HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

1. BUILDING NAME (Commercial) (Historic)
   Lewis, Nathan, House

2. TOWN CITY VILLAGE COUNTY
   Farmington  Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or, location)
   51 Coppermine Road

4. OWNER(S)
   Pillsbury, Stephen L. & Wendy W.
   Public  Private

5. USE (Present) (Historic)
   Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior Visible from Public Road
   YES  NO
   Interior Accessible: YES  NO
   If YES, Explain

7. STYLE OF BUILDING
   Vernacular
   DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
   ca. 1836

8. MATERIALS (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
   - Clapboard
   - Asbestos Siding
   - Brick
   - Other (Specify)
   - Wood Shingle
   - Asphalt Siding
   - Fieldstone
   - Board & Batten
   - Stucco
   - Cobblestone
   - Aluminum Siding
   - Concrete
   - Cut stone
   - Brownstone

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
   - Wood frame
   - Post and beam
   - Balloon
   - Other (Specify)
   - Load bearing masonry
   - Structural iron or steel

10. ROOF (Type)
    - Gable
    - Flat
    - Mansard
    - Monitor
    - Other (Specify)
    - Gambrel
    - Roll
    - Asphalt
    - Tin
    - Slate
    - Asphalt shingle
    - Built up
    - Tile
    - Other (Specify)

11. NUMBER OF STORIES
    Approximate Dimensions
    2½ 20 x 24, additions 15 x 15, 27 x 14, 22 x 26

12. CONDITION (Structural)
    - Excellent
    - Good
    - Fair
    - Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Historic)
    - On original site
    - Moved
    - Yes
    - No
    - Remodeled 1983

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
    - Barn
    - Shed
    - Garage
    - Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
    - 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
    Sited on the west side of Coppermine Road, the Nathan Lewis House is hidden behind several large pine trees. A long driveway exists on the south side of the property.
This gable-to-street house has a south facing three-bay facade with a central door. Several additions and an attached garage have been added to this plainly-detailed building.

This house may be one of the older homes in Farmington's West District. It was built at least by 1836 when owners Nathan and Susan (Woodford) Lewis quit-claimed to Calvin Hatch a portion of their land along "a stone wall lately erected as a dividing line between ourselves and said Hutch" (FLR 45:220). Nathan Lewis (1788-1849, b. Southington) was a farmer at the time, as were most of his neighbors. He married Susan Woodford in 1829, and they probably purchased the land and built the house shortly thereafter. Nathan died intestate in April of 1849 and the house and land of about 20 acres passed onto his widow. A pre-1869 map shows a building in this area attributed to S.W. Lewis (FPR 11:68, 11B:216). Susan died in 1856 and the property was purchased from her estate by John Murphy (FLR 51:573). Murphy (1800-1876) an Irish-born farmer, lived there with his wife Catherine (Griffen) until his death after which the property passed to his family. In 1884 John Murphy, the elder Murphy's stepson, quit-claimed his interest in the property to his brother Maurice (1859-1938), "to support our mother during her natural life" (FLR 64:664). Over the years Maurice ran his father's farm and mortgaged the property numerous times to the Collinsville Savings Society, the Hartford Trust & Savings, and the Home Banking & Realty Company of New Britain. He married Annie Durning (a.k.a. Sarah Deurning) in 1896. In 1933 Maurice, a widower, sold the property to Katarzyna Lipksi of New Britain (FLR 87:139). (see below)


[Photograph] N. Ainspan

[Photograph] Gilbert Ramos

Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT

Subsequent Field Evaluations

19 cont. The house contributes to the overall historic character of the West District.

Threats to Building or Site

- None known
- Highways
- Vandalism
- Developers
- Other
- Renewal
- Private
- Deterioration
- Zoning
- Explanation