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United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Marble Street Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 87-132 Marble St.; 10 Smith Ave.

not for publication N/A

city, town West Rutland

vicinity N/A

state Vermont

code VT

county Rutland

code 021

zip code 05777

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>18</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
	_____ sites
	_____ structures
	_____ objects
<u>18</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official
[Signature]
Vermont

Date
1/24/90

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:) _____

Entered in the
National Register

[Signature]

3/1/90

[Signature]

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/department storeCOMMERCE/specialty storeDOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/businessCOMMERCE/department storeVACANT/NOT IN USEWORK IN PROGRESS**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Commercial StyleItalianateNeo-Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Marblewalls BrickWeatherboardroof Asphaltother N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Marble Street Historic District encompasses the historic commercial core of West Rutland. The District consists of 19 buildings of which 10 are commercial blocks, 4 are houses, and the remainder are barn/garages. The majority of these buildings date to early in this century when they were constructed to replace those destroyed by the disastrous fire of 1903. The north and south edges of the District are marked by late nineteenth century wood framed and clad buildings which escaped the blaze (#s 1, 7, 8, and 14). All of the replacement buildings on the west side of Marble Street are brick veneered while the east side features predominantly wood framed and clad buildings as well as the only marble front (#3) and the only three story block, the brick veneered Shirt Waist Factory (#2). The buildings are vernacular or vernacular renditions of Italianate or Neo-Classical Revival. The District has lost its commercial trade to a large extent, yet intrusions and losses have been minimal and it still retains its integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location.

 See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

West Rutland, four miles west of the city of Rutland, sits at the base of a valley formed by the Castleton and Clarendon Rivers and has an approximate elevation of 500 feet above sea level. US Route 4, the major east/west highway across central Vermont, traverses this valley and leads to Castleton on the west as it parallels the Castleton River and to Center Rutland on the east as it parallels the Clarendon River. A major east/west rail line (the former Delaware and Hudson Railroad line between Rutland and Whitehall, New York) follows this same general path. The Castleton River valley continues to the north toward Proctor. Herrick Mountain (2726 feet) and Bird Mountain (2216 feet) rise to the southwest and west respectively while gentler hills of approximately 900 feet elevation flank West Rutland on the east.

The West Rutland valley was described by Hamilton Child in his Gazetteer of 1881 as having been considered in the early nineteenth century "a dreary swamp." Marshy areas still abound although much of the swamp in the immediate vicinity of the town has been filled in. This swampy area and the nearby hillsides proved to be the location of one of the most important marble deposits in Vermont and the United States. At the turn of this century these marble quarries immediately to the north of the town were the largest in the world. The type of marble worked here was described in the History of Rutland County Vermont thus: "The variety of marble most extensively worked in Rutland county is the white granular variety, in structure and color similar to the Carrara marble of Italy."

These quarries provided the *raison d'être* for the town of West Rutland in general and Marble Street in particular. Built to serve the laborers at these marble works, the commercial blocks and residential units of the Marble Street Historic District still retain to a great extent the working class feeling and association.

Although Marble Street was laid out in 1853, it was

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

originally and for many years only an access route to the quarries. Not until the 1880s did the street see significant development. These early buildings, both commercial blocks and dwellings, were all wood framed and clad as indicated by Sanborn maps. District buildings # 1, 7, 8, and 14 date to this period and as the only remnants in the District from that time, they provide the clues to the styles and appearance. The residential units, #s 7, 8, and 14, are all simple, gable-front, sidehall plan houses of 2 or 2 1/2 stories whose chief decorative features are their porches-- Italianate for #s 7 and 8; Colonial Revival for #14. This latter porch is a c.1905 replacement and it is quite possible that it, too, was originally an Italianate style porch. The use of the retardataire Italianate for houses in the 1880s is consistent with the working class background of the District. The commercial block, #1, is a vernacular Italianate building whose storefront and roof cornices are the only elements of decoration.

Both before and after the 1903 fire the Marble Street Historic District area was the most densely commercial area in the town. Unlike other towns, however, where commercial blocks line up side-by-side along the street, West Rutland's Marble Street commercial section features no party walls, no continuous bank of storefronts. Although some buildings are as close as 18 inches (#s 3 and 4; #s 9 and 10; #s 11 and 12), each building is distinct and set clearly on its own lot.

Setbacks from the street were consistent both before and after the fire: with the exception of the original Prenevost store (site of #9 today) which had a nearly twenty foot setback, the pre-fire commercial blocks hugged the sidewalk as do the present blocks. Several of these buildings still retain the awnings and/or frames which shielded the walks. The three residential units on Marble Street, #s 7, 8, and 10, have short setbacks with narrow lawns. House #14 on Smith Street has the deepest setback of nearly twenty-five feet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

A consistency in height also lends a uniformity to the Marble Street Historic District. With the exception of the Shirt Waist Factory (#2) which is three stories, all of the commercial blocks are two stories tall. Three of the four houses in the District are 2 1/2 stories while the fourth is two stories (#14). Those buildings destroyed by the fire were also nearly all two stories in height.

The major change after the fire was not, therefore, setting or height, nor was it style. Judging by #1, the style of pre-1903 commercial Marble Street was vernacular Italianate and that is the style that was rebuilt and that we see today (with the exception of #3 which is vernacular Neo-Classical Revival). The one replacement house (#10, the Prenevost House) is, like the other houses in the District, simple and direct and features a front porch, although in this case the house is a tri-gable ell rather than gable-front, sidehall plan house.

What had changed after the fire was materials: the majority of the commercial blocks and the Prenevost House (#10) now had brick or stone veneer. The exceptions to this are: #4, a very modest building originally used as a barbershop and #s 5 and 6 which are set rather far apart with empty lots between. (Possibly the builders of these latter two blocks felt that the separating empty lots were adequate fire protection and that stone or marble were not necessary for them.)

As would be expected in a town with a major quarry, marble was used rather extensively if primarily in a utilitarian fashion. Foundations are generally marble ashlar (#s 1, 6, and 13 have concrete foundations) and the brick veneered blocks feature marble lintels and sills. Only the Walsh Block (#3) grandly advertises the significance of marble to the town. This building carries a rock-faced marble facade in Neo-Classical Revival style.

The commercial blocks are consistent in the use of storefront and roof cornices with scrolled brackets. Only the bank

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

building has lost its storefront cornice which has been replaced by a pent roof. The Prenevost Store (#9), now the fire station, and block #4, a residence since c.1925, both retain their shop cornices--the clues to their historic origins.

Losses in the District include: a tiny, one story shop to the north of #1 which was torn down c.1989, a two story commercial block between #s 1 and 2 which burned c.1945, a 1 1/2 story shop formerly attached to the south end of Building #13 which was removed c.1950 (according to Sanborn maps), and a few rear sheds/barns. Storefront windows in #13 are currently boarded over, while those in the Bank building (#11), Block #4, and the south portion of the Shirt Waist Factory (#2) have been removed and those in the Pifko Block (#12) have been altered.

Despite these losses and changes the Marble Street Historic District retains its character to a remarkable extent. The historic origins of every building are clearly evident--no change or alteration has been severe enough to hide the historic function.

