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: Herbert E. Smith Homestead

2. TOWN/CITY: ___________ VILLAGE: ___________ COUNTY: ___________
   Middletown Westfield Middlesex

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): ____________________________
   190 Smith Street

4. OWNER(S): Luigi & Maria LaBella; Salvatore & Josephine Augeri
   PUBLIC X PRIVATE

5. USE: Present: ____________________________ Historic: ____________________________
   Double Residence Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
   Interior accessible: x yes, explain with owner's permission no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Cottage DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ___________
     c. 1876

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   _x_ clapboard _x_ brick
   __ wood shingle __ fieldstone
   __ board & batten _x_ cut stone: type: brownstone
   __ aluminum siding _x_ cut stone: type: foundation
   __ other: __ other:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   _x_ load bearing masonry _x_ load bearing masonry
   __ post and beam __ structural iron or steel
   __ balloon __ other:

10. ROOF: type:
    _x_ gable X __ shed
       __ gambrel __ hip
       __ shed __ round
       __ other: __ other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: _2 1/2_ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 28' x 38'; rear section 21' x 26'

12. CONDITION: Structural: _x_ excellent _x_ excellent
    Exterior: _x_ good _x_ good
    _x_ fair _x_ fair
    _x_ deteriorated _x_ deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY: Location: _x_ on original site moved, when: ____________________________
    Alterations: _no X yes, explain: Front porch screened in

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

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This trim Victorian Cottage is
    situated on the north side of Smith Street, opposite the Raymond Engineering complex,
    east of Interstate 91. The picturesque qualities of its design and landscaping are in direct
    contrast to the functional appearance of the Raymond industrial site across the street. Otherwise
    this section of Westfield is predominantly rural in character.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):
Stickwork and scrollwork decoration in gable peaks
Double window frames have projecting caps carried on brackets
Bay window east side
Stickwork arches and balustrade front porch
Small oculus windows in gable peaks east side

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect:  
Builder:  

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: Herbert E. Smith, Secretary and Treasurer of the J.O. Smith Manufacturing Company, erected this house around 1876. The J.O. Smith Company was located directly across the street on the site of the present Raymond Engineering Company (see GMPT Report, "217 Smith Street"), and was founded by John Smith, grandfather of Herbert, in 1826. The chief product was "Japan" finishes for " Tin, Iron, and Wood Enamels."

This house displays the asymmetrical plan and extensive use of decoration which are integral features of picturesque architecture. In its present well-preserved condition it is a fine example of a modest residence from the third quarter of the 19th century. Additionally, the proximity of this house to the Raymond industrial site reflects the historical association of its original owner, Herbert E. Smith, with the J.O Smith Manufacturing Company.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: John E. Reynolds  
date: 12/78  
view: southeast  
negative on file: Roll 51, #21

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; Commemorative Biography of Middlesex County (Chicago: J.H. Beers, 1903); 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:  ____________________________