

BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

HIST-6 NEW 5.77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

Town No.	Site No. 49
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)	
Durham		Scranton, William S., House	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
Durham		Middlesex	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)			
145 Main Street			
4. OWNER(S)			
Jackson, Geraldine <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		

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Gothic Revival		1879	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten (gable)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input checked="" 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	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
2½	38' x 22'		
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			

This house stands on a one acer lot st the corner of Main Street and Talcott Lane at the north end of Durham's commercial center. In spite of its location, its generous lot and large shade trees create a rural atmosphere.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Hip roof porch supported by square posts with sawn brackets and spandrels with sawn quatrefoil ornaments.
 The gable contains a pointed, Gothic style 2x2 window, and is sheathed with shaped board and batten siding applied botanical ornament at the end of each board.

18 ARCHITECT

Unknown

BUILDER

Unknown

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

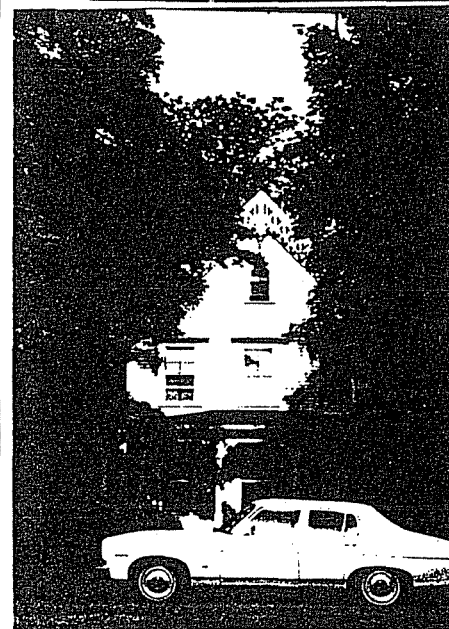
This 2½ story Gothic Revival cottage has been little altered since its construction in 1879. It has a three bay, side-hall entrance with a gable facing Main Street. The first story of its gable end boasts a hip-roof porch supported by square posts with sawn brackets and joined by spaydrels with sawn quatrefoil ornament. The windows on the second story are surmounted by rainhoods. The peak of the gable contains a pointed, Gothic-style 2x2 window and, in contrast to the clpboards of the rest of the structure, is sheathed with shaped board and batten siding with applied botanical ornament at the end of each board. The bargeboard on the gable end is elegantly sawn out and chamfered work.
 This house was built in 1879 by Simeon S. Scranton for his son William Sereno Scranton. The elder Scranton's imposing dwelling stand on the southwest corner of Main Street and Talcott Lane, across the street. Although ornamented in a Gothic mode, as opposed to the Tuscan styl f the father's house, this house shares in common a remarkable sophistication of decor. Given the senior Scranton's Hartford business base, it was very likely the workof a Hartford architect. The younger Scranton apparently shared none of his father's ambition for worldly success, for he listed his occupation in the census as a farmer and tinsmith. He and his wife, Mary Mathewson, lived together in the house until 1919, when his wife died. Scranton lived on alone in the hoouse until his death in 1935. The house was sold by the Scranton Estate to its present owner in 1941. This richly detailed cottage is the best example of Gothic Revival architecture in Durham. Its association with the Scrantons, one of Durham's most influential, entrepreneurial 19th century families, gives it particular historical importance.

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	DATE
Hall, Peter Dobkin	5 JUN 1983
VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE
East elevation	III:2 4
NAME	DATE
Hall, Peter Dobkin	27 JUL 1983
ORGANIZATION	
Greater Middletown Preservation Trust, Inc.	
ADDRESS	
27 Washington Street, Middletown, Conn., 06457	



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None knowr.
 Highways
 Vandalism
 Developers
 Renewal
 Private
 Deterioration
 Zoning