

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY**  
**BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**  
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

039

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106  
 (203) 566-3005

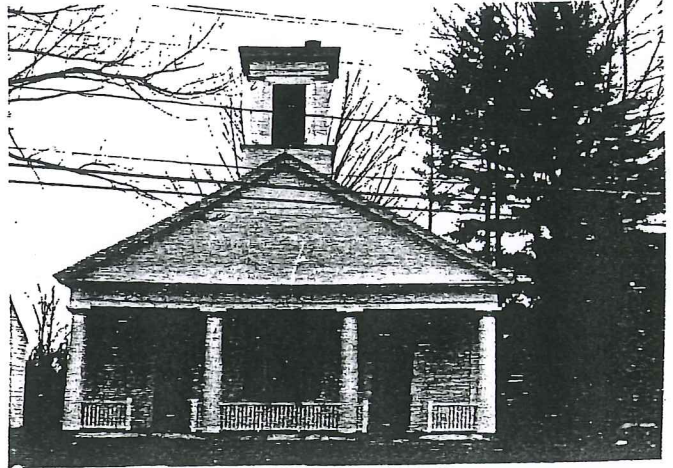
105/38/4

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR, SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION	1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>	
	OLD TOWN HALL	THOMPSON TOWN HALL
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE
	THOMPSON	THOMPSON
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)	COUNTY
	1 CHASE ROAD & ROUTE 200 (2 CHASE RD.)	WINDHAM
	4. OWNER(S)	
	THOMPSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., THOMPSON, CT 06277	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private
	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>	
	MUSEUM	TOWN HALL
DESCRIPTION	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	IF YES, EXPLAIN	
	Museum, irregular hours	
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING	
	Greek Revival	
	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
	c. 1842	
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chimney	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco	
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut stone	Type: Granite foundation	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
10. ROOF (Type)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	
<input type="checkbox"/> Slate	<input type="checkbox"/> Round	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street		
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		
2 1/2		
APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
41' x 69'		
12. CONDITION (Structural) <span style="float: right;">(Exterior)</span>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	
WHEN?	(Alterations)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
IF YES, EXPLAIN		
New porch railing		
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)		
Small outhouse at rear		
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density	
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS		
On Thompson Hill, in a well preserved 19th century village center.		

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
	Mark McDonough	1986
COMPILED BY	VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE
	SE & SE	I16 G29
	NAME	DATE
	Mark McDonough	1986
	ORGANIZATION	
	Town of Thompson, Connecticut	
	ADDRESS	
	16 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:	



17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

Three-bay facade, entries to left and right. Central bay has large window with 12-over-12 sash. Entries have narrow double heavy paneled doors, paneled surrounds with paneled corner blocks. Molded architrave, plain frieze, molded cornice. Flush-boarded pedimented peak carried forward on fluted Doric columns to form full width porch. Modern railing with square rail and balusters.

Plain corner pilasters. Side elevations have oversized windows with 12-over-12 sash, else plain.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
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19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The Thompson Town Hall was opened on October 3, 1842, serving not only as a seat of government, but also as a social center and meeting hall. At the time, Thompson Hill has just experienced four decades of prosperity and growth as a turnpike commercial center and was clearly Thompson's dominant village.

Beginning in the late 1850s, however, intensive cotton textile development moved the town's political center of gravity towards the industrial villages of the French River valley (most notably Grosvenordale and North Grosvenordale). By the early 20th century, this building was effectively sharing town hall duties with North Grosvenordale's Salle Union (annual town meetings were either split or alternated between the two). This arrangement represented not only an acknowledgement of population shifts, but was also a compromise between the Yankee Hill and the overwhelmingly French-Canadian Grosvenordales. By the end of the Second World War, the Town Hall was little used, although annual town meetings were sometimes held there; the Quinnetisset Grange continued to meet in the building until the 1960s.

The Thompson Historical Society purchased the Town Hall in 1969 and performed considerable

SOURCES

A Brief Historical Tour of the Town of Thompson  
 Thompson Annual Reports  
 Thompson Assessor's Records  
 Thompson Land Records

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None known	<input type="checkbox"/> Highways	<input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism	<input type="checkbox"/> Developers	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Deterioration	<input type="checkbox"/> Zoning	<input type="checkbox"/> Explanation _____



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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
 HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM  
 For Buildings and Structures

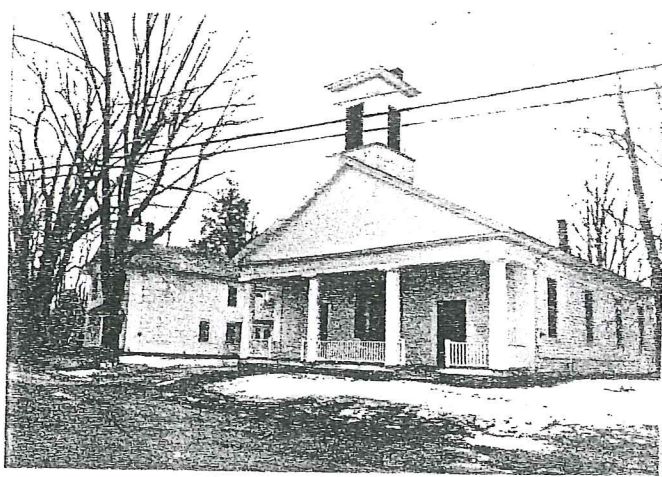
<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>			
TOWN NO.:		SITE NO.:	
UTM: 18	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL
			POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET #19 THOMPSON TOWN HALL  
 Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

restoration work in the late 1970s; it is opened to the public on special occasions.

Historically, the Thompson Town Hall is significant as a longtime community institution, and as part of a large and well preserved assemblage of older buildings in the village of Thompson Hill.

Architecturally, it is significant as one of Thompson's finest examples of the Greek Revival style. The gable-end-to-street orientation, pedimented peak, Doric columns, flush boarded tympanum, symmetrical facade, and prominent entablature (architrave, frieze, and cornice) were all intended to suggest the massing and smooth masonry construction of a classical Greek temple. The design of this building has sometimes been attributed to prominent Thompson born architect Ithiel Towne.



G29; SE