# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

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5 I983

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries	s—complete applicable	sections		
1. Nam	1e			
historic Main	ı Street			
9				
	Main Street Histor		,	
2. Loca	ation Person	y Main of	1 th mean total	je on à Harts.
street & number	_	9-11 Liberty Street; s Square; 62-70 Wash	-	lain Street; .a.not for publication
city, town Mic	ddletown	n_a_vicinity of		
state Conne	ecticut <b>cod</b>	le 09 county	Middlesex	code 007
3. Clas	sification			
Category  X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status  _X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted _X yes: unrestricted	Present Use agriculturex commercial _x educational entertainment government industrial	museum park x private residence x religious scientific x transportation
4 0	n.a.	no	military	other:
<u>4. Own</u>	er of Prope	rty		
name Multip	le public and priva	te		
street & number				
city, town Mi	ddletown	n.a. vicinity of	state	Connecticut
5. Loca	ation of Lea	al Description	)n	
<u> </u>	111011 01 109	ai Dooonptii		
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Town	Clerk's Office		
	_			
street & number	deKoven Drive			
city, town Mi	ddletown		state	Connecticut
		in Existing		
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing S	ourveys	
titl <b>e</b> see con	tinuation sheet	has this pro	perty been determined eli	gible? <u>×</u> yes no
dato				e county local
date				
depository for su	urvey records Connecti	cut Historical Comm	ission, 59 South Pr	ospect Street
citv. town Ha	rtford		state	Connecticut

### 7. Description

 Condition
 Check one
 Check one

 \_\_excellent
 \_\_deteriorated
 \_x unaltered
 \_x original site

 \_x good
 \_ruins
 \_x altered
 \_x moved
 date 1873 (710-712 Main St.)

 \_x fair
 \_unexposed

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Main Street Historic District is composed of properties that line both sides of Main Street in the Central Business District of Middletown. The district is bounded on the north by a natural terminus, the properties which border St. John's Square where the street originates. Without interruption it extends south on the west side of the street for five blocks until it meets the Metro South National Register District at College Street. On the east side, it extends south for four-and-one-half blocks to include the Capitol Theater (354 Main Street) located in the center of the block between Washington and Court streets. It was terminated at this point to exclude the modern buildings in the remainder of this block and two blocks of modern commercial development further south from Court to William streets. In order to include all outbuildings associated with the buildings which front on Main Street, the east-west boundaries of the district follow the rear property lines with one exception. At Washington and Main streets the district boundaries extend east to include one historic building associated with a Main Street commercial block and connected to it by a second floor bridge.

The district includes approximately 20.5 acres and 72 buildings. Two historic sites which represent two different periods of development are also included: the Riverview Cemetery (1650-1850) and St. John's Cemetery (1850-present).

Main Street is located within 200 yards of the Connecticut River, the eastern boundary of the City of Middletown. It runs almost due north and south, parallel to the river, on the first level ground above the riverbank, and is bisected at regular intervals by east-west cross streets which lead up from the river, cross Main Street and continue to the west. This axial grid plan has been relatively unchanged since the Colonial period and is also basically similar to the pattern laid out in the original nucleated settlement of Middletown in 1651. $^{
m l}$  At that time the homelots of the properties were established along both sides of the street with the "meeting house yard" and burying ground at the north end, today's St. John's Square. Originally only one centrally located, major cross-street extended from the river across Main Street and continued west to the "upland lots" and undivided common land. It has been called Washington Street since the late eighteenth century. As mapped in 1825, this basic axial plan was amplified by the addition of two more major cross-streets and five narrower, primarily residential, streets between the river and Main Street in the North End. $^2$  Today direct access to the river from all of these cross streets is precluded by the location of Route 9 along the river's edge.

The concentration of historic buildings in the district is exceptional. Eighty-six percent (62) pre-date 1930 and eighty-two percent (59) were built between 1830 and 1930. Of the ten non-contributing buildings only five clearly detract from the historic streetscape; three are mid-twentieth century gas stations and two are one-story, concrete block, commercial establishments.

Only one historic building has been so altered as to no longer contribute to the historic character of the district, the former Scotch Evangelical Church. Aluminum siding and inappropriate Colonial style refenestration, as well as the gutting of the interior for modern medical offices has irrevocably compromised the integrity of the building (#41).

(see continuation sheet)

NPS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018 (3-82) Exp. 10-31-34

### **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

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6. Representation in Existing Surveys

#### National Register of Historic Places

Church of the Holy Trinity NR 1979

Old United States Post Office NR 1981

#### Individual Properties determined eligible for National Register

Arthur Magill, Jr. House - Chase School 631 Main Street 1979

Main Street Firehouse

533 Main Street 1981

North End Meeting House

710-712 Main Street 1980

#### Blocks determined eligible

East side of Main Street from Ferry to Green: 560-614 by Keeper of the National Register 1979

East side of Main Street, Washington to Ferry Streets by State Historic Preservation Officer 1980\*

State Register of Historic Places 1983

Connecticut Statewide Inventory of Historic Resources 1966, 1975

Middletown, Connecticut: Historical and Architectural Resources 1979

Depository for Survey Records:

Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut

<sup>\*</sup>See letter dated May, 1980 from State Historic Preservation Officer to Guy Mazzotta, Greater Middletown Community Corporation

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The condition of the historic buildings in the district ranges from excellent to fair. Most alteration has been confined to the sign panels and store fronts and has not affected the historic facades above street level. Only one building in the district is not on its original site, the Fourth Meeting House of the Church of Christ, moved to its present location from the other end of Main Street in 1873 (#64).\*

The district contains a mix of free-standing commercial blocks and groups of buildings with party walls. Most of the historic commercial buildings are 3-4 story, load-bearing masonry structures, interspersed with a few wood-frame buildings of the same height and scale. With few exceptions, a consistent architectural rhythm and scale are maintained on both sides of Main Street. Modern infill or demolition has been moderate. This consistency is particularly noticeable in the district throughout the east side of the street, particularly in the two blocks between Green and Washington streets (photos #14, #16).

The northeast corner of Washington and Main streets is dominated by a four-story brick commercial block built in 1894 by Jacob W. Stueck. It has limestone lintels, sills, and belt courses delineating the upper window courses and a decorative metal frieze and cornice at the roofline (#28).

