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: Reverend Ebenezer Frothingham Homestead
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 74 and 84 Mill Street
4. OWNER(S): 74: William R. Batty; 84: Edward W. Piana PUBLIC xPRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Residential Historic: 74: Residence & Meeting House; 84: Barn
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Colonial DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1760
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   - clapboard
   - wood shingle
   - board & batten
   - aluminum siding
   - other:
   Brick
   - fieldstone
   - cobblestone
   - cut stone: type: brownstone
   - concrete: type:

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

10. ROOF: type:
    - gable
    - gambrel
    - shed wings
    - hip
    - mansard
    - monitor
    - round
    - sawtooth
    - other:
    - material:
      - wood shingle
      - roll asphalt
      - asphalt shingle
      - built up
      - tile
      - slate
      - other:
    - 74: 27'x36'; 84: 29'x27'

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: first story wings 8'x29'

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

13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: Converted to residence (See #18); siding
    Alterations: no, yes, explain: 84:

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

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: These buildings face south from the north side of Mill Street. They are the oldest structures in an area which has undergone gradual residential development since the 18th century, primarily after World War II. Nearby is the highway interchange of Route 17 and Route 9.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: These two structures were part of the homestead of Reverend Ebenezer Frothingham. Frothingham probably built his house (#74) and the barn (#84) soon after purchasing the property in 1760. Frothingham was the first minister of the Strict Congregational Church (later the South Congregational Church) which was founded in 1749, and used the residence as a meeting place for the congregation from c. 1760 until 1772. In 1814 Samuel, Frothingham’s son, sold the property containing the barn (#84) which is located to the northwest of the residence and set back from the road. It was probably soon after that the barn was converted to a residence by its new owners. Since then both structures have passed through a succession of owners. Daniel Camp, a local businessman owned the two buildings for a number of years in the late 19th century.

Both of these structures are Colonial in style. Although they have undergone extensive alterations they still display hand-hewn, pegged beams and stone foundations. These structures are important historical remnants of Middletown’s social and religious history.

19. SOURCES: Jesse Alsop, "First Services of Strict Congregational Society," Old Houses of Connecticut Series (FERA 1935); Marino Postal Card Collection

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

❌ none known

_____ highways

_____ renewal

_____ private

_____ vandalism

_____ deterioration

74 Mill Street

84 Mill Street