

North Branford was settled in 1680. It was named a society in the town or parish of Branford in 1768 and incorporated as a town when it left Branford in 1831.

Among the first settlers here were Thomas Mulliner and Thomas Whitway, followed by Stents, Roses, Hoadleys, Footes, Maltbys and Bartholemews. They cleared the tangled areas and stopped the Mohegans from encroaching. Captain Rose, of Hop Yard Plain, brought his famous dairy herd, distributing his Sunday milking among the needy.

Early interests were the fulling and barber mills where cloth was shrunk and cleaned and hides tanned. One was operated by John Maltby, who had a good water supply at hand at his place called "Pog", in Northford. An unusual shop of its time was the

business place of David Stearns Stevens, where cards were printed for every occasion (Mr. Stevens' father had previously made spoons in this humble shop.) The business grew and later occupied the more spacious rooms of the Maltby Works. The Stevens Card Company became well known. Axe handles, dippers and buttons were also made in this town.

Totoket Mountain ranges through the vales and meadows where Stony Creek and the Branford River run.

North Branford has grown to a population of around 2,000.

Today there are numerous small businesses and many farms in the town, but two companies figure largely in the economy of the town. They are the New Haven Trap Rock Company and the Lake Gaillard reservoir which is a part of the New Haven Water Supply Company. Lake Gaillard is an artificial reservoir, completed in 1933. It covers 1150 acres and has a capacity of 16 billion gallons, being the largest supply in the system.

The New Haven Trap Rock Company is located on Route 80 in North Branford, and is the largest single-face trap rock quarry in the world. The story of trap rock begins 150 to 200 million years ago, in the Dinosaur era. During that period of Volcanic eruptions, hard lava poured over the soft sand on which Dinosaurs walked. When digging the Water Company tunnel under the North Branford quarry to Lake Gaillard footprints of this historic animal were found, and specimens were placed in the Yale Museum.

Because of its volcanic origin, trap rock is the hardest type of material, most suitable for highway construction with the expanding automobile industry, railroad track ballast dams, viaducts, airfields, sewerage filtration, driveways, buildings, etc., and is both fire and water resistant.

The Trap Rock company was formed in 1914, and plans for the organization were laid out by Clarence Blakeslee. The old Branford steam railroad was taken over for hauling the material to Stony Creek, where it is placed on barges for shipment to Cape Cod, the West, Long Island, New York City, upper York State and other points. "Blue Diamond Mix", an asphaltic concrete, is also well known and popular.

CALENDAR

The BOARD of SELECTMEN meets every second Friday evening.

The BOARD of EDUCATION meets on the third Monday in the month.

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|-----------|---|
| January | Hunting and trapping licenses at Town Clerk's office - run January 1 to January 1 |
| February | Tax Review Board meetings - open to public and date announced in newspapers |
| March | Fire permits from local Fire Warden - required from March through November |
| April | Dog licenses renewed at Town Clerk's office - April 1 to May 1
Fishing licenses at Town Clerk's office - opening dates of season announced in newspapers
First half of property tax due Town Tax Collector by May 1. Taxes under \$20 due in full at this time |
| July | Caucus registration last Friday - for those who are voters but not affiliated with a party
Second half of property tax due July 15, on or before August 15. If first payment becomes delinquent, entire tax immediately becomes due and subject to full rate of 6% interest from April 1 |
| September | Board of Assessors meeting - open to public, date announced in newspapers
Board of Finance meeting - open to public, date announced in newspapers
Bee licenses at Town Clerk's office before October 1
Registration of new voters for town elections |
| October | Registration of new voters for National and State elections - dates and places announced in newspapers
First Monday - Annual Town Meeting to adopt the budget
Biennial town election, odd years
Declare taxable property to Tax Assessors by October 31 |
| November | State and National elections |
- MARRIAGE LICENSES - open season at Town Clerk's office**

THE VOTER

WHO MAY VOTE

1. One must be an American citizen, 21 years of age or over.
2. A resident of Connecticut for one year next preceding the time he seeks to be so admitted.
3. A resident of North Branford for six months next preceding the time he seeks to be so admitted.
4. Able to read in English any article of the Constitution or any section of the Statutes of this State.
5. Of good moral character.
6. Must take the oath prescribed by law.

