

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.: 400
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** 129 Water Street
(map 32, lot 17)
2. **NAME** Leete's Island Trolley Barn
(historic)
NAME
(common)
3. **USE** Shore Line Electric Railway
(historic) Car Barn
USE
(present) Manufacturing - Leeds Con-
veyor Co.
4. **IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:**



DESCRIPTION

5. **ARCHITECT**
6. **DATE** c1910
- BUILDER** Sperry Construction Co.
STYLE Commercial
7. **ALTERATIONS**
Side addition.
8. **NOTABLE FEATURES**
Stepped parapet.

SIGNIFICANCE

9. **ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL** The Shore Line Electric Railway car barn on Water Street had two tracks with inspection pits at the West side of the building. At the North end inside, was a rotary converter for changing alternating to direct current. The small gable on the East side shows where the feed and loan cables came out of the building. There was an office, locker room, tool room etc.
- The tracks led to the Green and to Stony Creek serving the Stony Creek - Chester Line. All operations were suspended in 1922. Service was resumed in 1924 by the Blakeslee interests as the new owners of the New Haven and Shore Line Railway. Trolley service ended in 1930. The barn was used for bus storage and maintenance until about 1960 when bus service ceased.

Trolleys rolled into this two-track barn through the doors in this smooth facade, surmounted by a stepped parapet. Set more than a trolley length back from the street, this low, rectangular block, now a factory producing conveyors, is a discreet neighbor in a residential neighborhood.

SOURCES

10. **Sources** Transportation, Vol. 13, part 1 - Oct. 1969; Shore Line Times 24 Jan 1974; Nathaniel B. Greene interview '82.

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 type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Pitched | <input 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 checked="" 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: 1-2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: LOT SIZE: 1/2 AC. (APPROX.)

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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Open |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Supportive | <input checked="" 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. 400

22. Name D. PENAR

Date WINTER 1982

Photographer D. PENAR

Date WINTER 1982 Negative 23:11A

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

GLFD: NEG. 23:1A

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY COMPILED BY

Addenda 1983

129 Water Street

Date: 1910

Source: Shore Line Times, 24th February, 1910.