

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
57 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: William Stroud House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: East Long Hill COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 1015 Randolph Road
- 4. OWNER(S): Jeanette Parrett PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with owner's permission no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1854
- 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: _____

- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 33'x36'; rear wings, 28'x42'

- 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: extensive landscaped grounds
___ carriage house ___ shop ___ garden

- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
___ open land ___ woodland residential ___ scattered buildings visible from site
___ commercial ___ industrial ___ rural high building density low

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: The East Long Hill district is in an area known generally as Farm Hill, where early development occurred gradually and was tied to agricultural pursuits. Post World War II suburban developments have displaced the farms, leaving this house as a reminder of Farm Hill's former rural character. Situated near the north-east corner of Randolph Road and Arbutus Street, this house with its open surroundings contrasts with the closed ranks of the nearby suburbs.

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

Bracketed porches (north and west sides)

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This Italianate villa was built around 1854 for William and Lucy (Roberts) Stroud. The Robertses were prominent farmers in the area, and William Stroud built on property bequeathed to his wife. William Stroud operated a foundry business in Middletown, having purchased the firm of R.&D. Johnson. In 1885 the heirs of William and Lucy Stroud sold the property to Lewis and Clara Crowell, owners of adjoining land. The Crowell family had long been farming in the area, and the property remained in family hands until 1968.

The cubical Italianate villa style of this house became popular in Middletown during the 1850s. Its appearance in this house in the rural Farm Hill district constituted a considerable advance in architectural fashion from the existing Colonial and Federal/Greek Revival farmhouses. Today, however, this house is significant for preserving a mid-nineteenth century style in an area which has seen extensive residential development since World War II.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 9/78 view: northwest
negative on file: Roll 45. #12A



COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 8/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County (Chicago: J.H. Beers, 1905); 1859 Walling Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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