

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

141

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

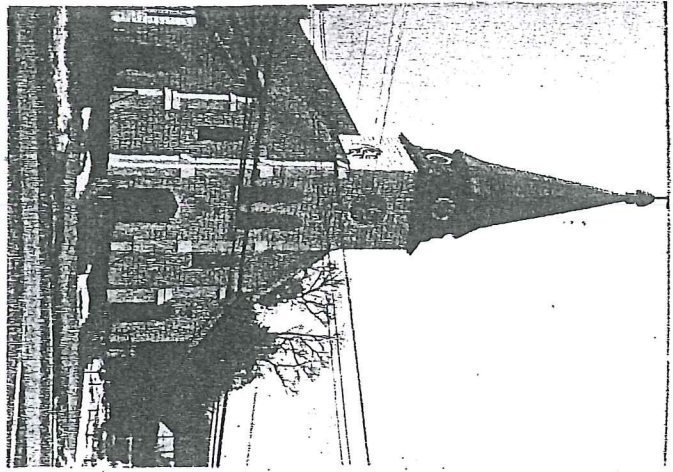
63/94/3/1

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)		ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH		ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	
	2. TOWN CITY		VILLAGE		COUNTY	
	THOMPSON		NORTH GROSVENORDALE		WINDHAM	
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)					
	MAIN STREET		(18 MAIN ST.)		63/171/169/94-3	
	4. OWNER(S)					
	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SOCIETY, N. GROSVENORDALE, CT. 06255				<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
	5. USE (Present) (Historic)					
	Church			Church		
	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		During services		
7. STYLE OF BUILDING				DATE OF CONSTRUCTION		
Gothic Revival				c. 1872		
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard		<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foundation Brick		
<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 checked="" 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"/> Gambrel		<input type="checkbox"/> Shed		<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> Hip		<input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> Round		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		
(Material)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt		<input type="checkbox"/> Slate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> Tin		<input type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street		
<input type="checkbox"/> Built up		<input type="checkbox"/> Tile		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Copper		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street						
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS				
3		44' x 130'				
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"/> 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		
				Siding		
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 parcel w/playground, cemetery, rectory				
<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"/> Commercial		<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial		<input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density				
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS						
In a well preserved 19th century mill village.						

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
	Mark McDonough	1986
COMPILED BY	VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE
	SW	A20
	NAME	DATE
	Mark McDonough	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 central entry pavillion, double paneled wood doors in pointed arched surround. Above entry, quatrefoil panel, then double lancet stained glass windows. Projecting pavillion forms base of steeple. Principal corners have sided pilasters suggesting Medieval buttresses.

To left and right of entry, additional lancet windows, then single wood paneled doors in round arched openings.

Steeple: circular stained glass windows in base with Maltese-cross motif, then flared copper clad apron with circular louvers. Octagonal spire with Celtic cross on top. Side elevations have lancet stained glass windows with various designs in green glass, including crown of thorns, hammer and tongs, chalice. Both side elevations have large cross-gabled wing with large lancet stained glass windows.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
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19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Before about 1850, the number of non-Protestant residents in Thompson was almost insignificant; the overwhelming majority of Thompson residents were of Anglo-Saxon stock, and either Congregationalist, Baptist, or Methodist.

In the 1850s, the Mason and Grosvenor families, which owned the bulk of Thompson's cotton textile industry, began to tap French Canada as a source of cheap unskilled labor. Large Catholic families were ideal for an industrial system which depended heavily on child labor, long hours, and strict discipline. The French-Canadians for their part, saw labor in American cotton mills as a way to escape the grinding povety of rural Quebec. By 1870 Thompson was well on its way to becoming one of the largest French-Canadian settlements in New England, and the mill villages of Grosvenordale and North Grosvenordale were overwhelmingly French speaking and Catholic.

