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: Sebold's Apartments Historic: M.A. Smith Grocery
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 26-28 Saybrook Road
4. OWNER(S): James and Rosalie Bennett
5. USE: Present: Vacant Historic: General store, residential PUBLIC X PRIVATE
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
   Interior accessible: yes, explain x no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1890
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   - clapboard
   - wood shingle
   - board & batten
   - aluminum siding
   - other: cast iron columns, veranda
   - asbestos siding
   - asphalt siding
   - stucco
   - concrete: type:
   - brick
   - fieldstone
   - cobblestone
   - cut stone: type: brownstone
   - load bearing masonry
   - structural iron or steel
   - other:
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   - wood frame: post and beam balloon
   - load bearing masonry
   - structural iron or steel
   - other:
10. ROOF: type:
    - gable
    - gambrel
    - shed
    - hip
    - mansard
    - monitor
    - round
    - sawtooth
    - other
    - material:
      - wood shingle
      - roll asphalt
      - asphalt shingle
      - built up
      - other:
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 3 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 56'x41'
12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good x fair deteriorated
    Exterior: excellent good x fair deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: x on original site moved, when:
    Alterations: no x yes, explain: Interior remodeling: north fire exit: entrance
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    - barn
    - carriage house
    - shed
    - garage
    - shop
    - garden
    - other landscape features or buildings:
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    - open land
    - woodland x residential
    - commercial
    - industrial
    - rural
    - x high building density
    - scattered buildings visible from site
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This three story brick building, set on an odd shaped lot, is located on the northeast shoulder of the East Main Street and Saybrook Road intersection. This busy, congested area consists primarily of late 19th and early 20th century domestic buildings altered for commercial use. A gas station is to the north and across the broad street is a small wooden Gothic Revival Chapel.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Cupola
Decorative pressed metal lintels
"Saw tooth" belt courses
M.A. Smith Grocery sign, painted on north wall

SIGNIFICANCE

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This substantial structure was erected in 1890 for Mrs. M.A. Smith. Mrs. Smith, together with her son George, successfully continued the grocery business which had been established by her husband in 1868. The business, conducted on a large scale and covering a vast area, had five teams of delivery horses.

Subsequently the building was altered for apartment use. It is now unoccupied. In this utilitarian building nineteenth-century quality of workmanship is reflected in the wooden and brick decorative detail, pressed metal sheathing on the lintels, the cupola and the veranda.

The M.A. Smith Grocery Store, in nearly original condition, is an important survival of the general store era.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 6/78 view: northwest
negative on file: Roll 26, #2

COMPILED BY:

name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 7/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: H.F. Donlan, Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: 1896); Marino Postal Card Collection, GMPT

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- none known __highways __vandalism __developers X other:
- renewal __private __deterioration __zoning __ explanation: Sited in com-

mercial area; house is presently vacant and future plans for its use are uncertain.