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: Bacon-Barnes House

2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: West Long Hill COUNTY: Middlesex

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 1678 Randolph Road

4. OWNER(S): Edward DeTour PUBLIC x PRIVATE
   Historic: same

5. USE: Present: Residence Interior accessible: yes
   Historic: x no
   Exterior visible from public road: yes x no not clearly
   x no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Center-Chimney Colonial DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: possibly c. 1728

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: ___ 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 ___ flat ___ mansard ___ monitor ___ sawtooth
        ___ gambrel ___ shed rear ___ hip ___ round ___ other rear dormers
    material:
        ___ wood shingle ___ roll asphalt ___ tin ___ slate
        ___ asphalt shingle ___ built up ___ tile ___ other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 1½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 25' x 35'

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

13. INTEGRITY: Location: x on original site moved, when:
    Alterations: ___ no x yes, explain: Shed addition

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

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This finely-scaled Colonial house faces southeast from the north side of Randolph Road near the intersection with Long Hill Road. It is set back from the street atop a steep rise. This section of West Long Hill retains its traditional rural appearance although recent residential developments threaten this long-standing character.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):
   Vertical sheathing in south parlor
   Original fireplaces

SIGNIFICANCE
Architect: 
Builder: 

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was possibly constructed by Andrew Bacon around the time of his marriage to Ann Tappan in 1728. Bacon died in 1732, leaving his young widow and an infant son. It is probable that Ann Bacon and her child went to live with her father James Tappan, abandoning this property until it was sold in 1758 to Jabez Barnes. Barnes was soon after lost at sea, leaving this house to his widow Martha, who became one of Middletown's best-known citizens by the time of her death in 1834 at the age of 94 years. "Mother Barnes," as she was called, was an important figure in the founding of the Baptist Church in Middletown.

This is a typical 1½-story house of the Colonial period with center chimney and one window on either side of a central entrance. The eaves of the broad, expansive roof rest on the tops of the door and window frames.

There are comparatively few 1½-story center-chimney houses remaining in Middletown. This is a particularly fine example due to its carefully restored condition.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 10/78 view: southwest
negative on file: Roll 46, #33-33A

COMPILED BY:
name: John E. Reynolds date: 1/79
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; 1859 Walling Map; 1874 Beers Atlas; Interview with Mrs. Edward DeTour

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

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