

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

9 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: _____ Historic: Joseph Tobey House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 151 Broad Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Lawrence Cambria and Joan A. Geary PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Double Residence Historic: Residence
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain _____ no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Late Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1843-1848 Between _____
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard asbestos siding brick foundation
 wood shingle asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone
 other: _____ foundation on south wing
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame; post and beam balloon
 load bearing masonry structural iron or steel
 other: _____
- 10. ROOF: type:
 gable flat 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: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 37'x32'; rear wing 27'x18'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: South and west wings added
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: _____
 carriage house shop garden _____
- 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 late Greek Revival house is sited atypically for the area on Broad Street between Court and Washington Streets. It faces east and is set back from the street on a slight rise. This is one of the oldest houses in this area and illustrates the early development of this section of Broad Street.

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

Raised front entrance
Denticulated main cornice

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: Probably Isaac W. Baldwin

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was built between 1843 and 1848 for Joseph Tobey, about whom little is known. Isaac Baldwin, a prominent local carpenter, was the probable builder. Baldwin worked on such other notable Middletown structures as the First President's House at Wesleyan and the Alsop House on High Street.

A ridge-to-street configuration distinguishes this house from the more common vernacular interpretation of the Greek Revival temple form of construction. Also of note is the long entrance flight made necessary by the high foundation. This foundation is one of the earliest constructed of brick in Middletown.

Broad Street in this area was not fully developed until the late nineteenth century. The presence of this earlier structure on the block contrasts with that later development, while being congruous with the other Greek Revival structures on the street.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Robert Svec
date: 5/78 view: northwest
negative on file: Roll 20, #5

COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 9/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457



19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; 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: _____

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: _____ Date: 1/90

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