

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

19 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Hubbard Estate Historic: Wilcox-Meech House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 55 Crescent Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Middlesex Memorial Hospital PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Offices Historic: Double Residence
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain _____ no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1871
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

<input type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> brick
<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding	<input type="checkbox"/> fieldstone
<input type="checkbox"/> board & batten	<input type="checkbox"/> stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> cobblestone
<input type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding	<input type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: <u>brownstone</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____		<u>foundation</u>
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame: post and beam balloon
 load bearing masonry structural iron or steel
 other: _____
- 10. ROOF: type:
 gable flat ^{with} cupola mansard monitor sawtooth
 gambrel shed hip round other _____
material:
 wood shingle roll asphalt tin slate
 asphalt shingle built up tile other: _____
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 3 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 45'x30' (wings 25'x14')
- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: Later but sympathetic veranda
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: brick carriage
 carriage house shop garden house with steep crossed gables
- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
 open land woodland residential scattered buildings visible from site
 commercial industrial rural high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This substantial brick structure faces south from the northside of Crescent Street. The house directly to its east is smaller but similar in style; to the west is a large brick Second Empire structure. Crescent Street is a residential area composed of mid-to-late nineteenth century dwellings, with the exception of a large modern seven story hospital which occupies the south side of the street.

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

- Ornate, bracketed cupola
- Pressed tin ceilings in all rooms
- Original panelling and elaborate staircase
- Early gas fixtures

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____

Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: Between the years of 1867 and 1872 Crescent Street was extensively developed by Julius Hotchkiss, a prominent local resident. During this period John Wilcox built this double dwelling. Between 1872 and 1881 the house was occupied by John Wilcox, Middletown's Chief of Police, and George Meech. Meech, a local merchant, purchased the property in 1881 and resided there until the early 1930's. The Hubbard family acquired the property in 1937. Mr. Hubbard's employment in the firm of Meech and Stoddard is typical of the pervasive connections among the residents of the South Green area. The house remained in the Hubbard family until 1973 when it was purchased by Middlesex Memorial Hospital. The hospital currently uses the building for offices.

The building displays the rich detail typical of Crescent Street in the 1870's: a later but complementary veranda, original shutters, brownstone sills, lintels and foundation, and paired brackets supporting the eaves. A high style cupola has rounded windows, similar decorative detail and a finial. The fine interior is in virtually original condition.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
 date: 2/78 view: southeast
 negative on file: Roll 15, #4

COMPILED BY:

name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 7/78
 organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
 address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457



19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; 1851 Clark Map; 1877 Bailey Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- none known highways vandalism developers other: _____
- renewal private deterioration zoning explanation: _____