

PHO 369560

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| RECEIVED | MAY 10 1976 |
| DATE ENTERED | MAR 25 1977 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Poultney Central School

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Poultney

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vermont

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Vermont

CODE

50

COUNTY

Rutland

CODE

021

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER Storage |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Poultney School Board Town of Poultney

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Poultney

STATE

Vermont

__ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk of Poultney

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Poultney

STATE

Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey

DATE

1976

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on the north side of Main Street, Vermont Route 140, approximately one-eighth of a mile west of the intersection of Vermont Routes 140 and 30 and one-quarter of a mile east of the intersection of Vermont Routes 140 and 22A, the former Poultney Central School sits approximately two hundred and fifty feet back from the road on level grade. The school is oriented toward the road with its front (south) elevation facing the road.

The school is a rectangular, two-story building with a slate-covered hip roof. The building measures approximately 72 by 52 feet across the north and south, and the east and west elevations respectively. A 2-story, hip-roofed entrance and stair pavilion measuring approximately 36 feet across projects 13 feet from the center of the south (front) elevation. Another 2-story, hip-roofed pavilion measuring approximately 28 feet across projects approximately 12 feet from the center of the north (rear) elevation. The rear pavilion appears to be a later addition of undocumented date.

The foundation is of slate construction laid random covered with a disintegrating cement veneer. The walls are of wood frame construction covered with a brick veneer laid in running bond. The walls are separated from the foundation by a water table of polished slate. The roof is also of wood frame construction.

With the exception of the rear pavilion, the brick walls of the building are symmetrically divided into two-story recessed wall panels by corner and intermediate brick pilasters. The top of each panel is defined by a continuous brick frieze while the bottom of each panel is defined by the polished slate water table.

The south (front) elevation is divided into five panels, one on either side of the projecting pavilion and three across the front of the pavilion. The side elevations of the pavilion are each a single panel. Each of the panels on either side of the pavilion frames two windows on both the first and second floors. The outside panels on the front of the pavilion each frame one window on each floor. The center panel frames a round-arched entrance with double doors and a fanlight on the first floor and a round-arched window opening with a pair of round-arched, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows on the second. The window is similar in scale to the entrance and projects through the brick frieze which is arched to accommodate it.

The east and west (side) elevations are each divided into three panels. Each of the outside panels frames three close-set windows on both the first and second floors. (There are only two windows on the first floor of the west elevation's left outside panel as you face the elevation.) The center panels are slightly wider than the outside panels and frame two widely-spaced windows on each floor.

Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-1

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The north (rear) elevation originally was divided into five panels, each panel framing one window on both the first and second floors. (There are two windows on the first floor of the north elevation's right outside panel as you face the elevation.) The rear pavilion presently covers the center panel and part of the panels on either side from the edge of the window openings.

The rear pavilion has one small window centered on each floor of the pavilion's side elevations and an entrance with a single door and a transom light centered on each floor of the rear elevation. The four small windows on the side elevations appear to be later additions and the rear entrance on the first floor was originally a window. A brick water table covered with a cement veneer continues the line of the polished slate water table on the main building. A wood frame covered fire stair attached to the rear elevation gives access to the second floor entrance.

All of the fenestration is detailed with polished slate sills and arched lintels with radiating brick voussoirs. The fenestration on the front (south) elevation is differentiated from the rest by polished slate keystones and impost blocks. The front entrance also has polished slate jamb bases. All of the first floor window lintels and the second floor window lintels on the east and west (side) elevations are segmental arches. The second floor window lintels on the north (rear) and south (front) elevations are round arches. All of the windows are arched, 6/6, double hung sash.

The ridge of the main hip roof runs east and west, parallel with the north and south elevations and terminates on each end in a hip gable. The gables are covered with beaded, tongue-and-groove sheathing with plain fascia and soffets. Directly below both hip gables, another gable interrupts the plane of the roof and projects out over the east and west elevations directly above the center wall panels. Each of these projecting gables visually supports a large brick chimney stack with a slate-covered gable roof. These gables are also covered with beaded, tongue-and-groove sheathing and are decorated with a radiating sunburst of applied components. The fascia are incised with decorative vertical bands and circles.

