

THE DANIEL HOLT HOUSE
 (Mrs. ~~John~~^{Louis} Kempster)

1775

Bulet

On the east side of North High Street about two and a quarter miles from the center of East Haven stands the Daniel Holt house now owned by the Kempster family.

Tradition indicates this quaint old Yankee farm house as having been built by Daniel Holt about 1775. His son Daniel Holt was a lieutenant in a company of local militia that went to the assistance of New York during its occupancy by the British in 1776. Besides military affairs, Daniel Holt was also active in politics, serving as selectman for the town for five terms. Lieutenant Holt died in 1829 and the house was then occupied by his son Philemon Holt who was born in the house in 1775. Philemon Holt, like his father was active in town affairs. He represented East Haven at the legislature in 1821, 1822, 1831 and 1832. He also filled the office of selectman for six terms. On April 3, 1802 Philemon Holt married Desire Smith and their daughter Charlotte Holt married David Sullivan Fowler of North Guilford. Mr. Fowler bought this property from Philemon Holt on April 28, 1847. David Fowler was a very prominent Democrat and served for some time as the Sheriff for New Haven County. Sheriff Fowler's three sons William, James, and John remained at home and together ran the farm. The farm including this house was sold by Mrs. John Fowler but a few years ago^{to} the Kempsters who now conduct a large modern dairy at this place. It may be noticed that this house has been continuously owned and occupied by the Holts and their descendants for over one hundred and fifty years until the more recent sale to the Kempsters.