With the decline of the marble industry and the abandonment of the West Rutland quarries, Marble Street lost its role as a vital commercial area. Instead of being a major artery Marble Street became a backwater. The construction of the Route 4 bypass c.1970 exacerbated the sense of desertion. Marble Street as a thriving business district was in a sense put in mothballs. Small offices and shops now occupy several of the shops and #s 1 and 12 are undergoing renovation. The District may not be bustling but neither is it a ghost town. Built primarily in wood and brick with some marble trim, Marble Street Historic District is today a monument to the thousands of marble quarry workers that it once served.

Descriptions of individual buildings follow.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

1. Commercial Block, c.1885.

Marking the northern terminus of the Marble Street commercial district is this lone survivor from the disastrous fire which ravaged West Rutland's Marble Street commercial area in 1903. This two story, vernacular Italianate commercial block with a c.1970 south addition features paired, identical storefronts which are topped by a wide fascia board, a retractable awning and a replacement cornice. Crowning the facade is a cornice enriched with a wide fascia board with torus molding, rafter tail "brackets" with bed molding, molded cornice boards and all framed by large, scrolled end brackets. Clapboards with wide cornerboards sheath the building.

The storefronts each feature large, single-pane, 3/4 length windows over molded panels flanking a central doorway; each unit has plain, wide board surrounds. Both doors have a large toplight with a heavy, molded surround over a panel with a similar surround (the south door was removed in April, 1989); transoms which are now occupied by fans top them. The four, symmetrically arranged 1/1 windows above have simple architrave surrounds with molded drip caps.

On the side elevations fascia boards with molded cornice extend along the parapet walls which screen the gently sloping roof. The north elevation contains one window in the front bay of the second story which is similar to those on the facade while the second bay has a smaller version on both floors. The portion of the south elevation visible above the addition has been recently renovated which has involved reclapboarding and replacement of the surrounds of the two 1/1 sash windows.

A c.1975, two story extension spans the rear and replaces the original, one story, north bay extension and two story, south bay porch. T-111 covers this extension.

The c.1970, one story, flat-roofed, south addition rests on a concrete block foundation, is sheathed with corner and

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 6

fascia boards and new clapboards (1989), and features new (1989) 1/1 sash windows, small casement windows and a new, metal, front entrance door.

Sanborn Insurance maps suggest that this building was moved a short distance southeast c.1915. The 1895, 1905, and 1910 maps show a building of this size and configuration whose northeast corner directly abutted the brook. The 1922 map indicates the building in its current location and marked as a grocery and clothing store with upstairs dwelling. This move would explain the concrete foundation of the original block. According to these maps, this building was vacant in 1895, housed a general store in 1905 and was vacant again by 1910.

2. Shirt Waist Factory, C.1907.

Dominating the district is this brick veneered, vernacular Italianate commercial block which rises three stories from a marble ashlar foundation. Although the storefront level of the facade has been altered somewhat in recent years, this building retains most of its historic features.

The facade features a continuous storefront cornice with large scroll brackets marking the bay divisions with molded, recessed panels between, a molded cornice, and awning attachments. The south storefront has been covered with plywood paneling and a centered modern window. The large transom for the original central upstairs entrance still remains. The north storefront has a center, recessed doorway (with replacement modern door) with a large transom (now filled with a fan). Large, paired, single-pane windows flank the entrance with the inner windows being angled outward. Other than the rounded mullions, the surrounds are plain. The narrow panels beneath the windows have been replaced with plywood and the marble foundation has been refaced with concrete.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

The four bay upper stories of the facade are unsymmetrical. The 2/2 windows with marble lintels and sills, though in line from floor to floor, are skewed to the south. Single windows are centered over the north storefront while the remainder are centered on the south half of the facade.

Crowning the facade is an enriched cornice of corbelled white brick over a single row of dog-toothed red brick. Dividing the cornice horizontally into three sections are short piers on tapered bases which flank recessed panels of red brick while supporting a dentil-like course and slightly projecting cornice.

On the north elevation a flat roofed Queen Anne porch of one by one bays cantilevers out from the second story and protects a panel door which has a large single-pane toplight; this porch features turned posts, squared balusters and valance bars, and a molded cornice. A metal fire escape angles downward from the third floor.

The windows of the upper stories of the five bay deep side elevations are identical to those on the facade. At the rear of the first story north side is a four panel service door with a marble lintel. The basement casement windows are topped by marble lintels which jut above the marble foundation into the brickwork above.

A three story porch across the rear has been removed. Four-panel doors, shadows of stairs, lighter color brick, and support holes still remain as evidence.

The Sanborn map of 1905 reveals that this block was not the first to be built on this site after the fire. Slightly to the north a two story, wood framed and clad commercial block was constructed c.1904. This abutted another two story, wood framed and clad block also of c.1904 (which burned c.1945) to the north. In c.1907 the current building was constructed a few feet south of this latter block and housed a general store. It is not clear what happened to the earlier building

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

or if it was moved to become part of this larger block. City Directories for the years immediately after the fire list a P.F. O'Neill, seller of "drugs, medicines, toilet articles, fancy goods, etc.", and D. Krinsky, grocer, at 10 Marble and a Barney Rosen, dealer in "dry goods, clothing, groceries, jewelry, notions, etc.", at 12 Marble. Although the numbering system of Marble Street at that time is not clear, it is almost certain that the paired wooden buildings were 10-12. O'Neill and Rosen continued in business at this site into the teens, but from c.1907, Rosen was presumably in the new, brick veneered block while O'Neill, who now sold liquor, wine, and ale, remained in the block now lost to fire. Sanborn maps indicate that by 1922 the Shirt Waist Factory utilized the upper story while a billiards hall and confectionery shop were located in the north side of the first floor and barbershop on the south. Local historians say that Jack O'Rourke operated the pool room and that gambling occurred in the back room and that Sam Leonard who formerly ran a barbershop across the street was now located here. A Louis Kazon was the owner of the shirt factory. A Mr. Kapitanski is reported to have been the owner of this block for many years and, in fact, it was known locally as the Kapitanski Block.

3. The Walsh Block, 1904/1907.

This two story, vernacular Neo-Classical Revival commercial block is marked by its rock faced marble facade as the most distinctive commercial building in the District. Identical storefronts flank the prominent, central, upstairs entrance which has engaged, raised panel piers with Roman Doric capitals supporting a broad lintel with molded cornice. Rock faced marble block piers frame the facade and feature carved bases, Roman Doric capitals at storefront level, and, at the top, carved, projecting date blocks over coved blocks. The north date block reads "1880" which presumably relates to the original, pre-fire building and the south block reads "1907" the date of the marble facade. (The Sanborn map of 1905

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

reveals that the marble facade was not yet present although the building was constructed.) Recessed, metal signboard panels with molded wooden cornices run between the pier capitals and the central lintel. Centered over the central window of the second floor is a block with the name "Walsh" carved on it. A three-part, corbelled, smooth marble architrave, a torus molding, a coved, narrow frieze, and plain cornice crown the front. Marble steps lead to each entrance. The foundation is also marble ashlar (rock faced on the facade).

Each storefront features a central, angled, recessed entrance with doors with 3/4 length, single-pane toplights with bolection molded surrounds over single, narrow, bolection molded panels; the transoms are boarded over but retain crowning molded panels. For each unit four, large, single-pane windows with rounded corner mullions all over simple, narrow panels remain, but the broad transoms have been boarded over. Awning frames remain in place.

The slightly recessed central entrance has a panel door with a 1/2 length topline which is headed by a large transom with crowning matchboard panel.

The seven, symmetrically arranged 1/1 windows of the second story of the facade have a smooth, flush, continuous lintel course while the sills project from a narrower, continuous, smooth course.

