NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. Aug. 2002)

complete all items.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 1-31-2009)

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to

1. Name of Proper	rty									
Historic name Other names/site number		U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire, Vermont West Berkshire Inspection Station; Berkshire Border Inspection Station								
Street & Number	7823 \	West Berkshire Road, State Route 108						Not for Publication		
City or Town	Berks	hire						N/A		
State	Vermo	ont	Code	VT	County	Franklin		Code	011	
Zip Code	Zip Code 05450									
3. State/Federal A	gency (Certification								
Signature of certify State or Federal Additionally Signature of certify State or Federal Additional Signature of complete State or Federal agents and the state of Federal agents are state of Federal agents and the state of	gency or roperty	Tribal governmentsdoes	ent not meet the Nation	Lice	Da	ate V. See car	23// Section	traction	nal comments.)	
4. National Park S	Service (Certification			11 00					
determined n	e Nationa Seligible fo Seligible fo	al Register e continuation sh r the National Re e continuation sh e for the National	egister eet.	De) en	re of Keeper	beall	=	ate of Action	
removed from other (explain		tional Register								

5. Classification	on						
Ownership of P (Check as man private public- public- x public-	y boxes as apply) local state	Category of Property (Check only one box) x building(s) district site structure object			Number of Re Contributing 2 — — — 2	sources within Pro Noncontributing 0 building sites structur objects 0 total	(s)
Number of cont	tributing resources previous	ly listed in the Nation	nal Re	gister 0	_		
	d multiple property listing (E or Inspection Stations, States Use				ple property listir	ng.)	
Historic Functi	ions (Enter categories from	instructions)					
Cat:	Government		Sub:	Government C	Office		
	Government			Custom House	e	_	
	Domestic			Single Dwellin	ng		
	ions (Enter categories from	•					
Cat:	Government		Sub:	Government C			
	Government			Custom House	e		
	Domestic			Vacant			
7. Description							
	lassification (Enter categorie and Early 20 th Century Rev	•					
Materials (Ente	r categories from instruction	is)					
roof		gle					
walls	·	3 -					
	METAL/aluminum (wings a	and dormers)					
	WOOD (windows and door	•					
	GLASS (windows and do	•					

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Please see Section 7 Continuation Sheets.

8. State	ment	of Significance							
Applica listing)	ble N	ational Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more	boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register						
X	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our X A history.								
	B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.								
	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the w of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity wh C components lack individual distinction.								
	D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.								
Critorio	-		Alon important in provision y or motory.						
Cilleila	Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)								
	A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. B removed from its original location.								
		a birthplace or a grave.							
	- D	a cemetery.							
	- E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.							
	- - F	a commemorative property.							
	- ' G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significar	ace within the past 50 years						
	-								
	Archit	ficance (Enter categories from instructions) tecture	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A						
_	Politio	cs/Government							
Period o	f Sign 1934	ificance	Cultural Affiliation N/A						
Significa	nt Da 1934	tes	Architect/Builder Wetmore, James A. Simon, Louis A.						
		ement of Significance (Explain the significance of e see Section 8 Continuation Sheets.	f the property on one or more continuation sheets.)						
9. Major	Bibli	ographical References							
(Cite the	book	s, articles, and other sources used in preparing the	his form on one or more continuation sheets.)						
	Pleas	e see Section 9 Continuation Sheets.							
Previous	docu	mentation on file (NPS)							
	preli	minary determination of individual listing (36 CFF	R 67) has been requested.						
		iously listed in the National Register							
X	x previously determined eligible by the National Register (9/12/1986)								
-	designated a National Historic Landmark								
	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #								
	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # Primary Location of Additional Data								
Primary									
-	State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency								
X		al government							
-		rersity							
	Othe	-							
Namo		oository: National Archives and Records Adm	ninistration (NARA)						

10. Geographical Data								
Acreage of Property 2.4								
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)								
Zone	Easting Northing			Zone	Easting	Northing		
1 18	671313	4986937	3					
2			4					
X See continuation sheet.								
Verbal Boundary	Description (De	scribe the boun	daries of	the prop	erty on a continu	uation sheet.))	
Boundary Justific	ation (Explain w	hy the boundari	es were	selected	on a continuatio	n sheet.)		
11. Form Prepar	ed By							
Name/Title		ıl, Architectural H ak, Senior Archi						
Organization	ICF Jones & S	Stokes			Date	July 2011		_
Street & Number	811 W. 7 th St., Suite 800				Telephone	(213) 627-5	5376	_
City or Town	Los Angeles				State CA	Zip Code	90017	<u> </u>
Additional Docu	mentation							
Maps	ation Sheets A USGS map (7			ndicating	the property's lo	cation.		
Photographs Representative photographs of the property.								
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)								
Property Owner								
(Complete this ite	em at the reques	st of the SHPO o	or FPO.)					
Name								<u></u>
Organization	U.S. General Region 1	Services Admini	istration,		Telephone	(617) 565-	8100	<u></u>
Street & Number	10 Causeway	St., Room 900						
City or Town	Boston				State MA	Zip Code	02222	<u> </u>

