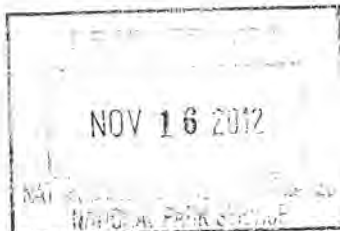


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



||||

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name The Eclectic House
other names/site number The Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta Building

2. Location

street & number 200 High Street

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Middletown
state Connecticut code CT county Middlesex code 007 zip code 06459

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 national statewide local
Daniel J. Foubt 11/2/12
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____
Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)
Love Edson H. Beall 1.2.13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION / Ed-related College Dormitory

SOCIAL / College Fraternity Literary Clubhouse

SOCIAL / College Fraternity Dining Facility

SOCIAL / College Fraternity Residence Facility

EDUCATION / Ed-related College Dormitory

SOCIAL / College Group Residence Facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE / Auditorium

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & 20TH C. REVIVALS /

Beaux Arts Classicism / Grecian

foundation: Brick

walls: Brick

roof: Asphalt

other: Wood (portico/columns; rear & side porches)

Narrative Description

The Eclectic House

Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT

County and State

*(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)*

Summary Paragraph

The Eclectic Society is a three-story, flat-roofed, fraternity building in the Beaux-Arts style with Greek features, located along Wesleyan University's College Row (Photograph 1). It is situated on an urban street directly facing the main buildings of the Wesleyan College campus. The small lot (less than one acre) is steeply graded, providing direct access to the main floor on the west elevation (High St.) and direct access to the basement level on the east elevation (rear).

The Eclectic House was designed by Henry Bacon, famed architect of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, and built under his direction by William Mylchreest & Sons, a Middletown, Connecticut, masonry contractor. The structure was dedicated and first occupied in 1907.

The façade is dominated by the central three-story block that is fronted by a double-height portico and flanked by two-story wings. The façade is nine bays wide with three bays located beneath the central portico.

The three-bay portico is supported by fluted Doric columns topped by a wide frieze band decorated with laurel wreaths (Photograph 2). Above the frieze is a projecting cornice which is, in turn, topped by a paneled parapet wall. This decorative grouping of frieze, cornice and parapet continues along the roofline of the north and south wings on all elevations.

The side wings are two stories in height with a full basement. The entire building is constructed of red brick and has a wide marble water table defining the base of the first floor level. Interior chimneys are set within the north and south end walls.

Narrative Description

The main entry to Eclectic House is comprised of a pair of paneled wood doors topped by a transom window decorated with elliptical tracery. Above the door is a large marble panel inscribed with the following:

ΕΚΛΕΚΤΟΣ
ΦΝΘ

[EKLEKTOS / Phi Nu Theta] and

SOCIETAS CONSTITUIT AD MDCCCXXXVII
[Society Founded AD 1837] (Photograph 3).

The floor of the portico is constructed of red tile blocks with a white marble border. A low set of three shallow marble steps surrounds the portico on all three exposed sides. (Photograph 4).

Above the name plaque on the second story are a pair of narrow 4/4 double-hung sash windows set behind a false balconet. The remainder of the windows are 8/8 double-hung sash throughout with tall, flat, marble crowns and narrow marble sills.

The side elevations mirror the symmetrical placement of the openings on the façade. Also the windows, sills and crowns all mimic those found on the front of the building.

The rear elevation features a hexagonal bay stair tower that projects from the rear of the center block (Photograph 5). A two-story, five-bay open porch is supported by brick piers on the ground story and paneled wooden posts on the second story. Both stories are lined by a simple straight balustrade. On the upper porch story, the balustrade is embellished by geometric panels which mirror the placement of the pillars below (Photograph 6). The pilasters, wide frieze band and flat marble crowns and sills are echoed even on the rear of the building.

The Eclectic House

Name of Property

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The front (west) entry to the building leads through the large double door into a closed foyer separated from the main hall by a tripartite doorway. The paneled doors are topped by a tall, multi-light transom and flanked by sidelights (Photograph 7).

Directly opposite the entrance is the grand staircase leading to the second floor (residents' rooms) and third floor (meeting room). To the left (north) is the large parlor and beyond it the library, now divided into a smaller library and several storage/rehearsal rooms. An original brick and hardwood fireplace remains in the library space. In all of these spaces the original paneled wood moldings surround the windows and doorways and the base of the plaster walls is protected by wide baseboards (Photographs 8 and 9).

To the right (south) of the entrance hall are a coat room and lavatory, a ladies' lavatory, and the main dining room as well as a food-holding area and smaller dining room.

On the second floor are study rooms and bedrooms for eighteen residents plus a shower room and lavatory. The hallways have been slightly adapted with dropped ceilings and carpeted floors (Photograph 10).

On the third floor at the top of the grand staircase is a large meeting room with two ante-rooms.

Returning to the first floor, the grand staircase continues to the basement level with its kitchen, storage and mechanical rooms, a game room, and an apartment for the chef/house father and his family, now converted into additional student residences.