The five bay deep side elevations are asbestos shingled while the rear is clapboarded. The 1/1 windows of the sides have plain architrave surrounds. The northeast corner has been rebuilt with concrete blocks. An original porch extends off the southeast (rear) corner; connected to this is a series of c.1950, one story, concrete block sheds.

Directories reveal that for several years, including those before the 1903 fire, a William Walsh operated a grocery at 16 Marble and, until 1909, a meat market at 18 Marble.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

The 1910 Sanborn map indicates that the north store was occupied by a general store and the south store by a barber shop. By 1922 a grocery was in the north block and a variety store in the south. The concrete block rear additions date to post World War II when the building was occupied by Kenny's Creamery.

4. Commercial Block/Dwelling, c.1904.

This two story, four by two bay, wood framed and clapboarded block with marble ashlar foundation has long been used as a dwelling although it was built as a commercial block. The facade clearly reflects this change as the simple storefront cornice remains with fascia board, slightly projecting, molded cornice and framing, scrolled and incised end brackets. The storefront has been altered by the replacement of shop windows with large picture windows. The original, central store entrance which is served by large marble stairs and the north bay upstairs entrance remain; both doors feature 1/2 length toplights with bolection molded surrounds over bolection molded panels.

The main cornice has a broad, plain architrave and frieze with torus molding and a slightly projecting, molded cornice framed by larger versions of the storefront brackets. An original 1/1 sash window with an architrave surround with molded drip cap remains in the south bay of the second story facade while the north bay window has been replaced by paired, small 1/1 windows.

Side elevations feature 2/2 windows with plain architrave surrounds. A fascia board crowns the parapet walls which shield the gently sloping roof.

A two story, one bay deep, c.1935 addition extends across the rear. A one story, shed roofed addition extends beyond this. The marble foundation has been partially rebuilt with concrete blocks on the north elevation. Corner boards and a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 11

wooden water table in addition to the cornice treatments mentioned above outline the building.

Sanborn maps indicate that, immediately after the fire, this building was occupied by a barber shop, that by 1910 this had been replaced by a pool and tobacco hall which in turn had been superseded by a meat market by 1922; by 1929 this building had already been converted entirely to dwelling space. Local historians indicate that the meat market was operated by Nathan Gelvon who is listed in the 1920 Directory as a grocer on Marble Street.

5. Post Office/Commercial Block (Dwyer Building), c.1904.

This two story, wood framed, clapboarded commercial block like several others in the District rises from a marble ashlar foundation to an enriched cornice. Identical storefronts flank the central, upstairs entrance which has a panel door with 1/2 length toplight and is headed by a transom. Each storefront has a similar, central panel door with 1/2 length toplight and with a transom. To both sides of these doors are large, single-pane windows which extend to the door transom height and rest on plain panels. The plain surrounds of the windows, panels, and doors extend up to a simple shop cornice of fascia board, slightly projecting, molded cornice, and, originally, scrolled end brackets of which only the north bracket remains. The original mail slot with a flap inscribed "Letters" is still located under the furthest south store window. Each entrance is reached by a marble block step.

Directly over each of the storefront windows is a 2/2 sash window with architrave surround and molded drip cap. The roof cornice is a bolder version of the lower cornice and has a deep projection and broad entablature. Four, large, evenly placed, incised scroll brackets frame an architrave with torus molding, stepped, molded frieze, and molded cornice.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

The five bays of the side elevations' second stories have 2/2 windows identical to those on the facade. A fascia board with a narrow, molded cornice caps the parapet walls which conceal the gently sloping roof. Corner boards and a wooden water table outline the walls.

Extending from the rear is a two story, two bay wide, original projection. This flat roofed, shiplap-sided projection connects by a second story, enclosed bridge to a barn which is now used as a garage. An outside stairway which is not original runs across the southeast corner of the rear elevation.

The two story, shed roofed barn is sheathed with shiplap siding with cornerboards and, on the front (west), a fascia board. There is a two bay entrance on the south front and a single bay entrance with vertical plank doors on the north front; a vertical plank loft door is located over each of these entrances. Directly under the bridge is a smaller opening. A central entrance is also cut into the rear elevation. A single, fixed, six-pane window breaks the second story of both of the side elevations. In the rear are two 2/2 windows. All windows and entrances have plain surrounds.

The Rutland Directory of 1905-6 lists a Roger Dwyer "Dealer in General Merchandise--Fine Groceries, Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Etc." as being located next to the Post Office, that is, in the north portion of this building. Dwyer had a building on this spot which was destroyed by the great fire. The Rutland Herald of November 28, 1903 (the day after the fire), reported that Dwyer's losses amounted to \$4000 of which \$2000 was covered by insurance.

6. Kelley Block, c.1904.

This two story, wood framed and clapboarded commercial block is distinguished by an angled, recessed central section on

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 13

the first story of the facade. A center door to the upstairs is flanked by diagonal clapboards. Storefront entrances abut this on the angle. All three doors have 1/2 length toplights over bolection molded panels, are headed by single-pane transoms, and feature plain surrounds. Each storefront has three, large, single-pane windows over molded panels; the innermost windows are on the same angle as the entrances. A simple fascia board with molded drip edge spans the first story of the facade. On the second story 1/1 sash windows with cornice caps are paired over each storefront. Crowning the facade is a broad fascia with long, molded panels framed by four, evenly spaced, heavy, floral incised, scroll brackets and headed by a projecting, molded cornice.

Cornerboards, a wooden water table, and, on the sides, fascia boards outline this building which rests on a concrete foundation.

Side elevations are irregularly fenestrated. Windows are 1/1 sash with plain architrave surrounds. The cellar casement windows have concrete wells. A three-step parapet wall marks the gentle rearward slope of the roof. A two story, shed roofed porch spans most of the rear. The first story with full-length boxed posts is open to the rear; on the sides are shiplap aprons supporting paired 1/1 windows with a transom. The second story boxed posts rest on all three sides on a shiplap apron.

This block replaces an earlier one destroyed by the 1903 fire. The Kelley millinery store was the primary occupant of each, being located in the south store of the current building. The 1910 Sanborn map indicates a grocery store in the other half, having replaced the pool hall shown on the 1905 map.

6A. Carriage Barn, c.1904.

To the rear of the Kelley Block is this 1 1/2 story, gable

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 14

roofed carriage barn with its eaves to Marble Street. On the north gable end is an exterior track, sliding, vertical plank door while on the east elevation is a vertical plank pass door. Another similar pass door is found on the west side; above this to the north is a loft door. The gable peaks feature small window openings now missing the windows; also missing its window is an opening on the rear (east). To the south is a small, one story shed extension with an exterior track, sliding, vertical plank door on its west elevation; near this door is a single, fixed, 6-pane window. The barn is shiplap sided with cornerboards and roofed with standing seam metal; the shed is novelty sided.

7. House, c.1885.

Although bearing a similarity to #8 only a few feet north, this 2 1/2 story, 3 x 3 bay, gable front, vernacular house with an Italianate front porch is distinguished by greater decorative detail. Rising from a marble ashlar foundation to a slate roof with a center ridge, parged brick chimney, this clapboarded house possesses cornerboards front and rear which have simple molded capitals giving a pilaster effect. These visually support on both the gable and side elevations a simple entablature with torus and bed moldings and a returning, molded cornice; the soffit also carries a torus molding. The 3 x 1 bay, hip roofed porch has slightly chamfered posts and engaged posts with molded bases and capitals which support paired scroll brackets and arched valances with a central floral drop between posts; a simple balustrade with a molded rail wraps the porch. The right (north) sidehall entrance is gained over the porch via marble steps flanked by ball-headed newel posts; the front door has a 1/2 length toplight over bolection molded panels.

