

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

252

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

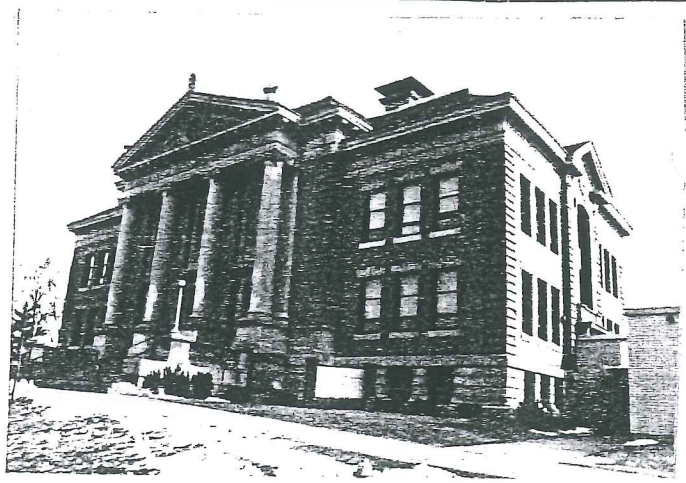
63/58/25/1

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)	
	TOURTELLOTTÉ MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL	TOURTELLOTTÉ MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE
	THOMPSON	NORTH GROSVENORDALE
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)	
	1372 ROUTE 12	(785 Riverside Dr.)
	4. OWNER(S)	
	TOWN OF THOMPSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private
	5. USE (Present) (Historic)	
	HIGH SCHOOL	High School, Middle & Elementary School
DESCRIPTION	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
	INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	IF YES, EXPLAIN Public School	
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING	
	Neoclassical	
	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
	1907	
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Cast stone	
	<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 foundation		
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame <input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon		
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street		
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		
2 1/2		
APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
110' x 60'		
12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior)		
<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)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
WHEN? (Alterations)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
IF YES, EXPLAIN		
Mod. metal sash, 1960 right wing		
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)		
On large wooded hilltop lot		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No surrounding buildings visible from site		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density		
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS		
On a wooded hilltop at the south end of North Grosvenordale.		

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE A21	
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 central gabled entry pavillion, three bays to left and right. Sash generally 1-over-1 modern metal, sandstone sills, cast stone lintels with Greek Key design. Granite ashlar foundation, raised basement finished in sandstone ashlar, sandstone water table.
 Walls tan brick laid up in common bond, brick quoins at all principal corners. Molded architrave, plain frieze, egg-and-dart molding under molded cornice.
 Pavillion: granite steps, cast-stone railing in radial pattern. Full height gabled portico on two-story Ionic columns with entasis, swags on capitals. All door and window openings molded and crossetted. Double narrow paneled wood doors with small, square radial-glazed windows at top. Glazed transom. Second floor windows now covered with translucent fiberglass panels. Cast stone scroll-and-floral band between stories. Pedimented peak has cornice detailing as mentioned, also molded mutules, cut to plumb under rakes. Tympanum has large circular attic window, cornucopia, vine, and floral motifs. Shell at peak, Roman oil lamps to left and right.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE
 This ornate Neoclassical building was donated to the Town of Thompson in 1907 by Jacob F. and Harriet Arnold Tourtellotte. The Tourtellottes, whose family had longtime connections to Thompson, made a sizeable fortune in banking in northeastern Connecticut before moving to Minnesota. Before the erection of this building, the few Thompson students who attended high school went to Putnam, Webster, Southbridge, or Burrilville, or attended private academies.
 When it opened, the school had only two teachers; Inez Kimball of Providence, who taught the commercial course, and Edith Brown, who headed the college preparatory program and taught languages. Only 47 students attended the school in its first year of operation, the first class graduated in 1911. The first principal was George W. Hathaway, a graduate of Brown. The challenges of running a large high school seem to have strained Thompson's educational system. In its early years, the school had no library, and there was a remarkably high turnover among teachers and principals alike.
 The Tourtellotte Memorial High School is historically significant as a longtime community institution, and for its connection to the Tourtellottes, a locally prominent family.

SOURCES
 Thompson Annual Reports 1909-1915
 Thompson Land Records 33:315 (1909)

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known
 Highways
 Vandalism
 Developers
 Other Major additions proposed

Renewal
 Private
 Deterioration
 Zoning
 Explanaton _____

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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 TOURTELLOTTE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
 Item number: _____ Date: _____

#17 Continued ...

Side elevations have smaller single-bay central gabled entry pavillions with simplified detailing (altered on right by 1960 addition). Side pavillions have second floor window arrays with cast stone drip moldings, ocular marble attic panels with keyblock surrounds, molded cornices with partial return. Added stucco stair tower at right rear. Interiors have extensive Neoclassical detailing.

#19 Continued ...

Architecturally, it is significant as one of Thompson's finest buildings, and as a Neoclassical building of unusual distinction. The Neoclassical style was part of a renewed interest in classical precedents in architecture which followed Chicago's Columbian Exposition of 1893. Neoclassical buildings generally feature an extensive and eclectic array of classical detailing; the tripartite massing and central entry pavillion seen on the Tourtellotte School are also a hallmark of the style.