

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED MAY 20 1980

DATE ENTERED JUN 25 1980

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

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Tinmouth Historic District

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Route 140/Town Highway 2

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Tinmouth

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

CODE

50

COUNTY

Rutland

CODE

021

**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 type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

See Continuation Sheet 4-1

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Tinmouth

STATE  
Vermont

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey

DATE

July 1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The linear Timmouth Historic District extends along both sides of Route 2/Route 140 in Timmouth Center. The district is comprised of 16 structures and includes public buildings and private residences. The buildings exhibit Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate and Stick Style designs. Two structures in the center of the district were built after 1968. One, the Timmouth Church (#4), conforms to the historic scale, detailing and materials of surrounding structures; the other, the Timmouth Fire Station (#13), does not. The old buildings in the district have retained an unusually high degree of historic architectural integrity.

A description of individual buildings follows (numbers refer to the enclosed sketch map):

1. Timmouth School No. 6, c. 1860, addition c. 1940. School No. 6 is a 1½-story clapboarded structure with a slate-covered gable roof. It is framed by a box cornice, plain fascia and thin cornerboards. The south wall of the structure exhibits two banks of four 12/12 windows flanking a central paneled door with 8-pane sidelights. A gabled entrance porch with clapboarded porch walls shelters the doorway.

The east wall has a central gabled vestibule with a door with glass panes in the upper portion and two panels in the lower portion. The gabled door hood is supported on large open stickwork brackets and has exposed rafter ends and stickwork in the apex. The roof ridge of the vestibule interrupts the frame of a blind oculus on the east wall of the school. Above the oculus is a triangular louvered vent.

A 1-story shed-roofed addition runs along the north wall of the school. It has irregularly spaced small 2/2 windows and two paneled doors. The addition has a slate roof and rests on a concrete block foundation. It is framed by a simple box cornice, plain fascia and plain cornerboards.

The rear (west) facade of the school exhibits a paneled door in the north bay, and a gabled vestibule in the south bay. A triangular louvered vent and a small 4-pane window occupy the upper gable wall.

2. Noah W. Sawyer House, 1816. The Noah W. Sawyer House is an unusual and elaborate Federal residence. It is 1½ stories high with asymmetrically placed windows and doors. The front (east) formal elevation has an off-center six-panel door surmounted by a semi-circular fanlight with radiating muntins and delicate leaded swag ornament, and a semi-circular door hood. Supported on simple brackets, the door hood is edged with an Adamesque triglyph - and - fluted patera "frieze". (The design is repeated in the parlor frieze.) The door is flanked by ½ length sidelights with Benjaminsque circular and curving sash. (See Statement of Significance.) Two windows are located to the north of the entrance, and one, to the south; all have 1/1 sash, cap-molded lintels, and louvered shutters. Paneled corner pilasters frame the first floor composition. The gable of the east facade is fully pedimented with a modillioned cornice. The flushboarded tympanum exhibits three symmetrically-placed, semi-elliptical windows with denticulated surrounds and radiating sash.

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The south facade of the Sawyer House is more simple. The full entablature with modillioned cornice continues on this elevation. An off-center door is capped by a molded "cornice-like" lintel with tiny dentils. Simple lip-molded lintels top the two 1/1 windows to the east of the entrance and the one to the west.

On the interior, the parlor, located in the northeast corner of the house, is architecturally outstanding. Its original elaborate Federal detailing has remained intact for over 160 years. The chimneypiece is the focal point of the room. It has a rectangular fireplace opening with a stone surround. A pair of small, chip-carved pilasters joined by a common cap mold ornament either side of the opening. The frieze exhibits a raised central tablet with double-handled urn bas-relief and paneled end blocks with bas-relief female figures. Between the central and end panels, there are figures of winged angels. A denticulated cornice forms the mantel shelf.

Between the windows on the north and east sides of the parlor are two corbeled shelves. Supported on consoles, the shelves display a denticulated bed molding and an under-panel ornamented with the same urn motif as found on the chimneypiece. Shelf edges and console soffits are enriched with reeding.

An ornamental frieze borders the parlor ceiling. It is composed of a band of alternating tryglyphs and chip-carved paterae, a cable molding and a bed molding enriched with reeding. A molded chair rail also encircles the room.

The north elevation of the house was altered in the 1930's. A five-bay continuous shed dormer with 2/2 windows now breaks through the original eaves line. The long one-story porch has 1/2-length paneled columns which rest on a clapboarded porch wall. The first floor windows have 1/1 and 6/6 sash.

A hip-roofed wing on the west end of the house includes a garage and an enclosed porch which served as the Town Clerk's Office for many years. It exhibits 2/2 windows. A pedimented lintel is visible on the west wall of the main block of the house, next to the recessed porch.

3. Sawyer Barn. To the rear of the Noah W. Sawyer House (#2) is a former cow barn. Constructed of horizontal planks, the barn is 1 1/2 stories high and has a gable roof. The north and west sides are sheathed in narrow clapboards. The south facade has a wide door with lip-molded lintel and large iron strap hinges. Hay doors are located on the west and south sides of the barn.

4. Tinnmouth Church, c. 1969. The Tinnmouth Church is 1 1/2 stories high with a raised basement. The 3 x 4 bay clapboarded structure has a gable roof, a central raised entrance, and a two-stage steeple. Classical details, including corner pilasters and fluted pilasters flanking the door, ornament the church.

5. Levi Rice House, c. 1840. The Greek Revival Levi Rice House is a 5 x 2 bay, 2 1/2-story structure with a slate-covered gable roof. A 1 1/2-story, gabled wing extends from the south wall of the house. The main block exhibits a central hall plan with an unusual entrance frontispiece along the front (east) eaves elevation. The recessed

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six-panel door is flanked by narrow paneled pilasters which separate it from 6/4 double-hung  $\frac{1}{2}$ -length sidelights. Paneled reveals encase this recessed composition and are flanked by a second set of pilasters with entasis. A continuous cornice caps the entire door enframingent. An early 20th-century 1-bay entrance porch with  $\frac{1}{2}$ -length Tuscan columns resting on a shingled porch well shelters the entrance.

The main block is framed by cornerboards and a plain fascia, and exhibits two interior end chimneys. Windows on the east and north sides have 9/6 sash, while those on the west (rear) have 2/2 sash. The north gable is fully pedimented, and has small 9/6 windows in the tympanum. On the south gable end, cornice returns only suggest a pediment.

The recessed wing is spanned by an open porch. It exhibits 9/6 and 2/2 windows. A small garage, entered through rear double sliding doors, occupies the southern end of the wing.

6. Levi Rice Barn. A clapboarded  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story barn is located to the rear of the Levi Rice House (#5). It has a large sliding door on the east gable end, with a low hay door directly above it. Small square lights pierce the north wall, and 6/6 windows are spaced along the other walls. A 10-bay shed extension along the south wall of the barn rests on a stone foundation.

7. Shed. A small gable-roofed shed is located southwest of the wing of the Rice House (#5). It is 1-story high with clapboard sheathing and one 6/6 window.

16. Garage, c. 1923. The two-car garage associated with the Rice House (#5) has clapboard sheathing, an asphalt shingle roof and plank double doors.

8. Town Shed, c. 1840. This long open carriage shed has exposed interior timber framing and a shed roof. The interior is divided into stalls. Originally used to shelter churchgoers carriages, the structure now houses town trucks and equipment.

9. Gilmore House, c. 1890. The Gilmore House is a vernacular 3 x 2 bay,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story "Cape". A box cornice and cornerboards frame the building. The paneled central door is ornamented with a cap-molded lintel. The windows have 1/1 sash, although some of the wooden storm windows are 2/2. Stick shutters, painted a bright red, flank the windows. A chimney is located on the south end of the building.

10. The Old Creamery, c. 1880. The Old Creamery is a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story, gable-roofed structure with a box cornice, plain frieze, and cornerboards. It is clapboarded and rests on a stone foundation. The north side of the building has a door and loading dock in the east bay and one 6/6 window in the west bay on the first floor. A wide door with glass lights and panels occupies the gable area of the north side.

Originally, the front (west) side of the Creamery was an open porch. It is now enclosed with vertical beaded boards and exhibits two doors.

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Due to a sharp drop in the site, the basement of the building is exposed on the rear (east) side. There is a door and two 6/6 windows at the basement level and two 6/6 windows on the first floor.

The south side exhibits two 6/6 windows on the first floor and a window in the gable.

11. Old Timmouth Store, 1821 and c. 1886. The Old Timmouth Store consists of a clapboarded square main block and gable-roofed rear wing. The 3 x 2 bay main block is two stories high. It has a flat roof, surrounded on three sides by a parapet which carries a cornice with paired and single brackets and a frieze ornamented with thin horizontal panels. The corner brackets have incised motifs. Diagonal boarding and a sawtooth border on the front (west) elevation frieze further enhance the design.

The splayed storefront centers on a double-leaf door and has large 4-pane display windows. A 1-story, three bay porch spans the front facade. Originally, the porch had bracketed chamfered posts. Now it is supported on square posts with brackets, some of which are reproductions. There are three windows on the second floor of the front elevation and two each on the side elevations; all have 1/1 sash.

The 1½-story wing pre-dates the front portion of the Old Store. It is sheathed in wide clapboards. An old derrick hangs from a gabled extension of the roof on the rear (east) elevation, which also exhibits a large delivery door and two small 6/6 windows.

A paneled door on the north side of the wing is flanked by a 6/6 window and a 12/12 window. To the west of the door, there is a shed extension which leads to the rear stairs of the main block. It is sheathed in narrower clapboards, like the main block.

The south wall of the wing has three 12/12 windows, the easternmost of which is original. The wing and shed are framed by box cornices, plain friezes, and cornerboards.

The late 19th-century interior of the front portion of the store remains nearly intact. Narrow beaded boards cover the walls and ceiling. Shelves with turned spindle dividers and ornamental cornices line the sides and part of the rear wall of the store. A long wooden counter parallels the north wall.

The wing was renovated as Timmouth's Bicentennial project and now houses the town library.

12. Old Grange Hall, c. 1885. Set back from the road, the Old Grange Hall is a 1½-story, gable-roofed structure sheathed in wide clapboards. A central flushboarded double door flanked by two 2/2 windows dominates the front (west) elevation. The sides and rear of the building have 2/2 windows and 2-pane basement windows. Due to a sharp slope in the site the basement is above grade on the rear and part of the side elevations. Doors on the rear side walls give entrance to the basement, which is paneled with horizontal headed boards.

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13. Timmouth Fire Station, c. 1975. The one-story Timmouth Fire Station has three large engine bays and a door on the south end of the front (west) facade. The building is sheathed in vertical channeled aluminum siding. The wide overhead engine doors have horizontal aluminum siding. This building does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

14. Balestra House, c. 1837 or 1873. The vernacular Italianate style Balestra House is composed of a 1½-story gable-roofed main block and a lower 1½-story gabled ell. The roofs are sheathed in slate. The main block exhibits 2/2 windows on the first floor front, and 1/2 on the second floor; all have simple lip-molded casings. A sidehall entrance door was recently removed from the south end of the facade. The block has a central chimney and a new exterior chimney on the north wall. A box cornice, plain frieze and cornerboards frame the main block.

A second entrance is located on the ell. The double-door has Italianate round-arched panels and is sheltered by a two-bay hip-roofed porch with chamfered columns. The ell exhibits 2/2 windows with simple lip-molded casings, and has a small 6/1 window in the gable apex. The ell is also framed with a box cornice, frieze and cornerboards.

15. Balestra Carriage Barn. The 1½-story Carriage Barn is located southeast of the Balestra House (#14). It has a slate-covered gable roof, shiplap siding, and three sets of plank double doors along the west wall. The north gable exhibits a 12-pane fixed window, and there is a shed extension along the rear (east) wall.

# 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tinmouth was chartered in 1761, with settlement commencing about 1770. The town was organized in 1777 and for several years was the shire town of Rutland County. Tinmouth went through several periods of economic prosperity, each tied to particular industries. The buildings in the historic district reflect those periods in their dates of construction, level of opulence and function.

In addition to farming, some early residents of Tinmouth were involved in mining the town's rich iron ore beds. There was a smelting furnace and forge in Tinmouth before 1800.<sup>1</sup> By 1824, the town boasted two gristmills, two sawmills, two fulling mills, two carding machines, two stores, four taverns, and two tanneries.<sup>2</sup> Noah W. Sawyer, a farmer and merchant, built an elaborate Federal residence (#2) atop a hill in Tinmouth Center in 1816. Three years later, a town meetinghouse (#11) was constructed to serve Tinmouth's more than 1,000 residents.<sup>3</sup> The population peaked in 1830.<sup>4</sup> The next decade saw substantial migration to new farmlands opening up in the west, but those who stayed behind continued to build up the town. A church (burned 1968) with carriage shed (#8) and possibly a parsonage (#14) was constructed in the mid-1830's. Levi Rice, a farmer from a prosperous local agricultural family, constructed a large Greek Revival residence (#5) in Tinmouth Center, circa 1840.

