

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: Rice, Davis & Daley Insurance Building Historic: Duane Barnes-Leonard Bailey House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 194-196 Court Street
4. OWNER(S): Middlesex Mutual Assurance Company PUBLIC PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Commercial-Offices Historic: Residential
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with permission no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Mid-19th Century Cross-Gable Domestic DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1858-1859
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard asbestos siding brick
 wood shingle asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete; type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone
 other: _____ foundation, sills & lintels
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame; post and beam balloon
 load bearing masonry structural iron or steel
 other: _____
10. ROOF: type:
 gable crossed flat rear mansard monitor sawtooth
 gambrel shed wing hip round other _____
 material:
 wood shingle roll asphalt tin slate
 asphalt shingle built up tile other: _____
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 37'x53'; addition 36'x35'
12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
 Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site Rear wing added; porch lattices and barge boards
 Alterations: no yes, explain: removed; interior extensively altered for business use
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: use
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: paved parking lot surrounding building
 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 2 1/2-story building is the only residential structure on Court Street between Main Street and Broad Street. It is located in an area consisting principally of commercial buildings from various periods. Paved parking space surrounds the house. The much taller Gothic Revival First Church of Christ is the next building to the east.

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 Duane Barnes in 1858-59. Barnes also erected the distinctive Gothic house at 327 High Street in 1848 (now the Wesleyan University Infirmary) and "Clovernook", a Gothic cottage at 18 Burr Avenue. The house was probably built as a double house. Its exterior once displayed a row of pendants under its eaves and latticed Gothic entrance porches. Barnes, who maintained a bookstore on Main Street, was also active in the construction of the Air Line Railroad and Portland quarrying activities.

The house was later the residence and office of Dr. Leonard Bailey (owner 1873-1912) a prominent city physician. It has also served as the parish house for the First Church of Christ and the headquarters of the Middlesex County Historical Society.

Since the mid-nineteenth century, Court Street between Main Street and Broad Street has been slowly transformed from a residential area to one of multiple urban usage. Like the surrounding neighborhood, this house has undergone a series of alterations to conform to the needs of it's successive owners. This house is the only structure originally built as a residence remaining on this section of Court Street.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Robert Svec
date: 12/77 view: southeast
negative on file: Roll 5, #4A



COMPILED BY:

name: Robert Svec date: 4/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; H.F. Donlan, The Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (E.F Bigelow, 1896); Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County (Chicago: J.H. Beers, 1903)

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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