

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: \_\_\_\_\_ Historic: Seward-Wilcox House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 11 Maple Shade Road
- 4. OWNER(S): Thomas E. Wilcox PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_ with permission  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Federal DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1820
- 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
- 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: 30'x27'; west ell 16'x22';
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: porch 11'x16'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent       good       fair       deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent       good       fair       deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: South wing; rear ell; porch on north side
- 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 small Federal house is sited on a rise which overlooks the intersection of Maple Shade Road and Randolph Road. The area to the south is generally rural with recent development nearby. To the west is the intersection of Randolph Road and Route 17 (South Main Street), a major throughfare. Randolph Road to the east displays some post-World War II residential development.

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

**SIGNIFICANCE**

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: The Seward-Wilcox house was built around 1820 by Seth Seward, who sold the house to William Scovill in 1824. After a series of sales, in 1830 Ebenezer Hubbard bought the house, and leased it and the associated 84 acres to several farmers. In 1843 Isaac Roberts purchased the house and land. Horace Wilcox purchased the house and a small part of the farm from Roberts in 1866. The Seward-Scovill house has remained in the possession of the Wilcox family to the present date.

The Seward-Wilcox house is a fine example of a popular house type of the Federal period in Middletown, displaying a three-bay-wide facade with the ridge of the roof to the street. Trim corner pilasters, with recessed center panels and capitals, support the entablature. Moldings and mutules decorate the cornice. The door, crowned with a pediment that is probably an addition, is framed by pilasters and a fanlight. Original clapboarding and window caps contribute to the well-preserved appearance of the house.

**PHOTOGRAPH**

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 10/78 view: east  
negative on file: Roll 37, #1A-2

**COMPILED BY:**

name: David W. Engstrom date: 4/79  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; 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: \_\_\_\_\_