

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. 354
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 138 State Street
(map 46, lot 126)
2. NAME
(historic) Henry Kingsnorth (also called
NAME Comfort Starr house)
(common)
3. USE
(historic)
USE
(present) Private house
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE See below BUILDER
STYLE Colonial
7. ALTERATIONS
Door hood modern. An illustration in Kelly, Early Domestic Architecture, Pl. II, shows the house before the addition.
8. NOTABLE FEATURES Under the clapboards is a half-timber frame with clay, daub, and wattle in-fill. Inside the added leanto are old clapboards on the former outside wall. Third story overhang of pronounced projection. Small windows with 8/12 and 8/8 sash. The present owner (continued on next sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL

Although the date is not precisely known, this is one of Guilford's earliest, most interesting, and best preserved houses. Henry Kingsnorth, the first owner of the land, came to Guilford with the original company, and it has been assumed that he built a house straightaway, and that the house he built is this one. Accordingly dates between 1640 and 1646 have traditionally been assigned to it. However no documentation exists, and the first mention of a house in the early deeds is when the lot passes from Comfort Starr, who bought the property in 1697. Starrs lived in the house until the 1880s.

Photographs taken when the clapboards were removed during restoration in the early 1940s show the timber framing and wattle and daub in-fill.

10. SOURCES

SOURCES

Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Connecticut Historical Commission '72; Tercentenary Committee; Federal Writers' Guide; Kelly, Early Domestic Architecture; Mary Hoadley Griswold, pp. 29, 34. Steiner; David D. Dudley; Mrs. Bernard Kane, owner. Photographs: Chapman; Guilford Library; Guilford Keeping Society; Dana.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post & Beam | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Balloon | | | | |

13. ROOF

- | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pitched | <input type="checkbox"/> Gable-front | <input type="checkbox"/> Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 1/2

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

LOT SIZE: 1/4 ACRE (APPROX)

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" 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 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 | 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private | <input type="checkbox"/> Interior accessible |
|---------------------------------|---|--|

INDEX NO. 354

22. Name P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

Photographer P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

Negative Roll 11:2

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

Slid's Neg. Roll 11:28#

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

Addenda 1983

138 State Street

Sources: Paper and photographs, by Mark Bloomer, 1981
(Guilford Library).