STATE OF 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-Mathias House
   2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: ______________ COUNTY: Middlesex
   3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 131 Highland Avenue
   4. OWNER(S): Mary Flynn et al. ______________________________ PUBLIC x PRIVATE
   5. USE: Present: Residence Histor'y: same
   6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes _ no
   Interior accessible: _yes, explain ___________________________ x no

ESCRITION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate ______________ DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1872
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   _clapboard _asbestos siding _ brick
   _wood shingle _asphalt siding __ fieldstone
   _board & batten _stucco ___ cobblestone
   _aluminum siding _concrete: type: ________________________ x cut stone: type: brownstone
   _other: __________________________
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   _load bearing masonry _structural iron or steel
   xwood frame: post and beam _ balloon
   _other: __________________________
10. ROOF: type:
    _gable _flat x mansard _ monitor _ sawtooth
    _gambrel _shed _ hip low _ round _ other
    _material: ______________
    _wood shingle _roll asphalt _ tin _ slate
    _asphalt shingle _built up _ tile _ other:
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 27'x50'
12. CONDITION: Structural: _excellent x good _ fair _ deteriorated
    Exterior: _excellent _ good _ fair _ deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: _on original site _ moved, when:
    Alterations: _no x yes, explain: Small rear addition
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 _ high building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This substantial structure sits high on a hill at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Highland Terrace. With the exception of four Italianate structures on nearby Bretton Road, the neighborhood is composed primarily of post-World War II residences.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE
Architect: _______________________
Builder: _________________________

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was constructed around 1872 for George W. Smith. Smith, a mason, may have been responsible for the construction of this and a very similar structure on nearby Trench Hill (33 Breton Road). One of its early occupants was Peter Mathias, the prime distributor of the Highland Terrace building lots. The house remained in the Mathias family until 1943 when it was acquired by Carmelo and Filomena Micale. It is currently owned by the Flynn family.

This two and one-half story building, of cubical form, displays modest Italianate features such as very wide eaves with decorative brackets. The formal balance of the house is not accentuated by pronounced moldings and details typically found in the style.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 8/78 view: east
negative on file: Roll 30, #22

COMPILED BY:
name: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 8/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
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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
renewal    private    deterioration    zoning
other: ________________________
explanation: ____________________