

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.: 413
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 17 Whitfield Street
(map 39, lot 101)
2. NAME
(historic) Fowler's Market
NAME
(common) The Misses Shepard
and Fowler Store
3. USE
(historic) Store
USE
(present) Christian Science Reading
Room
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE c1850
- BUILDER
STYLE
7. ALTERATIONS
Rear addition; window sash; front window opening; canopy with large
braces (with small pendants).
8. NOTABLE FEATURES
Boxed cornice; overhanging eaves; narrow frieze.

SIGNIFICANCE

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL The brackets supporting the Victorian canopy divide the lower facade into three units, sheltering two display windows and the center doorway. Small pendants decorate the brackets and the window frames have corner blocks that extend into the pane breaking up the rectangular shape.
The 1872 fire damaged this building which was repaired by William Weld at the expense of the Town. It is believed that the canopy was added at that time. The building may have been part of Bilious Ward's blacksmith shop at one time.
After the fire, the Misses Shepard (Mary), and Fowler (Nettie) were proprietors of a dry goods and notions shop, a business they maintained here for several years from the 1870's until c1900. (continued)

SOURCES

10. SOURCES
Mary Hoadley Griswold, Yester-Years; Bernard Christian Steiner, History of Guilford and Madison, Connecticut p. 411; Shore Line Sentinel 7 June 1877, 5 January 1897.

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

- ☒ Clapboard
☐ Wood Shingle
☐ Board & Batten

- ☐ Brick
☐ Fieldstone
☐ Cut Stone

- ☐ Stucco
☐ Concrete
☐ Cobblestone

- ☐ Asbestos Shingle
☐ Asphalt Siding
☐ Aluminum/Vinyl

☐ Other:

12. STRUCTURE

- ☐ Wood Frame:
☐ Post & Beam
☐ Balloon

☐ Masonry

☐ Iron or Steel

☐ Concrete

☐ Other:

13. ROOF

- a. ☒ Pitched
☐ Saltbox
☐ Gambrel

- ☒ Gable-front
☐ Cross-gable
☐ Mansard

- ☐ Hip
☐ Flat Hip
☐ Flat

- ☐ Shed
☐ False Dormer
☐ Sawtooth

☐ Other:

- b. ☐ Tower(s)

☐ Monitor

☐ Cupola

☐ Dormered Gable

☐ Dome

- c. ☐ Wood Shingle

☒ Asphalt Shingle

☐ Slate

☐ Metal

☐ Other:

14. NUMBER OF STORIES:

1 1/2

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

LOT SIZE: approx. 1/8 acre

15. CONDITION: Exterior

☐ Excellent

☒ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

☐ Bad

16. CONDITION: Structure

☐ Excellent

☐ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

☐ Bad

17. OUTBUILDINGS (visible from public road)

☐ Barn(s)

☐ Carriage House

☐ Garage

☐ Shed(s)

☐ Shop(s)

Other (well, stand, greenhouse, gazebo, privy, etc.):

18. LANDSCAPING (visible from public road)

☐ Planted Grounds

☐ Garden

☐ Terracing

☐ Plaza

☐ Court

☐ Stone Wall(s)

☐ Pickett Fence

☐ Iron Fence

☐ Post & Rail

☐ Other:

19. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

- a. ☒ Town Street - on green

- ☐ Rural
☐ Semi-rural
☐ Clustered Growth
☐ Development

- b. ☒ Commercial

- ☐ Industrial
☐ Agricultural
☒ Residential
☐ Vacation, now or originally

- c. ☒ Open

- ☐ Wooded
☐ Lakefront
☐ Coastal
☐ Salt marsh

- d. ☒ Of outstanding scenic/architectural value

- ☐ Of scenic/architectural value
☐ Of supportive value to contiguous scenic/architectural area
☐ Neutral
☐ Other:

20. ROLE OF BUILDING IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

☒ Vital

☐ Important

☐ Supportive

☐ Neutral

☐ Other:

21. OWNERSHIP

☐ Public

☐ Private

☐ Interior accessible

INDEX NO. 413

22. Name P. Odiseos

Date 7/23/81

Photographer P. Odiseos

Date 7/23/81

Negative Roll 15: 6A

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

Odiseos Neg. Roll 15: 6

23. THREATS TO BUILDING

- ☐ None Known
☐ Renewal

- ☐ Highways
☐ Private Owner

- ☐ Vandalism
☐ Deterioration

- ☐ Developers
☐ Other:

☐ Zoning

24. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATIONS

DESCRIPTION

COMPILED BY

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

CONTINUATION SHEET
GUILFORD SURVEY

ADDRESS 17 Whitfield Street
NAME(S) Fowler's Market

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL continued

These ladies started a subscription circulating library in 1872; by 1895 they had about 1500 volumes. They also opened a lending library for the young in 1877.