Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

10-300  $_{\text{(ReV.}}$  10-74) PHO503037 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CLASSIF	ICATION			
CATEGOR	Y OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
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_STRUCTURE	вотн	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	_XPRIVATE RESID
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATI
		X NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:
OWNER	OF PROPERTY		·	
-	Mrs. William S. Chadwick	k		
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CITY, TOWN	(No Street Number	l	STATE	
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	Vermont Historic Si	tes and Structu	res Survey	
DATE	1969	FEDERAL X	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR	1			
	s Vermont Division for H	istoric Preservatio	n	
	Montpelier	The state of the s	SIAIE	mont
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#### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_EXCELLENT

\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE

X\_GOOD
X FAIR

\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

XALTERED (by fire) \_\_moved

DATE

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

The William Hayden House is situated on a broad intervale in the Black River Valley. The house once commanded 900 acres of farm and timber land. Presently the property consists of seven (7) acres. The mansion sits 120 feet from the road. Granite curbing, originally intended to have ornamental iron work attached, surrounds approximately 3/4 acre of land defining a spacious front lawn and entrances to the property. At these entrance points, and in front of the principal door, are paired square granite gateposts, the design of which generally conforms to the scheme of base, shaft and capital. Gone are the Italianate gardens which were once to the south of the house; an orchard of 20-30 trees; and six (6) barns measuring 30 x 96, 40 x 112, 45 x 118, 44 x 50, 34 x 45, and 36 x 40. A wood frame, two-car garage now stands to the south of the house.

The brick mansion originally had a two-and-half story brick wing which measured 31  $\times$  26, with another one-and-half story wooden wing attached to it which was used as servants' quarters. The cellar hole and granite foundations for the wing remain from when it was burned in 1953. The wing is to be restored in the near future.

The brick Greek Revival mansion measures 35 x 48. It is two-and-half stories in height and is five (5) bays wide by four (4) bays deep. The entrance is centered in the main (or east) facade, and both gable ends are pedimented. The floor plan is a Georgian variation; there is a central hall flanked by two parlors which leads into a large dining room at the back of the house. The kitchen was originally in the wing.

There is a 2.5 foot raised granite foundation for the main house, with cut stone on the south, east and north elevations and rough cut stone on the west elevation. A similar granite foundation outlines the cellar hole of the destroyed wing. The inner faces of the foundation walls are lined with brick.

The walls are 18 inches thick and constructed of primarily local waterstruck brick. A harder and darker pressed brick is veneered to the water-struck brick wall on the south, east and north walls. The veneer is laid in stretcher bond with metal strips one inch wide and four inches long tying it to the American bond inner wall. This wall is exposed in the west elevation.

The south, east and north walls are delineated by brick wall pilasters and corner pilasters with granite capitals. The pilasters form five (5) recessed panels on the main facade, three on the south elevation, and four on the north elevation. The pilasters are surmounted by a complete wooden entablature which surrounds three sides of the building. Original wooden brackets with drop pendants are spaced along the cornice at the eave level and along the raking cornice of the pedimented gable ends.

Four granite steps lead to the entrance which spans the full width of the central bay of the main facade. It is framed by two plain posts and a lintel all of granite; within the recess thus created are 3/4 length side-lights, a large transom of eight lights and fluted Ionic columns which flank the door.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-1)

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Above the entrance lintel are two narrow granite blocks which step inward. The upper one serves as the sill of a pseudo-palladian triple window which consists of a 6/6 sash window flanked by two sidelights. The window is surmounted by a granite lintel. All other windows in the house are 6/6 sash windows with granite sills and lintels. The second story window lintels are set directly beneath the cornice level.

Each pedimented gable end has a recessed brick panel which conforms to the angle of the roof (approximately  $60^{\circ}$ ). Within this panel is a triangular window of similar angles, framed in granite, with two triangular sashes.

The roof is sheet metal, though originally it was shingled. There are four chimneys arranged in a classic Georgian positioning, with two interior end chimneys at each end. Despite the four chimneys the house has no fireplaces. The cellar originally contained an early wood-fired hot air furnace which could take six-foot logs. What appear to be fireplaces throughout the house are actually furnace registers with grilled openings framed by mantels of cast iron and wood, painted to resemble dark marble.

Generally, the interior is in its original condition. The two first floor parlors each have marblized cast iron mantels, plaster medallions in the ceilings and grained woodwork in imitation of mahogany. The original dining room, now the kitchen, was capable of seating thirty and is complete with wainscoting and wood work grained to imitate birdseye maple. A small bedroom off the dining room has an original sink and stand. A former closet in this room (now a bathroom) has an inscription scratched into the plaster which read "Titus 1854." Presumably it was done by the plasterer when it was wet.

An oval staircase rises from the central hall to the second floor. The wooden balusters are carved and arranged to imitate Gothic tracery windows, with pointed arches and clustered columns. The two main bedrooms have painted woodwork and wooden mantels which have also been marblized.

In the third story is a ballroom which runs the length of the house. It has a barrel-vaulted ceiling (recently restored), and wooden benches along the low walls with a small platform stage at the north end. The ballroom has a spring floor which consists of joists running between the east and west (front and rear) walls and an 18-inch space between them and the ceiling below. This allowed for deflection in the floor when dances were held, without destroying the ceilings below.

#### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hayden Mansion is notable as both an historic and architectural landmark. It was built in 1854 for William Hayden, Jr., a railroad contractor. It is a remarkably high style Greek Revival building with Georgian characteristics. No building in the surrounding town can rival its elegance. The main house is very much in its original condition and provides a visual document of the period in American history when profiteering and railroad expansion were at their height.

William Hayden, II, was born in 1800 of William and Silence Hayden who were married in 1798 in Massachusetts. Accompanied by Silence's mother, Mercie Dale, they settled in Albany, Vermont in 1801 which was then known as Lutterloh. Hayden is said to have built the first frame house in town, as well as a cloth manufacturing plant. In the process of expanding his estate, Hayden over-extended himself and found it necessary to obtain loans from Mercie, which he neglected to repay. She fell ill and came to accuse Hayden of poisoning her. At the end of her life she pronounced a curse on the family that said, "The Hayden name shall die in the third generation, and the last to bear the name shall die in poverty."

After the death of Mercie, Hayden continued to encounter difficulties, including some with his only surviving son William, Jr., or Will as he was known. The senior Hayden eventually went to Canada, and subsequently emigrated west and finally died in New York in 1846.

William Hayden, Jr. (1800-1883) developed a talent for making money by constructing railroads, most notably the line between Nashua, New Hampshire and Quebec, Canada. In 1854, after firmly establishing himself in business, he had the family mansion built.

Will had one son, Henry, to carry on the family name in the second generation. Henry married and had three daughters and one son; the latter died at the age of five. Ill health, family wrangles and contested wills combined to dissipate the family fortunes. The last surviving Hayden, Henry's daughter, Armenia Mamie, died in 1927 "poverty stricken and alone." The curse was fulfilled. Subsequently, the house has passed through several hands and in the process fell into a sadly rundown condition. In 1953, after being vacant for a number of years, the remaining barn burned as well as the wing of the house. In 1957, William Chadwick purchased the house, and is currently restoring it to its original splendor. To this day, it is said that the house is haunted by the Hayden ancestors.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 8-1)

#### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Vermont Life, Spring, 1963. Louis Lamoureux, "Fall of the House of Hayden," pp. 50-54.

Childs Gazetteer and Business Directory of Orleans County, Vermont for 1882 - compiled by Hamilton Childs, Syracuse, New York.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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It is said that Will Hayden had the house built as a monument to himself, and "to show the fools in Albany what money could do." The house is of a sophisticated design, but it represents a conglomeration of styles and influences. The architect of the house is undetermined, but from Hayden's journal of accounts it appears that William Steele was the contractor in charge. It is possible that Steele provided the plans for this vernacular structure.

Tradition has it that Hayden's oldest daughter was married in the ballroom on the third floor in 1843, but more explicit evidence points to the start of construction in 1854. An account book relating to the construction of the building is in the ownership of Dr. Roger Emerson, 105 Grand Avenue, London 17, Ontario, Canada. Several entries from that journal are recorded below:

Wm. Steele - March 21, 1855 Work done from March 5, 1851 to April 1, 1854	\$2053.28
Wm. Steele - Cash as per receipt dated 1855	400.00
V. W. Holt - February 1, 1852 - By drawing 1753 lbs. of stone from Barre	6.73
Sam Park - January 24, 1854 By drawing 155,662 bricks	233.74
Wm. Steele - August 11, 1854 400 nails @5¢	20.00
H. Merrille - September 4, 1854  100 common bricks	3.15 1.25 8.13 2.00
John Parker - September 11, 1854 Four stone capitals and on (one?) water trough	20.00
J. H. McClary - October 21, 1854 1120 lbs. of window weights	39.20
P. Merrille - October 25, 1854  19 lbs. of sheet lead	1.71

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 8-2)

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CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	8	PAGE 2	
E. Grant and E. Baker - March 12, 1855 112 lbs. of lead pipe @8½¢				\$ 9.52
I. D. Harding - April 4, 1855 10¼ gallons linseed oil 8 1bs. white lead				5.00