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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Mechanicsville Historic District  
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number Route 121 East  
not for publication n/a  
city or town Grafton vicinity n/a  
state Vermont code VT county Windham code 025  
zip code 05146

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant     nationally     statewide x locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Nancy E. Boone Deputy SHPO August 4, 2010  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation  
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/Title 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*  
Signature of Keeper

9.16.10  
Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>11</u>	<u>8</u> buildings
	<u>      </u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<u>      </u> objects
<u>12</u>	<u>8</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the  
National Register 0

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

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>Domestic</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>Agriculture</u>	<u>agricultural outbuilding</u>
<u>Agriculture</u>	<u>agricultural field</u>
<u>Industry</u>	<u>manufacturing facility</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>Domestic</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>Agriculture</u>	<u>agricultural outbuilding</u>

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Federal  
Greek Revival  
Italianate  
Neo-Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone  
roof metal  
walls weatherboard  
other slate

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

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8. Statement of Significance

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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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Industry

Agriculture

Period of Significance 1807-1959

Significant Dates n/a

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation n/a

Architect/Builder Sherwin, Stephen

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Bibliography

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 1**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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**General Description**

The Mechanicsville Historic District is located in the town of Grafton, Vermont. This hamlet is a linear cluster of residences that follows the narrow river valley of Route 121 East just east of Grafton village, and has historically been known as both Mechanicsville and Pickle Street. The fifty-six acre historic district has twelve primary resources, all residences, and seven detached outbuildings. Ten of the twelve primary resources are historic, and three of the outbuildings are historic. A fieldstone canal wall runs parallel to the street at the southwest end of the historic district; this archeological resource is the only remaining canal wall left in Grafton, and the only remaining evidence of the two mill sites that once operated in the historic district. The hamlet is generally densely settled, with most of the houses sitting on parcels that are one acre or less, and there is one more isolated property at the northern end of the historic district. The primary resources are generally in close proximity to the street, the Saxtons River runs behind the houses on the east side of the street, and there is a wooded hillside behind (west of) the buildings on the west side of the street. The well-preserved historic district has remained virtually unchanged since the 1860s, except for the loss of two mills. The historic district retains its integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, and design, and except for the loss of the two mills, the historic district retains most of its integrity of feeling and association.

The Town of Grafton is located in north-central Windham County and the Mechanicsville Historic District is located on Vermont Route 121, which connects Bellows Falls on the Connecticut River to the Town of Windham to the west. As Route 121 passes through Mechanicsville, it runs in a northeasterly direction away from Grafton village. At the southwest end of the historic district, the road curves and then continues west into Grafton village, where it becomes Main Street. In order to simplify the description of the historic district and its resources, Route 121 East will be considered as running north-south.

Route 121 East runs parallel to the main branch of the Saxtons River, which forms the southeast boundary of the historic district and the rear property lines of the properties within the historic district. From Mechanicsville, the Saxtons River flows east until it reaches the Connecticut River in Bellows Falls. The Saxtons River also has two branches, the north and the south branches, which meet just west of Mechanicsville and flow through Grafton village.

The Mechanicsville Historic District's boundary follows the outer perimeter property lines of the parcels that lie adjacent to Route 121 East in the historic district. This boundary was chosen to include the resources in what is considered Mechanicsville, except for a few older buildings at the extreme north end of the hamlet, which are divided from the historic district by intrusive late

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twentieth century non-descript buildings on the both sides of the street. The southern/western boundary of the historic district is the eastern boundary of the Grafton Village Historic District. The eastern boundary of the Mechanicsville Historic District is the Saxtons River, and the western boundary is at the wooden hillside at the rear property lines of the resources on the west side of the street.

Most of the houses are located on an eleven acre cluster (#2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11), and have small to moderate setbacks from the street, creating the feel of a small village. The northernmost house (#12) is more isolated, with a large field separating it from the cluster to the south, and is the only property with a large (forty-five acre) tract of land. This layout helps depict the history of the historic district, in which the clustered houses were built for Mechanicsville's industrialists, and the northernmost house was built for a farmer. There is also a modern bridge that crosses the river north of the houses on the east side of the street, which replaced an old bridge that was washed away in 1948.

There were once three dams and three canals in Mechanicsville, serving three mill sites. Two of the sites were within the historic district; one was on property #1 and the other was across the river from property #5 and accessed by a bridge that stood in the location of the extant bridge. The third site was located just north of and across the street from property #12. All of the industrial resources are long gone and retain very little visible evidence of their existence. The exception is the fieldstone wall that was part of the easternmost canal (#1), which led east from a dam near the confluence of the south and north branches of the Saxtons River. The wall is the oldest remaining structure in the Mechanicsville Historic District and probably dates to 1807, which was when the associated dam was constructed.

The oldest section of a building within the historic district may be a c. 1810s wing of c. 1833 residence (#12), and the oldest main block of a residence dates to about 1817 or earlier (#6), and is a Cape Cod residence. The rest of the historic houses date from about 1818 to 1862, and there are two nineteenth century structures, a barn (#5) and a blacksmith shop (#7), which were converted to residences. The houses include two Cape Cod houses (#6 and 8), one front-gable 2 ½ story Federal style house (#10), two Classic Cottages (#3 and 4), two front-gable 1 ½ story Greek Revival houses (#2 and 11), and one front-gable 2 ½ story Greek Revival house (#12). The only Victorian-era house is a front-gable 2 ½ story vernacular Italianate house (#9). The converted barn and blacksmith shop are now both vernacular side-gable 1 ½ story houses (#5 and 7); the latter is non-historic since it was moved and converted to a house less than fifty years ago. The only other non-historic residence in the historic district is a recently constructed Neo Colonial Revival house built on a former mill site (#1).

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The historic district's only brick structure is the Federal style house (#10). All of the wood framed primary resources have clapboard siding, and all have multi-pane wood windows except for one house, which has vinyl replacement windows (#2). Most of the historic house underpinnings are granite block, and two houses (#6 and 7) have fieldstone foundations. The non-historic houses (#1 and 5) have concrete foundations. Most of the houses have standing-seam metal roofs. One house has a slate roof (#11), and two houses have asphalt-shingle roofs (#1 and 4).

Ornamentation in the historic district is minimal and is generally restricted to classical type trim. The Cape Cod, vernacular Italianate, and vernacular houses have molded cornice returns and eave and gable trim, and flat-stock cornerboards, cornices, gable rakes, and door and window casings. The front entry of the brick Federal style house is comprised of a large blind segmental arch containing a fanlight transom. The Greek Revival houses generally have main entries with entablatures, corner pilasters and eave entablatures, as well as the flat-stock trim found on the Cape Cod houses. One of the Greek Revival houses has a front entry framed by fluted casings (#11), and one has a pedimented gable (#12).

All of the historic houses have ells or wings, one of the houses has continuous architecture with an attached barn (#6A), and one of the properties has a historic detached English barn (#12A). There are also two non-historic detached barns (#6A and 9A), two non-historic detached garages (#3A and 4A), and one non-historic detached workshop (#1A). Three of the houses have historic porches; two are Queen Anne porches with turned posts (#6 and 12), and one is an Italianate porch with a cut-out decorative balustrade and chamfered posts (#11).

The Mechanicsville Historic District was historically the location of two nineteenth century mill complexes, and there is a third mill site just north of the historic district. There are no above-ground remains at any of these sites. One mill complex was located on what is now property #1, and included a saw mill and a grist mill. The grist mill was probably removed by the early twentieth century, and the saw mill burned down in 1937. The middle mill complex was on the east side of the river, opposite #10, near the location of the bridge that crosses the river within historic district. This site supported a woolen mill and then a saw mill, which was removed in 1965.

