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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EDUCATION

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 any 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 215 School Street

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 215 School Street

not for publication N/a

city or town Shoreham vicinity N/a

state Vermont code VT county Addison code 001

zip code 05770

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally X statewide X locally. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Suzanne C. Jamile National Register Specialist 11-2-05
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
State or 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 commenting or other official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): _____

Edson Beall 12/16/05

Edson Beall

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

N/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single-dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single-dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

roof Steel

walls Weatherboard

other Wood

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 a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance c.1795 – 1935

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

 N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: _____

 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _____ 4.2 _____

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	635324	4861105	3	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

_____ 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 _____ Mary Jo Llewellyn, Architectural Historian _____

Organization _____ date _____ July 2005 _____

street & number _____ 46 East State Street _____ telephone _____ 802-229-5924 _____

city or town _____ Montpelier _____ state _____ VT _____ zip code _____ 05602 _____

=====
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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name JBP Properties, LLC
street & number P.O. Box 238 telephone 802-897-5555
city or town Shoreham state VT zip code 05770

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Addison County, Vermont

The small, c.1795 Federal style house at 215 School Street is a timber-framed, 1 ½ story, 5 x 2 bay, eaves-front (west) main block with an historic, single story, 2 x 1 bay wing addition projecting from its south gable elevation. The five-bay façade of the main block is both irregular and asymmetrical. The wing projects from the eastern half of the main south gable and extends east beyond the plane of the main rear wall. The building is located on the east side of School Street, immediately south of the Shoreham Common and just southeast of the significant collection of historic church and civic buildings on the west side of the street. Sited approximately 20 feet from the paved roadway, the house is shaded by two very large, mature Black Locust trees, and is surrounded by simple foundation plantings and a grassed yard that in the rear slopes gradually away. A short unpaved driveway in front of the wing provides parking. The building retains an historic plan from the first half of the 19th century, after the removal of the original center chimney, as well as many historic finishes, including some original plaster, interior doors, door and window surrounds, wainscoting and flooring. The property retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The 5 x 2 bay house is sheathed with white-painted Colonial Revival period wood shingles, roofed with standing seam metal, and supported on a dry-laid fieldstone foundation. There is a full-height basement level under the northern four bays, where the huge stone mass that supported the original center chimney has been retained. The main gable roof now supports a mid-19th century, off-center, corbelled brick chimney. The roof overhang on the eave elevations is very narrow. Wooden trim elements on the house include original molded and beaded fascia, corner boards, simple flat window surrounds, and built-up, molded trim around the front door.

The pattern of door and window openings on the main block's five-bay-wide façade is both irregular and asymmetrical. The five bays are spaced irregularly across the wall plane. The original front door opening is not centered, but occurs in the second bay from the north. The four window bays are now filled with c.1870, 2/2 wooden sash. The end bays light the northwest and southwest corner rooms. The third and fourth window bays and the front door open into the center front room.

The front door is an early, wide four-panel solid wood door that may be part of the original construction. The simple, unusual door surround is made up of wide flat boarding to which a built-up, molded casing has been applied. The wide horizontal transom board above the door opening extends up to the molded fascia under the eaves. The door is fitted with 19th century cast iron handle and hinges.

The north gable elevation has two c.1870, 2/2 wooden sash windows in the main level and a single 9/6 sash that probably dates from the 18th century in the second level. There is a c.1930 door opening in the northwest corner of the first level.

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The rear elevation of the main block retains four historic window openings. The northern two bays are filled with Queen Anne period 2/2 wooden sash. The third bay is filled with an historic, fixed nine-light window that lights the interior stair hall. The fourth bay contains paired 2/2 sash windows. The window opening was apparently modified to accommodate a mid to late 20th century kitchen counter and sink built against the rear interior wall. When the counter was installed, the lower quarter of the window opening was in filled and the lower sash were reduced in height by one-half to fit into the smaller window opening.

The south gable end is defined by two, 2/2 single-glazed, true-divided-light, double-hung reproduction wooden sash windows in the ground level, forward of the wing addition, and by an eighteenth or early nineteenth century, 12/12 sash window in the second level. The new sash on the first floor was fabricated with knives made using the historic 2/2 muntin profile as a template.