Five other buildings are joined to the Stueck block to the north. interrupts the rhythm of this grouping, a small modern one-story commercial building which makes a marked contrast to its 3-4 story neighbors. They are joined in the middle of the block by a low two-story, seven bay Colonial Revival building which forms a visual bridge to the three remaining buildings in this block. It features a Classical doorway, a balustrade with urns and scrubbed terra cotta tiles. The two immediately adjoining buildings were built by the Southmayd family, but represent two radically different architectural styles and materials. Although both buildings are the same height, the nine bay facade of the first, now covered with asphalt siding in a "brick" pattern, contrasts with the essential verticality of the second, which features an ornate pressed metal facade with heavy bracketed cornice and pediment, the only commercial building of its type on Main Street. This latter storefront has been inappropriately remodeled. This block ends with a two-story clapboarded, wood frame building, built in 1833, with simple wood brackets supporting a wood cornice, and an original metal cornice above the storefront.

Proceeding south, the block between Ferry and Green streets begins with four connecting, 3-story, brick and wood frame buildings, all built shortly after the Civil War (photos #16, #17). The plain, painted brick facades of the first three buildings are enhanced by brownstone lintels and sills and a connected, bracketed cornice in the Italianate commercial style. Two more wood frame buildings and one detached wood frame building of similar height, scale and detailing, complete this grouping.

\*Note: Numbers in parentheses refer to inventory numbers for this nomination on continuation sheets 7:4-11.

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A more massive building, the Hotchkiss block, provides a visual anchor for this northeast corner of the block (Green and Main Streets). Almost square in plan (87' X 89') and four stories in height, this late-nineteenth century building has a six-bay, brick facade with Renaissance Revival elements, arched windows at the fourth floor and alternating two-story, projecting, bay windows below capped by projecting cornice sheathed in pressed copper. Ornamental brickwork below this cornice and the pressed copper storefront cornice and sign panel were preserved during its 1980-1981 rehabilitation.

On the west side of the street the rhythm of the streetscape is interrupted by several vacant lots and/or modern infill. However, it is also on this side that several more of the distinctive buildings in the district are located. At the south end, a primarily institutional block from College to Court streets, there are two vacant lots now used for parking or access to the rear of the block. At the northwest corner stands the Old Post Office. Until it was purchased in 1979 by private owners, this Renaissance Revival limestone building with a Classical facade was one of the two remaining public buildings on the street (NR 1982). The remainder of the block contains two banks of similar scale and architectural style and an extensively altered Colonial period mansion of similar scale. The latter building was first altered in the early nineteenth century. Its Greek Revival style entablature and cornice are still visible above and behind the modern storefront. The full height columns of the original portico were removed and incorporated into the portico of the Clarence Wadsworth Estate on Wadsworth Street in Middletown in 1909.

Historically, the block between Court and Washington streets, on the west side, was primarily reserved for religious and banking institutions. The four-story Middletown Savings Bank (the third home of this bank) is typical of early twentieth-century institutional buildings. Built in the Academic Classical style, the molded concrete facades are divided into three horizontal sections. The tall rusticated base of the Main Street facade has three arched openings, with a marble, pedimented, doorway in the central arch. This tripartite division is repeated by pilasters dividing the upper stories. The other distinguished building located in the center of this block makes a marked contrast to two groupings of commercial buildings at either side. Set back some fifty feet from the sidewalk, the Church of the Holy Trinity is a large, Gothic Revival, brownstone building designed by Henry Dudley and built between 1871 and 1874 (NR 1980). Despite the contrast in architectural style and material, the mass of the church and its spireless bell tower are compatible in scale with the other buildings in the block. The narrow, arched and lancet windows emphasize the verticality of the building (photo #4).

Several other major free-standing buildings are located in blocks between Washington Street and St. John's Square--the area of the district where the historic streetscape has been most altered. They include the Central Fire Station, a

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Renaissance Revival style building built in 1899 (#39). Its Pompeiian brick facade is highlighted by brownstone belt course, keystones and window sills. The slate roof features four copper-covered domes and a hose-drying tower which extends above the roof in the northwest corner. Despite modern encroachment, particularly the remodelled, concrete block supermarket which is now the Salvation Army building to the south (photo #15), the fire station remains a focal point for this side of the street.

Another distinguished building on the west side of the north end of Main Street, with an unaltered facade, is Caulkins' Garage. It has housed an automobile showroom since its construction in 1905 (#32). The glazed, red brick facade contains two copper-covered, two-story, bay windows flanking two central bays of round-arched windows which are highlighted and outlined by decorative, arched, yellow brick belt courses. The original storefront, with four plain pilasters and large central door, remains (photo #13).

Further north on the west side, reflecting the scale and dominance of the Hotchkiss Block immediately across the street, is a five-story Colonial Revival hotel at the corner of Ferry and Main streets. It has yellow brick facades with four-story bay windows on the south and east side, and a round corner turret capped by a Original exterior details that remain include dentils and swaggery.

A complete listing of contributing buildings and sites in the district follows with a brief description of each, beginning at the south end of the district and proceeding north to St. John's Square:

#### INVENTORY OF STRUCTURES CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT:

- 225 Main Street, FARMERS & MECHANICS SAVINGS BANK, 1920, 2 stories, brick with marble trim, arched windows on the side, 1-story addition to facade.
- 2. 237-45 Main Street, NEHEMIAH HUBBARD HOUSE, before 1788, major Greek Revival style remodeling, 2 stories on high foundation, brick, modern storefront, original 3rd floor, Greek Revival Style entablature and cornice visible. Full height columns of portico at the Cenacle on Wadsworth Street.
- 3. 267 Main Street, CONNECTICUT BANK AND TRUST, 1920, Renaissance Revival, 2 stories, brick, 3 bay, marble facade, Corinthian columns.
- 291 Main Street, OLD POST OFFICE, 1916, Renaissance Revival, 2 stories, smooth limestone, classical arrangement of arched windows and pilasters supporting an elaborate entablature, large 2-story, open lobby.