Except for the loss of the mills, the Mechanicsville Historic District has retained its historic character with remarkably few changes over the years. The variety of architectural styles, ornamentation, porches, ells and wings, and outbuildings help enrich the character of the historic district, as well as the lack of synthetic siding, and although the mills have disappeared, the

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industrialists' housing helps depict this important part of Grafton's history. All of the historic resources in the village retain a high degree of integrity and are well-maintained, and there are no future threats to the integrity of the historic district.

**Individual Descriptions**

**1. Lake, Norman and Joan, House, 300 Route 121 East, 2002, non-contributing**

This 1 ½ story wood framed Neo-Colonial Revival house is located on a two acre lot on the southeast side of the street at the south end of the historic district, where the road bends and runs east-west. The lot backs up to the Saxtons River and the house has a large setback from the street. East of the house, there is a detached garage (A). West of the house, parallel to the street, there is a fieldstone wall that was part of a canal that led from a dam to a mill site that was once on the property. This wall is the only remaining evidence of Grafton's numerous canals, and is a very significant archeological resource.

The house consists of a 1 ½ story main block and a 1 ½ story wing that contains a garage. Both have rectangular footprints oriented parallel to the street. The house has a poured concrete foundation, clapboard siding, and side-gable asphalt-shingle roofs with boxed cornices. The main block has a centered two-story pavilion with a cross-gable roof. To the left of this, the corner of the house has a full-height recess that provides an entryway to the house. The main block also has paneled corner pilasters, entablatures and cornice returns, and double-band gable rakes and vertical siding in the front cross gable. Centered on the west gable end, there is a shallow one-story projection with a gabled roof.

The front entry has a wood door with upper vertical lights. The pavilion has triplets of vertical windows with false muntins divided by mullions at the first and second stories, and in the gable there is a fanlight window. Above the front entry, there is an oculus window. To the right of the pavilion, the front elevation has a one-over-one window with false muntins at the first story. The west gable end has a triplet of three small one-over-one windows divided by mullions in the projection, and the gable has two one-over-one windows.

The side wing is offset on the east gable wall of the main block and has a full-façade porch that meets the front of the main block. The wing has cornice returns, and there is a steep shed roof over the porch. The front elevation has two one-over-one windows with false muntins. The east gable wall has two wood panel garage doors and a one-over-one window in the gable.



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The house was constructed in 2002 and is in very good condition. It is a non-contributing resource due to its age. The house was built on the site of two former mills that were in close proximity to each other. The mills acquired water power from an upstream dam and the previously mentioned canal, both of which can be seen on the 1869 Beers map of Grafton village and Mechanicsville. It is unclear when the first mills were built on the property, probably just after the turn of the nineteenth century, but it is known that they were a grist mill and a saw mill. They were originally owned by Amos Fisher and operated by William Wier, who may have acquired them after Fisher's death in 1807. Fisher was one of first settlers of Grafton, and its first physician. He purchased a large tract of land north and east of the Mechanicsville Historic District, and also owned the mill site just north of the historic district. Wier was one of Grafton's first industrialists. He also owned and operated the adjacent mill site in Mechanicsville as well as a mill site in Grafton village, and was responsible for the construction of at least two dams in Grafton, including the dam that helped power the mills on the subject property.

The mills on the property were acquired and operated by Stephen Sherwin no later than 1824. Sherwin had moved to Grafton about the late 1810s and lived nearby (#6). Judging by the price of the property in subsequent deeds, it is possible that the mills burned down or were removed during his ownership. About 1828, a new grist mill and saw mill were constructed by William Whitcomb, who sold them in 1829 to Nathan Wheeler, although Whitcomb continued to operate the mills. Judging by deed records, a third mill was constructed closer to the dam in 1842 by Solare Eaton, but this mill does not appear on the 1869 Beers map.

Wheeler died in 1844 while a resident of New Hampshire, and the grist and saw mill were sold to Luther Burnap of Townshend. Burnap did not move to Grafton; instead, his son Luke operated the mills and the same year he built a house nearby (#2). About 1851, Hubbard Amsden took over the saw mill, but did not buy it. He also built a house nearby (#4). Amsden retired about 1880.

By the early 1880s, the grist and saw mills were operated by R.W. Bullard, and after Luke Burnap's death, his son Wilder, a lawyer in Burlington, sold the entire property (grist mill, saw mill and the Burnap house) to William H. Gallup. Bullard continued to operate both mills, and Gallup (1829-1902) is listed in the local business directory as a carpenter and joiner as well as a farmer. He lived in the former Burnap house. In 1903, after Gallup's death, the property, which still included the mills and the former Burnap house, was acquired by Adelbert M. Covey, who lived up the road (#9) with his family and operated the saw mill. In 1906, Covey subdivided the house property from the mill site, and also subdivided the two mill sites. Shortly thereafter, he sold the grist mill site, now part of the subject property, to Everett Clark.

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In 1908, Clark sold the property to Frank Dorner Paul Howland (1878-1965) and Sarah Elizabeth Howland (1881-1972), who moved to Grafton the same year, immediately after their marriage, and lived in Grafton village. Previous to that, Frank Howland operated the Pendleton Woolen Mill in Oregon. In Grafton, he manufactured the Stocking Darner, the Dandy Shoe Shiners, and other turnings. In 1915, the Howlands sold the property to George M. Austin of Lawrence, Massachusetts, who did not move to Grafton, but is listed in the local business directory as operating a saw mill and lumber yard from 1917 to 1922. It is unclear who operated the mill after that, but it is possible that Howland took over and operated the mill until it burned down in 1937.

In 1921, Howland acquired the mill site downstream, which was also a saw mill. At this other mill, Howland manufactured the Madam Waitee stocking darners. This mill closed in 1950 due to Howland's poor health. During its heyday, over 2,000,000 feet of lumber would be stacked near the mill, ready to be processed. This was the last operating and standing mill in Grafton, and was torn down in 1965. In 1962, the subject property, plus the other mill site, were sold by the Howlands to Norman and Joan Lake and Charles and Margaret Gates. In 1989, the Lakes acquired a full share of the subject property.

A. Workshop, 2003

This symmetrical detached workshop sits east of the house and faces west. It has a square footprint, concrete slab, clapboard siding, a hipped asphalt-shingle roof that peaks with a front-gable roof and has a small cross gable over the centered entry, paneled pilasters flanking the entry, and flat-stock trim. The entry has a segmental-arched double-leaf wood door, and beneath the cross gable there is a Palladian window with three multi-pane casements and a fanlight window. Above and beneath this window is vertical-board siding. The side elevations each have two small one-over-one windows. The workshop was constructed in 2003 and is non-contributing due to its age.

**2. Burnap, Luke and Eliza, House, 372 Route 121 East, c. 1844, contributing**

This 1 ½ story wood framed Greek Revival house is located on a 1.67 acre lot on the east side of the street. The lot slopes gently toward the Saxtons River, which flows near the rear of the property. The house has a small setback from the street, faces west, and is comprised of a front-gable symmetrical main block and a small side ell. Behind the house, there is a small detached camp structure (A). A picket fence encloses a small yard in front of the house, and the street is lined with old stone posts.

