

*National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Inventory*

1. Name  
Old Huguenot House
2. Location  
Corner Jay, Hempstead, Coit and Truman Streets  
New London, CT
3. Classification
4. Owner of Property
5. Location of Legal Description
6. Representation in Existing Surveys
7. Description
8. Significance
9. Major Bibliographical References
10. Geographical Data
11. Form Prepared By
12. State Liaison Officer Certification

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: New London	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Old Huguenot House (Huguenot House)
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Corner Jay, Hempstead, Coit, and Truman Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: New London			
STATE Connecticut	CODE 06	COUNTY: New London	CODE 011

3. CLASSIFICATION							
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted		
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted		
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)							
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments			
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious					
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific					

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Charlotte Douglass and Philip E. Douglass, Jr.			
STREET AND NUMBER: Corner Jay, Hempstead, Coit, and Truman Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: New London	STATE: Connecticut	CODE 0440	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Municipal Building			
STREET AND NUMBER: 			
CITY OR TOWN: New London	STATE: Connecticut	CODE 0440	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: (1) Historic American Buildings Survey (CONN-208)			
(2) Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: (2) 1967 (1) ? <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: (1) Library of Congress			
(2) Connecticut Historical Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: (2) 75 Elm Street			
CITY OR TOWN: (1) Washington, D.C. (2) Hartford	STATE: Connecticut	CODE 0280	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Huguenot House is a one and a half story stone house with a gambrel roof. It stands now as the picturesque focal point of a busy New London intersection, wrapped in a wild overgrowth of ivy and so well-covered that the only apertures visible are the two dormer windows, a centrally located skylight, and the doorway.

Under the ivy the building has three double hung windows on the front which faces southeast. Two of these are located at the eastern end and the other is between the southern end of the building and the door. On the southwestern end of the building are four more windows: two on the ground floor located near the corners of the building and two windows located near the corners of the gambrel roof at the second floor level. The organization of window openings on the southwest is not duplicated on the northeastern side since there is only one window on the first floor and that is located near the north corner.

There are two chimneys located on each end of the building. The roof is shingled with ~~asbestos~~ shingles and these are continued around the roof dormers which are later additions. These dormers are flat-topped and narrow with six over six sash. The dressed stone of which the building is constructed is granite. It is laid in regular horizontal beds with the use of a small amount of mortar.

asphalt

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1759			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	Focal point of
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	local tradition
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	of Huguenot workers
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	temporarily in
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	New London.
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The Huguenot House is the only structure of its type in New London. The house was built about 1759 by Nathaniel Hempsted, grandson of Joshua Hempsted—who was author of the <u>Hempsted Diary</u> a chronicle of the life in New London from 1728 to 1758. Because gambrel-roofed houses were not usually built of stone the story of the origins of this house seemed to require explanation: Hence, a local tradition arose that the building was constructed by Huguenots who lived for a while in New London.</p> <p>However, efforts to find records of Huguenot workers in New London in the mid-eighteenth century prove to be fruitless. A more probable explanation is that some of the Acadians who had been exiled by the British from Nova Scotia and who arrived in New London in 1756 were the laborers who constructed the house. It is well-established that soon after their arrival some Acadians were employed for the construction in stone of the home of Captain Nathaniel Shaw, a wealthy merchant of New London. Since these Acadians did not return to Nova Scotia until 1767, it is not unlikely that they also worked on the construction of Nathaniel Hempsted's house.</p> <p>Further evidence that the work was done by Frenchmen is the kind of stone-work: the stone is evenly finished and laid in regular horizontal beds which is characteristically French (whereas rubblework is characteristically English). Another piece of evidence is a note in Joshua Hempsted's diary of a Peter Frenchman and a Peter Frenchboy who were employed by him doing "suitable work."</p> <p>Thus the Huguenot House is significant as the source of a local and probably erroneous tradition of Huguenot laborers passing through the town, as well as being a picturesque gambrel-roofed structure which is unique for the area. It is also important for its location which is adjacent to the Hempsted house, a property of the Antiquarian and Landmarks Society and one of the oldest houses in Connecticut.</p>			