STATE OF CONNECTICUT

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

for Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: __________ Historic: __________
   Bela Ward House

2. TOWN/CITY: __________ VILLAGE: Newfield __________ COUNTY: Middlesex

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): __________
   449 Newfield Street

4. OWNER(S): __________
   Joseph Otvoski et al.

5. USE: Present: __________ Historic: __________
   Multiple Residence Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: __________
   Interior accessible: __________
   yes, explain __________
   x no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: __________
   Federal

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   ______ clapboard \ __________ asbestos siding
   ______ wood shingle \ __________ asphalt siding
   ______ board & batten \ __________ stucco
   ______ aluminum siding \ __________ concrete: type: __________
   ______ other:

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

10. ROOF: type:
    ______ gable \ ______ shed \ ______ flat \ ______ mansard \ ______ monitor
     ______ gambrel \ ______ hip \ ______ round \ ______ sawtooth
     ______ other:

    material:
    ______ wood shingle \ ______ roll asphalt \ ______ tin
    ______ asphalt shingle \ ______ built up \ ______ tile
    ______ other: __________

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: __________ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: __________
    ______ 2½

    SOUTHWEST WING: ______ 30' x 27'

12. CONDITION: Structural: ______ excellent \ ______ x good
    Exterior: ______ excellent \ ______ x good

13. INTEGRITY: Location: ______ x on original site \ ______ moved, when:
    Alterations: ______ no \ ______ x yes, explain: Addition to rear; Victorian porch

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    ______ barn \ ______ shed \ ______ garage
    ______ carriage house \ ______ shop \ ______ garden
    ______ other landscape features or buildings: ______
    ______ large shade trees in front

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This finely scaled brick house faces
    east from the west side of Newfield Street south of Congdon Street. It is set back from the
    road and is shaded by large trees in the front yard. Large fields spread out to the west.
    This area of Newfield Street displays residences of various styles and periods.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):
Denticulated cornices
Victorian entrance porch
Arched brick lintels on rear wing

SIGNIFICANCE
Architect: _____________________________ Builder: _____________________________

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was probably built around 1813 by Bela Ward on land inherited from his father. In 1830 the property passed to Gilbert Ward, who may have been responsible for the various Victorian elements incorporated into the structure. Despite these alterations, the original Federal-style appearance is easily discerned.

Although similar in its configuration and material to the Watkinson and Mansfield Houses (70 and 151 Main Street) of the same period, this house lacks their sophistication, which may reflect its origin in the farming community of Newfield. As this traditional character is being rapidly displaced, this house remains an important survivor from the rural days of this area.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis date: 10/78 view: east
negative on file: Roll 49, #34A

COMPiled BY:
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; 1859 Walling Map; 1874 Beers Atlas

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:
X none known __ highways __ vandalism __ developers __ other:________________________
__ renewal __ private __ deterioration __ zoning __ explanation:_____________________

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