No mentally unfit person may be admitted as an elector.

HOW TO BECOME A VOTER

One must appear before the Board of Admission of Electors consisting of the Selectmen and the Town Clerk for examination and to take the Elector's Oath to be true to the Constitution of the United States and the State of Connecticut. The Board of Registrars are also in attendance, and one may affiliate himself or herself with a political party of his or her choice by registering with the Board.

For members of the armed forces who are unable to appear in person, an exception is made whereby a special form is filled out which is obtainable from the Town Clerk. If at home on a furlough, one can request the Town Clerk, in writing, that the Board of Admission of Electors act on the application at its next session or that it hold a special session at that time.

Naturalization papers must be presented by naturalized citizens when appearing for registration.

WHEN TO BE MADE A VOTER

In even numbered years - during the months of August and September. (Such day of third week of said months as designated by Board of Admission of Electors.) *Regular sessions are also held on Saturday of the fourth week and on Saturday of the third week prior to elections.

In odd-numbered years - during the month of September.**

Also a special session is held immediately prior to elections for those persons whose qualifications have matured since the last regularly scheduled session of the Board of Admission of Electors.

WHERE TO BE MADE A VOTER

All sessions of the Board of Admission of Electors alternate in the Town Hall, North Branford, and William Douglas School, Northford, place designated by the Board of Admission of Electors.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Any qualified voter unable to vote in person in any Local, State or National election, due to absence from the State during the entire day of election or because of a physical disability, may obtain the Connecticut Absentee Ballot upon application to the Town Clerk, not more than four months before the date set for an election. This ballot must be filled out, sworn to by a notary public, and returned by mail postpaid to the Town Clerk so that it is received not later than 6 P. M. on the day prior to the day of election. (If the election falls on a Monday, the ballot must be received by 12 noon on election day.)

The above absentee ballot provisions also apply to the election on Oct. 1, 1951 for any elector whose religious beliefs prevent him from going to the polls during the hours of voting.

*The Registrars of Voters also hold sessions on the last Friday in July at the Town Hall, North Branford, or William Douglas School, Northford, for enrollment of electors entitled to vote in caucuses and for making changes in the caucus enrollment list.

****Admission of Voters - 1951**

Sept. 8, 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. - William Douglas School, Northford

