

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 13 1980
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

g
The Marvin Newton House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ridge Road (Town Highway #2)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Brockfield Center

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

CODE

50

COUNTY

Orange

CODE

017

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

The Historical Society of Brookfield, Vermont, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Brookfield

VICINITY OF

STATE

Vermont

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Brookfield

STATE

Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey

DATE

1979

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Marvin Newton House is situated in Brookfield, Vermont, on the Ridge Road, formerly a major stage route between Randolph Center and Brookfield Village (entered respectively on the National Register: 21 November 1974 and 28 March 1974). The house, remarkably unaltered, evokes a sense of the past and exemplifies a building tradition which, in many respects, has disappeared.

Built c. 1835, the Marvin Newton House is a late vernacular translation of the Federal style. With 2½ stories and 5 x 2 bays, the symmetrical elevations are capped by a gable roof. Originally there were two interior chimneys; now only the south flue continues above the roof. The standing seam roof covers an earlier wood shingle roof. There are no eaves overhanging and the molded cornice has short returns which are actually flush. The windows have retained their original 12/12 lights and plain surrounds. The central frontispiece has simple pilasters supporting an entablature with a projecting cornice shelf below which is a transom; the door itself is not original and was probably placed there c. 1900. The south side has an entrance to the kitchen which does appear original. The clapboard siding remains unpainted.

The interior of the house is based upon a central hall plan with the front half logically having two larger rooms while the kitchen and a smaller room are in the back. The two rooms on each side of the hall share chimneys as the fireplaces are placed back-to-back. The front rooms have decorative mantelpieces with reeding in the entablatures befitting "public" rooms of the house. Upstairs, only the master bedroom has a fireplace; the other bedrooms were fitted with stove pipes. The master bedroom also has traces of graining remaining on the floorboards. The interior's fabric remains largely unaltered: almost all of the original hardware, floorboards, molding, and woodwork remain intact.

One of the more interesting features of the house is the framing system in the attic that supports the roof. Braced purlins, set at 45° angles, lend support to the roof rafters which are connected to a ridge pole. While this was a common structural design in barn buildings, it was rarely used in houses.

Attached to the rear of the house is a 1-story ell which was built in 1854. The room in this ell has been sided in weathered barn board on the interior to provide a rustic backdrop for the display of the tool collection owned by the Historical Society of Brookfield.

To the rear and left of the Marvin Newton House is a carriage shed which was moved to this site in 1970 from East Randolph. Because of the date of this reconstruction; it does not contribute to the original historic character of the house.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1835 BUILDER/ARCHITECT possibly Marvin Newton

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Marvin Newton House is significant as a 19th century Federal style structure which has essentially remained intact. While unpretentious and devoid of any outstanding architectural detail, this house is a good example of a common building design and is important for interpretation because it has been largely unaltered.

Records and accounts pertaining to Marvin Newton, a blacksmith, indicate that his house was probably constructed in 1835. The date is significant because by that time the Greek Revival style had superceded the Federal style in popularity yet, Newton, or perhaps a builder, chose to build in the latter, more conservative style. Federal style features include the proportions of the building, fenestration placement of the 12/12 sash (original), the relatively light and delicate door encasement, and the narrow, plain cornice. It appears that the clapboards have never been painted. The only exterior alteration seems to be the removal of the exterior portion of the left interior fireplace chimney and the front door which is not original. The interior, with the exception of some wallpapered walls, reflects a modest and simple 19th-century lifestyle.

The house was bequeathed to the Historical Society of Brookfield, Vermont, Inc., in 1937 by descendants of Marvin Newton and is open to the public during the summer months.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey, Town of Brookfield, Emily Webb, 1979.
 Interview with Elisabeth Deforge, Brookfield, March, 1980.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Barre Quadrangle

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is contiguous with the property lines of the Marvin Newton House lot as recorded in the Brookfield Town Clerk's Office.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Margaret DeLaittre, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division for Historic Preservation

DATE

April 1980

STREET & NUMBER

Pavilion Building

TELEPHONE

802-828-3226

CITY OR TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

William D. Dimney

5/7/80

TITLE

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 6/11/80

Sally G. Decker
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Tatrick Andrews*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 6/10/80