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: Aaron Pease House
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: __________________ COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 116 Washington Street
4. OWNER(S): Walter D. Briggs, Trustee
5. USE: Present: Residence Historic: same
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
Interior accessible: x yes, explain with occupants permission no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Federal-Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1825
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   x clapboard                        x brick
   — asbestos siding                 — fieldstone
   — wood shingle                    — cobblestone
   — board & batten                  — cut stone: type: brownstone
   — aluminum siding                 — foundation
   — other:
   — structural iron or steel

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   x wood frame; x post and beam     x balloon
   — load bearing masonry
   — other:

10. ROOF: type:
    x gambrel                         x shed
    — gable                          — hip
    — gambrel                         — round
    — shed                           — other
    x roll asphalt                    — tile
    — material:
    — wood shingle                   — slate
    — built up

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22' x 34'; north wing 21' x 17'
12. CONDITION: Structural: x excellent — good
    Exterior: x excellent — good
    x fair

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

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

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This house faces south from the north side of Washington Street west of Main Street. Washington Street (Route 66) displays in this area some fine old residences with interspersed commercial buildings. This well-kept structure is tucked away behind large shade trees on Washington Street. A fenced yard opens out in the rear of the property. 216
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):
- Leaded fanlight in flushboarded pediment
- Full height corner pilasters
- Denticulated cornice
- Entrance with fanlight and sidelights

**SIGNIFICANCE**

**Architect:**

**Builder:**

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was built in 1825 for Aaron Pease, who, with his brother Randolph, operated one of Middletown's most prominent grocery businesses. The property was owned by the Selden family from 1864 until 1918, at which time it was acquired by John Fisk, owner of the neighboring (east) historic Starr-Fisk House. It has always remained in residential use.

The three-bay with sidehall gable-to-street configuration of this house was a popular form of construction in Middletown during the period 1820–1860. This house is notable for the fine architectural detail it displays. The leaded gable fanlight and doorway with-fanlight and sidelights are of great interest, as are the full height corner pilasters, denticulated cornice, and delicately molded window frames. These features are excellently preserved, and combine to make this house one of the finest examples in Middletown of the three-bay, gable-to-street house type.

**PHOTOGRAPH**

photographer: Robert Svec

<table>
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<tr>
<th>date:</th>
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<td>5/78</td>
<td>Roll 20, #7</td>
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**COMPILLED BY:**

name: John E. Reynolds
date: 8/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

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

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Court Records; Middletown City Directories; 1825 Barnum Map; 1851 Clark Map; 1874 Beers Atlas; 1877 Bailey Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- [X] none known
- highways
- renewal
- private
- vandalism
- deterioration
- developers
- zoning
- other: 
  explanation: 

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Aaron Pease House
116 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457