

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY**  
**BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

HIST-6 1-15-77

391

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

77/62/57/1

| 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)   |  | DANFORTH BURGESS HOUSE  |  |
|   | 2. TOWN CITY   | VILLAGE  | COUNTY  |  |
|   | THOMPSON   | WILSONVILLE  | WINDHAM   |  |
|   | 3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)   |  | 77/62-57  |  |
|   | 801 WILSONVILLE ROAD (97 WILSONVILLE RD)   |  |   |  |
|   | 4. OWNER(S)  |  | Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |  |
|   | RIVERS, WILLIAM J. & CHERYL A., RR#1, N. GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255   |  |   |  |
|   | 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  |  |
|   | Greek Revival  |  | c. 1861   |  |
|   | 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) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone<br><input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone<br><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<br><input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel<br><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<br><input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____<br>(Material)<br><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<br><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   |  | 33' x 23'  |   |  |
| 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) IF YES, EXPLAIN  |   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved   |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Extensive; see #17 |   |  |
| 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES  |  |  |   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____<br><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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density  |  |  |   |  |
| 16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS  |  |  |   |  |
| One of several 19th century houses on this stretch of Wilsonville Road; just east of the 19th century village center.   |  |  |   |  |

(OVER)

|             |   |                         |
|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| PHOTO       | PHOTOGRAPHER<br>Mark McDonough                | DATE<br>1986            |
|             | VIEW<br>SW                                    | NEGATIVE ON FILE<br>L32 |
| COMPILED BY | NAME<br>Mark McDonough                        | DATE<br>1986            |
|             | ORGANIZATION<br>Town of Thompson, Connecticut |                         |
|             | ADDRESS                                       |                         |



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

Facade covered by full width framed-in porch. Front wall has central entry, bay window to left, two simple windows to right. Sash mixed. Wood door has single large pane over panels. Wide plain corner pilasters with molded capitals. Wide plain frieze. Molded cornice shows partial return.

Most windows on all elevations have paneled surrounds with paneled corner blocks. Lower parallel left wing with similar detailing; one story flat roofed addition at end of wing.

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

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Danforth Burgess built this Greek Revival house about 1861 on land purchased from John R. Carter. Burgess, a farmer, was solvent, if not widely prosperous. Upon his death in 1872, he left a comfortable \$7,700 estate, most of it in lands and buildings. Burgess' other property included such items as a sleigh, a manure hook, an express wagon, a feather bed, and a chestnut horse.

Historically, the Burgess House is significant as one of several older farmhouses scattered along Wilsonville Road.

Architecturally, it is considerably altered by the addition of a framed-in front porch, but still shows a variety of Greek Revival detail. The corner pilasters and prominent frieze and cornice were intended to suggest the columns and formal entablatures of a classical Greek temple; their application to a simple ridge-parallel house is typical of northeastern Connecticut. The elaborate window surrounds foreshadow the ornate detailing of the Victorian era.

SOURCES

Thompson Land Records 21:238 (1861)  
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 _____ |