By mid-century, the iron industry was on the wane, and several of the mills had gone out of business. Marble was being quarried in the town, but the routing of the new railroad through neighboring Wallingford, beginning in 1852, tended to stifle Tinmouth's access to markets for its quarry and other products, while providing an economic boost to surrounding towns. The 1850's and 60's were a quiet time for Tinmouth. School No. 6 (#1) was constructed adjacent to the "town green" in Tinmouth Center and Levi Rice, Jr. operated a general store (#11) in the old town meetinghouse.

In the 1870's, a new industry began to emerge. Unlike past industrial and mining pursuits, the new industry was agricultural in nature: dairying. In 1880, there were six cheese factories in Tinmouth. The eighties saw a creamery (#10) and grange hall (#12)

<sup>1</sup>Hemenway, Abby Maria, Vermont Historical Gazeteer, Volume 3, Claremont, New Hampshire, Claremont Manufacturing Company, 1877.

<sup>2</sup>Thompson, Zadock, A Gazetter of the State of Vermont, Montpelier, Vermont, E. P. Walton and Zadock Thompson, 1824.

<sup>3</sup>Vermont Historical Records Survey, Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont, No. 11, Rutland County, Vol. 24, Town of Tinmouth, Montpelier, 1941, pg. 11.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, pg. 11.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid, pg. 10.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet 9-1

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15 acres +

QUADRANGLE NAME Middletown Springs, VT

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1,8	6,5,7	7,9,0	4,8	1,2	4,0,0
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B 

1,8	6,5,7	7,9,0	4,8	1,2	1,5,0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

1,8	6,5,7	5,2,0	4,8	1,2	1,5,0
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D 

1,8	6,5,7	5,2,0	4,8	1,2	4,0,0
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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet 10-1

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

Nancy E. Boone, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division for Historic Preservation

DATE

March 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 B. Cisney*

TITLE

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*William H. Bradham*

DATE 6-25-80

ATTEST: Patricia Andrews

DATE 6/24/80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



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erected in Timmouth Center. In 1881, the author of a county gazetteer noted that, "Nearly all the inhabitants [of Timmouth] are in comfortable circumstances, and many wealthy; there being but very few poor people in the town."<sup>6</sup> Circa 1886, the new owner of the general store (#11) more than doubled its size with an Italianate addition to the old meetinghouse structure. The newest residence in the district (#9) was probably constructed shortly thereafter. Two new structures (#4 and #13) were added to the area within the district about 1970.

Timmouth Center, the core of which is included in the historic district, is a predominantly 19th-century small town center. Development, spurred by advances in transportation technology, passed Timmouth by in the 19th century. Today the Timmouth Historic District retains much of its early character and presents an example of a rural period village-scape for a Vermont town which never developed an urban village core.

The significance of individual buildings is further discussed in the following pages. (Numbers refer to the enclosed sketch map.)

1. The east half of the Timmouth School was built c. 1860 as the District No. 6 schoolhouse. The door hood was probably added in the late 19th century, as it exhibits a Stick Style design. In the 1920's the school was moved slightly south from its original location. An 1869 map<sup>8</sup> pictures the school in approximately the same location on the west side of the road.

The west half of the school was built c. 1940. Its design is nearly identical to the original school, and except for a change in the color of the roof slates, the structure looks as if it could have been originally constructed as one large schoolhouse. In this sense, the structure illustrates a mid-20th century preference for period additions to historic structures, notable in light of today's infill design debate.

School No. 6 is the only 19th-century school in Timmouth which still serves its original educational purpose.

The open area south of the school is sometimes referred to as the Town Green. It was once used as a training ground for local soldiers.

<sup>6</sup>Child, Hamilton, Gazetteer and Business Directory of Rutland County, Vermont, Syracuse, New York, printed at the Journal Office, August, 1881.

<sup>7</sup>Interview with Roy Wilbur, Timmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980.

<sup>8</sup>Scott, James D., Map of Rutland County, Vermont, Philadelphia, 1854.

<sup>9</sup>Interview with Mrs. Frances Weeks, Timmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980.

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2. The Noah W. Sawyer House is the most elaborate residence in the historic district. Markings on the plaster in a second floor room date the building from 1816. It was probably constructed by Noah W. Sawyer (b. 1797, d. 1870), an early Timmouth merchant, who served as town postmaster for many years. His second wife, Tabitha (or Talitha) served as postmistress after his death, until 1887. She died at age 84 in 1894. Their daughter, Emily Sawyer, married Levi Rice, Jr., their next door neighbor (see #5).

The Weeks family has occupied the house for many years. Ed Weeks was the Town Clerk, and used the enclosed rear porch for his office. The rear portion of the house also once housed the Timmouth post office.

The Sawyer House is of a very unusual Federal design. The asymmetrical placement of windows and doors is antithetical to the architectural period, but the individual elements are quite correct, and in some cases (e.g. the modillioned cornice and door surround), quite high-style. The design of the sidelights is taken directly from Plate 30 of Asher Benjamin's American Builder's Companion, published in 1806. Perhaps the builder was encouraged to adopt the unusual sash design by Benjamin's comment that, "This kind of door is very fashionable at present."<sup>10</sup> The rest of the door surround is similar, but not identical to Benjamin's Plate. The fanlight has been simplified, and the fanlight casing has been transfigured into a semi-elliptical door hood. A prominent authority on the state's architecture has noted that, "Hoods over doorways are very rare in Vermont."<sup>11</sup>

The elaborate Federal parlor on the interior of the Sawyer House is architecturally outstanding. The ornate shelves placed between the windows are an innovation in interior decoration of the period.

Formerly, the Sawyer House had numerous wings and extensions behind the present structure. Removed in the current century, they included: a kitchen, pantry, bedroom, woodshed, harness room, tool shed, carriage house, horse barn and hay barn.

3. The Sawyer Barn is the only outbuilding associated with the Sawyer House which is still extant. It is typical of early 19th-century barns, and is now used for storage. It is in deteriorated condition.

4. The Timmouth Church was constructed c. 1969 to replace a church which stood on the site of the Fire Station (#13), across the road. (The old church, built in 1836, burned in 1968.) The new Timmouth Church was designed by local resident, George LeBoutillier. It employs classical architectural detailing, and although it does not contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the district, neither does it pose a significant threat to the integrity of the district as a prominent intrusion. Because of its date of construction, it is included in the district as a non-contributing structure.

<sup>10</sup> Benjamin, Asher, The American Builder's Companion, Boston, Etheridge and Bliss, 1806, pg. 51

<sup>11</sup> Congdon, Herbert Wheaton, Old Vermont Houses, New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1946, pg. 141.

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5. The Levi Rice House was probably built c. 1835 by Levi Rice (b.1796, d.1872), grandson of Stephen Rice, one of Tinmouth's most prosperous early settlers. Levi's son, Levi Rice, Jr. (b.1827, d.1892), owned and operated the Tinmouth Store (#11) for many years and held numerous town offices including treasurer, agent, justice of the peace and town clerk. Levi, Jr. lived across from the store, presumably in his father's house. In 1862, he married Emily C. Sawyer, the daughter of his neighbor, Noah W. Sawyer (see #3).

The house is a good example of a vernacular Greek Revival central hall plan residence. The use of pilasters with entasis on the entrance surround indicates a desire for architectural sophistication on the part of the builder/designer; it shows a familiarity with, but not necessarily a clear understanding of, the classical architectural vocabulary.

The Wilbur family lived in the house for many years in the present century. It is now used as a seasonal residence by the Rouleau family.

6. The Rice Barn is associated with the Levi Rice House (#5). It is the only barn associated with the house which is still extant. (Another barn, "in the meadow", collapsed within the past 25 years.<sup>15</sup>) The windows along the north wall may relate to its possible use as a horse barn; in 1881, Allen Gilcrease, a "dealer in horses", leased farmland from Levi Rice.<sup>14</sup> The structure is typical of 19th-century barns, and serves as a visual reminder of the early agricultural character of Tinmouth.

7. The shed south of the Rice House (#5) is of a vernacular design which has been popular for small farm outbuildings since the early 19th century. Its date of construction is unknown.

16. The garage associated with the Rice House (#5) was built c. 1923, after the owner of the house bought an automobile.<sup>12</sup>

8. The Town Shed was originally a carriage shed associated with the old church which stood on the site of the Tinmouth Fire Station. (The church, built in 1836, was destroyed by fire in 1968.) The shed originally was longer. The stalls of the shed,<sup>15</sup> were owned by individual families, with each family holding a deed to their portion. Presently, the Town of Tinmouth owns the structure, and uses it to store trucks and equipment.