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

NPS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018 (8-02) CH xpires 1-31-2009

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County,
Vermont

Section 7 Page 1

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

Description

Location and Setting

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire is located in the village of West Berkshire, town of Berkshire, Franklin County Vermont on the west side of State Route 108 on 2.4 acres of property that is adjacent to the Canadian border. The Inspection Station itself is placed on the southern portion of this property. Behind it, the rear yard is planted with lawn grass, and drops in grade roughly 20 feet from the front, eastern portion of the property. Roughly 150 feet behind the rear yard is the Pike River. The surrounding area is open, consisting of rolling hills and natural vegetation. The West Berkshire Inspection Station and its two adjacent wings are on a north-south axis, and the front elevation of the Inspection Station faces east. Located on the property northwest behind the Inspection Station is a single-family residence. This residence was one of two, of which the other is now demolished. A small gravel driveway that ran to both residences is still present. The Inspection Station is slightly set back from State Route 108 and to get to it, southbound cars must veer west, where a lane traverses beneath a porte-cochere. On either side north or south of the porte-cochere is blacktop, which provides for a degree of extra parking if necessary. Polished granite curbs bound this blacktopped area. A mast-type flagpole is located to the north of the Inspection Station building, and is accessed by a small sidewalk. To the north of this, the Canadian Inspection Station is visible.

Exterior

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire is a rectangular plan, 1½-story, side gabled woodframe building clad in American bond brickwork, and designed in the Colonial Revival style. Flanked on either end of the building are 1-story, 4-bay garage wings with aluminum clapboard siding, and eaveless hipped roofs underscored by a wood fascia and simple cornice molding. Centered in front of the inspection station is a flat roofed, metal porte-cochere that is supported by square shaped metal posts. The front elevation of the West Berkshire inspection station is of three bays. These three bays are placed in a symmetrical arrangement, with two outer window bays on either side of a centered entrance. The centered entrance features a glass panel, aluminum framed single leaf door topped by a paneled transom that now houses an air conditioning unit. Above the entry and the transom is a gauged brick jack arch pattern with a centered marble keystone. The modified, large window bay on either side of the entrance features 12-unit glazing set in dark stained aluminum frames. Above each window bay is a brick soldier course and below each window bay are brick sills. At the northern portion of the front elevation in lower corner is a marble informational plaque. The porte-cochere, which is a replacement, covers a large center portion of the front eave of the building. On either side of it upon the building is a wood fascia with simple cornice molding that wraps around the front corners.

The side gabled roof of the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire is clad in gray asphalt shingle in an undulating square pattern. Above the front elevation is a vinyl clapboard clad shed roofed dormer of three bays with 8/8 woodframe double hung windows. Each side of the inspection station is flanked by garage wings with stepped copper flashing above them. The upper portion of the side elevations features paired, 4-unit woodframe windows underscored by a continuous marble sill and topped with a flat arch brick pattern. At each side, a simple cornice molding and wood fascia underscore the side gables and form a pair of gable returns. The rear elevation first level of

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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County,
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the inspection station building features symmetrically placed 12/12 wood frame double hung windows topped by gauged brick jack arching and a centered marble keystone. Placed in a pairing off center in the northern portion of the rear elevation are two thin 4/4 wood frame double hung windows topped with gauged brick jack arching. A single 8/8 woodframe double hung window is also present at the rear elevation and runs flush with the bottom of the first level. All of the first level windows at the rear elevation feature marble sills. The rear elevation of the West Berkshire Inspection station correlates to the sunken grade of this section of the property, revealing a tall plinth course of poured concrete, which also underscores the two garage wings at the rear elevation. Within the basement level of the inspection station is a 2-panel painted wood entry door, its upper section consisting of nine glazing units. A brick clad shed-roofed bumpout is present at the rear elevation basement level. Centered within it is an 8/8 wood frame double hung window underscored by a marble sill. A wood fascia and simple cornice molding underscores the roof of the bumpout. Within the roof atop the rear elevation of the inspection station is a vinyl clapboard clad shed dormer with four bays of 8/8 woodframe double hung windows. Centered above this dormer behind the ridgeline of the roof is a rectangular brick chimney with a concrete capital.

The two bays closest to the inspection station within the southern of the two garage wings have been converted into restrooms. The southern most bay of this garage wing once featured an inspection pit that has since been covered. The southern garage wing was originally used for various customs inspection activities, and the north wing was for officer's automobiles. All of the garage doors within the two wings are metal roll-up, and are not original. The southern and northern ends of each garage wing feature a pair of 12/12 wood frame double hung windows. These windows are also present at the 4 rear bays of each garage wing. In the concrete course below these are 8/8 wood frame double hung windows, and one recessed rear entry per garage wing.

Interior

The front, east facing half of U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire first level interior is divided into three parts: an Immigration desk and work area in the southern portion, a public lobby in the middle, and the Customs desk and work area in the northern portion. On the floor of the public lobby is a dark red ceramic fire-flash tile. Behind each work area were office spaces and restrooms. The restroom doors are thin, 5-panel wood doors with original hardware and molded wood door frames. Behind the public lobby were two stairways: one to the basement, and one to the upper level. The rear offices are separated from the front sections by a four bay partition with three bays of original privacy glass and the fourth bay the door itself. Clerestory windows of privacy glass top all four bays. The clerestory windows are operable, and their original bronze operating hardware is still present. The centered front lobby is bounded on either side by large 42x30 inch wood desks. Now clad in board-pattern wood siding, these desks originally had a 5-panel design facing the public section. The multiple drawers within them on the non-public side of each desk are still present. All of the windows of the first and second interior level are trimmed with cornice molded wood frames and wood sills. All of the walls and ceilings of the first and second levels are plaster, and original bronze light switch panels are also present throughout the interior.

The upper level of the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire features two detention cells at the south end, plus an additional office, a storage room, and an Immigration Board room at the center of the west portion of the upper level.

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			Vermon
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The stairs from the first to second level have cement treads and risers with metal balusters and square shaped metal newels each featuring a cornice molded crown detail and side paneling. Wood trim runs along the base of the stairway, and the handrail is of a blonde, stained wood. The north, south, and east interior walls of the first level and the entire second floor office features a molded picture rail that runs across all four walls roughly 1' below the ceiling.

The basement level is divided into three separate rooms running for the boiler, coal storage and the plumbing machinery. The basement rooms are unfinished and feature painted concrete walls and floors. The doors separating each of these three rooms are paired two panel metal safety doors with a diagonal board pattern within each of the rounded-corner panels.

Residence

Due northwest behind the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire is an abandoned 1-story rectangular plan residence with wood shiplap siding and a medium pitch side gabled roof. The residence is designed in the Cape Cod variation of the Colonial Revival style. The centered, primary entrance faces north and is fronted by an elevated rectangular porch fully enclosed in screen paneling. Triplicate, square shaped engaged columns are present at the outer corners of this porch enclosure, which itself is topped with a flat roof and wood balustrade railing. The residence rests on a concrete foundation that contains 3-unit woodframe horizontal windows at the east and west side elevations that provide light to the basement. Across all elevations of the residence are 6/6 and 4/4 woodframe double hung windows. At the west facing side elevations the 6/6 windows are symmetrically placed, each underscored by the 3-unit basement windows previously mentioned. At the south elevation, the 6/6 windows appear in a triplicate formation in the center of that elevation. On either side of them is a pair of 4/4 windows to the west, and a 6/6 window to the east portion of the south elevation. The east facing side elevation is of three bays, featuring a 6/6 window on the north end, a canopied side entrance on the south end, and a 4/4 window in the center. Each side of the residence features a gable end. Within the apex of the gable is a triangular attic vent, and below these vents are 4-part lunette windows framed in simple cornice molding and underscored by wood sills. A rectangular brick chimney with a concrete crown straddles the ridgeline offcenter due east.

Alterations

The West Berkshire Inspection Station appears to have undergone a degree of alterations primarily upon its exterior. The two garage wings are now clad in vinyl clapboard siding. In the southern wing, two of the bays have been converted into public restrooms, and the inspection pit has been filled and cemented over. The two large window bays at the front elevation feature non-original 12 unit sash set into aluminum frames that appear to be a recent alteration. The aluminum and glass entry door is recent, as is the air conditioner placed in the clerestory above the entry which itself is now a painted over panel. The present porte-cochere is unoriginal and dates from circa 1972. Originally two freestanding residences were built on-site, with entrances that faced one another. The now demolished residence was located directly north of the extant freestanding residence.

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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

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Statement of Significance

Summary

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire was included in the Multiple Property Submission for *U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico* (Inspection Station MPS). As demonstrated in this registration form, the U.S. Inspection Station--West Berkshire retains all aspects of integrity and meets the registration requirements in the Inspection Station MPS to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, at the local level of significance, period of significance 1934. The West Berkshire Inspection Station is the last in the State of Vermont to retain an example of the freestanding dwelling units that often accompanied the Type Number 1 inspection station. As a result, it retains all of its original program elements, and well demonstrates the historic characteristics of Inspection Station MPS Property Type Number 1: 3-bay Inspection Station.

