STATE OF CONNECTICUT

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
for Buildings and Structures

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: ________________________________________ Historic: Levaughn-Arnold House
   TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: ______________________________ COUNTY: Middlesex
2. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 97 Chestnut Street
3. OWNER(S): Walter A. Seagrave ______________________________ PUBLIC X PRIVATE
   USE: Present: Residence ______________________________ Historic: same
   ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
                                    Interior accessible: x yes, explain with permission no

4. DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1870-74

5. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate

6. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   _clapboard _asbestos siding _brick _fieldstone _cut stone: type: brownstone foundation (scored)
   _wood shingle _asphalt siding _fieldstone _cobblestone
   _board & batten _stucco _concrete: type: ________________
   _aluminum siding _other:

7. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   _load bearing masonry _structural iron or steel
   _post and beam _balloon _other:

8. ROOF: type:
   _gable _flat slightly mansard _monitor _sawtooth
   _gambrel _shed pitched _hip _round _other
   _material:
   _wood shingle _roll asphalt _x tin _slate _other:
   _asphalt shingle _built up _tile _other:

9. NUMBER OF STORIES: __3__ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 24' x 51'

10. CONDITION: Structural: x excellent _good _fair _deteriorated
    Exterior: x excellent _good _fair _deteriorated

11. ALTERATIONS: _no _yes, explain:
    Location: x on original site _moved, when:

12. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    _barn _shed _garage _other landscape features or buildings:
    _carriage house _shop _garden

13. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    _open land _woodland x residential _scattered buildings visible from site
    _commercial _industrial _rural _high building density

14. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This building, unlike the nearby residences, has a full third story. Both this house and the neighboring structures face Chestnut Street from similar sized, gradually sloping sites. This short quiet road, in South Farms, ascends to Walnut Street, not far from the house. Late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences comprise the surrounding area. This house, as well as a number of neighboring buildings are of the Italianate style.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE
Architect: ___________________________ Builder: ___________________________

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This building was constructed by Henry
Levaughn between 1870 and 1874. Levaughn, a mason, purchased the site shortly after John
Hubbard and George Roberts, South Farms land speculators, opened the street and subdivided
the tract into building lots. The neighborhood gradually developed as a fashionable resi-
dential district, concurrent with nearby industrial growth. Emma J. Arnold bought the
house from Levaughn in 1877. Mrs. Arnold's husband, Daniel B. Arnold, captained the schooner
"J.J. Moore" which he partially owned. Walter A. Seagrave, Captain Arnold's grandson and
the present occupant of the house, obtained title in 1899.

The most significant aspect of this tall Italianate residence is its unaltered condition
and well-preserved appearance. The house has a large original two-story ell at the rear.
It displays an entrance porch on the main facade and a bay window on the west side. These
two features exhibit brackets, like the cornice that borders the nearly flat roof; and il-
lustrate the decorative characteristics of the Italianate style. This building type was
popular in the vicinity during the 1860s and 70s. Other Italianate houses of note in the
neighborhood are at 77 Chestnut Street, and 8 and 14 Walnut Street.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: _________________________ date: ________________
view: ____________________________ negative on file: _______________________

Roll 55, #16-16A

COMPiled BY:
name: _________________________ date: ________________
organization: _______________________
address: ____________________________

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown
City Directories; 1874 Beers Atlas; 1877 Bailey
Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:
[ ] none known [ ] highways [ ] vandalism [ ] developers [ ] other:
[ ] renewal [ ] private [ ] deterioration [ ] zoning [ ] explanation: