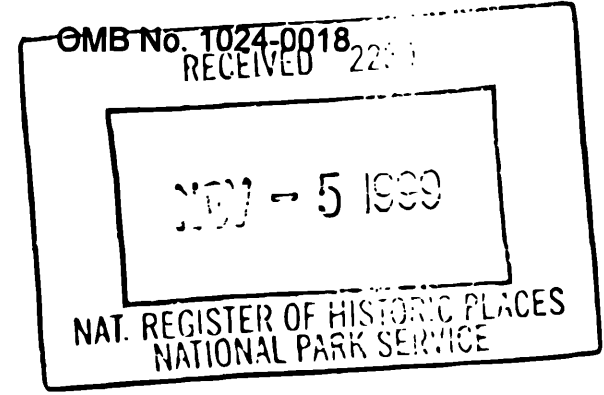


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1482

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

1. Name of Property

historic name **Citizens' Hall**
other names/site number **N/A**

2. Location

street & number **13-12 Citizens' Hall Road** not for publication **N/A**
city or town **Lyndeborough** vicinity **N/A**
state **New Hampshire** code **NH** county **Hillsborough** code **011** zip code **03082**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Nancy C. Dutton 10/28/99
Signature of certifying official Date

NEW HAMPSHIRE
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register
 - removed from the National Register
 - other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall 12/9/99
Signature of the keeper

Citizens' Hall
Name of Property

Hillsborough County, NH
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources Within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL/meeting hall
RECREATION/auditorium
DEFENSE/arms storage

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall
GOVERNMENT/correctional facility
SOCIAL/meeting hall
DEFENSE/arms storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN (Stick/Eastlake)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite
walls Wood (weatherboard)

roof Asphalt
other Brick
Wood

Narrative Description

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

Citizens' Hall
Name of Property

Hillsborough County, NH
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property LESS THAN ONE

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 | 27.25.7.0 | 475.093.0
Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

2. | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a ontinuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title **Scott C. Roper, Ph.D.**
organization **Citizens' Hall Renovation Committee**
street & number **37 Pettingill Hill Road**
city or town **Lyndeborough** state **NH**

date **March 10, 1999**
telephone **(603) 654-9663**
zip code **03082**

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name **Town of Lyndeborough, New Hampshire**
street & number **Citizens' Hall Road**
city or town **Lyndeborough** state **NH**

telephone **(603) 654-5955**
zip code **03082**

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Citizens' Hall
Name of Property

Hillsborough County, NH
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1888-1949

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Lafayette Artillery Company

Town of Lyndeborough, New Hampshire

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Citizens' Hall was built in 1888-89 by the Town of Lyndeborough together with the Lafayette Artillery Company, a state-chartered militia founded in 1804, to accommodate meetings, celebrations, and the Lafayette Artillery's armory. The building is one of the few surviving examples of stick-style architecture in Lyndeborough. The two-and-a-half story, 67'x40' post-and-beam meeting hall is perpendicular to Citizens' Hall Road, with the main entrance along the road, and is in an area of home businesses and mid- to late-nineteenth-century houses.

The foundation is granite-block, and the consists of two sections: a rectangular, 60'x40' section, above which is the main building; and a smaller 7'x38' section, above which are the interior stairs and entrance. A portion of the crawlspace was excavated in 1994, and is now accessed by two large unpainted wooden doors on the east foundation. The entire building is white-painted clapboard. The front (north) elevation consists of two portions: the north gable-end portion of the main building, forty feet wide; and a two-story projection measuring 7'x38' in which are located an entrance and interior stairs. A centered double-door entrance leads into a main hallway. The entrance is raised above Citizens' Hall Road and is accessed by wooden stairs, and is sheltered by a peaked roof adorned with an ornamental stick-style truss. Each of the two curved porch-support braces is decorated by a double-layered wooden star. Above and to either side of the door are single, six-over-six, double-sash windows (each sash is three-over-three), providing light to the stairs behind them. Above the porch roof is a larger window, also six-over-six double-sash, contributing light to the second-floor hall. The 7'x38' "projecting" portion of the building is capped by a hipped roof, with a cross-gable above the central window on the second story. The hipped roof and low cross-gable are transitional features common on late stick-style buildings. Two six-over-six double-sash windows are located at the attic level above the hipped roof, within the gable of the main building.