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- 5. 315 Main Street, MIDDLETOWN SAVINGS BANK, 1928, Academic Classicism, 4 stories, brick, granite watertable, marble entrance; tall rusticated base is surmounted by two stairs which are divided into three parts by pilasters; flat roof.
- 6. 319-323 Main Street, OLD BANKING HOUSE BLOCK, 1796 south section; 1815 north section; modernization in commercial Italianate style; 3 stories, brick; third story added in 1890; brownstone sills and lintels on the second story, arched windows with keystones on the third, decorated wooden cornice above.
- 7. 335 Main Street, GUY RICE BUILDING, 1930, Renaissance Revival, 3 stories, stucco and concrete facade; large arched windows on second floor, storefront altered.
- 8. 339-351 Main Street, COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 1892, 3 stories, stuccoed facade, originally erected as YMCA, remodelled mid-20th century.
- 9. 354 Main Street, THE CAPITOL THEATER, 1925, Neo-Classical Revival, 2 stories, sandstone facade; second story features arched windows with keystones, set off by attached columns supporting an entablature and false cornice; theater section elaborately decorated; large marquee, lobby adapted for commercial use.
- 10. 357-359 Main Street, HUBBARD-HOLLAND BUILDING, 1873, remodelled early 20th century, 3 stories, brick, brownstone foundation; exterior altered significantly; interior features two oval windows with elaborately carved brackets on south side, marble fireplaces and early lighting fixtures.
- 11. 360 Main Street, PYTHIAN BUILDING, ca. 1874, remodelled 1938, Renaissance Revival details; 3 stories, brick, marble sheathing facade added, larger windows installed, third story accented by Palladian-type window and topped by two decorative vases.
- 12. 363 Main Street, CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, 1915, 5 stories, brick, Renaissance Revival detail; remodelled 1980.
- 13. 366-386 Main Street, JAMES H. BUNCE COMPANY, ca. 1920, early Modern Commercial, 3 stories; first floor concrete, brick above, long casement windows on second floor, good original condition.
- —14. 381 Main Street, THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, 1871-1874, Gothic Revival, 1 story, brownstone; Henry Dudley architect; symmetrically arranged facade with a buttressed bell tower at the southeast corner; large rose tracery window, arched and lancet windows; no spire on tower, narrow arch windows that emphasize its verticality; interior has elaborate tracery trusses supported on cast iron posts.

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- 15. 388-392 Main Street, WRUBEL BUILDING, early 20th century, contemporary marble facing over Art Deco facade, 2 stories, earlier facade is visible on the south section.
- 16. 393 Main Street, CITY SAVINGS BANK, ca. 1915, Colonial Revival, 1 story (small), brick, three arched windows on first floor.
- 17. Noncontributing (a full list of noncontributing structures follows)
- 18. Noncontributing
- 19. 412-416 Main Street, R.W. CAMP COMPANY, 1920, Renaissance Revival, 2 stories (small), brick, Palladian window on second floor, modern commercial storefront.
- 20. Noncontributing
- 21. 418-420 Main Street, SHELDON BUILDING, 1866, mid-19th century Commercial, 4 stories, brick with brownstone foundation; remodelled 1895 including present Pompeiian brick facade with brownstone lintels and sills, arc electric lighting, bracketed cornice extended from building to the north.
- 22. 422-426 Main Street, FAGAN'S BLOCK, 1868, Victorian Italianate, brick, 3 stories, cast iron lintels over arched windows, and a heavy bracketed cornice; portions of original storefront include cast iron pilasters and panels.
- 23. Noncontributing
- 24. 437 Main Street, COMMERCIAL BUILDING, early 20th century commercial, 2 stories, brick with concrete trim, some Art Deco detailing.
- 25. 428-432 Main Street, WOOLWORTH BUILDING, 1939, Commercial Art Deco, brick with marble and glass storefront; thin glazed terra cotta panels on facade; poured concrete foundation, upper portion of facade has vertical designs in low relief and heart-shaped cut outs; roofline features a stepped parapet with rounded corners.
- 26. 438-440 Main Street, WASHINGTON BUILDING, 1915, early 20th century Commercial, 3 stories, brick, vertical piers and decorative frieze, storefront altered.
- 27. 62-70 Washington Street, STUECK'S MODERN TAVERN, 1914, Renaissance Revival, brick, granite facing and front foundation, 9 bay front, bold, notched brick-work against stucco on large arched third floor windows; wrought iron balconies on top floor; long shingled hood stretching the length of the facade just under the cornice.

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- 460 Main Street, STEUCK'S BLOCK, 1893, Late 19th century Commercial, 28. 4 stories, brick, granite foundation on front and side, brownstone foundation to rear; limestone lintels and sills; decorative frieze and cornice molding at roof line, limestone belt course delineating upper window courses; modern storefronts.
- 29. 472 Main Street, PENNY PRESS BUILDING; ALSOP-KING BUILDING, 1873-4, Commercial Italianate,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  stories, brick with brownstone foundation under stucco, 3 bay; four pairs of wooden brackets support the cornice, with diminutive windows between brackets; Colonial Revival pediment over doorway added; storefront altered.
- 476-478 Main Street, FAGAN'S NEW BLOCK, 1912, Early Modern Commercial with 30. Classical Revival detail; 3 stories, brown brick, granite foundation, limestone sills; arched panels with shell motif and limestone keystones; molded pressed metal sign panel; iron I-beam lintels decorated with rosettes over first floor windows; cornice balustrade removed, interior significantly altered.
- 484-494 Main Street, CAULKINS & POST BUILDING, 1889-1890, Commercial, 4 stories, brick with granite trim and belt courses, classically detailed cornice and storefront; applied signs added; one of first "modern" stores in Middletown.
- 32. 489-493 Main Street, CAULKIN'S BUICK-CADILLAC, 1905, Early 20th century Commercial, brick, 3 stories, rounded arched windows outlined by yellow brick belt course; heavy bracketed cornice capped by panels; old gas pump recently removed; two copper two-story bays on either side of the building are separated by the arched windows; original street level storefront with four plain pilasters and brownstone threshhold; still in use as a car dealership.
- 33. Noncontributing
- 34. 501-507 Main Street, ST. ALOYSIUS BUILDING, 1894, with 1916 Georgian Revival remodelling, 3 stories, brick with limestone trim, bays divided by pilasters, flat-arched windows on second floor, arched windows third floor.
- 502-508 Main Street, WARD-CODY BUILDING, 1889-1890, Victorian Commercial, brick, 3 stories, brownstone sills and keystones at windows, arched windows, two curved bays sheathed with copper; north storefront in original condition with brackets, copper sign "Richard E. Cody Shoes", and curved glass, bracketed cornice.
- 512-522 Main Street, J. POLINER & SONS, 1925, Colonial Revival, 2 stories, scrubbed terra cotta tiles on facade, classical doorway and balustrade with urns, storefronts altered.
- 37. Noncontributing