Under Criterion A, the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire retains the associative attributes necessary to convey that it was one of the first set of purpose-built U.S. Border Inspection Stations that were planned, designed and constructed by the U.S. Government to improve land border security. Constructed in 1934, it was sited alongside a border highway, State Route 108, at one of the locations recommended in 1928 by H.A. Benner of the Bureau of Customs and J.L. Hughes of the Bureau of Immigration Benner and Hughes. Its construction was, therefore, in direct response to a chain of events including the imposition of head taxes and country quotas on immigration in 1917 and 1921, smuggling arising from the prohibition of alcohol in 1919, and the increase in usage of the automobile and improved roads in the 1920s. Because of alterations to the station building, garage and inspection wings, porte-cochere, and interior, the property is not being considered for eligibility under Criterion C.

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire was formally determined eligible for the National Register on September 12, 1986.¹

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire, Vermont: Significance

In their Report on Standard Type of Customs-Immigration Inspection Buildings for Border Highways dated March 13, 1928, H.A. Benner and J.L. Hughes, representatives of the Bureau of Customs and Bureau of Immigration, respectively, made the following analysis and recommendations that led to the authorization for the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire:

One regular and two temporary customs officers are located at this place, who also perform the immigration work. The office is located in a one-room building, but should be closer to the boundary in order effectively supervise traffic. At a point known as Nobles Corners, two roads from the boundary join and proceed from there as a single road. The inspection office should be located at this point so as to adequately cover both of these international highways.

The only building in the vicinity of Nobles Corners is a farmhouse. No space can be rented, and it is accordingly recommended that a building of Type No. 2 be erected.²

National Register Information System, search 05/19/2005, DOE Index by Agency; Agency: GSA; Vermont

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The Benner & Hughes report estimated the cost of the U.S. Inspection Station – West Berkshire to be \$58,500 to construct the building and \$1,000 to acquire the site.³

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire was designed in the Colonial Revival style as expressed on Inspection Station designs of the Federal Public Works Administration (PWA) period of the 1930s. This Colonial Revival detailing, which features many Georgian influences, makes itself present through the combination of: a strongly symmetrical massing featuring a primary unit backed by a centered chimney and flanked by lower wings; strong symmetrical massing in the front elevation; a centered entry program; ogee style cornice and gable molding underscored by fascia boards; shed dormers; a side gabled building with brick cladding; rectangular woodframe double hung windows with multi-glazing; and gauged brick jack arch molding often featuring centered keystones. The detached residence was designed in the Cape Cod variation of the Colonial Revival style.

Vermont features more extant PWA-era inspection stations (10) than any other state in the country. 13 PWA-era Inspection stations were originally constructed in Vermont, which was also more than anywhere else in the United States. Of all of these Inspection Stations, the West Berkshire Inspection Station is the last in the state to possess an original freestanding residence, which was likely for the Immigration or Customs officer and their family. Though this residence is currently unoccupied and its condition suffers due to deferred maintenance, it still conveys its design intentions as a specific Colonial Revival residential design. The Colonial Revival features upon this residence include the combination of engaged, classically stylized columns; roof balustrades (though in poor condition); gable returns, gable end lunettes; cornice molding; architrave and frieze work. The combination of a rectangular plan residence with little of no eaves, central entrance, shiplap siding, central chimney, double hung windows, and simple detailing all place the residence as a "Cape Cod" variant of the Colonial Revival design system. The significance of this residence as the last of its type in Vermont is significant at the statewide level.

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire design, as a brick-clad, side gabled 1 ½-story primary unit with symmetrical multi-bay garage wings is highly similar in design to numerous other inspection stations, including: Ambrose, ND; St. John, ND; Fort Covington, NY; Chateaugay, Mooers, NY; Champlain, NY; Canaan, VT; Norton, VT; North Troy, VT; West Berkshire, VT; Laurier, WA, and Metaline Falls, WA. Because many of these Inspection stations were located in isolated areas, they too were designed with standalone living units. The West Berkshire Inspection Station design and the above mentioned examples are all of a type that have been written of as "Northern Style" inspection stations for their ubiquity in the northern border states. The Northern Style inspection stations shared general features such as brick walls and sharply pitched gable roofs that buffer from the affects of cold climates, rain, and snow.⁴

² Benner, H.A. and J.L. Hughes, <u>Report on Standard Type of Customs-Immigration Inspection Buildings for Border Highways.</u> Congressional report to the Commissioner General of Immigration. Washington D.C., May 13, 1928: 25.

³ Ibid., page 54

⁴ Boyle • Wagoner Architects, *U.S. Border Stations: Metaline Falls, Laurier and Curlew (Ferry), Washington.* (Seattle: Boyle • Wagoner Architects, 1996) 2. Despite their ubiquity in the north, one station of this type was constructed in Sasabe Arizona in 1937.