Six-over-six double-sash windows on the east and west elevations are oriented four-over-four at regular intervals. On the east elevation, a door is located on the first floor between the second and third windows, and is sheltered by a roof similar to that above the front doors. On the west elevation, a door of more recent construction (1953) was placed between the second and third windows, and is accessed by an unpainted wooden ramp. The rear of the building includes only a single off-centered door on the first level, and a single attic window in the gable. Two brick chimneys protrude from the east slope of the roof. The north chimney is set along the wall separating the main building from the "projecting" section, ten feet from

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION, CONT'D

the east wall; the south chimney stands approximately eleven feet from the south wall and eight feet from the east wall.

The first-floor interior consists of a central front hallway, with stairs to the second floor on either side of the front entrance. The floor is thin-board southern pine, oriented north-south, except between the stairs where it is oriented east-west. Anterooms on either side of the hallway are accessed by doors. Wainscoting stained reddish-brown adorns the lower walls. On the east wall is a pass-through window covered by a board mounted on hinges; this once was used by the Lafayette Artillery to sell tickets to events at Citizens' Hall. The west wall formerly had two pass-through windows, one original to the building and another added ca. 1926. Both were covered with plaster in the building's ca. 1967-70 renovations, but the older window is being restored in 1999 as part of the building's rehabilitation. The light fixture in the hallway dates from 1929, when the Lafayette Artillery Company paid to wire Citizens' Hall for electricity. Another door leads to what once was the central "banquet room."

The floor to the "banquet room" portion of the building is wide-board pine, oriented north-south. From 1967 to early 1998, the floor was covered in particle board and yellow asbestos tile; the original floor currently is being restored. Until November, 1998, when interior walls and partitions were removed, the kitchen and former armory were located at the southeast and southwest corners, respectively. In this section, which is being rehabilitated to accommodate the needs of town government, exposed wooden posts and beams support the second floor. At the southeast corner, an enclosed alternate staircase once allowed access to the second floor; it was removed in the spring of 1999. Originally, a door located near the center of the south exterior wall led to the building's first-floor men's outhouse. The use of this structure was discontinued during the renovations of 1967-70, when toilet facilities were placed in the armory and the passageway between the armory and kitchen was turned into a furnace room.

The second floor is generally unchanged from its appearance in the 1890s, and according to rehabilitation plans in adopted in 1999, will not change in the foreseeable future. The floor is said to be a "spring" floor, constructed to maximize a bouncing motion when people danced on it. It is a thin-board hardwood floor oriented north-south, except between the stairwells where it is oriented east-west. Stained wainscoting adorns the lower walls, above which is green-painted plaster. (The plaster had been painted dark grey until the late 1950s or 1960s.)

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION, CONT'D

Fourteen feet above the floor, the 46'x38' ceiling is patterned tin, and six light fixtures identical to that in the entrance hallway and dating from 1929 are affixed to it. These fixtures replaced earlier gas lanterns. On the south end of the hall is the stage, a central feature of this floor and a typical feature of late-nineteenth-century town and community halls in this region. The stage is similar to one in the nearby Queen Anne-style Wilton town hall (1883), about five miles south of South Lyndeborough; both are curved and feature wainscoting along the face. However, the Wilton stage is accessed by stairs on either side, while the Citizens' Hall stage has no stairs leading directly to it. Instead, on either side of the stage, on the wall separating backstage from the main hall, are doors accessed from the main room by three steps each. Also, unlike stages in similar halls in this area from the late nineteenth century, the walls along the sides of the stage are curved. The stage floor is wide-board pine, with boards oriented east-west. Backstage are an enclosed staircase to the attic (southeast corner), and a door along the exterior wall (southwest corner). Behind this door is the exterior; this door once led to the second-story women's outhouse, which was removed in 1991.

