

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL
			POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: 83-85 Sigourney Street Historic: _____
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Hartford VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Hartford
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 83-85 Sigourney Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Aetna Life and Casualty Incorporated, 151 Farmington Avenue PUBLIC X PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Mixed use-residential-2nd floor; commercial-1st floor; Historic: 2 family residence Hartford
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: X yes no
Interior accessible: X yes, explain through commercial concerns X no
on the first floor; 2nd floor private

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Italianate DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1865
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

<input type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> brick
<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding	<input type="checkbox"/> fieldstone
<input type="checkbox"/> board & batten	<input type="checkbox"/> stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> cobblestone
<input type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding	<input type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____		
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame: post and beam balloon
 load bearing masonry structural iron or steel
 other: _____
- 10. ROOF: type:
 gable flat mansard monitor sawtooth
 gambrel shed hip round other _____
material:
 wood shingle roll asphalt tin slate
 asphalt shingle built up tile other: _____
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 3 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 45x60
- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: 1st floor altered for business use; re-sided with conglomerate masonry stucco, windows replaced with large plate glass panes.
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 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:

83-85 Sigourney stands one house back (south) of Farmington Avenue and directly opposite Aetna Life and Casualty's home office building. It is surrounded by parking lots for Aetna employees, though a tree stands on Sigourney Street in front of the house and the property itself has some lawn and landscaping.

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

83-85 Sigourney is a brick double house, four bays wide with a central entranceway, in the Italianate style which was so popular in Hartford. Though no name appears in the 1869 street map of Hartford in connection with this house, it was probably built ca. 1865, for S.C. Steele. Nothing remains of its portico, the first floor having been altered for commercial use, but decorative detail in the fenestration indicates that the house would have been more elaborately embellished than most of Hartford's simple Italianate double houses. An incised, peaked lintel over a door (once a window) on the first floor is all that remains of the first floor's original detailing. The second story windows retain their similar lintels and smaller arched windows on the third floor complete the facade.

SIGNIFICANCE

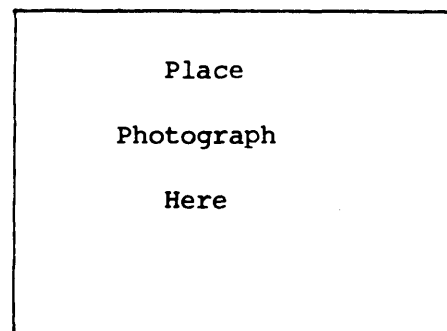
Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

83-85 is the oldest surviving house on the southern portion of Sigourney Street and documents a style which is infrequently found on Asylum Hill. Much of the Hill's development dates from a later period and follows considerably different stylistic patterns. 83-85 represents a replication of a familiar style in an area which saw the coming of new domestic styles and patterns of living and which was witnessing a the growth of a bourgeoisie. 83-85 Sigourney is solidly crafted reminder of the older neighborhoods from which Hartford's middle classes had come.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: _____
 date: _____ view: _____
 negative on file: _____

**COMPILED BY:**

name: Sarah J. Zimmerman date: _____
 organization: Hartford Architecture Conservancy
 address: 65 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford CT

19. SOURCES:

Hartford Land Records, Municipal Building, 550 Main Street, Hartford, CT

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

none known highways vandalism developers other: _____
 renewal private deterioration zoning explanation: _____