

Town No.:	Site No. 62								
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)	
Durham		Francis, George J., House	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
Durham		Middlesex	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)			
118 Main Street			
4. OWNER(S)			
Gerber, Helmut F. <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
5. USE (Present)		(Historic)	
Residence		Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE	IF YES EXPLAIN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	with permission	

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Queen Anne		1898-1899	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	sandstone rubble
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
2½	Main block 24' x 22' ; rear additions 13' x 27' , 10' x 16'		
12. CONDITION (Structural)		(Exterior)	
<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 ?	(Alterations)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES		IF YES EXPLAIN	
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Garden	1½ story shed roof addition to rear; 1 story attached garage to rear
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			
This house stands on a small, shallow, wooded lot on Durham's Main Street.			

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Two story porch supported by turned posts and sawn brackets  
 Ornamented with imbricated shingles  
 Front doors are doubleleafed with multipaned glazing.

18 ARCHITECT

Unknown

BUILDER

Unknown

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

This structure is the purest and best preserved example of the Queen Anne style of Victorian architecture extant in Durham. Its facade contains a two story porch supported by turned posts and sawn brackets and is ornamented with imbricated shingles. The front doors, original to the house, are double leafed with multipaned glazing. The south side boasts a 2 story bay/dormer, three-sided on the first floor, four-sided on the second. The fenestration displays the irregularity and asymmetry characteristic of the Queen Anne style's concentration on the picturesque. The sheathing of the house also displays the varied textures, shaped shingles and clapboards, for example, characteristic of the style. A 1½ story shed roof addition stands to the rear of the main block and appears to have been built early in the 20th century. To the rear of and attached to this addition is a contemporary garage. A 1½ story barn, sheathed with vertical flushboards, stands to the rear of the house. The house was built in 1898/99 for George J. Francis, who became owner and chief executive officer of the Merriam Manufacturing Co. in 1895. He sold the house in 1903 to David P. Warner, whose family owned the house until 1938, when it became the property of John C. Otte. The house passed to its present owners in 1972. Architecturally, this house is significant as one of the best examples of late Victorian architecture in Durham, and as the purest expression in the town of the Queen Anne style.

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; 1974 Beers Atlas; Standard and Durham Records of Joint Stock Companies.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
Hall, P.D.	2 JUN 1983

VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE
S & W elevations	I:33

COMPILED BY

NAME	DATE
Hall, P.D.	10 AUG 1983

ORGANIZATION
Greater Middletown Preservation Trust, Inc.

ADDRESS
27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT, 06457



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None know.   
  Highways   
  Vandalism   
  Developers   
  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Renewal   
  Private   
  Deterioration   
  Zoning   
  Explanation \_\_\_\_\_