STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
or Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: ____________ Jackson House ____________ Historic: ____________ Powers-Sage House ____________

2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown ____________ VILLAGE: ____________ COUNTY: Middlesex ____________

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 319 Washington Terrace ____________

4. OWNER(S): Wesleyan University ____________ PUBLIC X PRIVATE ____________

5. USE: Present: Residence ____________ Historic: same ____________

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: X yes ____________ no ____________
   Interior accessible: yes, explain ____________ X no ____________

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Center-Chimney Colonial ____________ DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1783 ____________

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   X clapboard ____________ asbestos siding ____________ brick ____________
   wood shingle ____________ asphalt siding ____________ fieldstone ____________
   board & batten ____________ stucco ____________ cobblestone ____________
   aluminum siding ____________ concrete: type: ____________ cut stone: type: brownstone ____________
   X other: foundation ____________

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
   X wood frame: X post and beam ____________ balloon ____________
   X load bearing masonry ____________ structural iron or steel ____________
   X other: ____________

10. ROOF: type:
    X gable southwest ____________ flat ____________ mansard ____________ monitor ____________ sawtooth ____________
    gambrel ____________ wing ____________ shed ____________ X hip ____________ round ____________ other ____________
    material: ____________
    wood shingle ____________ roll asphalt ____________ tin ____________ slate ____________
    X asphalt shingle ____________ built up ____________ tile ____________ other: ____________

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ ____________ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 43' x 30' ____________

12. CONDITION: Structural: X excellent ____________ fair ____________ deteriorated ____________
    Exterior: X excellent ____________ X good ____________ fair ____________ deteriorated ____________

13. INTEGRITY: Location: X on original site ____________ moved, when: ____________
    Alterations: no X yes, explain: South wing added before 1851; west rear fireplace removed ____________

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    X barn ____________ shed ____________ garage ____________ other landscape features or buildings: Low brownstone ____________
    carriage house ____________ shop ____________ garden ____________ wall marking property boundary on west side ____________

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

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This center chimney house with hip roof faces north to Washington Park from the south side of Washington Terrace. The heavily shaded park serves as a buffer between the houses on Washington Terrace and the traffic on Route 66. Together with its neighbor to the west (Starr-Rand House ca. 1840) this house contributes an early feeling to the blend of architectural styles on Washington Terrace.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Balustrade around chimney
Stairway with carved balusters and railing

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: Timothy Powers sold this property "with square frame of a house partly covered" to Francis Sage in 1783. After a succession of owners the property was acquired in 1861 by Charles Hunter Jackson, a Commodore of the U.S. Navy and a member of a prominent Middletown family. The house remained in the Jackson family until 1937. In 1958 Wesleyan University purchased the property for use as a faculty residence.

This four-bay, center-chimney house with hip roof is a unique survivor from the eighteenth century in Middletown. Atop the roof is a simple balustrade. Gabled dormer windows are on the east and west sides of the roof below the balustrade. The entrance hall on the northeast opens to the panelled west front room and to the kitchen in the rear. The triple-run stairway on the east side of the center chimney has carved balusters and handrail. A wing to the southwest is an early addition.

This house is representative of the four-bay, center-chimney house with an off center entrance hall. Few houses of this type have survived in Middletown, and of these, this house is unique due to its hip roof and balustrade.


20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- [ ] none known
- [ ] highways
- [ ] vandalism
- [ ] developers
- [ ] other:

- [ ] renewal
- [ ] private
- [ ] deterioration
- [ ] zoning
- [ ] explanation: