

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) 69-75 Whitfield Street
 Building Name (Historic) Music Hall
 Street Address or Location 69-75 Whitfield Street
 Town/City Guilford Village _____ County New Haven
 Owner(s) Pumpkin Enterprises, LLC. Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Retail
 Historic Use: Factory, public entertainment hall, retail

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? Yes No
 Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain Several retail stores open to public
 Style of building Greek Revival Date of Construction 1849 (McCulloch)

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

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Vinyl</u> | | |

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 _____

Number of Stories: 2 Approximate Dimensions 83'x72'

Structural Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

Exterior Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

Location Integrity: On original site Moved When? 1866

Alterations? Yes No If yes, explain: 1869- North wing added, 1960's- South wing added

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:

This east facing building is located on a .45 acre plot on the north end of Whitfield Street, just north of the intersection with Boston Street and Water Street. It is directly across from the Guilford Town Green, at the Southwest corner, and located along a strip of buildings that have both residential and commercial uses. An alley runs along either side of the building leading to a parking lot to the west of the building

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

Built in 1849, this two and a half story Greek Revival style building sits atop a brick foundation and is sheathed in white vinyl siding with black shutters. It has a front facing gable roof with flanking wings, both with side gabled roofs, all covered in asphalt shingles. The center portion is original and was moved to its present location in 1866, where it was rebuilt in 1867 by William Weld. (See Continuation Sheet)

Architect Unknown Builder William Weld (1867 after move)

- Historical or Architectural importance:

The site upon which this building sits is where the famous Brown's Tavern was located, where General Lafayette visited in 1784 when he came to Guilford. The building originally stood near the Jones Bridge and West River at 140 Water Street where it housed a joint stock company, Guilford Manufacturing Company, organized by prominent citizens in town. They manufactured steam-engines, machinery, and iron castings. When the company failed, the former factory was moved in 1866, by oxen, to its present location. It was rebuilt by William Weld, a prolific builder in Guilford at that time, in 1867 and has been used as the post office, bank, and businesses since. (See Continuation Sheet)

- Sources:

Guilford Preservation Alliance, "Significant Structures Fifty Years Old or More, Guilford, Connecticut" accessed at <http://guilfordpreservation.org> on March 25, 2015; Helander, Joel Eliot, "A Treasury of Guilford Places," Guilford, CT: Joel Helander, 2008; McCulloch, Sarah Brown; "Guilford: A Walking Guide, the Green & Neighboring Streets; 2006, accessed at guilfordpreservation.org on 3/22/2015; (See Continuation Sheet)

Photographer Jordan Sorensen Date 1/17/2015

View East view of building, camera facing west Negative on File _____

Name Jordan Sorensen Date 3/26/2015

Organization Guilford Preservation Alliance

Address Guilford Preservation Alliance PO Box 199 Guilford, CT 06437

- Subsequent field evaluations:

Latitude: 41.281757

Longitude: -72.682292

Threats to the building or site:

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

69-75 Whitfield Street

Notable Features Continued

The north wing was added in 1869 while the south wing was added in the 1960's (before 1965) when the building to the south was attached (built sometime after 1931). Originally the building had rounded triple ribbon windows at the second floor level, a round window on the front gable peak, a full façade porch, and a cupola on the roof. Now, the second floor has ten 12 over 12 sash windows and one pair of 8 over 8 windows near the front gable peak. The first floor retail businesses have bay display windows under awnings.

Historical Architectural Importance

The second floor contained a large public hall that gave the building its historic name, "Music Hall." Concerts, magicians, theater shows, and artists performed there until the 1920s when it was used for a dance school and basketball practice.

Sources Continued

Property Card obtained at

<http://www.propertyrecordcards.com/PropertyResults.aspx?towncode=060&uniqueid=7692> on March 25, 2015; Pudley, David, Historic American Building Survey notes, 1972; Smith, Ralph D., The History of Guilford, Connecticut, From Its First Settlement in 1639, Albany, NY: J. Munsell, Printer, 1877, p. 34.



Photograph by Harriet Hunt Bryan, 1885, Guilford Keeping Society collections