Nailed to the north wall in the attic is a large circular-saw blade, said by local residents to have been used in the construction of the building. This allegation should be discounted, as the Town of Lyndeborough purchased lumber from outside contractors (Peterborough Transcript September 6, 1888; Town of Lyndeborough 1889b). Beams and exterior wall and roof boards are exposed in the attic.

8. NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Citizens' Hall is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for significance in Entertainment/Recreation. It was constructed in 1888 by the Lafayette Artillery Company and the Town of Lyndeborough. During the period of significance (1888-1949) the building served as the preeminent social center for the town, and was the site for important regional gatherings. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association for that period.

Historical Background and Significance

In 1888, the town of Lyndeborough was a predominantly agricultural community. When one

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

of its few industries, the Lyndeborough Glass Company, closed that February, most of the town's 700 residents were unaffected. A more important feature of the town was the 15-year-old rail link between Bennington (to the north) and Nashua (about twenty-five miles south). Thanks to a stop in South Lyndeborough, the town increasingly was becoming a community of summer residents. The rail also allowed the Lyndeborough-based Lafayette Artillery Company--at the time, the second-oldest state-chartered militia company in the United States--to host a well-attended celebration, the February 22nd Ball, on Washington's Birthday. The celebration was held in two meeting halls in South Lyndeborough: Tarbell's Hall, above the general store; and Armory Hall, the Artillery's quarters above the depot.

By 1888, neither hall could sufficiently hold the hundreds of people who attended the all-day event. According to a reporter for the Milford Advance (February 28, 1888), "That a much larger hall is needed was fully exemplified during both day and evening. We understand that a building lot has been purchased and hope, before long, to see a commodious edifice erected thereon."

The movement to construct a community hall in Lyndeborough first arose nearly a month earlier on January 31, 1888, when members of the Lafayette Artillery Company instructed a seven-member standing committee to purchase a lot for the construction of a community hall (Lafayette Artillery Company Records 1888). On February 6, 1888, Joseph A. Johnson, Esq. (1820-1915), a Justice of the Peace and member of the Artillery, sold a parcel of land to the Company for \$275 "provided . . . that the Lafayette Artillery Company shall build a hall suitable to accommodate the public." (The property included a barn which was dismantled in 1940.) He also deeded the land to the Artillery with the stipulation that "if at any time the said Company should cease to be an organized military company, or if the headquarters of the company should be removed from Lyndeborough, then the above named premises shall by this deed be conveyed to the Town of Lyndeborough NH to be kept as a public hall for the use of its citizens for all time" (Book 493 Page 204, Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds.)

The lot purchased by the Artillery is one of the high points in South Lyndeborough village, with any substantial building placed there likely to be seen by those travelling through town by rail or along the major north-south road through town, Forest Road (now State Route 31). Thus, the construction of a public building there was an expression of community pride. Second, in purchasing the lot in the south village of the town, the Artillery presumed that a

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

new hall could not be built anywhere in Lyndeborough other than in South Lyndeborough. The village contained the only railroad stop in the entire town, and a community hall--where the Artillery would hold its annual February 22nd celebrations, which in 1888 already attracted people from throughout the county--had to be located near the depot.

