

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

343

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

105/38/11/11

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) (Historic)  
 WILLIAM H. CHANDLER HOUSE

2. TOWN CITY VILLAGE COUNTY  
 THOMPSON THOMPSON HILL WINDHAM

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 304-306  
 1955 ROUTE 193 (304 THOMPSON RO.) 105/38-11 (2)

4. OWNER(S)  
 WILLIAMS, DONALD & DONNA R., THOMPSON, CT 06277  Public  Private

5. USE (Present) (Historic)  
 Residence Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD  Yes  No  
 INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE  Yes  No IF YES EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING DATE OF CONSTRUCTION  
 Greek Revival c. 1842

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Chimneys	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	Foundation	
<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 facing		

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  
 2 1/2 40' x 32' (main part)

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) 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	Extensive mid 19th century remodelling
--	--------------------------------	---	-----------------------------	--

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)
Large 1888 carriage house to rear (separate form)			
<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 Thompson Hill, an extensive and well preserved 19th century village center.

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW W	NEGATIVE ON FILE I-11	
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)

Five-bay facade, central entry. One story porch with fluted Ionic columns, molded rail, turned balusters. Clapboarded architrave, plain frieze, molded denticular cornice. Porch forms small rounded pavillion at right front corner, extends across right elevation.

Entry: original heavy paneled door; rectangular sidelights over panels, flanked by wide paneled pilasters. Glazed transom under heavy plain lintel with molded cap. Transom has leaded glazing in complex geometric pattern, cast lead decorations.

Sash is generally 6-over-6; above, plain frieze, simple molded caps. Paneled corner pilasters. Main cornice treatment as porch; molded cornice shows full return. To left, large two story parallel wing with shallow pitched roof. Right elevation has side entry similar to front. Large cross-gabled rear wing; left elevation has c. 1855 porch on octagonal columns.

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
--------------	---------

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house occupies the site of and may incorporate some of the fabric of a much earlier dwelling built about 1740 by John Corbin. However, the bulk of the house and all of the ornamental detail dates to about 1842, when lawyer William H. Chandler purchased the property from the Dresser family.

Chandler, born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1815, graduated from Yale in 1839. His personal biography is somewhat contradictory; one 19th century account says he decided not to practice law because of weak eyesight -- but the same source credits Chandler with being an avid reader. Be that as it may, Chandler, a young man of some means, came to Thompson Hill to pursue the life of the country gentlemen. He served in the General Assembly, was a State Senator, and helped organize the planting of trees on Thompson Green in the 1840s.

Chandler fatally strained himself helping clear the snow from the streets after the famous March blizzard of 1888; he was 73. The house was next occupied by his son, Randolp H. Chandler, who built the adjacent carriage house.

Historically, the William H. Chandler House is significant for its connection with a

SOURCES

Bayles, History of Windham County. pp. 708-9  
 Interview with owner  
 Thompson Land Records 16:91, 93 (1942); 17:336 (1847)  
 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"/> Deterloration	<input type="checkbox"/> Zoning	<input type="checkbox"/> Explanation _____

343

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>			
<b>TOWN NO.:</b>	<b>SITE NO.:</b>		
<b>UTM: 18</b> / - / - / - / - / -			
<b>QUAD:</b>			
<b>DISTRICT:</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>NR:</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
			<b>POTENTIAL</b>

CONTINUATION SHEET

#19 WILLIAM H. CHANDLER HOUSE

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

prominent local citizen, and as part of a large and well preserved assemblage of older buildings on Thompson Hill.

Architecturally, it is significant as one of Thompson's finest examples of the Greek Revival style. Like many early builders of Greek Revival houses in Connecticut, Chandler could not bring himself to abandon the traditional ridge parallel orientation for a gable-to-street configuration (which more clearly suggests a classical Greek temple), but the influence of Greek architecture can be seen in the trabeated entry, Ionic columns, prominent entablature, and pedimented peaks.

342

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

105/38/11/1

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Town No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Site No.: \_\_\_\_\_

UTM: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

QUAD: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT:  S  NR IF NR, SPECIFY  Actual  Potential

IDENTIFICATION	1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>		RANDOLPH CHANDLER CARRIAGE HOUSE		
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY		
	THOMPSON	THOMPSON HILL	WINDHAM		
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		105/38-11 (1)		
	1951 ROUTE 193		304-306 Thompson Rd.		
DESCRIPTION	4. OWNER(S)		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		
	WILLIAMS, DONALD E. & DONNA R., THOMPSON, CT 06277				
	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>		Residence/Storage		
			Carriage House/Barn		
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:		EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
			INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
			IF YES, EXPLAIN _____		
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION		
	Victorian Vernacular		c. 1888		
	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) _____ N/A <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		50' x 46'			
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 type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) Set back on large lot; main house just to southeast <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"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density					
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS					
In Thompson Hill, an extensive and well preserved 19th century village center.					

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW W	NEGATIVE ON FILE I-10	
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)  
 Complex mass: Main gabled wing with central cupola; large right front cross gable treated as roof dormer; lower parallel hip roofed left wing. Large rear barn/wing with small attached shed. Facade bays separated by prominent vertical timbers.

Left wing has two carriage openings framed by square posts with simple curved brackets. Main wing left has large double barn doors, each with 20 small panes over three chamfered panels. Right front cross-gable has recessed entry at left; wood door with stained glass border pane window, border pane stained glass window above. Large single siding barn door with small panes and chamfered panels.

Above, peak has open porch with balustrade, shallow round arched opening framed by shingled piers. Porch has central double doors with round arched windows and heavy moldings, border pane stained glass window to left. Fishscale shingles in peak. Cupola has flared apron with fishscale shingles, radial vanes, flared shingled roof. Hip-roofed roof dormer to left.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
--------------	---------

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This large carriage house and barn was built in 1888 by Cyrus Wheaton for lawyer and gentleman farmer Randolph Chandler (1853-1933), member of a prominent local family. It is historically significant as part of a large assemblage of well preserved older buildings surrounding Thompson Hill, which experienced a boom early in the 19th century as a turnpike trading center and was revived near the end of the century as a summer resort.

Architecturally, the Randolph H. Chandler Carriage House is significant as one of Thompson's best examples of Victorian Vernacular architecture, characterized by ornate wooden ornamentation (cupola, fishscale shingles, chamfered panels). The carriage house also illustrates the influence of several more formal styles. The shingled piers of the attic level porch suggest the influence of the Shingle style, the extravagantly asymmetrical massing and border pane sash are typical of Queen Anne dwellings, and the prominent vertical elements of the facade recall the Stick style.

SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

Interview with owner  
 Thompson Land Records  
 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 _____