

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

024

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

61/59/15/11

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>		AMEDEE & JOSEPHINE SENEY HOUSE		
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY		
	THOMPSON	NORTH GROSVENORDALE	WINDHAM		
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)			61/59 & 62-15	
	116 BUCKLEY HILL ROAD (56 BUCKLEY Hill Rd.)				
	4. OWNER(S)				
	GATINEAU, MARK A. & CYNTHIA A., BOX 755, N. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private				
	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>				
	Residence		Residence		
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
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	
Victorian 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"/> Chimney Brick <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stucco Foundation <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) <span style="float: right;">Complex massing</span>					
<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 type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street					
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS			
2 1/2		28' x 32'			
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)	IF YES, EXPLAIN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES					
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input checked="" 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"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density					
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS					
One of several 19th century buildings on this hilltop overlooking the North Grosvenordale cotton mill. This is the best preserved example of Victorian Vernacular architecture.					

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE D23	
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 with right entry; projecting cross-gabled oriel bay with paired windows over entry. Sash generally 2-over-2. First floor generally in clapboards, second clad with staggered-butt wood shingles.

Full width one story shed-roofed porch has turned posts with square chamfered bases, small jigsawn brackets, spindled frieze, square balusters, molded rail. Overhanging eaves on large decorative purlins. Peaks have radially arrayed shingles. Right elevation has two story gabled bay in front; all staggered-butt shingles with diagonal board panels beneath first floor windows.

Shed-roofed porch to rear is similar to front. Left elevation: similar bay, beveled first floor corners are squared by large consoles with carved sunburst designs, turned pendants.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This large and well preserved Victorian house was built about 1895 by Amedee and Josephine Seney, prominent members of North Grosvenordale's French-Canadian community (Amedee Seney for whom more complete vital records are available, was born in Marieville, Quebec in 1860 and died in 1945).

Historically, the Seney House is significant as part of a large assemblage of well preserved 19th century buildings surrounding the 1872 Grosvenor Dale Company cotton textile mill. Thompson had been an overwhelmingly Yankee community until the rise of large scale cotton textile production in the 1850s and 1860s brought large numbers of immigrants from French Canada, Sweden and elsewhere. Families like the Seney, engaged in retail trades, insurance, law and medicine, were the entering wedge of a French-Canadian middle class.

Architecturally, the Seney House is significant as an excellent and unusually well preserved example of Victorian Vernacular architecture. Cheap "balloon" (two-by-four) framing and the merchandized mass production of wooden ornamentation made these ornate and sometimes extravagantly asymmetrical house widely affordable.

SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

Thompson Land Records 31:9 (1894)  
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 _____