

State of Connecticut
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford 06106

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.: 45
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY:
 Buildings & Structures

SURVEY OF GUILFORD, NEW HAVEN COUNTY, 06437
 June-December 1981

IDENTIFICATION

1. **ADDRESS** 254 Boston Street
(map 40, lot 125)
2. **NAME**
(historic) Nathan Meigs
NAME
(common)
3. **USE**
(historic)
USE
(present) Private house
4. **IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:**



DESCRIPTION

5. **ARCHITECT**
6. **DATE** 1787 **BUILDER**
STYLE Colonial and later
7. **ALTERATIONS**
East wing, outside chimney, and dormer added. Either the front overhang is original or the roof has been rebuilt.

SIGNIFICANCE

8. **NOTABLE FEATURES**
This small house with its low-slung roof, deep shadowy verandah, and surrounding rock ledges, stone walls, and trees is one of the visual pleasures of Boston Street, a reminder of the fruitful relationship that can and should (but so often does not) exist between architecture and landscape.
9. **ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL**
At one time the site was evidently even more picturesque than now, for a newspaper clipping of 1884 speaks of the ledge of rocks in front of the house which "has been removed, which improves the road greatly." Notice especially the elegance of the fence with its slim pickets and molded top rail, the lines repeated by the railing of the porch. The big dormer we may assume is a much later addition, but it is not out of place in the almost bungalow slope of the long overhanging roof.

Nathan Meigs was born in 1758, served in the army through most of the Revolution, married Mabel Parmelee in 1783, and was drowned in the Connecticut River in 1810, leaving an estate of \$1796, a respectable sum. House, land, barn, and shop were appraised at \$700.

SOURCES

10. **SOURCES**
Joel E. Helander, "The Nathan Meigs House;" Tercentenary Committee; Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Mary Hoadley Griswold, p. 60; Steiner. Photograph: Charles Hubbard Collection, Guilford Keeping Society.

In all categories below, check more than one box if applicable.

If you have not actually made certain of the answer to a given question, either leave it blank or write "inferred" after the checked box; or, if drawn from a previous investigator, give source.

11. MATERIALS

- Clapboard
- Wood Shingle
- Board & Batten
- Brick
- Fieldstone
- Cut Stone
- Stucco
- Concrete
- Cobblestone
- Asbestos Shingle
- Asphalt Siding
- Aluminum/Vinyl
- Other:

12. STRUCTURE

- Wood Frame:
- Post & Beam
- Balloon
- Masonry
- Iron or Steel
- Concrete
- Other:

13. ROOF

- a. Pitched
- Saltbox
- Gambrel
- Gable-front
- Cross-gable
- Mansard
- Hip
- Flat Hip
- Flat
- Shed
- False Dormer
- Sawtooth
- Other:
- b. Tower(s)
- Monitor
- Cupola
- Dormered Gable
- Dome
- c. Wood Shingle
- Asphalt Shingle
- Slate
- Metal
- Other:

14. NUMBER OF STORIES:

1 1/2

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

LOT SIZE:

1 1/2 ACRE (APPROX)

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Bad

16. CONDITION: Structure

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Bad

17. OUTBUILDINGS (visible from public road)

- Barn(s)
- Carriage House
- Garage
- Shed(s)
- Shop(s)
- Other (well, stand, greenhouse, gazebo, privy, etc.):

18. LANDSCAPING (visible from public road)

- Planted Grounds
- Stone Wall(s)
- Garden
- Pickett Fence
- Terracing
- Iron Fence
- Plaza
- Post & Rail
- Court
- Other:

19. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

- a. Town Street
- Rural
- Semi-rural
- Clustered Growth
- Development
- b. Commercial
- Industrial
- Agricultural
- Residential
- Vacation, now or originally
- c. Open
- Wooded
- Lakefront
- Coastal
- Salt marsh
- d. Of outstanding scenic/architectural value
- Of scenic/architectural value
- Of supportive value to contiguous scenic/architectural area
- Neutral
- Other:

20. ROLE OF BUILDING IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

- Vital
- Important
- Supportive
- Neutral
- Other:

21. OWNERSHIP

- Public
- Private
- Interior accessible

INDEX NO. 45

22. Name D. PENAR

Date 7/23/81

Photographer D. PENAR

Date 7/23/81

Negative ROLL 18:16A

Organization: Guilford Preservation Alliance
P.O. Box 199, Guilford, Conn. 06437

GLFD'S NEG. 18:17

23. THREATS TO BUILDING

- None Known
- Renewal
- Highways
- Private Owner
- Vandalism
- Deterioration
- Developers
- Other:
- Zoning

24. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATIONS

DESCRIPTION

COMPILED BY

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY