

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) North Guilford Cemetery
Building Name (Historic) North Guilford Cemetery
Street Address or Location Across the parking lot from 145 Ledge Hill Road
Town/City Guilford Village _____ County New Haven
Owner(s) North Guilford 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. 1716

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: Stone wall replaced wooden fence in 1925

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 3.5 acres of land at the corner of Long Hill Road and Ledge Hill Road. It is bound on the west by Long Hill Road and on the east by Ledge Hill Road. Just to the north is the intersection of Long Hill Road, Ledge Hill Road, and Great Hill Road. Directly to the east (across the parking lot) are the North Guilford Congregational Church and St. John's Episcopal Church. Melissa Jone's Elementary School is to the northeast. (See continuation sheet)

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

The headstones in the cemetery are laid out in rows. There are two sections to the cemetery. The southeast is what is referred to as the "Old Yard." The north and southwest sections are still active and include newer headstones. The oldest headstones are of sandstone that came from Branch Brook. In the nineteenth century, stones were made of marble and more recent stones are made of granite. (See continuation sheet)

Architect Unknown Builder Unknown

- Historical or Architectural importance:

The North Guilford Cemetery dates back to 1712-1720, and the earliest stone dates to January 26, 1730. This burial ground is still active in the north and southwest sections. Since the burial ground on the Guilford Green was dispersed in 1818, this is now the oldest burial ground in Guilford. The stone wall that lines the perimeter of the cemetery was built in 1925 and replaced the original wooden fence. The fence held in the sheep who kept the grass down. Originally this cemetery was intended to serve those who were members of the original North Society Church (now the North Guilford Congregational Church), and St. John's Episcopal Church. (See continuation sheet)

- Sources:

Guilford Tax Assessor property records accessed at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=8765> on November 25, 2015. The Dudley Foundation, 2012, "Voices from North Guilford: Stories of North Guilford, Connecticut," The Dudley Foundation: 2012.

Photographer Kristen Nietering Date 8/16/2015
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: 41.367986, -72.728055

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

North Guilford Cemetery/Ledge Hill Rd

Interrelationship of building and surroundings

The landscape has a row of deciduous trees along the east side of the cemetery. Deciduous trees are also along the south of the cemetery, and a couple coniferous trees are on the site. A stone wall runs along the whole perimeter of the cemetery. The entrances to the cemetery are along the east perimeter in the stone wall. The cemetery is on a slight hill that declines from east to west.

Other notable features of building or site

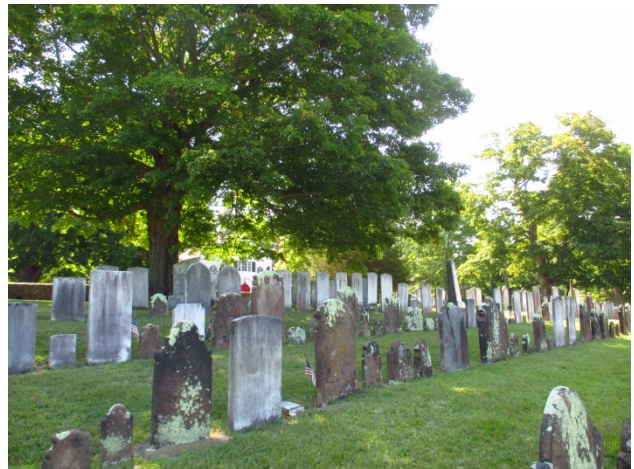
Most of the stones are low and modest yet there are still several larger monument type grave markers including obelisks. The motifs found throughout the cemetery include winged death head's or skulls, winged cherubs' heads, willow trees, and urns. Some families that are included in the cemetery are Dudley, Chittenden, Bartlett, and Rossiter, names of some of the earliest settlers.

Historical or Architectural importance

According to the Dudley Foundation in *Voices from North Guilford*, "Little known is the fact that the names on the headstones do not necessarily correspond to the people buried beneath them. These old markers were in a pile in the cemetery, and in the early 1950s they were set in cement in rows in the Old Yard" (Dudley Foundation 2012, 22-23).



Looking southwest



Looking southeast

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CONTINUATION SHEET

North Guilford Cemetery/Ledge Hill Rd



Looking north



Looking northeast



Close-up of cherub head



Close-up of willow tree and urn