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- 38. 533 Main Street, CENTRAL FIRE STATION, 1899, Renaissance Revival Fire Station, 2½ stories, Pompeiian brick facade, brownstone belt courses, keystones and window sills; slate roof; brownstone foundation, hip roof with four domes and a hose drying tower; old W. & B. Douglas Pump in basement formerly used for testing hose pressure capacity.
- 39. 530-540 Main Street, PALMER BUILDING, 1900, Early 20th century Commercial, 4 stories, brick with wood decoration, corner pilasters, classical cornice, Federal style entrance doors.
- 40. 542-544 Main Street, SOUTHMAYD's BUILDING, 1872, Victorian Commercial with Classical detail, 3 stories, brick walls and foundation, first floor facade inappropriately remodelled; original metal facade above storefront; heavy bracketed cornice with frieze and central pediment.
- 41. Noncontributing
- 42. 546-548 Main Street, J. POLINER & SONS SHOE STORE, 1833, 19th century Commercial, 3 stories (small), clapboarding, wooden bracketed cornice, brownstone foundation, metal cornice of old storefront.
- 43. 560-564 Main Street, LAWTON & WALL BLOCK, 1867, Italianate Commercial, unbroken common cornice with 566-576 Main Street and identical facade. See #45.
- 44. 566 Main Street, LAWTON & WALL BLOCK, 1870-1874, Common bracketed cornice with 560-576 Main Street. See #45.
- 45. 574-576 Main Street, LAWTON & WALL BLOCK, 1870-1874, Italianate Commercial, brick with brownstone foundation, 3 stories, storefronts altered, brick painted; part of a group of four connecting structures built between 1870 and 1874 sharing a common unbroken cornice supported by brackets, decorative cornice molding; metal cornice over this storefront.
- 46. 578-582 Main Street, 1894, Late 19th century Commercial, 3 stories, aluminum siding over clapboarding; first floor storefronts, three over two bays on second and third; copper sheathed storefront under present modern one.
- 47. 584-588 Main Street, SHLIEN'S FURNITURE, 1897, Commercial Italianate, 3 stories, aluminum siding on wood frame, bracketed wood cornice, first floor has modern storefronts.
- 48. Noncontributing
- 49. 598-614 Main Street, HOTCHKISS BLOCK, Late 19th century Commercial, 4 stories, brick, brownstone foundation: pressed copper sheathing on cornice, bay windows and sign panel above storefronts; paired brackets support the cornice which is highlighted by raised ornamental brickwork below; six bays four have bay windows.

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- 50. 9-11 Liberty Street, MISSION CHAPEL, 1853, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, asbestos siding, brick foundation; pedimented, flushboarded gables; elegant recessed main entrance with sidelights; side entrance has sidelights and pilasters.
- 51. 601-607 Main Street, HOTEL ARRIGONI, 1914, Colonial Revival, brick (painted) with granite foundation, 5 stories, four-story bay windows on south and east sides, corner turret, dentils and swaggery; leaded glass hood over the bar; "H" pattern floor plan.
- 52. 613-617 Main Street, SCRANTON BUILDING, 1876, Commercial Italianate, 3 stories, brick walls and foundation, south two-story bay window surmounted with a bold bracketed cornice, first floor modern storefront.
- 53. 630-636 Main Street, SPENCER-ANNENBERG BLOCK, 1897, 19th century Commercial, 4 stories, brick, granite sills and belt course on facade, brownstone sills and lintels on sides, metal cornice, cast iron columns.
- 54. 625-631 Main Street, ARTHUR MAGILL, JR. HOUSE-CHASE SCHOOL, 1821, Federal-Greek Revival, 3½ stories, brick; brownstone foundation, watertable, sills and lintels; Palladian window, Federal doorway with fanlight and sidelights, pedimented gables, lintels carved with Greek motifs, copper gutters.
- 55. 635 Main Street, 1920, Early 20th century Commercial, 3 stories, brick, 2 bay facade, Colonial Revival detail, attached to north side of Arthur Magill, Jr. House; denticulated cornice, Venetian window on third story; two small statuary urns projecting from squared brackets between first and second story.
- 56. 642-644 Main Street, MURPHY'S DRUG STORE, 1895, Commercial, 4 stories, brick with brownstone sills and lintels; sawtooth belt course, original "Murphy's Drug Store" sign on cornice.
- 57. 648-654 Main Street, SPENCER ANNENBERG BLOCK, 1870; addition 1911, brick with brownstone foundation and trim, first story has panelled front facade and #650's doorway is original, brownstone sills and lintels run length of facade.
- 58. Noncontributing
- 59. 656-664 Main Street, 1898, Commercial, 3 stories, brick first floor, upper floors stuccoed; stepped cornice; part of original brick and wooden storefront remains, upper floors originally clapboarded.
- 60. 666 Main Street, STOW BLOCK, 1893, Commercial, 3 stories, brick with a granite foundation; broken arch pediments on side entrances, raised brass entablatures on side windows, modillioned cornice, indented brick belt course on second and third floors.

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- 61. 682-686 Main Street, KABATZNICK BUILDING, 1922, modern commercial with classical details, 3 stories, yellow pompeiian brick, prominent frieze over second story, decorative parapet.
- 62. 695-699 Main Street, Early 20th century Commercial, 3 stories, brick, free standing, concrete trim; keystones, quoins, and cornice.
- 63. 696-700 Main Street, APPLEQUEST BLOCK, 1898, Commercial Victorian, 3 stories, brick, granite sills and piers; projecting pavillion with terra cotta decoration; two sets of narrow, arched windows; unusual rusticated piers of brick and granite on first floor; belt course and cornice, modern storefronts.
- 64. 710-712 Main Street, FOURTH MEETING HOUSE OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1799, Federal style church, 3 stories, clapboarding under "brick" asphalt siding; moved from previous location and placed backwards on site; palladian window on west facade, bevelled wooden quoins; main columns visible in attic.
- 65. 716-724 Main Street, Early 20th century Commercial, 3 stories, asphalt siding, wooden bracketed cornice, brick beneath.
- 66. 738 Main Street, O'ROURKE'S DINER, Early 20th century, erected on current site in 1947; Diner, Art Deco detail, 1-story, painted galvanized steel and stainless steel sheathing; "glass brick" doorway lights, neon sign on facade; single Corinthian column on street clock of cast iron (recently removed after being damaged).
- 67. Hartford Avenue, RIVERVIEW CEMETERY, 1650-1850, dating from earliest settlement; much of it destroyed ca. 1950 for highway construction.
- 68. St. John's Street, ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY, 1850-present, from earliest settlement of Irish immigrants; behind St. John's Roman Catholic Church. Notable for the extensive biographical information on the headstones, including birthplace in Ireland, family members and cause of death.
- 69. 5 St. John's Street, ST. JOHN'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL, 1887, Victorian Institutional, 3½ stories, brick with brownstone foundation, slate roof; one story arched entry porch, raised central gable and cross replaced earlier belfry; carved brownstone lintels; linked by arch to church.
- 70. 9 St. John's Street, ST. JOHN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1852, spire-1864, Gothic Revival; brownstone, random ashlar; ornate stained glass from Innsbruck, Austria; heavy panelled wood entrance doors, Gothic arches over doors and windows; aisled nave delineated by molded cast stone pillars supporting lofty groined arches; frescoed interior walls.

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- 71. 19 St. John's Street, ST. JOHN'S RECTORY, 1864, Second Empire, brick with brownstone foundation, 2½ stories, slated mansard roof, gabled dormer windows, bold cornice, windows topped by brownstone lintels, Italianate style porch across facade.
- 72. 33 St. John's Street, CATHOLIC CHARITIES BUILDING, 1872, Victorian Institutional, 3 stories, brick with brownstone foundation, square in plan, bracketed roof cornice, ornate entrance porch, Gothic style rear addition, Pyramidal-based cupola surmounted by a Celtic Cross.
- 73. King's Avenue, TROLLEY BARN, 1894, Late 19th century Industrial, brick, 1-story, poured concrete foundation; rows of recessed, narrow windows.

STRUCTURES WHICH DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE HISTORIC CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT

- 17. 395 Main Street, J.C. Penney's Company, mid-20th century, 2 story Commercial.
- 18. 404-408 Main Street, Mallove Jewelers, mid-20th century, 2 story, brick, geometric detailing.
- 20. 413 Main Street, Itkin's Decorators, mid-20th century, 2 story, Commercial.
- 23. 423 Main Street, Linderme & Zurcher, Colonial Revival Commercial, 1944, 3 stories, large, brick, dormers on roof. Some Art Deco detailing on pilasters.
- 33. 500 Main Street, Edward's Floor Covering, 1960's, 1 story, concrete block Commercial building.
- 37. 515 Main Street, Salvation Army, 1960's, 1 story, concrete block, remodelled grocery store.
- 41. 545-549 Main Street, Scotch Evangelical Union Church, 1856; used as church until 1870,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, considerably remodelled including "colonial" style aluminizing.
- 48. 591 Main Street, Modern Service Station.
- 58. 645-655 Main Street, Modern Service Station, and a 1 story modern Commercial structure.
- 74. 711 Main Street, Modern service station.

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82) OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

## **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

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when brick replaced wood-frame construction for commercial buildings. Considering that the nationally known Portland brownstone quarries were located directly across the Connecticut River, it is surprising that this material was not used more extensively in Middletown. Generally it was reserved for church buildings of the Gothic Revival style in the district and throughout the city. It continued to be, however, a favored material for the foundations, sills, lintels and watertables of the brick commercial buildings on Main Street throughout the nineteenth century.

Within the narrow architectural range, some architectural diversity is achieved in the facades above street level. Brick detailing is used to good effect to distinguish each building from its neighbors. Differing kinds of brick, or types of bond, and/or contrasting belt courses relieve the severity of the relatively plain facades and make each building unique.

A few high-style interpretations of Renaissance Revival and Gothic Revival styles are located in the district which are individually significant. In general, they stand out from the massing of the blocks because of their scale or height, and provide a balance to the horizontal thrust.

The most distinguished of the commercial buildings is the Hotchkiss Block, a massive brick building, erected in the late nineteenth century (see photo #17). Its significance lies in the quality of the architectural design and its excellent state of preservation. The four-story, six bay facade displays skillfully executed Renaissance Revival elements. Elaborate brick detailing over the round arched window openings at the fourth floor support a heavy projecting cornice covered with pressed copper. Other original elements include pressed copper in the alternating two-story bay windows, storefront cornice and sign panel. With the exception of the minor change in the entrance doors at the street level the building is virtually intact.

The sole remaining publicly owned building in the district, the Main Street Firehouse, also has considerable architectural significance (see photo #15). As was customary in the late nineteenth century, it was built as a monument to civic pride. The elaborate Renaissance Revival style facade, executed in Pompeiian brick and brownstone, concealed a very functional interior. Stables were located in the rear of the building for the horses that pulled the "pumpers." It was built by William Mylchreest, a well-known local builder whose family is still in the construction business in Middletown today. With the exception of one massive brownstone lintel which was removed from the left front door to allow the passage of modern fire equipment, the building is in its original condition. The slate roof, with its copper covered domes, has been restored by the City of Middletown.

In the third quarter of the nineteenth century, two churches were built in the district which have particular architectural significance. Because of its location, the most prominent of these is St. John's Roman Catholic Church which commands a view of the broad sweep of Main Street and provides an impressive architectural terminus to the district. As the first brownstone building erected in the city, the first to employ the Gothic Revival style, and the home of one of the earliest Roman Catholic parishes in the state (1842), this well-preserved building, together

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with the church school to the west, makes a significant contribution to the district (see photo #19). Although the architect is unknown, the sophistication of the church itself and the well designed relationship between the buildings is indicative of the work of a professional. Built in 1852, the church features exterior buttresses, a combination of round and pointed arched window and door openings. The arched doorway of the main entrance, set within a steep pediment, contains the original, heavy wood panelled, double-leafed doors. The church is linked by a brick archway, which repeats the form of the main entrance, to the more simply designed parochial school to the west. The school was built in 1887 and repeats the massing of the main block of the church and the rounded arch form of the doorway. An imposing spire was added on the west side of the main block of the church in 1864. The Church of the Holy Trinity, a brownstone church of similar design and architectural style, is located in the center of Main Street on the west side. Designed by Henry Dudley, its architectural significance has already been recognized by its placement on the National Register (1979).

Since Main Street has been the center of community life since the earliest period of settlement, the district derives further significance from its local historic associations. Reflecting the broader pattern of development in the city, the buildings in the district provide a record of a major period of her industrial and commercial growth.

The development of Main Street in the nineteenth and early-twentieth century, and its almost complete transformation from a Colonial village street into the urban business district which exists today, grew out of a decision on the part of the town's leading citizens to work together to return the town to its former prominence in the state, a position which it had occupied since the eighteenth century.

By the early nineteenth-century, Middletown had lost her position as the largest inland port on the Connecticut River and principal market town for the agrarian economy of central Connecticut. The shipping and mercantile trade which had declined during the Great Embargo of 1808, substantially ended in the War of 1812, left the town in the grip of an economic depression. Despite some early, but tentative attempts to develop the textile and firearms industries to the south and west of the town, the local economy did not improve. Faced with a lack of economic opportunity in town and the decline of farming in the region, her sons, and indeed whole families, had abandoned the town and the surrounding parishes and migrated to New York and the Northwest Territory.

#### Commerce:

In the early 1830s, becoming fully aware of the extent of these crises, Middletown finally began to deal with her problems. She turned her back on the crumbling wharves and warehouses at the river and began to rebuild the town. Under the leadership of

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Samuel D. Hubbard, a descendant of one of the early families, attempts were made to attract cultural institutions and industry; Wesleyan College was established in 1831. They also recognized the necessity of rebuilding Main Street and began with the construction of the Mansion Block in 1832, a grand brick building which formerly occupied almost a full block at the south end of the street. The old Customs House and Court House were replaced with imposing Greek Revival style buildings. None of these buildings are standing today.

