

**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. 71 |
| 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) Butler, Jeremiah, House | |
| | 2. TOWN CITY Durham | VILLAGE COUNTY Middlesex |
| | 3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) 107 Main Street | |
| | 4. OWNER(S) DeLacour, Esther L. <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 Colonial period | | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1775 | |
| | 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 foundation | |
| 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 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 2 1/2 | | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 40' x 30' | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 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 | | | |

This house stands on a small, shallow lot on the west side of Main Street.

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The plain, trim facade central doorway is surmounted by a convex doorhood. The double leaf, moulded panel doors each have replacement toplights. Full windows are 8/12 sash. A shed-roofed addition is attached to the northwest corner.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The Jeremiah Butler House is a three-bay, 2 1/2 story Colonial period double-overhang building, erected c. 1775. Its wooden post-and-beam frame has a wood-shingled gable roof with a replacement painted brick central chimney, clapboarding, and a cut sandstone foundation. In 1772, Isaac Jones of Milford sold this lot to Jeremiah Butler. When Butler finally conveyed the property to Guernsey Bates forty years later, it had a dwelling house upon it. The house was owned by the Parsons family from 1839 until this century. Jeremiah Butler was one of Durham's leading citizens and a prosperous shoemaker. As a lieutenant, he was chosen in 1782 to be a member of a committee "...to procure able bodied men to serve in a Regiment ordered by the General Assembly ...to be raised for the defense of Horse Neck and the western frontier." (Fowler, 1866, pp. 143-144). In 1805 he served as a Durham representative in the state General Assembly. His prosperity did not last, however, for like many of the town's shoemakers, he was caught up in the turbulence of the early national economy. In 1831 judgements were delivered against him for unpaid debts, and a warrant for his arrest was issued. The Jeremiah Butler House is an example of classic Colonial period architecture.

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
COMPILED BY

| | |
|--|------------------|
| PHOTOGRAPHER | DATE |
| Alex Parades | 4/84 |
| VIEW | NEGATIVE ON FILE |
| W | 11:32A |
| NAME | DATE |
| McCord, J. | 8/83 |
| ORGANIZATION | |
| Greater Middletown Preservation Trust | |
| ADDRESS | |
| 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457 | |



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

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