The central diocese of Connecticut, ruled by the Irish Catholics of Hartford, was rather slow to respond to the growth of French-Canadian communities. Before 1866, Thompson's Catholics were forced to travel to Putnam or Webster to attend Mass. In 1866, Thompson became a mission parish of Putnam; Masses were held in the Baptist Meeting House, and

SOURCES

Bayles, History of Windham County, p. 693

Margolic, Patterns of Change in New England Textile Towns, p. 182-84

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"/> Deterloration	<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 #19 ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Item number: _____ Date: _____

later at a house in Three Rows, the mill village neighborhood once known as "Little Canada".

In 1872, Putnam's priest, Father Vygen, purchased 12 acres of land strategically located between Grosvenordale and North Grosvenordale. He hired Louis P. Lamoureux to design and build a church and parish house at a cost of \$10,000. The building was dedicated in September, 1872, and named after St. Joseph, the patron saint of French Canada. The first priest was Hyacinthe Martial, a French speaking Belgian.

Historically, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church is significant as a longtime community institution in Thompson, and for its connection with the Grosvenordale's French-Canadian community, the villages' most significant and numerous ethnic group during the late 19th century.

Architecturally, it is somewhat altered by modern siding, but is significant as a good example of the Gothic Revival style. The Gothic Revival began as a whimsical mode for country houses in mid 18th century England, spread to America as a domestic style in the 1840s and 1850s, and was revived in the Victorian era as a style for churches and other public buildings. Typical Gothic features present here include the buttress like pilasters, the use of quatrefoil and pointed arched forms, and the steep roof gable.

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 (203) 566-3005

142

63/94/3/1

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

DESCRIPTION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <i>(Historic)</i> ST. JOSEPH'S RECTORY	
2. TOWN CITY THOMPSON	VILLAGE NORTH GROSVENORDALE
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) MAIN STREET, NO. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255 (12 MAIN ST.) 63/169/171/94-3	
4. OWNER(S) ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SOCIETY, NO. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
5. USE (Present) <i>(Historic)</i> Rectory	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. STYLE OF BUILDING Second Empire	
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"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel
10. ROOF (Type)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed
<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round
<i>(Material)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt
<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) _____
11. NUMBER OF STORIES 2 1/2	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 33' x 48'
12. CONDITION (Structural) <i>(Exterior)</i>	
<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) <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 storm sash	
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) Just to the east of St. Joseph Church
<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 In a well preserved 19th century mill village.	

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW SW	NEGATIVE ON FILE A19	
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 with round arched radial glazed fanlight. Sash generally 2-over-2. Flat arched windows with cast stone keyblocks. Cast stone quoins on principal corners.

Porch covers facade, wraps around left corner to meet bay window. Porch has turned balusters, molded rail, paired Tuscan columns; molded architrave, plain frieze, molded cornice, pedimented peak above entry. Plain frieze and molded cornice topped by mansard with patterned hexagonal slates, gabled roof dormers. Dormers have incised scroll designs on peak, molded bracketed cornices. Right elevation has nearly flush two bay wing with similar detailing.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This building, which serves as a pastorage for the adjacent St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, was built in 1872 and formally dedicated in 1873. Despite its large and growing French-Canadian Catholic population, Thompson had no formal church status until 1866, when it became a mission parish of Putnam. After several years of holding Mass in rented buildings, Putnam's Father Vygen purchased 12 acres of land strategically located between the mill villages of Grosvenordale and North Grosvenordale and hired Louis P. Lamoureux to build a church and parish house.

Historically, Saint Joseph's pastorage is significant for its connection as a longtime community institution in Thompson, and for its association with the Grosvenordale's French-Canadian community, the villages' most significant and numerous ethnic group during the late 19th century.

Architecturally, it is significant as a well preserved example of the Second Empire style. This style, based on contemporaneous Parisian architecture, was briefly but furiously popular in the 1870s; its hallmark is the dormered mansard roof.

SOURCES

Bayles, History of Windham County, p. 693

Margolick, Patterns of Change in New England Textile Towns, p. 182-4

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 _____