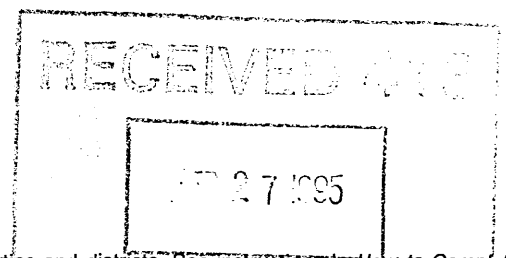


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Woodbury Town Hall

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number VT Route 14 N/A not for publication

city or town Woodbury N/A vicinity

state Vermont code VT county Washington code 023 zip code 05681

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

2/22/95
Date

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

3/31/95
Date of Action

Edson H. Beall
Entered in the
National Register

Woodbury Town Hall
Name of Property

Washington County, Vermont
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Government Buildings of Vermont

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls weatherboard

roof steel

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1842-1945

Significant Dates

1842

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Woodbury Town Hall
Name of Property

Washington County, Vermont
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	8
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7	0	5	6	5	0
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4	9	2	3	8	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

2

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4

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--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Pritchett

organization UVM Historic Preservation Program date May 5, 1991

street & number Wheeler House telephone (802) 656-3180

city or town Burlington state Vermont zip code 05405

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Woodbury

street & number Woodbury Town Office telephone _____

city or town Woodbury state Vermont zip code 05681

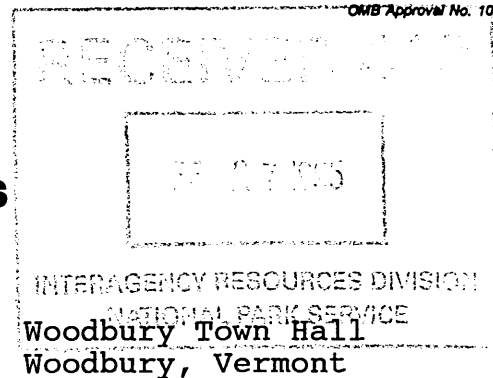
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1



The Woodbury Town Hall, located in the historic center of Woodbury village, in Washington County, Vermont, is set back approximately 30' and parallel to the west side of Vermont Route 14, which bisects and runs north-south through the town of Woodbury. The building is a well-preserved example of a town hall. Constructed in 1842, the town hall is a vernacular Greek Revival style, one-story, gable front, clapboarded structure with a later historic rear kitchen ell. Among its distinctive original features are the pedimented gable front with a triangular louvered fan in the tympanum, the fenestration patterns with two paneled entrance doors, and many historic interior details such as wainscoting, trim, floor and stage. The town hall is nestled between the Woodbury fire station to the south, and the former general store and town post office to the north. A narrow village green with a flag pole and American flag front these three buildings and define the town space between the buildings and Route 14. The property retains its integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The Woodbury Town Hall, is a one-story, vernacular Greek Revival style, gable front, two by four bay, approximately 30' (front) by 40' (side), public building with clapboard siding, and sheet metal covering its shallow sloping roof. A one-story c. 1940/1990 shed roof projection extends along three-quarters of the rear wall. Two regularly spaced and nearly identical entrance doors with simple flat board surrounds mark the front (east facade) of the building. The seven panel doors have raised paneling in the top five panels, and the bottom two panels are flat. The right entrance door has an original cast iron latch. The metal key hole above uses a hand cut skeleton key for entry. Concrete steps front each entrance.

Simple Greek Revival style trim on the town hall includes wide corner boards (with beveled bases which appear new) on the gable front, a front gable pediment defined by a heavy gable overhang, and a wide frieze board which wraps around the building under the side eaves and front pediment. In addition, a Greek Revival style triangular louvered fan is centered in the pediment's tympanum and a molded cornice board trims the eaves and gable ends. The front frieze board has the name "Woodbury Town Hall" made of applied, wooden letters which have been painted green. A wide, water table

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Vermont

board defines the base of the front facade below the clapboards. The post and beam frame is visible in the crawl space of the structure, where eight inch hand-hewn sills and massive log joists make up the floor system. The building rests on a new concrete foundation of sauna tubes with a solid concrete slab under the front of the structure. The badly rusted sheet metal roof on the south slope has been placed over the earlier wood shingle roof, and has a circular patched area near the rear gable for a former chimney opening. The north roof slope has a replacement sheet metal roof.