At town meeting in March, 1888, by a vote of 82 to 39, the town elected to contribute \$2,000 toward "a building to be erected at South Lyndeborough by the Lafayette Artillery Company which shall be used in part for a public hall and for a public library." (Despite a vote to move the library to the hall in 1893 [Town of Lyndeborough 1893b], there is no evidence to suggest Citizens' Hall was ever used as a library.) Local politicians B.G. Herrick, Fred Richardson (1843-1928), and Jason Holt were appointed the town's representatives on the Building Committee (Town of Lyndeborough 1888a). This was followed by a special meeting of the Artillery at Armory Hall "for the parpos [sic] of choosing a committee" to "act with the Town committee in Building a public hall." Charles Henry Holt (1828-1897) and Andy Holt (1842-1924), both prominent community leaders, acted for the Artillery. In April, the Artillery voted "to give a Deed of all the Real estate holden By the company without any reserve to the Town of Lyndeborough" (Lafayette Artillery Company Records 1888).

On June 16, lawyer Rufus Chamberlain and a group of other dissatisfied Lyndeborough residents petitioned the New Hampshire Supreme Court to disallow the construction of the hall, apparently because they opposed the use of tax money in the construction of a public building for the Artillery. The court ordered the case dismissed on the grounds that the petitioners did not "reasonably begin legal proceedings, two and a half months having elapsed between the town meeting and the filing of the bond" (Farmer's Cabinet August 9, 1888). Therefore, Chamberlain and forty-three others petitioned for a special town meeting in which they would attempt to reverse the vote of the town meeting. This meeting was held on September 15, 1888; after two hours and fifty minutes, the town rejected Chamberlain's proposal to discontinue construction, 97 to 70 (Town of Lyndeborough 1888a).

Citizens' Hall was constructed between beginning after September 6, 1888 (Peterborough Transcript September 6, 1888). Except for some finish carpentry, it was completed in January, 1889. The structure cost of \$2842.91 to build, of which at least \$300 was contributed by the Artillery. According to the report of the Citizens' Hall Building Committee, no architect was hired (Town of Lyndeborough 1889b). Considering the number of

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

carpenters in the Lafayette Artillery Company, it is likely that the Artillery was responsible for at least part of the physical construction of the post-and-beam edifice. According to the Milford Advance (February 26, 1889), "The Artillery Co. should receive much praise for their untiring efforts in the interest of this hall, Capt. C. H. Holt especially for having expended so much time and money in its behalf."

The finished building included two first-floor "anterooms," one of which was used as a cloak room; a "banquet hall;" a kitchen; and an armory for the storage of "muskets and other equipments of the Lafayette Artillery." A meeting hall capable of holding up to 400 people was located on the second-floor, while the third-floor attic was used as a firing range for target practice (Donovan and Woodward 1906:440-441; Reynolds November 14, 1998). The interior of the building was lit with gas lamps. The architectural style was Stick style, and probably came to Lyndeborough directly from downtown Wilton, five miles away and the next railroad stop south of Lyndeborough. As stated in section 7, the stage area and some of the wainscoting are similar to features in the Wilton Town Hall, constructed in 1883. Additionally, the exterior stickwork on Citizens' Hall closely matches that on a Wilton residence next to the Town Hall, and on a restaurant across the street from the Town Hall. In 1892, these buildings both were owned by David Whiting and Sons, a lumber company based in Wilton (Old Maps of Rural Hillsborough County, N.H. in 1892, 1992:26). The Citizens' Hall Building Committee paid "D. Whiting & Sons" for lumber on January 31, 1889, providing a direct link between the stick-style exteriors of these three buildings (Town of Lyndeborough 1889b).

The first function held in the new hall was a meeting of the Artillery on the afternoon of January 5, 1889 (Lafayette Artillery Company Records 1889). Ten days later, popular storekeeper and former Artillery captain Joel Tarbell (1816-1891) and his wife, Esther (1818-1901), celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at Citizens' Hall with about 250 guests (Milford Advance January 22, 1889). The official dedication of Citizens' Hall took place on January 31, 1889. At the dedication, people representing the town, building committee, and the Lafayette Artillery spoke; one person stated that the building represented the "the growth and prosperity of Lyndeboro' [sic]." This is an important statement considering the closing of the Lyndeborough Glass Factory a year earlier. "One of the members of the opposition party . . . said a few words stating that they were fairly beaten, and judging from appearances had 'buried the hatchet'" (Milford Advance February 5, 1889). Nevertheless, according to the 1906 History of Lyndeborough, "some of our citizens, it is said, were greatly opposed to building

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

this hall, so much so that they never have entered it" (Donovan and Woodward 441).

