

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 157, 161, 169, 170 College Street
- 4. OWNER(S): See next page (below #21) PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residences Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain 169,170 College Street, with  no  
permission

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1834-1843

- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
 clapboard 157,169,170:  asbestos siding  brick  
 wood shingle  asphalt siding  fieldstone  
 board & batten  stucco  cobblestone  
161:  aluminum siding  concrete: type: \_\_\_\_\_  cut stone: type: brownstone  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_ foundation

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: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 25'x65'

12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair 157  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair 157  deteriorated  
161,169,170

13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: All have been added onto at rear; Italianate

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: porches added, 157,161,170  
 barn 157:  shed 161,169  garage 170  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: These four buildings, together with the well-preserved residence at 15 Pearl Street, are part of a small group of mid-nineteenth century houses similarly designed and sited. They are a distinctive feature of a large residential district characterized by variously styled nineteenth century buildings. This (see continuation sheet)

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

161 College Street-Ornate fanlight in pediment  
157, 161, 170 College Street-Italianate porches with distinctive detail

SIGNIFICANCE

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: These four houses, three on the south side of College Street and one on the north side, are representatives of a building style that flourished during the 1830s and early '40s in Middletown. During this period, the area between High Street and Main Street experienced marked residential growth. Large tracts of land on William Street, College Street and a section of Pearl Street were developed as housing for the emerging urban middle class (i.e. skilled artisans and owners of small businesses).

Ezra Clark, a coaster captain, participated in the construction of at least five houses during this period. Among them is 161 College Street, constructed between 1834 and 1840. Clark may have occupied this house before building 170 College Street ca. 1843 where he lived for the duration of his life. 157 College Street was built by or for Alfred Southmayd around 1837. Between 1838 and 1839, 169 College Street was built for Davis N. Arnold, a mason who constructed many important city buildings including the South Congregational Church.

The predominant house type of the Greek Revival period in Middletown was a small (see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Robert Svec  
date: 12/78 view: southeast  
negative on file: Roll 55, #10-10A  
(see continuation sheet)

COMPILED BY:

name: Robert Svec date: 6/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; 1825 Barnum Map; 1851 Clark Map; 1877 Bailey Map



20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

157, 161 and 169 College Street

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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

Owners: 157 College Street, V. Scamperino  
161 College Street, M. Santostefano  
169 College Street, B. O'Rourke  
170 College Street, Wesleyan University

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: 16&18 Date: 6/78

157, 161, 169, 170 College St., Middletown, Ct.  
06457

#16

group is located between the larger scaled houses on College Street to the west and the mixed commercial-residential Broad Street area to the east.

#18

two story dwelling with a three-bay facade, displaying a pedimented gable to the street. The pedimented gable usually contained a fanlight or rectangular window, and rectangular lights surrounded the main entrance door. Built in large numbers between Court and Church Streets, these once plentiful structures were a modest counterpart to the fashionable Greek Revival development on nearby Broad Street.

Despite alterations in siding and Italianate porches ( a popular addition in this area), these four buildings exhibit the salient features of this house type. This small interrelated group forms the last distinct remnant of a once extensive mid-nineteenth century residential district.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 2/78  
view: southwest  
negative on file: Roll 14, #11A