Over the years some of the spaces in Eclectic House were changed or updated to meet functional needs and building codes requirements, but the general configuration of both the interior and exterior remains essentially the same as it was in 1907.

The original architectural plans by Henry Bacon are held in the Bacon Collection of Special Collections and Archives in Wesleyan's Olin Library.

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1907-1962

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Bacon, Henry (1866-1924) - Architect

Myrchreest, William & Sons - Contractor

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

The Eclectic House
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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Eclectic Society House is a Beaux Arts-style Classical Revival building completed in 1907 as a residence and meeting hall for the Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta, a college fraternity and literary society. The building was designed by New York architect Henry Bacon (1866-1924), who later designed the campus plan and other buildings on the Wesleyan University campus. Mr. Bacon is best known as the architect of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. (designed 1911-12, completed 1923) and for his collaboration with sculptor Daniel Chester French on the design of monuments throughout the United States.

With the construction of the Eclectic House in 1906-1907, the Wesleyan University campus in Middletown, Connecticut, gained a striking building, designed by the prominent American architect Henry Bacon (1866-1924) and built under his supervision by a Middletown contractor, William Mylchreest and Sons. The Eclectic House occupies a prominent position on High Street facing the campus quadrangle and the College Row buildings.

Despite more than a century of use and occupancy by Wesleyan University students, Eclectic House retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The building meets National Register Criterion C at the local and statewide level as a well-preserved example of the work of one of the country's most honored architects. The period of significance (1907-1962) extends from the date of completion (1907) to the fifty-year threshold (1962) that coincides with the decline of the fraternity as a literary society.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Wesleyan University was established in 1831 in Middletown, Connecticut, as an all-male academic institution. Although it was originally organized under the guidance of the Methodist conference, Wesleyan University was intended to be a broad and independent college rather than a denominational seminary. The college experimented with co-education by admitting a small number of women from 1872 to 1912 and became completely co-educational in 1970. The University became completely independent of the Methodist conference in 1937.

The Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta, founded at Wesleyan University in 1837, has a distinguished history as a Wesleyan literary society and fraternity. The Society met in various locations until the present dedicated structure was built on land directly opposite the quadrangle and College Row¹. The Eclectic House was formally dedicated on October 11, 1907.

Architect Henry Bacon's selection of a building resembling a Greek temple for the Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta was no accident. Bacon was strongly influenced by the French Ecole des Beaux Arts and its advocacy of classicism based on Greek and Roman antiquity. Further, it was Bacon's intent that a building should express the spirit of the organization for which it was designed.

As Bacon's first building for Wesleyan University, the Eclectic House was designed to convey suitable artistic and cultural associations.² The Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta was a college fraternity, but also first and foremost a literary society. In 1906, literary education was still rooted in the knowledge of the classical languages and literatures, the most fundamental of which was Greek. Bacon's design for the building was consistent with the identity of the institution. The design was based on a classical

¹ The site of the Eclectic House is imbued with a history of its own. Prior to construction of the current building

² Information courtesy of Professor Joseph M. Siry, Art and Art History Department, Wesleyan University (2011).

The Eclectic House

Name of Property

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order that had masculine associations and was also symbolic of simplicity and seriousness of purpose.

Since Eclectic House was a literary fraternity building, the Doric order was selected for the monumental front portico. Unlike the Corinthian, the Doric order has no molded base; rather the columnar shafts sit directly on the portico's floor. The Doric capitals do not feature foliate forms, but rather simple geometric blocks below the frieze, which is decorated in low relief with wreaths – the classical sign of welcome.

The form of the building, including the marble relief with Eclectic's name over the entrance, conveyed its purpose. The Greek theme was carried further into horizontal white marble lintels and sills for the windows. These are unlike arches on other Wesleyan fraternities such as Psi U and Chi Psi, which convey Roman associations. Rather the horizontal marble details evoke simple beams associated with Greek temples, where vertical columns upheld horizontal beams. Overall the stylistic consistency of the main (west) elevation, with its rigorous adherence to Doric conventions, conveyed the society's character, having, in Moody's words, "a serious intellectual core."³

The Doric was a simpler order and potentially less expensive to fabricate, but the classical proportions and detailing were an integral part of the building design. When architect Henry Bacon first wrote to the contractor William Mylcreest of Middletown, CT about Eclectic in 1906, he stressed that it had to be a simple and economical building, with a ratio of length to depth of 3:1 (120 x 40 feet), the classic Greek proportions.⁴

The other prominent feature of Eclectic House is the high squared attic over the building's center section behind the portico. Outlined in classical detail in Bacon's design, the attic marks the room where the members of the Eclectic Society held their literary meetings.

Generations of Wesleyan undergraduates have heard that architect Henry Bacon practiced on the Eclectic House before designing the Lincoln Memorial. The specific comparison is made in Professor Christopher A. Thomas' Yale dissertation of 1991, "The Lincoln Memorial and Its Architect Henry Bacon (1866-1924)" and in his subsequent book, *The Lincoln Memorial and American Life*, published in 2002.

