

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 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:	5	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: \_\_\_\_\_ Historic: Tollgate House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): Brooks Road, southeast corner of intersection with Tollgate Rd
- 4. OWNER(S): Jerome and Carolee Gibbons PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: Tollhouse for Middlesex Turnpike Road
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Late Colonial DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1804
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  

<input type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding	<input type="checkbox"/> brick
<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fieldstone foundation
<input type="checkbox"/> board & batten	<input type="checkbox"/> stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> cobblestone
<input type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding	<input type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____		
- 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: 1 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 25'x26'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: Front porch added; shed roofed rear addition
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:  
 barn  shed  garage  other landscape features or buildings: chain link fence and retaining wall borders site  
 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 small building overlooks the juncture of Brooks Road and Toll Gate Road in a rural area of the city. Brooks Road begins at Saybrook Road, a two lane highway, a short distance west. Toll Gate Road leads back to the highway, to the south. Wooded property surrounds the small triangular site. A brook flows near the house. Its slightly elevated plot is bordered by a low retaining wall and link fence.

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

**SIGNIFICANCE**

Architect: \_\_\_\_\_ Builder: \_\_\_\_\_

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This small building once served as a toll-house for the Middlesex Turnpike. The turnpike was incorporated in 1802, and the house was built probably around that time. The Middlesex Turnpike Company later dissolved, and the building was sold in 1869.

The structure has a three-bay facade with the entrance slightly off-center. The narrow central chimney is also positioned off to one side. Early cornice mouldings border the broad gabled roof. A small shed roofed addition is at the rear. The prominent front porch supported by plain columns, is a later addition.

The Middlesex Turnpike was the major highway running from Saybrook to Wethersfield. Its route through Middletown is traced to a great extent by Saybrook Road which was constructed around 1930. From this highway, Brooks Road to the house and Toll Gate Road are vestiges of the old turnpike. Reminiscent of its early function, the building stands on a small knoll overlooking the road.

**PHOTOGRAPH**

photographer: Robert Svec  
date: 12/78 view: west  
negative on file: Roll 52, #9A

**COMPILED BY:**

name: Robert Svec date: 12/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457



19. SOURCES: Jesse Alsop, "Tollgate House", Old Houses of Connecticut Series (FERA, 1937); 1859 Walling Map; 1874 Beers Atlas

**20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:**

**21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:**

none known     highways     vandalism     developers     other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 renewal     private     deterioration     zoning     explanation: \_\_\_\_\_