

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received OCT 2 1986  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Windham Village Historic District

and/or common Windham Village Historic District

**2. Location**

Town Hill Rd

street & number Town Highways 1, 11, 12, and 14 N/A not for publication

city, town Windham N/A vicinity of

state Vermont code 50 county Windham code 025

**3. Classification**

| Category                                     | Ownership                                     | Status  | Present Use   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied          | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)         | <input type="checkbox"/> private              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both      | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress             | <input type="checkbox"/> educational                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                     | <b>Accessible</b>                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object              | <input type="checkbox"/> in process           | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government        |
|  | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial                   |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> no                           | <input type="checkbox"/> military                     |
|  |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                       |
|  |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> park                         |
|  |   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
|  |   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious         |
|  |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                   |
|  |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation               |
|  |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other:                       |

**4. Owner of Property**

name See Continuation Sheet

street & number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. The Windham Town Clerk's Office

street & number N/A

city, town Windham state Vermont

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey, #10 only has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date November, 1971  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

city, town Montpelier state Vermont

## 7. Description

|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Windham Village Historic District constitutes almost all of the remote hamlet of Windham Village. Well-preserved, woodframe, vernacular Greek Revival structures dating from the mid nineteenth century predominate and are positioned in a linear pattern amidst an environment of wooded and open hillsides and breathtaking views. Included are five buildings representing the 1½ story gable front house type, two, two-story Georgian plan types, a Classic Cottage, a Cottage with a central Gothic dormer and an 1802 church. Some of the structures retain their original wings, ells, and barns. Only four structures, two modern Neo-Colonial Capes and two outbuildings, do not contribute to the district's historic character, although they maintain the district's overall scale, rhythm, and materials.

Windham Village is spread out along an isolated rural road running from West Townshend to Route 11, the main Chester-Londonderry route. The village closely follows the linear pattern of the road and terrain which rises steeply from south to north. It is distinguished by a large number of fieldstone terraces and fences and a number of impressive maple trees stand along the little traveled roadside. A narrow stream, known as Sharp Brook, cuts across the road at the south of the village with, however, the district extending two houses further south of this point. The crest of the hill at the north side of the village, crowned by the Congregational Church, determines the northern extent of the district.

Windham is fairly remote and isolated from the main developments of the lowlands surrounding it. The town is thickly forested with both hard and soft woods spreading out over what were once open fields. A number of meadows remain open, however, particularly to the east of the district and do much to preserve the village's early agricultural character. Sections of Windham's main road to the north and south of the village remain unpaved and also contribute to the town's rural character.

Individual buildings within the district are described below.

#### 1. The Old Mack Place - Reilly House, c.1785

The Old Mack Place is situated on the side of a grassy hillside at the end of a long driveway, about 200 yards west of the main road. A vernacular structure, built in 1785 according to the owners, it is perhaps the oldest in the town. (There is some evidence to suggest that the one and a half story building actually dates from a later period, perhaps around 1800.) The unique fenestration of the Cape-like block includes 2 x 5 small, irregularly placed openings, plainly trimmed except for splayed lintel boards above the gable front left sidehall doorway and south eaves side entry. The walls consist of post and beam timbers covered with clapboard and resurfaced with modern asbestos siding and the house rests on a fieldstone foundation. The steeply pitched gable roof is sheathed with corrugated sheet metal and a chimney stands off-center, protruding from the ridge of the roof. Double hung windows with 6/6 sash are located on the west side; 2/2 sash windows exist on the south side. The original floor boards have been retained inside.

An early 19th century barn stood southwest of the private residence before collapsing in the winter of 1982. Only the foundation and some of the supporting members remain from this structure. No other remains have been located on the site.

