

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Please send completed form to: Stacey Vairo, National Register and State Register Coordinator,
State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development, One Constitution Plaza,
2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

* Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) 149 White Birch Drive
 Building Name (Historic) 149 White Birch Drive
 Street Address or Location 149 White Birch Drive
 Town/City Guilford Village _____ County New Haven
 Owner(s) Beryl C. Gillette Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Residence: Single Family Dwelling
 Historic Use: Residence: Single Family Dwelling

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? Yes No

Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain _____

Style of building Vernacular Cottage Date of Construction c. 1929

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco | <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

Structural System

- Wood Frame Post & Beam Balloon Load bearing masonry Structural iron or steel
 Other _____

Roof (Type)

- Gable Flat Mansard Monitor Sawtooth
 Gambrel Shed Hip Round Other _____

(Material)

- Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Slate Asphalt Shingle
 Built up Tile Other Architectural Shingles

Number of Stories: 1.5 Approximate Dimensions 36' x 26'

Structural Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

Exterior Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

Location Integrity: On original site Moved When? _____

Alterations? Yes No If yes, explain: _____

FOR OFFICE USE: Town # _____ Site # _____ UTM _____

District: S NR If NR, Specify: Actual Potential

PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:

- Barn Shed Garage Carriage House Shop Garden
- Other landscape features or buildings: _____

Surrounding Environment:

- Open land Woodland Residential Commercial Industrial Rural
- High building density Scattered buildings visible from site

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

Located on a .22 acre parcel, this southeast facing house is on the west side of White Birch Drive, about one third of a mile south of the intersection with North Madison Road and one mile north of the intersection with Nut Plains Road. It is in a residential area with one of the Guilford Lakes at the rear, or west side, and woodland across the street to the east. A small driveway is located at the south corner of the house in front of a one car garage.

• Other notable features of building or site (Interior and/or Exterior)

Built c. 1929, this one and half story Vernacular Cottage style house sits atop a stone brick foundation and is sheathed in olive green wood shingles. The side gable roof is covered in architectural shingles. A shed dormer with four six pane windows is located on the roof. The facade fenestration consists of three six over six hung sash windows on the first floor level. On the north side is a small front gable entry with a cross gable roof. (See Continuation Sheet)

Architect Unknown Builder Unknown

• Historical or Architectural importance:

Guilford not only provided summer colonies on ocean front property, but also on three man-made lakes in the upper Nut Plains area of town called the "Guilford Lakes" along the East River. Named Guilford Lakes Estates, White Birch Drive was one of these communities, with construction starting in 1929. The land, 1,200 acres total, was purchased from Arthur D. Munger and developed by New Haven's Land & Lake Development Company into 30-50 foot block parcels. Although this building appears in the 1934 aerial photographs, the earliest known owners from assessor records are Norman A. (1914-1989) and Frances H. Fedde in 1961. Norman was a veteran of World War II and held a PhD in Fine Arts and Archaeology from Columbia University. (See Continuation Sheet)

• Sources:

Developer Map, Guilford Lakes Estates by Land & Lake Development Co.; Helander, Joel Eliot , "A Treasury of Guilford Places," Guilford, CT: Joel Helander, 2008; Property card obtained at <http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=2658> on November 9, 2015; Shoreline Times, May 2, 1929, May 9, 1929, August 8, 1929 & Obituaries on July 26, 1989, June 30, 1993; (See Continuation Sheet)

Photographer Jordan Sorensen Date 10/18/2015

View Southeast, camera facing northwest Negative on File _____

Name Jordan Sorensen Date 01/11/2015

Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance

Address PO Box 199 Guilford, CT 06437

• Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude: 41.328186
Longitude: -72.683576

Threats to the building or site:

- None known Highways Vandalism Developers Renewal Private
- Deterioration Zoning Other _____ Explanation _____

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

CONTINUATION SHEET

149 White Birch Drive

Notable Features Continued

The front door entry is located on this front gable section with one concrete step leading up to it. An arched doorway with a small roof attaches to a one car garage at the south corner which has a louvered vent near the roof peak and a small cupola centered on the ridgeline.

Historical/Architectural Significance

In addition to being a freelance artist and sculptor, he also worked at several schools including Yale University and New York University. By 1966, Donald and Beryl Gillette owned the house, and Beryl is still the owner.

Sources Continued

UConn Magic Maps, 1934 Aerial Photographs,
http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/mash_up/1934_aerial_index.html