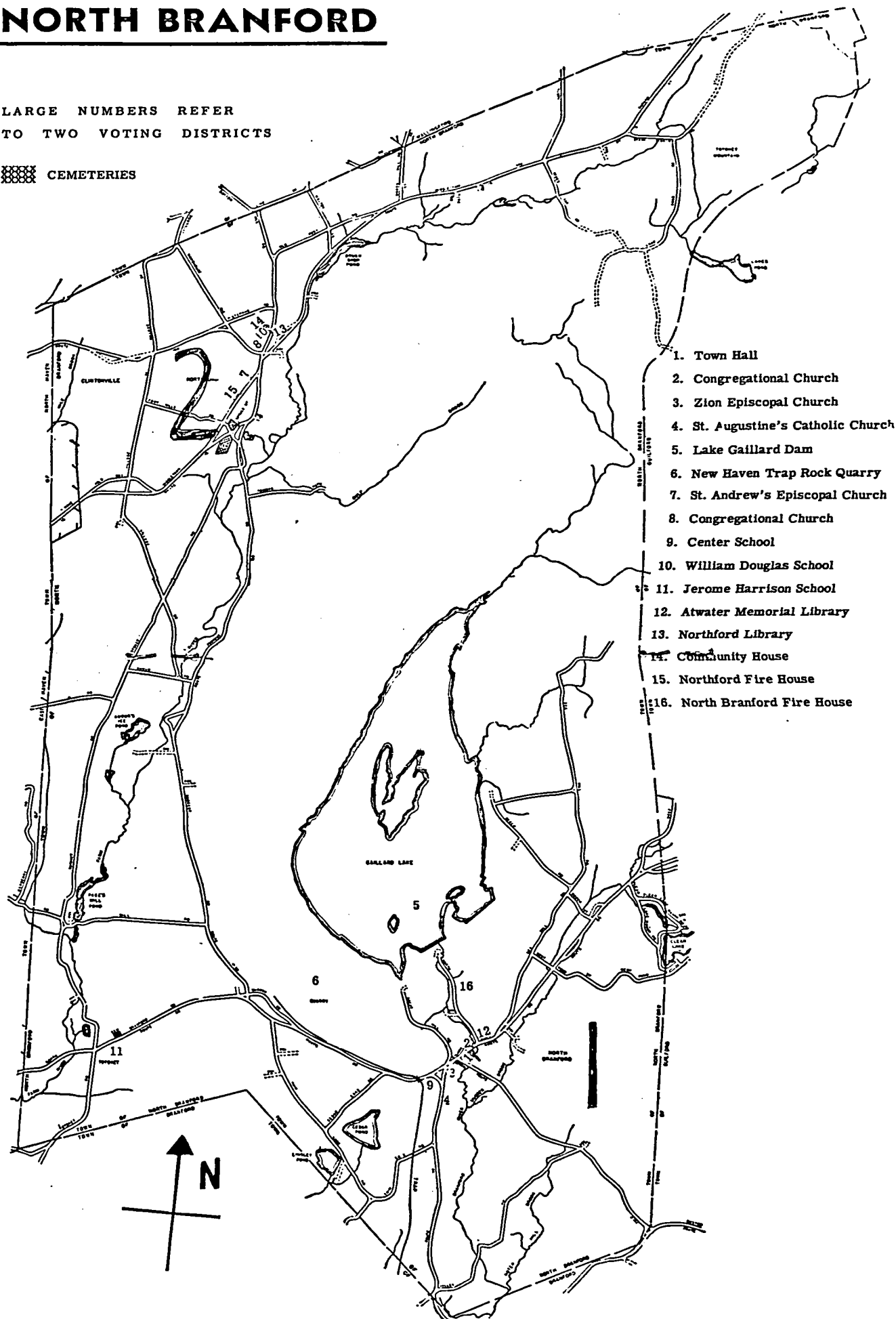
Sept. 15, 9 A. M. to 8 P. M. - Town Hall, North Branford

***Sept. 29, 3 P. M. to 5 P. M. - Special session in the Town Hall for those persons whose qualifications have matured subsequent to Sept. 15, 1951.

NORTH BRANFORD

LARGE NUMBERS REFER
TO TWO VOTING DISTRICTS

 CEMETERIES



1. Town Hall
2. Congregational Church
3. Zion Episcopal Church
4. St. Augustine's Catholic Church
5. Lake Gaillard Dam
6. New Haven Trap Rock Quarry
7. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
8. Congregational Church
9. Center School
10. William Douglas School
11. Jerome Harrison School
12. Atwater Memorial Library
13. Northford Library
14. Community House
15. Northford Fire House
16. North Branford Fire House