Although much of the historical value of Citizens' Hall lies in the political and social contexts of its construction, the building also is important for its social role in Lyndeborough between 1889 and 1988. From 1889 to 1953, South Lyndeborough was an important destination for people throughout southern New Hampshire because of the Lafayette Artillery's February 22nd Ball. The celebration was held every year in Citizens' Hall from 1889 to 1953, excepting 1943-44, and in 1957 and 1969. It attracted important state leaders such as New Hampshire Governor N.J. Batchelder (1904), politician John G. Winant (1924), and Frank Knox (1923), publisher of the Manchester Union-Leader. Winant and Knox later served as cabinet members during the Franklin Roosevelt administration (Lafayette Artillery Company Annual Levee Programs 1901-1926; Lafayette Artillery Company Records 1888-1974).

The historical importance of the Lafayette Artillery and the February 22nd Ball to Lyndeborough during this period cannot be overstated. According to 86-year-old Guy Reynolds, who has lived in Lyndeborough his entire life, "The Lafayette Artillery is what made Lyndeborough different from the surrounding towns. It's what [Lyndeborough was] known for." The February 22nd Ball was a major component of the Artillery's regional fame, and essentially made South Lyndeborough more than simply another village on the railroad or highway. Newspaper accounts verify the popularity of the event. Every February in the early 1900s, the Milford Cabinet's Lyndeborough column began with the line, "All roads lead to South Lyndeboro February 22nd." In 1929, a writer for the Cabinet remarked that "the event is always a winter Old Home Day, and former Lyndeboro sons and daughters try to come home for the day" (Milford Cabinet February 27, 1929). The Boston and Maine Railroad ran special trains from Nashua at a reduced rate for those who wished to attend the February 22nd Ball and other Artillery celebrations at the hall (e.g., Milford Cabinet September 8, 1904). At its height between 1900 and 1941, the "22nd Ball" attracted people from nearly every city and town in Hillsborough County, and from as far away as Boston, Massachusetts.

Citizens' Hall was also the major community building in Lyndeborough. Helen van Ham, a 74-year-old resident of Lyndeborough, recalls that when she was a child in the 1930s, the town held an annual Christmas party for its children on the second floor of Citizens' Hall. Components of large celebrations were held in the hall, including the Artillery's centennial-anniversary celebration of 1904, 125th anniversary in 1929, and 150th anniversary in 1954, as

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

well as the annual Lyndeborough Firemen's Ball from the 1920s to 1970s and the Town of Lyndeborough's 250th anniversary in 1986. The local chapters of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Veterans, and Women's Relief Corps met regularly in the hall, and the Lafayette Artillery Company continues to meet and maintain an armory on the second floor. The hall also was the site of large private celebrations, such as wedding receptions and birthday and anniversary celebrations, until 1988. The building was the site of a New Hampshire Teachers' Institute meeting in 1917, the annual meeting of the Hillsborough County Farm Bureau in 1936, and the Hillsborough County Fire Warden's Meeting in 1938 (Donovan and Woodward 440-441; Stephanie Roper 1998). In short, Citizens' Hall made South Lyndeborough a "destination" for people throughout the county, not just for those in the immediate area.