Thomas in his book, *The Lincoln Memorial & American Life*, describes Bacon's work,

An austere redbrick fraternity house at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, evokes the Puritanism of the Federal and Greek Revival periods in New England. Its wooden portico of four gigantic Doric columns, with a frieze of triumphal wreaths replacing the canonical triglyphs, startlingly adumbrates design themes he [Bacon] developed fully in the colonnade of the Lincoln Memorial ...⁵

The classical simplicity of Henry Bacon's design for the Eclectic Society House presented a striking contrast to the neighboring row of fraternity buildings, including Alpha Delta Phi (1905), Chi Psi (1904), and John Bell Scott Memorial (1904). Before Cross Street was closed in 1929, the Eclectic House was the southernmost of the fraternity buildings on the east side of High Street.

Henry Bacon subsequently designed eight structures on the Wesleyan University campus and became the university's de facto campus planner and architect. The 1913 master plan developed by

³ Moody, William B.B. *A History of the Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta, 1837-1970*. Wesleyan University Press, 2007.

⁴ Henry Bacon to William Mylchreest, 1906. Included in the Bacon Collection at the Olin Library, Wesleyan University.

⁵ Thomas, Christopher A. *The Lincoln Memorial and American Life*. Princeton University Press, 2002.

The Eclectic House

Middlesex County, CT

Name of Property

County and State

Bacon for the campus reflected his thoughts on how the design of individual buildings should relate to the landscape and to each other. Bacon envisioned a large quadrangle of academic buildings to the west of College Row, similar to Jefferson's University of Virginia at Charlottesville. Much of Bacon's master plan for Wesleyan was not carried out, but among the buildings that were constructed were Bacon's Van Vleck Observatory (1915), his design for Clark Hall (1916), and eventually his design for the Olin Library (1928, carried to completion by McKim, Mead, & White after Bacon's death).

Recent History

While the architecture of Eclectic House has survived with very little physical change, the Eclectic Society itself has evolved with the times. In the late 1960s, the membership and goals of the Eclectic Society changed radically and by 1970, all pretense of being a literary society was dropped. The split between Eclectic Society undergraduates and alumni widened. The alumni organization (the Socratic Literary Society), which had previously built and owned the structure, gave the building to the University in 1970, along with an endowment fund that was to be used for the maintenance of the structure.

In 1970-1971 the University partially renovated the interior of Eclectic House to bring it up to code as a college residence hall. In the more than forty years since 1970, the house has functioned as an undergraduate dormitory with a large space on the first floor for parties, concerts, and other functions run by undergraduates. The interior has suffered somewhat as a result, but retains many character-defining features such as the classical moldings and the fireplace in the library. The exterior has been fairly well maintained by the University and remains virtually unchanged from the day it was built.

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

N/A

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Bacon, Henry. Architectural Plans for the Eclectic House, unpublished original plans held in the Bacon Collection, Archives and Special Collections, Olin Library, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT., 1906.

Moody, William B. B. , *A History of the Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta, 1837-1970*, Wesleyan University Press, Middletown, CT, 2007.

Potts, David B., *Wesleyan University 1831-1910*, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1992.

Price, Carl F., *Wesleyan's First Century*, Wesleyan University, 1932.

Siry, Joseph M., Notes for an address on Henry Bacon and Wesleyan at Wesleyan University, May 26, 2007.

Thomas, Christopher A., "The Lincoln Memorial and Its Architect, Henry Bacon (1866-1924)", Dissertation presented to the faculty the Graduate School of Yale University, December 1990.

Thomas, Christopher A., *The Lincoln Memorial and American Life*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 2002

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: Wesleyan University, Olin Library, Henry Bacon Collection

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one.
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	695620	4603029	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary follows the lot lines of the 0.63A parcel listed in the Middletown Connecticut, Assessor's Database as Parcel 24-0160 and described below.

A certain piece or parcel of land with all the buildings and improvements thereon, situate, lying and being on the East side of High Street in the City of Middletown, County of Middlesex and State of Connecticut and more particularly bounded as follows:

NORTHERLY: by land formerly of J.D. Sibley and by land formerly of the heirs of Jane E. Morgan, in part by each (more recently bounded on the North by land of Wesleyan University of Middletown, Connecticut);

EASTERLY: by the Easterly Portion of land recently conveyed to said Wesleyan University by the Socratic Literary Society, by a line which is formed by connecting a point 40 feet East of the Northeast corner of the porch on the building on the herein described premises and a point located 50 feet East of the Southeast corner of the same porch and by extending said line Northerly to the North line of said premises recently conveyed to said Wesleyan University by the Socratic Literary Society and by extending said line Southerly to the South line of said premises recently conveyed to said Wesleyan University by the Socratic Literary Society;

SOUTHERLY: by land now or formerly of D. Ward Northrop and land now or formerly of Henry D. Green, in part by each;

WESTERLY: by High Street, 155 feet, more or less;

And being the Westerly portion of said premises recently conveyed to Wesleyan University of Middletown, Connecticut by the Socratic Literary Society.

