

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. 108 |
| 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) | | |
| | Williams, Henry, House | | |
| | 2 TOWN CITY | VILLAGE COUNTY | |
| | Durham | Middlesex | |
| | 3 STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) | | |
| 34 Main Street (east side) | | | |
| 4 OWNER(S) | | | |
| Rachbauer, Martha O. <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private | | | |
| 5 USE (Present) (Historic) | | | |
| 2 Family 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | | |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 7 STYLE OF BUILDING | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION |
| Nineteenth century Domestic | ca. 1852 |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 8 MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding ext. | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding | <input checked="" 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: Mortared Fieldstone - Rubble | |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| 9 STRUCTURAL SYSTEM | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post and beam | <input type="checkbox"/> balloon | |
| <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 |
| 2 | 30'x20' |

| | | | |
|---|---|------------|--|
| 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) | IF YES EXPLAIN |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | 1 Full-length west porch, 1 addition 3/4 length east |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 14 RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn (2) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> Garage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) 1 coop |
| <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"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density |

16 INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

This house is located in the center of town on the east side of Main Street south of the green. The lot is overgrown on the street side. However, there are open fields to the rear of the house.

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

DESCRIPTIVE (Continued)

Running along the west facade is a full length hip-roofed porch that is supported by four turned posts with sawn brackets. In addition, the porch has simple stick spandrels and a decorative stickwork balustrade.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The Henry Williams House, built ca. 1852, is an asbestos-shingled, 2 story, side-hall-plan domestic building. Its post-and-beam frame features a cross gable, 2 story addition extending north from the 3 bay gable-to-street facade, giving the house an "L" shape. It rests on a mortared fieldstone and rubble foundation and is capped by an asphalt-shingled gable roof with center chimney.

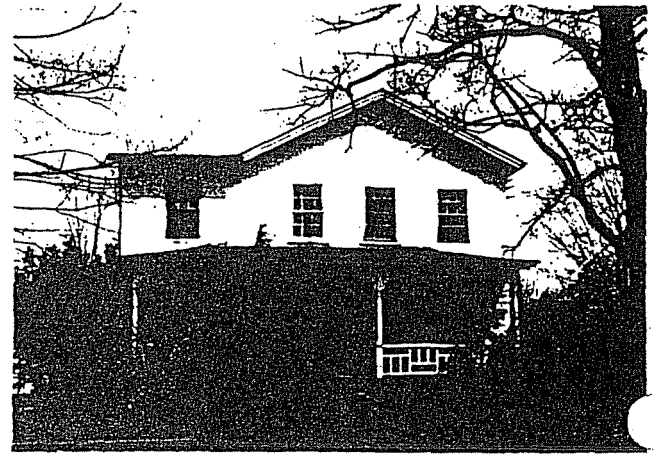
Henry Williams purchased 1½ acres of land from Pitman Humberly in 1850 and built his house the following year. In 1853 in the land records, there is a mortgage release which states: "one certain tract of land with a new building thereon," (DLR 22:402). Henry and his wife Eliza P. did not own the house for long; in 1854 they sold it to Alanson P. Brainard of Haddam. Brainard was one of Durham's late nineteenth century general storekeepers. Over thirty volumes of his ledgers and financial records detailing his decades of supplying the needs of Durham's residents are preserved in the Yale University Library. This modest house is another example of the relatively plain domestic architecture found throughout Durham in the last half of the nineteenth century.

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.

COMPILED BY PHOTO

| | |
|--|------------------|
| PHOTOGRAPHER | DATE |
| Alex Parades | 4/84 |
| VIEW | NEGATIVE ON FILE |
| Facing east | 11:7 |
| NAME | DATE |
| I. Heublein | 8/12/83 |
| ORGANIZATION | |
| Greater Middletown Preservation Trust | |
| ADDRESS | |
| 27 Washington St., Middletown, Conn. 06457 | |



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

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