STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
9 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION
1. BUILDING NAME: Common: __________________________ Historic: Elia Lucas Homestead
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: __________________ COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 187 South Main Street
4. OWNER(S): Harry, Isidore, and Myer Field PUBLIC X PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Residence (multiple) Historic: Residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no 
Interior accessible: x yes, explain with permission no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Greek Revival;
Queen Anne remodelling DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: possibly 1838

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

x) clapboard __________________ asbestos siding __________________ brick __________________

x) wood shingle pediments __________________ asphalt siding __________________ fieldstone __________________

_x) board & batten __________________ stucco __________________ cobblestone __________________

_x) aluminum siding __________________ concrete: type: __________________ cut stone: type: __________________

_x) other: __________________ 

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:

_x) wood frame; x) post and beam balloon __________________ structural iron or steel

_x) load bearing masonry ___________________ other: __________________ 

10. ROOF: type:

x) gable 6 __________________ flat __________________ mansard __________________ monitor __________________ sawtooth __________________

_x) gambrel __________________ shed __________________ hip __________________ round __________________ other: __________________

_material: __________________ wood shingle __________________ roll asphalt __________________ tin __________________ slate __________________

_x) asphalt shingle __________________ built up __________________ tile __________________ other: __________________ 

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 36'x26'; northeast wing 26'x14'

12. CONDITION: Structural: __ excellent x) good __ fair __ deteriorated
Exterior: __ excellent x) good __ fair __ deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY: Location: __ on original site moved, when:
Alterations: __ no x) yes, explain: Queen Anne decoration added after 1877; interior

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: altered to accommodate apartments

_x) barn __________________ shed __________________ garage __________________ other landscape features or buildings: __________________

_x) carriage house __________________ shop __________________ garden __________________

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

_x) open land __________________ woodland __________________ residential __________________ scattered buildings visible from site

_x) woodland __________________ commercial __________________ industrial __________________ rural __________________ high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: South Main Street displays a variety of building styles and uses. This house faces east from its site set back from the street on top of a steep bank on the west side of South Main Street. To the south is a bank building with extensive grounds and across the street and to the north are other residences.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Intricate detailing (porch, staircase)

SIGNIFICANCE

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house was probably built in 1838 by Elijah Lucas, a farmer and landlord who acquired the property in 1824. It remained in his family until 1948, when it was purchased by members of the Field family who have maintained its residential use.

It is likely that the structure originally had a Greek Revival form. This was altered stylistically sometime after 1874, through the extensive addition of Queen Anne decoration. The large verandah, second floor pavilion, patterned gable shingles, and offset south and north wings are elements of this stylistic transformation.

The alterations to this house reflect the changing tastes of succeeding generations of ownership. From its site near the City Savings Bank this house marks a transition in South Main Street from residential to commercial use.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer:  Elizabeth Loomis

date:  4/78 view: southeast

negative on file:  Roll 18, #28A

COMPiled BY:

name:  John E. Reynolds date:  7/78

organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

address:  27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES:

Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Middletown City Directories;
1851 Clark Map; 1874 Beers Atlas; 1877 Bailey Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

X none known ___highways ___vandalism ___developers ___other: ___________

renewal ___private ___deterioration ___zoning ___explanation: ___________