

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: Henry Cornwell House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: Westfield COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 125 Miner Street
4. OWNER(S): Walter and Marie Truscinski 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: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1860
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
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 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22'x28'
12. CONDITION: Structural: ___ excellent good ___ fair ___ deteriorated
 Exterior: ___ excellent good ___ fair ___ deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site ___ moved, when: _____
 Alterations: ___ no yes, explain: Rear verandah
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 ___ barn ___ shed ___ garage ___ 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 house is set back about 75' from the south side of Miner Street, in the village center of Westfield. Large shade trees in front frame the view of the house from the street. This area of Westfield displays several neighboring residences along both sides of Miner Street, which is dominated by the large Greek Revival Third Congregational Church. 18

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

Decorative stickwork in verandah
Wide overhanging eaves

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This finely-scaled Italianate villa was built around 1860 by Henry Cornwell. In 1888 it was acquired by Edgar Burns and remained in the Burns family until 1952.

The house has a main block with shallow wings, eyebrow windows and a distinctive verandah with decorated arches spanning the columns. It retains its original residential usage and has remained in its approximate original condition.

Miner Street dates from the early settlement of Westfield in the first quarter of the eighteenth century. This house with its picturesque setting and finely executed Italianate decoration provides a pleasing architectural contrast to the prevailing colonial character of Miner Street.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 10/78 view: north
negative on file: Roll 48, #36A



COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 9/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; 1874 Beers Atlas

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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