

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

9 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: 5 NR: ACTUAL
POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: _____ Historic: #29 Carlos Hale House
#31 George W. Roberts House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: South Farms COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 29 and 31 Silver Street
4. OWNER(S): #29: Sebastiana Monarca, #31: Sydney Dale PUBLIC PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Residences (double) Historic: Residences (single)
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with permission no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: #29: Italianate #29: probably 1864
#31: Victorian Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: #31: between 1859-1874
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 ___ clapboard asbestos siding #29 ___ brick
 ___ wood shingle ___ asphalt siding ___ fieldstone
 ___ board & batten ___ stucco ___ cobblestone
 ___ aluminum siding ___ concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone foundations
 other: vinyl siding #31
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 both ___ round ___ other: _____
 material: #31
 ___ wood shingle roll asphalt ___ tin ___ slate
 asphalt shingle ___ built up ___ tile ___ other: #29: 32'x37' (20'x17' rear)
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: #31: 51'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: Siding added; interiors remodelled
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 ___ barn ___ shed ___ garage other landscape features or buildings: corner sites
 ___ 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: #29 and #31 Silver Street face south from the northwest and northeast corners of Silver and Walnut Streets. Each site is open with little planting, and each house is set back slightly from Silver Street. These houses are two of a number of similar residences dating from the first large-scale development of Silver Street in the mid-nineteenth century.

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

Cross gabled cupola #31
Elaborate entrance porch #29

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____

Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: #29 Silver Street was probably built in 1864 for Carlos Hale, a tinware and stove dealer, and operator of a plumbing business. Mr. Hale was a prominent resident of South Farms for over fifty years. The Hale House features an elaborate entrance porch consisting of scrollwork brackets and decoration. It is one of the most heavily decorated entrance porches in Middletown.

Across Walnut Street to the east is the George W. Roberts House (31), probably built for Roberts between 1855-1874. As a partner in the firm of Hubbard & Roberts, which was centered in South Farms, George Roberts dealt extensively in real estate and wholesale tobacco. This house displays a fancy cross-gabled cupola with scrollwork designs in each small gable peak. The south cupola gable echoes a peak rising from the projecting eaves of the roof, and a similar gable peak in the verandah roof below. This combination of peaks gives a vertical counterbalance to the dominant horizontal lines of the cubical Italianate villa style.

Both these structures are representative survivals from a mid-nineteenth century building boom associated with the rise of heavy industry in South Farms.

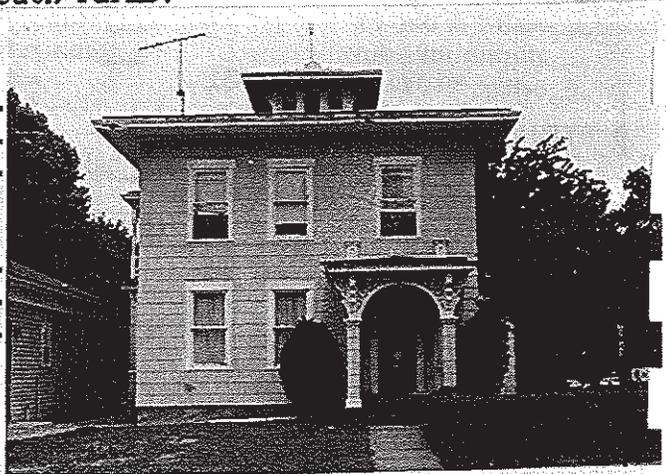
PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: #29, R. Sherman; #31, J. Reynolds
date: 7/78 view: #29, south; #31, south
negative on file: #29, Roll 27, #27A; #31, Roll 30, #13

COMPILED BY:

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

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



29 Silver Street

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

31 Silver Street

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

none known highways vandalism det
 renewal private deterioration zo

