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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

		Site No.: 124		
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QUAD:				

161 Dunk Rock Road 1. ADDRESS (map 45, lot 1)

2. NAME (historic) NAME

Hotchkiss and Griswold

(common)

3. USE (historic) USE (present)

Private house

4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



5. ARCHITECT

6. DATE

1861

BUILDER STYLE

Colonial

7. ALTERATIONS

Two side additions; side fenestration altered.

8. NOTABLE FEATURES

Overhanging eaves with a moulding below; 12/12 sash; plain window and door frames; moulding over the door frame; brick and stone foundation.

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL

This story-and-a-half Colonial house has been difficult to trace. Guilford land records list a dwelling belonging to Mark Hotchkiss on the land in 1776. The pitch of the roof and the fenestration suggest a house of that age. Land records, however, indicate a slight change in the relationship between house and road. The house is one of two early Hotchkiss houses (the other at 106 Dunk Rock Road) which have occasionally been confused. The 1852 Map lists this property with the name George Hotchkiss.

SIGNIFICANCE

DESCRIPTION

10. SOURCES Dorothy Whitfield Society; Dana Collection; Guilford Land Records; 1852 map.

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

Date: Probably 1776

A search of Guilford's probate records disclosed that George Hotchkiss died intestate, survived by a son and a daughter. Sometime between 1855 and 1860, the administrators divided the property precisely in half, i.e. land and house, allowing the heirs to share the house stairway. The daughter married, mortgaged her half of the property in her married name and then inherited her brother's half on his death. She remarried and mortgaged what had been her brother's half in the surname of her second husband. In the late 1860's the lender foreclosed on the two halves of this property and title was again unified.

Source: Preston H. Abbott, owner, letter dated 11th December, 1982.