

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

HIST-6 NEW 5/77

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

288

67/96/811

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)	
		MECHANICSVILLE MILL HOUSING	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
THOMPSON	MECHANICSVILLE	WINDHAM	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		67/96-8	
2623 ROUTE 12 (92 RIVERSIDE DR.)			
4. OWNER(S)		RR2	
GESNALDI, PHILOMENA & SUROZENSKI, ANNA P.		THOMPSON, CT 06277	
5. USE (Present)		Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Residence		(Historic) 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input 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 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"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round
(Material)			(ridge parallel w/front gable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
			<input type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street
			<input type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS	
1 1/2			
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
		Siding, extensively remodelled	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
			Outhouse in rear (now remodelled)
<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; one of two nearly identical houses.

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW NW	NEGATIVE ON FILE G3	
COMPILED BY	NAME Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	ORGANIZATION Town of Thompson, Connecticut		
	ADDRESS		
20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:			



DESCRIPTION (Continued)	17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)	
	<p>Front-facing two-bay gable with left and right cross gabled wings. Modern open porches to left and right with "wrought iron" steel supports and railings. Sash 2-over-1.</p> <p>Entries on left and right walls of front gable, sheltered by porches. Lower gabled wings to left and right.</p>	
SIGNIFICANCE	18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
	<p>19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE</p> <p>Extensively remodelled, this single family house was originally a duplex which housed supervisory workers at the Mechanicsville woolen mills. The mills, destroyed in the flood of 1955, had a long and varied history dating back to the formation of the Mechanics' Company, a group of local investors which built a woolen mill, a sawmill, and an eight tenement block on the site in 1827.</p> <p>The company quickly failed, and the original mill burned in 1843. A long series of subsequent owners included members of several prominent Rhode Island and Connecticut mill families, including the Wilkinsons, Sayles, and Sabins. It is possible that this house was built by Thomas B. Sayles and B. S. Washburn, who took over the property in 1879.</p> <p>Despite the loss of the mills, this house is architecturally and historically significant as part of a mill village complex which includes the Cascades Hotel, the Mechanicsville Store and Post Office, and a variety of nearby mill housing. These closely spaced and uniform structures illustrate the mill village ideal, a single easily supervised environment combining work, housing, religious and retail facilities, and recreation.</p>	
SOURCES	<p>Bagnall, <u>Contributions to American Economic History</u></p> <p>Margolick, <u>Patterns of Change in New England Textile Towns</u></p> <p>Van Slyck, <u>Representatives of New England Manufacturers</u></p>	

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 _____	