

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: S NR: ACTUAL  
POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: McCarthy & Hurley Building Historic: Fagan's Block
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 422 Main Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Vincent and Phyllis Amato PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Commercial Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain with owners permission  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1868
- 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
 other: cast iron lintels
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
 wood frame:  post and beam  balloon  
 load bearing masonry  structural iron or steel  
 other: interior wood framing
- 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: 3 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22'x75'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: Minor interior changes; store front altered
- 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 tall and narrow commercial structure, with its bold Italianate details, is located on the east side of Main Street in Middletown's central business district. Affixed to its south wall is a building similar in material and mass, which has been detailed to conform to its attached mate by the extension of the heavy bracketed cornice. Sharing the north wall is the two story Art Deco F. W. Woolworth building.

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

SIGNIFICANCE

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: Patrick Fagan, well-known for his enterprising real estate transactions in Middletown in the mid-1800's, built this substantial brick structure in 1868. Among his activities in community affairs, Fagan was instrumental in the construction of Berkeley Divinity School, warden of the Church of the Holy Trinity, and Special Deputy of the Custom House (1857).

Following Fagan's death in 1869 his sons, William and Charles, added a five-bay addition, identical in style and material, to the north wall of this building. This whole complex was commonly known as "Fagan's Block" until around 1915. In addition to the Fagan brothers' real estate office the occupants included small businesses such as: a painter; a tailor; and a dry goods store. The upper floors were fashionable and ample living quarters.

In 1916 the property was purchased by George Meech. The addition built by William and Charles Fagan was demolished in the late 1930's to make way for the F.W. Woolworth Company. The original section (the present building) remained, and has since housed a variety

(see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPH

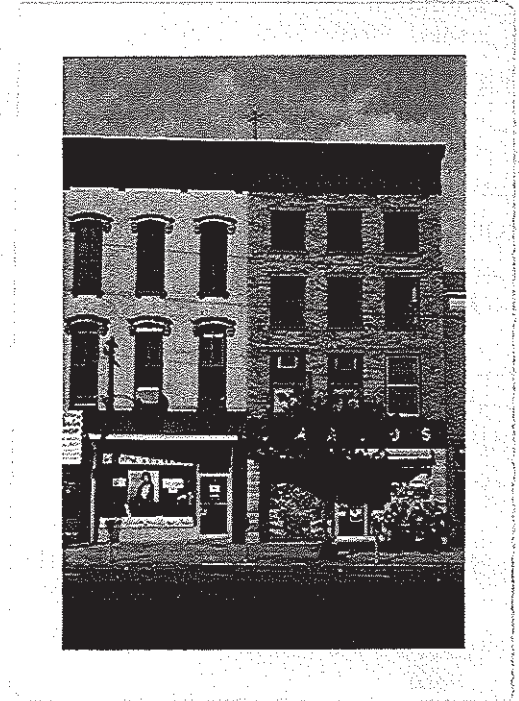
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 6/78 view: west  
negative on file: Roll 26, #20-20A

COMPILED BY:

name: E. Loomis, B.A. Cleary date: 6/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Middletown City Directories; H.F. Donlan, Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896); Scenes in Middlesex County (W.N. Parish Publishing Co., 1892); 1874 Beers Atlas;  
(see continuation sheet)

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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422 Main Street, Middletown, Ct. 06457

SECTION SHEET  
 between 18&19 Date: 6/78

businesses, the most recent being McCarthy and Hurley Drug Store.  
 This elegant survivor of 19th century Middletown retains many original features.  
 The facade, painted beige, is accented by dark brown details: cast iron lintels  
 over the arched windows and a heavy bracketed cornice. The survival of portions  
 of the original storefront (such as cast iron pilasters and panels) beneath a later  
 alteration makes this building an excellent candidate for restoration.

2  
 77 Bailey Perspective Map; 1915 Aeroview Map; J. Russell Ward Photograph Collection;  
 Marino Postal Card Collection, GMPT

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Fagan's Block  
422-426 Main Street (formerly #422)  
Middletown, CT 06457

