

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. <u>322</u>				
UTM									
QUAD:									
DISTRICT					IF NR SPECIFY				
<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. ADDRESS 2 Pearl Street  
(map 40, lot 45)
2. NAME  
(historic) John L. Seward  
NAME  
(common)
3. USE  
(historic) Private house  
USE  
(present) Apartments
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE 1876
- BUILDER John C. Norton  
STYLE Greek Revival/  
Italianate
7. ALTERATIONS  
North side addition; stairs to second floor living units;  
front steps and railing.
8. NOTABLE FEATURES  
Wide lintel boards over the 2/2 sash; segmental arch gable windows;  
arched stairway window; doorway with pilasters and entablature; brick  
foundation.

SIGNIFICANCE

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL In 1875, John L. Seward and George P. Rolf bought six acres of land, part of the original homelot of George Highland, one of the town's first settlers, from Charlotte S. Gregory. They bought the land extending from Boston to Union Streets, laid out Pearl Street, and sold lots along it. Seward had this house built for himself at the northwest corner of Pearl and Boston Streets; Rolf used the northeast corner.  
Seward's house has a doorway and windows typical of the town's Greek Revival style, but other features such as the cross-gable plan, the segmental-arch gable window, and the round arch of the stairwell window expressed the current Italianate style appropriate to an up-to-date developer.

SOURCES

10. SOURCES MS notes;  
Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Elizabeth Mills Brown, Guilford land records; Joel E. Helander, paper, "Elias O. Norton House" - 1978.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable-front     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hip      | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saltbox               | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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: approx. 1/4 acre +

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

18. **LANDSCAPING** (visible from public road)

- |  |  |                                     |                                      |                                 |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input 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                                   | b. <input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Of outstanding scenic/architectural value                |  |   |
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Vital | <input type="checkbox"/> Important | <input checked="" 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. 322

22. **Name**

P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

**Photographer**

P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

Negative Roll 13:9

**Organization:**

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

Glfd's - Neg. Roll 13:9

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