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encloses the whole of the 0.63A parcel identified as Parcel 24-0160 in the Middletown, Connecticut, Assessor's Database as of 2012.

The boundaries described above are taken from EXHIBIT A of the lease agreement between Wesleyan University and the Socratic Literary Society signed and recorded on July 7, 1970 in the presence of Joseph A. Lynch, Commissioner of the Superior Court of the County of Middlesex, State of Connecticut in the City of Middletown, Connecticut. They are the most recent legal description of the property.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title William B.B. Moody, CAPT USN (ret.)

Organization Wesleyan Class of 1959/Eclectic Delegation of 1959 Date June 22, 2012

Street & Number 603 Doeskin Court Tel. 775-832-5376/301-830-3828

City or Town Incline Village State Nevada Zip code 89451-8320

E-mail wbb.moody@verizon.net

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name Wesleyan University Attn: Joyce Topshe, Associate Vice President for Facilities

Street & Number Wesleyan Station Telephone 860-685-3757

City or Town: Middletown State CT Zip code 06459

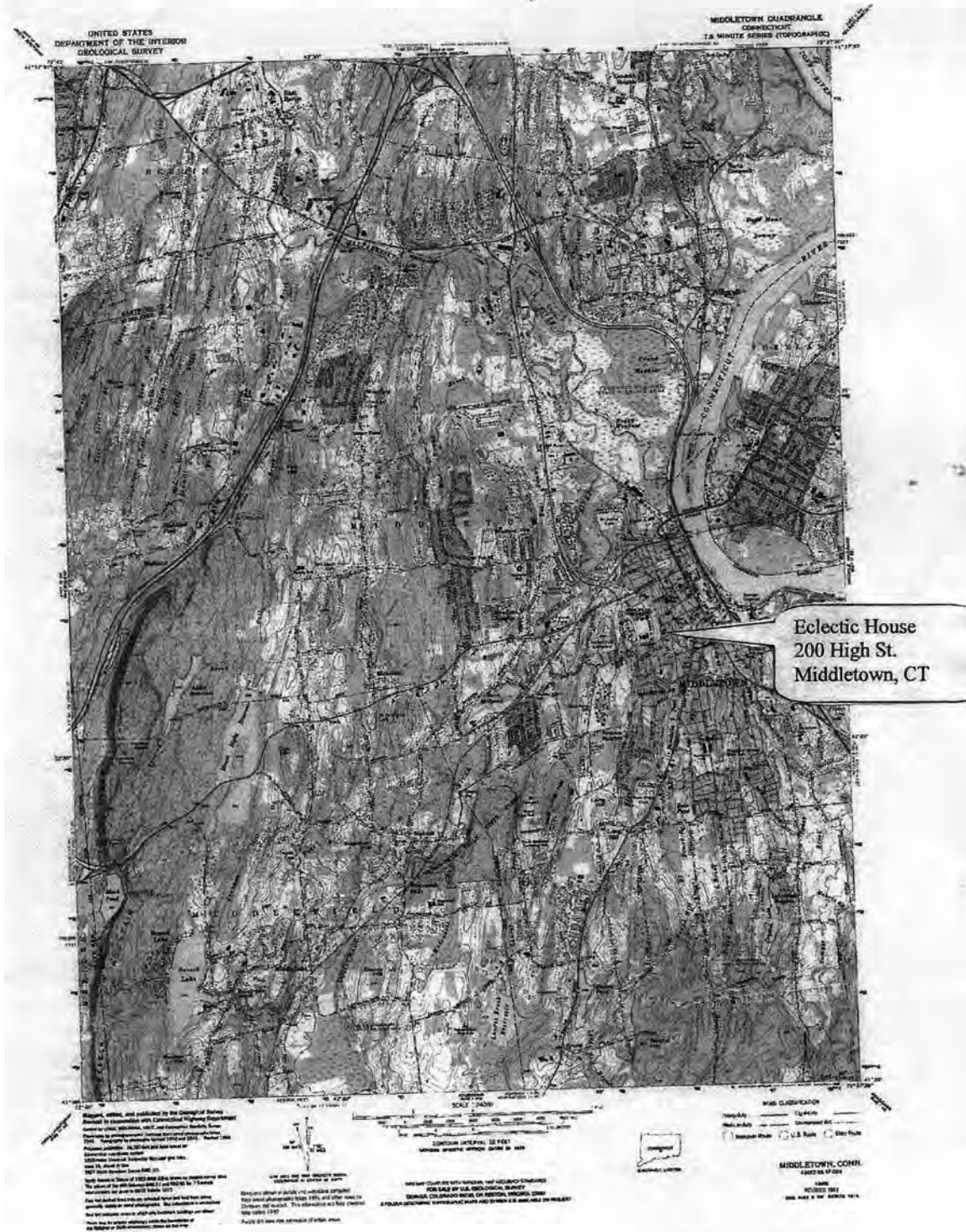
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

MAPS



The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Figure 1: Historical view - The west elevation of Eclectic House in 1907; camera facing east.
Photographer unknown.