<sup>12</sup>Interview with Roy Wilbur, Tinmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980

<sup>13</sup>Interview with Gail Fallar, Tinmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980

<sup>14</sup>Child, Hamilton, Gazetteer and Business Directory of Rutland County, Vermont, Syracuse, New York, printed at the Journal Office, August, 1881.

<sup>15</sup>Interview with Kenneth Gilmore, Tinmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980.

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9. The Gilmore House may have been built c. 1890 by John Gilmore. The owner relates that his grandmother, Miss Campbell (b.circa 1865) married John Gilmore and lived in the house.<sup>16</sup> He also believes that the house was built on the site of a former tavern.

The Gilmore House is an asymmetrical 3-bay "Cape". It represents a vernacular design typical of modest dwellings in Timmouth and elsewhere. The structure functions as a closure on the south end of the historic district; beyond it are open fields and trees.

10. The Old Creamery may have been built circa 1880, at a time when dairying was a principal pursuit of Timmouth residents. The building is not pictured on an 1869 map.<sup>17</sup> Thirty to forty people used to bring milk to the creamery every morning and then congregate in the Timmouth Store next door.<sup>18</sup> In 1880, there were six cheese factories in Timmouth,<sup>19</sup> attesting to the importance of dairying to the local economy. The Old Creamery is a visual reminder of that important aspect of Timmouth's history. The building is in a deteriorated condition.

An ice house associated with the Creamery used to stand south of the structure.<sup>20</sup>

11. The Timmouth Store is the only commercial building in the historic district. The smaller rear section was constructed in 1821 as the town's first meetinghouse.<sup>21</sup> The Italianate front portion of the store was added circa 1886.<sup>22</sup>

By about 1850, the meetinghouse was being used as a store. An 1854 map pictures the building and notes Levi Rice as the proprietor.<sup>23</sup> (See #5.) Rice ran the store from 1853 to 1885 or 6.<sup>24</sup> In 1886 or '87, John Mooney began operating the store.<sup>25</sup> The front portion of the building was probably added by him; it greatly expanded the size of the store. In the early 20th century, the building was known as Taylor's Store.<sup>26</sup> Later it was owned by Ed Weeks. (See #2.) Vandalism and ration coupon problems convinced Mr. Weeks to close the store in the late 1940's.<sup>27</sup>

The old store was renovated as part of Timmouth's Bicentennial activities. The rear portion (the original town meetinghouse) was modernized on the interior, and now houses the Town Library. The front portion (Mooney's addition) now houses the town offices on the first floor; the second floor is vacant. As part of the renovation, paint samples from the exterior of the building were analyzed, and the original colors duplicated in modern paints. The building is painted "Timmouth Buff" with deep reddish brown trim.

<sup>16</sup>Interview with Kenneth Gilmore, Timmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980.

<sup>17</sup>Beers, F.W., Atlas of Rutland County, Vermont, 1869. Reprinted by Charles E. Tuttle Company, Rutland, Vermont, 1969.

<sup>18</sup>Interview with Roy Wilbur, Timmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980.

<sup>19</sup>Vermont Historical Records Survey, Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont, No. 11, Rutland County, Vol. 24, Town of Timmouth, Montpelier, 1941, pg. 10.

<sup>20</sup>Clarence Wilbur photographs of early 20th century Timmouth Center.

<sup>21</sup>Vermont Historical Records Survey, pg. 20.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid.

<sup>23</sup>Scott, James D., Map of Rutland County, Vermont, Philadelphia, 1854.

<sup>24</sup>Walton's Vermont Register and Business Directory, 1853 through 1886.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid. 1887.

<sup>26</sup>Clarence Wilbur photographs of early 20th century Timmouth Center.

<sup>27</sup>Interview with Mrs. Frances Weeks, Timmouth, Vermont, February 27, 1980.

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12. The Old Grange Hall was probably constructed c. 1885. It is set back from the road between the Timmouth Store (#11) and the Fire Station (#13, site of the old church that burned in 1968). It appears that it was constructed before the front addition of the Timmouth Store (c. 1886, #11), as its setback matches that of the old portion of the store, which then defined the facade line of the street.

