

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: Robert Hubbard House Historic: same
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: Long Hill COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 1340 Randolph Road
- 4. OWNER(S): Florence Daniels PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: Fort ca. 1675; Residence after ca. 1719
- 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: Center-Chimney Colonial; (originally Saltbox) DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: House ca. 1719 Stone portion possibly 1675;

- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard second floor asbestos siding brick
 wood shingle asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone
 other: _____ rubble foundation and first floor exterior walls

- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame; post and beam balloon
 load bearing masonry first floor 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: 40'x29'

- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated

- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: Saltbox leanto removed ca. 1920; Victorian bay win-

- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: dow added ca. 1870; center chimney removed
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: enclosed
 carriage house shop garden pastures

- 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 house faces south from the crest of a low hill near the intersection of Randolph Road and Rt. 17, a major road between Middletown and New Haven. It is screened from Randolph Road by a row of trees above a retaining wall along the south line of the premises. A large barn and fenced pastures are also on the property, which is located in a traditional farming district.

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

Brownstone rubble exterior walls, first floor
Center triple-run staircase with turned balusters on box string piece
Vertical wainscot with beaded edges in stairhall and northeast chamber
Double attic roof framing system

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____
18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: A most unusual feature of this house is its combined masonry and post and beam frame construction. The stone first floor portion of this house was possibly constructed in 1675 during King Philip's War as one of three stone blockhouses which tradition says were erected in the Long Hill area as a defense against hostile Indians. Its brownstone rubble construction is identical to that of a nearby structure (see form for 30 Maple Shade Road) whose origin as one of the above mentioned fortifications is documented.

The upper portion of this house is one of the oldest examples of frame construction in Middletown, and probably dates from ca. 1719 when the Proprietor's Committee granted the property to Robert Hubbard. Additional corroboration of this early date is the triple-run staircase, which displays a vertically wainscotted box string piece with widely spaced turned balusters carrying a plain handrail. Another early and highly unusual feature of this house is its double-attic roof framing system. Pairs of common rafters, mortised and tenoned together with no ridge-pole, are supported by two heavy horizontal beams which rest on posts set into the chimney girts and second floor end girts. Heavy joists span these beams, and (see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 12/78 view: south
negative on file: Roll 56, #10A-11



COMPILED BY:

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

19. SOURCES: Jesse Alsop, "The Robert Hubbard House," Colonial Dames Monograph, 1950; J. Frederick Kelly, Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut (New York: Dover Publications, 1963); 1874 Beers Atlas; Jesse Alsop, "East Long Hill School," Old Houses of Connecticut Series (FERA 1935)

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: 18 Date: 8/78

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#18

originally supported the floor (now removed) to a second attic while acting structurally as collar beams to the common rafters.

In 1868 the property was acquired from the Hubbard family by James Cowan, who subsequently added a two-story Victorian bay window to the west end of the house. According to the present owners the early saltbox leanto on the north side was removed around 1920. The center chimney and fireplaces have also been removed.

The west facade of this house has a distinctly Victorian feeling with its two-story bay window, round-arch attic window, and projecting cornice with returns. The east end, however, preserves a strict Colonial outline with a double overhang and flat cornice with rake molding. Much original or early work remains on the interior, including wide floorboards, staircase, panelled fireplace walls, and vertical wainscoting with beaded edges.

This house has important historical associations; moreover it is of great architectural interest.