

**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

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

#9

<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>		Hillside
	2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY
	Norfolk		Litchfield
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)		
	Litchfield Road, west side		
	4. OWNER(S)		
	Thomas W. & Josephine S. Lane, Litchfield Road, Norfolk, CT 06058 <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	5. USE (Present) <span style="float: right;">(Historic)</span>		Summer residence
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:		IF YES, EXPLAIN
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
			c. 1908
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone, granite rubble <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Built up <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____			
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS	
1 1/2		48 x 96'	
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)		IF YES, EXPLAIN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden			
There is a fine view to the north.			
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density			
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			
The surrounding acreage has a number of large trees. As maintained by the first and second owners until 1965, there was little underbrush. The terrain was well-adapted to horseback riding.			

(OVER)

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The house is sited at the top of a winding drive on steeply sloping ground. The drive leads to the back (south side) of the house. Its dominant feature is a great expanse of red roof that slopes down to within four feet of the ground and is broken by a tall panelled brick chimney and a small peaked dormer. Entrance to the house is through a small porte cochere.

The front of the house faces north, toward the view. The house is built into the side of the hill so that the overall effect is horizontal, although in the center where the basement is at grade, the structure is three stories high. On the north side, the dominant features are the rugged rubble granite with low buttresses and the irregular roof line. The central section of the house has a gable roof modified by removing the attic

(continued)

18 ARCHITECT

A.S.G. Taylor or Taylor & Levi

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

For site, materials, eccentricity, and inventiveness, this is one of Taylor's more spectacular houses.

His client was equally spectacular, Mrs. Helen Hartley Jenkins (1860-1934). Mrs. Jenkins inherited the Remington Arms fortune, maintained several homes, and was active on many boards and in many charities. In particular, her generosity was responsible for the founding of the School of Nursing at Columbia University, where she was a friend of Nicholas Murray Butler and Professor Michael I. Pupin. Pupin had a home nearby in Norfolk, built of rugged stone in an even more Central European character than Hillside.

A collection of furniture made in Bohemia was in Mrs. Jenkins' possession, and was used in the house. The house was built with the use of this furniture in mind, and is sometimes referred to as a Bohemian house.

SOURCES

Interview with J. G. Swift, former owner, October 24, 1978.  
 Obituary, Helen Hartley Jenkins, New York Times, April 25, 1923, 22:1.  
 Interview with Mrs. Winter (Grace Hartley) Jenkins, November 6, 1978.

PHOTO  
 COMPILED BY

PHOTOGRAPHER

D. Ransom

DATE

October 1978

VIEW

A - Southwest; B - Northwest

NEGATIVE ON FILE

Conn. Historical Commission

Place

NAME

D. Ransom

DATE

Oct. 19, 1978

Photograph

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

Here

ADDRESS

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

117 115

20 SUBJECT FIELD EVALUATIONS

Verbal boundary description: NLR 54/64, 45 acres.

UTM Reference: 18/649880/4647620

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: 17 Date: Oct. 19, 1978

A.S.G. Taylor Thematic Group  
Norfolk, CT

Hillside #9

section at the front, giving an effect of gable over hip. The gable ends are half timbered. Diamond pane windows are arranged four or five in a row in deep stone window surrounds. A recessed gallery, 15 feet wide, runs in front of the living and dining rooms, with several projecting platforms for unobstructed appreciation of the view. The gallery has a balustrade of dark wood that is pierced with a series of narrow vertical openings. Dark wood is used again in the small peaked dormers.

Entrance from the porte cochere is to a balcony on the wall of the living room. Stairs descend from the balcony to the floor of the living room. The living room ceiling, close to 40 feet high, is supported by exposed, carved timbers. There is a walk-in fireplace, and ingle nook. A large dining room adjoins. There is no hall other than the entrance balcony.