The added 2 x 1 bay, timber-framed wing has half-round log rafters and some split lathe, suggesting that it was constructed before 1820. An entry door in the north bay and a double-leafed wagon door in the south bay define the front elevation of the wing. The entry door and the wagon door are made of vertically oriented boarding and have simple thumb latches. There is a fixed, four-light window in the wing's south gable peak. The rear elevation has two, paired three-light windows in the south bay and a very small, two-light window and a recessed door in the north bay. The small window provides light into an outhouse partitioned off inside the wing. Access from the interior of the wing into the main house is through an historic door in the main south gable wall.

Interior

The significant interior of 215 School Street retains an historic plan and many historic finishes. The plan of the 5 x 2 bay main block consists of three front rooms and three rear rooms, and probably dates from the first half of the 19th century and the removal of the center chimney, as the fireplace is also no longer in place. The front door and the third and fourth window bays open into the front middle room, from which all other first floor rooms are accessed. Rear rooms include primary spaces at each building corner and a small bath, stair hall and stairs to the second floor in the middle space.

The second floor plan consists of three primary spaces. The two full-width end rooms with knee wall storage appear to be original. The middle space probably dates from the removal of the center chimney. The middle space historically included an interior room at the top of the stairs and a large closet built against the rear knee wall. In the late 20th century, a non-historic bath was partitioned off within the space at the top of the stairs.

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The wing's plan corresponds to the pattern of doors on its front elevation. An historic stud wall located just south of the entry door runs the width of the wing and is sheathed with horizontal boards. The stud wall divides the interior into two unequal spaces. The outhouse is located at the rear of the narrow space behind the entry door.

215 School Street retains many historic finishes, including four-panel doors with latch hinges throughout. On the first floor, the northeast corner room has its original plaster and split lathe ceilings and walls and wide board flooring. The trim around doors and windows is molded. The northwest corner room also retains original plaster, flooring, and doors, but the trim in this room, and in all other rooms in the house, is flat. The center room retains horizontally oriented and beaded, wide board wainscoting. The upper walls and ceiling are covered with sheet rock. The narrow board hardwood flooring in the center room dates from the Colonial Revival period. The southwest front room has a similar Colonial Revival period wood floor and sheet rock walls and ceiling. The interior walls in the small bath and the stair hall are covered with historic full-height, painted vertical boarding. Similar vertical boarding is found on the interior walls in the southeast corner room. The wide flooring in the bath and in the kitchen, located in the southeast corner room, have been painted. All other wood floors are clear.

The finishes on the second floor include historic plaster and lathe on all ceilings and historic walls. Historic flat trim has been retained throughout, as has the historic, clear wide board flooring.

In 2004, 215 School Street was repaired and rehabilitated using the Reinvestment Income Tax Certification Program, and following the guidelines of *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. Prior to its restoration, the building was covered with vinyl siding and a worn, rusty sheet steel roof. An incompatible, poorly constructed and deteriorating 20th century enclosed entry projected out from the main front door. The historic four-panel front door was in place but its upper panels and middle stile had been replaced with glazing.

A similar, non-historic enclosed entry had been built in the interior corner between the main south gable and the front wall of the wing. The historic entry door in the wing was boarded over. The second historic window bay on the main south gable, which was also covered by the added entry, had been enlarged as a door opening in the mid-20th century. The historic single sash in the first bay had been removed. The window bay had been widened and filled with paired, vinyl-clad 1/1sash windows. Only the Federal period form and massing, the original molded, beaded fascia trim, which was not covered with vinyl, the early, although altered front door, and the early sash in the gable peaks, provided clues about the integrity of the 18th century house.

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215 School Street
Addison County, Vermont

When it was constructed late in the 18th century, 215 School Street had a huge, center chimney. The original chimney was removed and replaced by a smaller, brick chimney. More efficient and more convenient wood burning stoves were common in Vermont by the 1830s, but stylistically, the existing corbelled chimney is probably more representative of the mid-19th century. The fireplace was also removed but the huge masonry base for the original center chimney is retained in the basement. The chimney mass includes an unusual course of logs, presumably installed to help absorb frost action. A similar chimney base is known to exist in Florence, (Rutland County), Vermont.

The historic 2/2 wood sash on the ground level of the house suggest that earlier, presumably Federal period 12/12, and perhaps Greek Revival period 6/6 sash, were replaced c.1870, in response to technological and popular taste in the Queen Anne period. The glazed, four-panel exterior door in the north gable end appears to date from the early 20th century and is Colonial Revival style in design.

As part of planning for the RITC project in 2004, two small areas of vinyl siding were removed in order to determine the nature and condition of the siding(s) under the synthetic material. That investigation showed that the vinyl had been installed directly over painted wood shingles, with no rigid insulation. Removal of a few wood shingles revealed very early, wide wood clapboards. It appears that in order to provide a relatively flat nailing surface for the Colonial Revival period wood shingles, the original clapboards were removed and re-hung on the sheathing boards, butted together edge to edge, with no overlap. Removal of a few shingles in the rear elevation showed that the rear wall was never clapboarded. Instead, it was sheathed with rough sawn, horizontal planks, bevel-cut on the butt edges. Use of planking on non-public elevations was a fairly common practice in Vermont in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Based on this information, the decision was made to remove the vinyl siding and to retain the Colonial Revival period wood shingles, which are in good condition. Consideration was given to removing the shingles and clapboards, and to then re-hanging the historic Federal period clapboards. Only three elevations were originally clapboarded, and when the clapboards were re-hung as a nailing surface for the wood shingles, fewer clapboards were reused. Therefore a significant number of new clapboards would have been required to sheath the house. The intact Colonial Revival period shingles are representative of the building's evolution in the early 20th century. The historic shingles combine with the other significant building features to provide a very direct, legible picture of architectural design and popular taste in Vermont from the late 18th until the early 20th century.

The RITC project also included the removal of the non-historic enclosed entries on the front elevation, installation of a new standing seam metal roof, and the restoration of the Federal period fenestration pattern on the main south gable. All existing historic features were retained and repaired in kind. Federal period elements include the building's form and massing, the molded

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fascia, the 9/6 and 12/12 sash in the gable peaks, and the front door and its surround. The removed upper panels and middle stile were discovered stored in the wing, and were re-installed when the door was restored.

The 19th century corbelled brick was repaired. The 2/2 sash on the ground floor probably date from the Queen Anne period of design. Two new single-glaze, true divided light, 2/2 wooden sash that match the Queen Anne period sash were fabricated and installed in the restored, Federal period fenestration pattern on the south gable of the main block. Although the restored window bays were probably initially filled with sash typical of earlier period(s) of design, use of new 2/2 sash in the restored openings is consistent with the existing Queen Anne period sash and with the observed evolution of the house. The early 20th century door on the north gable end was retained, as it is contemporaneous with the Colonial Revival period wood shingles.

Similarly, the house retained numerous historic interior finishes prior to the RITC project. These included four-panel interior doors, door and window surrounds, and historic floorboards. But with the exception of the plaster walls and ceilings in the northern two rooms, all other ceilings and walls were covered with several layers of non-historic wall finishes, nailed directly onto the historic finishes.

Twentieth century wallpaper was successfully removed from the walls in the northern rooms and the original plaster repaired in kind. When the non-historic wall finishes were removed from the center room, the plaster beneath was predictably damaged, but several historic surprises were also uncovered. The lower half of the walls were covered with beautiful, horizontally oriented, beaded, wide board wainscoting that was damaged but repairable. Two historic interior door openings, doors and door trim, were also discovered. One door leads into the southwest corner room. The second leads into the small bath, formerly accessed from the northeast corner room. The door in that opening is a four-panel door that is capped by a three-light transom.

Lovely, full-height, vertically oriented, hand-planed and painted boarding was discovered on interior walls in the kitchen in the southeast corner room. Elsewhere, the historic plaster beneath the later finishes was heavily damaged. The plaster was replaced with sheetrock, installed so that the historic reveals were retained. Prior to painting, the new sheetrock was skim-coated to eliminate dissimilar surface qualities.

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Addison County, Vermont

215 School Street in Shoreham, Vermont is a well-preserved example of a Federal period, Cape Cod style, single-family dwelling. Constructed c.1795, the house retains its original form and massing, but also exhibits specific architectural features and materials that convey the building's architectural evolution throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries. The house is composed of a 1½ story, 5 x 2 bay, eaves-front main block with a single story, gable-roofed wing projecting from its south gable elevation. The main block's five-bay wide façade is both irregular and asymmetrical. The wing appears to have been constructed early in the 19th century. 215 School Street appears eligible to the National Register under Criterion A: Event, because of its association with the broad patterns of history of Shoreham, Vermont from c.1795 until 1935. It has statewide historic significance because of its probable association with Job Lane Howe, a noted house wright working at the turn of the 19th century, and local significance because of its association with the Bush family, prominent residents of Shoreham in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The building is also being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C: Design/Construction, because the Federal period house has undergone very few changes over a long period of time. Its few historic changes represent several distinct periods of architectural and material taste and have gained significance in their own right, so that the building provides a clear, simple picture that illustrates its evolution for over 200 years. The house, which may be the oldest building in the Village of Shoreham, is a contributing structure (A32) in the Shoreham Village State Register Historic District

The Town of Shoreham was chartered in 1761. The 100 acre lot in the geographic center of the town was reserved for the village. The first house in what would become Shoreham Village was constructed in 1786 by George Leonard, but that log structure is no longer standing. In 1788 the Town's proprietors laid out the village in a series of rectangular blocks, giving each proprietor a number of village lots proportional to his total land holdings in the Town, and reserving blocks for common land, a cemetery, and for the village's public and civic buildings. The western portion of the village continues to be centered around the T-shaped intersection of the east/west oriented Main Street (Vermont Route 74) and School Street, which runs south from Main Street. The land in the southeast corner of the intersection was designed as the Common, and remains as such. Historic churches and civic buildings still line the west side of School Street, facing the intact Common.

Shoreham is located in the Champlain Valley, on the shore of Lake Champlain. The fertile soil of the ancient lake bottom made early settlement in the area relatively easy. A number of Federal period buildings that reflect the prosperity of the first residents are still standing in the village and the larger Town. Before 1800, the village of Larrabee's Point in Shoreham gave the Town easy access to trade and travel on Lake Champlain. Throughout the 19th century, the rolling farmland facilitated successful large-scale crop production, and promoted wool and dairy industries, stock

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production and apple growing. The churches and civic buildings on the west side of School Street, as well as a number of houses constructed in various 19th century styles, attest to the ability of Shoreham farmers to adapt to ever-evolving agricultural practices.

Rev. Josiah F. Goodhue, in his 1861 History of the Town of Shoreham Vermont, reported that the breeding of fine Morgan and Morgan cross horses, for work and for the road, was an important activity among some Shoreham residents beginning in the 18th and continuing through the 19th centuries. By the second quarter of the 19th century, most Shoreham farmers began to raise sheep for wool, and by 1837, the Town had the largest number of sheep in Vermont (Historic Architecture of Rutland County, p. 224). When, in the mid century, tariffs reduced the price of wool, some Shoreham farmers responded by turning to the breeding of Merino sheep for export to the western U.S. and to foreign markets. In the last decades of the century, farmers in much of Vermont focused on dairy and cattle breeding industries, in part because the advent of the railroad and refrigerated cars allowed large quantities of fluid milk to be shipped out of state to urban markets.

The History of the Town of Shoreham Vermont states that "Oliver Howe built a framed house, near where Ebenezer Bush, Esq. now lives, about 1795" (Goodhue, p. 35). Oliver Howe moved to Shoreham from Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. The framed house built for him is located on the east side of School Street, immediately south of the Common and is today identified as 215 School Street. The 1810 Federal Census indicates that Oliver Howe was living in near-by Bridport, Vermont by that year.

Oliver Howe's house may have been constructed by Job Lane Howe. The two men were possibly cousins. Job Lane Howe was born in North Brookfield, Massachusetts in 1769 and also lived in Connecticut where he worked as a house carpenter and wheelwright before moving to Shoreham in 1793. The Historic Architecture of Addison County, states on page 224 that Job Lane Howe was "the only recorded house wright active in the area at that time" (c.1800). Howe constructed numerous buildings in the area, including the first church in Shoreham, the 1800 Congregational Meeting House, which is no longer standing. He is also known to have built five, 2-story, five-bay, symmetrical, hip-roofed, Federal style houses in the Town of Shoreham between 1793 and 1800. All are still standing, although one, the Noah Callender House, has been moved to Brandon, Vermont. A second of these is the c.1800 Dr. Timothy Page House, described in The Historic Architecture of Addison County as "one of the more sophisticated early Federal style houses in the Champlain Valley, it is notable for its projecting, gabled central pavilion, Palladian window and original pedimented entry porch"(page 224). The remaining three Shoreham houses built by Howe before 1800 are the Samuel Hunt House, the Elijah Wright House and the Ephraim Dolittle House.