(Used by permission of the Olin Library, Eclectic Collection in the Rare Books/Special Collections of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut.)

Figure 2: Historical view - the Library of Eclectic House in 1946; camera facing northeast.
Photographer unknown.

(Used by permission of the Olin Library, Eclectic Collection in the Rare Books/Special Collections of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut.)

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

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CURRENT PHOTOGRAPHS

Eclectic Society House
200 High St.
Middletown (Middlesex County), Connecticut

Photographs 001 through 0010 are digital photographs taken by Gregory Farmer, Connecticut Circuit Rider, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation & National Trust for Historic Preservation, on April 11, 2011.

Photograph 0001: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the west elevation; camera facing northeast

Photograph 0002: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the west and south elevations; camera facing northeast

Photograph 0003: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior detail of the inscribed marble plaque over the west entrance; camera facing southeast

Photograph 0004: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Marble stairs at the entrance portico on the west elevation; camera facing northeast

Photograph 0005: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the east and north elevations; camera facing southwest

Photograph 0006: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the east and north elevations; camera facing southwest

Photograph 0007: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Interior view of the entrance hall and front vestibule; camera facing west

Photograph 0008: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Interior view of the Parlor looking across the hall to the Dining Room; camera facing southwest

Photograph 0009: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Interior view of the Parlor and Library; camera facing northwest

Photograph 0010: Eclectic House, Middletown, CT
Interior view of the main corridor in the second story residence hall; camera facing north

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH SPECIFICATIONS

Eclectic Society House
200 High St.
Middletown (Middlesex County), Connecticut

Photographs by Gregory Farmer, Connecticut Circuit Rider, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation & National Trust for Historic Preservation, on April 11, 2011.

Camera: Canon PowerShot A570 IS (7.1 megapixels)
Camera Setting: Color JPEG
Resolution: 3072 x 2304 pixels
File Size: 1.3-2.1 MB
Printer: Epson Stylus Photo R280
Paper: Epson UltraPremium Photo Paper (Glossy)
Ink: Epson 78 / Claria Hi-Definition Ink (six cartridges)
Print Setting: Grayscale

FILES NAMES & DESCRIPTIONS

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0001.jpg
Exterior view of the west elevation; camera facing northeast

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0002.jpg
Exterior view of the west and south elevations; camera facing northeast

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0003.jpg
Exterior detail of the marble plaque over the west entrance; camera facing southeast

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0004.jpg
Marble stairs at the entrance portico on the west elevation; camera facing northeast

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0005.jpg
Exterior view of the east and north elevations; camera facing southwest

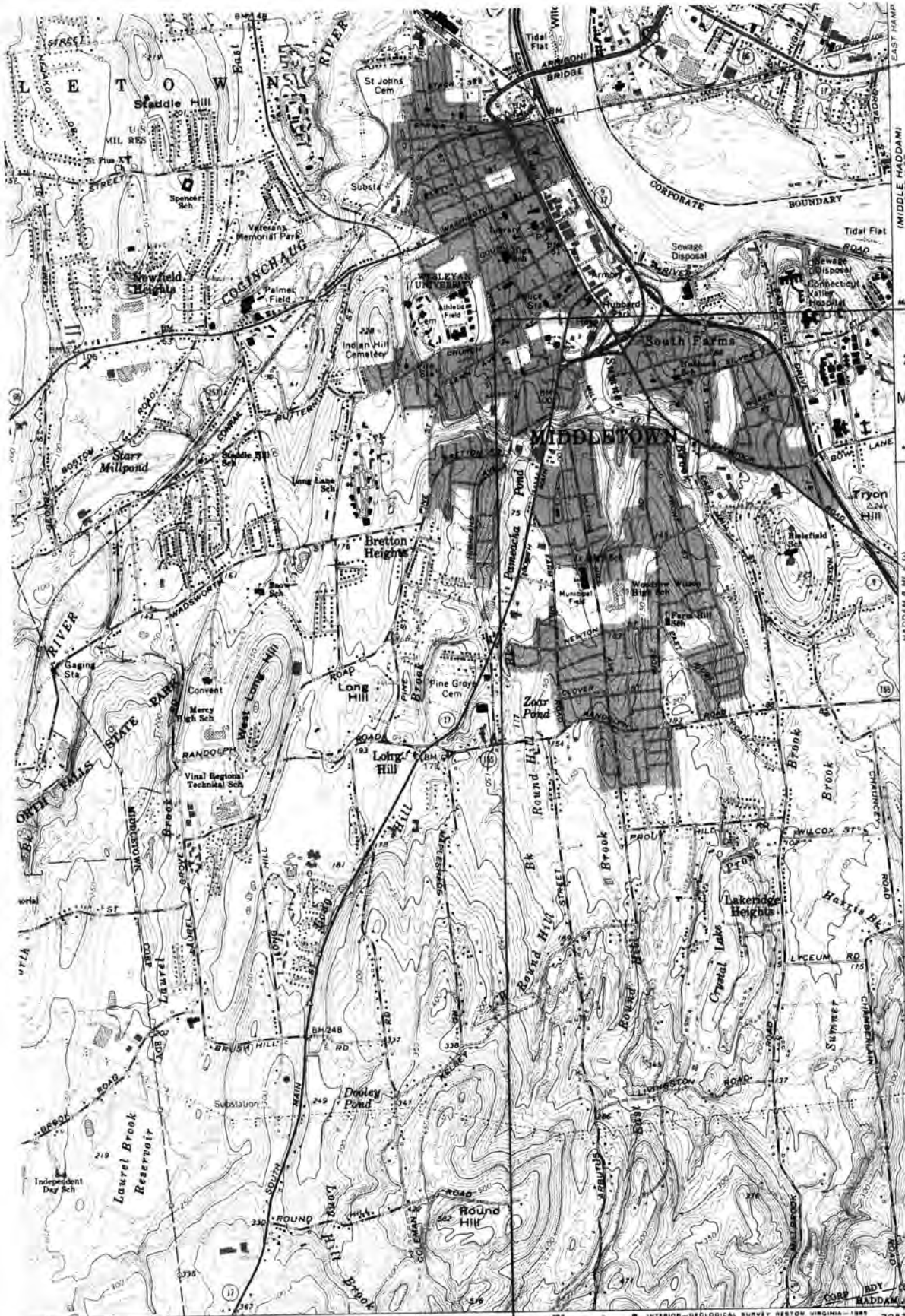
CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0006.jpg
Exterior view of the east and north elevations; camera facing southwest