170 College Street

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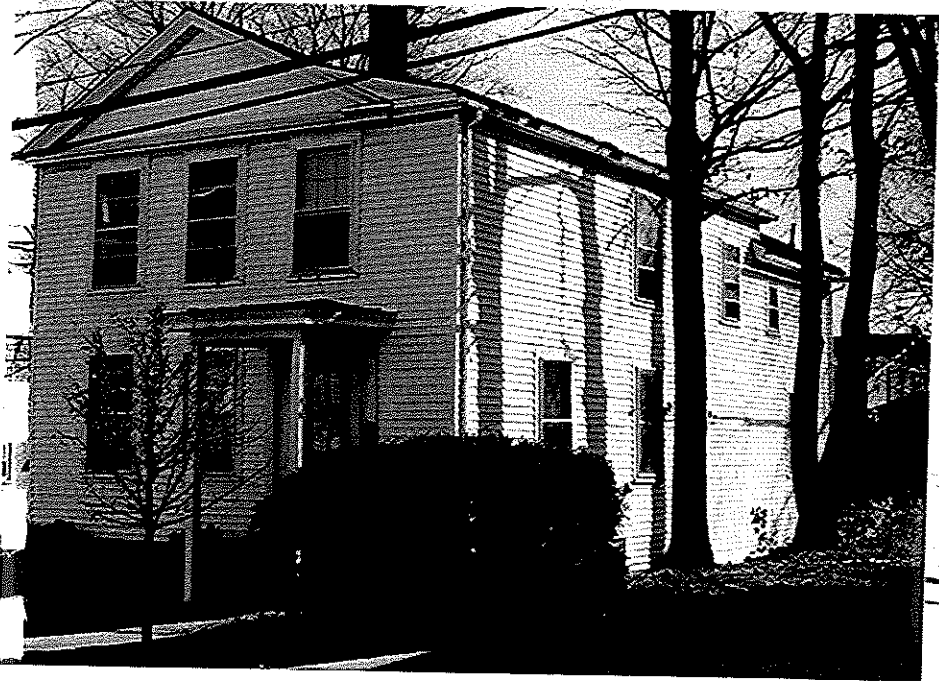
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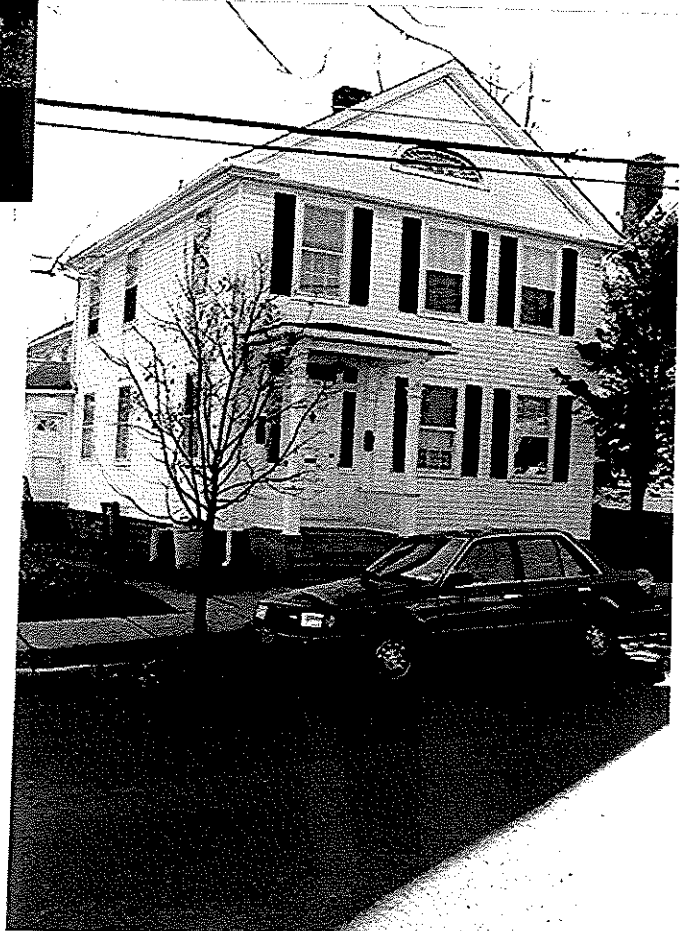
CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 1/90

157, 161, 169, 170 College Street, Middletown, CT  
06457



157 College Street



161 College Street

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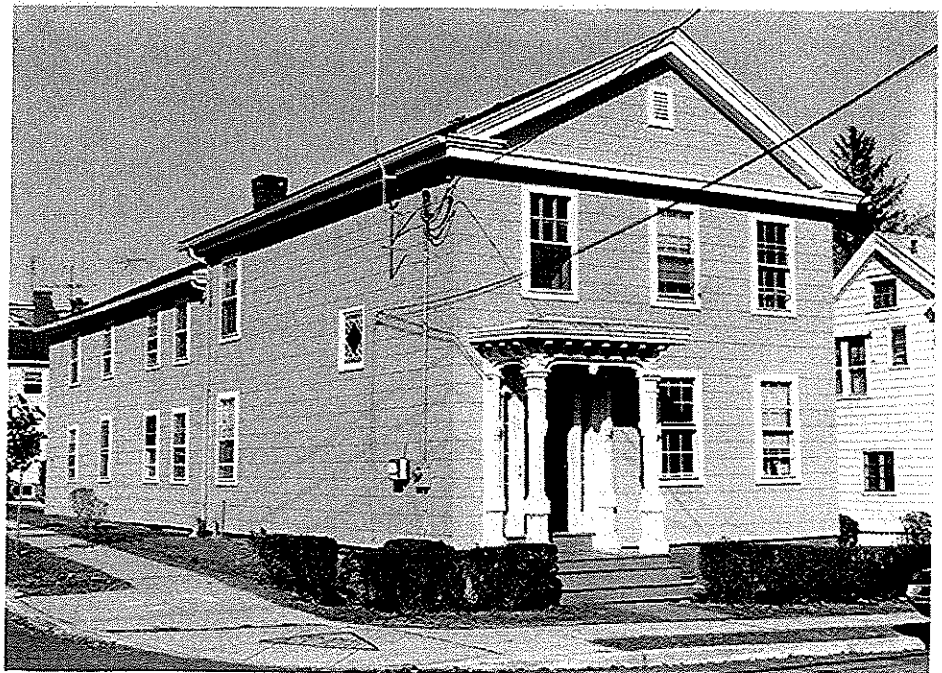
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169 College Street



170 College Street