

CT Trust Resource ID: 3462

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

State Historic Preservation Office, DECD, One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

*Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

Inventory form modified for the Creative Places - Arts & Letters Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common): McCloy, William Ashby, HouseOther Name(s) (Historic): McCloy, William Ashby, HouseStreet Address or Location: 376 Kitemaug Road, MontvilleTown/City: MontvilleVillage: UncasvilleCounty: New London

Designation(s):

Owner(s):

Public/Private: PrivateLatitude: 41.4496 Longitude: -72.0903

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Domestic: single dwellingHistoric Use: Domestic: single dwellingAccessibility to public: No Exterior visible from public road? YesInterior accessible? If yes, explain: NAStyle of building: Craftsman bungalow Date of Construction: c. 1920

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

Structural Systems(s): Wood FrameRoof(Type): Shed, Hip (Material): Asphalt ShingleNumber of Stories: 2 1/2 Approximate Dimensions: 32' x 34'Structural Condition: GoodExterior Condition: GoodLocational Integrity: On original site Moved, When: NAAlterations?: Yes If yes, explain: AdditionsRelated outbuildings or landscape features: BarnSurrounding Environment: Residential

Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

This 1.84-acre property is located on the west side of Kitemaug Road, facing east over a steep slope down to the Thames River. The house is reached by a driveway from Kitemaug Road, shared with the parcel to the north. The original 10-acre site occupied the entire hill-top, but subsequent subdivision has left this parcel at the eastern edge.

Other notable features of building or site:

This is a c. 1920 hip-roofed bungalow-style building, 32' x 34' in size, with its upper level elevated over a finished basement, at grade on the east. Siding is vertical boards or plywood, and roofing is asphalt shingles. The roof has shed dormers on all four sides. There are large wood decks at the upper level on the east and west sides. A 960-square foot cabin is located on the site, at the west corner of the current extent of the parcel.

Architect: Unknown Builder/Maker: Unknown

Historical or Architectural importance:

William Ashby McCloy purchased this property when he came to Connecticut College in the mid-1950s. This home is adjacent to the houses of poet William Meredith, writer Blanche McCrary Boyd, and painter Rita Dawley. The small cluster along the west bank of the Thames River has been a location for artists associated with Connecticut College, from the time of McCloy's and Meredith's purchase in the 1950s.

McCloy's original property was roughly 10.5 acres. He sold a 1-acre parcel in about 1975; this was later home to Blanche Boyd, a colleague on the faculty at Connecticut College. Following McCloy's death, the remaining land has been subdivided into five residential parcels.

William Ashby McCloy (1913-2000), born in Baltimore, lived in Nanking and Shanghai, China until the age of thirteen, returning to the United States in 1926. He received training in art at the State University of Iowa in 1930 and graduated with a BA in Art. He spent one-year at Yale School of Fine Arts before returning to Iowa for graduate study in the Psychology of Art receiving a M.A. in 1936.

McCloy was Mural Assistant to John Steuart Curry on three murals and executed two major mural commissions himself (1939-1943). He spent 1943-1946 in the US Army where he served as a Clinical Psychologist. Returning to the State University of Iowa, McCloy received a

MFA in Painting in 1949 under the G.I. Bill and later a PhD in Art History in 1958. He had a 40-year teaching career including 24 years at Connecticut College where he was hired in the mid-1950s. He chaired Connecticut's Art Department from 1954-1972, and retired in 1978. McCloy was an accomplished painter and sculptor. McCloy's long, collegial friendship with former Slater Museum director Joseph Gualtieri led him to create Aspirations, a weathering steel outdoor sculpture, in 1975-76 specifically for the Slater Memorial Museum grounds (Zoe 2012). His sculpture is also displayed at Castle Court in the arts complex at Connecticut College, while his paintings are in the collections of the Slater Memorial and other museums.

Sources:

Town of Montville Assessor's Records and GIS mapping: http://www.townofmontville.org/Content/Planning_Department/GIS/ .
Martin, David. Martin-Zambito Fine Art. McCloy, William Ashby, biographical note. Rogallery web site. Accessed at: http://rogallery.com/McCloy_William/mccloy-biography.htm .
William Ashby McCloy papers and oral history interview, 1926-1988. Archives of American Art. Smithsonian Institution. Accessed at: <http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/william-ashby-mccloy-papers-7941> .
McCloy, William Ashby. Obituary. 6/06/2000. Hartford Courant.
Zoe, Vivian. 2012. The Muse: Newsletter of the Slater Memorial Museum. Fall 2012, p. 5. Accessed at: http://www.slatermuseum.org/uploaded/Slater_Museum_Files/Newsletters/Slater_Newsletter_fall_2012.pdf
Zabel, Barbara, personal interview with C. Hitchcock, at New London, Connecticut. 3/13/2015.

Photographer: Charlotte Hitchcock **Date:** 7/31/2015

View: East view

Form completed by: Charlotte Hitchcock **Printed On:** May 9, 2016

Organization: Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address: 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517-4002

Threats: None known

Subsequent field evaluations:



376 Kitemaug Road, Uncasville (Montville)

FOR OFFICE USE:

Town # _____ **Site#** _____ **UTM** _____

District ☐ S ☐ NR **If NR, specify:** ☐ Actual ☐ Potential