

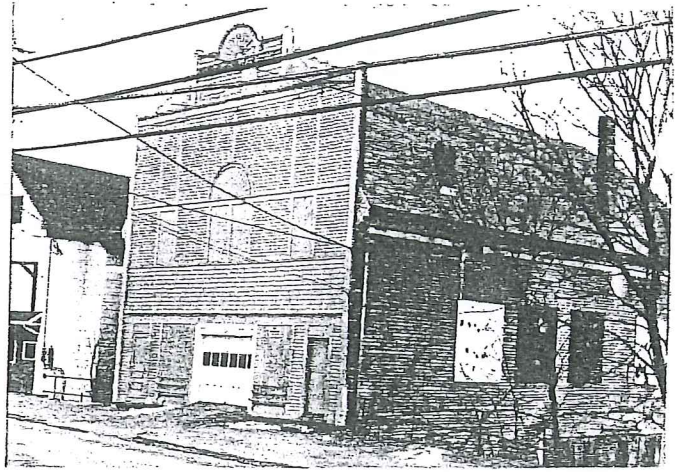
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

169/91/22/11

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) (Historic)		SALE UNION		
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY		
	THOMPSON	NORTH GROSVENORDALE	WINDHAM		
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		169/91-22		
	164 MAIN STREET (37 MAIN ST.)				
	4. OWNER(S)		LANGELIER, JOSEPH S. SR. & JEANETTE, N. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private		
DESCRIPTION	5. USE (Present) (Historic)		Theater		
	Vacant/Storage				
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:		IF YES, EXPLAIN		
	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD		INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE		
	<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. 1895		
	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 type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____ <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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street					
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS			
3 1/2		36' X 74'			
12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior)					
<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 type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" 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	
		some windows boarded up; new garage door			
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 type="checkbox"/> High building density					
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS					
In a well-preserved 19th-century mill village.					

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE A10	
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) **F136**

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

First floor divided into three-bays: central modern garage door flanked by boarded-up windows. Paneled wood door in left bay, modern steel door in right. Frieze and small flared overhang above first floor, then wide band of fishscale shingles.

Second story and decorative parapet are clapboarded. Boarded-up windows are linked by horizontal boards, verticals extend upward across parapet. Central paired second-floor windows are topped by semi-circular sunburst. Parapet is topped by rectangular panel with small consoles and semi-circular sunburst flanked by carved foot scrolls.

Side elevations are relatively plain; overhanging eaves have plain frieze and carved decorative panels at front.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
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19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The Union St. Jean-Baptiste (Society of Saint John the Baptist), which built this building, was founded in 1847 by Ludger Devernay, also the founder in 1838 of the first American French-Canadian newspaper (the St. Albans Vermont Patriote). When the trickle of French-Canadian emmigration to the United States became a flood after the Civil War, the Union became a focus of French-Canadian culture throughout New England. Like many similar immigrant societies of the time (i.e., the Irish-American Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Italo-American Sons of Italy), the Union served as both a social group and a mutual aid society. In a time before unemployment benefits, health insurance, and Social Security and pensions for the elderly, the Union provided critical services to North Grosvenordale's predominately French-Canadian population. Organized in 1872, (the year the huge Grosvenor-Dale Company cotton mill opened a few blocks to the north) the North Grosvenordale chapter of the Union counted 120 members by 1890. In that year, it donated \$6,000 towards the construction of this building, to be used for meetings and theater productions. Completed in May, 1895, the theater featured five sets of scenery (a parlor, a kitchen, woods, a street, and a prison). On opening night, one of the performers was a Miss Faucher, member of a still-

SOURCES

Prior, The French-Canadian in Rhode Island.
 Margolick, Patterns of Change, pp. 184-85, 204-5.

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

<input 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

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

CONTINUATION SHEET SALLE UNION
 Item number: _____ Date: _____

19) prominent North Grosvenordale family. The Salle Union (Union Hall) was also Thompson's first motion picture hall. Primitive "bioscopes" were shown there in 1898. The Salle Union was still a popular social center well into the 20th century (many Thompson residents remember attending Saturday movies there as children), but the assimilation of the village's French-Canadian population and the rise alternative forms of insurance and old-age benefits reduced the influence of the Union. In recent years, the building has been rented out to a series of tenants. It is now used for storage.

Historically, the Salle Union is significant as the home of one of North Grosvenordale's most prominent social institutions, and as the focus of one of New England's largest French-Canadian populations (in the immediate area, only Woonsocket, Rhode Island had a larger French-speaking population, and even in that case, North Grosvenordale could claim a higher percentage of French speakers).

Architecturally, the Salle is significant as a good example of late Victorian Vernacular building. The fishscale shingles and elaborate parapet detailing are all typical of this mode, which featured the ornate wooden decoration made affordable by mid 19th-century advances in wood-forming technology. The form of the Salle is clearly transitional; the extended verticals and horizontals of the windows recall the Stick Style of the 1870's and 1880's, the carved sunbursts were to become a prominent feature of the 20th-century Colonial Revival movement.