T O W N O F F I C I A L S

P O W E R S a n d D U T I E S

OFFICE	TERM	HOW ELECTED	POWERS and DUTIES
First Selectman	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	Acts as Agent of the Town.
Selectmen (2)	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 2 elected If the votes of the unsuccessful candidate for 1st Selectman ex- ceed either of the other candi- dates, he becomes a Selectman	The Board of Selectmen Have charge of road construction and maintenance; adjust and settle all claims against the town; draw orders on the Treasurer for disbursement of town funds; keep account of expenditures; administer relief and welfare; appoint town officials not elected; are responsible for the call- ing of all town meetings; (a town meeting may be requested by 20 registered voters and must be called by the selectmen within ten days of the presentation of the signed petition); submit annual budget to Board of Finance. Constitute Board of Admission of Electors (with Town Clerk)
Board of Assessors (3)	4 yrs	2 elected in 1945 and every 4 yrs. thereafter 1 elected in 1947 and every 4 yrs. thereafter	Receive tax list as of Oct. 1st to be filed by taxpayer before Nov. 1st. 10% added for all lists filed after Nov. 1st. Places valuations on all taxable property and compile Grand List by Jan. 1st.
Board of Tax Review (3)	4 yrs	2 elected in 1945 and every 4 yrs. thereafter 1 elected in 1947 and every 4 yrs. thereafter	Hold hearings for complaints of taxpayers on assessments. by the Assessors and may adjust amount of assessments. Must meet on Feb. 1st and such other days as the Board may select.
Town Clerk (1)	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	Recorder and custodian of land records, vital statistics, Veterans' discharge certificates, town meetings. Issues marriage licenses, dog, hunting and angling licenses, bee registration; is clerk of the Annual town meeting. Member of the Board of Admission of electors.
Town Treasurer	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	Receives all money belonging to the town, pays out money on order of Selectmen and Board of Education. Makes annual report of receipts and disbursements. Acts as Agent of Town Deposit Fund.
Agent of Town Deposit Fund	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	The Town Deposit Fund dates from 1838 when Connecticut received money from the United States by act of Congress. The money was deposited with the town by act of the General Assembly, with the requirement that the income shall be expended for the support of schools.
Tax Collector (1)	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	Collects all taxes due the town. Reports to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of the State all automobile (personal property) taxes unpaid by Nov. 30th. Can enforce collection by tax, sale or foreclosure, or in case of personal taxes, by arrest. Makes returns to Town Treas- urer.
Grand Jurors (6)	2 yrs	3 nominated from each party vote for 3 6 elected 4 may be nominated from each party vote for 4 7 elected	Investigate complaints of violation of law, and if cause is found, bring complaint before Trial Justice. Duty of Prosecuting Grand Juror to prosecute cases. Acting Grand Juror appointed by the Trial Justice.
Constables (7)	2 yrs	4 may be nominated from each party vote for 4 7 elected	Have authority to keep order, make arrests and serve legal papers.

POWERS and DUTIES

HOW ELECTED

TERM

OFFICE

Registrars of Voters (4)	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party in each voting district vote for 1 2 elected in each district (1 from each party)	Prepare all registry lists of legal voters and keep on file individual records showing whether each elector voted at each election. Receive applications for party membership. In session on the last Friday in July to make caucus lists. Present at all meetings of Board of Admission of Electors to take party enrollments. Appoint Moderator and all official workers on election days. Appoint counters.
Board of Education (6)	4 yrs	2 may be nominated from each party vote for 2 3 elected	Determines details of school operation; hires teachers on recommendation of supervisor; purchases supplies; provides transportation; appoints its own chairman and secretary; administers its own budget. Submits annual budget to Board of Finance, and passes on all matters pertaining to building of new schools. Any request from citizens relating to education must be brought before this Board before the town can take action. Prepares an annual report which is part of the Town Report.
Board of Finance (6)	4 yrs	2 may be nominated from each party vote for 2 3 elected	Holds a public hearing on appropriations; draws up and presents budget at Annual town meeting. Determines tax rate. Members must be taxpayers of the town and may not hold any other elective town office.
Fire Commissioners (6)	4 yrs	2 may be nominated from each party vote for 2 3 elected	Prepare the department budget; determine equipment needed; have over-all direction of personnel.
Library Directors (6)	6 yrs	2 may be nominated from each party vote for 2 3 elected	Maintain and supervise operation of the two libraries; administer the income from trust funds; direct the purchase of books.
Judge of Probate	4 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	Has jurisdiction over estates of deceased persons; handles the affairs of incompetents, adoptees and minor persons; the commitment of the insane; may waive waiting period before issuance of marriage license.
Justices of the Peace (6)	3 yrs	3 nominated from each party vote for 3 6 elected	Can act in civil cases and perform marriages. Act as small claims court (less than \$100). Acting Trial Justice is appointed by the Board of Selectmen from the group of five who "qualify". He hears all cases prepared by the Grand Juror. In civil cases he can act in his capacity as a Justice of the Peace. An alternate Trial Justice, appointed by the Selectmen, takes the place of the Trial Justice when the latter is unable to act or disqualifies himself. A town may have 1/3 the number of Justices as the number of Jurors to which it is entitled. (18 in North Branford)
Representative in the General Assembly (1)	2 yrs	1 nominated from each party vote for 1 1 elected	Represents the town in the General Assembly which makes the laws of our state.

