

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: 174 Sigourney Street Historic: William L. Linke House
2. TOWN/CITY: Hartford VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Hartford
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 174 Sigourney Street
4. OWNER(S): Stephen B. Goddard (Trustee), 1229 Albany Avenue, Hartford CT PUBLIC  PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Single-family residence Historic: Single-family residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  no

**DESCRIPTION**

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Queen Anne DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1880
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
 clapboard  asbestos siding  brick  
 wood shingle (gable dormer asphalt siding)  fieldstone  
 board & batten S wall  stucco  cobblestone  
 aluminum siding  concrete: type: \_\_\_\_\_  cut stone: type: \_\_\_\_\_  
 other: Quarry-faced brownstone foundations; angled boarding, gable dormer, W wall; terracotta panels, 2nd floor, W wall; brownstone sills.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
 wood frame:  post and beam  balloon  
 load bearing masonry  structural iron or steel  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
10. ROOF: type:  
 gabled dormer  flat  mansard  monitor  sawtooth  
 gambrel  shed  hip  round  other \_\_\_\_\_  
 material:  
 wood shingle  roll asphalt  tin  slate  octagonal  
 asphalt shingle  built up  tile  other: \_\_\_\_\_
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: \_\_\_\_\_
12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
 Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location:  On original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alterations:  no  yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
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:

Vacant lot south of house, c. 1960 apartment block, north, 1960s apartment blocks, opposite to west. Vacant lot is grassy, lawn of house with large old tree in front; house set approx. 20' from street.

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

174 Sigourney Street is a 2½-story, brick, Queen Anne house, built c. 1880. Set on a quarry-faced brownstone foundation, 174 Sigourney exemplifies a common Hartford single-family house-type: there is a central hipped-roof block from which two gable-roofed blocks project at right angles. An ell-shaped porch along the first floor connects the two blocks, one at the left of the facade and the other on the right (south) wall. Though constructed of brick, by far the most common building material in 19th-century Hartford, other materials, slate, brownstone, wood, wood shingle, and terracotta are also employed at 174 Sigourney. The roof is composed of octagonal slates, geometrically patterned

SIGNIFICANCE

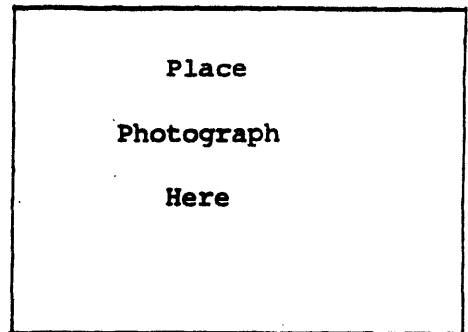
Architect: \_\_\_\_\_ Builder: \_\_\_\_\_

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

174 Sigourney Street is significant as one of the few 19th-century, middle-income, single-family houses left on Sigourney Street. The house is a textbook example of a local variant of the Queen Anne style characterized by its intricate and highly-crafted masonry and a plan typically composed of a central hipped-roof block, with intersecting dependent gable blocks at the side and on the facade. Hartford's Queen Anne buildings are distinctive for the extensive use of brick. Though many examples of the house-type survive in the Asylum Hill area, within which Sigourney Street is an important north-south axis, 174 is one of the last remaining on Sigourney Street. The 1896 Hartford atlas shows Sigourney Street to be a neighborhood solidly comprised of houses identical to 174 Sigourney. Today, Sigourney Street has suffered much demolition of its 19th-century resources and has been extensively rebuilt, particularly in the blocks surrounding 174, which are now lined with the box-like, 3- and 4-story apartment buildings that went up all over Asylum Hill in the 1960s. This fact increases the significance of 174 Sigourney as one of the last vestiges of that street's 19th-century residentialia

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Sarah Zimmerman  
date: June 1979 view: \_\_\_\_\_  
negative on file: CT Historical Commission



COMPILED BY:

name: Sarah Zimmerman date: June 1979  
organization: Hartford Architecture Conservancy  
address: 65 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford CT

19. SOURCES:

Baker and Tilden, Atlas of Hartford City and County, Hartford, 1869.  
Geer's City Directories for Hartford, various years.  
L.J. Richards and Company, Atlas of the City of Hartford, Springfield, 1896, 1909, 1917.