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0007.jpg
Interior view of the entrance hall and front vestibule; camera facing west

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0008.jpg
Interior view from the Parlor to the Dining Room across the hall; camera facing southwest

CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0009.jpg
Interior view of the Parlor and Library; camera facing northwest

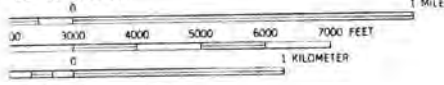
CT_Middletown_Eclectic_0010.jpg
Interior view of the main corridor in the second story residence hall; camera facing north



Eclectic House
200 High St.
Middletown CT

(DURHAM)
5666 1 NW

SCALE 1:24,000



VERTICAL INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM: MEAN LOW WATER OF 1929
 VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 VARIATIONS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
 BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
 ITS APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
 OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2 FEET

1:50,000 NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON VIRGINIA 22092
 THIS MAP AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Eclectic Society House
200 High St.
Middletown, CT



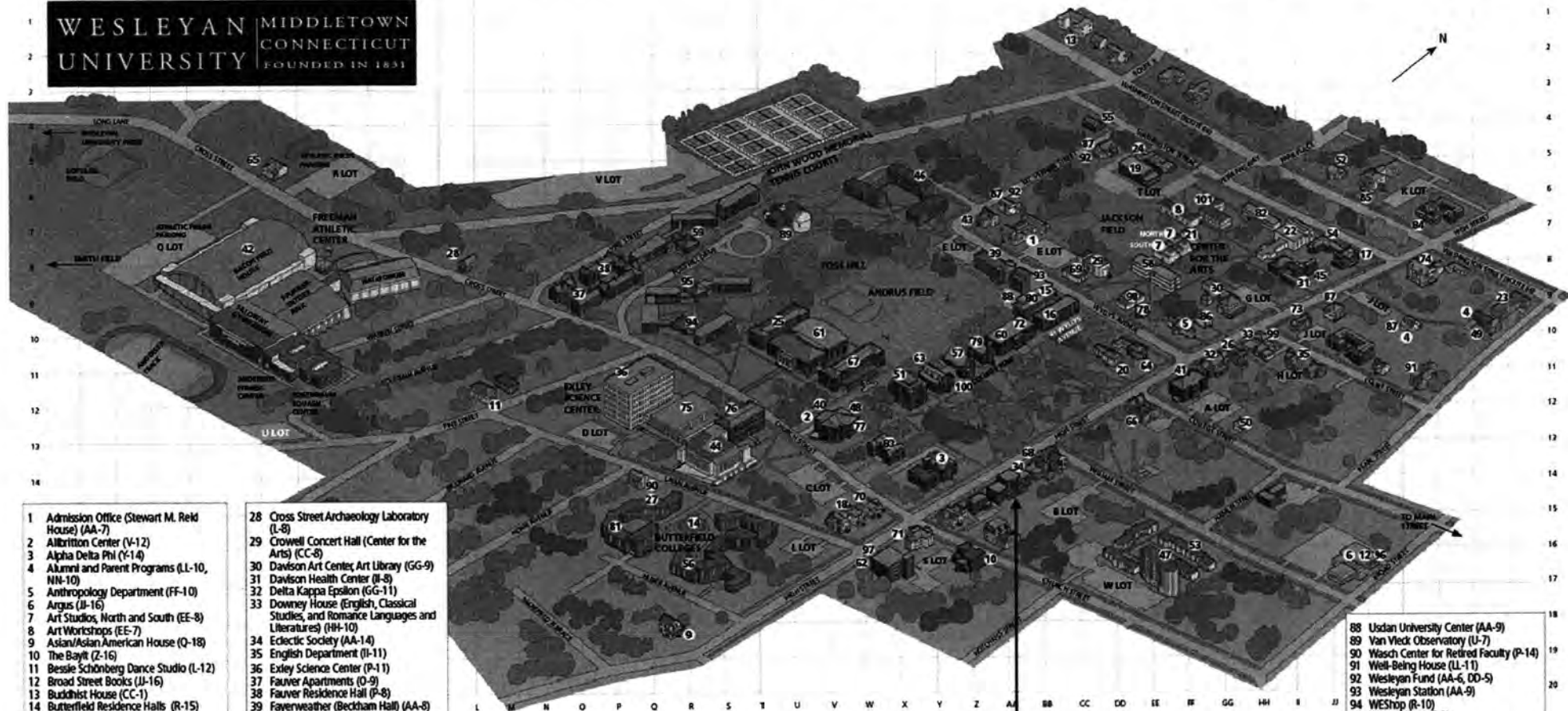
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty —————
- Medium-duty ————
- Light-duty —————
- Unimproved dirt - - - - -
- Interstate Route (circle with I)
- U.S. Route (square with U)
- Slate Route (circle with S)