The 2/2 sash windows on the gable ends and first floor side elevations feature peaked lintel boards; on the side elevations the second story windows which have plain

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 15

architrave surrounds with a drip edge abut the entablature. A round-headed window in the front gable peak is currently covered by louver shutters. The windows opening onto the porch are larger than the others. The north elevation is irregularly fenestrated.

On the southwest corner is a c.1910, two story, two bay, shed roofed extension which rests on a marble ashlar foundation. On its south side is a 6-pane window while on the north is an entrance with paired, round-headed toplights over bolection molded panels. A small plywood shed is attached to the rear of this extension.

This house and #8 were spared by the 1903 fire which was stopped after destroying the Prenevost store only a few feet to the north.

7A. Barn/Garage, c.1885.

This 1 1/2 story, gable front barn is sheathed with clapboards, trimmed with corner and fascia boards, and roofed with rolled asphalt. Each of the two bays of the front gable end has paired, vertical plank doors; just above is a vertical plank loft door. Windows on the side elevations have been boarded over. All windows and doors have plain board surrounds.

That this rear barn is located between #s 7 and 8 suggests that these houses had a common owner and/or builder.

B. House, c.1885.

This house is similar in form and massing to #7 but is more simply decorated. Also rising 2 1/2 stories from a marble ashlar foundation to a slate covered gable front roof with a central ridge, parged brick chimney, this 3 x 3 bay, clapboarded house has an Italianate front porch. Plain

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 16

cornerboards, a simple frieze with bed molding, a plain soffit, and a molded, returning cornice trim the building. The hip roofed porch of 3 x 1 bays features a lattice skirt, simple balustrade with molded rail, slightly chamfered posts which support paired, scroll brackets and, in place of the valance arch of #7, smaller scroll brackets. The right (north) sidehall entrance is gained over the porch via marble steps flanked by ball-headed newel posts; the door is a modern replacement.

The windows of this house are 2/2 sash with architrave surrounds. The windows opening onto the porch are slightly larger than the others. The front gable peak window is presently covered by louvered shutters. As with #7, the north elevation is irregularly fenestrated.

In the center of the rear elevation is a two story, 1 x 1 bay, shed roofed entrance extension (c.1930) which rests on a marble ashlar foundation. A two stage stairway extends south from its second story. On the extension's first floor rear is a door with a 1/2 length toplight over bolection molded panels.

Judging by the similarities in form, massing, and siting to #7, and by the placement of the rear barn (#7A), this house likely shared the same owner and/or builder. The fire of 1903 was stopped only a few feet north of #8.

9. Prenevost Store (West Rutland Fire Station), 1904.

This two story building with brick veneer on three sides and marble ashlar foundation was originally built as a commercial block housing the general store of Joseph Prenevost. It was converted into a two bay fire station in 1958. Its most distinctive feature is a three-part vaulted central cornice section which frames a marble block with "1904" carved thereon.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 17

The original storefront cornice remains; incised, scrolled end brackets frame an architrave (on which now are the words "West Rutland Fire Dept"), frieze with dentil course, and molded, projecting cornice. Beneath this are modern overhead garage doors which flank a central, modern pass door with a covered transom. The second floor is broken by three, symmetrically placed 2/2 sash windows with molded surrounds and marble lintels and sills. The roof cornice with central vault has a simple architrave with torus molding, simple frieze with bed molding, and projecting, molded cornice supported by four, incised, scrolled brackets. This decorative feature continues around the entire length of the parapet walls of the side elevations.

The second story of the side elevations has three, evenly placed, 2/2 sash windows like those on the facade. The rear is sheathed with composition siding and has an entrance with gabled hood.

This block and the house next door (#10) were built by Joseph Prenevost in 1904 to replace the store and house which he lost in the 1903 fire. The Rutland Herald of November 30, 1903 (three days after the great fire), reported that Joseph Prenevost, whose insurance covered only \$4500 on losses of \$6000, intended to begin rebuilding during the winter.

Prenevost sold dry goods, groceries, provisions, boots and shoes, furniture, and clothing. The Prenevost general store was successful enough that, according to local historians, Mr. Prenevost owned one of the first three automobiles in West Rutland (J. Pifko, owner of the general store in #12, and a Dr. Fleming are reportedly the others.).

9A. Garage, c.1975.

This non-contributing, two bay, plywood paneled, gable roofed garage faces southeast.

10. Prenevost House, c.1904.

Nearly abutting the Prenevost Store (#9) on the south is this 2 1/2 story, tri-gable ell with brick veneer. A one story porch extends across the entire facade. Aluminum siding now

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 18

covers the fascia board, soffit, and cornice of the 3 x 1 bay, gable front main block and of the 2 x 1 bay ell. The 1/1 sash windows possess marble lintels and sills; the gable peak windows are smaller versions of the others.

A bank of 1/1 windows resting on an aluminum sided apron now encloses the porch. A dentil course and molded cornice wrap the porch roof which is slate covered for that section across the main block and standing seam metal covered for the remainder. (Sanborn maps indicate that the entire porch is an original feature.) A modern metal hood protects the porch entrance on the north. In the rear alcove formed by the two blocks is a one story, shed roofed, sun porch also enclosed with a bank of 1/1 windows.

The slate roof line is broken by a two-stage, brick chimney with a corbelled cap on the center ridge of the main block and the north end of the ell ridge.

This house was built by Joseph Prenevost c.1904 to replace his house on the same site that had been destroyed by the fire of 1903.

**11. The West Rutland Trust Building/Telephone Exchange,
c.1904.**

Unusual lot lines give this two story, brick veneered, vernacular Italianate commercial block an irregular shape. The main block extends for seven bays along Marble Street. Projecting from its southwest corner is a two story, flat roofed block with its own southwest corner two story bay. The north elevations of both blocks are canted along the property line.

The storefront level of the main block has been altered. Currently a recent vintage, wood shingled, pent roof on braces protects this section which has replacement picture windows of two sizes and vertical plank sheathing. The three

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 19

original entrances which served the bank, an office, and the second story apartments (from south to north) remain; the latter two retain their panel doors.

The six window bays of 2/2 sash on the facade's second story are arranged in mirror image three bay sections over the two storefronts while the area over the upstairs entrance (north end) is blank wall. The outer window bays are paired while the inner bays are evenly spaced. The windows have molded wooden surrounds with marble lintels and sills.

Crowning the facade and wrapping the side elevations is an enriched cornice. Evenly spaced, incised scroll brackets frame a broad fascia with simple, raised panels, bed molding, and a molded cornice (the brackets are absent on the north elevation where the projecting cornice actually touches building #12). A small pediment rises over the center of the facade; the tympanum is clapboarded.

The south elevation extends four bays at which point the two story, 2 x 2 bay, rear block begins. This block features a canted oriel window with 1/1 sash windows and a clapboarded kneewall on its south elevation and a two story bay off the rear corner.