# 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/<br>humanitarian |
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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.1785 - c.1930      **Builder/Architect** N/A

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Windham Village is a rare and pristine example of an isolated, rural, nineteenth century hilltop village. (The town of Windham has one of the highest altitudes of any locale in the state.) While similar Vermont villages have either been abandoned during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and are now a collection of wooded cellar holes, or have suffered the detrimental consequences of the burgeoning tourist industry in Southern Vermont, Windham remains unaffected. Its small collection of vernacular Greek Revival woodframe residences, later complementary early 20th century residences, barns and a church do not derive their architectural significance from individual high style associations, but in their symmetry, repetition of form and materials, and siting amidst a pastoral and wooded natural environment, honestly epitomize an historic Northern New England agrarian village.

While the town was chartered as early as the 1770's, the first development of the geographically central village did not begin until the 1790's. This was followed by rapid growth throughout the town during the first half of the nineteenth century. Windham reached its all time peak in population in 1820 with 930 persons residing in the agrarian settlement. By the middle of the nineteenth century the village had taken on its present appearance with most of today's buildings present and any future construction slight.

Commercial activity in the village was more prevalent during this mid-century period than today as Windham shared with S. Windham the role of service and commercial center for the town's population of farmers. Beers' 1869 map shows a taylor shop occupying #3, a blacksmith at #12, and a large store complex present at #11, now an archaeological site. Professional services were also available at the home of Dr. O. Spaffard, #5. During the 1880's, when Child's gazetteer was printed, #3 housed a telegraph office and #9 was a carpenter shop.

After 1860 the population declined as Windham, like other Vermont communities, suffered the effects of the Civil War, the westward migration, and the general decline of marginal hillside farming. Well into the twentieth century this condition had stabilized, but not without having caused the abandonment of many of the town's farmsteads, the reversion of open land to forest and the loss of buildings in the village district. The most noticeable loss was the removal of the extensive store complex, #14, during the 1940's. Also missing today are several barns, sheds and ells. This twentieth century benign neglect had its benefits, however; it meant the preservation of the village's true mid-nineteenth century agrarian character, a rare commodity as development pressure has increased drastically during the past two decades in the immediately surrounding region.

Lucy Wood writing in Abbey Hemenway's Vermont Historical Gazetteer in 1877 sums up Windham's preceding pastoral years when she states, "There are few (in Windham) who are wealthy, and not many who are very poor. They have enough to be comfortable and something to spare for the support of public institutions. There are few mechanics, but we live

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 45 acres

Quadrangle name Saxtons River, Vermont

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A 

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

B 

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

C 

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

D 

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

E 

|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

F 

|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

G 

|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

H 

|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

N/A

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|       |      |        |      |
| state | code | county | code |
|       |      |        |      |

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title William Chapman, Betty Ausherman, Gina Campoli

Vermont Division for

organization Historic Preservation

date 10/82, Revised 3/84

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.

deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Director, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

date 9/27/84

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 11-1-84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. David Reilly<br/>384 E. 194th Street<br/>Apt. 4-J<br/>Bronx, NY 10458</p> <p>2. Michael and Patricia Adrian<br/>2A. Windham, Vermont 05359</p> <p>3. Florence Edith Light, Dorothy<br/>3A. Vera, Emily May et al.<br/>447 W. Market Street<br/>York, PA 17404</p> <p>4. Geoffrey and Anne M. Bennett<br/>4A. 17 E. 89th Street<br/>New York, NY 10028</p> <p>5. William Chapman<br/>2025 Walnut Street, Apt. 3R<br/>Philadelphia, PA 19103</p> <p>6. Peter and Ann Moore<br/>6A. Windham, Vermont 05359</p> <p>7. Robert and Mary Hall<br/>Goodrich Street<br/>Stockbridge, MA 01262</p> <p>8. William A. Penney<br/>Box 919<br/>Mattituck, NY 11952</p> <p>9. Richard and Anne Orlando<br/>Box 118 (Center P.O.)<br/>Lincoln, MA 01773</p> | <p>10. Town of Windham<br/>c/o Carol C. Merritt,<br/>Windham Town Clerk<br/>Windham, Vermont 05359</p> <p>11. L. Thomas and Carole A. Quamma<br/>100 Birchwood Drive<br/>Northford, CT 06472</p> <p>12. Robert J. and Jean I. Sullivan<br/>P.O. Box 449<br/>New London, CT 06320</p> <p>13. Dr. Elden Mills<br/>13A. Box 14<br/>Tisbury, MA 02575</p> |
|---|---|