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

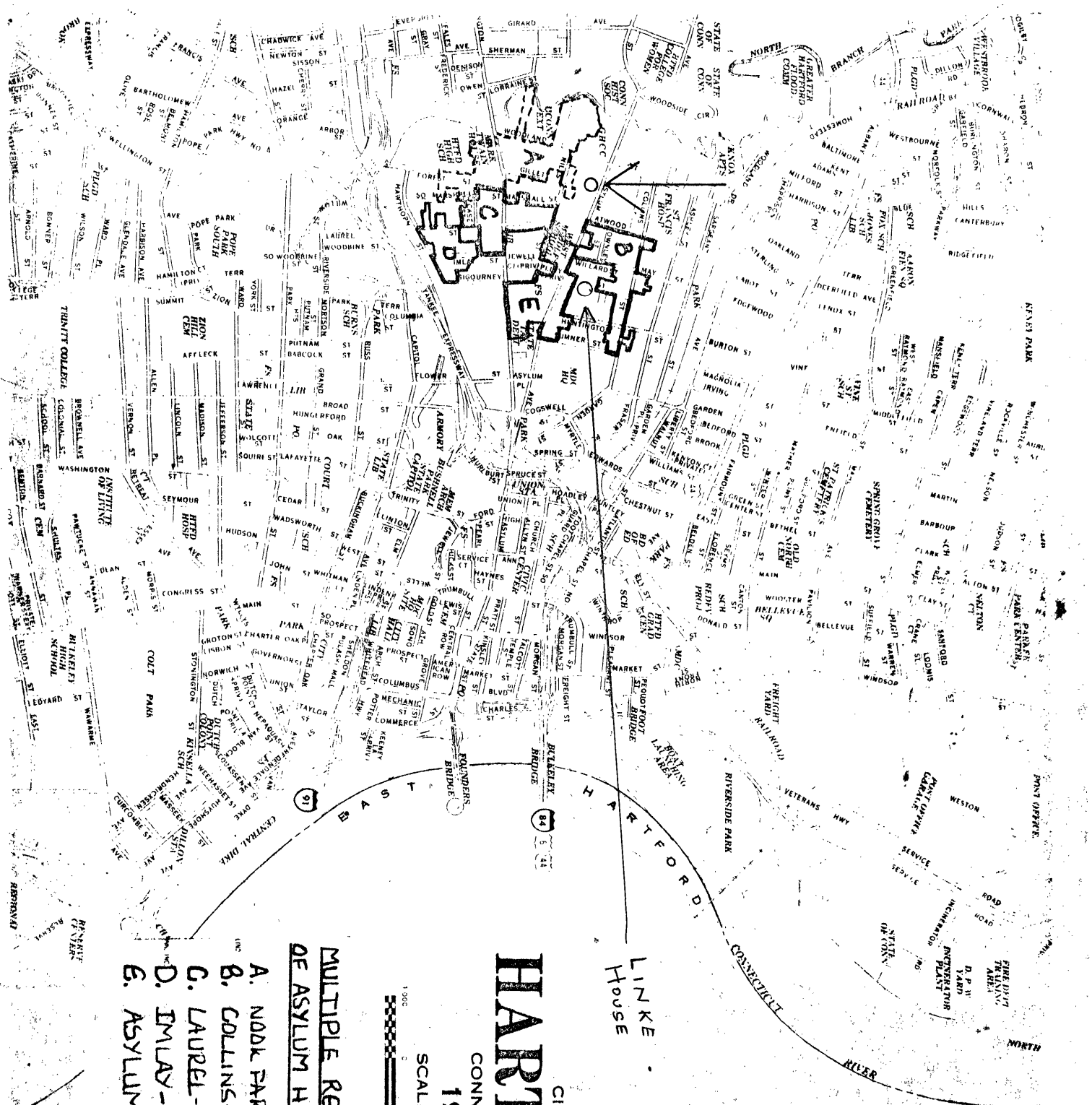
17. (con't.)

terracotta tiles ornament the facade, the windowsills are of brownstone, and the gable-ends of the dormers are decoratively treated, one with shingles and the other with diagonally placed boards. The porch, also with a slate roof, has a sense of the Eastlake style about it, with perforated panels and heavy lathe-turned posts. The brickwork at 174 Sigourney is typical of the best examples in Hartford with a saw-toothed string course of bricks laid vertically, a denticulated brick "cornice", and decorative sunken panels set below the first floor windows of the facade gable block. The 1896 atlas of Hartford shows 174 Sigourney to be part of a row of similar houses lining both sides of Sigourney Street, on land once owned by the George Affleck Estate, but today 174 Sigourney is one of only a few surviving.

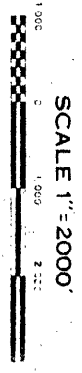
18. (con't.)

character. Never as prestigious an area as some on Asylum Hill, Sigourney Street was a solidly middle-class neighborhood in the 1880s and '90s and its houses were among the first constructed for the middle-income white-collar workers who began to move to Asylum Hill as its initial phase as an enclave for Hartford's upper crust waned.

Many of the decorative elements of the Queen Anne style are present in 174 Sigourney-- small-scale detailing, differing wall surfaces, irregular roof lines, half-timbering. It retains its decorative octagonal-slate roof, Eastlake-style porch, and geometrically-patterned terracotta work below the second-story windows; evidence of the mason's skill can be noted in the saw-toothed brick string course, denticulated cornice, and in the chimney, which pierces the side wall gable.



- MULTIPLE RESOURCES  
OF ASYLUM HILL**
- A. NODK FARM- WOODLAND
  - B. COLLINS- TOWNLEY
  - C. LAUREL- MARSHALL
  - D. IMLAY- LAUREL
  - E. ASYLUM AVENUE



CITY OF  
**HARTFORD**  
CONNECTICUT  
1977

LINK  
House