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At the time of it completion in 1934, the Supervising Architect of the Treasury was Louis Simon. Simon had become the Supervising Architect of the Treasury the year prior, though he worked with the office continually since 1896.⁵ Simon would retain the post until 1939. "Simon, trained in architecture at MIT, was instrumental in the image of government projected by its public buildings, an image derived from classical western architecture, filtered perhaps through the English Georgian style or given a regional gloss, but one which continues to operate in the collective public vision of Government. Simon was unwavering in his defense of what he considered a "conservative- progressive" approach to design in which he saw "art, beauty, symmetry, harmony and rhythm" [American Architect and Architecture, August, 1937, vol. 151, p. 51]."6

During Simon's tenure, the Department of the Treasury was the largest architectural office in the United States, with over \$700 million worth of various Post Offices, Border Checkpoints, Custom Houses, and other Federal buildings. The construction of United States inspection stations, and customs and immigration inspection stations was approved by Legislation under the Act of June 25, 1910. The spate of PWA era of construction, and the construction of this particular inspection station, initially resulted from the Public Buildings Act of 1926, a Congressional enabling act that doubled the number of U.S Federal buildings in existence.

The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire evolved from the contexts of Prohibition (1919-1933), the increased popularization of automobile travel, and the Public Works Administration that developed out of the Great Depression of the 1930s. In addition to these contexts the West Berkshire Inspection Station also evolved from contexts that were fairly specific to Vermont. The first of these was the imposition of head taxes and literacy tests on Canadian immigrants beginning in 1917 that had resulted in a sharp increase of illegal entry attempts into the United States. The second was in context to the Great Vermont Flood of November 3, 1927, when approximately 1 cubic mile of water rained down on the state over one evening and caused severe damage and casualties. As a result of this flood, many roads that had been dirt were now paved. This changed the economy of Vermont away from one formerly dependent on the railroad, and also allowed easier cross-border access from a variety of points between Canada and Vermont.⁷

The West Berkshire Inspection Station projects an iconographic image of American architecture at the international border. It features the Colonial Revival design system often used for Governmental buildings during this time; one that was consciously associated with the American heritage and the American past following the 1876 Centennial celebration which triggered a desire for an understanding of American architectural lineage.

The West Berkshire Inspection station has retained its original location. The setting of the inspection station in a pastoral space of rolling hills, open fields, rivers, and farmland is highly similar to its setting in 1934. The integrity of feeling, as a PWA-era inspection station intent on expressing an American sentiment at the border through a vernacular use of the Colonial Revival, is likewise unaltered.

⁵ Craig, Lois and the Staff of the Federal Architecture Project, The Federal Presence: Architecture, Politics and Symbols in United States Government Buildings (Cambridge and London: The MIT Press, 1978) 328.

⁶ American Architect and Architecture, August, 1937, vol. 151, p. 51 in US General Services Administration, Historic Building Preservation Program: Inspection (Mooers)

⁷ Vermont New Media, http://www.vermonttoday.com/century/topstories/flood.html, 1999. viewed 8 Nov 2006.

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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County,
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Section 8 Page 7

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

Significance within the Related Multiple Property Submission

Within the context developed in the Inspection Station MPS, the U.S. Border Inspection Stations are considered significant as the nation's first set of purpose-built customs and immigration inspection stations for land crossings. Properties are eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C if they served this function and retain their essential physical characteristics and integrity from their original plan and design by the Supervising Architect of the Treasury. Properties are eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A if they retain overall integrity and the associative attributes that demonstrate the significant chain of events that led to their need, planning, and construction, including: the increased motor vehicle traffic at border highways in the 1920s, increased illegal immigration after the 1917 and 1921 immigration laws, and increased smuggling activity after the 1919 prohibition law. Under Criterion C, Criterion A, or both criteria, properties would be eligible at the local level of significance with a period of significance based on the year construction was completed, between 1930 and 1943.

Evaluation under Criterion A

In order to qualify for listing in the National Register under Criterion A in the area of government, a property must have been used by the U.S. Government as a customs and immigration border inspection facility and must represent the government's response to the important chain of events related to customs and immigration law and the increased use of motor vehicles at border crossings. The border inspection stations must have been purchased, planned, designed or constructed by the U.S. Treasury Department in response to a chain of events including the imposition of head taxes and country quotas on immigration in 1917 and 1921, smuggling arising from the prohibition of alcohol in 1919, and the increase in usage of the automobile and improved roads in the 1920s. Properties that retain the aspects of integrity necessary to convey the associative attributes would be significant at the local level, within the period of significance beginning in 1930, when the first station of this group was constructed and closing in 1943, the year construction of the last station of this group was completed.

