

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 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
For Buildings and Structures

159: Spear House
165: Hale House

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: _____ Historic: 171: Murphy House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 159, 165, & 171 Lincoln Street
4. OWNER(S): See next page (below #21) PUBLIC PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Residences Historic: same
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain _____ no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Queen Anne DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 159: 1894
165: 1893
171: 1895

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| 5: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> clapboard | ___ asbestos siding | ___ brick |
| 1: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wood shingle detail | ___ asphalt siding | ___ fieldstone |
| ___ board & batten | ___ stucco | ___ cobblestone |
| 9: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding | ___ concrete: type: _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: <u>brownstone</u> |
| ___ other: _____ | | foundation |

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:

- wood frame: ___ post and beam balloon
___ load bearing masonry ___ structural iron or steel
___ other: _____

10. ROOF: type:

- | | | | | |
|---|----------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gable s | ___ flat | ___ mansard | ___ monitor | ___ sawtooth |
| ___ gambrel | ___ shed | ___ hip | ___ round | ___ other: _____ |
- material:
- | | | | |
|---|------------------|----------|------------------|
| ___ wood shingle | ___ roll asphalt | ___ tin | ___ slate |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> asphalt shingle | ___ built up | ___ tile | ___ other: _____ |

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 159: 29'x45'; 165: 24'x40'; 171: 27'x44'

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

13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site ___ moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: All have added garages and minor surface additions;

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: 159 is aluminized
___ barn ___ shed garages ___ other landscape features or buildings: _____
___ carriage house ___ shop ___ garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---|---|
| ___ open land | ___ woodland | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> residential | ___ scattered buildings visible from site |
| ___ commercial | ___ industrial | ___ rural | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> high building density |

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: Lincoln Street, in Middletown's residential North End, was developed in the late nineteenth century on land owned largely by O.V. Coffin. Houses on this short street are of the Second Empire, Queen Anne, and Shingle Styles; set on good-sized plots with neat yards and well-trimmed shrubbery. These particular three typify the upper-middle class residential character of the area.

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

- #159: Distinguished by sheds and outbuildings
- #165: Stick-style gable brackets
- #171: Three-story tower and shingle decorative details

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This group of three substantial Queen Anne houses exemplifies residential development by members of the business community at the turn of the 20th century. #159 Lincoln Street was built for Isaac Spear, co-owner of Spear Brothers clothing store on Main Street. #165 Lincoln Street was put up for Burt J. Hale, a bank executive at Middletown Savings Bank. #171 Lincoln Street was the home of John J. Murphy, a druggist on Main Street, whose store sign is still extant at 644 Main Street.

These three houses display many of the architectural features favored around 1900: belt courses and gable-end shingles; crossed sticks in the gables; and asymmetrical plans. These houses are similar in form, plan and detail; yet individuating features such as a bay window, a small wing, or an oriel window make each one distinct from its neighbors. As a whole, this trio of houses is a fine example of residential building by the prosperous mercantile class of late nineteenth century Middletown.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Roger Sherman
 date: 4/78 view: northwest
 negative on file: Roll 24, #27, 29

COMPILED BY:

name: Roger Sherman date: 3/78
 organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
 address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Tax Assessor; Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; H.F. Donlan, Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

159 Lincoln Street

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- none known highways vandalism developers
- renewal private deterioration zoning

Owners: 159 Lincoln Street, Giuseppe Musumeci
 165 Lincoln Street, Dolly Basile
 171 Lincoln Street, John Bondi



165 & 171 Lincoln Street

