

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

- BUILDING NAME: Common: Main Street Fire House Historic: Central Fire Station
- TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 533 Main Street
- OWNER(S): City of Middletown X PUBLIC PRIVATE
- USE: Present: Fire Station Historic: same
- ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: X yes no
Interior accessible: X yes, explain With permission of commanding officer no

DESCRIPTION

- STYLE OF BUILDING: Renaissance Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1899
- MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

<u> </u> clapboard	<u> </u> asbestos siding	<u>X</u> brick
<u> </u> wood shingle	<u> </u> asphalt siding	<u> </u> fieldstone
<u> </u> board & batten	<u> </u> stucco	<u> </u> cobblestone
<u> </u> aluminum siding	<u> </u> concrete: type: _____	<u>X</u> cut stone: type: <u>brownstone foundation</u>
<u> </u> other: _____		
- STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame: post and beam balloon
X load bearing masonry X structural iron or steel interior framing
X other: some wood interior framing
- ROOF: type:

<u> </u> gable	<u> </u> flat	<u> </u> mansard	<u> </u> monitor	<u> </u> sawtooth
<u> </u> gambrel	<u> </u> shed	<u>X</u> hip with dormers	<u> </u> round and domes	<u> </u> other: _____
material:				
<u> </u> wood shingle	<u> </u> roll asphalt	<u> </u> tin	<u>X</u> slate	
<u> </u> asphalt shingle	<u> </u> built up	<u> </u> tile	<u> </u> other: _____	
- NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 40'x85' (west addition 28'x27')
- CONDITION: Structural: excellent X good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent X good fair deteriorated
- INTEGRITY: Location: X on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no X yes, explain: belfry, balustrade, finials on domes, flagpole removed; small rear addition
- RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

<u> </u> barn	<u> </u> shed	<u> </u> garage	<u>X</u> other landscape features or buildings: <u>brick stable in rear (probably earlier)</u>
<u> </u> carriage house	<u> </u> shop	<u> </u> garden	
- SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

<u> </u> open land	<u> </u> woodland	<u> </u> residential	<u> </u> scattered buildings visible from site
<u>X</u> commercial	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> rural	<u>X</u> high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This building is situated in the North End on the west side of Main Street. It is flanked by a brick supermarket to the south and a large professional building to the north. There is a driveway on either side.

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

Old W.&B. Douglas pump in basement formerly used for testing hose pressure capacity

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: William Mylchreest

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This fire station was built in 1899, the era of horse drawn fire coaches, and has been continuously used as a fire station since then. It was designed in the Renaissance Revival style with a composition of classical elements such as pilasters, arched windows and swaggery. The facade is "Pompeian" brick accented with brownstone belt courses, keystones and window sills. The hipped roof contains four domes, and a hosedrying tower is incorporated into the northwest corner. This is one of the most distinctive buildings in the north end of town. Despite modern encroachment this building remains a dominant element on the street. The fire department is planning to remodel two of the second floor rooms into a museum to publically display a variety of early fire fighting apparatus, early emblems and other memorabilia.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 8/78 view: east
negative on file: Roll 30, #2

COMPILED BY:

name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 4/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457



19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Marino Postal Card Collection, GMPT

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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