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The three bay by five bay main block has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a granite block underpinning, clapboard siding, a front-gable standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, two small interior brick chimneys at the south roof slope, and a large exterior chimney in the fourth bay of the north elevation. All of the architectural trim is comprised of flat-stock pieces. The centered front entry has an entablature, sidelights that have been closed up, and side casings. Other architectural trim includes corner pilasters, eave entablatures, cornice returns, double-band gable rakes, and casings with thin drip edges. There is a secondary entry at the third bay of the south elevation. It has a gabled hood supported by knee braces, and multi-pane sidelights. The main block has regularly-spaced vinyl replacement windows, except for the peak of the front gable, which has a square window. The entryways have paneled wood doors.

The one-story side ell projects south from the right end of the south elevation of the main block and is offset so that it projects east of the main block as well. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, clapboard siding at the eaves elevations and vertical-board siding at the south gable end. From left to right, the front elevation has a paired vinyl replacement window, a wood paneled door, and a modern overhead garage door with panels and an upper row of windows.

The house was constructed about 1844 and is in very good condition. The exterior chimney appears to date to the twentieth century, and the replacement windows appear to date to the late twentieth century. The trim appears to have been replaced as well, although the Greek Revival character of the trim has been retained. The house is a good example of a Greek Revival residence. Greek Revival features include the front gable orientation, corner pilasters, and entablatures at the eaves and front entry.

The house was constructed for Luke Burnap, who owned and operated a nearby grist mill (#1). Burnap's father Luther, who lived in the nearby town of Townshend, acquired the grist mill, the adjacent saw mill, and the house lot in one 1844 deed, and the subject house was probably built that year. Luke Burnap (1807-about 1883) lived in the house with his wife Eliza and their children, while Luther Burnap continued to live in Townshend. The saw mill was operated by neighbor Jonas Amsden (#4). Luke Burnap's only son Wilder became a lawyer in Burlington, Vermont, so after acquiring the properties after his father's death, he sold all three structures to William H. Gallup in 1884.

William Gallup (1829-1902) was a widower and lived in the house with his children. Although Gallup now owned the two mills, he worked as a carpenter and farmer and the mills were

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operated by R. W. Bullard, who had already been running them for a few years. After Gallup's death, the property was sold to A.M. Covey, who lived down the road in another house that he had recently acquired (#9). Covey had acquired the White & Wilbur saw mill in 1901, and then acquired the Gallup saw mill in 1903.

In 1906, Covey sold the house to Rose Jennison, who may have lived here with her husband Dorr. From 1908 to 1919, the house was sold several times to the later owners of the two mills, none of which who lived here. In 1919, the property was acquired by William E. Prouty, who lived at the other end of Mechanicsville (#12). In 1933, Prouty sold the property to Henry and Ada Deane, who sold it in 1944 to J. Henry and Dorothy Snyder. The Snyders may have used the house as a vacation home, as they did not live in Grafton when they purchased the property nor when they sold it in 1974. The property has had several owners since the Snyders.

A. Camp, c. 1940, c. 2006, non-contributing

This small one-story detached vernacular structure is located behind (east of) the house and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. It has a concrete foundation, vinyl siding, a side-gable open-eave standing-seam metal roof, and an exterior brick chimney at the east gable wall. The north elevation has a paired sliding window, a wood-framed glass door, a paired sliding window, and a small vertical window. The south elevation has a centered wood-framed door flanked by pairs of one-over-one windows. The west elevation has a one-over-one window in the gable. The building was reportedly constructed as a camp in 1940. It originally had asbestos and clapboard siding, and different window and door openings. The windows were originally horizontal multi-pane units. The building was altered about 2006. Because of the alterations, the camp is no longer a historic resource.

**3. Sherwin-Hunt-Wright House, 419 Route 121 East, c. 1835, contributing**

This wood framed Classic Cottage is located on the west side of the street on a gently sloped one acre lot that backs up to a wooded hillside. Behind the house there is a detached garage (A). The house has a moderate setback from the street and is comprised of a main block and a long side wing that both have rectangular footprints oriented parallel to the street. The house has a granite block underpinning, clapboard siding, and side-gable roofs with boxed cornices. The main block has a standing-seam metal roof and the wing has an asphalt shingle roof, and there is an interior brick chimney where the two sections meet.

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The symmetrical main block has a slightly recessed centered entry framed by a molded cornice over flat-stock casings. The entryway has a four-panel wood door and narrow almost full-height sidelights. Other architectural trim includes an entablature, molded cornice returns, gable rakes, cornerboards, and flat-stock window casings. The main block has regularly-spaced six-over-six wood windows. The right bay of the north gable end has a doorway with a paneled wood door with a square upper light.

The wing projects south from and is offset from the main block and has a fieldstone foundation. The right 2/3 of the wing has a shallow projecting roof that covers the front of a garage and a recessed porch. The wing has a friezeboard, molded cornice returns, gable rakes, cornerboards, and flat-stock window casings. The porch has a window and a modern wood door with a multi-pane upper light. The garage has an overhead wood paneled door with a row of square lights. The rest of the wing has regularly-spaced window openings; all of the windows of the wing are six-over-six wood units.

The house was constructed about 1835 and is in very good condition. The property originally included a lot across the street, where the barn was once located. (This barn was later converted to a house, #5). Classic Cottage features include the five bay by two bay symmetrical massing, 1 ½ story knee wall construction, centered entryway, and regularly-spaced six-over-six windows. The house was constructed for Jonathan and Sally Sherwin. Jonathan died by the 1840s, and Sally (born 1790) remarried James Hunt, who died in the late 1850s.

In 1860, Sally Hunt sold the property to carpenter Marshall W. Wright (1824-about 1903), who moved here from Chester Road in Grafton village and lived here with his wife Frances and family. From the early 1880s until his death, he was also a violin maker, and worked out of a shop on the property that is no longer standing. The house remained in the Wright family after the deaths of Marshall and Frances, but was rented to Frederick Keller and his wife Mary. Keller was a caretaker. In 1940, the property was conveyed to Marshall Wright's grandson Leonard M. Wright (born 1891).

In 1953, while living in Massachusetts, Wright sold the property to Henry and Ernestine Lake, who eventually owned thirteen houses in Grafton, including four other houses in the historic district (#4, 5, 10 and 12). The Lakes then subdivided the barn lot from the property, and later moved the barn farther back on the lot and converted it to a house (#5). In 1955, they sold the house lot to Norman and Irene Pomfrey, who moved here from the neighboring town of Rockingham. The property remains in the Pomfrey family.

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A. Garage, c. 1970, non-contributing

This detached garage is located northwest of the house and faces the street. It has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a concrete foundation, clapboard siding, a front-gable open-eave asphalt-shingle roof, and an exterior brick chimney at the rear gable wall. The front gable wall has an overhead garage door with square panels and a row of square windows, and the south elevation has a pair of full-height narrow single-pane vertical windows flanked by a one-over-one wood window and a modern wood door with an upper vertical light. The garage appears to have been constructed about 1970, and is non-contributing due to its age.

**4. Amsden, Jonas and Minerva, House, 434 Route 121 East, c. 1851, contributing**

This wood framed Classic Cottage is located on the east side of the street on a narrow lot that gently descends to the Saxtons River. The house has a small setback from the street and faces south. South of the house, there is a detached modern garage (A). The house consists of a main block and a side wing, both with rectangular footprints oriented perpendicular to the street.

The main block has a granite block foundation, clapboard siding, a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof with boxed cornices, a modern brick exterior chimney centered on the west gable end wall, and an interior brick chimney at the north roof slope. There is also a small enclosed modern entry vestibule centered on the south eaves elevation. Architectural trim includes corner pilasters, eaves entablatures, molded cornice returns and gable trim, double-band gable rakes, and flat-stock window and door casings. The regularly-spaced window openings contain six-over-six wood units. The vestibule has clapboard siding, a front-gable asphalt-shingle roof, a modern metal door with a multi-pane upper light, and six-over-six side windows.

The wing projects east from the main block and shares a north eaves elevation with the main block. It has a part granite block/part poured concrete foundation, clapboard siding, except the left third of the north elevation, which has vertical siding, and a gabled roof with asphalt-shingle roofing at the north slope and standing-seam metal roofing at the south slope. A large brick chimney rises from the center of the roof slope. There is a four-bay shed dormer at the left side of the south roof slope, and there is an off-center four bay porch at the south elevation.

Architectural trim includes eaves entablatures and flat-stock window and door casings. The dormer has four single-pane awning windows. The porch has a shed roof, four square posts, and a wood railing with square balusters. An entryway is centered under the porch. To the left of the porch there is a six-over-six wood window, and to the right of the porch there are two triplets of

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modern casement windows. There is a triplet of multi-pane casement windows at the right end of the north elevation of the wing.

The house was probably constructed in 1851, possibly earlier, and is fairly intact and in very good condition. Classic Cottage features include the kneewall side-gable symmetrical five bay wide massing with a centered entry, and the Greek Revival eaves entablatures and corner pilasters. A barn was once attached to the rear wing, most of the rear wing was historically a shed, and the vestibule was historically an open entry porch. In the 1940s, the new owners found the house in poor condition, and repaired the building, added the dormer window, converted the wing to living space, replacing the barn door with the extant entry to the wing, and added the exterior chimney to the west gable wall, which replaced a window. In the late 1970s, the porch was added, and about 2000, the rear section of the wing's foundation, which was originally constructed of pieces of wood, was upgraded with a concrete section, the windows were replaced in-kind, and the entry porch was enclosed.

The house was constructed for wheelwright Jonas Hubbard Amsden (1810-about 1885), whose workshop was located nearby (#1). He lived in the house with his wife Minerva and their children. It is possible that the house was rented to A.M. Covey after Jonas's death, as a household account book of Covey's was found in the house. (Covey later bought other houses in the historic district.) After Minerva's death in 1901, her daughter Lucy Cushman, who lived in Massachusetts, inherited the house. She sold it to farmer James White in 1903, who may have already been living in the house as a renter. He lived there with his children and grandchildren until 1911. In 1911, the property was sold to Minnie Giles, whose husband Frank had previously owned the "Amsden Shop." In 1928, Giles sold the property to Eugene and Jennie Sherman. In the 1930 census, Eugene Sherman's occupation is "odd jobs," which seems to have been a common occupation at the advent of the Depression. The Shermans owned the property until 1944, when it was acquired by Henry Lake.

Henry Lake married his wife Ernestine in 1946, and they lived in the house together after renovating it. The Lakes later owned four other properties in the historic district (#3, 5, 10 and 12), and eventually owned a total of thirteen houses in Grafton. In 1958, the Lakes sold the subject property to John and Katheryn Eldridge, who sold it in 1978 to Barry and Nancy Bealor, who used it as a vacation home. The current owners acquired the property from the Bealors in 2000, and also use it as a vacation home.

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A. Garage/Guest House, 1980, non-contributing

The detached garage is located south of the house, and has a moderate setback from the street. It has a poured concrete foundation, clapboard siding, and a front-gable asphalt-shingle roof with overhanging boxed cornices. There is a full shed dormer at the south roof slope. The front gable wall has two overhead garage doors and a French door in the gable. The side elevations each have two one-over-one windows, and the dormer has two one-over-one windows. The garage was constructed in 1980, and the second story was converted to a guest house in 2000. The building is non-contributing due to its age. The garage replaced an existing garage that stood farther back on the lot.

**5. Wright Barn/Lake House, 460 Route 121 East, c. 1900/c. 1971, non-contributing**

This vernacular house is located on the east side of the street on a ½ acre lot that backs up to the Saxtons River. The house has a large setback from the street, and consists of a four bay by two bay main block, which is a former barn, a three bay by two bay side wing, and an attached two bay garage. All three sections have rectangular footprints oriented parallel to the street, concrete foundations, clapboard siding, and gabled standing-seam metal roofs. The main block and wing have side-gable roofs and the garage faces south and has a front-gable roof. The main block and garage have open-eave roofs, and the wing has a roof with a boxed cornice. The side wing is set back from the front elevation of the main block, and has a rear ell. The garage is attached to the south elevation of the ell.

Architectural trim of the house includes flat-stock cornerboards, friezeboards, gable rakes and door and window casings. The main block has an exterior brick chimney centered on the north gable wall, and regularly-spaced six-over-six windows. The main entry to the house is at the left front bay of the wing, and has an entry porch. The porch has Tuscan columns and a front-gable standing-seam metal roof with an open round-arched ceiling. The front entry has 2/3 height sidelights and a six-panel wood door surmounted by a sunburst-design panel that is framed by the porch roof. The rest of the wing has two regularly-spaced six-over-six windows. The garage has two wood overhead garage doors with square panels and rows of upper square lights.

The main block was originally a barn that stood closer to and perpendicular to the road. Its age and historic appearance are unknown. The subject property was once part of the property across the street (#3), and the barn was associated with the Sherwin-Hunt-Wright House on this other property. It is unclear which of these owners had the barn built. Since it was a front-gable barn, it is likely that it was built after 1850. About the 1960s, the property was subdivided, splitting



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the barn lot from the house lot, and it is reported that in 1971, owners Henry and Ernestine Lake moved the barn and converted it to a house, adding the wing and the garage as well. A 1986 photograph shows both the main block and wing with centered doorways flanked by multi-pane picture windows, and the wing serving as an antiques store. The current appearance of the house dates to about 1998. It is non-contributing due to the fact that it was moved, altered, and added onto less than fifty years ago.

**6. Sherwin-Walker-Eaton House, 499 Route 121 East, c. 1817, contributing**

This wood-framed Cape Cod house is located on the west side of the street and has a moderate setback from the street. Behind the house is a wooded hillside, and north of the house there is a detached modern barn (A). The house is comprised of a five bay by four bay main block, a three bay wide two-story side wing, and a three bay by two bay 1 ½ story side wing adjacent to the first wing. The house has a fieldstone foundation, except for the second wing, which has a poured concrete foundation, clapboard siding, and side-gable standing-seam metal roofs. The main block and 1 ½ story wing have boxed cornices, and the middle section has an open-eave roof. The middle section also has a full-façade one-story Queen Anne porch, and an interior brick chimney at the north end of the roof ridge.

The main block and 1 ½ story wing have molded cornices and cornice returns, molded gable trim, gable rakes, and flat-stock window and door casings. The symmetrical main block has a center doorway with a six-panel wood door and a multi-pane transom window, the first side wing has a six-panel doorway in the left bay, and the second side wing has a four-panel door with a multi-pane upper horizontal light in the left bay. The entire house has regularly-spaced twelve-over-eight windows. The porch has an open-eave standing-seam metal shed roof, chamfered posts with tall bases, and a spindled balustrade.

The house was constructed about 1817 and is in very good condition. It may be the oldest house in Mechanicsville. Cape Cod features include the five bay wide 1 ½ story massing, low eaves, symmetry, and centered entryway with a rectangular transom. The 1 ½ story wing was built as a garage about 1950, and converted to living space in the 1980s. This structure originally had a garage door in the front elevation, and then when converted to living space, three front windows. One of these windows was replaced by the extant front door in 2006.

