

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.: 380
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	
<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> NR
IF NR SPECIFY	
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual	<input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. ADDRESS 37 Union Street
(map 40, lot 89)
2. NAME
(historic) Joseph Clay
NAME
(common) The Acadian House
3. USE
(historic)
USE
(present) Private house
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT 1670
6. DATE 1670
- BUILDER
STYLE Colonial
7. ALTERATIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

8. NOTABLE FEATURES Five window facade; asymmetrical door placement; overhanging eaves; T-shape chimney; 8/12 sash; protruding window frames; stone foundation and a wide board covering the sill.

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL The Joseph Clay or Acadian house is so important as evidence of 17th century building techniques that architectural histories regularly refer to it. The five windows of its facade are irregularly spaced. The addition of the lean-to to this two room deep house is marked by a change in roof slope. A T-shaped chimney crowns the house. It is an outstanding example of Guilford's early architecture.

Joseph Clay and his bride came to Guilford from Saybrook in 1670. Their daughter, Sarah, wife of John Chittenden, inherited the house which remained in this family for 144 years. Following the destruction of Grand Pré, the British put ashore 16 Acadian refugees (from Nova Scotia) in the fall of 1755. They were given shelter in this house until "put out to service."

This house is on the National Register.

SOURCES

10. SOURCES Trecentenary Commission; Dorothy Whitfield Society '76; Connecticut Historical Commission '72; Colonial Dames; Kelly; Trowbridge; Federal Writers' Guide; Garvan; Griswold p. 33; Dana Collection. Photograph: Guilford Library and Guilford Keeping Society

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 type="checkbox"/> Gable-front | <input type="checkbox"/> Hip | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>LEAN TO</i> |
| <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 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 1/4 AC. (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 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. 380

22. **Name** *D. PENAR*

Date *7/21/81*

Photographer *D. PENAR*

Date *7/21/81*

Negative *ROLL 14:14A*

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

GLFD'S NEG 14:14

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

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