STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
9 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
for Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION
1. BUILDING NAME: Common: ________________ Historic: Hezekiah Sage House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: Westfield COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 197 Atkins Street
4. OWNER(S): Paul and Evelyn Olander __ PUBLIC X PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
   Interior accessible: x yes, explain ___ with owner's permission ___ no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Center Chimney Colonial DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1770
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   __ x clapboard __ asbestos siding __ brick
   __ wood shingle __ asphalt siding __ fieldstone
   __ board & batten __ stucco __ cobblestone
   __ aluminum siding __ concrete: type: __ x cut stone: type: brownstone
   __ other: __ foundation
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   __ wood frame; x post and beam __ balloon
   __ load bearing masonry __ structural iron or steel
   __ other: __
10. ROOF: type:
    __ gable __ flat __ mansard __ monitor __ sawtooth
     __ gambrel __ shed __ hip __ round __ other __
    __ material:
    __ wood shingle __ roll asphalt __ tin __ slate
    x asphalt shingle __ built up __ tile __ other:
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 36'x28'; SW wing 24'x47'
12. CONDITION: Structural: __ excellent __ x good __ fair __ deteriorated
    Exterior: __ excellent __ x good __ fair __ deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: x on original site __ moved, when: __
    Alterations: no x yes, explain: South wing added; two story porch added; doorway
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: side lights added
    __ barn __ shed __ garage __ other landscape features or buildings: __
    __ carriage house __ shop __ garden __
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    __ x open land __ woodland __ residential __ scattered buildings visible from site
    __ commercial __ industrial __ rural __ high building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This center-chimney house faces east
    from the west side of Atkins Street. Atkins Street slopes up to the north along a ridge known
    variously through history as "Sideing Hill," "Stow's Hill," and "Savage Hill." This section
    of Westfield retains its traditional rural character.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Three-bay facade
Later two-story pavilion/porch
Much original fabric

SIGNIFICANCE

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: In 1769 Jonathan Sage deeded his 50½ acre farm to his son Hezekiah, reserving the eastern 2/3 with the "Mansion House" to his own life use. The western 1/3 was to be Hezekiah's "for him to enter into improvement of immediately." Thus ca. 1770 would be a likely date for the construction of this three-bay center-chimney house. Hezekiah Sage, "Yecman," died in 1797, and his house went through a succession of owners until Joseph Wilcox bought it in 1816. The property remained in the Wilcox family until 1950, when the present owners acquired it.

This house displays the center chimney and double overhang common to Connecticut houses of its period. The three-bay front is less common, although it appears on several other early houses in Middletown. A large southwest wing and a two-story pavilion/porch have altered the external appearance of this house, yet its colonial origins are clearly discernible. The traditional rural character of Westfield is exemplified by the survival of this early farmhouse.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: John E. Reynolds
date: 9/78 view: east
negative on file: Roll 35, #14

COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 9/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; 1859 Walling Map; 1874 Beers Atlas

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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