Associative Attributes

U.S. Government Ownership and demonstration of federal authority and presence: To represent the government's response to this chain of events, the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire was planned, designed and constructed by the U.S. Government between 1928 and 1943 for use as a customs and immigration station at a land border crossing. It was designed by the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury, built in 1934, and sited along State Route 108 near the International Border with Canada. It was sited at one of the locations recommended by Benner and Hughes in their 1928 report, as follows: "The only building in the vicinity of Nobles Corners is a farmhouse. No space can be rented, and it is accordingly recommended that a building of Type No. 2 be erected." Federal authority is symbolized by the mast type flagpole and the detention cells in the interior. It remained under U.S. Government ownership through and after the end of the Inspection Station MPS period of significance (1943),

⁸ Benner, H.A. and J.L. Hughes, <u>Report on Standard Type of Customs-Immigration Inspection Buildings for Border Highways.</u> Congressional report to the Commissioner General of Immigration. Washington D.C., May 13, 1928: 25.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

				U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County,
				Vermon
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continues to demonstrate federal authority and presence from the historic era, and continues to retain overall integrity of **location**, **setting**, **feeling**, and **association**.

Proper location: To represent the proper location to inspect motor vehicles and control illegal immigration and smuggling at land borders, the property must be located at the border before traffic can disperse, or after major roads conjoin, and must be located on the right side of inbound traffic. The U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire retains *integrity of location* because it is still in its original location along State Route 108 near the International Border with Canada. In their 1928 report, Benner and Hughes recommended this location because: "The office is located in a one-room building, but should be closer to the boundary in order effectively supervise traffic. At a point known as Nobles Corners, two roads from the boundary join and proceed from there as a single road. The inspection office should be located at this point so as to adequately cover both of these international highways."

Proper facilities: To represent the proper facilities for a border inspection station, a property must convey the protection of officers, motorists, and goods from the elements. In their 1928 report, Benner and Hughes recommended proper facilities be constructed at West Berkshire, not only because increasing highway traffic would bring more motorists, but because of spatial needs for officers. "One regular and two temporary customs officers are located at this place, who also perform the immigration work. The office is located in a one-room building...The only building in the vicinity of Nobles Corners is a farmhouse. No space can be rented..."

At West Berkshire, protection from inclement weather was provided by a porte-cochere, garage and inspection wings, inspection pits; and the efficient placement of combined functions within the office building. While the porte cohere has been replaced, the garage and inspection wings altered, and much of the interior altered, the U.S. Inspection Station-West Berkshire is the only station in Vermont to still retain one of its detached residential buildings. As a result, the property still retains an adequate level of integrity *of design and materials* to convey its original function and range of proper facilities.

Dignified and attractive surroundings: To represent the government's efforts to create an environment to raise morale and convey an impression of federal authority, a property must be well sited and retain elements such as flagpoles and landscaped areas. To be eligible for listing, it must retain *integrity of setting, feeling, and association*. The setting of the U.S. Inspection Station--West Berkshire has not been significantly changed, and it retains its grassy lawn. Its regionally appropriate Colonial Revival architecture has been maintained, and it continues to be used as an inspection station, and therefore retains integrity of feeling and association.

Fair and adequate service to the public: To represent the government's responsibility to the treatment of the public, a property must have features or spaces to protect goods against dust and the elements, provide privacy from onlookers, and have adequate capacity to serve the increasing volume of motor vehicle traffic. Generally, a property meeting the requirements for proper facilities would also represent this associative attribute. However, private detention areas and porte-cocheres for additional lanes are also important to represent this attribute. At West

⁹ Ibid., page 25.

¹⁰ Ibid., page 25.

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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County,

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico Section

Berkshire, adequate service to the public is demonstrated by the porte-cochere (replaced in-kind), by the provision of eight bays for the storage and inspection of vehicles (openings altered), and by the provision of ample office space in the station building, upstairs as well as downstairs.

Decent living quarters for officers: To represent the government's responsibility to retain quality officers, a property may have separate living quarters downstairs, upstairs, or in detached residences. The Benner and Hughes report of 1928 recognized that the need for living quarters was flexible and could be changed to accommodate the needs of a particular station over time. Therefore, because of the changing needs of Customs and Immigration over time, alteration of the living quarters for another use or removal of detached residences would not disqualify a property for listing. At West Berkshire, quarters for the officers were provided in two detached residences, and because it is the only example of one remaining in Vermont, the property retains *integrity of design and materials* of the original living quarters.

As demonstrated in the Description section of this registration form, the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire, Vermont, retains most of the seven aspects of integrity despite some alterations and therefore meets the registration requirements in the MPS to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, at the local level of significance, period of significance 1934.

In addition, the U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire was formally determined eligible for the National Register on September 12, 1986.¹¹

¹¹ National Register Information System, search 05/19/2005, DOE Index by Agency; Agency: GSA; Vermont.