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2. Adrian House, c.1845

The Adrian House is located next to a small bridge over Sharp Brook and sits at the bottom of a long hill about 20 feet west of the main road. The well-maintained, woodframe Classic Cottage and rear ell suggests the Greek Revival in its distinctive detailing. Included are cornice returns, a wide frieze board, fluted pilasters flanking the main entrance's 2/3-length sidelights, and a crowning full entrance entablature. Fluted surrounds and corner blocks trim an additional south gable entrance that includes a multi-paned transom. The double hung windows present a variety of glazing patterns; 6/6 on the main block and 1/1 on the windows of the ell. In 1970, a multi-paned oriel window was added on the south side of the ell. A shed extension has been added to the far end of the ell. The foundation was originally composed of granite, however, cement blocks have replaced some of the original stone, both in the main house and for the ell foundation. The gable roof had been covered with sheet metal marked with standing seems over earlier wood and asphalt shingles.

The interior of the Adrian home includes original Greek Revival woodwork. A barn, formerly attached to the residence, is no longer present.

According to the owner, the house was built by the same carpenter who built the former church parsonage #13. According to early documentary evidence, including the Beers 1869 map of Windham County, the Adrian home was previously owned by the McKinley family, Mrs. E.A. Abbott and Gardner Upham.

2A. Adrian Garage, c.1980

This woodframe, 2-bay gabled garage does not contribute to the historic district.

3. Light House, c.1843

The Light House is located about 100 yards north of the Adrian home, #2, and five yards west of the steeply sloped main road. Four large maple trees line the road in front of this vernacular building, a stone wall is located directly across the street, and a concrete retaining wall extends west into the back yard to the south of the building.

The main block of the gable front three by three bay, 1½ story building has a six bay wing extending from its rear facade. A modern gabled sun porch, extending as an ell from the south facade was added around 1940. The wide porch is lighted by a band of 6/2 windows, has a lattice foundation screen and, like the main block, is trimmed by a returning cornice. The clapboarded exterior walls rest on a combined concrete block and fieldstone foundation.

The left sidehall entrance's Greek Revival trim includes: wide architrave surrounds, 2/3 length sidelights, plain pilasters, and a crowning entablature. Double hung windows display various glazing patterns, mostly 6/2 with some 6/6 windows. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and a central chimney is located on the ridge of the main building.

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Most of the original woodwork remains in the interior of the house. Early documentary evidence shows that the house was originally a carpenter and tailor shop. During the late 1860's through the 1880's it belonged to W.L. Cronin who practiced as a tailor and operated a telegraph office in the house.

3A. Light Barn, c.1920

This 2-level, gable front, clapboarded barn has swinging, 1/3 glazed garage doors on the first level and a hayloft on the second.

4. Bennett House, c.1858

The Bennett House is situated 20 yards west of the main road and is enhanced by a row of impressive maple trees lining its front yard. The main portion of the woodframe structure is oriented on a north/south axis. An ell with an open, shed-roofed porch extends from the west end.

The 3 x 2 bay, 1½ story, clapboarded building is a vernacular version of a Gothic Revival cottage, perhaps inspired by A.J. Downing. Its Gothic Revival origins can be traced most clearly through the impressive steeply pitched dormer of the east end which transects the gable roof and calls attention to the principal entrance below. The central door is flanked by full-length sidelights and crowned by a bracketed cornice. Paired 1/1 sash remain in the dormer while two large multi-paned "picture windows" have been added to the front facade. A polygonal bay window, also with a picture window, is on the south facade. Much of the original woodwork of the interior has been retained where possible.

The Bennett house once belonged to J.D. Jones, according to the 1869 Beers Atlas. It is also known to have been the location of the first library in the town.

