

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

99 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: Stephen Miller, Jr. House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: South Farms COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 42 Silver Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Joseph R. & Edith M. DiModica PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain with permission  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Federal; Italianate remodelling DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1825
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  

<input type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: <u>poured</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: <u>probably brownstone</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	<u>verandah platform</u>	<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: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 67'x36'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: Italianate remodelling See #18
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:  
 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 north from the south-east corner of Silver Street and Evergreen Avenue. It is set back slightly from Silver Street on an open site devoid of planting. This house predates the large scale development of Silver Street which occurred in the 1850's; however, it conforms stylistically to other houses of that period due to a drastic stylistic transformation from Federal to Italianate.

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

Leaded fanlight in doorway entablature  
Full height (to probable original cornice line) corner pilasters

SIGNIFICANCE

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: The Miller family was prominent in the South Farms area of Middletown, their presence there dating from 1654 when Thomas Miller was granted a mill privilege by the town. This house was built around 1825 by Stephen Miller, Jr., great-great grandson of Thomas Miller.

Its probable original form included a ridge-to-street gable roof with cornice carried by the full height corner pilasters. The doorway displays a fanlight inside a high entablature carried by pilasters of the same form as those on the corners. This is a rare combination of decorative elements in Middletown. Around 1855 the present slightly pitched hip roof with projecting eaves was added in an attempt to upgrade the house to a stylistic par with the many Italianate houses then being constructed on Silver Street. A verandah across the front of the house is a more recent addition.

This is one of the oldest houses on Silver Street, yet through its stylistic transformation it also shares in a later phase of the street's development.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 6/78 view: north  
negative on file: Roll 26, #13



COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 7/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County (J.H. Beers 1905); 1874 Beers Atlas; 1877 Bailey Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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