STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECICUT 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: Henry Cornwell House  
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown  
   VILLAGE: Westfield  
   COUNTY: Middlesex  
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 125 Miner Street  
4. OWNER(S): Walter and Marie Truscinski  
   PUBLIC X PRIVATE  
5. USE: Present: Residence  
   Historic: same  
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: X yes  
   Interior accessible: yes, explain  

DESCRIPTION  
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate  
   DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1860
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
   _ clapboard  
   _ wood shingle  
   _ board & batten  
   X aluminum siding  
   _ other:  
   _ asbestos siding  
   _ asphalt siding  
   _ stucco  
   _ concrete: type:  
   _ brick  
   _ fieldstone  
   _ cobblestone  
   X cut stone: type: brownstone  
   _ Foundation
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
   X wood frame:  _ post and beam     _ balloon  
   _ load bearing masonry  _ structural iron or steel  
   _ other:  
10. ROOF: type:  
    _ gable  
    _ gambrel  
    _ shed  
    _ mansard  
    _ hip  
    _ round  
    _ monitor  
    _ sawtooth  
    _ other:  
    _ material:  
    _ wood shingle  
    _ roll asphalt  
    X asphalt shingle  
    _ built up  
    _ tin  
    _ tile  
    _ slate  
    _ other:  
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½  
   APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22’x28’
12. CONDITION: Structural:  _ excellent  
    _ good  
    _ fair  
    _ deteriorated  
    Exterior:  _ excellent  
    _ good  
    _ fair  
    _ deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: X on original site  
    moved, when:  
    Alterations: _ no  
    X yes, explain: Rear verandah
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:  
    _ barn  
    _ shed  
    _ carriage house  
    _ shop  
    _ garage  
    _ garden  
    _ other landscape features or buildings:  
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:  
    _ open land  
    _ woodland  
    _ residential  
    _ scattered buildings visible from site  
    _ commercial  
    _ industrial  
    X rural  
    _ high building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This house is set back about 75’  
    from the south side of Miner Street, in the village center of Westfield. Large shade trees  
    in front frame the view of the house from the street. This area of Westfield displays several  
    neighboring residences along both sides of Miner Street, which is dominated by the large  
    Greek Revival Third Congregational Church.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Decorative stickwork in verandah
Wide overhanging eaves

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Builder:

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This finely-scaled Italianate villa was built around 1860 by Henry Cornwell. In 1888 it was acquired by Edgar Burns and remained in the Burns family until 1952.

The house has a main block with shallow wings, eyebrow windows and a distinctive verandah with decorated arches spanning the columns. It retains its original residential usage and has remained in its approximate original condition.

Miner Street dates from the early settlement of Westfield in the first quarter of the eighteenth century. This house with its picturesque setting and finely executed Italianate decoration provides a pleasing architectural contrast to the prevailing colonial character of Miner Street.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 10/78 view: north
negative on file: Roll 48, #36A

COMPILED BY:
name: John E. Reynolds date: 9/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; 1874 Beers Atlas

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

\[\text{none known} \quad \text{highways} \quad \text{vandalism} \quad \text{developers} \quad \text{other:} \quad \text{explanation:} \]