4A. Bennett Barn, c.1858

A gabled barn once attached to the Bennett House, stands to the southeast. The barn is sheathed in board and batten and clapboards and has a sliding barn door on its eaves facade and flush, plainly trimmed eaves. The ell west of the residence that connected the barn to the house was removed during the 1960's. At this same time a smaller shed-roofed shed with an overhead garage door was added to barns' north side.

5. Chapman House, c.1840

North of the Bennett House, #4, and situated on a corner site just across from the Moore Construction Company and Moore House, #6, is the long-time Chapman residence, constructed sometime around 1840. Suggestions of the Greek Revival style include its prominent cornice returns, corner and frieze boards, and an entablature over the five-paneled, cen-

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tral front door, 2/3-length sidelights, and flanking pilasters. The broad, gable front, five by three bay, one and a half story building has a shed dormer on the north side. A long, one story wing extending to the west contains a summer kitchen, a fully intact pantry, laundry room, woodshed and attached outhouse and is connected to a gabled 2½ story barn. A dilapidated, shed roofed chicken coop, is attached to the south end of the barn.

Spanning the front facade is a simple shed porch with rectangular pilasters, added to the east end, in 1900. The double hung windows have both 6/6 and 2/2 sash and some include louvered blinds. The post and beam framed walls are covered with clapboard and rest on a granite and fieldstone foundation. The interior of the residence is nearly all original. Floor boards, plaster, joists, moldings and fixtures remain unchanged.

The 1869 Beers Atlas shows the building as the residence of a Dr. George Spafford. It later, around 1874, became the residence of Luther Chapman, one-time postmaster and amateur hymn writer and served as a post office. It has since passed down through the family line to its present owner, William Chapman.

6. Harris-Moore House, c.1840

Directly across the dirt road from the Chapman Residence, #5, and 30 feet west of the main paved road stands the private residence and office of Peter and Annie Moore, originally known as the Harris House. The two-storied, Georgian plan, clapboarded structure has an original 1-story ell extending from its rear facade. A recently added glass paneled sun porch and 2 c.1850 gabled dormers embellish the ell. The chimneys stand out along the ridge of the two gabled roofs of the building with the main block's large corbeled appendage located just off the center of the ridge. The double hung windows have 6/6 and 2/2 sash covered with storm windows. Vernacular Greek Revival detailings include a prominent fascia board, a molded cornice, gable end enclosed pediments, and a full entablature, molded pilasters and ½-length sidelights surrounding the front door. Fanlight openings, partially filled with rectangular lights, are in the gable peaks.

The Moore residence was formerly part of the Harris holdings in the town. Honorable William Harris settled in Windham in 1823 and held a variety of public offices including town clerk, justice of the peace, assistant judge to the county court, state representative, and state senator. He was also the president of the West River Bank and owned the former Windham store, now an archeological site located at #11. His son, William Jr., followed in his father's footsteps as president of the bank, a successful merchant, and public office holder. He is shown owning this house on the 1857 and 1869 maps. Early photographs show a two tiered porch once spanning the building's front facade. The house was built in 1840, according to deed records.

6A. Moore Woodshop, c.1970

This long 1-story gabled structure, sheathed in vertical board and punctuated by large single pane windows does not contribute to the historic district. It was built on the site of the village's nineteenth century schoolhouse.

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7. The Smith-Hall House, c.1845

The Hall House, built in c.1845, follows the vernacular Greek Revival pattern of the town. It is located north of the Moore House, #6, and about 30 feet west of the main road. The three by two bay one and a half story gable front, sidehall plan building has clapboard walls resurfaced with asphalt shingles and a granite foundation. Trim is limited to a returning cornice. The main body of the building is oriented on an east/west axis. A 1-story gabled wing extends from the west gable end to connect the main house to the clapboarded, gabled barn set on a slope slightly above the main block. The roof is covered with galvanized sheet metal. The windows of the first floor are fitted with 2/2 sash while the second floor has a 1/1 glazing pattern. Formerly belonging to a family by the name of Smith, the house now belongs to Robert and Mary Hall of Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

8. The Winship-Penney House, 1966

The Penney residence, a modern one and a half story Neo-Cape Cod Colonial is located just south of the Windham Congregational Church and about 50 feet west of the main road. It was built in 1968 and is a non-contributing structure in the District.

9. The Old Windham Congregational Church Parsonage - Orlando House, c.1855

The Orlando House is located on a hillside about 20 feet west of the Windham Congregational Church. A row of mature maple trees stand between the house and the church, shielding it from immediate view. Essentially a gable front, 1½ story vernacular Greek Revival building, with some Queen Anne elements, it is oriented on an east/west axis and has a rear wing that includes a garage and shed built in 1940. An enclosed, multi-paned, shed-roofed, sun porch spans the front facade. The clapboard covered, woodframe walls of the building rest on granite and fieldstone foundations. The gable roof is covered with both galvanized metal and asphalt shingles and is trimmed with a returning cornice and frieze board. Two concrete block, modern chimneys mark the roofline of the building.

One is located in the center of the main structure and the other straddles the ridge of the wing.

The most outstanding feature of this three by three bay building is its two-story bay window. It was added in c.1885 to the south side and is Windham's lone reference to the late nineteenth century. It is distinctly Queen Anne in style with its polygonal shape, roof, and ornamental patterned shingles between the first and second floor windows.

The building was owned by Earl Eddy and during the 19th century belonged to J.E. Gould and the Emory family. J.E. Gould is listed as a cabinet maker in Child's 1883 gazetteer. It was later used as a parsonage to replace an earlier Federal style building located lower on the hill, #13. The property now belongs to Richard and Anne Orlando.

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10. The Windham Congregational Church, 1802

The Windham Congregational Church is located on town property, approximately 50 feet from the main road. Its orientation, parallel with the road, provides a green space in front lined with maples and suggestive of a village green and its hilltop location makes it a prominent village focal point.

The church was built in 1802 with major alterations in 1825 and 1849-50 and 1894. Detail to the austere gable front, 2½ story block includes paneled pilasters, a slight returning cornice, friezeboard, and plain entablatures over two six-paneled doors on the front facade. Its heavy timber, clapboard covered walls rest on a granite and fieldstone foundation and the roof is asphalt covered. A pine deck is on the south side. The double hung windows have 2/2 sash on the first floor and distinctive 12/12 sash on the second. The three-tiered steeple situated on the front of the ridge consists of: a square, clapboarded first level trimmed with paneled corner pilasters and a molded cornice; a square second belfry stage, a smaller version of the first with rectangular louvered vents on each of the faces; and a slender octagonal spire with an octagonal base and a crowning arrow-shaped weathervane.

The building serves both as a Congregational church and as a town hall. Inside, on the ground floor, are located the town hall and library. These date from 1894, when the interior was divided into two stories. The most notable features are the beaded tongue and groove panelling of both the walls and ceiling. An impressive cast iron stove is located at the center of the main room. The kitchen also with an iron stove is located to the rear. The town hall is approached through paired anterooms, entered through the matching front doors.

The second floor includes the church sanctuary which follows the traditional auditorium plan, modified during the late 19th century when the building was given its second story. An earlier choir gallery is located at the rear and is all that remains of what were once three galleries. The pine floors are random in width and the ceiling consists of original plaster over lathe. Pews have scroll arms and are relatively simple in style. The altar furniture and choir stalls are distinctly Gothic Revival and contrast with the simple pews.