The ridge of the hip roof on the south pavilion runs perpendicular to the main ridge and also terminates in a hip gable. The gable supports a square, wood frame, louvered bell cupola with a slate-covered pyramid roof. The cupola sits on a slate-covered base which flares out into the plane of the gable roof. A decorative band of applied blocks separates the cupola

Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-2

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

from the base. The gable is covered with beaded, tongue-and-groove sheathing and punctured by a round window surrounded by vertical, rectangular panels. The fascia are incised with decorative vertical bands and circles.

Directly below this gable, another gable interrupts the plane of the roof and projects out over the front elevation of the pavilion directly above the center wall panel. The gable is decorated with an incised and applied flower motif.

The wood cornice of the hip roof overhangs the brick walls approximately 2 1/2 feet. The cornice is continuous around the main building and the projecting pavilions and is supported by large scaled, wood, roof brackets, one above each wall pilaster. The brackets extend down below the line of the brick frieze and are elaborately constructed out of numerous built-up components. Between the brackets, the brick frieze is partially covered with wood panels and a band of applied circles.

In plan, the first and second floors of the school are identical. Two large, approximately square rooms flank either side of a wide center hall which opens directly off of the south entrance and stair pavilion. A winding flight of stairs rises on either side of the entrance in the south pavilion. The stair railings and the wainscoting are narrow, beaded, tongue-and-groove. The ceiling in each of the rooms is supported by a slender, cast iron, Corinthian column located directly in the center of the room.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ashley Wilson (Builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

No! S. Wilson

The former Poultney Central School is significant as an excellent example of vernacular High Victorian Italianate style architecture. The school is one of the prominent architectural landmarks in the architecturally rich village of Poultney.

The school was erected in 1885 and was built by Ashley Wilson, a local carpenter. Who the architect was, if indeed there ever was one, is not documented. The cost of the building was \$8,514.80. The furnishings cost an additional \$781.34.

Set back behind a broad expanse of lawn and parking lot, the site offers one of the only park areas along the length of Main Street. The Poultney Bicentennial Committee is promoting adaptive reuse of the building as a community center and slate museum. The Poultney School Board is considering restoring the building for continued use as an additional high school facility. National Register status will be instrumental in encouraging the implementation of any potential preservation project.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Official records of the Poultney School Board held by the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union, Depot Street, Poultney, Vermont.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|-----|------|---------|---|--|--|--|
| A | 1,8 | 6,4,2 | 6,6,0 | 4,8 | 1,9 | 6,2,0 | B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | | | | |
| C | | | | | | | D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Courtney Fisher, Preservationist

25 April 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Pavilion Building

802 828-3226

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Montpelier

Vermont

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

William B. Pinney

William B. Pinney

TITLE

Director; State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

April 25, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF

W. J. ...

DATE

3/25/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

W. J. ...

DATE

3/22/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ashley Wilson (Builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Poultney Central School is significant as an excellent example of vernacular architecture. The building is one of the prominent architectural landmarks in the architecturally rich village of Poultney.

The school was erected in 1885 and was built by Ashley Wilson, a local carpenter for \$8,514.80; the furnishings were an additional \$781.34. The building derives its interesting combination and arrangement of stylistic details from the fact that a carpenter, not an architect, constructed it. The massing and surfaces of the body of the structure are quite simple. The round - and segmentally - arched windows are a late use of window styles popular nearly two decades earlier. However, the carpenter's skill is revealed in the intricate wood trim of the bracketed and panelled frieze and in the gables of the front elevation of the building, decorative elements in the currently popular Eastlaskan style.

Set back behind a broad expanse of lawn and parking lot, the site offers one of the only park areas along the length of Main Street. The Poultney Bicentennial Committee is promoting adaptive reuse of the building as a community center and slate museum. The Poultney School Board is considering restoring the building for continued use as an additional high school facility. National Register status will be instrumental in encouraging the implementation of any potential preservation project.

