

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.: 316				
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** 31 Park Street  
(map 40, lot 8)
2. **NAME** Guilford Town Hall  
(historic)  
**NAME**  
(common)
3. **USE** Town Hall  
(historic)  
**USE** Town Hall  
(present)
4. **IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:**



DESCRIPTION

5. **ARCHITECT** George W. Seward
6. **DATE** 1893-4 **BUILDER** Romanesque  
**STYLE** Alteration: Colonial Revival
7. **ALTERATIONS**  
Significant alterations; originally a Romanesque building. In 1947-48 the Town Hall was remodeled from a Romanesque building into a Colonial Revival building by C.F. Townsend, a New Haven architect. In 1973 the roof on the rear portion was raised to provide more office space.
8. **NOTABLE FEATURES**  
Doorway, gable pediment and granite lintles with keystones.

SIGNIFICANCE

9. **ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL**  
Built in 1893-94 as a Romanesque building, little remains but the basic shape. The fenestration was altered, larger granite capped windows replaced smaller, asymmetrically placed segmented arched windows on the second floor. The Colonial Revival entryway and flanking windows have replaced a large arched opening. Large windows on the first floor replaced large arched windows. The large gable pediment has replaced a smaller gable end and wooden tower. The hipped roof was originally irregularly shaped. The original string course below the second floor windows and corbeling at the cornice line is still visible.

The building committee for the Town Hall included George B. Spencer, (continued..)

SOURCES

10. **SOURCES**  
Photograph: Guilford Keeping Society; Guilford Library File #5 (before 1900)

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 type="checkbox"/> Clapboard      | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable-front | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input 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 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

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

LOT SIZE: approx. 1 1/2 acres

15. CONDITION: Exterior

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

18. LANDSCAPING (visible from public road)

- |   |  |                                     |                                      |                                 |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planted Grounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden        | <input type="checkbox"/> Terracing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza       | <input type="checkbox"/> Court  |
| <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town Street - on a quiet                      | b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial    | c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural   | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wooded             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-rural  | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural                | <input type="checkbox"/> Lakefront          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clustered Growth  | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation, now or originally | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public | <input type="checkbox"/> Private | <input type="checkbox"/> Interior accessible |
|--|----------------------------------|--|

INDEX NO. 316

22. Name P. Odiseos

Date 7/4/81

Photographer P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

Negative Roll 17:36a

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

01fd's Neg. Roll 17:35a

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



CONTINUATION SHEET  
GUILFORD SURVEY

ADDRESS 31 Park Street  
NAME(S) Town Hall

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9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL cont'd

Calvin M. Leete, Edwin W. Bartlett, George W. Seward, William E. Weld, James A. Dudley, John D. Chittenden, and Dudley Chittenden. The building was to cost no more than \$13,500. George W. Seward was the builder and John W. Oughton the mason. The upper floor was occupied by the St. Alban's Lodge from 1894 to 1934.