

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

33 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

18: Mawlin J. Smith House
19: Rev. Robert Thorne House
44: Capt. Smith Weeks House
46: Wallace Tryon House

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: _____ Historic: _____
 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: South Farms COUNTY: Middlesex
 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 18, 19, 44, 46 Silver Street
 4. OWNER(S): See next page (below #21) PUBLIC X PRIVATE
 5. USE: Present: Residences Historic: same
 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
 Interior accessible: x yes, explain with permission no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 18: 1873-74
 19: 1850-1874
 44: 1869
 46: 1883-1890
 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard 18&19 asbestos siding 44 brick
 wood shingle 46 asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone
 other: _____ foundation

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:

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

10. ROOF: type:

- gable flat 18 mansard monitor sawtooth
 gambrel shed hip 19, 44, 46 round other: _____
 material: 18
 wood shingle roll asphalt tin slate
 9, 44, 46 asphalt shingle built up tile other: _____

11. NUMBER OF STORIES:

2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 19: 27'x21' 46: 54'x30'

12. CONDITION:

Structural: 18, 19: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY:

Location: on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: _____

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

- barn shed garage 19 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 group of similar Italianate houses is located on Silver Street in South Farms. 18 and 19 face each other near the west end of the street, and 44 and 46 face north next to each other just below Asylum Hill. Each house is set back slightly from the street on a small lot as is typical of most of the houses on Silver Street.

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

18: Elaborate entrance porch

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: During the mid-to-late nineteenth century the economy of Middletown was stimulated by the expansion of existing industries and the establishment of new manufacturing plants. Much of this industrial activity was centered in the South Farms area, and a corresponding boom in local residential construction was the result.

These houses are representative of that development. Slightly smaller in scale than some of the other Italianate houses on Silver Street, each is of the cubical Italianate style popular in Middletown at mid-century. Each house was constructed for a different owner; consequently each differs in specific details (for example 18 has a notable porch). However, they share a common vernacular interpretation of the Italianate villa style.

As a group, these structures demonstrate the pervasive appeal of the Italianate domestic style. Moreover, the late dates and simple forms, as compared to the first high style examples of the type in Middletown, attest to the process by which a style becomes vernacular and popular.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: #18: J.E. Reynolds #46: E. Loomis
date: 7/78; 10/78 view: north
negative on file: #18: Roll 30, #10 #46: Roll 50, #18

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 City Directories; 1874 Beers Atlas; 1877 Bailey Map



46 Silver Street

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

18 Silver Street

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

none known highways vandalism de
 renewal private deterioration zc

