

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Town No.:	Site No. 56
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) The John Jackson House		(Historic) Shelly, Russell House	
	2. TOWN CITY Durham		VILLAGE	COUNTY Middlesex
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) 132 Main Street			
	4. OWNER(S) Thompson, Timothy and Mary <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
	5. USE (Present) Residence		(Historic) 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			
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING Greek Revival			DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1852-1853
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone (sandstone rubble) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: _____			
	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <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 2		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 30' X 40'	
12. CONDITION (Structural)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated				
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		WHEN ?		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
IF YES, EXPLAIN Additions to south and east sides Original front entry moved to South side				
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garage <input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden				
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"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density				
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS				

Set back 30' from Durham's Main Street, this house stands on a narrow but deep 1.44 acre lot.

DESCRIBTION (Continued)

The doorframe with fluted pilasters and a full entablature is elaborate. Also a small corner porch is supported by a single Victorian-style pillar.

SIGNIFICANCE

18 ARCHITECT

Unknown

BUILDER

Unknown

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This structure is a three-bay, flat-hip-roofed, side-hall entry Greek Revival-style residence. Its facade has been somewhat altered, the front entry is placed disproportionately close to the second of the two windows on the first story, and the window above it on the second story has been removed and shingled over. Nevertheless, the facade retains many original features, including a doorframe with fluted pilasters and a full entablature, an original 2 pane over 2 paneled glass and wood door, and 6 X 6 window. The south side has been altered with the construction of a one story hip-roof entry addition which contains its own entry door. This door is sheltered by a small corner porch, the roof of which is supported by a single Victorian-style pillar. The north side has been altered by the construction of a two story shed-roof addition which also possess its own entry. To the rear a one story gable roof addition has been constructed. The whole structure has been sheathed with wooden shingles, replacing original clapboarding. The roof is characterized by a wide overhang which suggests a transition to the Italiante and the possibility that the house once boasted bracketing. (See continuation 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

P.D. Hall

DATE

6/6/1983

VIEW

West elevation

NEGATIVE ON FILE

III: 2

COMPILED BY

NAME

P.D. Hall

DATE

8/10/1983

ORGANIZATION

Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

ADDRESS

27 Washington Street Middletown, CT. 06457



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

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

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:		SITE NO.:	
UTM: 18	/	5	6
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	8	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: 19 Date: 9/30/83

The John Jackson House
132 Main Street
Durham:

According to Fowler, a house owned by the Parsons Family and later the Rose family stood on this site in the eighteenth century. The 1827 Wadsworth Map, however, shows no house on the site, nor was one standing when the Mary Ann Bowers Estate sold the 1¼ acre lot to blacksmith Russell H. Shelly in 1852. He must have built the house shortly after purchasing the land, for the Durham Grand List for 1853 shows him as the owner of a house valued at \$1200. In addition to his blacksmithing business, Shelley served as Durham's Postmaster between 1843 and 1849 and as a member of the General Assemble. On his death in 1889, the house passed in to the hands of the Burr Family, by whom it was sold in 1923 to John J. Jackson, another Durham Postmaster, by whom it is still owned by his descendants.

This house is architecturally significant as one of the few examples of the transition from Greek Revival to Tuscan styles in Durham. Although a vernacular structure, it shows the sensitivity of mid-nineteenth century builders to more cosmopolitan styles and the willingness of aspiring tradesmen to accept those stylistic innovations. The house is historically significant for its association with Russell H. Shelley, one of Durham's most active mid-nineteenth century political figures.