OFFICIALS appointed by BOARD of SELECTMEN:

- Town Counsel
- Fire Marshal
- Fire Chief
- Fire Warden
- Tree Warden
- Dog Warden
- Health Officer
- Meat Inspector
- Civil Defense Director

TOWN SERVICES

Northford Fire Department	8-1651
North Branford Fire Department	8-2521
Ambulance	8-2521
Dog Warden	
Tree Warden	
Atwater Memorial Library, North Branford	
Northford Public Library	
Police Department - State Barracks at Westbrook or Town Constables	
Health Officer - Dr. Sterling Taylor, North Haven	
Public Health Nursing Association or office in William Douglas School	8-1858
Courts - Judge of Probate Town Court held every Monday night at Atwater Memorial Library, North Branford, a Trial Jus- tice presiding	
Bus Service - New Haven & Shoreline Railway Co. Telephone New Haven 6-2127 (288 Crown St.) for schedules, both North Branford and Northford	
Schools - William Douglas School	Northford
Center School	North Branford
Jerome Harrison School	North Branford
Churches - Congregational Church	Northford
St. Andrews' Episcopal Church	Northford
Congregational Church	North Branford
St. Augustine's R. C. Church	North Branford
Zion Episcopal Church	North Branford

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ADVERTISING:	Lindsay Advertising Agency	North Branford	8-2157
ANTIQUES:	Hoadley House Potters William J. Maley	Northford North Branford Northford	8-2983 8-3268
BAGS: (Cotton - burlap)	Pioneer Bag Company	North Branford	8-2082
BAKERY:	Fowler's Home Bakery	North Branford	8-9458
BIRDS:	Robert Foote	North Branford	8-1947
BUILDER & SUPPLIES:	Flore Bianchi Home Builders Supply Co.	Northford Northford	8-1828 8-1774
CANDY: (Home Made Fudge)	Farm River Homestead	Northford	8-1930
CARPENTER - BUILDER	Fred W. Barker Robert W. Dudley Lawson W. Haley	North Branford North Branford North Branford	8-1975 8-2332 8-2116
CASTING:	L. C. Mfg. Co.	North Branford	8-2693
CEMENT BLOCKS:	Concrete Blockcraft	North Branford	8-3244
CERAMICS:	Grace Stroud	North Branford	8-1939
CHILDREN'S CLOTHING:	Northford House	Northford	8-1918
CONTRACTORS:	Burrone Brothers Edward's Construction Co. Alden S. Hill McKosky Construction Co. Northford Acres Dev. Co.	North Branford North Branford North Branford Northford Northford	8-2074 8-0100 8-1848 8-0415 8-3213
DAIRY:	Paul Kolstinen Maple Tree Farm Riverside Dairy	North Branford North Branford Northford	8-3281 8-3108 8-3174
EATING PLACES:	Club 80 Doody's Totoket Inn Hurder's Drive-in Restaurant Judd's Drive-in Holly's Barn Restland Farms	North Branford North Branford Northford North Branford North Branford Northford	8-9324 8-9360 8-3085 8-9367 8-3429 8-2000
ELECTRIC:	Northford Electric Shop John V. Barrett	Northford North Branford	8-2242 8-2940
FISH:	Hilltop Sea Food Market	North Branford	8-2868
FROZEN FOOD LOCKERS:	Echo Ridge Turkey Farm Holabird Bros.	Northford North Branford	8-1951 8-2735
FURNITURE: (Restored & Refinished)	Lee W. Gibbons	Northford	8-1930
GAS and SERVICE:	Amatrudo's Service Station Carmichael's Service Station Charlie's Service Station Hart's Garage Midway Filling Station Northford Garage O'Neill's Service Center Rudy's Service Station R. C. Sharp	North Branford Northford North Branford North Branford North Branford Northford Northford North Branford Northford	8-3109 8-9791 8-1472 8-9351 8-3309 8-2203 8-2189 8-9276 8-1945

