

**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. 143
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>Gastler Farm</i> (Historic) <i>Miller, John W., House</i>	
	2. TOWN CITY <i>Durham</i>	VILLAGE _____ COUNTY <i>Middlesex</i>
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) <i>Middlefield Road</i>	
	4. OWNER(S) <i>Gastler, Elsie & Charles; Hicks, Marjorie</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
	5. USE (Present) <i>Residence</i> (Historic) _____	

DESCRIPTION	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	IF YES, EXPLAIN _____
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING <i>Greek Revival</i>			DATE OF CONSTRUCTION <i>ca. 1845</i>

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: <i>Brownstone</i>	

DESCRIPTION	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		

DESCRIPTION	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 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 <i>2 1/2</i>	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS <i>30'x24'; 30'x14'</i>
------------------------------------	--

12. CONDITION (Structural)		(Exterior)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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	<i>1 story add. w/chimney, window</i>

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<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 checked="" 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"/> Indus-trial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

This house is set far back from the east side of Middlefield Road, prominently placed on an elevated site. Large maples shade the house which is surrounded by open fields and gardens.

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

DESCRIP N (Cont/Inued)

The side-hall-plan facade features three bays. The flushboarded main gable end is fully pedimented and displays a paired set of six-over-six sash. The facade entrance-way is executed in the Greek Revival style with high entablature set over side pilasters. Original six-over-six sash remain. A single story gable-roofed ell projects from the east elevation. A number of outbuildings are found on the property.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The John W. Miller House is a 2½ story, gable-to-street, Greek Revival-style building. Erected ca. 1845, the clapboarded structure is supported by a post-and-beam framing system which rests on a brownstone foundation.

In the mid-nineteenth century, farmer John Willard Miller (1783-1870) purchased large amounts of land in Durham near the Middlefield town line. A native of Middlefield, Miller erected this house ca. 1845 on one of his lots. His son Charles (1818-1882) inherited the house in 1870 and continued farming the land. He had married Mary E. Rich in 1868 and she received the house upon her husband's death in 1882. The Gastler family bought the farm in 1905 and retains ownership today.

Still sited on farmland, the John W. Miller House provides a link with the area's agricultural past.

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		5/84	
VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE		
SE	13:2		
NAME		DATE	
E.R. Hart		4/84	
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 _____