The hall changed little between 1889 and 1967, as less than \$2000 was expended on maintenance. In 1926, the town spent \$500 to repaint the first-floor interior, and constructed a 2'x3' pass-through window between the "clothes" (cloak) room and foyer to replace a smaller one. In 1929, the building was fitted for electricity. In 1953, the town spent \$500 on repairs to the building's sills and to construct a fire-escape door on the second story. In 1965, the annual Town Meeting first was held in the building, followed shortly thereafter by the relocation of town offices to Citizens' Hall. Therefore, in 1967-70, the town spent \$6,000 to cover the first-story floors with plywood and asbestos tile, construct rest rooms in the former armory, place sheetrock on first-story walls, cover the two pass-through windows to the clothes room, and install an oil furnace in the building (replacing two wood stoves). A concrete ramp was installed to the east of the building, to allow people with disabilities to enter through the east door (Town of Lyndeborough 1888a-1988a; 1888b-1998b).

Today, Citizens' Hall is in the midst of another renovation to accommodate the growing needs of town government. Portions of the crawlspace were excavated in 1994, and the area will contain the building's furnace by late 1999. The banquet hall, original armory, and kitchen are being replaced with offices, new bathrooms, and a public meeting room. All spaces which have been identified as being of primary historical importance--the first-floor foyer and the entire second floor--are being restored to their 1920s appearance or preserved in their current state.

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

10. Verbal boundary description

Beginning at a stone wall perpendicular to Citizens' Hall Road approximately 130 feet west of the road's junction with Forest Road (State Route 31), thence running southeasterly ten degrees 41 minutes along a stone wall, 120.5 feet; thence northwesterly 79 degrees 30 minutes 152.5 feet to a granite boundary marker; thence northeasterly 7 degrees 30 minutes 152.5 feet to Citizens' Hall Road; thence southeasterly 72 degrees 41 minutes along Citizens' Hall Road approximately 116.5 feet to the point of origin. The parcel contains approximately 0.33 acres, more or less. It is the northern portion of Parcel 12, Map 13, Town of Lyndeborough property map, and is described in deeds recorded at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds, Book 493 page 204 (Joseph A. Johnson to Lafayette Artillery Company, recorded February 7, 1888) and Book 496, Page 102 (Lafayette Artillery Company to Town of Lyndeborough, recorded September 12, 1888). Boundaries of the nominated property are indicated on the attached sketch map.

Verbal boundary justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel associated with the community hall during its period of significance. A one-quarter-acre parcel of land was annexed to the above property on 26 June 1992, as recorded at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds, Book 5349, Page 1784, Guy B. Reynolds to Town of Lyndeborough. Because this transaction took place forty-three years after the period of significance, the annexed land is not included as part of this nomination.

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**Citizens' Hall
Hillsborough County, NH**

FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of property: Citizens' Hall

Location: Lyndeborough, Hillsborough County, NH

Name of photographer: Scott Roper

**Location of original negatives: c/o Scott Roper
37 Pettingill Hill Rd
Lyndeborough NH 03082**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

- Photograph 1** **Date: April 24, 1999**
Side (east) and front (north) elevations
Photographer facing SOUTHWEST
- Photograph 2** **Date: December 5, 1998**
Front (north) and side (west) elevations
Photographer facing SOUTHEAST
- Photograph 3** **Date: April 24, 1999**
South Lyndeborough village, Citizens' Hall at center, rear
Front (south) elevation of Citizens' Hall
Route 31 and railroad in foreground
Photographer facing SOUTH
- Photograph 4** **Date: April 24, 1999**
Side (west) and rear (south) elevations
Photographer facing NORTHEAST
- Photograph 5** **Date: April 24, 1999**
Rear (south) and side (east) elevations
Photographer facing NORTHWEST

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Photograph 6 **Date: April 24, 1999**
Rear (south) and side (east) elevations
Photographer facing NORTHWEST

Photograph 7 **Date: April 24, 1999**
Side (west) and rear (south) elevations
Photographer facing NORTHEAST

