STATE OF CONNECTICUT

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
TOWN NO.: SITE NO.: UTM: 18/___/___/___/___
QUAD: DISTRICT: S NR: ACTUAL POTENTIAL

STATE COMMISSION
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION
1. BUILDING NAME: Common: McCarthy & Hurley Building Historic: Fagan's Block
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: ________ COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 422 Main Street
4. OWNER(S): Vincent and Phyllis Amato PUBLIC _ PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Commercial Historic: same
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: _yes _no
Interior accessible: _yes, explain with owners permission _no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1868
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: - cut stone: type:
_X_ other: cast iron lintels

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
- wood frame: _post and beam _balloon
- load bearing masonry _structural iron or steel
_X_ other: _interior wood framing

0. ROOF: type:
- gable _flat _mansard _monitor __sawtooth
- gambrel _shed _hip _round _other

material:
- wood shingle _roll asphalt _tin _slate
- asphalt shingle _built up _tile _other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 3 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22' x 75'
12. CONDITION: Structural: _excellent _excellent _良好
Exterior: _excellent _良好

13. INTENSITY: Location: _on original site _moved, when:
Alterations: _no _yes explain: Minor interior changes; store front altered

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 tall and narrow commercial structure, with its bold Italianate details, is located on the east side of Main Street in Middletown's central business district. Affixed to its south wall is a building similar in material and mass, which has been detailed to conform to its attached mate by the extension of the heavy bracketed cornice. Sharing the north wall is the two story Art Deco E. W. Woolworth building.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE
Architect: Builder:

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: Patrick Fagan, well-known for his enterprising real estate transactions in Middletown in the mid-1800's, built this substantial brick structure in 1868. Among his activities in community affairs, Fagan was instrumental in the construction of Berkeley Divinity School, warden of the Church of the Holy Trinity, and Special Deputy of the Custom House (1857).

Following Fagan's death in 1869 his sons, William and Charles, added a five-bay addition, identical in style and material, to the north wall of this building. This whole complex was commonly known as "Fagan's Block" until around 1915. In addition to the Fagan brothers' real estate office the occupants included small businesses such as: a painter; a tailor; and a dry goods store. The upper floors were fashionable and ample living quarters.

In 1916 the property was purchased by George Meech. The addition built by William and Charles Fagan was demolished in the late 1930's to make way for the F.W. Woolworth Company. The original section (the present building) remained, and has since housed a variety

(see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 6/78 view: west
negative on file: Roll 26, #20-20A

COMPiled BY:
name: E. Loomis, B.A. Cleary date: 6/78
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Middletown City Directories; H.F. Donlan; Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896); Scenes in Middlesex County (W.N. Parish Publishing Co., 1892); 1874 Beers Atlas; (see continuation sheet)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:
   - [x] none known
   - highways
   - renewal
   - [x] private
   - [x] vandalism
   - [x] deterioration
   - developers
   - zoning
   - other:

   explanation:
businesses, the most recent being McCarthy and Hurley Drug Store.

This elegant survivor of 19th century Middletown retains many original features. Its facade, painted beige, is accented by dark brown details: cast iron lintels above arched windows and a heavy bracketed cornice. The survival of portions of the original storefront (such as cast iron pilasters and panels) beneath a later addition makes this building an excellent candidate for restoration.

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Bailey Perspective Map; 1915 Aeroview Map; J. Russell Ward Photograph Collection; nino Postal Card Collection, GMPT
Fagan's Block

422-426 Main Street (formerly #422)

Middletown, CT 06457