Rising across the first bay of the main block's south elevation is a modern, replacement, covered stairway to a second story, shed roofed, 2 x 1 bay porch with turned posts on a reclapboarded apron. This porch provides access to two apartments and rests on a largely rebuilt, shed roofed porch across the front first story of the rear block. This second porch with one remaining turned corner post gives access to two entrances. Doors are generally panel doors with 1/2 length toplights. Windows are similar to those on the facade's second story.

A partially rebuilt, two story porch extends across the irregular rear elevation of the main block. In the alcove formed by the main block and rear block is a largely rebuilt,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 20

two story, 1 x 1 bay extension which is wood framed and plywood sheathed.

This building replaced the general store (with residence upstairs) of Napoleon Leonard which was destroyed by the fire of 1903. Leonard, who sold dry goods and groceries, was insured for \$2500 of his \$5000 losses. The Directory of 1905-6 lists Napoleon Leonard as a grocer at 27 Marble Street and Samuel J. Leonard as a dealer in wine, ale and liquor at 25 Marble. These numbers probably relate to the north portion of this block.

According to the 1905 Sanborn map the West Rutland Trust Company was located in the south store and a barbershop in the north (Samuel J. Leonard was also a barber). By 1910 the telephone exchange had moved into the rear block and the barbershop was gone.

12. Pifko Block, 1904.

This two story, brick veneered, vernacular Italianate commercial block on a marble ashlar foundation is an irregular pentagon. The side elevations, which are angled on a southwest/northeast axis, are roughly parallel although the north elevation is longer. A canted northeast (right front) corner bay creates the fifth side.

The storefront has been altered in 1989 although the shop cornice and general configuration remain intact. The original marble sills now support new, paired, large, triple-paned windows on each side of the central entrance (which has a new door); molded top panels replace multi-paned transoms. The original storefront cornice features a broad fascia and a slightly projecting, molded cornice framed by scrolled, incised end brackets. The upstairs entrance in the left (south) bay retains the original marble lintel and sill although the door is a modern replacement. Three 2/2 sash windows with marble lintels and sills are symmetrically

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 21

placed over the storefront.

An enriched roof cornice carries across the facade and canted corner bay. A broad fascia with recessed, horizontal panels is framed by four, large, incised, scroll brackets on the facade and two on the corner. Painted on the corner panel is "1904". Bed molding and a molded cornice complete the ensemble. A simple fascia board caps the parapet wall of the north elevation.

The south elevation, which is 18 inches from building #11, has no windows; the north and rear elevations are irregularly fenestrated but all windows are 2/2 sash with marble lintels and sills. The marble lintels of the cellar windows (now boarded over) jut into the brickwork of the walls. Each floor of the rear elevation has an entrance with a marble lintel and sill although the doors are modern replacements. The upper entrance is serviced by a replacement stairway of pressure treated lumber. A new metal hatchway replaces the original cellar entrance on the north; a gable shadow remains on the brick.

The devastating fire of 1903 began in a commercial block on this site. A William Mann operated a picture store on the north portion while the south section was being used by ladies of the Congregational Church for a rummage sale. It was in this latter area that the fire began.

John Pifko operated a general store on the corner of Marble Street and Smith Avenue (now the site of building #13) before the fire. Despite losses of \$3000 (\$1000 insurance on \$4000 of total loss), Pifko apparently purchased this large corner lot, on which #s 12 and 13 now sit, from an A.A. Kidder and rebuilt his business here and later constructed building #13. The Rutland City Directory of 1913 carries an advertisement for "P. Pifko Dealer in Groceries, Dry Foods, Shoes and General Merchandise". The Directory of 1915 lists John Pifko as operating a meat market and Pauline Pifko as a dealer in general merchandise. John Pifko is reputed to have owned one

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 22

of the first three automobiles in West Rutland (Joseph Prenevost, owner of buildings # 9 and 10, and a Dr. Fleming were the others).

13. Commercial Block, c.1925.

Rising two stories from a concrete foundation, this brick veneered, vernacular Italianate commercial block was constructed considerably later than the other primary buildings in the District although it remains true to the general style. This irregular pentagonal block has a nearly flatiron shape. A siting at the angled intersection of Marble Street and Smith Avenue necessitated the form; the first bay of the north elevation is perpendicular to the facade while the remaining three bays slant on a southwest/northeast axis.

Two, similar storefronts fill the first story of the facade. Both storefronts are flanked by broad, brick piers which visually support cornices with plain fascia boards with bed molding and molded cornices framed by scrolled end brackets. The central entrance to the south store has a shallow, angled recess approached by concrete steps; the vertical matchboard door with plain surround is headed by a clapboarded panel. Tall, narrow, 1/1 sash nearly fill the reveals while the remainder is clapboarded; these 1/1s abut the large, single pane shop windows which have marble sills and plain surrounds; across the top, but below the storefront cornice, is a narrow fascia board. The north store has a deeper recess and larger shop windows. The central, vertical plank door with a cyma recta surround is topped by a transom. The flanking windows of the reveal--now boarded over--were large panes with molded surrounds over matchboard panels. These are joined to the front windows by narrow, canted, brick piers; these latter windows, also boarded over, have marble sills and molded surrounds. Both recessed entrances possess matchboard ceilings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 23

The second story of the facade features five, symmetrically placed 1/1 sash windows with marble lintels and sills. An enriched roof cornice caps the facade and wraps around the entire north elevation which faces Smith Avenue. This cornice is identical to that on the Pifko Block (#12) with a broad fascia with recessed central panels framed by incised, scrolled brackets.

The north elevation has irregular fenestration. In the second bay is an entrance with a concrete stoop and gabled hood with knee braces; the door carries a 1/2 length toplight over molded panels and is headed by a transom. The windows are 1/1 sash with marble lintels and sills.

Lack of a parapet wall on the south elevation, which is sheathed with brick patterned asphalt, reveals the nearly flat roof slope. The rear is also sheathed with the asphalt. Both sides are irregularly fenestrated but all windows are 1/1 sash with plain architrave surrounds. The south has a two stage entrance stairway to the second story; this is constructed of dimensional lumber as is the simple, second story porch across the rear.

Immediately to north of #13 was once a c.1904, 1 1/2 story, wood framed and clad store; this was removed c.1950 according to Sanborn maps. In 1905 it housed a general store, in 1910 a barbershop, and by 1922 a meat market. When #13 was constructed, it shared a common wall with this building.

13A. Garage, c.1935.

Set to the rear of #13 and opening onto Smith Avenue is this hip roofed, one story, three bay garage. The walls are covered with brick patterned rolled asphalt with corner and fascia boards. Each garage bay has paired, hinged, matchboard doors with small, single pane, centered toplights. On each side elevation is a centered, fixed, 6-pane window with a plain surround. The roof is asphalt shingled.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 24

It is difficult to specifically date this garage. According to Sanborn maps, in 1910 a 1 1/2 story meat market was on this site; by 1922 a two story storage building was here. The 1929 map indicates that this building had been converted to a garage with a smaller garage attached on the north. The current garage is likely a reworking of this building.

14. House, c.1890.

The main block of this two story, 3 x 3 bay, gable front, vernacular house is similar to that of buildings #7 and #8. The chief differences in this building are the presence of a Colonial Revival front porch (c.1905) and of a rear wing and the lack of cornice returns.

A rock-faced marble foundation supports this slate roofed house which is clapboarded and trimmed with cornerboards, fascia boards with bed molding, and a molded cornice. Two-step, brick chimneys break the ridge of both the main block and wing.

