

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

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

262

63/58/15/B

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

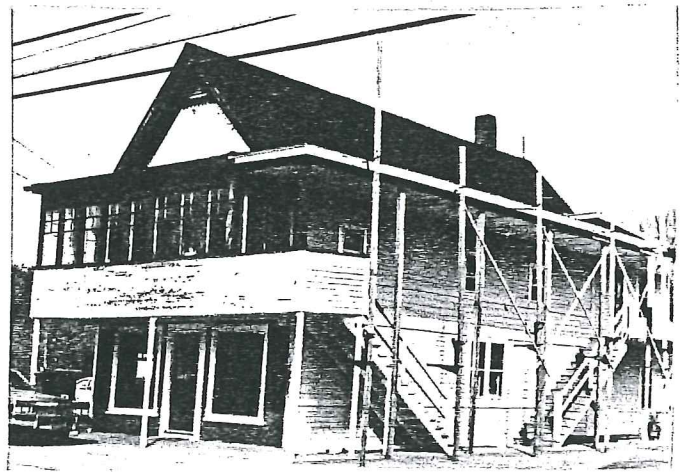
IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIPTION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) GROSVENORDALE POST OFFICE		(Historic) THOMAS HUTCHINSON STORE	
2. TOWN CITY THOMPSON		VILLAGE GROSVENORDALE	COUNTY WINDHAM
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 1612 ROUTE 12 (655 RIVERSIDE DR.)		63/58-15B	
4. OWNER(S) LAROCHE, PAUL J., N. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
5. USE (Present) Post Office/Residence		(Historic) Fire Station/Store	
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 During Postal hours
7. STYLE OF BUILDING Vernacular		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1870	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input type="checkbox"/> 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 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 2 1/2		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 20' x 60'	
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Later first floor storefront, later porch
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density			
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			

Just north of the 1862 Grosvenordale mill in a row of 19th century buildings.

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE C28	
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 flanked by large plate glass windows. Two story porch: steel posts on first floor, glassed-in with clapboarded rail on second. Sawtooth shingles and triangular louver in peak.

Right elevation has recent wooden firestairs, band of decorative shingles in various patterns between stories. Left elevation has same shingles. Sash is mixed. Large shed roofed two story rear wing.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This considerably altered building now serves as the Grosvenordale Post Office; during much of the late 19th century it was known as the Thomas Hutchinson Store, selling a variety of goods to workers at the nearby Grosvenor Dale Company cotton mills in Grosvenordale and North Grosvenordale.

Following its tenure as a store, the building served as a fire station, owned by the Grosvenor Dale Company. In 1954, the Grosvenor Dale Company sold off its very last holdings in Thompson, including this building.

Although highly altered, the Hutchinson Store is historically significant as a longtime community institution, not only as a store, but also as a fire station and post office.

The decorative wood shingles are typical of Victorian Vernacular architecture, which features ornate wood decoration made affordable by 19th century advances in mechanized wood forming technology.

SOURCES

1887 View
Thompson Land Records 63:547-56 (1954); 65:65 (1954)

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Other _____

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Explanaton _____