

## HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Please send completed form to: Stacey Vairo, National Register and State Register Coordinator,  
State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development, One Constitution Plaza,  
2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

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

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) 39 Church Street  
 Building Name (Historic) George W. Seward House  
 Street Address or Location 39 Church Street  
 Town/City Guilford Village \_\_\_\_\_ County New Haven  
 Owner(s) David Walls and Erika Heinen  Public  Private

### PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residential: single dwelling  
 Historic Use: Business: carpentry shop, Residential: single dwelling

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

Interior accessible?  Yes  No If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_

Style of building Vernacular Date of Construction c. 1885 (Helander)

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

Clapboard  Asbestos Siding  Brick  Wood Shingle  Asphalt Siding  
 Fieldstone  Board & Batten  Stucco  Cobblestone  Aluminum Siding  
 Concrete (Type \_\_\_\_\_)  Cut Stone (Type \_\_\_\_\_)  Other vinyl siding

#### 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 Approximate Dimensions 40' x 25'

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: Additions added on the north and south elevations.

**FOR OFFICE USE:** Town # \_\_\_\_\_ Site # \_\_\_\_\_ UTM \_\_\_\_\_

District:  S  NR  If NR, Specify:  Actual  Potential

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**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:

This property sits on 0.24 acres of land on the east side of Church Street. A driveway extending to the east off Church Street terminates in a parking area to the south of the house. In the rear of the property (to the east of the house) is a garage. Surrounding the property are nineteenth and early twentieth century dwellings as well as commercial buildings. Directly across the street is the Guilford Community Center. Less than a mile to the south is the Green.

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

This is a vernacular style two story rectangular dwelling with an attic and a front-gable roof with slightly overhanging eaves. The house is sheathed in vinyl siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The two-bay façade faces west, and the main entry is on the right hand corner (south corner). It is reached by concrete stairs with an iron railing, and is protected from the elements by an enclosed porch with a gable-roof. (See continuation sheet)

Architect \_\_\_\_\_ Builder George W. Seward (Helander)

- Historical or Architectural importance:

This dwelling was built by George W. Seward c. 1885. It was originally built as a carpentry shop and then converted into a dwelling c. 1923. George Washington Seward (1855-1928) and his father George M. Seward (1819-1898) worked as a team building houses in Guilford during the 19th and 20th centuries. By January of 1880, George Seward & Son had built numerous houses in town. George W. Seward continued the carpentry business at the family home on Fair street until he relocated to 33 Church Street in 1889. Some buildings accredited to the Swards are: the Italian Villa at 47 Fair Street, Guilford Town Hall (1893), Leete's Island District School (1895), and Boston Street School (1906). Today there are 13 surviving structures that were built by the Swards. A later owner of this property was C. G. VanTuyle.

- Sources:

Guilford Tax Assessor property cards accessed at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=6770> on October 3, 2015. Helander, Joel; "A Treasury of Guilford Places"; Guilford, Connecticut; 2008. Ancestry.com. U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012.

Photographer Kristen Nietering Date 1/17/2015

View West view, camera facing east Negative on File \_\_\_\_\_

Name Kristen Nietering Date 10/3/2015

Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance

Address 199 PO Box Guilford, CT 06437

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude & Longitude: 41.285644, -72.682714

**Threats to the building or site:**

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

39 Church Street

**Other notable features of building or site**

The fenestration consists of six-over-one double-hung sash windows with shutters. Along the south elevation is an addition, and another addition is on the north elevation. A stone chimney runs up the north elevation.

