

**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.: 72
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) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>	
	Fowler, John A., House	
	2. TOWN CITY Durham	VILLAGE COUNTY Middlesex
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) Fowler Avenue	
	4. OWNER(S) Field, Howard Brigham Jr. <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private</span>	
	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span> Residence Residence	
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, EXPLAIN	
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING Nineteenth Century Domestic	
	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1872	
	DESCRIPTION	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 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		
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 <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input checked="" 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 30½'x18'		
12. CONDITION (Structural) <span style="float: right;">(Exterior)</span>		
<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) <span style="float: right;">(Alterations)</span> IF YES EXPLAIN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 North adds: 22'x7'; 8½'x5'		
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input checked="" 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		

Facing south onto Fowler Avenue, the John A. Fowler House is located on an overgrown wooded lot.

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

This modest two-bay house is marked with a west doorway covered by a gabled door hood supported by stick style brackets. The west side has a single story shed-roofed open porch which is enclosed on the northwest corner. The southwest porch is supported by four thin square posts.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

John A. Fowler built this two story, clapboarded, balloon frame nineteenth-century domestic style house in 1872. Resting on a sandstone foundation, the house is oriented gable-to-street and capped by an asphalt-shingled roof with center chimney.

John A. Fowler (1849-1921) built this house on the southwest corner of his father's homelot, shortly after his marriage to Rose C. Camp in 1872. A grocer and "merchant" by trade, John and his wife raised three daughters: Annie, Lucy and Ruth. In 1875 John quit-claimed the property and house to his father, Asa Fowler with the following agreement: "John is to have the use and occupation of said premises without rent in consideration of his paying the taxes" (DLR 27:52). Asa Fowler sold the house to Professor William C. Fowler in 1876, who used it as a rental property. Today, the house is owned by a descendant of Professor Fowler.

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 Summer 1983

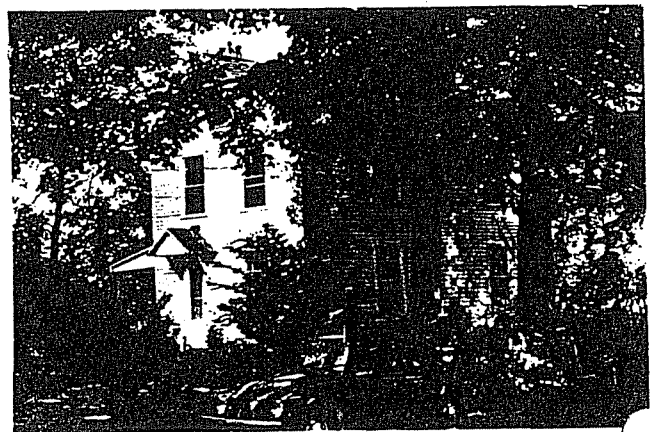
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COMPILED BY

NAME I. Heublein/E.R. Hart DATE 9/22/83

ORGANIZATION Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

ADDRESS 27 Washington St., Middletown, Conn. 06457



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

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