

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. 174				
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 98 Fair Street  
(map 46, lot 39)
2. NAME Edwin A. Leete  
(historic)  
NAME  
(common)
3. USE Private house and  
(historic)  
USE Funeral parlor  
(present) Private house and shops
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE 1869-1870
- BUILDER  
STYLE Second Empire
7. ALTERATIONS  
Asphalt shingles on roof; addition to rear; wrought iron railing on front steps.

8. NOTABLE FEATURES

Arched windows on south side of house; triangular pediment on dormer windows; 6/6 sash; wide overhanging eaves; square columns with recessed panels on entryway.

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL

This house is a very simple Second Empire structure and it almost appears as if the mansard roof was added to an existing Italian Villa. However, the records seem to indicate that the roof is original, and it does appear on the 1881 birdseye view maps of Guilford.

Edwin A. Leete, owner of this house, was a cabinet maker and furniture dealer by trade. In the 1870s he added undertaking to his enterprises, using his adjacent property at 1090 Boston Post Road for the manufacture of coffins and a parlor in this house for funerals. Edwin A. Leete also built the octagon house at Fair Street. He died in 1911. The Leete's funeral business continued for almost a century, until the late 1960s following the death of Earle Bishop Leete. His widow still (1982) lives next door at 96 Fair Street, also a part of this Leete corner.

10. SOURCES

Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Connecticut Historical Commission '72; Mary Hoadley Griswold, p. 40; New Haven Palladium, 1880; Watrous Scrapbook; 1881 Birdseye View of Guilford. Photograph: Guilford Keeping Society.

SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 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: 158' x 92' x 135' x 89'

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

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 type="checkbox"/> Stone Wall(s)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickett Fence | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Fence | <input type="checkbox"/> Post & Rail | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

19. **SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT**

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

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

INDEX NO. 174

22. **Name** P. Odiseos

Date 7/23/81

R.I.

**Photographer** P. Odiseos

Date 7/23/81

Negative 28

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

Glfd's Neg. R.I.: 27

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY



The owner of **this** house and those at 1090 and 1110 Boston Post Road was given the Alliance's 1983 Award in recognition of the quality of restoration and adaptation of these buildings.