

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: \_\_\_\_\_ Historic: D. Ward Northrop House
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 154 Church 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 \_\_\_\_\_  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Bracketed cottage DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1874
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 

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

<input type="checkbox"/> wood frame: <input type="checkbox"/> post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> load bearing masonry <input type="checkbox"/> structural iron or steel
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
- 10. ROOF: type:
 

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gable cross	<input type="checkbox"/> flat	<input type="checkbox"/> mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> monitor	<input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth
<input type="checkbox"/> gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> shed	<input type="checkbox"/> hip	<input type="checkbox"/> round	<input type="checkbox"/> other _____

 material:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> roll asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> tin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> slate
<input type="checkbox"/> asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> built up	<input type="checkbox"/> tile	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 31'x35'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: Small shed in rear
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> barn	<input type="checkbox"/> shed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> garage <sup>may</sup> predate	<input type="checkbox"/> other landscape features or buildings: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> shop	<input type="checkbox"/> gardenhouse	
- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> open land	<input type="checkbox"/> woodland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> residential	<input type="checkbox"/> scattered buildings visible from site
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> high building density
- 16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This well kept brick structure is situated on a large lot on a street lined with late nineteenth century homes. The house is distinguished by its slightly larger size and decorative accenting.

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

**SIGNIFICANCE**

Architect: \_\_\_\_\_ Builder: \_\_\_\_\_

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was built by the Hon. D. Ward Northrop in 1874. Northrop, a frequent recipient of public honors, was Judge of Probate from 1873 to 1881 and Mayor from 1884 to 1885. He held numerous other offices: Representative to the General Assembly; member of the Common Council; Secretary of the Board of Education; and Postmaster. Frederick Strong, Jr., of C.L. Strong and Sons, dealers in paper goods, owned and occupied the house from 1911 to 1924. This was also the last home of Rev. Azel W. Hazen from 1924 until his death. Hazen, tenth pastor of the First Church of Christ, was one of the leading religious figures of nineteenth century Middletown.

This is a well preserved house in the Victorian Gothic "cottage" style with a steep front gable and a bracketed cornice. Notable features include a two-story bay window on the east side, the use of round-arched windows in the center facade and west side, bracketed lintels, and louvered shutters. This house is virtually identical to the Samuel T. Camp House at 11 Pearl Street and was almost certainly built by the same builder.

**PHOTOGRAPH**

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 6/78 view: south  
negative on file: Roll 22, #26A

**COMPILED BY:**

name: E. Loomis, R. Sherman date: 4/78  
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County (Chicago: J.H. Beers Co., 1903); Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896)



**20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:**

**21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:**

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