The building has an unusual history. Plans for construction were first brought forward in 1799, when the town fathers decided to erect a 54 by 42 foot structure with 25 foot side walls. The building committee, to be paid 4 shillings a day for 10 hours labor, was to undertake the work. Among its members were John Woodburn and Captain Davis, both prominent members of the community. A bond set at \$200 was required of the builder. Costs were raised through subscription with Edward Aiken and his brother, Peter Aiken, each contributing \$80. The church was supposed to be erected in 1801, but was completed in basic outline by July of 1802. According to the town records, 100 men were brought to the site-- 20 from each Londonderry, Peru, Weston, and Andover, in addition to Windham. The

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event took a single day, with the local magnate and dean, John Burnap providing rum for the occasion. To finalize the work, further subscriptions were taken from twenty-five "proprietors". A first sermon was preached by the Reverend William Hall of Grafton. A carpenter's bench was used as a "stand" and plain planks were used for seats.

The final building consisted of a 55 by 45 foot rectangular shaped box, topped by a double raftered roof. Work was completed by Thomas Burnap after the original contractor, a man named Blodgett, failed to complete the work. The sides were sheathed in clapboard in 1804 and glazing was provided for the windows shortly afterward. Both were paid for by James Rogers, Jr., the son of the town's original charter holder.

Further alterations took place in 1825. Greek Revival additions at this time presumably included the paneled or molded pilasters marking the principal corners and the plain entablatures of the double entrance. The work was carried out by Rive Harrington and included a total paint job at a cost of \$1,000.

The next step in the building's history was the addition of a belfry in 1849, built by Silas Stewart and the provision of a bell by Clark Stearns the following year. Further remodelling took place in 1850. In the early 1860's the present spire was added. The bell, originally cast in Troy, New York, was also replaced at this time.

The last major building campaign took place in the 1890's. The main change this time was to the interior. The church, as pointed out, originally followed a standard auditorium plan with a choir gallery at the south end and side galleries on the east and west. The latter were removed, including their plain, block front ballustrades, and the second floor was raised to a level nearly four feet from that of the original choir gallery. The platform was added for the pulpit and minister at the north end and pews were repositioned along a more semicircular plan. The choir's actual functions also shifted to the platform leaving the gallery for the bell ringer alone. Changes to the first floor included the repaneling, with tongue in groove beaded pine, of the walls and ceiling and the provision of the kitchen, for special functions, at the north end. The new area was (and is) used by the town for its various official and semi-official functions.

The church is presently well maintained and cared for. It stands as an impressive monument and focal point at the northern end of the district.

11. Quamma House, 1970

The Quamma House, built in 1970, is a non-contributing building, but is sympathetic in terms of materials and scale with the rest of the village. It is built on the site of the original Harris Store, an impressive nineteenth century complex including multiple dwellings, barn, store and blacksmith shop, which stood on the site until the late 1940's. Archeological remains from the store include foundations and probable below surface middens.

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12. Abbott - Sullivan House, c.1850

The vernacular Greek Revival residence was built around 1850 and repeats the scale, rhythm and material of other buildings in the District. Commonly known as the Abbott House, it stands south of the former Harris Store, east of the road. Its terraced location overlooks the hillside and commands an impressive view of the valley to the southeast.

The 2 x 3 bay, 1½ story, gabled structure is characterized by a series of wings and ells and has a number of vernacular Greek Revival elements which include plain corner-boards, molded returns and pronounced fascia boards. The clapboard and frame block rests on a fieldstone foundation, and has a metal and asphalt roof. The rear, gabled, wing has a shed roofed, modern porch and shed dormer added to the south side. Attached to the wing is an additional gabled block attached as an ell. Its 6 bay west eaves front has two entrances. There are two shed dormers above and the rear (east) basement is exposed. Attached to the ell is an enclosed walkway added in c.1930. It hangs above grade between the wing and a hipped roof garage that has a set of overhead doors on its front facade. Windows throughout have 2/2 sash on the first floor and 6/6 on the first. (Those on the first floor actually have grids over plate glass.)

The rambling house is located on or near the site of a blacksmith shop depicted on Beers' 1869 map. During the 1930's the garage functioned as a village store.

