

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
9 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
of Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: _____ Historic: Samuel B. Harris House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: South Farms COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 60 Saybrook Road
- 4. OWNER(S): Agnes & Eva Carlson PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain _____ no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1852
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding	<input 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: probably
 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: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 24'x28' (east extension 22'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: Possibly early east addition; shutters probably
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: not original
 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 house faces Saybrook Road in the South Farms district of Middletown. Its site is bordered by bushes and trees. A vacant lot is to the east and factory buildings are south beyond the houses on the opposite side of the street. Well-traveled Saybrook Road leads to a small commercial area a short distance west. The structure's original condition and early design are apparent in this neighborhood of mixed building styles.

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

Rectangular window in pediment

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This Greek Revival structure was built for Samuel B. Harris in 1852. It was erected on a one acre lot, part of the Harris family farmland which bordered the Middlesex Turnpike. When Harris died in 1855, the house was divided between his wife, Martena and young son, Olin.

The building has retained its original detail. The three-bay facade, with a pedimented gable to the street, is a later example of a Middletown house type that was extremely popular during the 1830s and early 40s. The pediment is trimmed by a plain frieze and cornice boards. Beneath the gable, a large rectangular window with small, rectangular panes is displayed. The Greek Revival entranceway exhibits a simple entablature supported by pilasters. Rectangular lights frame the door.

This residence survives from an era just before the district, characterized by small farm began to be transformed through the success of the Russell Manufacturing Company nearby. During the latter part of the nineteenth century, residential and commercial development stimulated by marked industrial growth, gradually absorbed the farmland. The house is now part of one of the city's most populated districts.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 6/78 view: west
negative on file: Roll 26, #5A



COMPILED BY:

name: Robert Svec date: 8/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Middletown City Directories; 1874 Beers Atlas

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

none known highways vandalism developers other: _____
 renewal private deterioration zoning explanation: Exterior repairs
and maintenance have been neglected.