STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

19 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
203) 566-3005

TORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

for Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Giacco House Historic: E.B. Strong House
   TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: __________ __________
   STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 465 High Street
   OWNER(S): A. Giacco
   USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
   ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
   Interior accessible: yes, explain:
   __________

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Late 19th Century Domestic; Queen Anne
   DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1871-1872
   MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   X clapboard __ asbestos siding __ brick
   X wood shingle __ asphalt siding __ fieldstone
   __ board & batten __ stucco __ cobblestone
   __ aluminum siding __ concrete: type: __ cut stone: type: brownstone
   __ other: __ foundation
   __ other:

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

10. ROOF: type:
    X gable crossed __ flat
        gambrel __ shed
        X hip __ round
        __ monitor __ sawtooth
        other __ other

    material:
    X wood shingle __ roll asphalt __ tin
    __ slate __ other:

7. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½
   APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 25'x65'

12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent X good __ fair __ deteriorated
    Exterior: excellent X good __ fair __ deteriorated

3. INTEGRITY: Location: X on original site __ moved, when:
   Alterations: X no __ yes, explain:

4. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
   X barn __ shed __ garage __ other landscape features or buildings: carriage house
   X carriage house __ shop __ garden
   with octagonal window in gable; a bracketed
   grape arbor is attached to carriage house

5. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
   __ open land __ woodland X residential __ scattered buildings visible from site
   __ commercial __ industrial __ rural __ high building density

6. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: The placement of this tall narrow
house on a high bank above its corner site emphasizes the verticality of its design. The area
is characterized by many houses of similar age. The E.B. Strong House's intricate wooden decora-
tive detail, its prominent site, its bright white paint, and virtually unaltered state make
it stand out among its neighbors.
OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Extensive wooden decorative detail
Stained glass window, north side
Elaborate spindle work on porch

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: 
Builder: 

3. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This highly-decorated late-nineteenth century residence was built for Evelyn B. Strong on land purchased from William Bacon around 1872. It has always been used as a residence. Passing through only four owners in its one hundred and six year history, the house appears much as it did when first built. In part because of its excellent state of preservation, the building was plaqued as a Middletown landmark by the Greater Middletown Preservation Trust in 1974.

The Strong House is an outstanding example of applied wooden decorative detail. Each of the four gable ends is ornamented with scroll-saw work, crossed sticks, and a pendant. All of the window and door lintels are embellished with a sawn floral pattern or a decorative molding. A belt course of shaped shingles and carved wooden emblems separates the first and second stories. The porch design is complex, including elaborately turned posts and balusters. The rich detail also extends to the carriage house with its bracketed grape arbor.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Roger Sherman 
date: 7/78 view: east 
negative on file: Roll 25A, #3

COMPILED BY: 

name: Roger Sherman date: 7/78 
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust 
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Tax Assessor Records; Middletown Probate Records; Middletown Public Works Department Records; Middletown City Directories; Greater Middletown Preservation Trust Survey Report (Unpublished, 1973)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

X none known highways vandalism developers other: 
renewal private deterioration zoning explanation: 