Despite these efforts, little further commercial growth was evident on Main Street for several decades. Although a few industries, mostly textiles, were established, Middletown's growth as an industrial city was hampered by a lack of transportation to national markets and a source of cheap labor, conditions which would be remedied by the last quarter of the nineteenth century when Middletown's economy once again began to prosper. Although industry was located to the south of the city, a population growth was particularly evident in the city districts where many of the workers lived. With the resultant demand for goods and services in the downtown, Main Street experienced a building boom. Colonial period houses were torn down to be replaced with commercial blocks. Three-to-four-story masonry or wood frame buildings were constructed, primarily in the three blocks of the north end of the street. owners lived on the upper floors or rented out space to tenants, reserving the street level for a variety of retail businesses. As was customary in the period, these stores were highly specialized, rarely offering more than one line of goods for sale. They included hatters, shoemakers, fruiterers and confectioners, bakers, and druggists as well as several general stores. The architecture of these early commercial buildings was quite plain; the block between Green and Ferry streets is typical. Simple facades were enhanced only by Italianate bracketed cornices (see photo #16).

In addition to the Hotchkiss Block, noted above, several other commercial buildings built in this period were quite distinctive. At the southeast corner of Main and Ferry streets, Colonel J. B. Southmayd, the city coroner, had his home and undertaking business. Next door, on the same property, his sons erected a new commercial building in 1872. With its narrow pressed metal facade and heavy bracketed cornice with pediment, it is the only example of this type of commercial architecture on the street (#40, photo #14).

Later commercial buildings were built "uptown" in the block between Washington and Court streets. A number of chain stores were probably encouraged to set up their Middletown outlets in this prime location by the Board of Trade which was established in 1895. Porteus and Mitchell, a firm based in Connecticut, Indiana and Michigan, was established by 1895. It was located in the Y.M.C.A. building with 60 feet of storefront. Although its facade was completely altered in the 1920's, the original Y.M.C.A. building, designed by Cook Hapgood & Company in 1893, was quite elaborate and featured Tudor style half-timbering (#8). The "Boston Store," a company that had retail stores throughout the Northeast, was also established at this time (#21, see photo #11). Woolworth's, a later addition to the block (1939) and the only one

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of the stores still in business there, is one of the few commercial structures to exhibit Art Deco detailing on its facade (#25, see photo #12).

The decision to build the new U.S. Post Office in the center of town at the site of the old Customs House on the southwest corner of Main and Court streets in 1916 set the stage for further commercial development in the central blocks of Main Street in the next few years (#4, see photo #2). This Renaissance Revival style limestone building, currently listed on the National Register, was soon matched by other imposing buildings in the blocks between College and Washington streets, the traditional location for the city's financial institutions for over 100 years. Farmers' and Mechanics', an early nineteenth-century bank in Middletown, built their new Colonial Revival style brick building at the corner of College and Main streets within a few years (#1, see photo #1). The Connecticut Bank and Trust erected their Renaissance Revival Bank in the 1920s on the site of an earlier bank (#3, see photo #2). At the northwest corner of Court and Main streets, the Middletown Savings Bank (now the Liberty Bank for Savings), erected a four-story granite and marble building in the Academic Classical style in 1928, replacing the McDonough Hotel and Theater. Their new building made a decided contrast to the "Old Banking House Block" immediately adjacent to the north, built in the eighteenth century, where they had been located between 1838 and 1870 (#6).

#### Religion

Several religious institutions make an important contribution to the district, both through their architecture and their historic associations. Of the five buildings on Main Street that were built as churches, only two function in that capacity today, St. John's Roman Catholic Church and the Church of the Holy Trinity (both noted above). The earliest church in the district has an unusual history. The Fourth Meeting House of the Church of Christ (of the Congregational Society), built in 1791, which originally stood next to the old Customs House on the south end of Main Street, was moved in 1873 to a new site in the North End (#64, see photo #18). This Federal style wood-frame church, attributed to Lavius Fillmore, has bevelled wooden quoins, a fanlight in the pavillion pediment and groin vaults in the interior. With its steeple removed, and its rear elevation facing the street (local tradition says that it could not be turned around after the move), the building's original function and style are well hidden. After a brief period of use by the St. Mary's Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society (from the Roman Catholic Church founded by Irish immigrants in Portland), it was converted to tenements with commercial space on the ground floor.

Other denominations were also located in the district. They include the wood-frame, Greek Revival style Mission Chapel on Liberty Street (#50) and the Scotch Evangelical Union Church which opened its doors at 547 Main Street in 1856 (#41, see photo #22). The congregation at this latter church consisted of prominent citizens of Middletown, including people such as Benjamin and William Douglas, owners of the

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Douglas Pump Works and noted abolitionists.

#### Social:

The building of St. John's marked the beginning of the district's long and direct association with Middletown's ethnic history. In response to the demands of early industrial development, Irish immigrants arrived in large numbers to work in the mills and factories to the south of town and in the Portland brownstone quarries across the Connecticut River. They were generally well-received in Middletown, a city that was not unfamiliar with immigrants or foreign visitors because of its former position as a port city. In addition, a small number of Irish immigrants had arrived in Middletown in the late-eighteenth century and, W. B. Casey, a second generation Irish-American, was elected mayor in 1852.

On land donated by some of the leading citizens, including Charles Richard Alsop (mayor in 1845), a small brick church was erected in 1842. It soon proved to be too small to serve the growing Irish Catholic community. In 1852 they began building St. John's, the present church, with the brownstone donated by the quarry owners, a major employer of the Irish laborers. An unusual subscription system provided some of the building fund, the selling of burial plots in the cemetery behind the church site. The church was completed that year, and seated 1000 worshippers. The spire was added in 1864, the year the rectory was built to the immediate west (#71), in the Second Empire style.

By 1880, 30% of the city district were first or second generation Irish-Americans and a school was needed.<sup>4</sup> A convent, built in 1872 in the Victorian Italianate style (#72), housed a teaching order, the Sisters of Mercy, who established a formal parochial school in a separate brick building directly to the west of the church in 1887 (#69), completing the complex of buildings on the south side of St. John's Square.

