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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Acadian House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUM	BER			
	Union Street		NOT FOR PUBLICAT	NON
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL	DISTRICT
	Guilford	VICINITY OF	#3- Robert N. Gi	laimo
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
	Connecticut	09	New Haven	009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESE	NTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X-OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
x-BUILDING(S)	* PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		<mark>‰</mark> −NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME				
	Briggs Buchanan			
STREET & NUM				
	Union Street			
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Guilford		Connecticut	
5 LOCAT	ION OF LEGAL I	DESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF D	DEEDS, ETC. Town Hall	1		
STREET & NUM				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Guilford		Connecticut	
6 REPRES	SENTATION IN	EXISTING SURVEYS	5	
TITLE				
	listoric American I	Buildings Survey		
DATE				
	1972	x_FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY F		ress		
CITY, TOWN			STATE	<u></u>

____Washington, D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
X_EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	X_UNALTERED	X.ORIGINAL SITE	
GOOD	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED DATE	:_
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The seventeenth century, salt-box style Acadian house is situated on the south side of Union Street opposite the junction of Market Place and Union. It faces west across a small parking lot toward the eighteenth century "Sabbathday" house, and is not aligned with any street used today. It is a two and a half story, clapboard house, painted dark red. A central, stone chimney testifies to its early date as does a wide front doorway surrounded on sides and top by wide vertical planks. The windows in the assymetrical three bay facade have been enlarged but the sash and frames are of an old style and protrude from the siding. Originally, the house was built with a tworoom interior plan, but, later, a lean-to was added creating the saltbox roofline and, as the kitchen was to be in the new addition, another chimney was added forming a T-shape. Wood shingles cover the roof and a simple box cornice was built at the eaves line. The Acadian house is a very plain, almost stark home, very typical in character and detail of late seventeenth century homes in the New Haven Colony.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	X_MILITARY	👷 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
x_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1670	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT Joseph Clay	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1670 by Joseph Clay, who moved to Guilford from Saybrook, the Acadian house is a fine example of early New Haven Colony architecture. Its stone chimney is typical of the seventeenth century structures around Guilford, but its T-shape is an unusual feature. Located so near to Guilford's Green it is important, architecturally, to the integrity of the town's historic buildings.

Of great interest, also, is the local legend regarding the house. In 1726, the Acadian house passed to Samuel Chittenden, who was a grandson of the original owner, Joseph Clay. The Chittenden family, however, owned land in East River and after Samuel married in 1726 he moved to a more modern house, leaving the Clay homestead vacant. In autumn of 1755 an Acadian family from Grand Pre was put to shore, and, as legend has it, Samuel Chittenden allowed them to live in the old Clay house. In 1756 it was reported to the Legislature of Connecticut that the town of Guilford was harboring eleven (Acadian) refugees, but there has, as yet, been no document found to substantiate the local story. In spite of the questionability of the legend, it adds intrigue to the Clay homestead and serves as a reminder of New England's role, both militant and humanitarian, during the exile of the Acadians from Nova Scotia.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

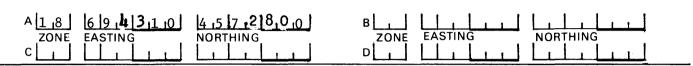
Griswold, Mary Hoadley, <u>Yester-Years of Guilford</u>, Shore Line Times Publishing Co., Guilford, Connecticut, 1938.

Smith, Ralph D., <u>The History of Guilford, Connecticut</u>, J. Munsell, Albany, New York, 1877.

10GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

OTT OK HALL PORTA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY <u>less than one</u> UTM REFERENCES



VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

STATE STATE STATE STATE FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Christine B. Brockme ORGANIZATION Connecticut Historic STREET & NUMBER 59 South Prospect S CITY OR TOWN Hartford STATE HISTORIC PRESEJ THE EVALUATED SIGN NATIONAL Sthe designated State Historic Preservation C Ereby nominate this property for inclusion in	cal Commi treet RVATIC	ssion ON OFFI	Y (20 Cont	DATE May 15, TELEPHO 03) 566-30 STATE necticut	one)05
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TITLE STATE HISTORIL PO	RESERVI	ATION C	OFFICER	DATE	5/22/75
NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY	IS INCLUDED	D IN THE NAT	TIONAL REG	ISTER DATE	9/5/25-
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY ANI		PRESERVATIO	ION	DATE	9.2.75