NPS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018 (8-02) CMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 1-31-2009)

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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

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MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

Bibliographic References

- Benner, H.A. and J.L. Hughes. Report on Standard Type of Customs-Immigration Buildings for Border Highways. Congressional report to the Commissioner General of Immigration. Washington: May 13, 1928.
- Berger, Louis & Associates, Inc. <u>U.S. Border Stations, Vermont. Historic Preservation Plan: Draft Submission</u>. East Orange, NJ: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. October, 1994.
- Commissioner-General of Immigration. <u>Annual Report of the Commissioner-General of Immigration to Secretary of</u> Labor. Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924.
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- Craig, Lois and the Staff of the Federal Architecture Project. *The Federal Presence : Architecture, Politics and Symbols in United States Government Buildings.* Cambridge and London : The MIT Press, 1978.
- ICF Jones & Stokes. <u>U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico.</u> Multiple Property Submission Historic Context Statement. Los Angeles: ICF Jones & Stokes, 10/14/2008.
- U.S. Department of the Treasury. Cabinet Sketch No. 9. United States Inspection Station—Mooers, New York. in Records Group 36, at the National Archives and Record Administration in College Park, Maryland.
- U.S. General Services Administration. Historic Building Preservation Program: Inspection (Mooers). 27 Apr 1994.
- Vermont New Media. http://www.vermonttoday.com/century/topstories/flood.html, 1999. viewed 8 Nov 2006.

Please refer to the primary MPS National Register application for bibliographic entries related to the shared themes and context of the U.S. Inspection Stations.

NPS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018 (8-02) CH xpires 1-31-2009

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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County,
Vermont

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MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

Geographical Data

Boundary Description

- 1. The bearings on this survey are based upon the bearing given for the westerly sideline of Route #108 (which lies on the east side of subject tract) being south 09° 03' west, south 03° 57' west, and south 03° 38' east as described in condemnation proceedings in the District Court of the United States dated 11/19/1932, and as shown on a map of the W. Berkshire U.S. Inspection Station site prepared by H. A. Elrick dated 04/21/1932.
- 2. The Vermont State Plane, NAD83, U.S. foot coordinate for the concrete monument (found) at the southeast corner of the subject tract had a northing = 916,939.88, easting = 1,556,200.96, and NAVD88 elevation = 427.22'.
- 3. A utility locate was called in to Vermont DIG Safe System, Inc. (Ticket # 20042702080) on 6/28/04 and the following utilities were requested to respond: Verizon, Vermont Electric Co-Op, Adelphia communications, Village of Swanton, Vermont Gas, and Central Vermont Public Service. All field marked utilities and field observed utilities were subsequently field located are shown as normal weight lines on this plan.
- 4. Unconfirmed utilities shown on this drawing as screened back lines are approximate only and were transferred from various best available government and utility sources. Any future development or construction must be aware of certain unknown or underground lines that may exist and follow all appropriate construction and utility notifications. This survey is not responsible for the complete resolution of all buried or obscure line.
- 5. The boundary field traverse error of closure = N 17° 57' 48" E 0.16' and the precision = 1: 142810.
- 6. This survey represents the compilation of all available records and information provided from the various government agencies or researched by the surveyor or from the title report. Certain Land Ports of Entry (LPOE) sites can have a wide variance in the amount and details of past records, lease areas, fee ownerships, previous surveys, utilities, etc. Certain remote LPOEs may have never had any clearly defined boundary limits prior to this survey effort. All such findings or boundary determinations will be duly noted.

Boundary Justification

The current U.S. Government owned property boundary is consistent with the original limits. The West Berkshire LPOE is located on a secondary road. The topography is rolling with the west side of the site sloping to a creek. The majority of the site is grass with minimal paved areas for parking and vehicle access and maneuvering. The facility is located in a primarily rural area surrounded by Canada to the north, West Berkshire Road and open land to the east, open land to the south and a creek and open land to the west.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Map Page 12

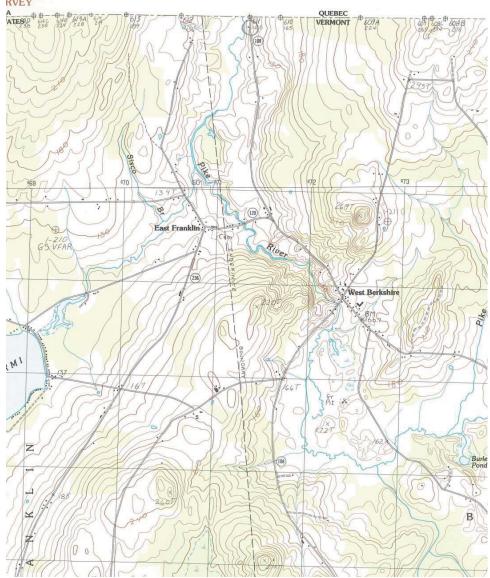
MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

USGS Map

Copy of map also included as supplemental information.

