ISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: ________________________________ Historic: Nehemiah Hubbard House

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

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): Laurel Grove Road; west side, just south of Wadsworth St.

4. OWNER(S): Peter Flagg ________________________________ Public: x PRIVATE: ___

5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no Interior accessible: x yes, explain with owner's permission no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Center-Chimney Colonial DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1744

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   x clapboard ___ asbestos siding ___ brick
   ___ wood shingle ___ asphalt siding ___ fieldstone
   ___ board & batten ___ stucco ___ cobblestone
   ___ aluminum siding ___ concrete: type: x cut stone: type: brownstone
   ___ other: Foundation

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

10. ROOF: type:
    x gable rear: x flat ___ mansard ___ monitor ___ sawtooth
    x gambrel wing ___ shed ___ hip ___ round ___ other
    ___ material:
    x wood shingle ___ rolled asphalt ___ tin ___ slate
    ___ asphalt shingle ___ built up ___ tile ___ other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 ½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 40’x20’; wing 35’x15’

12. CONDITION: Structural: x excellent ___ good ___ fair ___ deteriorated
    Exterior: x excellent ___ good ___ fair ___ deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY: Location: x on original site moved, when:
    Alterations: no x yes, explain: kitchen wing, pedimented doorway

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    ___ barn ___ shed ___ garage ___ other landscape features or buildings:
    ___ carriage house ___ shop ___ garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    ___ open land x woodland x residential ___ scattered buildings visible from site
    ___ commercial ___ industrial ___ rural ___ high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This Colonial "saltbox" house is sited on a large lot at the rural western edge of Middletown. Screened from the front by bushes, trees, and a stone wall, and on the east by a cedar paling fence, the house is very secluded. A two-story gambrel-roofed wing on the west, a two-car garage on the north, and a large nineteenth century barn south of the house complete the estate.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Added pedimented doorway and lights

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect:  
Builder:  

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was the home of Nehemiah Hubbard, prominent banker and merchant of late eighteenth century Middletown. The land, part of an original 226 acre tract, belonged to the Hubbard family, noted early settlers of the town, for a number of generations. Nehemiah was in the fourth generation of Middletown Hubbards. Although the house was some distance from the commercial section of Middletown, Hubbard used the property as a home and for extensive farming operations. Nehemiah Hubbard was Deputy Quartermaster for Middletown during the Revolutionary War, and was the first-President of the Middletown Bank. The house remained in the Hubbard family through the nineteenth century. Early in the 20th century, it was the home of Thomas McDonough Russell, Sr. This 1744 center-chimney saltbox retains most of its early features, both interior and exterior. The main fireplace with its beehive oven measures over eight feet wide. Much early hardware remains. The two-story gambrel-roofed "kitchen wing" is added, but is sympathetic in style with the original house. The house underwent restoration in 1929 by the Colonel Wadsworth family. It continues to be used as a residence by members of the Peter Flagg family.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Roger Sherman  
date: 9/78  
view: east  
negative on file: Roll 43, #33-33A

COMPILED BY:

name: Roger Sherman  
date: 8/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Press, October, 1955

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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