

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 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: Christian Science Church Historic: Second Randolph Pease House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 151 College Street
- 4. OWNER(S): First Church of Christ Scientist PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Church Historic: Residence
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with Church's permission no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1832/1837
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard asbestos siding brick
 wood shingle asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco north facade cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone
 other: flush boarded pediment foundation
- 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: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 28'x54' (south wing 30'x35')
- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site Southeast 2 story porch enclosed; south wing en-
Alterations: no yes, explain: larged; doorway moved to center of facade; origi-
nal fenestration replaced by arched win-
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: _____
 carriage house shop garden parking area to southwest
- 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 structure faces north on the southwest corner of the intersection at College and Broad Streets. It is the first in a row of Greek Revival gable-to-street buildings on the south side of College Street. The imposing qualities of this temple form building are balanced by its small scale of execution, in character with the small residences typical of the area.

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

Two story portico with fluted Ionic columns supporting denticulated pediment

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This structure was built between 1832 and 1837 by Randolph Pease who, with his brother Aaron, operated a major grocery and dry goods business in Middletown. Tradition has it that Pease was so angered by the city's decision to widen College Street almost to the door of his first home (148 College Street) that he built this house across the street. Reportedly Mr. Pease bought the lumber from the dismantled Episcopal Church on the South Green for use in this building.

In 1916 the First Church of Christ Scientist of Middletown purchased the property for use as a church. Alterations during conversion to this use included removal of the Ionic columns from and enclosure of the 2 story southeast corner porch, thus reorienting the building's architectural focus to College Street; extension of the south wing to the east; substitution of arched windows for original double hung sash; and relocation of the entrance doorway to center of the north facade. An entrance portico with fluted Ionic columns supporting a denticulated and flushboarded pediment remains the distinguishing stylistic element of this Greek Revival structure. With the exception of the more imposing Russell House at 350 High Street, it is the only strict example of the Greek temple form in downtown Middletown.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 2/78 view: north and west facades
negative on file: Roll 13, #29A



COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 3/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; E.P. Augur, Colonial Dames Monograph "Randolph Pease House 1817"; 1851 Clark Map; 1877 Bailey Map; Hazen, "Middletown Portfolio", Wesleyan Archives; Karl P. Harrington, Background of Wesleyan & Middletown, Ct. 1823-1833 (Middletown: 1942); Conn. State Historical Comm. Survey (1966)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: _____ Date: 1/90

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151 College Street, Middletown, CT 06457