GREENHOUSE:	Gus Loeber	North Branford	-
GROCERIES and MEATS:	Dwyers Country Store	North Branford	8-9253
	Johnson Brothers	Northford	8-3271
	Richard Scholz	North Branford	8-3351
	Totoket Food Market	North Branford	8-9369
HOME GROWN VEGETABLES:	Fred Bianchi and Son	Northford	8-1889
	Cecarelli's	Northford	8-3231
	Frank Della Camera	Northford	8-3232
	Anthony S. Marcucio	North Branford	8-3298
	Harris Shapiro	North Branford	8-2249
	Troiano	North Branford	8-3096
INSURANCE:	P. Koistinen	North Branford	8-3281
	Paul L. Porter	Northford	8-3379
LIVESTOCK:	Louis Barnett and Son	Northford	8-2377
	Ed. J. Foraker	North Branford	8-9764
	Gus Loeber	North Branford	-
	August Munzenmaier	Northford	8-2056
	Totoket Stock Farms, Inc.	North Branford	8-2875
MASON CONTRACTOR:	P. Mattei	North Branford	8-2111
MUSIC INSTRUCTION:	E. J. Jones	North Branford	8-2343
NURSERY:	Van Wilgen Nurseries, Inc.	North Branford	8-2110
NURSING HOMES:	Mallory Nursing Home	North Branford	8-1907
	Meadowbrook Hospital	North Branford	8-1966
ORCHARDS:	Elbert Augur	Northford	8-2182
	C. & E. Linsley	North Branford	8-2035
	F. H. Snow	North Branford	8-2062
	Young Brothers	Northford	8-2871
PACKAGE STORE:	No. Branford Package Store	North Branford	8-3068
PAPER BOX PLANT:	Myron Paper Box Co.	North Branford	8-2884
PLUMBING and HEATING:	Erwin Petry	Northford	8-2889
POULTRY FARM:	Breton's Hillside Poultry	North Branford	8-2160
	Esther Doody	North Branford	8-2851
	John D. Marsh	North Branford	8-3373
	Valentin Schanz	Northford	8-2138
QUARRY:	New Haven Trap Rock Co.	North Branford	8-2528
REAL ESTATE:	Mildred Borst	North Branford	8-3388
	Mrs. H. Pigott	Northford	8-1808
SAND and FILL:	Gilbert McMahon	Northford	8-2951
STERLING SILVER:	Jayne Benson	North Branford	8-1414
TRUCKING:	Secondino Trucking	North Branford	8-1676
TURKEYS:	Augur's Turkey Farm	Northford	8-2144
	Echo Ridge Turkey Farm	Northford	8-1951
	Grassy Hill Turkey Farm	North Branford	8-1954
WATER SUPPLY:	New Haven Water Co.	North Branford	-
WELL DRILLER:	Bunnell Well Drilling Co.	North Branford	8-3369
WOODWORKING:	Variety Nook	North Branford	-

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