STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Connecticut Historical Commission
9 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

Historic Resources Inventory Form
For Buildings and Structures

Identification
1. Building Name: Common: Mc Donald House Historic: Fowler-Mc Donald House
2. Town/City: Middletown Village: COUNTY: Middlesex
3. Street & Number (and/or location): 343 Washington Terrace
4. Owner(s): Wesleyan University Historic: same PUBLIC x PRIVATE
5. Use: Present: Residence Historic: same
6. Accessibility to Public: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
   Interior accessible: yes, explain with permission of tenant no

Description
7. Style of Building: Shingle Style DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1905
8. Material(s) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   --- clapboard --- asbestos siding
   x wood shingle --- asphalt siding
   --- board & batten --- stucco
   --- aluminum siding --- concrete: type:
   --- other:
9. Structural System:
   x wood frame: post and beam x balloon
   --- load bearing masonry --- structural iron or steel
   --- other:
10. Roof:
    x gambrel x shed over porch hip
    --- flat --- mansard --- monitor sawtooth
    --- other
    x wood shingle x roll asphalt x tin x slate
    --- built up --- tile --- other:
11. Number of Stories: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 57' x 27'
12. Condition: Structural: excellent x good fair deteriorated
    Exterior: excellent x good fair deteriorated
13. Integrity: Location: x on original site moved, when:
    Alterations: x no yes, explain:
14. Related Outbuildings or Landscape Features:
    --- barn --- shed x garage x other landscape features or buildings: brownstone
    --- carriage house --- shop --- garden
    --- fireplace west side yard
15. Surrounding Environment:
    --- open land --- woodland x residential scattered buildings visible from site
    --- commercial --- industrial --- rural high building density
16. Interrelationship of Building and Surroundings: This house overlooks Washington Park
to the north from the southwest corner of Washington Terrace and Mt. Vernon Street. Heavily
shaded Washington Park serves as a buffer zone between the residences on Washington Terrace
and the traffic on Rte. 66. The distinctive Shingle style of this house offers a contrast
with the Georgian and Georgian Revival buildings on Washington Terrace.
17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

Porch balustrades
Stained glass window in hall

SIGNIFICANCE

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: Frederick E. Fowler, secretary and assistant treasurer of the Arawana Mills, built this distinctive house in 1905 on a lot sub-divided from the extensive property of the Rand family. In 1912 Henry McDonald purchased the property, which then remained in McDonald family hands until acquired by Wesleyan in 1972 for use as a faculty residence.

This house displays the rich texture and varied forms typical of the shingle style. Broad expanses of roof interrupted by projecting gables and alternating pitches emphasize the asymmetrical form of the house. A large entrance porch with a fine balustrade leads to the hall which is lighted by an elaborate stained glass window.

The high quality of the original design, together with the unaltered condition of the house, make this structure one of the most representative of the Shingle Style in Middletown.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 2/78 view: southeast
negative on file: Roll 14, #19A

Compiled by:
name: John E. Reynolds date: 6/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; 1915 Aeroview Map

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

- none known
- highways
- vandalism
- developers
- renewal
- private
- deterioration
- zoning
- other:

explanation: