

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED 12 SEP 1979
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ludlow Graded School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Ludlow

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

__ VICINITY OF

CODE

50

COUNTY

Windsor

CODE

027

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Black River Historical Society, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 16

CITY, TOWN

Ludlow

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Vermont

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Town Building

CITY, TOWN

Ludlow

STATE

Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey

DATE

1979

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Ludlow Graded School, set back of its schoolyard, faces the south side of High Street about 80 feet to the east of the former Black River Academy (entered on the National Register of Historic Places on November 15, 1972). Both buildings stand along the south edge of a narrow terrace on a hillside that rises abruptly from the Black River, overlooking the center of Ludlow village.

The former Ludlow Graded School consists of a 2½ story, wood frame, clapboarded main block oriented perpendicular to the street and a similarly-scaled and constructed ell attached to the rear of its east elevation. The main block presents to the street a three-bay gable front and extends four bays along its west elevation; the ell displays the same pattern of bays on its east and south elevations respectively.

The main (north) facade is distinguished by an overscaled triptych window (with 3/2-6/3-3/2 sash) centered in the second story and surmounted by a projecting broken-bed pediment. Above this window, a blind diamond with molded surround is centered in the gable end. The main entrance to the building occupies the left bay of the first story; at the corner of the building, double-leaf doors lead to the upper story while an adjacent single door serves the lower story. The corner pilasters and six-over-six sash of this facade are repeated on the other elevations of the building.

The intersecting gable roofs of the building are covered with slate shingles except for asbestos shingles on the west slope of the main block. Near the intersection of the roofs, a large circular metal ventilator stands astride each ridge. An exterior brick chimney rises through the peak of the south gable end.

The former Ludlow Graded School has been altered somewhat from its original appearance. Originally the east ell rose only 1½ stories; in 1903, the ell was enlarged to its present size, and the main entrance to the building was removed from the central bay of the main facade to the interior corner between the main block and the ell. Subsequently, the main entrance was returned to the main facade although offset to the left bay. Probably during the 1940's, the former school lost its most distinctive architectural feature with the removal of a two-stage square bell tower capped by a mansard roof and cresting that dominated the main facade. More recently, a small one-story, concrete-block ell has been attached to the southwest corner of the main block. Currently (1979), the building is being converted to a social services center, with new windows and doors being opened in the first story of the east ell.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES	1871-72	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Ludlow Graded School derives its significance principally from its historical relationship with the adjacent former Black River Academy (entered on the National Register of Historic Places on November 15, 1972). For two-thirds of a century, 1872-1938, the Graded School served to prepare students for the Academy, whose graduates included President Calvin Coolidge. Both buildings now belong to the Black River Historical Society, which intends to maintain the architectural integrity of this historic educational complex.

Actually, the former Ludlow Graded School holds direct historical association with all of the three different buildings occupied by the Black River Academy during its 103-year history. The graded School stands on the site of the original Academy building, which had been erected in 1834 and subsequently lost to fire in 1844. Immediately to the west of this site stood the former Union Church (building 1819); after the 1844 fire, the church was taken over and converted for use by the Academy.

A quarter-century later, another fire destroyed the existing graded school building elsewhere in the village, and in 1871-72 the new District No. 1 school was constructed next to the Academy, bringing together on High Street the principal buildings of the Ludlow educational system. Later in the following decade, the converted church was demolished and on its site the third (and extant) Academy building was constructed in 1888-89.

Soon after the turn of the century, in 1903, the Graded School was enlarged by the addition of a second story to its ell. This addition concluded the physical development of the High Street educational complex, and for thirty-five years the Graded School and the Academy continued to serve their respective functions. In 1938, however, the next generation of Ludlow school buildings was constructed on the outskirts of the village and both of the High Street buildings were closed, culminating slightly more than one hundred years of educational activities at the location.

During the succeeding years, both buildings have been adapted to a variety of uses; in 1973, the Academy became an historical museum, and the Graded School is now (1979) being converted to a social services center. Nevertheless, the exterior appearances of the buildings continue to suggest their original educational functions. The physical juxtaposition of the former Graded School and the Academy enhances the individual qualities of each building while creating a cohesive historic environment.

The property being nominated consists of the former Ludlow Graded School and its original schoolyard of approximately one-half acre. Both elements are now incorporated by common ownership in a larger lot of approximately one acre that includes also the former Black River Academy and its schoolyard (entered on the National Register on November 15, 1972).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harris, Joseph N. History of Ludlow, Vermont. Charlestown, N.H.: Harding and Harding, c. 1949.

History of Black River Academy. William L. Bryant Foundation, 1972.

Personal interview of Milton G. Moore, Museum Director of the Black River Historical

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Society, Inc., by Hugh H. Henry on March 21, 1979.

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

A	1,8	6,8,6,4,4,0	4,8,0,7,2,4,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The former Ludlow Graded School, the property being nominated, shares with the former Black River Academy a rectangular lot of approximately 140 feet by 325 feet that adjoins the south side of High Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Hugh H. Henry, Historic Sites Researcher

ORGANIZATION

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

DATE

April 30, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Pavilion Building

TELEPHONE

802-828-3226

CITY OR TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

William B. Finney

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

9-6-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Carol O'Shull

DATE

11-29-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Bruce Mac Donald*
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/28/79

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET 8-2

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

This nomination will thus extend recognition to both buildings and their associated land as an integrated educational complex, fulfilling the effort which was begun with the nomination of the Academy.