

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

3 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<br>POTENTIAL |

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: St. Luke's Home Historic: same
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 135 Pearl Street
- 4. OWNER(S): St. Luke's Home Corporation PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Housing for elderly women Historic: Indigent widow's home
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain with permission of Director  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Institutional; Academic Classicism details DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1892
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> clapboard       | <input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> brick                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle    | <input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding        | <input type="checkbox"/> fieldstone                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> board & batten  | <input type="checkbox"/> stucco                | <input type="checkbox"/> cobblestone                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding | <input type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: <u>brownstone</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____    |  | <u>foundation</u>  |
- 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: 3½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 48'x39'; rear wing 30'x25'
- 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: Lawn urn;  
 carriage house  shop  garden birdbath
- 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 large brick institutional building dominates the area by its mass and corner siting at Pearl and Lincoln Streets in Middletown's residential North End. It forms a dividing line between large structures to the south toward Washington Street and more modest late Victorian era worker homes to the north.

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

Wrought iron fence and front step railing with intricate filagree "newel posts"  
Brick decorative features: corbeling, denticulation, and quoining

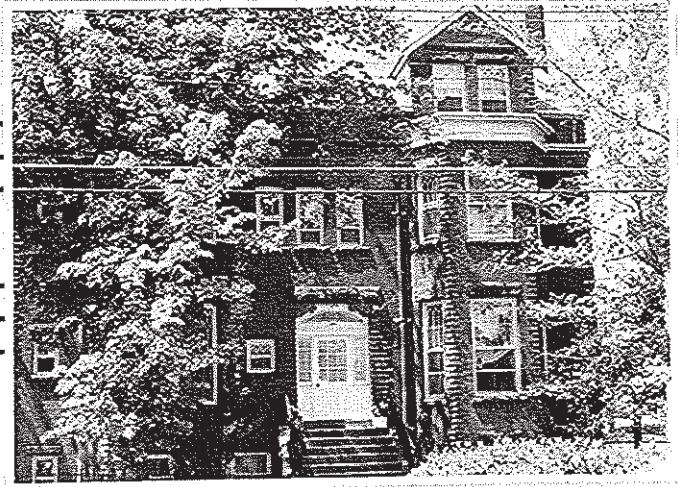
**SIGNIFICANCE**

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: St. Luke's Home for Destitute and Aged Women was incorporated by an act of the Connecticut State Assembly on June 22, 1865. For twenty-seven years the home was conducted in an old house on the southwest corner of Court and Pearl Streets. In 1892 a large legacy enabled a new home to be erected at the present site at Pearl and Lincoln Streets. Comfortable quarters are provided for fourteen women. Members of the Church of the Holy Trinity played a large part in establishing the endowment; frequently the current rector of that church serves as president of the Board of Trustees. This substantial brick building looks like a carefully-designed apartment house, rather than an institution. 3½ stories tall, the first floor is partly below ground level. A long run of brownstone steps leads to a center entrance door on the second floor level. Two bay window piers flank the front entrance, capped off above the roof line by gable-roofed dormers. Decorative elements such as the wrought iron fence, ivy on the facade, and quoin-like brick projections on all corners add a picturesque quality to the building.

**PHOTOGRAPH**

photographer: Roger Sherman  
date: 6/78 view: east  
negative on file: Roll 25A, #11



**COMPILED BY:**

name: Roger Sherman date: 3/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; H.F. Donlan, Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896); 1915 Aeroview Map; Consultation with Director, St. Luke's Home Corporation, 2 Aug 78; Incorporation, History, By-Laws, and Rules of St. Luke's Home (Middletown: unpublished booklet, n.d.)

**20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:**

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

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

has been a problem for some years.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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

St. Luke's Home  
135 Pearl Street, Middletown, CT 06457