The house was probably constructed for Stephen Sherwin (born 1795), who moved to Grafton after his marriage to his wife Rhoda. Sherwin was a carpenter, so it is possible that he built the house. He also owned the grist and saw mill that once stood at the south end of the historic

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district (#1). (It is also possible that the house was constructed earlier than this for local industrialist William Wier, who operated some nearby mills, and owned most of the historic district before it was developed.) In 1845, a Perry Sherwin (relation unknown) sold the property, which included a barn on the other side of the street, to Lewis S. Walker.

At the time, Lewis Walker (1817-1901) was a merchant. He lived in the house with his wife Cordelia. While living in this house, he was a state representative from 1852-53. From 1854 to 1859 he was part owner of the saw mill across the river, and from 1859 to 1865 he was the sole owner. In 1869, he was admitted to the Vermont bar, and became a successful lawyer and judge, and also served as town clerk for the last twenty-five years of his life. In 1859, the Walkers sold the house to Stillman Eaton, and probably moved across the street (#7). In 1862, the Walkers moved into a new house nearby (#9).

Stillman Eaton (1803-1870s) was a farmer and lived in the house with his wife Mehitable and children. In 1878, the property was conveyed to Watson Eaton, probably their son, as an agreement in the deed included the provision that Watson was to care for Mehitable in the subject house until her death. After Mehitable's death, the house was sold to Ezra Fisher in 1882, who lived there with his wife Nancy. In 1885, the property was sold to Henry M. Clark (1825-1906), who moved here from Grafton village. After Clark's death, his son Everett Clark sold the property in 1907 to Allen J. Davis.

Allen Davis was a farmer and lived in the house with his daughter Mabel Williams and her husband Lee. In 1915, Davis sold the property to Carl E. Prouty, and a provision of the deed was that Prouty was to care for Davis in the subject house until his death. Their relationship is unknown. Carl Prouty was a teamster and lived in the house with his wife Emma as well as Allen Davis. Later, Carl Prouty lived in the house with his second wife, Evelyn. In 1953, they sold the property to Irene Krim and Henry Strong, who probably used the property as a vacation home. In 1973, Henry Strong sold the property, and there have been several owners since then.

A. Barn, 1988, non-contributing

This 1 ½ story wood framed barn is located north of the house and has a large setback from the street. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, a concrete foundation, vertical plank siding, and a side-gable open-eave overhanging standing-seam metal roof. Architectural trim includes cornerboards, gable rakes, and flat-stock window and door casings. The front elevation has a centered sliding vertical-plank barn door. The gables have two six-over-six wood windows, and there is a paneled wood pedestrian door with a multi-pane upper light at the right

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end of the south gable wall. The barn was constructed in 1988 and is non-contributing due to its age.

**7. Pitt Blacksmith Shop/Walker-Watrous House, 516 Route 121 East, c. 1850, contributing**

This 1 ½ story side-gable vernacular house is located on the east side of the street on a sliver of a lot that is oriented parallel to the street and backs up the steep bank of the Saxtons River. The house is comprised of a main block, a small side wing, and a garage attached to the wing. The house has a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, a side-gable standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, an off-center brick ridge chimney, and an interior brick chimney off-center on the rear roof slope.

The asymmetrical six bay wide main block has a long rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street and has a modern bay window at its south gable wall. The two bay wide wing, which is actually a porch with an enclosed front elevation, projects north from and is set back from the north gable wall of the main block. The garage has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and projects west from the north gable wall of the wing. Architectural trim includes molded cornices and cornice returns, and flat-stock friezeboards, gable rakes, and door and window casings.

The entry to the main block is in the fourth bay and has a four-panel wood door. The front of the main block has regularly-spaced six-over-six wood windows. The gables have small vertical windows, and the bay window has a center multi-pane wood picture window and six-over-six windows at the sides. The wing/porch has two small three-pane awning windows at the front elevation and has an open screened rear elevation. The garage was constructed to resemble a covered bridge. It has T-111 plywood-siding, a front-gable open-eave standing-seam metal roof, large trellised openings at the sides, and a bay opening with clipped corners and no door.

The origins of the house were difficult to determine, but it is likely that it was originally a c. 1850 or earlier blacksmith shop converted to a residence in 1853. It is possible that the shop was originally smaller, and then enlarged when converted to a house. The possibility that the building was originally a blacksmith shop could explain the vernacular appearance, partial basement, long and narrow footprint, and unlikely placement of a house overhanging the river on such a narrow lot. The house had a full-façade porch in an early twentieth-century photo. Because the porch abutted the then-gravel road, when the road was widened and paved, the porch had to be removed. The wing, garage, and bay window were added in 1963.

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The blacksmith shop was owned and operated by William Pitt. In 1853, Pitt sold the shop to Lewis Walker. It is possible that the shop was converted to housing for local mill workers, as Walker (1817-1901) lived across the street at the time (#7) and in 1854 became partial owner of the saw mill across the river. Walker sold his homestead in 1859, and he probably then moved into the former blacksmith shop with his wife Cordelia and children.

Walker had a new house built for his family across the street in 1862 (#9), and in 1863, he sold the subject property to Hannah and Mary Wolfe. Hannah moved into the house (leaving her husband behind in the adjacent town of Rockingham), and in 1866, the Wolfes sold the property to Elisha W. Lyman, who had recently acquired the saw mill across the river from Lewis Walker. Lyman's son Justis lived in the house, and Justis and his brother Thaddeus operated the saw mill, but only for a short period of time. In 1869, the mill was sold, and in 1871, the house was sold to Andrew Swallow, who sold it in 1878 to Hubbard Burgess. Burgess was a farmer, and probably lived the house.

From 1888 to 1894, the property was owned by Charles White and Vestus Wilbur, who at the time owned the saw mill across the river and lived elsewhere, so they probably rented the house to an employee. In 1894, the men sold the house to Ida Watrous (1866-1944), who lived here with her husband Rollin (1862-1938). They were originally from Rupert, Vermont, and moved here after their marriage. Rollin worked in the saw mill and was later a farmer. In 1946, their sons, who lived out of state, sold the property, and in 1947, it was acquired by Nizer Trombly of Rockingham.

Trombly sold the property in 1953, and after a few more owners it was acquired in 1963 by Anna Moffatt, who moved here from Connecticut. Moffatt updated the house and had the wing/porch, garage, and bay window added. She named the home the "Chipmunk House." Moffatt died in 1986, and willed the property to the current owner's husband.

**8. Woolley, William and Mary, House, 539 Route 121 East, c. 1841, contributing**

This wood frame Cape Cod house is located on the west side of the street on a one-acre lot that backs up to a wooded hillside. There is a low modern stone wall lining the road in front of the house. The house has a moderate setback from the street, and is comprised of a main block, a large rear ell, and a small enclosed side porch. The house has a granite block underpinning, clapboard siding, and standing-seam metal roofs. The main block has boxed cornices, and the other sections have open-eave roofs. There is an off-center brick ridge chimney.

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The symmetrical five bay by three bay main block has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, molded cornices and cornice returns, slightly projecting gables, and flat-stock cornerboards, gable rakes, and window and door casings. The centered front entry contains an Italianate wood door with two lower vertical panels and two upper round-arched lights, and the house has regularly-spaced twelve-over-twelve wood windows, except at the left end of the south gable wall, which has a multi-pane horizontal picture window.

The rear ell has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and projects west from the rear elevation of the main block. It has a concrete foundation. A shallow, recessed section connects the ell to the main block. The south elevation has an overhead garage door with square panels and a row of square lights, and a pedestrian door. The north elevation has two twelve-over-twelve wood windows, a six-over-six wood window, and a vertical-board door. The narrow area exposed at the east gable wall of the main part of the ell has an entryway accessed by a set of wooden steps. There is a shed-roofed wood shed attached to the west gable wall of the ell. The porch is at the south elevation and spans part of both the main block and ell. It faces south and has a front-gabled roof, clapboard half-walls, a centered doorway, and is enclosed by vertical single-pane windows.

