

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

322

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

105/40/13/1

| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | |
|--|--|
| Town No.: | Site No.: |
| UTM | |
| QUAD: | |
| DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR | IF NR, SPECIFY <input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential |

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIPTION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic)
 SAMUEL WATSON HOUSE

2. TOWN CITY THOMPSON VILLAGE THOMPSON COUNTY WINDHAM

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)
 1833 ROUTE 193 (374 THOMPSON RD.) 105/40-13

4. OWNER(S)
 GODFREY, ROBERT S. & JO ANN F., 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

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Greek Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1845 (remodelled)

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

Clapboard Asbestos Siding Brick Other (Specify) Flushboarded peak

Wood Shingle Asphalt Siding Fieldstone Foundation

Board & Batten Stucco Cobblestone

Aluminum Siding Concrete Type: Custom Type:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

Wood frame Post and beam Balloon

Load bearing masonry Structural iron or steel

Other (Specify)

10. ROOF (Type)

Gable Flat Mansard Monitor Sawtooth

Gambrel Shed Hip Round Other (Specify)

Material)

Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Slate Gable end to the street

Asphalt shingle Built up Tile Other (Specify) Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 41' x 50'

12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location) (Alterations)

On original site Moved WHEN? IF YES, EXPLAIN Yes No

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Barn Shed Garage Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)

Carriage house Shop Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

Open land Wood-land Residential Scattered buildings visible from site

Commercial Industrial Rural High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

On Thompson Hill, in a well preserved 19th century village center.

| | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| PHOTO | PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough | | DATE 1986 |
| | VIEW NW | NEGATIVE ON FILE E20 | |
| 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, windows paired and offset towards corners of house. Sash generally 6-over-6, molded window surrounds. Entry has heavy paneled wood door, geometric leaded sidelights flanked by slender paneled pilasters. Molded transom bar, semi-elliptical radial glazed leaded paneled fanlight with molded keyblock surround. Flush boarded pedimented peak is carried forward on large two story fluted Doric columns. Wide plain frieze with central molding, molded cornice.

Two quarter ellipse; attic louvers. Right elevation has side entry with similar detailing, Doric columned port cochere.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house, virtually re-built in the Greek Revival style about 1845, was originally built in the 1760s by Samuel Watson. At the time, Thompson Hill was a lightly settled village, distinguished primarily by the presence of the Congregational Meeting House. Watson died in 1781; his widow occupied the house for some years thereafter. By the time of her death, Thompson Hill had been transformed into a busy turnpike trading center and the Watson land was in much demand.

This house and the bulk of the property, which originally included most of the Hill's north end, was sold to George Larned, Esq.; several small parcels were sold off as house lots. Larned's daughter, Ellen Douglas Larned, later known as the historian of Windham County, was born in the house in 1825.

Historically, the Samuel Watson House is significant as one of Thompson's oldest surviving buildings, 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 most extravagant Greek Revival

Brief Historical Tour

SOURCES

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Other _____

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Explanation _____

300

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 SAMUEL WATSON HOUSE
 Item number: _____ Date: _____

houses. The pedimented peak, prominent frieze, and large Doric columns were intended to recall the columns, massing, and formal entablature of a classical Greek temple. The Greek Revival style, the first truly national architectural style in America, was most popular between about 1835 and 1860.

The Watson house's 18th century origins are still visible in the buildings five-bay facade, central entry, and paired and offset window bays.