

**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. 176 |
| 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) | |
| | Meigs, Elias, House | |
| | 2. TOWN CITY | VILLAGE |
| | Durham | |
| | 3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) | |
| | Town House Road, west side, 1 m. south of Maple Avenue | |
| 4. OWNER(S) | | |
| Hugh and Judith Cox <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private | | |
| 5. USE (Present) (Historic) | | |
| Residence Residence | | |
| 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| IF YES, EXPLAIN with permission | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|
| DESCRIPTION | 7. STYLE OF BUILDING | | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION |
| | Federal | | 1831 |
| | 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"/> 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: sandstone foundation | |

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

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
| DESCRIPTION | 10. ROOF (Type) | | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable | <input type="checkbox"/> Flat | <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard | <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> Round |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Sawtooth | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ | | |
| (Material) | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt | <input type="checkbox"/> Tin | <input type="checkbox"/> Slate | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Built up | <input type="checkbox"/> Tile | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ | |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 11. NUMBER OF STORIES | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS |
| 2 1/2 | Main block 27 x 29; south addition 15 x 27 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | | |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------|---|-----------------------------|
| 13. INTEGRITY (Location) | | WHEN ? | (Alterations) | IF YES EXPLAIN |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | 1980 addition to south side |

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

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

The Elias B. Meigs House stands on a tree-shaded half-acre lot on the west side of Durham's Green.

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

DESCRIBE (Continued)

This 2½ story Federal-style residence in many ways resembles the Charles Camp House, which stands just to the south of it. Both are side-hall plan structures with gable ends facing the street. The Meigs House, however, possesses that hallmark of the Federal style, a demi-lunette fanlight in its gable peak. It also possesses an elegant leaded glass fanlight over its front entry, which is protected by a cove-ceilinged gable-roofed portico supported by Doric columns. A shed-roofed 10 x 16 addition, probably contemporary with the main block, stands to the rear of the structure. In 1980 a single-story gable-roofed addition was made to the south side of the main block.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

In April of 1830 Ebenezer Camp sold this one-acre lot to Elias B. Meigs for \$160.75. No structure stood on it. The Grand List of 1830 shows no house on the site--but the list for 1831 shows a structure valued at \$1,000. On Meigs' death in 1878 the house passed to his son and daughter, who held it as a rental property until 1913. It passed to its present owners in 1966.

This is a fine example of Federal-style architecture. Its strategic location on the Green constitutes an important visual anchor to the area's past.

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: P. D. Hall DATE: 7/5/83

VIEW: East elevation NEGATIVE ON FILE: 6:1

COMPILED BY

NAME: P. D. Hall DATE: 5/15/84

ORGANIZATION: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

ADDRESS: 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None known
 Highways
 Vandalism
 Developers
 Other _____
 Renewal
 Private
 Deterioration
 Zoning
 Explanaton _____