

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) 179 Old Quarry Road
 Building Name (Historic) Junior Olsen House
 Street Address or Location 179 Old Quarry Road
 Town/City Guilford Village _____ County New Haven
 Owner(s) Fred Clarke III and Laura Weir Clarke Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residential: Dwelling
 Historic Use: Residential: Dwelling

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

Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain _____

Style of building Modern International Date of Construction c. 1951

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

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding |
| <input checked="" 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: 1 Approximate Dimensions 44' X 50'

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: Renovation in 2006

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 house is located on a private extension of Old Quarry Road, which meanders through a very wooded residential area, about a mile from Route 146. It sits on a 1.28 acre parcel on the waterfront of Long Island Sound. A half circle driveway gives access to the building on the west side. A wooden shed is also on the south end of the property.

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

Built in 1951, this south east facing Tony Smith designed Modern International style house has a concrete exterior and consists of two rectangular boxes. It stands on posts with a large brick support as its foundation. The flat roof is made of composite built up. A carport and deck are attached on the west side of the house, which has dark brown clapboard siding and a glass walkway to the main house. (See Continuation Sheet)

Architect Tony Smith Builder Unknown

- Historical or Architectural importance:

Frederich H. and Marjorie Olsen lived in this house since 1951 until it was sold to its present owners in 2004. It is located adjacent to the Fred Olsen Sr. complex (built in 1953), also designed by Tony Smith, at 72 Old Quarry Road. Olsen, presumably the Senior, was friends with many prominent artists and Tony Smith was recommended to him as an architect. It seems that this home was built first for Olsen Sr. and given to Olsen Jr. when his 1953 complex was finished. Tony Smith was an American architect, sculptor and painter associated with Minimalism and Abstract Expressionism and is known for making large geometric sculptures from the 1940s until the 1970s. (See Continuation Sheet)

- Sources:

Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com accessed on June 13, 2015; Property card obtained at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=5310> on June 13, 2015 (See Continuation Sheet)

Photographer Jordan Sorensen Date 5/30/2015
View Assorted-See photos Negative on File _____
Name Jordan Sorensen Date 06/13/2015
Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance
Address PO Box 199 Guilford, CT 06437

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude: 41.25692°
Longitude: -72.731879°

Threats to the building or site:

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

179 Old Quarry Road

Notable Features Continued

A staircase leads from the ground up into the house on the east side of the house. There are large windows covering a large portion of the house. Having been changed over the years, the house was taken apart and rebuilt in 2006 to the original Tony Smith plans, along with the an addition.

Historical Significance Continued

As a child, Smith had tuberculosis and recalled building small models with his medication boxes while on bed rest. After an unsuccessful time in an architectural design program in Chicago, Smith took a job with Frank Lloyd Wright, starting as a bricklayer and carpenter. Quickly rising to site supervisor, Smith decided to start his own architecture firm in New York City that he maintained until the 1960s. He designed more than twenty private residences, never having earned an official architect certification. He also taught for notable art and architecture schools during his career. In 1961, Smith moved on from architecture and focused on sculpting. His first exhibition in 1964 was held at the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, CT.

Sources Continued

Steinberg, Claudia, "HOUSE PROUD; Built Just as the Sculptor Dreamed It" New York Times, July 8, 2004 accessed at <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/07/08/garden/house-proud-built-just-as-the-sculptor-dreamed-it.html> on June 13, 2015; Yalzadeh, Ida, "Tony Smith," obtained at <http://www.britannica.com/biography/Tony-Smith> on June 13, 2015



North view (camera facing south)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

179 Old Quarry Road



West view (camera facing east)



West view (camera facing northeast)



Northeast view (Camera facing southwest)