

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: Fairfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 7 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Octagon House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
21 Spring Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Danbury

STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **09** COUNTY: **Fairfield** CODE: **001**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Nedema Attick

STREET AND NUMBER:
21 Spring Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Danbury** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **09**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Danbury** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **09**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

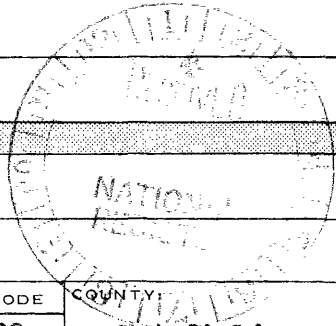
DATE OF SURVEY: **1966** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
59 South Prospect Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Hartford** STATE: **Connecticut** CODE: **09**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: **Connecticut**

COUNTY: **Fairfield**

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DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

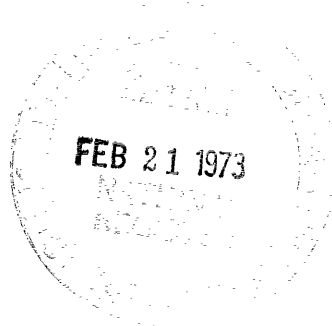
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Something of an architectural curiosity, this octagonal house is perhaps the best example of the dozen or so of the style extant in the state. This one is composed of three floors, surrounded by a graceful iron veranda, extending the full three stories. Supports are finished with scrolled brackets.

The nearly flat roof has wide overhanging eaves. Atop the roof at the center is a cupola, also octagonal, with the same wide eaves. The two chimneys are incorporated into the outside walls.

The walls are of concrete, twelve inches thick, covered with stucco, painted white. At the center of the building is an enclosed spiral staircase. Windows are large, opening onto the veranda on all sides. All trim is very plain; at entry and windows there is single board framing.

The house is very grand and its location back from the road in a residential area is fortunate for it can be more easily seen.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1852**

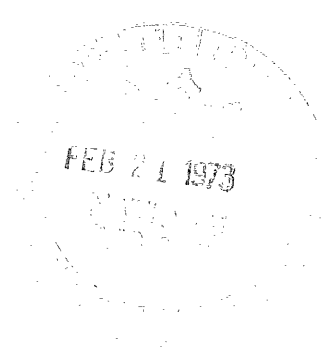
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This excellent example of the octagonal style house was built in 1852 by Daniel Starr as his own home. Orson Squire Fowler, a phrenologist and prolific writer on health and happiness, designed the style. Its prime advantage, he said, was that it enclosed one fifth more floor area than a square with the same total length of wall. "Scarcely less important," states Fowler, is its beauty, this due to it approaching the sphere, "the predominant or governing form in Nature." The perfect material, Fowler felt, was a mixture of lime, stone, and sand - concrete. One suspects that he would be pleased with the Danbury example.

The house is well-cared for and appreciated by the owners. However, it is in an area slated for a second phase of a redevelopment program, and the owners are concerned for its future. They feel that listing on the National Register would at least prevent demolition for redevelopment and give the house the possibility for a positive future.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Correspondence with son of owner.
 The News-Times, articles from September 7, 1968 and January 21, 1973.
 Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. MIT Press, Cambridge,
 Mass. 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 23' 42"	73° 27' 34"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FEB 21 1973

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Susan B. Bixby, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: February 13, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
59 South Prospect Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name [Signature]

Title State Liaison Officer

Date February 14, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/7/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 4 26 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STRAWBERRY HILL AVENUE

sacred heart academy



STRAWBERRY HILL CT.

st. joseph's hospital

MORGAN ST



OCTAGON HOUSE & ADDITION
site: location 1"=200'

