

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) Bluff Head Cemetery
Building Name (Historic) Bluff Head Cemetery
Street Address or Location Across from 4469 Durham Road
Town/City Guilford Village _____ County New Haven
Owner(s) Bluff Head Cemetery ☒ Public ☐ Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Cemetery
Historic Use: Cemetery
Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? ☐ Yes ☒ No
Interior accessible? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, explain Public cemetery
Style of building Cemetery Date of Construction c. 1830 (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 _____

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: _____ Approximate Dimensions _____

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: _____

FOR OFFICE USE: Town # _____ Site # _____ UTM _____

District: ☐ S ☐ NR ☐ If NR, Specify: ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

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 cemetery consists of 0.78 acres on the west side of Durham Road. It sits on a slight hill, surrounded by forested land. To the north is the parking lot for the Bluff Head hiking trails, and two trails. Bluff Head is to the west. To the south is the intersection of Durham Road and Great Hill Road. To the north is the Myer Huber Pond. A dirt road/path leads to the entrance to this cemetery, which is a break in the trees to the north. (See continuation sheet)

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

The headstones in the cemetery are mostly laid out in rows. This cemetery appears to be still active and includes some newer stones. The oldest headstones are of sandstone. In the nineteenth century, stones were made of marble and more recent stones are made of granite. Most of the stones are low and modest yet there are still some monument type grave markers including obelisks. There were no discernible motifs visible on the older stones. (See continuation sheet)

Architect Unknown Builder Unknown

- Historical or Architectural importance:

The earliest stones of this cemetery date back to 1832. A bequest of \$1000 from the will of Nathan A. Chedsey (also spelled Chidsey) in 1895 was for the maintenance of the cemetery. The money was to be held in a trust by the First Church of Christ in Durham. As noted by the Dudley Foundation in "Voices from North Guilford" the money was for, "Keeping the monument erected to my grandfather, Nathan Chedsey, at Bluff Head in North Guilford in the State of Connecticut, also, to keep the fence around the cemetery in good order and repair, which is given to the people of Bluff Head by my father Joseph Chidsey for burial purposes" (Dudley Foundation 2012, 23). (See continuation sheet)

- Sources:

Guilford Tax Assessor property records accessed at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=8606> on November 25, 2015. The Dudley Foundation, 2012, "Voices from North Guilford: Stories of North Guilford, Connecticut," The Dudley Foundation: 2012. Helander, Joel, Email Correspondence, November 27, 2015.

Photographer Kristen Nietering Date 10/11/2015
View See continuation sheet Negative on File _____
Name Kristen Nietering Date 11/25/2015
Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance
Address 199 PO Box Guilford, CT 06437

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude & Longitude: 41.406755, -72.697015

Threats to the building or site:

- ☒ None known ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☐ Developers ☐ Renewal ☐ Private
☐ Deterioration ☐ Zoning ☐ Other _____ ☐ Explanation _____

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Durham Road/Bluff Head Cemetery

Interrelationship of building and surroundings

It appears there was once a wooden fence around the perimeter of this cemetery, however, it is no longer extant. Surrounding the property are twentieth and twenty-first century single-family dwellings.

Other notable features of building or site

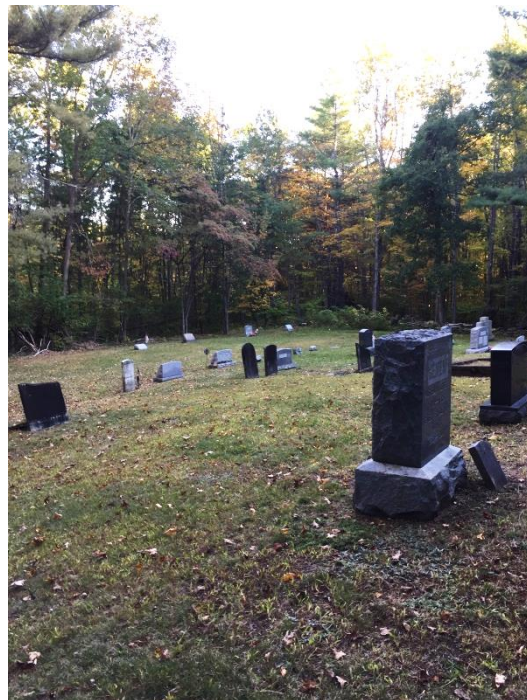
Many of the old stones have fallen to the ground. Many of them are face down on the ground or in pieces. Some of the family names seen in the cemetery are Seifert, Kintz, and Noack.

Historical or Architectural importance

In 1981, a title of the cemetery land was given to the Bluff Head Cemetery Association after an agreement was reached by Angelo Rusconi, the Rusconi family, and Bluff Head Cemetery. The Shoreline Snowmobile Club took over maintenance of the cemetery.



Looking southeast



Looking south

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET



Noack family plot

Durham Road/Bluff Head Cemetery



Close-up of an obelisk



Close-up of fallen headstone



Close-up of fallen headstones in pieces