The house was probably constructed sometime between the mid 1830s and 1841, making it a late example of a Cape Cod house. It is in excellent condition, and is a good example of a Cape Cod type house. Cape Cod features include the symmetrical five-bay by three bay 1 ½ story massing, lack of kneewall, centered doorway, and regularly-spaced multi-pane windows. The ell may have been constructed in the twentieth century, as it has a poured concrete foundation.

The house was constructed for William Woolley (1809-1887) and his wife Mary (1810-1890). William Woolley was part owner of Woolley & Son, a carding/woolen mill across the river, along with his father John Woolley (#10). John Woolley had acquired the mill with partner Lucius Alexander in 1823, and then became sole proprietor in 1829. John Woolley made William a partner in 1834, and the name of the company was changed to Woolley & Son. In the 1840s, William Day joined the partnership (#11). In the mid 1850s, the mill entered into foreclosure. William Woolley was later listed in the census as a laborer, and then a farmer. William and Mary Woolley lived in the house until their deaths, and their daughter Luthera inherited the property.

In 1893, Luthera Woolley sold the property to Joseph Reed. He lived in the house with his second wife Calista, and then died shortly thereafter. Calista continued to live in the house until it was sold in 1925 to William E. Prouty (#12). It is possible that Prouty's son Harvey and his

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wife Flossie lived in the house, as their children conveyed ownership of the house to their mother in 1949. Harvey Prouty was a farm laborer. In 1958, the property was sold by Flossie Prouty, and then sold again in 1959 to Andrew and Elnor Webster, who owned it until 1968. The property has had several owners since then.

**9. Walker, Lewis and Cordelia, House, 567 Route 121 East, c. 1862, contributing**

This 2 ½ story wood-framed vernacular Italianate house is located on a ¼ acre lot on the west side of the street and backs up to a wooded hillside. The house has a moderate setback from the street and there is a modern stone wall lining the front yard and a modern detached barn in the rear (A). The house is comprised of a front-gable main block and a 1 ½ story side-gable side ell. The sidehall plan three bay wide main block has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and a granite block foundation, and the ell has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street and a fieldstone foundation. The house also has clapboard siding, standing-seam metal roofs with boxed cornices, an interior brick chimney emerging near the top of the south roof slope of the main block, and a brick ridge chimney centered on the ell.

Architectural trim includes flat-stock cornerboards, cornices and cornices returns, gable rakes, and window and door casings. The main entry has a modern gabled hood, full-height sidelights, and a paneled wood door. The main block has regularly-spaced twelve-over-twelve wood windows. The ell projects south from the south eaves elevation of the main block, and also projects west of the main block, with its roof ridge meeting the southwest corner of the main block. There is also a shed-roofed projection at the rear of the ell. The ell has bay windows at the front elevation and south gable wall. The front window has a wood multi-pane horizontal center window and nine-over-nine windows at the sides. To the left of this, there is a twelve-over-twelve window. The south gable wall has a squared, overhanging bay window with a triplet of nine-over-nine wood windows. To the left of this, there is a six-over-six wood window. The gable has a twelve-over-twelve window.

The house was probably constructed in 1862 and is in excellent condition. The roofs and entryway hood date to 2007. Vernacular Italianate features include the 2 ½ story front-gable vertical massing and sidehall plan. The house was constructed for Lewis and Cordelia Walker, who had already lived in two other locations in Mechanicsville (#6 and 7). The Walkers lived in the house with their children Corona and Edward. Lewis Walker (1817-1901) was part owner of the saw mill across the river from 1854-1859, and sole owner from 1859 to 1865. In 1869, he was admitted to the Vermont bar and became a successful attorney. In 1884, he was elected a county judge. For the last 25 years of his life he was also the Grafton town clerk.

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In 1866, the neighbor to the north (#10), who had subdivided her house lot and sold the subject lot to the Walkers in 1862, sold her barn to the Walkers. (The barn was probably later moved to its extant location.) In 1871, the Walkers moved to Grafton village and sold the subject property, with the barn, to Samuel W. Walker, who was probably Lewis's younger brother. Samuel Walker was a farmer and teamster, and lived in the house with his wife Mary Ann and children. In 1901, the property was sold to Adelbert Covey, who acquired the White & Wilbur saw mill across the river that year, and then acquired the Gallup saw mill down the road (now #1) in 1903. Covey (1864-1916) also owned another house in Mechanicsville for a few years (#2), but probably lived in the subject house, along with his wife Etta.

Adelbert Covey sold the "Gallup Mill" around 1907, and the other mill went bankrupt in 1915. He died a year later, and all of his properties were acquired by Edward Walker. In 1918, the subject house was sold to James H. and Kate Prouty. James Prouty was the brother of William Prouty (#12) and in the 1920 census was listed as a general laborer. In 1945, he sold the property to Mary Rice, who owned it until 1969. Since 1972, the house has served as a vacation home.

A. Barn/Garage, 2007, non-contributing

This large 1 ½ story detached barn sits behind (west of) the house. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street and it faces south. The barn has a concrete foundation, clapboard siding, a front-gable standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, a small projection at the right end of the east eaves elevation, and a small cupola. The front gable wall has a pair of double-leaf barn doors with vertical-board panels, and a modern wood pedestrian door with an X-pattern lower panel and a multi-pane upper light. The gable has a large "hay door" with vertical-board panels, and in the peak of the gable there is a sunburst panel. The projection has a sliding vertical-board barn door. The cupola is centered on the roof ridge and has a square base, nine-pane windows as sides, a sheet metal concave hipped roof, and a weathervane.

The barn was constructed in 2007 and is non-contributing due to its age. It replaced an old English barn that had the same location, footprint and massing. It is possible that this barn was once attached to the house to the north (#10) and moved to this location in the 1860s. The old barn was replaced due to its poor condition.

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**10. Woolley-Taylor House, 587 Route 121 East, c. 1818, contributing**

This 2 ½ story brick Federal style house is located on a ¼ acre lot on the west side of the street and backs up to a wooded hillside. A picket fence lines the front of the property. The house has a moderate setback from the street and is comprised of a brick main block and wood-framed sections including a 2 ½ story rear wing, a 1 ½ story ell off the wing, and a modern garage that is attached to the main block via a connector structure.

The three bay by four bay sidehall plan main block has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a granite block foundation, a front-gable standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, a large brick interior chimney at the left end of the north roof slope, and a large brick interior chimney at the left end of the south roof slope. The entryway is within a large segmental blind arch, and has a doorway with a fanlight transom within a rectangular opening, a paneled wood door, and 2/3 height sidelights. There is also a side entryway centered on the south elevation, which has a gabled porch roof with a segmental arched tympanum and square posts. The windows have flat brick arches, and there are molded cornice returns and roof cornices, bed moldings, and gable rakes. The main block also has regularly-spaced twelve-over-twelve wood windows at the first story and in the front gable, and twelve-over-eight windows at the second story.

The rear wing has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. It spans most of and projects west from the rear gable wall of the main block. It has clapboard siding, a standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, molded cornices, friezeboards, and flat-stock window casings. The south elevation has a modern multi-pane bay window at the first story and a twelve-over-eight window at the second story. The north elevation has a paired six-over-six window and two individual six-over-six windows at the first story and two individual six-over-six windows at the second story. There is a two-story screened-in porch at the rear gable wall.

