

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: Edward Rockwell House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 227 Pine Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Wesleyan University PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with tenant's permission no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: First Period Colonial DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1740
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard underneath asbestos siding brick foundation
 wood shingle asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: _____
 other: _____
- 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: 29'x36'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: c. 1873, from Washington Street
Alterations: no yes, explain: Chimneys, roof, siding, windows; porches added
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: Boxwood
 carriage house shop garden hedge at south
- 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 with its obvious Colonial lines stands apart from its late nineteenth century neighbors. It faces east on Pine Street on a small plot close to the street in a thickly settled residential area west of Wesleyan University.

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

Double overhang
Brick foundation
6/12 sash in attic
Small double chimneys

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was probably built by Edward Rockwell in the early to middle eighteenth century. Strong local tradition places the house originally on Washington Street near the Jeremiah Wetmore property. It was moved to Pine Street around 1873 by Henry Fountain. He had been active in the early 1870s laying out building lots in the Pine and Cross Street, and Fountain Avenue area.

There have been many alterations to this building. The foundation now is brick; the original sash has been changed to 2 over 2 glazing; asbestos siding covers the original clapboards; two slim chimney stacks flank the former opening for the center chimney; and the rake of the roof shows a steeper rise than the original probably had. On the interior, the southeast room contains a fireplace covered with wallpaper, under which the low bolection molding can be discerned. The triple-run staircase in the front hallway is largely intact. Evidence of raising the height of the ridge shows in the attic where the adze-hewn front rafters are pieced out with circular-sawed lumber for one-third of the length near the top.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 8/78 view: east
negative on file: Roll 36, #35



COMPILED BY:

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

19. SOURCES: Jesse Alsop, ed., "Rockwell House," Old Houses of Connecticut Series (FERA, 1935); Middletown Tax Records; Beers Atlas, 1874

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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