

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
9 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(203) 566-3005

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

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM  
for Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: \_\_\_\_\_ Historic: J. Peters Pelton House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 250 Court Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Wesleyan University PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Offices and student housing Historic: Residence
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Queen Anne (Stickstyle influence) DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1883/84
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
 clapboard       asbestos siding       brick  
 wood shingle       asphalt siding       fieldstone  
 board & batten       stucco       cobblestone  
 aluminum siding       concrete: type: \_\_\_\_\_  cut stone: type: brownstone  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_ foundation (painted)
- 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       hipwith       round       other \_\_\_\_\_  
material: \_\_\_\_\_ cross gable and dormers  
 wood shingle       roll asphalt       tin       slate  
 asphalt shingle       built up       tile       other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 40'x70'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent       good       fair       deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent       good       fair       deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 house, facing south on a corner lot, is in a primarily 19th century residential area developed over a 100 year period. The Pelton house and the Douglas house (258 Court Street) to the west are larger and later than their neighbors. Their siting on proportionately larger lots, however, retains the residential scale of the street.

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

**SIGNIFICANCE**

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was built c. 1883/84 by J. Peters Pelton of Pelton and King, "book and job printers and binders", with offices on lower Court Street. Its land came out of the division of the large Russell estate (after 1872) which occupied the block bounded by Court, Pearl, Washington and High Streets. The house remained in the Pelton family until 1930 when it was acquired by Regina Wrubel. In 1958 the Regina Wrubel Foundation sold the property to Wesleyan University for use as offices.

The J. Peters Pelton house is an excellent example in good condition of late Victorian architecture in Middletown. Its irregular plan and variety of gable treatment, together with more attention to detail and ornament than is usual for Middletown, distinguish it as a high style example of the Queen Anne-Stick Style in the city.

**PHOTOGRAPH**

photographer: Robert Svec  
date: 12/77 view: southwest  
negative on file: Roll 5, #11A

**COMPILED BY:**

name: John E. Reynolds date: 5/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; Middletown City Directories; Genealogy of the Pelton Family (John Minsell & Sons, Publishers, 1892); Plan by Wesleyan Planning Department



**20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:**

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

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