The three bay by two bay symmetrical side ell projects south from the left end of the wing. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, and an offset side-gabled standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices. Architectural trim includes cornice returns, molded cornices, friezeboard and gable rakes, cornerboards, and flat-stock window and door casings. The front elevation has a centered single-leaf French door flanked by paired nine-pane casement windows. The south gable wall has two sets of multi-pane sliding glass doors, and a six-over-six wood window in the gable.



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The garage is located southeast of the house, closer to the road than the main block, and is attached to the main block via a small connector leading from the right end of the south elevation of the main block to the northwest corner of the garage. The garage has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a poured concrete foundation, clapboard siding, a front-gable standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, and flat-stock architectural trim including cornerboards and window and door casings. The front gable wall has a pedestrian door and two overhead garage doors with square panels and a row of square windows, and in the gable there is a twelve-over-twelve wood window. The side elevations have two regularly-spaced twelve-over-twelve wood windows.

The main block of the house was constructed about 1818, and the wing was built shortly thereafter. The side ell was probably originally a shed, and was converted to a garage about the mid twentieth century. It is likely that a barn was attached to the south gable wall of the shed. This barn was shared with the owners of the house to the south (#9) in the 1860s, may have been moved to this other in the late nineteenth century. The extant garage was constructed in 1994, and the old garage was converted to living space. The house is in very good condition. Federal style features include the blind arch entryway with a fanlight transom and sidelights, window openings with flat brick arches, and spare architectural trim. The house is an excellent example of an early brick residence in Grafton, is one of the oldest houses in Mechanicsville, and is the only brick house in Mechanicsville.

The house was constructed for John Woolley (1792-1857) and his family, including his wife Maria. In 1823, Woolley, along with Lucius Alexander, acquired the carding/woolen mill across the river from Woolley's house. These two men had already owned a woolen mill in Grafton village since 1816 (when Woolley was only 24 years old). In 1829, Alexander sold his share in the Mechanicsville mill to Woolley, and Woolley sold his share in the Grafton village mill to Alexander.

In 1834, Woolley's son William (#8) became a partner in the woolen mill, and during the 1840s, William Day (#11) joined the partnership. The mill went into foreclosure in the mid 1850s, and in 1858 or 1859 the Woolleys lost their house as well. In 1859, the subject property was sold to Fanny Alexander Taylor (1801-1887), who moved here from Kidder Hill Road. She was the widow of Horace Taylor, who had died in 1857 when they were both thrown from their wagon. Taylor lived in the house with her son Newton and her father-in-law Thaddeus Taylor, who was an early settler of Grafton.

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After Fanny Taylor's death, her son Newton probably continued to live in the house. In 1895, the property was sold to widow Josephine E. Parker White (1832-1913). She lived in the house with her nephew Phineas Parker, and probably conveyed the property to him in her will. Shortly thereafter, Parker moved to Rockingham, and sold the property in 1917. After several subsequent owners who did not live in Grafton, the property was acquired in 1926 by Floyd and Lilah Lamphear of Guilford, who moved into the house. Floyd Lamphear was a farm laborer. Due to foreclosure, they lost the house in 1933, and in 1935 it was sold to William and Ruth May Jewett of Massachusetts, who either rented it out or used it as a vacation home. After that, there were several out of state owners until 1989. From 1989 to 1992, the house was owned by Henry and Ernestine Lake, who also had owned four other houses in the historic district (#3,4, 5 and 12). Since 1992, it has been the full time residence of the current owners.

**11. Day, William and Abigail, House, 615 Route 121 East, c. 1848, contributing**

This 1 ½ story wood framed Greek Revival house is located on a ¼ acre lot on the west side of the street. Compared to the close spacing between the houses south of it, the house is somewhat detached from this cluster. It has a small setback from the street and backs up to the wooded hillside. The house consists of a main block, rear wing, and an attached rear barn, and is the only example of continuous architecture in the historic district. It is also the only house with a slate roof.

The three bay wide sidehall plan house has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a stone foundation, clapboard siding, a front-gable slate roof with boxed cornices, and a full-façade Italianate porch. The slightly recessed front entry is enframed with fluted casings with corner blocks, and has a paneled wood door and full-height sidelights. Other architectural trim includes corner pilasters, cornice returns, eave entablatures, molded cornices, and flat-stock window casings. The front gable wall has two-over-two wood windows at the first story and six-over-six windows at the second story. The south elevation has two-over-two wood windows, and the north elevation has six-over-six wood windows. The porch has a flat cut-out decorative balustrade, tripartite chamfered posts with capitals, and a low-sloped hipped roof.

The rear wing has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and is set back from the south elevation of the main block. Architectural trim includes molded cornices, cornerboards, and flat-stock door and window casings. There is a brick chimney centered on the rear gable wall. The north elevation has a cluster of three six-over-six wood windows, and the south elevation has a sliding glass door, a wood door with three upper horizontal panes, and a six-over-six wood window.

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The 1 ½ story barn projects southwest from the southwest corner of the rear wing and faces the street. It has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, and a front-gable open-eave corrugated metal roof. Architectural trim includes cornerboards, friezeboards, gable rakes, and flat-stock door and window openings. The front gable wall has a sliding barn door and a wood pedestrian door, and a six-over-six window in the gable. The south elevation has a wood pedestrian door and two six-over-six windows. A lean-to with arched openings and a corrugated metal roof spans the north elevation.

The house was probably constructed in 1848 and is in good condition. It does not appear to have had any major alterations. Greek Revival features include the front-gable massing, sidehall plan, corner pilasters, recessed entry with fluted casings and corner blocks, and full-height sidelights. The Italianate porch is the most distinctive porch in Mechanicsville. It was probably added during the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

The house was constructed for William Day, who during the 1840s joined the partnership of the Woolley & Son woolen mill, which was located across the river and slightly south of the house. Day lived in the house with his wife Abigail and their sons, plus five boarders. By the mid 1850s, the woolen mill went into foreclosure, and in 1858 or 1859 the Days lost the house. In 1859, the property was sold to Nancy and Sarah Challis, who were already living in the house. Nancy was probably Sarah's mother. In 1862, they sold the property, and after a few more owners, the house was sold to Augusta E. Fisher in 1865. The house was then occupied by widow Emily Fisher and her children, and sold in 1871 to Ellery C. Tenney.

Ellery C. Tenney (1840-1896) was the proprietor of the lumber mill at the north end of Mechanicsville (north of the historic district), which he had acquired in 1866, and was also a vocal teacher. He lived in the house with his wife Fannie and their daughter. After Ellery's death, Fannie continued to live in the house, and after her death, the property was sold in 1906 to John Dompier, who moved here from the adjacent town of Townshend. Dompier and his wife Adeline were from Quebec, immigrated to the United States in 1873, and were probably the first immigrants to live in the historic district. Dompier performed "odd jobs" for a living.

Dompier died in the early 1910s, and his wife moved to Londonderry. In 1915, she sold the property to Alfred H. Holden (1867-1935), who was listed as a general laborer in the 1920 census and did "odd jobs" according to the 1930 census. He lived in the house with his wife Kate (1868-1947). In 1946, Kate sold the property to Veronica Lanier, who lived in Massachusetts. In 1971, Lanier sold the property to Osborne and Jean Scott of New York, who lived out-of-state. Their sons currently own the property, and also live out-of-state.