13. Old Congregational Parsonage - Mills House, c.1835

The Mills House is situated below the Sullivan House, #12, also on a terraced hillside with a southern exposure. It is thought to have been built in c.1838 by the same builder who later constructed the Adrian home, #2, to the southwest. The five by two bay, two-story building consists of a gabled main structure oriented on a north/south axis with a 1-story gabled ell extending from the southeast corner. The pedimented front porch was added during the early 1900's. It includes four Colonial Revival columns and two half-columns flanking the entrance and its 2/3-length sidelights and plain wide surrounds. The walls are covered with uneven clapboard siding and they rest on granite block. Trim includes corner boards, a returning cornice and triangular louvered vents in the gable peaks. The ell has an entrance on its south facade that is flanked by sidelight-like, abutting, 2/2 sash. There is also an octagonal carriage bay on the ell's south facade and a modern 3-bay wing on the ell's east facade.

13A. Mills Shed, c.1900

A small gabled shed to the rear of the Mills House. It has horizontal board sheathing.

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mostly by farming." This description is truly reflected in the village buildings with their simple trim, and unpretentious appearance - a rare symbol for the state and the nation of a golden, pre-industrial, era.

The oldest building in the village appears to be that of David Edward Reilly, located at the southern edge of the district. It displays a Cape-like mass with a unique, gable front orientation. According to stylistic and archival evidence, the building dates from either late in the 18th century or early in the 19th. Its owner traces the date to 1785, although this date cannot be fully affirmed. Another relatively early building is the Dr. Elden Mills House, the former Congregational parsonage. Its general proportioning and detail suggest a c.1835 date.

One of the earlier buildings in the town that suggests the Greek Revival style is the Adrian house, known traditionally as the Abbot House, #2. It is a simple, unpretentious Classic Cottage with clearly Greek Revival detail that includes a prominent fascia on its principal or eastern side (as well as beneath the gable ends) and the distinguished reeded molding of its entrances. It was reputedly built by the same carpenter who worked on the Mills House, #13, and dates from only a few years later (approx. 1840).

Other buildings in the town date from the c.1840 period. This fact is confirmed in the large center-hall house now belonging to Peter and Annie Moore, but traditionally known as the Harris house, #6. An 1839 deed transfer mentions a change of property; one for 1841 mentions property and buildings. The plain, austere, house is somewhat Greek Revival in its inspiration. The entrance is distinguished by simple pilaster strips and side lights. Other detailing included returns, prominent fascia on the east side, and fan light windows, a carryover from the Federal style, located in the gable peaks.

The adjacent Chapman property, at one time the village post office, dates from the same period. While the orientation differs - the broad 5-bay east gable end of the Chapman house faces the road in true "Greek" fashion - other details, including the symmetrical door surrounds and plain corner blocks of the interior, are identical to those of the adjacent house.

Later additions to the town include the c.1858 vernacular Gothic Revival Bennett House, #4, originally used as a library as well as a private residence, and the Queen Anne addition to the Eddy house, Building No. 9. The Bennett house is strikingly simple in its treatment and lacks the ornate barge board and other decorative details associated with the Gothic style. A similar Gothic Revival inspired alteration took place on the ell of the Moore house, #6, with its prominent gabled dormers. This change also appears to date from the late 1850's. The Queen Anne addition to the parsonage took place in c.1885 and consists of a two-story hexagonal plan bay window, with wood shingle siding.

The town has been relatively free from 20th century intrusions. Several of the houses, including the Chapman house, #5, received porches in the early part of the century. Several others, including the Greek Revival Light House, #3, the parsonage or Eddy house, Building 9, and the Sullivan House, #12, have had multi-paned glazed sun porches added

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to their south and east sides. More recently, four new buildings have been added to the district including the small Cape Cod, Neo-Colonial, #8, built by the long-time resident of the village, Miss Edna Winship in 1966, the small, frame house, #11, opposite the Chapman property, previously owned by Thomas Moore and built in 1973, the Moore's c.1970 woodshop, #6A, and the Adrian's garage, #2A. All of the buildings are unobtrusive, however, and detract minimally from the character of the district.

