

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Please send completed form to: National Register and State Register Coordinator,
State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development,
450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 5, Hartford CT 06103

* Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) 208 Ridgefield Road

Building Name (Historic) _____

Street Address or Location 208 Ridgefield Road

Town/City Wilton Village _____ County Fairfield

Owner(s) Mavis, Paul & Victoria B. ☐ Public ☒ Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: residence

Historic Use: residence

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Interior accessible? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, explain _____

Style of building Colonial Revival Date of Construction ca. 1920

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input 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 _____ | | |

Structural System

- ☒ Wood Frame ☐ Post & Beam ☐ Balloon ☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other _____

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 _____

Number of Stories: 2.5 Approximate Dimensions 33' x 32' plus ells

Structural Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

Exterior Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

Location Integrity: ☒ On original site ☐ Moved When? _____

Alterations? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, explain: _____

FOR OFFICE USE: Town # _____ Site # _____ UTM _____

District: ☐ S ☐ NR If NR, Specify: ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)**Related outbuildings or landscape features:**

☐ Barn ☒ Shed ☒ Garage ☐ Carriage House ☐ Shop ☐ Garden
☐ Other landscape features or buildings: _____

Surrounding Environment:

☐ Open land ☐ Woodland ☒ Residential ☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural
☐ High building density ☒ Scattered buildings visible from site

- Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

See continuation sheet.

- Other notable features of building or site (*Interior and/or Exterior*)

See continuation sheet.

Architect N/A Builder N/A

- Historical or Architectural importance:

See continuation sheet.

- Sources:

See continuation sheet.

Photographer Stacey Vairo & Lucas Karmazinas Date September 2017

View Southeast Negative on File CTSHPO

Name Stacey Vairo & Lucas Karmazinas Date December 2017

Organization Scheller Preservation Associates & FuturePast Preservation

Address 17 Hard Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT 06798 & 940 West Blvd., Hartford, CT 06105

- Subsequent field evaluations:

MBLU# 89/13 PID# 4793

Threats to the building or site:

☒ None known ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☐ Developers ☐ Renewal ☐ Private
☐ Deterioration ☐ Zoning ☐ Other _____ ☐ Explanation _____

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET: 208 Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT



Photograph of 208 Ridgefield Road, view facing southeast. (Photograph A. Sanders).

Interrelationship of Building and Surroundings:

This house is set back from the street on the east side of Ridgefield Road (Route 33). The lot is lined by a tall fence and mature trees which block the view of the house from the street. A driveway is located on the north side of the street.

Other Notable Features of Buildings or Site:

The house at 208 Ridgefield Road is a 2.5-story, wood-frame expanded Colonial Revival-style house Cape ca. 1920. The roof ridge is oriented in a roughly north-south direction and parallel to the street. The house is clad in wood clapboards. There are narrow overhangs of the roof at the eaves and rake and two brick chimneys are located off center along the ridge. Windows are arranged asymmetrically on the façade and a side-hall entry is located on the north end. The entrance is sheltered by a pedimented portico supported by Tuscan columns. The door is flanked by full-height sidelights. An oriel window is located on the south end of the first story. Windows are mainly 6/1 double-hung sash with plain trim throughout. A short ell connects the north end of the main block to a single-story addition with a gabled roof oriented in an east-west

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET: 208 Ridgfield Road, Wilton, CT

direction. The entire structure rests on a raised fieldstone foundation. According to the owners, a renovation in 2008 resulted in a change from 6/6 to 6/1 double-hung sash windows and a reorientation of the front door from the north façade to the west elevation. Photos of the original house dating from c. 1920s were sourced from the Wilton Library History Room.

Historical and Architectural Importance:

According to the current owner, this property was originally owned by New York attorney and Wilton resident Frederick Middlebrook (1860-1929), who acquired it from widow Henrietta "Nettie" M. Hoyt (1883-1982) in 1919. Mr. Middlebrook passed the land on to his sister Mercy Weed Middlebrook (1870-1955) and her husband George Eustis Boyd (1864-1932) on 4/14/1919 (Wilton Land Records Volume 34, pp.141-2). The house appears to have been constructed by Mercy Middlebrook and her husband George upon the acquisition of 2.5-acres in 1925 (Wilton Land Records Volume 37, p.162). The Middlebrooks had large land holdings in this area of Wilton, which extended from Ridgfield Road across Comstock Brook to the area of School Road and the site of the Middlebrook School.

This house is significant for its association with Eugenie Rocherolle (1936 – xx), a noted pianist and one of the country's leading composers of piano music. Born in New Orleans, she received her BA from Tulane University in music. Rocherolle studied under Nadia Boulanger during her junior year abroad in Paris and began her publishing career in choral and band music in 1978. Her website, rocherolle.com, states that her works include "pieces for solo, voice, chorus and orchestra musical theatre and chamber music for a variety of audiences." She has also released her own recordings among which are *Spinning Gold*, *Romancing the Piano*, *Tones of Blue* and *Tidings of Joy*. She taught piano and kept a studio at this house in Wilton for many years. She raised her four children here with her husband Didier Andre Rocherolle. The house is notable as a straightforward example of the Colonial Revival type incorporating aspects of traditional Colonial architecture with Classical forms (such as the pedimented gable end).

Sources:

Wilton Assessor's Records on Vision Appraisal; U.S. Federal Census Records, 1900-1940; "Map of the Town of Wilton, Conn., 1909," C.C. Wood, C.E.; "Map of the Town of Wilton, Conn., 1922," Robt. F. Thorley; "Map of the Town of Wilton, Conn., 1929," W.E. Godfrey, Surveyor; "Atlas of Fairfield County, Conn., 1931," Dolph & Stewart, Publishers, New York: NY; "Residents of Wilton, Conn. (As of July 1, 1937), 1937," Town of Wilton, CT; "Atlas of Fairfield County, Conn., 1942," Dolph & Stewart, Publishers, New York: NY; "Wilton, Connecticut, Directory Map, 1950," Town Planning Committee, Wilton: CT; Westport, Saugatuck, Greens, Weston, Wilton Directory, The Price & Lee Co., New Haven, CT, 1933-1963.