

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) 1114 Little Meadow Road
 Building Name (Historic) Eber Lee House
 Street Address or Location 1114 Little Meadow Road
 Town/City Guilford Village _____ County New Haven
 Owner(s) James and Lavinia Davis Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residential: single dwelling
 Historic Use: Residential: single dwelling

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? Yes No

Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain _____

Style of building Georgian Date of Construction 1789 (Helander)

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco | <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> 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: 2 Approximate Dimensions 30' x 40'

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 property consists of 1.61 acres of land on the west side of Little Meadow Road. A driveway extends to the west off the road and terminates at a parking area in front of the garage. The garage is to the northwest of the house. This property is to the northwest of the intersection of Little Meadow Road and Winthrop Road. A mile to the northwest, off Route 77 (Durham Road) is Bittner Park. Surrounding the property are nineteenth and twentieth century houses.

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

This is a two-story dwelling with an attic and a side-gable roof. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The house is Georgian in style and sheathed in aluminum siding. The five-bay façade faces east and the main entry is centered on this side. It is accessed by a series of steps leading to a small porch. The entry features a sidelight to each side, both of which are divided by pilasters, and the entire entry is topped by a decorative broken pediment. (See continuation sheet)

Architect Unknown Builder Unknown

- Historical or Architectural importance:

This colonial house was built in 1789 for Eber Lee to coincide with his marriage to Huldah Bishop. In 1833, it was acquired by Almon O. Wilcox. The Wilcox family struggled financially and owned the property on and off until 1889 when it was purchased by Albert H. Phelps. It has had a series of owners since 1889 and has undergone a series of renovations to the interior. Later owners of the property were Almon O. Wilcox (1833), Walter W. Wilcox (1875), and Willard Watros (1890). The property has a tie to a murder – in 1878 Mary E. Stannard boarded here for the summer. Shortly after living here, she was murdered. Reverend Herbert Hayden was arrested and put on trial in New Haven. (See continuation sheet)

- Sources:

Guilford Tax Assessor property records accessed at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=1579> on June 15, 2015. Helander, Joel Eliot. "A Treasury of Guilford Places." Guilford, Connecticut: Joel Helander, 2008. Helander, Joel. "House Dating Dossier." June 27, 1998. (See continuation sheet)

Photographer Kristen Nietering Date 4/19/2015
View East view of the house, camera facing west. Negative on File _____
Name Kristen Nietering Date 6/15/2015
Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance
Address 199 PO Box Guilford, CT 06437

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude & Longitude: 41.327316, -72.696636

Threats to the building or site:

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

1114 Little Meadow Rd.

Other notable features of building or site

Fenestration consists of six-over-six double hung sash windows. A large brick chimney protrudes from the center of the ridgeline. The raised foundation is constructed of stone. A series of small additions extend off the north and west elevations of the main structure.

Historical or Architectural importance

It is believed that Hayden and Stannard had an affair and when Stannard refused to kill her unborn child – Hayden killed her. However, the jury found Hayden not guilty after a hung jury that lasted many days. In 1914, an interview with the last living juror revealed that the jury found Hayden not guilty due to his young, beautiful wife they all felt bad for. Today, though, Hayden is credited with the murder of Mary E. Stannard.

Sources

Foote, William J. "Mary Stannard She Was Murdered." The Hartford Courant. March 5, 1970. <http://search.proquest.com/docview/550415921?accountid=10341>. "Juror Perry of Famous Hayden Murder Trial Breaks Silence of 33 Years." The Hartford Courant. February 1, 1914. Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/556073107?accountid=10341>. "The Stannard Tragedy." The Hartford Courant. September 7, 1878. <http://search.proquest.com/docview/554027143?accountid=10341>.

