

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: \_\_\_\_\_