

**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. 176
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> Meigs, Elias, House
	2. TOWN/CITY <span style="float: right;">VILLAGE</span> <span style="float: right;">COUNTY</span> Durham <span style="float: right;">Middlesex</span>
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) Town House Road, west side, 1 m. south of Maple Avenue
	4. OWNER(S) Hugh and Judith Cox <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private</span>
	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span> Residence <span style="float: right;">Residence</span>

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	IF YES, EXPLAIN with permission
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7. STYLE OF BUILDING Federal	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1831
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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 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 Main block 27 x 29; south addition 15 x 27
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12. CONDITION (Structural)		(Exterior)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input 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	1980 addition to south side

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) swimming pool, pool house
<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

The Elias B. Meigs House stands on a tree-shaded half-acre lot on the west side of Durham's Green.

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

DESCRIPT (Continued)

This 2½ story Federal-style residence in many ways resembles the Charles Camp House, which stands just to the south of it. Both are side-hall plan structures with gable ends facing the street. The Meigs House, however, possesses that hallmark of the Federal style, a demi-lunette fanlight in its gable peak. It also possesses an elegant leaded glass fanlight over its front entry, which is protected by a cove-ceilinged gable-roofed portico supported by Doric columns. A shed-roofed 10 x 16 addition, probably contemporary with the main block, stands to the rear of the structure. In 1980 a single-story gable-roofed addition was made to the south side of the main block.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

In April of 1830 Ebenezer Camp sold this one-acre lot to Elias B. Meigs for \$160.75. No structure stood on it. The Grand List of 1830 shows no house on the site--but the list for 1831 shows a structure valued at \$1,000. On Meigs' death in 1878 the house passed to his son and daughter, who held it as a rental property until 1913. It passed to its present owners in 1966.

This is a fine example of Federal-style architecture. Its strategic location on the Green constitutes an important visual anchor to the area's 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.

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER P. D. Hall	DATE 7/5/83
	VIEW East elevation	NEGATIVE ON FILE 6:1
COMPILED BY	NAME P. D. Hall	DATE 5/15/84
	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 \_\_\_\_\_