

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. 96
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) <i>(Historic)</i>		Hall, Timothy, House	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
Durham		Middlesex	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)			
East side Main St. at Allyn's Brook			
4. OWNER(S)			
Louis and Patricia Thieblemont <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
5. USE (Present)		<i>(Historic)</i>	
Residence		Mill, blacksmith shop and 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	with permission

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Colonial		ca. 1750	
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 type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable main block	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gambrel rear addit. (Material)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input 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	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
2½	main block: 29' x 29'; additions: 12' x 17'; 17' x 17'		
12. CONDITION (Structural)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (house) Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (mill) Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (house) Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated (mill)
13. INTEGRITY (Location)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	WHEN ?	ALTERATIONS
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	IF YES EXPLAIN
		House renovated 1977-79	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden	
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			

The mill pond buildings stand on a cleared 1½ acre lot on the east side of Durham's Main Street. Allyn's Brook and the remains of a mill pond run along the southern boundary of the property.

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The entryway is framed with architrave moulding and contains a reproduction six-panelled single-leaf door surmounted by a four-paned transom. The fenestration consists of twelve-over-eight sash. There is a "funeral door" on the northwest corner of the house. A 4'x14' shed-roofed bay was added to the north end of the house in the nineteenth-century. It contains two six-over-six windows. A small single-story 12x17 gable-roofed addition, probably of eighteenth-century construction, stands at the rear northeast corner of the house. It leads to a larger 17'x17' addition and a ½ story gambrel-roofed addition. It has a brick chimney on its east end. Two shed-roofed dormers containing two eight-over-nine windows each surmount this rear addition. To the southeast of the residence stands a 2 story gable-roofed building (probably the grist mill), (SEE CONT.)

18 ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

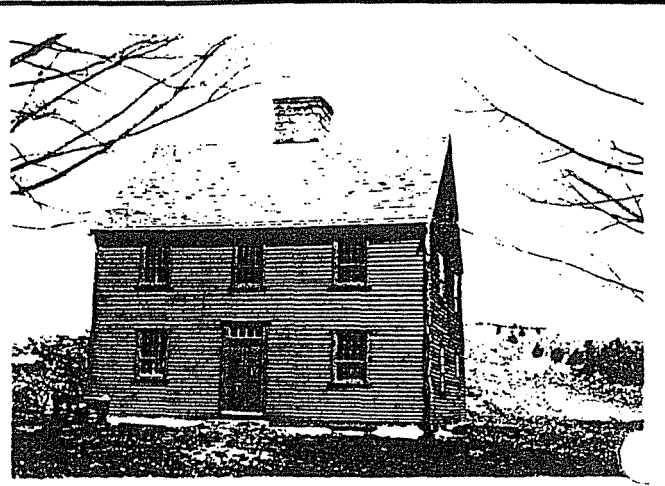
The Timothy Hall House is a 2½ story, 3-bay colonial residence. It stands on a stuccoed foundation and contains a rebuilt corbelled stone central chimney. One of the necessities of every colonial community was a grist mill, powered by water when possible, for this was the primary means of grinding grain into flour and meal. Usually the town authorities granted these valuable mill privileges to individuals who had the knowledge and skill to build and operate a mill. And Durham was no exception, granting this right to John Sutcliffe and Thomas Hawley in 1704. Because of gaps in the town records, we do not know exactly when the first grist mill was built on Allyn's Brook or when it passed into the hands of Abner Newton. We do know that Newton sold his interest in the mill (acutally two mills, a corn mill and a bolting mill) in 1725 to John Camp. Camp sold this share back to Newton in 1727. In 1729 Newton sold the property to Ebenezer Guernsey in exchange for land in another part of town. In 1751 Guernsey sold the property to Timothy Hall of Guilford for 1,300 pounds.

Hall apparently built the present house, for there is no reference to a dwelling here in the early deeds. First mention of a residence is in the settlement of Hall's estate in 1771. (Hall died tragically of smallpox in that year). Actually two dwellings are mentioned as standig on the site: the present one, which came to be occupied by Timothy Hall, Jr., and another one to the rear which Halls' mother occupied and which was razed in the 1820s. The younger Hall died in 1804 and the property was held by his heirs until 1828, when it was sold to Abner and Sarah Newton. In 1832 they sold it (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 Alex Parades	DATE 5/84
	VIEW East	NEGATIVE ON FILE 11:22A, 23A
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
 Explanation _____

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	/	/	9,6
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	8	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: 17/19 Date: 4/84

HALL, TIMOTHY, HOUSE, Durham

17 cont'd

sheathed with clapboards, roofed with slate, and standing on a stuccoed foundation. A small chimney projects from the north end of the roof.

19 cont'd

to Joel Blatchley of Madison, who owned it until his death in the early 1850s. (The 1850 census lists Blatchley as one of the three richest men in town, along with Miles Merwin and Henry Lyman). The property passed to William W. Ward in the 1850s, who constructed a blacksmith shop adjacent to the mill. It was operated by his son, Wilbur W. Ward. The Wards operated the grist mill until October of 1869 when the dam was destroyed by floods. Although the dam was rebuilt in 1877 the mill was not restarted. In 1879 the Wards sold the property to Waldo R. Atwell. It remained in the Atwell family until 1979 and passed to its present owners in 1981.

This site and the buildings on it are historically and architecturally significant as Durham's oldest industrial site. The archaeological potential of this site deserves to be carefully assessed.