STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT 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: __________________________ Historic: Smith-Stiles House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: __________________ COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 59 Crescent Street
4. OWNER(S): Middlesex Memorial Hospital PUBLIC x PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Vacant Historic: Residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with permission no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: before 1869
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
  x clapboard x asbestos siding
  _ wood shingle _ asphalt siding
  _ board & batten _ stucco
  _ aluminum siding _ concrete: type:
  _ other:
  x wood frame: _ post and beam x balloon
  _ load bearing masonry _ structural iron or steel
  _ other:
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   x wood frame: _ post and beam x balloon
   _ load bearing masonry _ structural iron or steel
   _ other:
10. ROOF: type:
   _ gable _ x flat _ mansard _ monitor _ sawtooth
   _ gambrel _ shed _ hip _ round _ other
   _ material:
   _ wood shingle _ roll asphalt _ tile _ slate
   _ asphalt shingle _ built up _ tin _ other:
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 33' x 28'
12. CONDITION: Structural: _ excellent _ good _ fair _ deteriorated
   Exterior: _ excellent _ good _ fair _ deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: _ on original site _ moved, when: _ possibly (see #18)
   Alterations: _ no _ yes, explain: Minor interior alterations
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
   _ barn _ shed _ garage _ other landscape features or buildings:
   _ carriage house _ shop _ garden
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
   _ open land _ woodland _ residential _ scattered buildings visible from site
   _ commercial _ industrial _ rural _ x high building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This house faces south from the north side of Crescent Street, a residential area dating from the second half of the 19th century. To the east is a massive row house complex and a larger, high-style Italianate residence is to the west. The modern Middlesex Memorial Hospital occupies most of the south side of the street.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE
Architect: ____________ Builder: ____________

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This structure was probably erected during the 1869 development of Crescent Street. Early owners, and possibly the builders, were Henry Smith and Norman Stiles, both well-known and respected local merchants. Smith and Stiles built the large Second Empire house at 15 Pleasant Street around 1870.

The brick foundation, together with map evidence, suggests that the house may have been moved to its present site; but substantial documentary evidence to this effect has not yet been found. It was used as a double dwelling for many years as were other houses in the vicinity. In later years this house was occupied by offices from the Middlesex Memorial Hospital. Presently it is vacant.

This sparsely decorated house displays typical Italianate features: flat roof with decorative brackets, cubical form, and symmetrical window arrangement.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 2/78 view: southwest
negative on file: Roll 14, #36

COMPILED BY:
name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 8/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; 1874 Beers Atlas; 1877 Bailey Perspective View Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:
   ___ none known ___ highways ___ vandalism ___ developers ___ other: ____________
   ___ renewal ___ private ___ deterioration ___ zoning ___ explanation: This building is
   vacant. The owner, Middlesex Memorial Hospital, have plans for parking expansion which
   may include demolition of this structure.