

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

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY:
Buildings & Structures

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No. 71
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. ADDRESS 96 Broad Street
(map 39, lot 37)
2. NAME
(historic) William Redfield
NAME
(common)
3. USE
(historic) Private house
USE
(present) Offices
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE 1751
- BUILDER
STYLE Colonial and later
7. ALTERATIONS The house was moved back from the sidewalk and enlarged in 1870s and alterations that can now be seen on the exterior probably were made at that time: the fancy edging of balls along the roof, projecting window heads, and elaborate entry porch. Much of the remaining interior trim appears to be Federal. Remodeled as a furniture showroom, 1970s.
8. NOTABLE FEATURES
Combining the aspirations to style of owners from the Colonial, Federal, Victorian, and modern periods, this house is interesting as a document of history.

SIGNIFICANCE

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL
According to David Dudley, if the central-hall, two-chimney plan is original, this is Guilford's earliest example. The owner who later moved the house back from the sidewalk and presumably made the exterior more stylish was Nelson Hotchkiss, a well-known name in New Haven architecture. As builder, contractor, and later, manufacturer of sash and trim, he had worked for the Hillhouses, Henry Austin, and many others. His own houses can still be seen near Wooster Square. Hotchkiss's first partner in the building business had been Ira Atwater, builder of Guilford's Congregational Church (see 110 Broad Street), and it is possible that young Hotchkiss worked on that building with him. Thirty years later he remodeled the interior. He appears to have retired to Guilford and to have (con't. on next sheet)

SOURCES

10. SOURCES
Tercentenary Committee; Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Elizabeth Mills Brown, New Haven, A Guide; Mary Hoadley Griswold p. 21-26; Connecticut Historical Commission '67 and '72; David D. Dudley. Photographs: Dana; Guilford Keeping Society, Pictorial Guilford.

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

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone | <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum/Vinyl | |

12. STRUCTURE

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Frame: | <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron or Steel | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post & Beam | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Balloon | | | | |

13. ROOF

- | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pitched | <input type="checkbox"/> Gable-front | <input type="checkbox"/> Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saltbox | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-gable | <input type="checkbox"/> Flat Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> False Dormer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel | <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard | <input type="checkbox"/> Flat | <input type="checkbox"/> Sawtooth | |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> Tower(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor | <input type="checkbox"/> Cupola | <input type="checkbox"/> Dormered Gable | <input type="checkbox"/> Dome |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Slate | <input type="checkbox"/> Metal | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

14. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: LOT SIZE: 1/4 ACRE (APPROX)

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor | <input type="checkbox"/> Bad |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|

16. CONDITION: Structure

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor | <input type="checkbox"/> Bad |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|

17. OUTBUILDINGS (visible from public road)

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barn(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage House | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garage | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop(s) |
| Other (well, stand, greenhouse, gazebo, privy, etc.): <u>PARKING LOT IN REAR</u> | | | | |

18. LANDSCAPING (visible from public road)

- | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planted Grounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Terracing | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza | <input type="checkbox"/> Court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stone Wall(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pickett Fence | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Fence | <input type="checkbox"/> Post & Rail | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

19. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

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

20. ROLE OF BUILDING IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vital | <input type="checkbox"/> Important | <input type="checkbox"/> Supportive | <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|

21. OWNERSHIP

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private | <input type="checkbox"/> Interior accessible |
|---------------------------------|---|--|

INDEX NO. 71

22. Name D. PENAR

Date 7/22/81

Photographer D. PENAR

Date 7/22/81

Negative ROLL 16:7A

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

GLFD'S NEG 16:8

23. THREATS TO BUILDING

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None Known | <input type="checkbox"/> Highways | <input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Developers | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Owner | <input type="checkbox"/> Deterioration | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

24. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATIONS

DESCRIPTION

COMPILED BY

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#9 Architectural-Historical cont.

interested himself in the improvement of the town and the neighborhood, for in 1874 he offered to give a piece of land around the corner on Church Street for a town hall. A warm vote of thanks was given to him, and nothing further was done about it.

When Hotchkiss acquired the house, a store next door came with it. The store, located on the corner, housed a series of businesses until the 1880s when it became the home of Griswold's dry goods store (earlier, at another location, the People's Cash Store), owned by Edward Griswold, son of Nelson Hotchkiss Griswold who had inherited the property from his great-uncle Nelson. From that time on, store and house have been owned by the Griswold family, and Griswold's store remained one of the town's most respected institutions until it closed in 1981. In 1974 the house ceased to serve as the family residence and was converted to a furniture showroom attached to the store. (Information furnished by Robert Griswold Shepard, owner.)

Add to Sources: Elizabeth Mills Brown MS notes.