**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY – BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

Please send completed form to: National Register and State Register Coordinator,
State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development,
One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford CT 06103

* Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

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### GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name (Common)</th>
<th>Gilbert &amp; Bennett School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Name (Historic)</td>
<td>Gilbert &amp; Bennett School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Address or Location</td>
<td>49 New Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town/City</td>
<td>Wilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>Fairfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner(s)</td>
<td>Town of Wilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PROPERTY INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Use</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historic Use</td>
<td>School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road?</td>
<td>☒ Yes ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior accessible?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☒ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes, explain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style of building</td>
<td>Eclectic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Construction</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

- ☐ Clapboard
- ☐ Asbestos Siding
- ☒ Brick
- ☐ Wood Shingle
- ☐ Asphalt Siding
- ☐ Fieldstone
- ☐ Board & Batten
- ☐ Stucco
- ☐ Cobblestone
- ☐ Aluminum Siding
- ☐ Concrete (Type ___________) ☐ Cut Stone (Type ___________)
- ☐ Other ___________

### Structural System

- ☐ Wood Frame
- ☐ Post & Beam
- ☐ Balloon
- ☒ Load bearing masonry
- ☐ Structural iron or steel
- ☐ Other ___________

### Roof (Type)

- ☒ Gable
- ☐ Flat
- ☐ Mansard
- ☐ Monitor
- ☐ Sawtooth
- ☐ Gambrel
- ☐ Shed
- ☐ Hip
- ☐ Round
- ☐ Other ___________

### Material

- ☐ Wood Shingle
- ☐ Roll Asphalt
- ☐ Tin
- ☐ Slate
- ☐ Asphalt Shingle
- ☐ Built up
- ☒ Tile
- ☐ Other ___________

### Number of Stories: 1

### Approximate Dimensions

### Structural Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

### Exterior Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

### Location Integrity: ☒ On original site ☐ Moved When? ___________

### Alterations? | ☐ Yes ☒ No |
| If yes, explain: | |

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**FOR OFFICE USE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town #</th>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>UTM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District: ☐ S ☒ NR</td>
<td>If NR, Specify: ☐ Actual ☐ Potential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT’D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:

☐ Barn  ☐ Shed  ☐ Garage  ☐ Carriage House  ☐ Shop  ☐ Garden

☐ Other landscape features or buildings: ______________________________________

Surrounding Environment:

☐ Open land  ☐ Woodland  ☑ Residential  ☐ Commercial  ☐ Industrial  ☐ Rural

☐ High building density  ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

  See continuation sheet.

• Other notable features of building or site (Interior and/or Exterior)

  See continuation sheet.

Architect N/A ___________________________________________ Builder N/A ___________________________________________

• Historical or Architectural importance:

  See continuation sheet.

• Sources:

  See continuation sheet.

Photographer Mary E. McCahon __________________________ Date 4/89

View E __________________________________________ Negative on File CTSHPO 9:16

Name Mary E. McCahon __________________________ Date 5/89

Organization Wilton Historical Society

Address 249 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897

• Subsequent field evaluations:

Threats to the building or site:

☑ None known  ☐ Highways  ☐ Vandalism  ☐ Developers  ☐ Renewal  ☐ Private

☐ Deterioration  ☐ Zoning  ☐ Other ________________________ ☐ Explanation ________________________

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Photograph 49 New Street. View east.

**Interrelationship of Buildings and Surroundings**

The school is located on a residential side street in Georgetown center. Open land to the west.

**Other Notable Features or Buildings on the Site**

The superb, detailed, 1-story, blond-brick, truncated hip-roofed school house is arranged with a large, interior room and eight classrooms around its perimeter. The mass of the building is relieved by applied gabled with an educational-motif cartouche in the peak at each end. A central curvilinear parapet and an elaborate, limestone frontispiece with consoles and modillions carrying a cartouche with a clock and maps of knowledge. The entrance bay is filled by double-leaf doors with glazed upper panels. Small hipped dormers are also set into the Spanish tile covered roof which adds a nice textural contrast to the building. The deep, overhanging eaves have decorative rafter ends and garland-festooned consoles between the bays set with coupled, 6-over-6 windows. The styling is eclectic, drawing elements from the Beaux Arts and Georgian revival modes. The building is extremely well preserved.
Historical and Architectural Importance

The handsome, architecturally significant school, the most ambitious of all the pre-consolidation facilities in Wilton, was constructed in 1915 on land donated by the Gilbert & Bennett Company. Money for the materials used in the construction was left in 1905 by Edwin Gilbert, the younger son of the founder and later president of Gilbert & Bennett. Funds for the construction itself were made possible by the workers of the company who opted for the school project rather than a pay raise to the town. It was one of the 10 district schools in Wilton and was by far the largest, no doubt owing to the population concentration in the village of Georgetown, location of the mill that was the national leader in woven cloth and related products. The school operated until June, 1971. The well preserved building now houses a private school, the Landmark Academy. It ranks as one of the significant public buildings in Georgetown built by the munificence of the Miller family who controlled the Gilbert & Bennett Company.

Sources

Edwards, Jerome. Interview, 8/89.

Conn. Historical Commission, Georgetown National Register nomination.