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In 1815, Job Lane Howe built the Catlin House in Shoreham Village (A12 in the Shoreham Village State Register Historic District). The Catlin House is a wooden, 2-story, gable-roofed, Federal style building that features a curiously irregular and asymmetrical five-bay façade. In 1818, Howe built and began to operate a sawmill in near-by Crown Point, New York, where soon afterwards, he also constructed a house for himself. Howe's brick home is a 2-story, gable-roofed Federal style building with a very unusual, irregular and asymmetrical seven-bay façade. Job Lane Howe moved permanently from Shoreham to Crown Point in 1836, where he died two years later.

The house constructed for Oliver Howe on School Street c.1795 is certainly a smaller, simpler building than the high-style houses attributed to Job Lane Howe but it provides clues that strongly suggest that it too is his work. Typically, a Cape Cod style house constructed in Vermont in the Federal period is five bays wide, with a centered front door. Occasional variations, which are asymmetric but maintain regularity of bays, include the 3-bay wide half-Cape and the 4-bay wide three-quarter Cape. The five-bay façade of 215 School Street is both irregular and asymmetrical. The five bays are spaced irregularly across the wall, and the front door is not centered but is instead located in the second bay. The unusual characteristics of irregularity and asymmetry are also seen on two other houses known to have been constructed by Job Howe, the Catlin House, also in Shoreham Village, and his own home in Crown Point, New York.

A second clue is found in the house, where the name "Job H." is written with caulk or white paint on a roof board in the attic of 215 School Street. Although it is possible that Howe signed the board when the house was constructed, it is probably more accurate to assume that the name was a notation made at the sawmill to designate lumber milled for his use. The historic reference to a house built c.1795, the unusual pattern of door and window openings on the façade, and the name written on the roof board, make it reasonable to conclude that the house at 215 School Street may have been constructed by Job Lane Howe.

Deed research prior to 1829 is inconclusive, but in that year, Samuel Ormsbee sold a property "...bounded on the north by the meetinghouse common..." to Ebenezer Bush, Jr. The Bush family retained ownership of the property for one hundred years, until 1929. Historic maps also provide information about the small house immediately south of the Common. The 1857 *Walling Map of Addison (Vermont) County* identifies a large house on the west side of School Street as belonging to E. Bush and shows a small house immediately south of the Common, diagonally opposite the Bush House, but its owner is not noted. The 1871 *Beers' Atlas of Addison County* shows the large house on the west side of School Street as owned by Miss Bush. The notation beside the small house on the east side of the street is "Mrs. E.B".

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Addison County, Vermont

Ebenezer Bush Sr. and his family moved from Becket, Massachusetts to Shoreham in 1789. His son Ebenezer Jr. was born in 1781. Ebenezer Sr. was killed by a falling tree in 1791, in Fairhaven, Vermont. The Bush family house, reportedly built by Ebenezer Bush Jr. c.1810 and shown on historic maps on the west side of School Street, is a 2-story, five-bay, eaves-front Federal style house that is located diagonally opposite 215 School Street. The Bush house is also a contributing structure (A34) in the Shoreham Village State Register Historic District.

During the War of 1812, Ebenezer Bush, Jr. was the Lieutenant in one of three voluntary militias organized in Shoreham. In September 1814, as British forces neared Plattsburg, New York, the militias were asked to provide volunteers to aid the regular United States Army forces stationed there. Ebenezer Bush was second in command in a cavalry unit that left Shoreham for Burlington, dressed in "citizens dress and taking their own horses"(Goodhue, p.104). Bush and several others met with Vermont Governor Martin Chittenden when they arrived in Burlington. Goodhue reports that at the meeting, Governor Chittenden "expressed no disposition to hinder the crossing of the volunteers, but that he had no authority to order the militia out of the State" (Goodhue, p. 106). The Shoreham militia witnessed the Battle of Plattsburg from their boat while crossing Lake Champlain, but did not participate in the battle that resulted in the British retreat. The volunteers returned home to Shoreham a few days later.

