

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.: 419				
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 85-89 Whitfield Street
(map 39, lot 89)
2. NAME
(historic) Monroe Building
NAME
(common) Monroe Building
3. USE
(historic) Shops and hotel
USE
(present) Shops and offices
4. IF MOVED, WHEN AND FROM WHERE:



DESCRIPTION

5. ARCHITECT
6. DATE 1898
- BUILDER
STYLE Queen Anne
7. ALTERATIONS
Siding; aluminium windows; store fronts.
Turret replacing original is quite different in shape, original was a variation of the onion shape. Also second story balcony removed from Whitfield Street side.
8. NOTABLE FEATURES
Wide overhanging eaves; turret; stone foundation.

SIGNIFICANCE

9. ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORICAL The polygonal tower of this Queen Anne style commercial block dominates the south-west corner of the Green. Modern siding covers the diverse textures of the original surface.
J. Harrison Monroe, a prominent Guilford Democrat, built the "Monroe block" in 1898 to house his drug store, which he had moved from Water Street. He had bought the old hotel at the corner of Whitfield-Water Streets and part of it was incorporated in the west-wing of this building. Monroe's drug store was on the ground floor. Hotel Halleck occupied the upper floors. Markham's jewelry store rented space here until 1902. The U.S. Post Office rented part of the ground floor from 1903 until the present building was opened.
Monroe's son, Bradford, took over the business. He sold the building in 1970.

SOURCES

10. SOURCES Notes of David D. Dudley; Steiner Scrapbooks 1 & 2; Watrous Scrapbook; Shore Line Times, 14 August 1896; Mary Hoadley Griswold, p. 145.
Photograph: Guilford Keeping Society P97.

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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Flat | <input type="checkbox"/> Sawtooth | |
| b. <input checked="" 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:

3

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

LOT SIZE: Less 1/4 acre

15. CONDITION: Exterior

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Of outstanding scenic/architectural value | | |
| <input 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interior accessible |
|---------------------------------|---|---|

INDEX NO. 419

22. Name P. Odier

Date 7/22/81

Photographer P. Odier

Date 7/22/81 Negative Roll 15; 17

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

GH's Neg. Roll 15; 17

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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