The one story porch extends across the facade and curves around the right front (east) corner. Tuscan columns and engaged columns with entasis carry the broad fascia and molded cornice of the shed roof which has a matchboard ceiling. The balustrade features a molded rail and simple balusters with attached wooden balls in varying heights which creates a swag effect; the skirt is built of slats. The gable left entrance is gained over the porch via concrete steps with flanking, paired columns. The door possesses a 1/2 length toplight with a bolection molded surround over bolection molded panels.

The two story, 2 x 2 bay, rear wing is slightly lower than the main block. On its east elevation is a shed roofed sunporch with a bank of 6/1 sash windows resting on a wood shingled apron; the nearly centered pass door has a 4-pane toplight over molded panels.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 25

At the rear of the wing is a c.1930, two story, shed roofed, one bay addition with novelty siding and a stairway extending down to the east. As early as 1910 there was a one story addition in this location.

The windows are primarily 2/2 sash with plain architrave surrounds. The second story left facade bay and both floors of the first bay of the west elevation are presently covered with louver shutters.

14A. Garage, c.1930.

In the northwest corner of the lot is a one story, two bay, gable front garage with interior and exterior track, sliding, matchboard doors. This building is novelty sided and roofed with asphalt shingles. Fixed, centered windows break the side elevations.

Sanborn maps indicate a two story barn on this site by 1910. On the 1922 and 1929 maps the building was listed "auto" but still at two stories. Materials suggest the date of c.1930.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Architecture

Period of Significance

c.1885-1935

Significant Dates

1903

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Marble Street Historic District is significant as a generally well preserved and intact commercial and residential area built to serve the workers in one of Vermont's most important industries: the marble industry. The nearby West Rutland marble quarries were once noted for the high quality of their marble and they became by the turn of the century the largest in the world. Constructed during the years c.1885--c.1935, the era of that industry's greatest prosperity as well as the beginning of its decline, the District is demarcated primarily by the boundaries of the disastrous fire of 1903 which destroyed nearly all of the commercial buildings. This factor as well as a strong working class influence produced a remarkable uniformity of scale, style, and materials despite the construction span of 50 years. A change in transportation routes and methods has helped to maintain this character over the decades since the decline of the marble industry.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 3.5 plus or minus

UTM References

A

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

B

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

C

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

D

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

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David C. Tansey, Architectural Historian
organization N/A date May 1, 1989
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

The swampy nature of the West Rutland valley as well as the large marble deposits lying close to the surface made farming difficult for the early settlers of this region. Although some marble was utilized for tombstones and building materials early in the 19th century, it was not until 1838 that the marble was put into a general commercial use. At that time William F. Barnes began burning the marble to produce quick-lime. Realizing the potential of these marble deposits, Barnes purchased for the price of an old horse these swampy lands considered worthless and barren.

By 1844 Barnes had joined together in business Lorenzo Sheldon, David Morgan, and Charles Slason and opened the first marble quarry in this vicinity. Marble production was limited by inadequate transportation in these early years. As Hamilton Child noted in his Gazetteer and Business Directory of Rutland County, Vermont:

"In the beginning the business was limited, and not very profitable, as, in the absence of railroads, the entire product had to be hauled by teams from the quarries to Whitehall, N.Y., the nearest shipping point, a distance of twenty-five miles. But the completion of the railroad in 1851 gave an impetus to the business."

Production of marble grew rapidly after the arrival of the railroad and new quarries opened up in the area. Here in West Rutland were produced 245,000 lettered headstones for Civil War soldiers as well as the marble for the old Parker House in Boston. West Rutland's 1870 population of 1,600 grew to 3,000 by 1880. The History of Rutland County, Vermont by Abby Hemenway spoke of the importance of marble to the area:

"Fortunate it is for Rutland that within her limits are situated so many extensive marble works, mills and quarries. The marble interest has accomplished a great deal towards the growth and prosperity

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

of Rutland and Rutland county; the marble interest has extended the reputation of this section of Vermont throughout the country; the marble interest has brought capital, labor, increased productiveness into the county; hence the citizens of Rutland cannot too highly appreciate, nor too superlatively value the importance of the marble works, mills, and quarries that are situated in their midst, and are performing such an important part in developing and increasing the resources and wealth of Rutland."

By 1880 the land that Barnes had purchased for an old nag was worth millions. Labor strife in the 1850s and 1860s as well as a national recession in 1870s caused slowdowns in the industry but the overall trend was growth. 1886 saw the partitioning of West Rutland from the town of Rutland and in 1890 the population of the recently organized town had reached 3,680 with nearly 2,000 men working at 15 quarries.

The development of Marble Street mirrored the development of the marble industry in West Rutland. In 1853 the street was laid out and built through the swamp from Main Street to the quarries on the north side of town. For several years it provided only access to the quarries and saw along its flanks little development; swampy terrain apparently restricted any construction. The Beers map of 1869 reveals a few buildings near the intersection with Main Street and nothing else along the stretch to the quarries. Over the years, however, the swamp was filled in and by 1873 a Post Office had opened on Marble Street and by the 1880s there was widespread development. The Walsh Block (#3) carries two date blocks: the one, "1880", presumably relates to the original building on the site and the second, "1907" to the completed, post-fire replacement. The commercial block #1 and houses # 7 and 8 were constructed c.1885.

The Rutland Horse Railway was extended from Center Rutland to West Rutland in 1886 and traveled down the middle of Marble Street to the Delaware & Hudson Railroad depot (now

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3

demolished) just north of the current historic district. Reports of the town officers in the years 1889 and 1890 indicate that Marble Street was widened and later "graveled on the west side of the horse-car track and covered with marble chips on the east side." In 1894 much effort turned it into "an almost permanent road."

Merchants were not waiting for that improved road. By 1890 that area now encompassed by the Marble Street Historic District included two barbershops, two cobbler shops, a billiards hall, a tobacconist, three general stores, a tailor shop, a dressmaker's shop, a meat market, a grocery store, a drug store, a millinery shop, and the Post Office. Furthermore the original block on the Dwyer site (see Building #5 in Section 7) was under construction and soon to house the new Post Office and a general store. Building #1 was vacant at that time.

The electrification of the street railway soon followed as did the construction of Hose Company No.1 and Engine Company No.1 just south of Building #1. House #14 was constructed c.1890.

The Hose and Engine Companies were not sufficient to stop the terrible fire of November 26, 1903, which began in a building on the site of the Pifko Block (#12). The fire spread rapidly and devastatingly until fire companies arrived from Rutland to help bring the fire under control. The fire was stopped before reaching Buildings # 1, 7, 8, and 14 (which mark the District's edge), but not until it had nearly wiped out the commercial district. Headlines the next day in The Rutland Herald cried out, "DISASTROUS FIRE--WORKS GREAT HAVOC IN WEST RUTLAND--LARGE PART OF MARBLE STREET IN RUINS". The Burlington Daily Free Press echoed, "DISASTROUS FIRE--PRINCIPAL BUSINESS BLOCKS OF WEST RUTLAND DESTROYED--PROPERTY LOSS \$75,000". Destroyed were nine commercial blocks, three houses, and three barns.

Early newspaper reports indicated that Marble Street would

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

not be rebuilt. By November 30, however, The Rutland Herald was more optimistic: "According to the latest information there is no doubt but what most of the business blocks which were burned here Thursday night will be rebuilt. Joseph Prenevost, who conducted a dry goods and grocery store, stated Sunday that he intended to rebuild this winter."

