

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

167

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

67/96/12/11

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

DESCRIPTION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common)		(Historic)	
THOMPSON		MECHANICSVILLE MILL HOUSING	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
THOMPSON	MECHANICSVILLE	WINDHAM	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)			
35 OLD ROUTE 12		(138 RIVERSIDE DR.)	
4. OWNER(S)		67/96-12	
BRIERE, ALFRED H., JR. & JUNE M., 62 ARTHUR ST., PUTNAM, CT 06260 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
5. USE (Present)		(Historic)	
Residence		Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	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	
Mill Housing		19th-century	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chimneys	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick Foundation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone	
<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street
11. NUMBER OF STORIES	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
1 1/2	44' X 26'		
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)
<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 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"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density	

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

One of a number of similar mill houses in this 19th-century mill village.

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough	DATE 1986
	VIEW E	NEGATIVE ON FILE F22
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)

Six-bay facade, entries in second and fifth bays. Sash generally 2-over-2; small frieze-band windows with 3-over-3 in third and fourth bays. Paneled wood doors, rectangular-pane glazed transom, flat molded caps above a wide plain frieze.

Side elevations are plain, rear elevation is similar to front with simpler detailing.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
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19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This simple dwelling is one of several similar types built in the mid 19th-century to house workers at the nearby Mechanicsville woolen mills. The mills were originally developed in 1827 by a local group incorporated as The Mechanic's Company. After a long and complex history including several fires and numerous changes in ownership, they were bought in the 20th century by the Cluett, Peabody Company and converted to cotton textile operations. The mills were destroyed in the flood of 1955.

This building is significant as a part of a large assemblage of utilitarian mill housing in Mechanicsville, illustrating the tremendous impact of 19th-century textile manufacturing on what had been a relatively isolated rural township. The neat rows of nearly identical mill housing preserved in the surrounding neighborhood show the 19th-century millowner's penchant for providing not only employment, but also housing, recreation, religious institutions, and other amenities, all combined in the context of an orderly, company-controlled village.

SOURCES

Bayles, History of Windham County, P. 700

Brief Historical Tour

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 _____