STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNETICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION
1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Christian Science Church Historic: Second Randolph Pease House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 151 College Street
4. OWNER(S): First Church of Christ Scientist PUBLIC x PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Church Historic: Residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
   Interior accessible: x yes, explain with Church’s permission no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1832/1837
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   _clapboard _asbestos siding _brick
   _wood shingle _asphalt siding _fieldstone
   _board & batten _stucco north facade _cobblestone
   _aluminum siding _concrete: type: _cut stone: type: _brownstone
     foundation
   _X other: flush boarded pediment
   _wood frame: post and beam _balloon _load bearing masonry _structural iron or steel
   _other:
10. ROOF: type:
    _X gable _flat _mansard _monitor _sawtooth
    _gambrel _shed _hip _round _other
     material:
      _wood shingle _roll asphalt _tin _slate
      _asphalt shingle _built up _tile _other:
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 28’x54’ (south wing 30’x35’)
12. CONDITION: Structural: Exterior:
    _X excellent _good _x fair _good _x fair _deteriorated
    _X excellent _good _x fair _good _x fair _deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site
    Alterations: _no _yes, explain: Southeast 2 story porch enclosed; south wing en-
               larged; doorway moved to center of facade; origi-
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    _X barn _shed _garage _other landscape features or buildings: windows
    _carriage house _shop _garden
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    _X open land _woodland _residential _X scattered buildings visible from site
    _X commercial _industrial _rural _X high building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This structure faces north on the
southwest corner of the intersection at College and Broad Streets. It is the first in a row of Greek Revival gable-to-street buildings on the south side of College Street. The imposing qualities of this temple form building are balanced by its small scale of execution, in character with the small residences typical of the area.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Two story portico with fluted Ionic columns supporting denticulated pediment

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Builder:

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This structure was built between 1832 and 1837 by Randolph Pease who, with his brother Aaron, operated a major grocery and dry goods business in Middletown. Tradition has it that Pease was so angered by the city's decision to widen College Street almost to the door of his first home (148 College Street) that he built this house across the street. Reportedly Mr. Pease bought the lumber from the dismantled Episcopal Church on the South Green for use in this building.

In 1916 the First Church of Christ Scientist of Middletown purchased the property for use as a church. Alterations during conversion to this use included removal of the Ionic columns from and enclosure of the 2 story southeast corner porch; thus reorienting the building's architectural focus to College Street; extension of the south wing to the east; substitution of arched windows for original double hung sash; and relocation of the entrance doorway to center of the north facade. An entrance portico with fluted Ionic columns supporting a denticulated and flushboarded pediment remains the distinguishing stylistic element of this Greek Revival structure. With the exception of the more imposing Russell House at 350 High Street, it is the only strict example of the Greek temple form in downtown Middletown.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 2/78 view: North and west facades
negative on file: Rol 13, #29A

COMPiled BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 3/78
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; E.P. Augur, Colonial Dames Monograph "Randolph Pease House 1817"; 1851 Clark Map; 1877 Bailey Map; Hazen, "Middletown Portfolio", Wesleyan Archives; Karl P. Harrington, Background of Wesleyan & Middletown, Ct. 1823-1833 (Middletown: 1942); Conn. State Historical Comm. Survey (196-

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

X none known _highways _vandalism _developers _other:

_renewal _private _deterioration _zoning _explanation:
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CONTINUATION SHEET
Item number: Date: 1/90

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