In more recent years the Grange Hall has been used to house a fire engine. It is now vacant and in deteriorated condition.

13. The recently constructed Timmouth Fire Station occupies the site of the old Timmouth church, built in 1836. The church was destroyed by fire in 1968. The present building does not contribute to the architectural character of the district. Its location makes it an integral part of Timmouth Center, however, and it is therefore included in the historic district.

14. The Balestra House was for many years the Methodist parsonage associated with the church across the street to the south.<sup>28</sup> (See #13.)<sup>29</sup> The owner has stated that the deed indicates that the structure was built in 1837.<sup>29</sup> The present appearance of the house suggests a later date. Perhaps the house was constructed or extensively remodeled c. 1873, the year in which the old church became a Methodist Church.<sup>30</sup> (Prior to that date, the church served a Congregational population.)

15. The Carriage Barn associated with the Balestra House is typical of a type of 19th-century outbuilding which no longer exists on the properties of other dwellings in Timmouth Center (e.g. #2 and #5). Its value is enhanced by the fact that it is the only carriage barn in the historic district.

<sup>28</sup>Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, Historic Sites and Structures Survey, Rutland County, Timmouth, Susanne Hand, 1976.

<sup>29</sup>Ibid.

<sup>30</sup>Walton's Vermont Register and Business Directory (title varies), 1845-1892, Claremont, New Hampshire, The Claremont Manufacturing Company. Published annually.

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Photographs

Clarence Wilbur photographs of early 20th century Timmouth Center. In the collections of his son, Roy Wilbur, Timmouth, Vermont.

Maps

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The boundary of the historic district begins at Point A, a point located 125 feet east of the centerline of Route 140 along an extension in an easterly direction of a line which runs parallel to and 35 feet north of the north wall of the Balestra House (#14). Thence the boundary runs south, parallel to and 125 feet east of the centerline of Route 140 and its southerly extension, Town Highway 2 to Point B, located at the intersection of an easterly extension of a line which runs parallel to and 25 feet south of the south wall of the Kenneth Gilmore House (#9). Thence, the boundary proceeds westerly along said extension and line and a westerly extension thereof, crossing Town Highway 2 to Point C, located at the intersection of a southerly extension of a line which runs parallel to and 25 feet west of the west wall of the Town Shed (#8). The boundary thence proceeds in a northerly direction along said extension and line to Point D, located at the intersection of an easterly extension of a line which runs parallel to and 50 feet south of the south wall of the Shed (#7) associated with the Levi Rice House (#5). Thence the boundary proceeds in a westerly direction along said extension and line and a westerly extension thereof to Point E, at the intersection of a line which runs parallel to the centerline of Route 140 and Town Highway 2 and is 50 feet west of the west wall of the Rice Barn (#6). The boundary thence proceeds in a northerly direction along said line parallel to the centerline of Town Highway 2 and Route 140 to Point F, located at the intersection of a westerly extension of a line which runs parallel to and 25 feet north of the north wall of Timmouth School No. 6 (#1). Thence the boundary proceeds along said extension and line and an easterly extension thereof, crossing Route 140, to Point A, the point of beginning.

The boundary of the historic district includes the 16 buildings pictured on the enclosed sketch map. North of the district, is a modern drive-in restaurant. To the east, the land drops, forming a topographic boundary. Beyond the southernmost structure in the district, there are extensive open fields and trees. To the west of the district, the land rises sharply towards Timmouth Mountain. The boundaries of the historic district therefore conform to natural changes in the landscape, man-made changes in land-use, and changes in the architectural period of the built environment.