Both eaves sides (north and south) have four regularly spaced windows with flat surrounds and historic circa 1940 replacement, vertical light, three-over-three double hung sash. The window rough openings are 3'9" (width) by 6'7" (height).

The rear (west facade) of the town hall has rather narrow corner boards, molded cornice returns and no gable overhang. The shed appendage projects 8 feet from the rear facade and the shed south wall is flush with the south facade of the town hall. The shed has a foundation of wooden posts and concrete sonar tubes, clapboard siding, corner board trim, a box cornice and an asphalt shingle roof. Built in two parts, the oldest section, circa 1940, comprising the right portion on the southwest end, is about 13 feet in length and has a pair of top hinged casement windows centered on the west side. The left portion of the shed, built c. 1990 is about 10 feet in length and has an older vertical board hinged door centered on the west side. A recently built concrete block wall chimney extends above the shed roof and projects above the gable end just left of the roof ridge.

The interior of the Woodbury town hall features one large room with a c. 1910 raised stage centered on and extending out from the west wall. The rear shed houses a small kitchen in the c. 1940 portion and a woodshed in the new section. The hall has a replacement c. 1910 narrow board wood floor, original wide horizontal board wainscoting, replacement gypsum board walls with c. 1960 wallpaper, a c. 1960 dropped ceiling of gypsum board and wood battens (with a square opening on the east end for attic access, and a circular patch near the west end for a former stove pipe), and six c. 1960 brass chandeliers. The ceiling rises 11 feet 6 inches above the floor. The interior side of the front entrance

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Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Vermont

door has a surface mounted metal bolt labeled "Norwalk Co. Lock" above the thumb latch. The stage rises 2 feet 1 inch above the floor, projects 8 feet 8 inches into the room and is 9 feet 10 inches wide along the front. Two sets of narrow stairs each with three steps and a stick railing are located on small side extensions at the rear of the stage. Stage and steps are carpeted and an upright piano is located on the stage. A cast iron Sam Daniels wood stove is located to the right of the stage in the northwest corner of the hall. The stove pipe rises nearly to the ceiling and extends left over center stage where it continues back through the rear wall to the exterior chimney. A hinged, raised four panel, double door leading into the kitchen is located on the left end of the rear wall. The kitchen has open wooden shelves, formica counter tops, a double sink, a gas stove which appears inoperable, plywood flooring, and gypsum walls and ceiling.

Both the interior and the exterior of the town hall have been well maintained, although the south slope sheet metal roofing appears in need of repainting and possible repair or replacement.

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Section number 8 Page 1

Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Vermont

The Woodbury town hall, built in 1842, is significant for its contribution to architecture in Vermont. It is an important and well-preserved example of a vernacular Greek Revival style town hall built during the 1840s in Vermont when communities were just beginning to construct buildings to function specifically as town halls. This town hall is also significant to Vermont's political and governmental history at the state and local level. The Woodbury town hall is a symbol of local and direct democracy in the state and is evidence of the important dynamic between localized and centralized government throughout Vermont and New England. This town hall is being nominated under the multiple property submission, Historic Government Buildings in Vermont, and clearly meets the registration requirements for the town hall property type. The town hall retains its original function and siting with many significant original materials intact. The town hall retains all qualities of historic integrity.

The town of Woodbury, in the northeast corner of Washington County, was chartered on August 16, 1781 by the legislature of Vermont, to Colonel Ebenezer Wood, William Lyman, Esq. and sixty associates.⁷ Although the most arable land was located in the south and western parts of town, Gideon Sabin made the first settlement in the eastern part of town c. 1795. In 1800 the second federal census recorded twenty-three people as residents of Woodbury. The first town meeting is said to have been held in 1806. According to town records during the 1830s, town meetings were held in the "center school house number 4" in the village center. Town meetings were held at least twice a year. The first Tuesday in March was the date of the meeting to discuss and vote on local issues, while in September the town gathered to vote for state officials, such as the governor and town representatives.

During the years c. 1838-1842 the town changed its name to Monroe. By 1840 a village center had grown up around what is today still called Woodbury Center and the town boasted a swelling population of 1,092 citizens. A number of mills,

⁷Child, p. 518.