ES INTERIOR

INTERIOR RVEY



UTM References:

Zone: 18

Easting: 671313 Northing: 4986937

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 13

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

Photographs

U.S. Inspection Station – West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: front elevation, view: west

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation1.tiff



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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 14

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: front and side elevation, view: northwest *Photo number:* VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation2.tiff



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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 15

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: porte-cochere and inspection station, view: south/southwest

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation3.tiff



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Section Photos Page 16

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: rear and side elevation, view: northeast *Photo number:* VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation4.tiff



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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 17

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: front elevation, view: northwest

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation5.tiff



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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 18

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: rear elevation, view: east

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation6.tiff



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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 19

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: bathroom door, first level, view: west

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation7.tiff



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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 20

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: office door, first level, view: west

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation8.tiff



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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 21

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: window sills and frame, second level, view: east *Photo number:* VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation9.tiff



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U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 22

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: residential dwelling within setting, view: north/northwest

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation10.tiff



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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Photos Page 23

MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Photographer: Daniel Paul, Jones & Stokes

Date: November, 2006

Negative: GSA

Description of view: residential dwelling, front and side elevations, view: southwest

Photo number: VT_FranklinCounty_BerkshireBorderStation11.tiff



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Supplemental Information

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MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

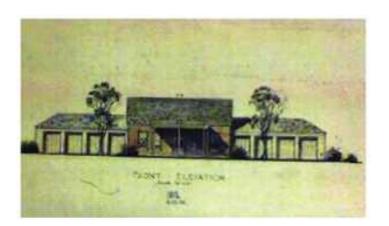
U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Courtesy: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)¹²

Date: 1934

Description of view: front elevation



¹² Images 12-13: U.S. Department of the Treasury. Cabinet Sketch No. 9. <u>United States Inspection Station—West Berkshire, Vermont.</u> in Records Group 36, at the National Archives and Record Administration in College Park, Maryland.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

U.S. Inspection Station—West Berkshire Franklin County, Vermont

Section Supplemental Information

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MPS: U.S. Border Inspection Stations, States Bordering Canada and Mexico

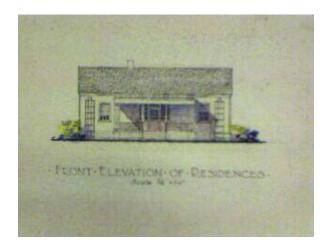
U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire

Franklin County, Vermont

Courtesy: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)¹⁴

Date: 1934

Description of view: front elevation, residences



¹⁴ Images 12-13: U.S. Department of the Treasury. Cabinet Sketch No. 9. <u>United States Inspection Station—West Berkshire, Vermont.</u> in Records Group 36, at the National Archives and Record Administration in College Park, Maryland.























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY U.S. Inspection StationWest Berkshire, Vermont NAME:
MULTIPLE U.S. Border Inspection Stations MPS NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: VERMONT, Franklin
DATE RECEIVED: 7/25/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/14 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/10/14 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000606
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: NACCEPTRETURNREJECTO
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
The National Register of Historic Places
RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWERDISCIPLINE
TELEPHONEDATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



November 14, 2011

Giovanna Peebles State Historic Preservation Officer Vermont Division for Historic Preservation National Life Building 6th Floor Montpelier, VT 05620-1201

Dear Ms. Peebles:



The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is pleased to submit for your review and concurrence the enclosed National Register of Historic Places registration package for the Multiple Property Submission, *U.S. Border Inspection Stations*, which includes the following stations located in the state of Vermont:

U.S. Inspection Station - Alburg Springs, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - Beebe Plain, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - Beecher Falls, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - Canaan, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station – Derby Line, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - East Richford, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - North Troy, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - Norton, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - Richford, Vermont

U.S. Inspection Station - West Berkshire, Vermont

GSA previously submitted to your offices for your review the context statement, matrix and individual nominations within your state's jurisdiction. We have addressed all comments received.

The resulting following documents are enclosed for your review:

• A copy of the complete Multiple Property Documentation Form;

Copy of the individual registration form for each nominated station within your state;

Copy of the USGS map with UTM References for each nominated station; and a

Photograph CD for each nominated station.

 Also included is a copy of a supplemental informational matrix document we developed (for ease of reference) entitled "U.S. Border Inspection Stations, 1930-1943," plus an

Original archival National Register of Historic Places signature page for the Multiple

Property Documentation Form; and an

 Original archival National Register of Historic Places signature page for each individual station registration form.

The copies of the Multiple Property Documentation Form, matrix document, individual registration forms, and the USGS maps and photograph CDs for each station are provided for your records.

We ask that you sign and return the original archival National Register of Historic Places signature pages for the Multiple Property Documentation Form and the ten individual station registration forms.

An important note: when signed, please return these signature pages via UPS (we have provided a return UPS slip for this purpose) as packages returned via regular mail to our offices are irradiated and the materials severely damaged. When ready, we will forward the entire archival package to the National Park Service for approval.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the nomination package, please contact Claire Hosker at (202) 501-1578.

Sincerely,

Beth L. Savage

Federal Preservation Officer

Director, Center for Historic Buildings

Enclosures