STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 150 Washington Street
4. OWNER(S): Mazda Realty Corporation & Lerners Furs Incorporated 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 owner's permission no

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Colonial-Georgian (Greek Revival alterations) DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: Between 1760-1780
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   - clapboard
   - wood shingle
   - board & batten
   - aluminum siding trim and addition
   - Other:
   - asbestos siding
   - asphalt siding
   - stucco
   - concrete: type: 
   - Other:
   - brick
   - fieldstone
   - cobblestone
   - cut stone: type: brownstone foundation

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   - wood frame:
   - post and beam
   - balloon
   - load bearing masonry
   - structural iron or steel
   - Other:

10. ROOF: type:
    - gable
    - gambrel
    - shed
    - hip
    - round
    - other
    - material:
    - wood shingle
    - roll asphalt
    - tin
    - slate
    - Other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 34' x 49'

12. CONDITION: Structural: X excellent 
    - Excellent
    - Fair
    - Deteriorated
    - Exterior: X excellent 
    - Excellent
    - Fair
    - Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY: Location: X on original site
    - Moved, when:
    - Alterations: no X yes, explain: Additions to west and east; dormers removed;

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    - entrance porch added
    - barn
    - shed
    - garage
    - Other landscape features or buildings:
    - carriage house
    - shop
    - garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    - open land
    - woodland
    - residential
    - Scattered buildings visible from site
    - commercial
    - industrial
    - rural
    - High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This house is located on the slope of the hill of Washington Street (Route 66), a major thoroughfare. It is in a row of domestic buildings of a variety of styles, some of which have been converted to commercial use. The Queen Anne building next door has a prominent one story brick commercial addition in front.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

This house is distinguished by its large size, wide gambrel roof and early use of brick.
Brownstone lintels scribed to resemble flat brick arches

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Builder:

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This house was probably built by George Phillips II (1717-1778) sometime between 1760 and 1780. Phillips was the son of George Phillips I (d. 1747). Both father and son were active in town committees during the Revolutionary War, and George II is reported to have been referred to by the honorary title of "General" thereafter. George Phillips II did not inherit the homestead lot of his father (located farther west on Washington Street – see form for Wetmore-Weeks House), but rather built his house on land that was originally part of the proprietary homestead lot of the Reverend Samuel Stow. A deed for this particular property, however, has not been located.

The house passed into the hands of George Phillips' son, Thompson Phillips, in 1780. Thompson, with his brother, was active in the West Indies trade through George Phillips & Co. (dissolved 1794). He was also the first Treasurer of the City of Middletown, incorporated in 1783 in part to "promote the Commerce of the State." In the next 170 years the house passed through a series of owners; the longest length of ownership being

(see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Robert Svec
date: 3/78 view: south
negative on file: Roll 20, #9

COMPILED BY:

name: Barbara Ann Cleary
date: 3/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown Probate Records; Middletown City Directories; Albert E. VanDusen, "Middletown and the American Revolution" (Middletown 1950); Alice Richter, "History of the Church of Holy Trinity" (Middletown 1963); Mary Glover Jones, "Our Old Town" (Middletown: 1930); "The Glover House"

(see continuation sheet)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

☒ none known ☒ highways ☒ vandalism ☒ developers
☐ renewal ☒ private ☒ deterioration ☒ zoning
☐ other: ___________________________
☐ explanation: _______________________

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that of Daniel Glover, between 1848 and 1893.

When originally built, this large, brick central hallway house with four end wall chimneys was undoubtedly one of the most imposing mansions in Middletown, a quality it still retains. However, with the exception of the brick belt courses at the first and second floor level and across the gable of the wide gambrel, few original exterior decorative features remain.

The house has undergone a series of remodellings. That of the Greek Revival period includes the addition of a Greek doorway with sidelights and transom, and a Doric one-story entrance porch which does not detract from the house's character. The first floor windows were probably lengthened to full height at this time. (These have now been partially covered on the exterior, but the full length shutters remain on the interior.) A one story porch or addition (now closed in with a second story added) probably dates from this period also. There is a large mid or late 19th century 1½ story brick addition at the northwest corner of the house. Aluminum siding now covers much of the exterior detail, and the original dormers have been removed. The interior has been altered by conversion to apartment use; the original staircase survives, although partially enclosed by panelling.

Despite these changes the Phillips House remains one of the major Georgian mansions surviving in Middletown.

FERA, 1935; Connecticut Historical Commission Survey (1966 and 1970)
George Phillips House
150 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457