Despite this community support for their religious institutions, living conditions were only marginally better than what they had left behind in Ireland in the years of the potato famines. Housing conditions were not ideal as they crowded into existing old houses and three-to-four story tenements along the narrow streets leading down from Main Street to the river. Disease due to overcrowding and hazardous working conditions in the quarries took their toll in the early years. A valuable record of this period can be found in one of the two historic sites in the district, the cemetery behind the church (#68). Headstones on family plots are inscribed with relatively complete biographical data including names of children, causes of chath, and place of origin.

In addition to their religious institutions, the Irish-American community formed mutual aid societies. Local chapters of the Knights of Columbus and the Ancient Order of Hibernians were established. St. Aloysius, a temperance society, built their own hall on north Main Street in 1894 (#34, see photo #13).

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By 1900, upwardly mobile Irish-Americans had established businesses on Main Street. Some owned their own buildings such as William Hennessey who ran a bottling works in his building at 613-617 Main Street (#52). Mr. Murphy of McNulty and Murphy. who had opened a drugstore in 1891 in a rented storefront, purchased his own building a few doors away at 642-44 Main Street in 1895 (#56).

Immigrants from southern Europe, principally from Mellili, Sicily, began arriving by the turn of the century. St. John's served these later arrivals until they built their own church, St. Sebastian's, one block west of the district on Washington Street in 1931. Main Street continued to be the commercial district for the downtown neighborhoods which by 1920 were almost exclusively Italian-American. Although several Italian-Americans owned small service businesses on Main Street in this period (barbers, tailors, shoemakers), only one building in the district is directly associated with the Italian-American community, the Capital Theater, built in 1925 by Alessandro Saraceno. No longer in use as a movie theater, its narrow Neo-Classical facade and modern marquee remain as a reminder of its original function (#9, photo #9).

#### Transportation:

Another important factor in the development of Main Street was the coming of the railroad. Formerly relying on the three turnpikes and the river to reach the markets for manufactured goods and brownstone, Middletown was finally connected to two major railroad lines, which passed to the west and east of the city, by the bridging of the Connecticut River in 1872. The Air Line (the New Haven, Middletown and Willimantic), passed under Main Street just south of St. John's Square, meeting the Valley Line at the railroad depot located on Rapallo Avenue, one block to the east. Residential hotels and boarding establishments to house the commercial traveler were built; thirteen were listed in the City Directory of 1895-96. Although the only one remaining today is the yellow brick Colonial Revival Hotel Arrigoni at 605 Main Street (#51), a large 1920 painting of the street (which served as the backdrop at the Palace Theater) shows several others still standing at that time including the MacDonough at the corner of Main and Court Streets, now the site of the Liberty Bank for Savings. Other nearby buildings were converted to hotel use, usch as the Arthur Magill's brick Federal style mansion house (#54).

Other forms of transportation were also in place after the Civil War. Horse Car Railroad became the Middletown Street Railroad in 1894. Trolleys ran by electricity on a two gauge track down the center of Main Street, allowing workers to travel to their jobs and citizens to shop on Main Street. By 1903 Middletown was linked by an interurban trolley system with Cromwell, Middlefield and Meriden. A recently established ironwork drawbridge across the Connecticut River, which replaced the ferry to this point, made possible the extension of the trolley line to Portland. The brick trolley barn, located on the west side of St. John's Square, was built in 1894 on the site of the stable for the horses which drew the earlier cars (#73).

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A more modern form of transportation would have very early recognition on Main Street. Caulkins' Garage, built in 1905 as an automobile showroom and garage, still serves in that capacity today (#32: see photo #13). The glazed red brick facade retains all its original elements: two story, bay windows on either side of round arched windows, outlined in yellow brick, and a heavy bracketed cornice and original storefront with a large central door.

Throughout its history, the ebb and flow of the economic life of the city has been reflected on Main Street. In periods of prosperity--after the Civil War, in the last decade of the nineteenth century and again after World War I--new buildings were erected and new businesses began. By contrast, however, after World War II, commercial development followed the housing boom to the suburbs and Main Street was neglected. Although businesses were abandoned and historic buildings deteriorated, most of the historic streetscape escaped the destructive process of "urban renewal" carried out in other New England cities.

In the 1970s, unaware that 150 years earlier Middletown's civic leaders had also recognized that a healthy local economy depended on a viable, progressive, Main Street community, the City of Middletown took steps to preserve their historic Main Street. As deterioration of buildings was most noticeable in the North End, Community Development efforts were concentrated there. Interiors of buildings were rehabilitated and facades restored according to preservation standards. Street improvements the full length of the street followed. The designation of the Metro South National Register District spurred a major rehabilitation project by private developers in that area. With the addition of an inner-city shopping mall just off Main Street, increased parking facilities and the return of a mass transit system, Main Street is now having an economic revival.

Because of these efforts, a diverse, but compatible mix of commercial and institutional buildings continue to stand and form a strong and relatively cohesive streetscape. The architectural and historic integrity of the district is exceptional and demonstrates the importance of Main Street as the center of commercial and institutional development in the city. Through its long-standing and ever changing associations with the city's diverse ethnic heritage...from the English settlers through the Irish and Italians, the district embodies over 100 years of Middletown's history. Nowhere else, but on this urban street, does the progressive city which grew out of this ethnic diversity find greater tangible meaning.

#### NOTES

- 1. Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1:395-6; Middletown Town Votes and Proprietors Records, 2:24.
- 2. H.L. Barnum, "Map of Middletown," 1825.
- 3. This reception makes a marked contrast to their reception elsewhere. See Oscar Handlin, Boston's Immigrants. (Cambridge, Harvard University Press: 1979), pp. 186-190.
- 4. Federal Census, 1880.

### 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—C	-Check and justify below			
prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900- Criteria A a	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture x architecture art commerce communications		law literature military music	re_X_ religion science sculpture _x_ social/ humanitarian theater _x_ transportation other (specify)	
Specific dates	See Item No. 7	Builder/Architect	See Item No. 7		

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Middletown's Main Street Historic District has both architectural and historical significance. Taken as a group, the commercial and institutional buildings that line both sides of this street form a cohesive, relatively intact, architecturally integrated, urban streetscape which embodies the distinctive architectural styles, materials, and methods of construction typical of small industrial cities in Connecticut in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Criterion C). Although several buildings are individually architecturally significant, the majority are well-preserved, local vernacular interpretations of the Victorian Italianate and Renaissance Revival styles which were popular for commercial architecture in this period. Masonry buildings predominate, principally of brick, which further unifies the district. Its historical significance lies in its association with a major period of Middletown's industrial and commercial development (1830-1930), a period characterized by a population growth largely attributable to immigration from Ireland and southern Europe (Criterion A).

