

**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. 4 |
| UTM | |
| QUAD: | |
| DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR | IF NR SPECIFY <input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| IDENTIFICATION | 1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic) | |
| | Chauncey, Charles, House | |
| | 2. TOWN CITY | VILLAGE COUNTY |
| | Durham | Middlesex |
| | 3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) | |
| | Cherry Lane (& Fowler Ave), East side | |
| | 4. OWNER(S) | |
| | Snowman, David & Carol <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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| | 7. STYLE OF BUILDING | |
| | 18th-19th century Domestic | |
| | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION | |
| | ca. 1776 | |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete adds & over Type: stone foundation <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 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 | | |
| 2 1/2 | | |
| APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS | | |
| 28'x17' | | |
| 12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" 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 additions: N-5x24 1/2; E-26 1/2 x 10; NE-16x16; SE: 5x12; SW-5x13 1/2; 8 1/2 x 10' | | |
| 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) milkhouse; coop(2) | | |
| 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 | | |

Facing west, the Charles Chauncey House sits at the intersection of Cherry Lane and Fowler Avenue. Bordered by open fields, the surrounding neighborhood consists of eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth-century residential dwellings.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (Interior and/or exterior)
 This house has undergone many changes. In 1720 Rev. Nathaniel Chauncey built a 1½ story, center-chimney gable-roofed house. The house burned and a new house was built by Charles Chauncey, grandson of Rev. Nathaniel, ca. 1780s. It is possible that a second story was added at this time with the entrance being on the north side. The house since then has undergone other alterations. Around the mid-nineteenth century full-length, 2 story north and south side balloon-framed extensions were added along with a large gable roof. The large chimney probably was replaced. At one point, a full-length, one-story, north addition was made with an open west porch entrance; on the south side a 2 story, balloon-framed, gable-roofed extension was added with a south-end half-length open porch, supported by two free-standing columns. The facade presently has three bays. Six-over-six sash flank a boarded-up double window where a possible center door might have been. The second (cont)

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The Charles Chauncey house is a clapboarded, 2½ story, nineteenth-century domestic style building. The post-and-beam frame is oriented gable-to-street and is topped by a small center chimney, and rests on a sandstone-fieldstone foundation.

SIGNIFICANCE

Charles Chauncey acquired a 100-acre piece of land from his father Elihu, son of Rev. Nathaniel, in 1781. He owned the house for twenty-three years and sold a five-six acre piece of the land, including the house, to Gideon, Ashil and Jeb Canfield in 1804. Charles Chauncey (1747-1823), born in Durham, became a lawyer after studying with James Abraham Hillhouse. In 1786, he was accepted to the Bar and in 1796 was appointed Attorney to the State of Connecticut. Charles and his wife Abigail Darling, lived in New Haven for most of their lives. They had five children: Charles, Elihu, Nathaniel, Sarah and Abigail.

Viewing the Chauncey House from the exterior only, this building has no particularly unusual features. However upon examining the interior, a much older structure is evident and the alterations made are seen clearly.

17)cont.

floor contains three windows and a six-paned window is centered in the gable. Other additions include a full length single story east side addition with a basement underneath.

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.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER

DATE

Alex Parades

5/84

VIEW

NEGATIVE ON FILE

E

10:10

COMPILED BY

NAME

DATE

I. Heublein

8/25/83

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
 Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning

- Other Building presently being insulated; remodeling/additions might
 Explanation alter character of building.
 Possibility of barn and other out-buildings being taken down.