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Section number 8 Page 2

Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Vermont

and many small farms provided a commercial base for the town, and the village center had a hotel, built in the early years of settlement, which still stands today across the green on the east side of Vt Route 14.

With this growing commercial and population base, the stage was set in Woodbury for citizens to realize a need for more public buildings. According to the town records, an article was placed in the 1839, 1841, and 1842 warnings for March town meeting "to see if the town will raise money and build a town house".² The article was dismissed in 1839 and 1841. Finally, on March 7, 1842 residents at town meeting "voted that the town borrow of the Surplus Revenue Money four hundred dollars to be laid out to build a town house and sd [said] house be located within a half mile of School house No. 4 in Monroe and on the county road to wit west side of the common nearly opposite to Asa Preston's and I.(?)C. Jackson's land southerly of the school house left discretionary with building committee"³. In addition, a town house committee of four men was listed in the record book. At a meeting the following month, on April 2, 1842, the town "voted the building committee be instructed to receive proposals from any individuals to build said house said house to be built according to the Committes plan and to build the best house for the least money and to be finished and furnished with stove and pipe and not to exceed five hundred dollars in the whole sd committee be also instructed to receive the donations of any or all individuals and apply the same to the paying for said house and pass the same to the credit of the Town".⁴ Later in April the town voted to locate the Town house at or near I.F. Sander's house.⁵ On September 6, 1842 the first recorded town meeting was held in the new town house. Pride in this new structure for the town was noted in the entry in

²Town Records, Book 2, pp. 27, 60.

³Town Records, Book 2, p. 75.

⁴Town Records, Book 2, p.80.

⁵Ibid.

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Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Vermont

1843 when citizens voted that "it shall be a fine to cut or mar the town house seats or any other part of sd house".⁶

The boundary of the town hall is uncertain even to local listers today who believe that the town owns the structure but that the property owner directly north owns the land on which the town hall stands. Town residents state that the town hall must continue to be the site of annual town meetings or it will cease to belong to the citizens of Woodbury and ownership will be transferred to the above mentioned adjacent property owner.⁷

The town hall in Woodbury is significant as one of the earliest documented buildings in Vermont constructed specifically to function as a town hall. The town hall is also significant for its continuous function as a town hall since its construction. It is a good example of a town hall built during the 1840s in Vermont, when many towns were experiencing an economic and population boom. In Woodbury, the population declined towards the last quarter of the nineteenth century but then radically rose again at the turn of the twentieth century when the town became a leading center for granite quarrying in Vermont and the nation.

The Woodbury town hall is also a significant example of a vernacular Greek Revival style town hall in Vermont. Its distinctive Greek Revival style details, including the pedimented gable front with a triangular louvered fan in the tympanum, were common and important elements in town hall public architecture of this period. The post and beam frame, clapboard siding and 1-story, gable front, two by four bay building form, with two front entrance doors also identify this as a town hall from the 1840s in Vermont architecture. The majority of the town hall's historic building materials remain intact. In addition, the siting of the Woodbury town hall in the historic village center facing the town common is representative of town halls built during this time in Vermont history.

⁶Town Records, Book 2, p. 84.

⁷Interview, Coleman Parker, April 9, 1991.

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Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Vermont

According to local history the town hall was also the location of religious services until the South Woodbury Congregational Church was built in the 1870s. Over the years the building has served a number of other community functions such as being the site for Christmas parties, P.T.O. rummage sales and bingo parties, and wedding receptions for local families. Town meetings are still held here and in the 1970s the town did work on the building's foundation to keep the building in use.

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Section number 9/10 Page 1

Woodbury Town Hall
Woodbury, Washington Co., Vermont

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beers, F. W. Atlas of Washington County, Vermont. 1873

Child, Hamilton. Part First, Gazetteer of Washington County, Vermont, 1783-1889. Syracuse, N.Y.: The Syracuse Journal Co., 1889.

The Proprietors Records of the Town of Woodbury, Book 2. Woodbury Town Clerk's Office, Woodbury, Vermont.

Wallings. Atlas of Washington County, Vermont. 1847

Interviews:

Batchelder, Vera. Woodbury. January 27, 1991.

Parker, Coleman. Woodbury. April 9, 1991.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is town lot 13-069 on the Woodbury town lot map. It is located on the west side of Vermont Route 14 and is roughly 35 feet wide and 45 feet deep.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all the land historically associated with this building