#### Architecture:

Although the district appears to be a typical "Main Street," and as such is a representative example, very few have survived with so much of their historic architecture substantially intact. The majority of the contributing historic buildings were constructed between 1830 and 1930. While a few buildings remain in the district that were built prior to this time serve as tangible reminders of the late Colonial period, and add to the historical continuity, they do not achieve the significance of this later group.

Despite the fact that one hundred years of building styles and traditions are represented, a general similarity of scale, facade design and a limited range of architectural styles and materials prevail. Not only do these factors tend to form a distinguishable architectural entity, they add to the significance of the district by creating a distinctive sense of time and place. The general similarity of facade design is, of course, dictated to some degree by the function of the buildings. Commercial and institutional buildings predominate; residential use was historically restricted to the upper levels, a practice that continues today. The horizontal rhythm and flow of the streetscape is maintained by storefronts at street level and facades of similar height above. With few exceptions, the division between the two sections is intensified by a separate cornice and/or sign panel for the storefront level and the use of heavy cornices at the roofline. The repeating pattern of the fenestration at the upper levels contributes to this rhythm.

Similar types of masonry are used throughout and further integrate the district into a unified whole. Although brick and brownstone were readily available locally, the majority of the buildings are constructed of brick, particularly after 1850,

(see continuation sheet)

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bailey Map of Middletown, Conn., 1877; Barnum Map of Middletown, 1825; Clark Map of Middlesex County, 1851; Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County (Chicago: J.H. Beers, 1904); Federal Census of the United States; Middletown City Directories; Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Public Records of the Colony of CT.

10. Geographica	ıl Data				
Acreage of nominated property20 Quadrangle nameMiddletown	).5 (estimat	ed)	Quadrangle scale _1:24000		
UTM References see continuati	on sheet				
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Verbal boundary description and	iustification				
Verbal boundary description and justification $ \begin{array}{c} \text{see continuation sheet} \\ \hline \\ \text{List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries} \\ \text{N/A} \\ \end{array} $					
state	code	county	code		
state	code	county	code		
11. Form Prepar		ector, edited	l by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator		
organization Greater Middleton	wn Preservat	ion Trust	date 4/14/82		
street & number 27 Washington	Street		telephone (203) 346-1646		
city or town Middletown			state Connecticut		
12. State Histor	ic Pres	ervatior	n Officer Certification		
The evaluated significance of this pro	perty within the	state is:			
national	X_ state	local			
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.  State Historic Preservation Officer signature					
		11090	Jums		
title Director, Connecticut Hi	storicaí Co	mmission,	date May 10, 1983		
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register Intered in the Mational Register  Mational Register  Mational Register					
Reeper of the National Register					
Attest:			date		
Chief of Registration					

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#### UTM References

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D 18	695600	4604200	L	18	695945	4603600
E 18	695660	4604240	M	18	695905	4603630
F 18	695700	4604130	N	18	695960	4603520
G 18	695830	4604160				4603510
н 18	696900	4604060	P	18	696000	4603300

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification (for Justification see 7:1, paragraph 1)

Beginning at the southwest corner of Lot 19, Block 17-55, as shown on the Middletown Tax Assessor's Map 22, the district boundary runs easterly along the southern line of that lot (the north side of College Street), to Main Street. Here it turns in a northerly direction to run along the west side of Main Street, crosses Court Street to Lot 28. Block 17-51 and turns easterly to cross Main Street at 90 degrees to meet a point at the southwest corner of Lot 10, Block 17-51. It continues easterly along the southern line of Lot 10 to the southeast corner. Here the district boundary turns a northerly direction to follow the rear property lines of Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16,17, 18, 19, 20-24, 22, and 23 to Washington Street. Crossing Washington Street at 90 degrees to the southern property line of Lot 45, Block 17-47, the district boundary continues along Washington Street to the southeast corner of Lot 45 where it turns and follows the east line of this lot to the rear of the property and turns westerly to meet the rear property line of Lot 39A. It continues along the rear property lines of Lots 39-39A, 38, 37, 36, 34-35, and 31-33 to Ferry Street and crosses Ferry Street to Block 17-47. Here it extends along the rear property lines of Lots 1-2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 (a vacant lot), and 9-10 to Green Street, crosses Green Street to Block 17-36 and continues along the rear property lines of Lots 1 (a vacant lot), 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 to Rapallo Avenue. It continues across Rapallo Avenue to Block 17-29 and follows the rear property lines of Lots 1, 2, 3-4, 4, and 4A to the northeast corner of 4A. Here it then crosses the Penn Central Railroad to Hartford Avenue and continues in an easterly direction to include Lot 4, Map 20, Block 17-16 (the Riverview Cemetery). After circumscribing the lot to its northwest corner, it crosses Hartford Avenue to meet a point at the southeast corner of Lot 1A, Block 17-14 as shown on Map 20. It extends along the eastern border of this lot to the northeast corner and turns westerly and follows the rear property line of Lot 1 to St. John's Street, crosses St. John's Street to meet the eastern boundary of Lot 10 (St. John's Cemetery), circumscribes Lot 10 and returns to Main Street in a southerly direction along the western boundary of Lot 10 and Lot 1 to the southeast corner of Lot 1. After crossing St. John's Square, the intersection of Hartford Avenue and Main Street, in approximately a southeasterly direction to meet the northern boundary of Lot 4, Map 22, Block 17-28, it turns east to follow the northern boundary of Lot 4 and Lot 6 to the northwest rear corner of Lot 6 (Clinton Avenue). Here it turns south to a point in line with the northern boundary of Kings Avenue and proceeds in an easterly direction to Kings Avenue, turning in a

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southerly direction along the rear property line of Lot 3 and 2 (vacant) to Grand Street. After crossing Grand Street to Block 17-28, the district boundary follows the rear property line of Lots 6-7, 3A, 3, 2, and 1 to Liberty Street and across Liberty Street at a diagonal to meet the northeast corner of Lot 11, Block 17-46 and runs along the eastern border of Mortimer Cemetery to Lot 7 continuing along the rear property lines of Lots 7 and 6. It cuts across Lot 5 to meet the northwest corner of Lot 4 and continues along the rear property lines of Lots 4, 3, 2, and 1. It crosses Washington Street to Block 17-51 and continues along the rear property lines of Lots 20-21, 19, 23, 24, 24A to 25. Here it turns in an easterly direction and follows the northern property line to a point which includes the church building. At this point the district boundary turns south and cuts across Lot 25 at 90 degrees and returns in an easterly direction to a point in line with the rear property line of Lot 26 and follows the rear property lines of Lots 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 31-33 to Court Street. After crossing Court Street to Block 17-55 it follows the rear property lines of Lots 13, 15, 16 (vacant), 17-18 and 19 to the first point.