There is no doubt that the strength of the marble industry was the basis for the decisions to rebuild. As Marcus Whiffen stated in American Architecture Since 1780--A Guide to the Styles: ". . . [O]ne would not be surprised to be told that more marble was used in building in the United States in the years 1900-1917 than was used in the Roman Empire during its entire history." Postcards of West Rutland marble quarries from that period proudly proclaimed them to be the largest in the world.

Within four years most of the blocks had been rebuilt both by original owners and new investors. Vernacular Italianate, which judging by the buildings which escaped the blaze was the general style before the fire, was again the primary choice. (The Walsh Block, #3, was the exception as it was constructed in Neo-Classical Revival style.) The majority, including all of the new buildings on the west side of the street, now had brick veneer, however, in place of wood sheathing. Blocks # 4-6 were rebuilt in wood while the Walsh Block had a marble facade. The chief elements of decoration were scroll bracketed storefront and roof cornices. The use of marble was common for foundations and lintels and sills.

The West Rutland marble industry, dominated by Vermont Marble Company, continued to thrive by producing marble for monuments and even the U.S. Senate Office Building. Marble Street merchants prospered along with it--Joseph Prenevost (see Buildings # 9 & 10, Section 7) and John Pifko (see Building #12) are reputed to have owned two of the first three cars in West Rutland.

Completing the commercial district was the construction

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

c.1925 of Building #13. Despite this late date, this block, too, was in the vernacular Italianate style, even copying the cornice details from the Pifko Block (#12) next door. About this time also, Marble Street was paved which marked the last major development on this section of the street.

The days of prosperity based on the marble industry were nearly over by this time. The waning of popularity of the Neo-Classical Revival style, a prolific user of marble, and the Great Depression led to a dire reduction in the demand for marble. During the 1930s almost 500 people left West Rutland. Two garages, #s 13A and 14A, are the remnants in the District from this time of economic decline.

The closing of the works by Vermont Marble Company after World War II effectively ended the marble days for West Rutland and Marble Street lost its reason for being. Change in the area of the Historic District had essentially ended over a decade previous. Marble Street had turned from a bustling, primarily commercial area and entered a period of hibernation. Not only was most of the business gone but now the street was essentially a dead end as the way north led to the silence of the marble works. The construction of the US Route 4 bypass c.1970 further isolated Marble Street.

Although small shops and offices continued to occupy several of the commercial blocks, the area encompassed by the Historic District had been frozen in time. As a result the Marble Street Historic District is an uncommonly homogeneous collection. The working class origins and clientele led to a uniformity of scale--modest, as only the Shirt Waist Factory (#2) is as high as three stories--and style--vernacular Italianate, as only the Walsh Block (#3) with its Neo-Classical Revival facade and House #14 with its Colonial Revival porch offer alternatives in decorative features. The character of the street from its period of prosperity is little altered.

Nearby towns such as Fair Haven and Poultney parallel West

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

Rutland in the extent to which they were dependent upon the slate industry. With the decline of that industry these towns also lost their commercial base. In contrast to Marble Street, their main commercial districts continued as major thoroughfares, and, however diminished in activity, were still the center of town and as such continued to see alterations, demolitions, and new construction.

Marble Street in West Rutland is unusual in Vermont in that it supplanted "main street" (both literally and figuratively in this case) as the commercial center. Built as an access route to the quarries, Marble Street became a hub--the commercial center of a bustling town of nearly 4,000 people. The quarries, the nearby railroad depot, and the street railway assured its prominence. As one by one these factors were eliminated and Marble Street was no longer an important transportation route, it began to lose stature and became just another street. Business declined and eventually left. This lack of commercial pressure has helped to preserve the historic character of this District to a remarkable degree. Losses have been minimal as have alterations and additions (See Section 7, Page 4.), especially considering the nature of most commercial districts. To stand on Marble Street today is nearly like entering a stage set for turn-of-the-century America, so much of the character has been retained. As a monument to an industry and the workers who toiled in it and as an architectural record, West Rutland's Marble Street Historic District is fine indeed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Sevigny, Ethel P, local historian of West Rutland. Personal interview by David Tansey on April 14, 1989.

Sevigny, Victor A., former Town Clerk of West Rutland. Personal interview by David Tansey on April 14, 1989.

Smith, H.P. and W.S. Rann, eds. History of Rutland County, Vermont. Syracuse, N.Y.: D. Mason and Co., 1886.

"West Rutland." The Rutland Herald, 30 November 1903, page 2, column 2.

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Beers, F.W. Atlas of Rutland County, Vermont. New York: F.W. Beers, 1869. Reprint. Rutland, Vt.: Charles E. Tuttle, 1969.

Sanborn-Perris Map Co. Rutland, Rutland County, Vermont (inc. West Rutland). New York: 1890, 1895.

Sanborn Map Co. Map of Rutland, Vermont (inc. West Rutland). New York: 1905.

----- Sanborn Map of West Rutland, Vermont. New York: 1910, 1922, 1929; 1938, 1954, and 1957 revisions of 1929 map.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary begins at Point A, the intersection of the easterly edge of the right of way of Marble Street and southwesterly edge of Castleton Brook. The boundary thence proceeds in a southeasterly direction along said edge of brook to Point B, the intersection with a line 125 feet east of and parallel to Marble Street. Thence the boundary travels in a southerly direction along said line, passing behind Buildings # 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 6A, to Point C, the intersection with an easterly extension of a line 8 feet south of and parallel to Building #6. The boundary thence travels in a westerly direction along said extension, said line and an westerly extension thereof across Marble Street to Point D, the intersection with the westerly edge of the right of way of Marble Street. The boundary thence travels in a southerly direction along said edge of right of way to Point E, the intersection with the southerly property line of Building #7. Thence the boundary travels southwesterly along said property line to Point F, the intersection with a line 125 feet west of and parallel to the western edge of the right of way of Marble Street, whence the boundary travels northerly along said line to Point G, its intersection with the northerly property line of Buildings # 7 & 8. The boundary thence travels northeasterly along said line to Point H, the intersection with a line 90 feet west of and parallel to the west edge of the right of way of Marble Street, whence the boundary travels northerly along said line to Point I, its intersection with the northwesterly property line of Building #9. The boundary thence travels northeasterly along said line to Point J, the intersection with the rear property line of Building #10. Thence the boundary travels in a generally northerly direction following the rear (west) property lines of Buildings # 10, 11, 12, and 13 and passing through Points K and L to Point M, the intersection with the southeasterly edge of right of way of Smith Street. The boundary thence travels in a northeasterly direction along said edge to Point N, the intersection with the southeasterly extension of the of the southwesterly

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 2

property line of Building #14. Thence the boundary travels in a northwesterly direction along said extension and said line to Point O, the northwest corner of property #14. Thence the boundary follows the rear (northwest) property line of said property to Point P, the northeast corner of the property whence the boundary travels in a southeasterly direction along the northeast property line and a southeast extension thereof to Point Q, the intersection with the southeasterly edge of right of way of Smith Street. Thence the boundary travels northeasterly along said edge and a northeasterly extension thereof to Point R, the intersection with the easterly edge of right of way of Marble Street, whence the boundary travels northerly along said edge to Point A, the point of beginning.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 3