The Federal Census of 1850 lists Ebenezer Bush, 69, as head of household. His occupation is that of farmer and the value of his real estate is listed as \$13, 470, a significant amount at the time. His wife Sarah had died in 1845 but his daughter Laura is listed as living with him. Ebenezer's son Edson (E.D. Bush) is also listed as head of household at the same location. He too is a farmer. Included within Edson's household are his wife Catherine, son Charles, daughter Agnes, a housekeeper and two laborers from Canada.

Ebenezer Bush, Jr. was also an active participant in the civic affairs of Shoreham. At the 1859 Town Meeting, residents "voted to appropriate \$150 for the purpose of procuring the writing of a History of the Town of Shoreham" (Goodhue, p. 50.). The following year, the Town voted to contribute \$100 for the purpose of publishing the Rev. Mr. Goodhue's History. Ebenezer Bush was one of five men appointed to a committee to carry out the writing and publishing of the book.

In 1865, shortly before his death, Ebenezer Bush deeded at least five parcels of land to his daughter Laura, including "the homestead dwelling" and "the parcel of land bounded on the north by the Common...and on the west by the highway leading south from Shoreham village". An obituary of Ebenezer Bush was not found. Goodhue referred to Ebenezer Bush, Esq. on page 35 of his History of the Town of Shoreham Vermont. Apparently the title "Esquire" was used as a sign of respect in the 19th century, but did not necessarily indicate that the person was an attorney.

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The *Beers' Atlas of Addison County*, published in 1871, shows the large house on the west side of School Street as owned by Miss Bush. The same map includes the notation "Mrs. E.B." beside the small house on the east side of the street.

Ebenezer's son, Edson D. Bush was apparently active in the sheep industry that flourished in the Champlain Valley in the mid-19th century. In a September 3, 1860 letter (now the property of the Henry Sheldon Museum in Middlebury, Vermont) to Middlebury attorney F.E. Woodbridge, Esq., Bush describes two herds of sheep owned by Rollin Birchard of Shoreham, and suggests a price the owner may be willing to accept, perhaps as much as \$1000, for the better of the two herds of ewes.

E. D. Bush was also a breeder of Morgan horses. In 1861, Goodhue makes reference to the Bush family's involvement in stock breeding. "Messrs. R.S. Dana and E.D. Bush, also Mr. Orvin Rowe, one of the owners of Ethan Allen, have huge farms stocked almost exclusively with horses, and furnish the market with many of the finest animals to be found in the country" (page 65).

On January 24, 1879, the Middlebury Register published a brief notice that "Mr. Edson Bush died January 13 after a long and painful illness".

Child's Gazetteer and Business Directory for the year 1882 listed Laura J. Bush as living on road 51 (School Street) and owning a farm of 20 acres. Her niece, Agnes K. Bush, is listed as a resident on road 51.

Laura Bush had no children and so in August 1893, four years before her death, deeded "my home place where I now reside", containing twenty acres of land, and the "premises situated on the east side of the highway and now occupied by C.C. Rich", to her brother Edson's daughter Agnes. The Bush family was reportedly related to the Rich family.

Edson's son Charles Bush reportedly spent much of his professional career as an Officer of the Ticonderoga Pulp and Paper Company (New York), now International Paper. He also was cashier of the First National Bank of Orwell (Vermont) and served as that bank's President from 1891 - 1893. Charles Bush died in 1922. The small, local bank is still in existence.

Agnes Bush also never married and upon her death in 1928, willed her residence to Shoreham friends Jennie and Ina Smith. To Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Godette Agnes left "the real estate lying on the east side of the highway consisting of ...the tenant house and barn situated thereon and now occupied by them". The Godettes had apparently been tenants in the Bush tenant house for a

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number of years, because the 1910 Federal Census, which did not give specific street addresses but proceeded along a street, listed Agnes Bush, 63, as head of household. Her occupation was recorded as "own income". E.G. Godette, 44, lived with his wife Delia, 34 and five children. Godette's occupation was painter "working out". E.G. and Delia Godette sold the house on School Street in 1935, ending the building's association with the Bush family.

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215 School Street
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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

This property at 215 School Street, Shoreham, Addison County, Vermont, is the village lot associated with the building. It is described in the deed, Book 56, pages 45 – 46, Shoreham Land Records. The lot is recorded in the Shoreham Tax Lot maps as Tax Map 9, Block 1, Lot 63.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is the land historically associated with the building.