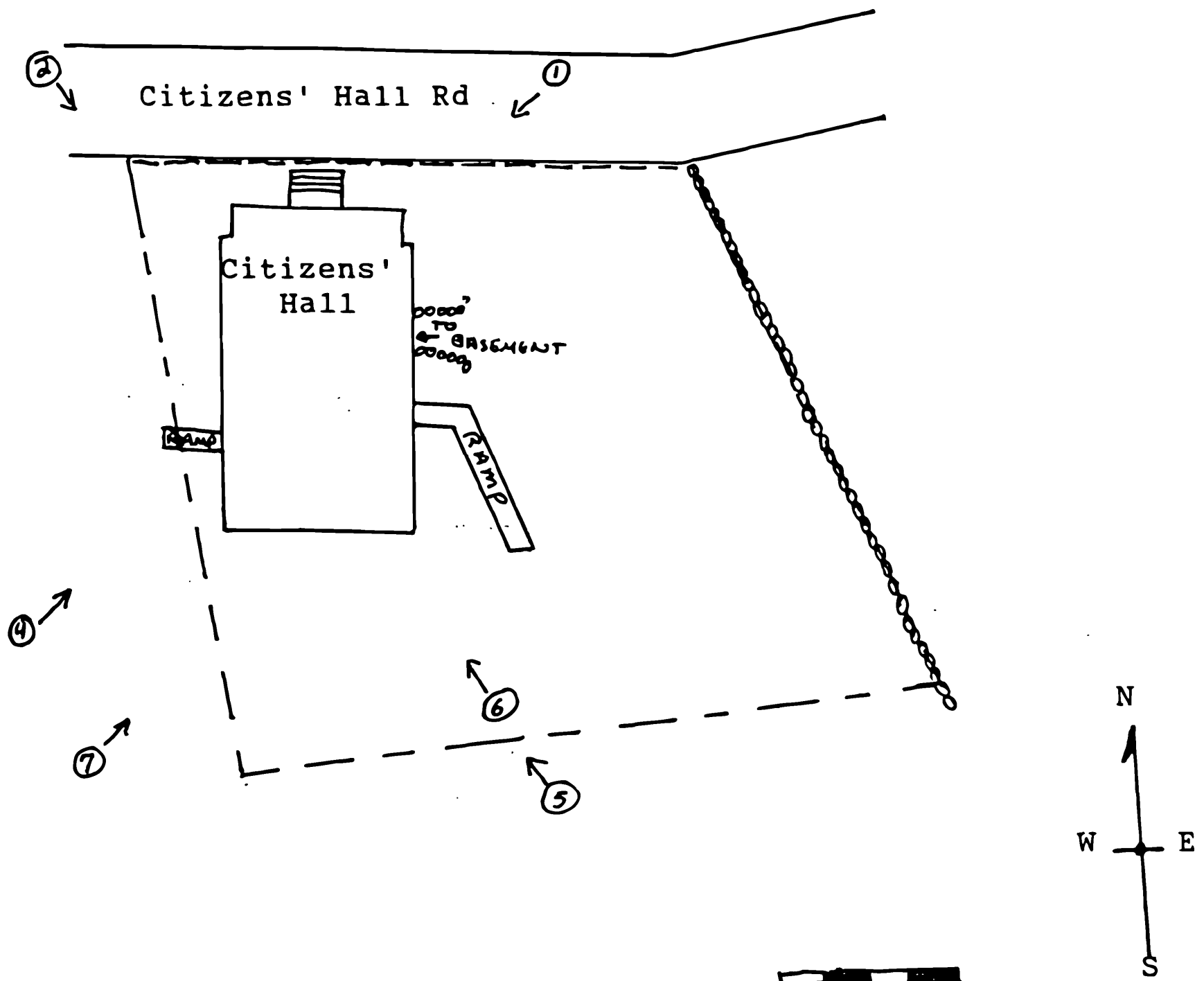
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③ (from Route 31)
↓

CITIZENS' HALL
Town of Lyndeborough, Hillsborough County, NH



----- Property boundary
○○○○○○ Stone wall (property boundary)

① ↗ Photograph number and position of photographer