MIDDLETOWN, CONN.
41072-E6-TF-024

1965
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 6467 II SW - SERIES Y816

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT
FOUNDED IN 1831



- 1 Admission Office (Stewart M. Reid House) (AA-7)
- 2 Allbritton Center (V-12)
- 3 Alpha Delta Phi (Y-14)
- 4 Alumni and Parent Programs (LL-10, NN-10)
- 5 Anthropology Department (FF-10)
- 6 Argus (JJ-16)
- 7 Art Studios, North and South (EE-8)
- 8 Art Workshops (EE-7)
- 9 Asian/Asian American House (Q-18)
- 10 The Baylit (Z-16)
- 11 Bessie Schönberg Dance Studio (L-12)
- 12 Broad Street Books (JJ-16)
- 13 Buddhist House (CC-1)
- 14 Butterfield Residence Halls (R-15)
- 15 Cardinal Technology Center (BB-9)
- 16 Career Center (BB-10)
- 17 Center for African American Studies (JJ-8)
- 18 Center for Community Partnerships (W-15)
- 19 Center for Film Studies (EE-5)
- 20 Center for the Americas (DD-11)
- 21 Center for the Arts Hall (FF-7)
- 22 Center for the Arts Theater (II-7)
- 23 Center for the Humanities (OO-9)
- 24 Cinema Archives (EE-5)
- 25 Clark Hall (T-10)
- 26 College of the Environment (GG-11)
- 27 College of Letters (Q-15)

- 28 Cross Street Archaeology Laboratory (L-8)
- 29 Crowell Concert Hall (Center for the Arts) (CC-8)
- 30 Davison Art Center, Art Library (GG-9)
- 31 Davison Health Center (II-8)
- 32 Delta Kappa Epsilon (GG-11)
- 33 Downey House (English, Classical Studies, and Romance Languages and Literatures) (HH-10)
- 34 Eclectic Society (AA-14)
- 35 English Department (II-11)
- 36 Exley Science Center (P-11)
- 37 Fauver Apartments (O-9)
- 38 Fauver Residence Hall (P-8)
- 39 Fayerweather (Beckham Hall) (AA-8)
- 40 Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies (V-12)
- 41 Fisk Hall (FF-11)
- 42 Freeman Athletic Center (E-8)
- 43 Graduate Liberal Studies Program (Z-7)
- 44 Hall-Atwater Laboratory (S-13)
- 45 Health Education (WesWELL) (II-8)
- 46 Hewitt (X-6)
- 47 High Rise (EE-16)
- 48 History and Theory (Y-12)
- 49 Horgan House (NN-10)
- 50 Human Resources (GG-13)
- 51 Judd Hall (X-11)
- 52 La Casa de Albizu Campos (JJ-5)
- 53 Low Rise (FF-16)

- 54 Malcolm X House (JJ-8)
- 55 Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies (CC-4)
- 56 Mellon Program (R-17)
- 57 Memorial Chapel (Z-11)
- 58 Music Studios, Music Department (Center for the Arts) (EE-8)
- 59 Nicolson (R-7)
- 60 North College (Administrative Offices) (AA-10)
- 61 Olin Memorial Library (U-10)

- 62 156 High Street (W-16)
- 63 Patrice '92 Theater, Ring Family Stage (Y-11)
- 64 President's House (DD-10)
- 65 Project to Increase Mastery of Mathematics and Science (PIMMS) (F-5)
- 66 Psi Upsilon (DD-12)
- 67 Public Affairs Center (V-11)
- 68 Public Safety (BB-14)
- 69 Rehearsal Hall (Center for the Arts) (CC-8)

