

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. <b>369</b>				
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 521 State Street  
(map 80, lot 107)
2. NAME  
(historic) Russell Benton  
NAME  
(common)
3. USE  
(historic)  
USE  
(present) Private house
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE c1854
- BUILDER STYLE Greek Revival
7. ALTERATIONS  
The porch with its square columns and stylized capitals may possibly have been added later, but not very much later, for this type of work is familiar in New Haven by the 50s.
8. NOTABLE FEATURES

SIGNIFICANCE

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL

A wide porch and projecting cornices in high relief, casting strong shadow lines on the white walls, give this house pronounced character. The handsome fence (its square posts echoing the square columns of the porch) further strengthens the clarity of the architectural composition in its surrounding landscape. Well maintained, this is pleasing and a fine example of Guilford's rural architecture of the mid-19th century.

Russell Benton (1801-1869) son of Ambrose Benton. Russell bought and sold a number of pieces of land in this area.

SOURCES

10. SOURCES  
 Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Joel E. Helander paper - 1973.  
 Photograph: Hubbard. Guilford Land Records

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 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: 1.21 acres

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn (✓)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage House | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed (✓) | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stone Wall(s)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pickett Fence | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Fence | <input type="checkbox"/> Post & Rail | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

19. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| a. <input 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 checked="" 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 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. 369

22. Name

P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

Photographer

P. Odiseos

Date 7/21/81

Negative Roll 13:8

Organization:

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

Glfd's Neg. Roll 13:8

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



Addenda 1983

521 State Street

Notable Features:    Cornices, porch, fence, surrounding grounds.