



**Thompson
Historical
Society**

Thompson Historical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 47
Thompson, CT 06277

Historic Record of Property and Places in Thompson, CT

Property Address: 27 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

Parcel No.: 169-91-25

Historical Property Name (if applicable): Coman Block

THS Reference No.: MS006;137

Lat/Long: 41.97953947484874, -71.90203075075473

Revisions to this document

Revision	Revised By/Date	Description of Revision
01	M. Snay 6/17/21	Document created
02	M. Snay 5/10/24	Revised form format and file name format

INDEX TO THIS DOCUMENT

Description

Photo from Thompson Assessor Database

1986 Historic House survey

DESCRIPTION/DETAILS

Photos of interior, taken on 6/16/21 by Mark Snay, are in the THS digital archives. Renovations have occurred over the past several years. First floor had been renovated by previous owner for use as bakery. Several businesses failed over past decade, believed due to location being off the main road. Basement, at this date, has hair salon in operation.

The second floor has all original framing intact but all plaster and lath is removed. Some linoleum is still present in areas as well as hardwood flooring. The ceiling joists are 2x6 rough cut lumber which are resting on the brickwork outer walls. The joists are pegged to the carrier beams. Window headers appear to be hewn timber.

The third floor is almost a fully open space, purposely built in this manner with framing exposed. The staircase is enclosed in the southeast corner and there was a room in the southwest corner, each taking up about half the width of the front of the building. Between the two rooms is an approximately 8" raised floor which was believed to have been used as a stage for either meetings or shows. There is evidence on the floor of the stage that indicate there may have been a partition splitting the stage into two longitudinal sections. There is also evidence of where four chimneys were located, two on each side wall near front and rear corners. Ceiling joists are mortised into the carrier beans and pegged in place.

From Town of Thompson Tax Assessor page:



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

137

169/91/25//

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

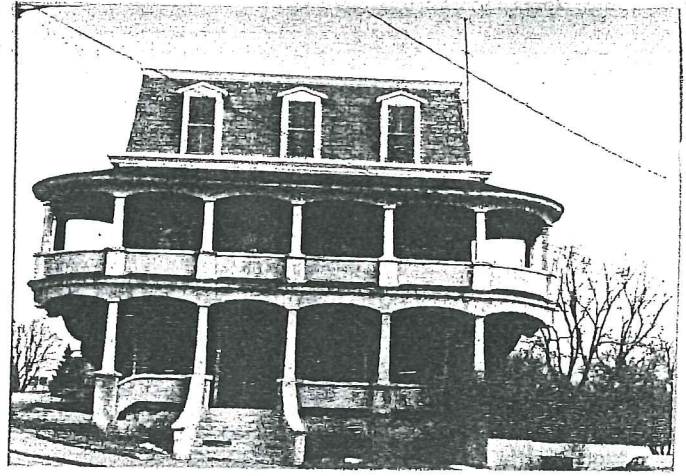
1. BUILDING NAME (Common)		(Historic)	
THOMPSON		THE COMAN BLOCK	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
THOMPSON	NORTH GROSVENORDALE	WINDHAM	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)			169/91-25
190 MAIN STREET (27 MAIN ST.)			
4. OWNER(S)			
BELLEROSE, LAWRENCE J., 110 CHURCH STREET, PUTNAM, CT 06260			
5. USE (Present)		(Historic)	
Residence		Store/Commercial	
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		

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Second Empire		c. 1875	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: porch	<input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type:	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)			
10. ROOF (Type)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street
11. NUMBER OF STORIES	APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
2 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) IF YES, EXPLAIN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No porch c. 1920 REMOVED - 1993
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 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.			

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough	DATE 1986
	VIEW N	NEGATIVE ON FILE A14
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)

Four-bay facade with entry in second bay. Brick walls laid up in common bond with Flemish variation. Large double wooden doors with large lights over panels. Glazed transom now has electric fan installed.

First floor windows very large with six-pane sash, elsewhere windows generally segmental-arched with 2-over-2 sash. Molded cornice, mansard roof. Three gabled roof dormers.

Porch: Large two-story concrete porch. Square tapered posts and bases, concrete railing, shallow round-arched openings, plain frieze, molded cornice. Concrete steps with flared stair walls. On second floor, round porch extensions on left and right are supported by large concrete consoles.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The Coman Block was built about 1875 by John G. Coman, a prosperous farmer and merchant. In 1877, just before his death, John Coman deeded the property to Oscar Coman, who retained ownership until his death. In 1917, Alphonse Valade purchased it from Oscar Coman's estate and continued to operate the property as a store.

Historically, the Coman Block is significant for its connection with North Grosvenordale's history as a cotton textile mill village. When the Coman Block was built, North Grosvenordale was just entering a long period of prosperity. The Grosvenor-Dale Company had just completed large mills in Grosvenordale (1864) and North Grosvenordale (1872), and Main Street was becoming a lively social, commercial, and residential center. The building housed a retail store until relatively recent years, last operating as a candy and general store. Since the final closing of the North Grosvenordale mill in 1954, the area has declined economically. No retail businesses survive on Main Street.

Architecturally, the Coman Block is significant as a good example of the Second Empire style, marked here by the style's characteristic mansard roof. The exuberant poured-concrete porch is an early 20th-century addition.

SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

Interviews with local residents
Thompson Land Records 25:142 (1877)
Thompson Vital Statistics

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

<input 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 _____