

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY											
Town No.:						Site No.: 153					
UTM	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
QUAD:											
DISTRICT						IF NR SPECIFY					
<input type="checkbox"/>	S	<input type="checkbox"/>	NR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Actual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY:**  
 Buildings & Structures

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

IDENTIFICATION

1. **ADDRESS** 16 Fair Street  
(map 39, lot 18)
2. **NAME**  
*(historic)* Christopher Spencer  
**NAME**  
*(common)*
3. **USE**  
*(historic)*  
**USE**  
*(present)* Private house and  
 Dentist's office
4. **IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:**



DESCRIPTION

5. **ARCHITECT**
6. **DATE** 1893
7. **ALTERATIONS**  
 Enclosed porch on rear.

**BUILDER**  
**STYLE** Italiante

SIGNIFICANCE

8. **NOTABLE FEATURES**  
 A variety of trim, clapboard widths, and moulding decorate the surface of the house; frieze windows; elongated modillions; cupola with a finial; two-story bay windows on the side; pediment projecting above the roofline on the facade with a fanlight; plain square post front porch.
9. **ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL**

This large Italianate house was built by Christopher Spencer. The house size and fashionable style are what one might expect to have been built for a prosperous industrialist in the late nineteenth century. In the nineteenth century much of the trim would likely have been painted a contrasting color, giving the house rather a different look. The house stands just south of the Spencer Foundry.

In 1851-52, Israel Stowe Spencer and his son, Christopher, bought the Nasup Foundry and machine shop which became the I.S. Spencer and Son's firm. Christopher Spencer was also President of the Guilford Enterprise Company, manufacturer of vegetable ivory goods, and other articles of wood, ivory, metal, composition or rubber, 1877-84.

SOURCES

10. **SOURCES**  
 Connecticut Historical Commission; Steiner p252-3. Shore Line Sentinel, 22 March 1877; Tax Lists.

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.

DESCRIPTION

11. MATERIALS

- Clapboard
- Wood Shingle
- Board & Batten
- Brick
- Fieldstone
- Cut Stone
- Stucco
- Concrete
- Cobblestone
- Asbestos Shingle
- Asphalt Siding
- Aluminum/Vinyl
- Other:

12. STRUCTURE

- Wood Frame:
- Post & Beam
- Balloon
- Masonry
- Iron or Steel
- Concrete
- Other:

13. ROOF

- a.  Pitched
- Saltbox
- Gambrel
- Gable-front *at attic*
- Cross-gable
- Mansard
- Hip
- Flat Hip
- Flat
- Shed
- False Dormer
- Sawtooth
- Other:
- b.  Tower(s)
- Monitor
- Cupola
- Dormered Gable
- Dome
- c.  Wood Shingle
- Asphalt Shingle
- Slate
- Metal
- Other:

14. NUMBER OF STORIES:

2 1/2

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

LOT SIZE: c 1/4 acre

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Bad

16. CONDITION: Structure

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Bad

17. OUTBUILDINGS (visible from public road)

- Barn(s)
- Carriage House
- Garage
- Shed(s)
- Shop(s)
- Other (well, stand, greenhouse, gazebo, privy, etc.):

18. LANDSCAPING (visible from public road)

- Planted Grounds
- Garden
- Terracing
- Plaza
- Court
- Stone Wall(s)
- Pickett Fence
- Iron Fence
- Post & Rail
- Other: Vertical Board

19. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

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

20. ROLE OF BUILDING IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

- Vital
- Important
- Supportive
- Neutral
- Other:

21. OWNERSHIP

- Public
- Private
- Interior accessible

INDEX NO: 153

COMPILED BY

22. Name *P. Odiseos* Date *7/7/81*

Photographer *P. Odiseos* Date *7/7/81* Negative *R.1:4A*

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

*GIPO's Neg. R. 1:4*

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23. THREATS TO BUILDING

- None Known
- Renewal
- Highways
- Private Owner
- Vandalism
- Deterioration
- Developers
- Other:
- Zoning

24. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATIONS