

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. 234
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 575 Leete's Island Road
(map 19, lot 11)
2. NAME
(historic) Pelatiah Leete I
NAME
(common)
3. USE
(historic)
USE
(present) Private house
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE c 1710 } See No. 9 below
c 1745 }
7. ALTERATIONS
Gambrel roof addition on right rear side.

BUILDER
 STYLE Colonial

SIGNIFICANCE

8. NOTABLE FEATURES
8/12 sash except in the gable (6/6) and over the front door (6/9) - all windows were copied from an original window found in the attic; applied lintels on side; crown moulding over front windows; doorway.
9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL Deacon Pelatiah Leete I, a successful farmer, was the first settler of Leete's Island, the land granted to Governor Leete in 1668.69. Leete built his first house on the south side of the road about 1705, according to Town records. (It was torn down in 1832-33). This, his second, house was built on the north side of the road c1710, according to its current owner who cites soap stone inscriptions regarding corn crop records on the attic roof boards as supporting evidence of this date. On the other hand, Guilford Tax Records disclose a 54 pound increase, between 1744 and 1746, in taxes imposed on Pelatiah Leete (I), suggesting his acquisition of this house during this period, i.e., about 1745. He died here in 1768. His grandson, Pelatiah (III) inherited the house in 1780. The Leetes owned the property until its sale in 1872. (cont'd. on next sheet)

SOURCES

10. SOURCES
Connecticut Historical Commission; The Decendants of William Leete; Guilford Land Records; Steiner; Dana p. 67 #95. Photograph: Guilford Keeping Society.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pitched | <input type="checkbox"/> Gable-front | <input type="checkbox"/> Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saltbox | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-gable | <input type="checkbox"/> Flat Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> False Dormer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel | <input 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 checked="" 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: 3/4 ACRE (APPROX)

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garage ATTACHED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop(s) |
| Other (well, stand, greenhouse, gazebo, privy, etc.): WELL BOX | | | | |

18. LANDSCAPING (visible from public road)

- | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planted Grounds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garden REAR | <input type="checkbox"/> Terracing | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza | <input type="checkbox"/> Court |
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Town Street | b. <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | c. <input type="checkbox"/> Open |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wooded |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi-rural | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Lakefront |
| <input 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 checked="" 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. 234

22. Name D. PENAR

Date 7/9/81

Photographer D. PENAR

Date 7/9/81

Negative 21:29A

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

GLFD NEG 21:29

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

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL cont'd.

Almost every detail of this house, exterior and interior, is significant because of careful preservation, documentation, and restoration. It is a fine example of the integral leanto house with a five-window facade. It has an 18th century pedimented doorway ornamented with a red rosette in the center of the pediment and in the capitals of the pilasters. Windows and clapboards are precise reproductions of materials found on the house. Thanks to careful restoration, this house gives an accurate sense of the original appearance of Guilford's 18th century houses. Its connection with the area's first settler as well as its architecture make this a singularly important house.

This house is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Regarding the date and item No. 9 (paragraphs 1 and 2 above):-

The information given in these paragraphs was based on research done in the Town Records by Joel E. Helander. See Leete's Island Legacy, pgs. 4, 10, 51.

Also regarding the date: There is a crop mark dated 1732 in the attic of this house. This appears to be the earliest visible recorded date connected with this house.

Source: Priscilla Waters Norton, owner, letter dated 13th February, 1983. (cf. No. 9, paragraph 2 of 1982 Survey).