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Marble Street Historic District is based on the Vermont State Register of Historic Places District also called the Marble Street Historic District as described in the Historic Sites and Structures Survey. All primary buildings are included; two garages (one non-contributing) have been removed since the time of the State Survey. The District contains the historic core of West Rutland's Marble Street commercial area, most of which was destroyed in a 1903 fire and shortly thereafter rebuilt. Buildings # 1 and 14, which escaped the fire, mark the northern edge of both the fire and the District; an empty lot south of Building #6 and Buildings # 7 and 8, which also escaped the fire, mark the southern edge of both the fire and the District.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Owners Page 1

OWNERS LIST

1. Mumford, James and Paula
2 West Side Court
West Rutland, VT 05777
2. Gawet, Marie
122 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
3. Mumford, James and Paula
2 West Side Court
West Rutland, VT 05777
4. Higgins, Patrick and Deborah
110-112 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
5. Higgins, Patrick and Deborah
110-112 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
6. Fryzell, Albert and Josephine
98-100 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
7. Knight, Clara B.
87 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
8. Knight, Clara B.
87 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
9. West Rutland Fire District #1
P.O. Box 302
West Rutland, VT 05777

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Owners Page 2

10. Kantorski, Henry J. and Anna
95 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
11. Bishop, William
Clarendon Avenue
West Rutland, VT 05777
12. Fucci Co.
Haywood Avenue
Rutland, VT 05701
13. Smyrski, John and Helen
109 Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777
14. Salengo, Joseph
Marble Street
West Rutland, VT 05777

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1

PHOTOGRAPH IDENTIFICATION

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Marble Street Historic District
West Rutland, Vermont
Photography by David C. Tansey
April, 1989
Negative filed at Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

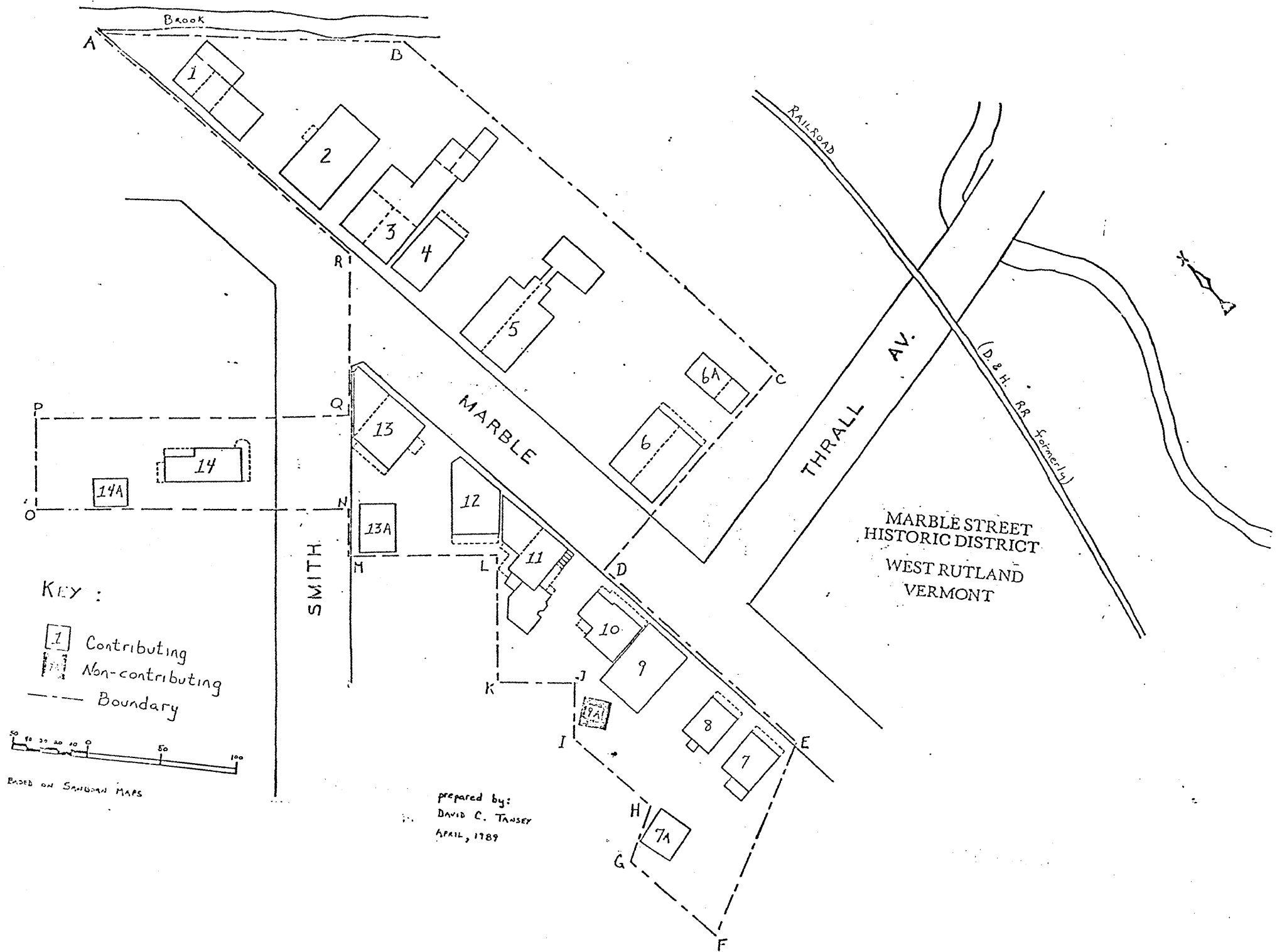
- Photograph #1: Streetscape: Buildings # 2, 3, & 13 (L-R)
View: ENE
- Photograph #2: Streetscape: Buildings # 3-6 (L-R)
View: SE
- Photograph #3: Streetscape: Buildings # 7-13 (L-R)
View: NW
- Photograph #4: Streetscape: Buildings # 7, 9-13 (L-R)
View: SW
- Photograph #5: Building #1
View: SE
- Photograph #6: Building #2, Shirt Waist Factory
View: SE
- Photograph #7: Buildings # 3, The Walsh Block (L), and 4 (R)
View: NE
- Photograph #8: Building #5, The Post Office (Dwyer Building)
View: SE
- Photograph #9: Building #5--rear
View: SE

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

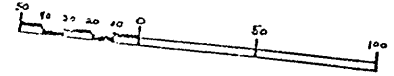
Section number Photos Page 2

- Photograph #10: Building #6, The Kelley Block
View: NE
- Photograph #11: Building #6A, Barn/Garage
View: SE
- Photograph #12: Buildings # 7 (L) & 8 (R)
View: NW
- Photograph #13: Building #7A, Barn/Garage
View: SW
- Photograph #14: Buildings # 9 & 10 (L-R), Prenevost Store
and House
View: NW
- Photograph #15: Building #11, West Rutland Trust Building
View: NW
- Photograph #16: Buildings # 10-12 (L-R); Prenevost House,
West Rutland Trust Building, and Pifko
Block
View: SW
- Photograph #17: Building #13
View: SW
- Photograph #18: Building #13A, Garage
View: SE
- Photograph #19: Building #14
View: NW
- Photograph #20: Building #14A, Garage
View: N



KEY :

- 1 Contributing
- 1 Non-contributing
- Boundary



BASED ON SANBORN MAPS

prepared by:
DAVID C. TANSER
APRIL, 1989

MARBLE STREET
HISTORIC DISTRICT
WEST RUTLAND
VERMONT