

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5 77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No..	Site No 141
UTM	:
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION	1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic) Lyman, Thomas, IV, House	
	2 TOWN CITY Durham	COUNTY Middlesex
	3 STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) Middlefield Road, east side	
	4 OWNER(S) Winder, Mary & Hardy, Lillian <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
	5 USE (Present) (Historic) Residence Residence	

6 ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	IF YES EXPLAIN
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7 STYLE OF BUILDING Georgian	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1778
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8 MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<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: brownstone	

9 STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	

10 ROOF (Type)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
(Material)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	

11 NUMBER OF STORIES 2½	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 35' x 70'; 11' x 48'
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12 CONDITION (Structural)		(Exterior)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good
				<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated

13 INTEGRITY (Location)	WHEN?	Alterations	IF YES EXPLAIN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	E11 has been lengthened
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved			

14 RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garden	pond

15 SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood-land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density

16 INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

Prominently sited above a brownstone retaining wall, the Thomas Lyman, IV House stands on a large open lot lined with numerous stone walls. Facing south the house is bordered to the east by Middlefield Rd. in a rural residential neighborhood in the northwest portion of Durham.

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

DESCRIP (Continued)

Georgian characteristics include the massive interior twin brick chimneys and center-hall plan. The facade features an elaborate eleven-panelled entrance door topped by a five-paned overlight. The entryway is highlighted by a decorative gabled portico supported by Doric columns. The hipped-roof features twelve-paned pedimented dormers. Twelve-over-twelve sash are displayed throughout the rest of the main block. Reminiscent of colonial period architecture, an overhang is featured between the first and second stories. A 1½ story, gable-roofed ell with a tall center brick chimney extends from the north elevation. The ell displays a recessed porch with simple stick balustrade and twelve-over-twelve sash. Eight-over-twelve sash are also featured on the facade of the ell. The east elevation of the ell displays an entrance door topped with pent-roofed doorhood.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The eldest son of Thomas Lyman, III and his wife Anne, Thomas Lyman, IV was educated as a young man in the Durham public schools. It is said that at the age of fifteen Thomas left home and traveled throughout the south only to return to Durham upon his father's death in 1761. In 1771 he married Rachel Seward (1751-1797) and they had five children: George, Henry, Betsey, Rachel, and Sophia. Soon after his marriage Lyman was invited to spend a week at Monticello with Thomas Jefferson. Professor William C. Fowler in his History of Durham quotes Lyman as "a man of great intelligence, of extensive reading, dignified in his manners and impressive in his conversation" (p. 190). In 1774 Thomas accompanied his brother James, his cousins General Phineas Lyman, and Phineas Lyman, Jr. on a journey to Florida to claim land from the British. The trip proved fateful to all except Thomas. James drowned in the Mississippi River and General Phineas Lyman and his son died while in Florida, where they are buried. It is said that Lyman was so impressed with the domestic architecture of the Virginia Colony that he returned home with the plans for a new dwelling house, which was completed in 1778. During the Revolution Lyman served as a quartermaster under Colonel Wadsworth in the First Connecticut Regiment. Tradition asserts that General Lafayette visited the Lyman House a number of times during the war. Returning to Durham in 1777 Lyman took up farming and sheep-raising. Active in local politics, he was sent to the 1818 State Convention which adopted the State Constitution. A founding member of the Ethusian Library, Lyman administered the Library from his house for a number of years. In 1832 Henry Lyman (1782-1852) received his (SEE CONT. SHEET)

SOURCES

Durham Land Records; Durham Vital Records; Middletown Probate Records; Federal Census of 1820, 1850, 1880; Beers, J. B., History of Middlesex County, Connecticut (New York: J. B. Beers & Co., 1884); Durham History Committee, Durham, CT, 1866-1980: Century of Change (Durham: 1980); Fowler, William C., History of Durham (Durham: W. C. Fowler, 1866); Whited, Milton, Durham's Heritage (Durham: 1976); 1859 Walling Map; 1874 Beers Atlas.

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
	Alex Parades	5/84
VIEW	VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE
	North	13:3
COMPILED BY	NAME	DATE
	E. R. Hart	5/84
	ORGANIZATION	
	Greater Middletown Preservation Trust	
	ADDRESS	
	27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457	



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None knowr. Highways Vandalism Developers Other _____

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Explanation _____

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CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
9 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:		SITE NO.:	
UTM: 18	/	1	4
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL
			POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: 19 Date: 5/84

THOMAS LYMAN, IV HOUSE, Durham

19 (cont'd)

father's homelot. Influential in the construction of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Henry also served as a representative to the State Legislature in 1848. Leaving no heirs, Henry willed the house in 1853 to his two nephews, Frederick and Thomas W. Lyman. Henry's will stated that "Sarah Crowell who has long lived in the family has use of two such rooms in my dwellinghouse as she may select, with privilege of cellar, kitchen, pantry and well" (MPR 8:418). Thomas, who resided in the Ithamar Parsons House just to the south of his grandfather's mansion, willed his portion of his uncle's estate to his brother in 1862. Frederick (b. 1812) married Mary Minor, a native of Martinsburg, New York. The Lymans had three children: George H., Ellen, and Frances. Frances (Lyman) Banks received full title of the property in 1915 and her daughter and son-in-law retained ownership until 1949. The present owners have restored the house to its original splendor.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Thomas Lyman, IV House is architecturally significant as Durham's best example of Georgian-style architecture. The house is historically significant for its association to the Lyman family, one of the town's leading families in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.