

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Vermont
COUNTY:	Chittenden
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 20 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Winooski Block

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Northeast corner of East Allen and Main Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Winooski

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Vermont District

STATE: Vermont

CODE: 50

COUNTY: Chittenden

CODE: 007

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Russell Niquette

STREET AND NUMBER:
41 East Allen Street

CITY OR TOWN: Winooski

STATE: Vermont

CODE: 50

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Winooski City Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
19 East Allen Street

CITY OR TOWN: Winooski

STATE: Vermont

CODE: 50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Vermont Division of Historic Sites

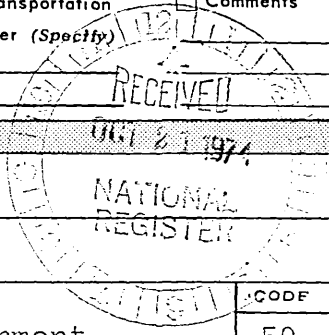
STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier

STATE: Vermont

CODE: 50

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Winooski Block is a large, three story building, 18 bays wide across its front and 6 bays deep. It is constructed of brick laid in common bond which was manufactured at Francis Le Clair's Malletts Bay Avenue brickyard. A flat roof with a number of interior chimneys caps the structure.

The Block is outstanding for its ornamental detail in a variety of materials. Most distinctive is the bracketed wooden cornice which crowns the East Allen Street facade with a partial return on the east and west elevations. This cornice runs horizontally along the outer thirds of the facade, then curves and steps up to twice its original height. It levels off again, until, above the two central bays of the facade, both sides curve up and meet to form a half circle. A pair of inverted brick buttresses give additional support to this raised and elaborated section of the cornice. Within the space formed by the rise of the cornice, "Winooski 1867 Block" appears in large wooden letters. Directly above the date and within the central arch of the cornice is an eagle with a body over five feet tall, carved from a single piece of wood.

The highly sculptural quality of the boldly projecting ornate cornice is reflected in the cast iron sills and caps which adorn each of the windows on the East Allen and Main Street elevations. The caps reflect the overall composition of the cornice as well; a semi-circular arch rises from the center of a dentilated horizontal bar which is supported by brackets on either side. The Block's fifty pairs of caps and sills were manufactured at the Edwards and Stevens Foundry on East Canal Street and represented the single most costly item of construction for the building. Like the wooden cornice, they project far enough from the surface plane of the building to create a play of light and shadow upon it.

The windows which these cast iron units frame are quite elongated and serve to counteract the strong horizontal form of the building. Those windows on the eastern half of the principal, East Allen Street facade, are triple hung; those on the western half are double hung.

Originally, the street level of the East Allen Street facade was as rich and coherent in ornament as the upper stories. Today, much of the original fabric has been covered by store fronts or removed. However, enough of the work remains to convey the original facade; two segments of the bracketed, overhanging cornice with carved molding which ran along the entire length of the East Allen Street facade between the first and second floors are still visible. Two of the four doorways with their large trefoil lights and spandrel infilled with a carved scroll pattern are intact. One pair of the original double doors remains; on

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(Continuation Sheet)

Section 7
(Number all entries)

each half a long vertical upper panel which reflects the design of the light above it surmounts a smaller quatrefoil panel.

The most interesting aspect of the building's interior is the 60 by 53 foot concert hall occupying the western end of the third floor.

A small, two story brick building abuts the Block on its eastern end. While this structure does not share its neighbors outstanding details, the most dominant details of both buildings work together sympathetically; the two projecting cornices of the smaller building are on line with the emphatic line of the Winooski Block's second floor window caps and its first floor cornice.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1867

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

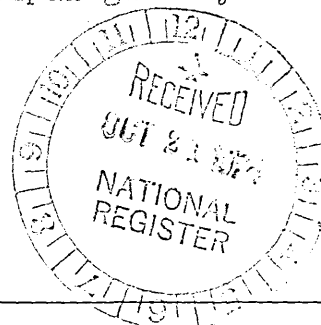
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At the time of its erection in 1867, the Winooski Block was one of the early manifestations of the changes and prosperity that the Civil War boom brought to the village. The building was very much the product of local skills and interest. It was designed by Burlington architect Warren Thayer, financed by three merchants who were to house their businesses in the new quarters, erected by area builders Frank Peppin and Peter Villemere of locally manufactured materials. Today it serves as more than a model of community collaboration; it is also an exceptionally fine example of one type of commercial block constructed in many small but expanding New England towns during the war decade.

For many years the building functioned as a religious and cultural meeting place as well as Winooski's primary commercial quarters. During the 1870's, the third floor concert hall was shared by the town's French-speaking and English-speaking Roman Catholic parishes and Sherman's Cornet band. During the 1970's the room has occasionally served as a private movie theatre.

Although the first floor still houses commercial activities, the structure is primarily important to the city today for its visual merits. In 1973, most of Winooski's commercial architecture was demolished to comply with an Urban Renewal plan. The demolition had two effects on the Block. First, the building remained not merely as the boldest and finest physical evidence of what the city and its commercial center had once been, but as almost the only evidence. Secondly, the removal of all the structures between the Block and the river gave the building's setting new impact. Today, the Winooski Block sits atop a large rise of open land, in a direct visual line from the Burlington bridge, the principal gateway to the city from the south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carlisle, L. B., ed. Look Around Winooski, Vermont. Burlington, Vt.: George Little Press, 1972.

Beer, F. W., Atlas of Chittenden County, Vermont, New York, NY, 1869.

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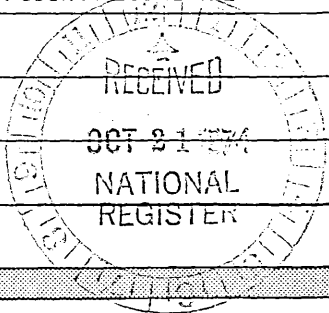
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		44 29 29	73 11 11	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Louise B. Roomet, Researcher

ORGANIZATION: Vermont Division of Historic Sites DATE: 10/9/74

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name William B. Finney

Title Director of Historic Sites
 State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date 10/11/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Warkleson
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/20/74

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11-18-74