

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. 112	
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 32 County Road
(map 104, lot 48)
2. NAME
(historic) Ambrose Dudley
NAME
(common)
3. USE
(historic)
USE
(present) Private house
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE 1781 BUILDER
STYLE Colonial
7. ALTERATIONS
Windows on first floor of the front facade lengthened; porch (19th century) with square posts (decorative mouldings at base and capital areas).
8. NOTABLE FEATURES
Boxed cornice with returns; moulding and frieze below the eave line; overhang of the third story; 8/12 sash on the second floor; 6/6 sash in the gable; large stone chimney; stone block foundation.
9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL The basic form of this colonial house is found often both in Guilford Village and in the outlying areas of the town. However, nowhere else is there seen this type of 19th century porch and these windows applied to an earlier facade. The porch was carefully done with detailed columns. It is possible that similar porches existed at one time on other houses, but were removed in 20th century restorations.

SIGNIFICANCE

This house has been in the Dudley family for over two hundred years. It's original owner, Ambrose (1757-1826) was a farmer. He married Elizabeth Russell in 1783. Their son, Samuel William (1800-69), also a farmer was a Deacon, Justice of the Peace in North Guilford, Representative to the General Assembly and a State Senator. He married Lucy Ann Chittenden in 1833. Their son, William Russel (1849-1911), a (cont'd)

SOURCES

10. SOURCES
Tercentenary Committee; Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Connecticut Historical Commission '72; Colonial Dames. Dean Dudley, History of the Dudley Family.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input 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: 50 ACRES

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Garage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop(s) |
| Other (well, stand, greenhouse, gazebo, privy, etc.): | | | | |

6 or 900's

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Town Street | b. <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | c. <input type="checkbox"/> Open |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wooded |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-rural | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Lakefront |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clustered Growth | <input 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: | | |

Surroundings can not fall into any of above

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

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22. Name

P.O. & DP

Date 7/3/81

Photographer

DP

Date 7/3/81

Negative ROLL 4: 3A

Organization:

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

GLFD" NEG 4:5A

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'd

graduate of Cornell, was a distinguished professor of botany at Cornell and Stanford Universities.

Another son, George (1842-1931), a bachelor, lived here. He sold the property to his brother, James Ambrose (1840-97) who married Emelyn M. Griswold in 1870. The property passed to their son, Henry (1878-1968) who settled in Duluth, Minnesota, following his graduation from Harvard. His son, James (1921 -), a resident of New York, inherited the house which he in turn has passed to his children.

According to James C. Dudley, who inherited the property in 1968, the tract on which this house is located was purchased in 1640 by William Dudley from the Indian Sachem Squaw Shaumpishuh. William Dudley (born in 1614 in Sheen, England) was one of Henry Whitfield's students. Ten generations of his descendants have maintained this farm. (For further information on this family, see file).

Source: James C. Dudley, owner, in a letter dated 4th January, 1983.

Ambrose served in the Revolution. When my great-uncle George lived in the house he showed me Ambrose's uniform which hung in the attic, but subsequently a housekeeper made it into a rag rug to everyone's disgust. Uncle George remembered as a boy helping Ambrose with the plowing, using a wooden plow. The house was built to be a double house to house also his brother, Charles, but Charles moved to Litchfield before it was finished. Ambrose himself performed the carving in the mantels and cupboards.

Ambrose's son, Samuel, was born in 1800. He married Lucy Chittenden who was a cousin of Senator Simeon Baldwin Chittenden of Guilford and Brooklyn, NY. Samuel inherited the farm from his father and became a representative in the legislature and later was for many years a state senator. My father could recall his "holding court" in the summertime from the front verandah. During Samuel's time, around 1839, there was quite an exodus of people from North Guilford to Mendon, Illinois, including the Cookes and the Leggatts, close friends and neighbors.

In 1861 the two eldest sons of Samuel, Charles and Henry, went to war. Both joined a Connecticut regiment fighting as lieutenants at Antietam and Fredricksburg. Henry died of wounds and Charles was imprisoned at Andersonville. The remaining sons, James Ambrose, George and Will, were too young and remained home to help run the farm.

James Ambrose was my grandfather. He lived in Guilford where he held various local offices and became a state legislator. His younger brother, George, lived on the farm and never married. James and George worked the farm together. The remaining brother, Will, became a professor of botany, first at Cornell and later at Stanford. James Ambrose married Emmaline Griswold from Clinton in 1870. When he met an accidental death in 1897, my father, Harry Chittenden, was sent to live for a while with Uncle Will in California. Uncle George, having no wife, remained on the farm. He became a deacon in the Congregational church which is why the house is sometimes referred to as the Deacon Dudley place.

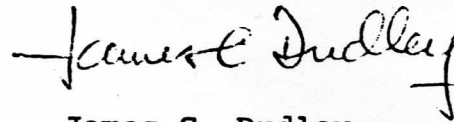
During the late 1920's my father purchased the farm from Uncle George who had no heirs. (Neither did Will or Charles.) Since Uncle George's death in the 1930's the farm has been leased to several families who have lived on it and farmed a little. At my father's death in 1968

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Ms. Meehan
January 4, 1983

the farm became mine and, in order better to provide for it remaining within the family in the future, I conveyed it several years ago to a corporation owned solely by my four children who are the tenth in line to own it.

Perhaps this additional information will be welcome and enable the survey to complete its records correctly.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James C. Dudley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

James C. Dudley

JCD/pf