Some components of nineteenth century Windham have disappeared. A few of the houses have lost their barns, carriage houses, shed or ells. A substantial loss, however, has been the removal of the general goods store and blacksmith shop owned by the Harris family and located immediately opposite both the Moore and Chapman houses, #6, and #5. This large frame building and assorted outbuildings is depicted on a number of early photographs of the town and obviously lent a distinctive character to the central part of the village. It was allowed to fall down in the late 1940's. Much of it was taken away as building materials by other area residents. Number 11 was built partially on the site, however, much of the foundation and probable subsurface archeological deposits remain and may provide information regarding the village's nineteenth century culture and life-style.

One of the most impressive buildings in Windham Village is the Congregational Church, #10. The building was originally erected in 1802, although glazing and sheathing with clapboard did not take place until several years afterward. Much of the exterior detailing, including the paneled or boxed pilasters of the front corners, appears to date from 1825, when alterations took place. The fact of these changes substantiates the "Greek" derivation of the building. The steeple and belfry were added later.

Further changes occurred in the interior during c.1894. The building remains, nonetheless, an impressive monument - the quintessential rural New England church - and a fine example of vernacular Greek Revival country carpentry.

In general context Windham preserves much of its early character, unaffected by modern development. It's hillside location, known as Cornhill, is distinguished by numerous stone fences and terraces, and by several rows of mature maple trees lining the main road. The town residents have been careful to retain portions of hardpacked gravel roads at either end of the village to help discourage through traffic. Overall, Windham is a rare place that has evolved to the present without losing its image of the past.

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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Windham Village Historic District includes the historic buildings associated with the village and their immediate environs. Open and wooded space surrounds the district with the exceptions of a small modern house just north of #11 and the c.1970 town garage just south of #13 and Sharp Brook.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Windham Historic District begins at Point A located at the northeast corner of the Windham Congregational Church, property, #10. From this point the boundary extends southerly along the east property line of this lot and continues for about 700 feet along the west edge of the right of way of Town Highway 1 crossing T.H. 11 and continuing to a Point B, located at the intersection of said edge and the western extension of the north property line of #11. From Point B, the boundary follows said extension, crossing T.H. 1, and continuing along said boundary in an easterly direction to Point C, located at the intersection of said boundary and a line parallel to and 300 feet east of the east edge of the right of way of Town Highway No. 1. It thence proceeds in a southerly direction along said line east of the Quamma House, #11, the Sullivan House, #12, and the Dr. Elden Mills House, #13, to Point D, located at the intersection of said line and the north bank of Sharp Brook. From Point D, the boundary of the Windham Historic District continues in a northwesterly direction along the north bank of Sharp Brook passing beneath a bridge carrying T.H. 1 over the brook to Point E located at the intersection of said bank and the western edge of said bridge. The boundary thence proceeds in a southerly direction along said edge of said bridge, crossing the bridge, continuing south along the western edge of the right of way of T.H. 1 crossing T.H. 14 and continuing to Point F, located at the intersection of said edge and the eastern extension of a line 50 yards south of and parallel to the south wall of building #1. It thence proceeds in a westerly direction along said extension, said line and a western extension thereof to Point G located at the southern extension of a line 50 yards west of and parallel to the west wall of building #1. The boundary then proceeds in a northerly direction along said extension, line and a northern extension thereof to Point H, located at the intersection of said extension and the western extension of a line 25 yards north of and parallel to the north wall of building #1. It thence proceeds in an easterly direction along said extension and said line to Point I, located at the intersection of said line and a line 300' west of the western edge of the right of way of T.H. 1. The boundary thence proceeds in a northerly direction, passing to the west of buildings #2, 2A, 3, 3A, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 9, and 10, crossing Sharp Brook, T.H.12 and T.H. 11 and continuing on to Point J, located at the intersection of said line and a western extension of the north property line of the Windham Congregational Church, #10. It thence proceeds in an easterly direction along said extension and boundary to Point A, the point of origin.

