

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

HIST-6 NEW 5/77

OCT 24 1988

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	1: 8 6 7: 6 4: 1: 0 4: 6 0: 7 5: 6: 0
QUAD:	Southington
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)	
	Ideal Forging Peck, Stow & Wilcox Factory	
	2. TOWN: CITY	VILLAGE COUNTY
	Southington Southington Hartford	
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)	
	217 Center Street (map 107, parcel 129) c.6 acres	
	4. OWNER(S) Ideal Forging Corp. 167 Center Street, Southington, CT 06489 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
DESCRIPTION	5. USE (Present) (Historic)	
	Manufacturing Manufacturing	
	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	
	Industrial vernacular 1912+	
	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 type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____ <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input checked="" 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 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		
1-2 See sketch plan		
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No See Item 17		
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 type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density		
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS		
Occupies a large lot bisected by the Quinnipiac River; across from Southington Cutlery complex; other later forge buildings nearby.		

(OVER)

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The former plant of Peck, Stow & Wilcox, now Ideal Forging, consists of several large buildings on the southern part of the parcel bounded by Factory, Center, Water, and Mill streets; the northern part, which formerly contained storage buildings and a large c.1870 H-plan factory, is vacant. Also demolished was a large foundry building and part of the powerhouse. The majority of the complex, as it now stands, was built in 1912, with further additions in the 1920s and 1930s. Remaining buildings include a huge sawtooth-roofed forging building and a large monitor-roofed annealing building, both steel-framed; 2-story brick manufacturing buildings, one of which was cut down from 5 stories, along Factory and Center streets; and several smaller buildings for ancillary processes, some with monitor roofs. (continued)

18. ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Despite extensive alterations, the former plant of Peck, Stow & Wilcox has exceptional local historical significance because of its associations with Southington's largest manufacturer. Formed in 1870 from three of the area's largest producers of tinners' tools, the merger achieved control over key patents in the industry, as well as production and marketing. Peck, Stow & Wilcox had over 500 employees by 1880 and continued to grow in subsequent years. In addition to tinners tools, the firm produced a general line of consumer and builders hardware which by 1890 filled a catalog of 600 pages. In 1912 the company expanded its earlier plant with large manufacturing buildings, mostly for machining, a huge forge, and a foundry (no longer extant). As the largest industrial enterprise in Southington, the company's influence permeated the community; its officers were prominent in the social and political life of the Southington, and they were involved in other large manufacturing enterprises such as the Pultz & Walkley bag works and Southington Cutlery. (continued)

SOURCES

"Aeroview of Southington, Connecticut, 1914"
 Atwater, History of Southington (1924).
 Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1911-1948.
 White, Frank G. "A Checklist of Tinner's Tool Manufacturers," Chronicle of the Early American Industries Assn., 32 (September, 1979): 42-45

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE	Place
	VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE	
COMPILED BY	NAME	DATE	Photograph
	Bruce Clouette and Matthew Roth	5/88	
	ORGANIZATION		
	Historic Resource Consultants		Here
	ADDRESS		
	55 Van Dyke Avenue, Hartford CT	06106	

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Other _____

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Explanation _____

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

217 Center Street

CONTINUATION SHEET Southington, CT 06489

Item number: _____ Date: 5/13/88

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

contributing

non-contributing

⑫ Dimensions and Layout of Buildings:

⑤

⑪
FACTORY STREET

Boundary of included portion

N

60'

⑬

QUINNIPIAC

CENTER STREET

RIVER

⑭
WATER STREET

