

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY  
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

HIST-6 NEW 5 77

217

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

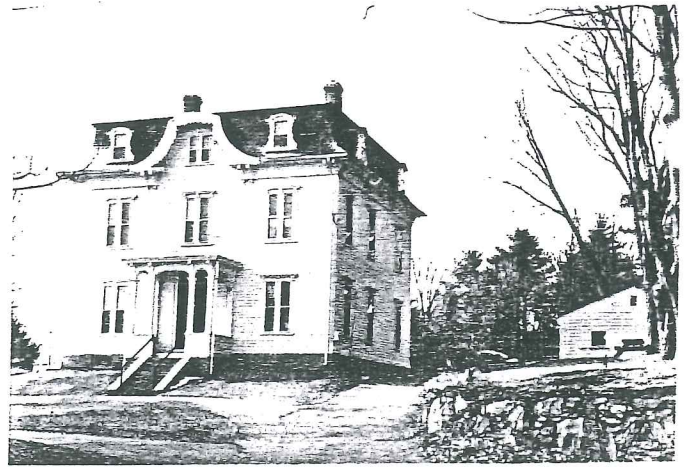
57/65/18/11

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) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span> WILSONVILLE MILLS COMPANY HOUSE	
	2. TOWN CITY THOMPSON	VILLAGE WILSONVILLE
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 259 ROUTE 12 (1420 RIVERSIDE DR.) 57/65-18	
	4. OWNER(S) KEEGAN, CATHERINE L. ET AL, RR#1, N. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
	5. USE (Historic) Residence <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span> Residence	
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, EXPLAIN:	
DESCRIPTION	7. STYLE OF BUILDING Second Empire	
	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1872	
	8. MATERIALS (Indicate use or location when appropriate) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Chimneys <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: Granite ashlar foundation	
	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 type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Slate <input type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street <input 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: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 40' x 40'	
	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	
	13. INTEGRITY (Location) <span style="float: right;">(Alterations)</span> IF YES, EXPLAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved WHEN? _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Modern storm sash	
	14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES <input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density	
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS On a hill overlooking the Wilsonville mill.		

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW SW	NEGATIVE ON FILE F6	
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)

Three-bay facade. Central entry under flat roofed portico. Windows have flat molded hoods on small consoles, are paired with 1-over-1 sash. Entry has large double doors, etched glass transom.

Portico has paired square chamfered Italianate posts, round arched openings, raised panels on spandrels, fluted key block over central opening. Engaged posts at wall. Granite steps, clapboarded railing. Chamfered corner pilasters with complex molding on chamfers.

Roll molding at bottom of plain frieze, paired jigsaw brackets with incised geometric designs, molded cornice. Large central wall dormer with concave mansard profile. Paired attic windows with segmental arched drip molding. Dormer has vergeboard with turned circular bosses and raised panels. Roof has fishscale slates, variegated. Segmental arched roof dormers left and right with flanking wood panels suggesting foot scrolls. Side elevations have similar roof dormers; left elevation has two rectangular bay windows with bracketed cornices.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
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19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house was built about 1872 by Oscar F. Chase and Lucius Harris of Dudley, Massachusetts, who had just purchased the woolen mill property of Luther M. Capron (see 276 Route 12 for mill history). In 1885, Chase & Harris sold the house, along with the mill, to Lawrence Keegan. The Keegan family continued to operate the mill until 1929, when the property was sold to Israel Putnam Mills; in 1953, the company sold the house back to the Keegans, who still retain ownership.

Architecturally, the Keegan House is significant as Thompson's finest and best preserved example of the Second Empire style. Based on the contemporaneous architecture of Paris, the Second Empire style was briefly but furiously popular in the 1870s. This example has the style's characteristic dormered mansard roof; the bracketed eaves and prominent window hoods are also typical.

Historically, the Keegan house is significant for its connection with the Wiltonville woolen mills, which have a nearly continuous history of operation stretching back to the early 1820s. For several decades, the house served as a company owner's residence. Its prominent location on a hill overlooking the mill site, and the contrast between its opulence

SOURCES

Thompson Land Records 22:791 (1870); 63:381 (1953)

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 _____

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

STORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM  
For Buildings and Structures

317

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#19 WILSONVILLE MILLS COMPANY HOUSE

and the plainness of the worker housing located just to the south on Route 12 are typical features in small 19th century mill villages. The owner's or superintendent's house was not only a residence, but a visible symbol of economic and social power in these small, tightly knit company controlled communities.