STATE OF CONNECTICUT

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
for Buildings and Structures

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.: 18/

SITE NO.: /

QUAD: /

DISTRICT: 5

NR: ACTUAL

POTENTIAL

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
for Buildings and Structures

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: ________________
   Historic: Sage-Russell-Niles House

2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: ________________
   COUNTY: Middlesex

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 240-242 Court Street

4. OWNER(S): Sebastian and Mary Fazzino
   PUBLIC X PRIVATE

5. USE: Present: Residence-Apartments Historic: Double Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes __ no
   Interior accessible: __ yes, explain __

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Colonial-Federal
   DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1825-1835

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   __ clapboard __ asbestos siding second and third stories
   __ wood shingle __ asphalt siding
   __ board & batten __ stucco
   __ aluminum siding first story
   __ other: __
   __ other:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   __ wood frame: X post and beam __ balloon
   __ load bearing masonry __ structural iron or steel
   __ other:

10. ROOF: type:
    X gable __ flat __ monitor __ sawtooth
    __ gambrel __ shed __ hip __ other:
    __ material:
    __ wood shingle __ roll asphalt __ tin __ slate
    __ asphalt shingle built up __ tile __ other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½
    APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 39'x33' (wing 26'x24')

12. CONDITION: Structural: __ excellent X good
    Exterior: __ excellent X good
    __ other:

13. INTEGRITY: Location: X on original site __ moved, when:
    Alterations: __ no X yes, explain: Asbestos and aluminum siding

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    __ barn __ shed __ garage stuccoed
    __ carriage house __ shop __ other landscape features or buildings:
    __ open land __ woodland __ residential __ scattered buildings visible from site
    __ commercial __ industrial __ rural __ high building density

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This house is located in a residential
neighborhood of primarily 19th century houses exhibiting a variety of styles, scale, and sit-
ing. It occupies a corner site with two similarly scaled, closely sited houses immediately
to the east. On opposite corners are large buildings: the Romanesque Revival Middletown High
School (1895) and the Queen Anne J. Peters Pelton House (1883-84).
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This double house has the form of a center chimney Colonial and retains some Federal detail such as the double window over the entrance. It may have been built for Isaac Sage and Israel Russell between 1825 and 1835 (when a house first appeared on the site). Because of its somewhat earlier features, however, it is possible that the house was moved to this location from another site at that time.

Early occupants included William Niles (owner 1835-37), founder of The Sentinel, an early Middletown newspaper; and Edwin Hunt (owner 1837-38), at one time owner of The Middletown Gazette. In the 19th century the house was owned by the Elliot family, with one generation occupying each half. In 1897 the east half, and in 1904 the west half, was sold to the Carrier family. William O. Carrier was a partner of Carrier and Hubbard, a carriage, livery, and stable business.

Presently the house contributes to the evolutionary character of the neighborhood which developed over a 100 year period.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Wayne Svec
date: 12/77 view: southwest
negative on file: Roll 5, #10A

COMPiled BY:

name: E. Loomis, B.A. Cleary date: 3/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; History of Middlesex County (J.B. Beers Co., 1884); The Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896); 1825 Barnum Map; 1851 Clark Map; 1877 Bailey Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

X none known  ____ highways  ____ vandalism  ____ developers  ____ other:

____ renewal  ____ private  ____ deterioration  ____ zoning  ____ explanation:
Sage-Russell-Niles House
240-242 Court Street, Middletown, CT 06457