

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

057

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

154/5/8/C/

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>		ZENAS ROBBINS HOUSE	
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
	THOMPSON	EAST THOMPSON	WINDHAM	
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		154/5-8	
	491 EAST THOMPSON ROAD (551 EAST THOMPSON RD.)			
	4. OWNER(S)		Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
ROSS, SETH T, & BEATRICE I., RRI, THOMPSON, CT 06277				
DESCRIPTION	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>		Residence	
	Residence		Residence	
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE	IF YES, EXPLAIN
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
	Vernacular		c. 1827	
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chimneys	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	Foundation
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone		
<input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone	Type: _____			
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon		
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____				
10. ROOF (Type)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
(Material)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate <input type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street	
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
2 1/2		32' x 24'		
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		WHEN ?	(Alterations)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
			Extensive early 20th century	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden		
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"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density	
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS				
One of a number of older houses in East Thompson, most surrounding houses are recent.				

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough	DATE 1986
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE J14
COMPILED BY	NAME Mark McDonough	DATE 1986
	ORGANIZATION Town of Thompson, Connecticut	
	ADDRESS	



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION.

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Five-bay facade, central entry, window bays paired and offset. Sash generally 1-over-1. First floor has left and right two bay rectangular bay windows. Wood door has single large light.

One story full width porch: staggered-butt shingled railing, paired slender Tuscan columns. Porch wraps around right corner and is glassed-in at right; meets lower parallel right wing.

On second floor, double glass doors open to single bay porch on triple Tuscan columns; has pedimented peak, plain frieze, molded cornice, railing with staggered-butt shingles. House has two story corner pilasters, plain frieze, twin exterior brick chimneys; molded cornice shows partial return.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
--------------	---------

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The longtime occupant and possible builder of this house was Zenas Robbins (also seen as Zenas and Zenos). Born in Thompson in 1801, Robbins married Chloe T. Bates in 1828, and died in 1873 at the age of 72. He bought the property on which this house stands about 1830.

Architecturally, the Robbins house is significant primarily as something of a curiosity. It now consists of an early, one-and-one-half-story house raised atop a first floor built in the 1920s. Ornamentation is mixed. Greek Revival pilasters decorate the second floor; the porch detailing includes Colonial Revival Tuscan columns and a staggered butt shingled railing, a holdover from the Victorian era.

SOURCES

1855 Atlas  
Thompson Assessor's Records  
Thompson Land Records 11:342 (1830)  
Thompson Vital Statistics

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 _____