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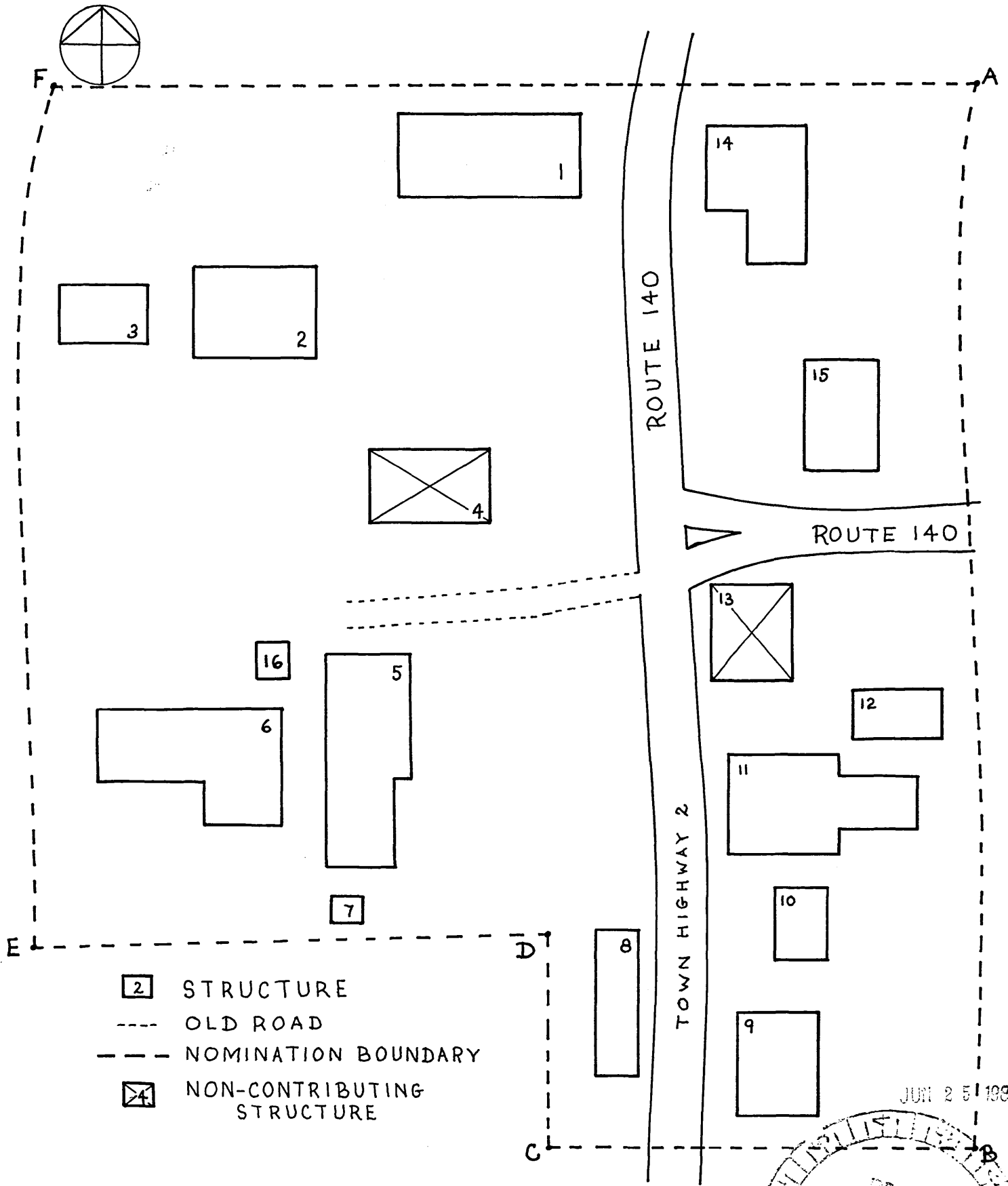
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| <p>1. Town of Timmouth<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>2. Mrs. Edward E. Weeks<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>3. Mrs. Edward E. Weeks<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>4. Timmouth Church<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>5. Albert &amp; Elizabeth Rouleau<br/>65 Campus Drive<br/>Rochester, NY 14600</p> <p>6. Albert &amp; Elizabeth Rouleau<br/>65 Campus Drive<br/>Rochester, NY 14600</p> <p>7. Albert &amp; Elizabeth Rouleau<br/>65 Campus Drive<br/>Rochester, NY 14600</p> <p>8. Town of Timmouth<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>9. Kenneth &amp; Florence Gilmore<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>10. Kenneth &amp; Florence Gilmore<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>11. Town of Timmouth<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>12. Timmouth Volunteer Fire Department<br/>c/o Leonard Morris<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> | <p>13. Timmouth Volunteer Fire Department<br/>c/o Leonard Morris<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>14. Eugene &amp; Viola Balestra<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>15. Eugene &amp; Viola Balestra<br/>RFD<br/>Wallingford, VT 05773</p> <p>16. Albert &amp; Elizabeth Rouleau<br/>65 Campus Drive<br/>Rochester, NY 14600</p> |
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TINMOUTH HISTORIC DISTRICT  
TINMOUTH, VERMONT

