

# 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) 787 Nut Plains Road  
 Building Name (Historic) John Griswold House  
 Street Address or Location 787 Nut Plains Road  
 Town/City Guilford Village \_\_\_\_\_ County New Haven  
 Owner(s) Christopher Russo  Public  Private

## PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residence: Multi Family Dwelling  
 Historic Use: Residence: Single Family Dwelling

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

Interior accessible?  Yes  No If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_

Style of building Greek Revival Date of Construction 1849 (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 56' x 17'

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: Conversion to apartments, rear open porch added c.1900

**FOR OFFICE USE:** Town # \_\_\_\_\_ Site # \_\_\_\_\_ UTM \_\_\_\_\_

District:  S  NR  If NR, Specify:  Actual  Potential

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**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:**

Located on a 1.5 acre parcel, this southwest facing building is located on the north side of upper Nut Plains Road, just north of the intersection with Valley Shore Drive. The area is all residential, with scattered buildings visible and a lot of woodland across the street (south side of the road). A driveway extends past the southeast side of the house and ends at the rear of the property at a large shed and a two car garage.

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

Built in 1849 this two story Greek Revival House sits atop a concrete foundation and is sheathed in white vinyl siding with black shutters. The front gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles with one chimney centered on the south side of the ridgeline. A louvered vent is located near the roof peak. Two six over six hung sash windows are on the second floor level with two more of the same on the first floor. (See Continuation Sheet)

Architect Unknown Builder Unknown

**• Historical or Architectural importance:**

The first owner of this property was John Griswold in 1849. He acquired the lot from his father, Amos Griswold, as a vacant lot in October of 1848 when he was in his early 20s and built the house. Later, in 1867, the owner was Hobert Dudley, a farmer and Civil War soldier, and his wife Mary. They had five children: Wilford, Osbert, Nellie, Freddie, and Mary. Hobart died in 1894.

Settlers found the fertile valleys of the East River, called "Nut Plains," as soon as 1700 where they made permanent homes and farms. There was an influx of so many families that they needed their own school house by 1717. Farming continued on the land through many generations of families.

**• Sources:**

Ancestry.com United States Federal Census Records, 1850-Helander, Joel Eliot , "A Treasury of Guilford Places," Guilford, CT: Joel Helander, 2008; Property card obtained at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=6268> on October 24, 2015.

Photographer Jordan Sorensen Date 01/31/2015

View Southwest, camera facing northeast Negative on File \_\_\_\_\_

Name Jordan Sorensen Date 10/24/2015

Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance

Address PO Box 199 Guilford, CT 06437

**• Subsequent field evaluations:**

Latitude: 41.319750  
Longitude: -72.684179

**Threats to the building or site:**

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

787 Nut Plains Road

**Notable Features Continued**

Halfway back, a wing extends off the southeast side of the house. Inset in the ell in between the main section and the wing is a hipped roof enclosed porch with the front door entry. An open porch at the rear, southeast elevation has another entry and was added around 1900.