- 70 Religious and Spiritual Life (W-15)
- 71 Religious Studies Center (X-16)
- 72 Residential Life Office (AA-10)
- 73 Romance Languages and Literatures (II-10)
- 74 Russell House (MM-8)
- 75 Science Library (R-13)
- 76 Shanklin Laboratory (S-12)
- 77 Shapiro Creative Writing Center (V-12)
- 78 Skull and Serpent Society (EE-9)
- 79 South College (President's Office) (Z-10)

- 80 Student Activities and Leadership Development (AA-9)
- 81 Summerfields Dining Hall (P-15)
- 82 Theater and Dance Studios (Center for the Arts) (HH-7)
- 83 200 Church Street (W-13)
- 84 202 Washington Street (MM-7)
- 85 230 Washington Street (KK-6)
- 86 287 High Street (FF-10)
- 87 University Relations (AA-6, DD-5, JJ-9, LL-10)

- 88 Usdan University Center (AA-9)
- 89 Van Vleck Observatory (U-7)
- 90 Wasch Center for Retired Faculty (P-14)
- 91 Well-Being House (LL-11)
- 92 Wesleyan Fund (AA-6, DD-5)
- 93 Wesleyan Station (AA-9)
- 94 WEShop (R-10)
- 95 West College (R-9)
- 96 WESU (KK-16)
- 97 WesWings (W-16)
- 98 World Music Hall (Center for the Arts) (DD-9)
- 99 Writing Workshop, Writers' Conference (HH-10)
- 100 Zeinick Pavilion (Y-11)
- 101 Zilkha Gallery, Art Department, and CFA Administration (GG-7)

#34: Eclectic Society House
200 High St.
Middletown, CT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Eclectic House, The
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CONNECTICUT, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 11/16/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/14/12
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/31/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/02/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12001111

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 1.2.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Figure 1: Historical view - The west elevation of Eclectic House in 1907
(Source: Wesleyan College archives, photographer unknown)

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Figure 2: Historical view - the Library of Eclectic House in the 1940s
(Source: Wesleyan College archives, photographer unknown)

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 0001: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the west elevation; camera facing northeast

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0002: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the west and south elevations; camera facing northeast

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0003: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT

Exterior detail of the inscribed marble plaque over the west entrance; camera facing southeast

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0004: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Marble stairs at the entrance portico on the west elevation; camera facing northeast

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0005: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the east and north elevations; camera facing southwest

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0006: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Exterior view of the east and north elevations; camera facing southwest

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0007: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT
Interior view of the entrance hall and front vestibule; camera facing west

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0008: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT

Interior view of the Parlor looking across the hall to the Dining Room; camera facing southwest

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0009: Eclectic Society House, Middletown, CT

Interior view of the Parlor and Library; camera facing northwest

The Eclectic House
Name of Property

Middlesex County, CT
County and State



Photograph 0010: Eclectic House, Middletown, CT

Interior view of the main corridor in the second story residence hall; camera facing north

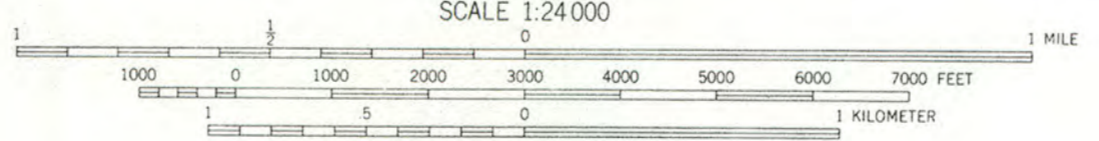
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MIDDLETOWN QUADRANGLE
CONNECTICUT
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



*Eclectic Society House
200 High St.
Middletown, CT
695620 E
4603029 N*

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Revised in cooperation with Connecticut Highway Department
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, USEC, and Connecticut Geographic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken
1941. Topography by planimetric surveys 1942 and 1943. Revised 1965.
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 267 (1966).
This information is not intended for navigational purposes.
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on
Connecticut coordinate system.
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue.
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 5 meters south and
38 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks.
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is uncheck-
ed. Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown.
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on this map.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET-DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2 FEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
○ Interstate Route □ U.S. Route ○ State Route

MIDDLETOWN, CONN.
41072-E6-TF-024
1965
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 6467 11 SW - SERIES 1816

RETURN TO:
USGS AND HISTORICAL MAP ARCHIVES

Oct. 7, 1983



TO: J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Stacey Vairo, National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this 1 day of
November

2012, for nomination of the The Eclectic House, Middletown, Middlesex,
County, Connecticut

to the National Register of Historic Places:

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- Photographs
- Original USGS maps
- Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
- Pieces of correspondence
- Other CD of Photographs

COMMENTS:

- Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objections do do not
constitute a majority of property owners.
- Other: _____