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**12. Thompson-Cutter-Wilbur-Prouty House, 673 Route 121 East, c. 1820, c. 1833,  
contributing**

This 2 ½ story wood framed Greek Revival house is located on a 45 acre lot on the west side of the street and has a wide separation between it and the house to the south, making it the most isolated house in the historic district. There is a large open field to the south, and behind the house is a wooded hillside. Southwest of the house, there is a detached historic barn (A). The house consists of a main block, a 1 ½ story rear wing, and a rear enclosed porch.

The three bay by four bay sidehall plan house has a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, front-gable standing-seam metal roofs with boxed cornices, and a pedimented gable. There is a large brick interior ridge chimney near the rear of the main block, a full-façade Queen Anne front porch, a bay window at the left end of the south elevation of the main block, and a full-façade recessed porch at the south elevation of the wing. The front entry has wide casings, a molded cornice, a paneled wood door with pointed arch upper panels, and 2/3 height sidelights. Other architectural trim of the main block includes corner pilasters, molded cornices, friezeboards and gable rakes, and flat-stock window casings. The bay window has a flat roof, a twenty-pane window in the front face, and four-over-four windows in the side faces. The rest of the main block has regularly-spaced six-over-six windows. The front porch has a hipped standing-seam metal roof, turned posts, and a spindled balustrade.

The symmetrical south elevation of the wing has a centered doorway with a paneled wood door that is flanked by pairs of six-over-six wood windows. The porch has square posts. The north elevation has two six-over-six wood windows and a small paired sliding window. The enclosed porch is attached to the rear gable wall of the wing and is set back from the each side of the wing. It has low clapboard half-walls, vertical window openings that have been partially boarded up at the bottom, and an entryway at the south elevation.

The house is well-preserved and in excellent condition. Greek Revival features include the front-gable orientation, sidehall plan, pedimented gable, corner pilasters, and entryway with sidelights. The rear wing may be the earliest section of the house, and if so, would have been constructed between 1815 and 1818, and appears to have been of the Cape Cod type. The main block was probably constructed about 1833. The bay window was probably added in the late nineteenth century, and originally had two-over-two windows. The front porch was probably added in the early twentieth century. During the early twentieth century, there was a second front entry at the left side of the front gable wall, and the left bay of the porch was an enclosed vestibule that was accessed from the side. Also, during the nineteenth century and into the

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twentieth century, the house was connected to the extant barn via another barn, which was attached to what is now the rear porch. There was also a shed projecting east from the left side of the front of the extant barn, and a milk house was attached to the front of this shed. This was probably the largest farm complex in Mechanicsville.

The original house on the property was constructed either for Robert Thompson, who acquired the property with James Thompson (possibly his father) in 1815, or for Phineas Thompson, who acquired the property from James and Robert Thompson in 1820, and was James Thompson's son. James Thompson was an early settler of Grafton, and reportedly lived on Kidder Hill. While owned by the Thompsons, the property was much larger and included land to the south, north, and across the road (including #7, 9, 10, and 11). The Thompsons were probably farmers, as they did not own any of the mills in Mechanicsville.

In 1823, Phineas Thompson sold the property to Susan Thompson (relation unknown), and she sold it to Samuel Thompson in 1828 (also relation unknown). In 1833, the property was acquired by Captain James Cutter, and at this point the farm was the same size as it is today. Cutter (1787-1852) was a farmer and married his wife Harriet a year before acquiring the property. They lived in the house with their four daughters. After Cutter's death, his family continued to live in the house until Harriet's death in 1872. In 1874, the property was sold to Ephraim Wilbur, who moved here from Townshend Road.

Ephraim Wilbur (1813-1875) lived in the house with his second wife Marilla (1819-1892) for one year until his death. Afterwards, Marilla continued to live in the house with her stepson Vestus A. Wilbur (1848-1938) and his wife Alice. After moving into the house, Vestus started working at Charles White's saw, shingle and cider mill, which was the middle mill site in Mechanicsville (across the river from #10). In 1881, White made him a partner, and the firm was renamed White & Wilbur. In 1880, Wilbur also owned 800 acres of farmland and was a sheep breeder. At that time, when most farmers only had a few sheep, he had the largest sheep farm in Grafton by quite a large margin. In 1880, he purchased 500 sheep, sold 230 sheep, and sold over 1,000 pounds of wool. According to the 1884 *Windham County Gazetteer*, Wilbur also had a sugarbush of 2,000 trees and an apple orchard of 300 trees.

According to Francis Palmer's 1954 *History of the Town of Grafton*, Wilbur sold grain and groceries from a store building on the property, although there is no evidence of this, and he is not listed in the local business directory as selling grain until 1912. In 1892, the year of Marilla's death, Vestus and Alice moved to Grafton village, and in 1897, the subject property was sold to Hattie P. Prouty.

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Hattie Prouty (1832-1915) lived in the house with her son William "Willie" E. Prouty, and in 1899, conveyed ownership of the property to him. Willie Prouty (1861-1940s) was a teamster and a farmer, and in addition to his mother he lived in the house with his wife Ida and several children, as well as his mother-in-law and brother-in-law James Field.

About the 1900s, James Field opened a grocery store in the front of the house, which was taken over by Ernest Prouty by the 1910s. Census records indicate that it was run by Ernest Prouty in 1920 and 1930. According to Francis Palmer, this store was still open in 1954, and it may have remained open until the 1960s. This was the only store that ever existed in the historic district.

Ernest Prouty inherited the property and moved to Townshend by the early 1960s. In 1965, he sold the property to Henry and Ernestine Lake, who owned three other properties in the historic district (#3, 4, and 5) and a total of thirteen houses around Grafton, but may have lived in the subject house for a short time. In 1969, the Lakes sold the property to the current owners.

**A. Barn, c. 1850, contributing**

This large English Barn is located southwest of the house and has a large setback from the street. It faces the street, has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, and has board-and-batten siding at the front elevation, clapboard siding at the south gable end wall, vertical plank siding at the north gable end wall, and an open-eave sheet-metal side-gable roof. The front elevation has a slightly off-center sliding vertical-plank barn door with cross-bracing and a multi-pane transom. To the right of this, there is a vertical-plank pedestrian door. The south gable wall has a centered boarded-up pedestrian door. To the left of this, there is a six-over-six wood window and a six-pane stall window. The north gable wall has a centered small vertical-board barn door and two vertical window openings. The barn appears to date to the mid nineteenth century, but it is possible that it is older than this. It is in fair condition, and is a very good example of a large English barn. It is unknown what the original siding material was, but it was probably clapboard.

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**Statement of Significance**

The Mechanicsville Historic District is significant for its distinctive characteristics as a hamlet of well-preserved nineteenth century residences in an intact setting. This linear neighborhood in Grafton, Vermont, depicts the development of one of the town of Grafton's two former industrial sections. Ten of the twelve primary resources in the historic district contribute to its significance, and all of these historic resources are over 150 years old. The historic district also claims the only visible remains of one of the numerous canals that once served Grafton's industries. The period of significance of the historic district is 1807-1959, which begins with the estimated construction date of the oldest surviving structure, and ends fifty years ago, the most recent year allowed under National Register guidelines. The year 1959 is also close to the end of Mechanicsville's industrial era, as the last mill to operate there closed in the 1950s, and was removed in 1965. The historic district meets National Register Criterion A for its significance in local industry and agriculture, and National Register Criterion C as an excellent example of an early and intact rural Vermont hamlet. The historic district is significant at the local level.

The historic district also holds significance in Vermont's historic contexts of historic architecture and patterns of town development and industry and commerce. Although Mechanicsville is considered separate from Grafton village, because it lies adjacent to the village it has always played an important role in the village's history, with three important mill sites that all served the local economy into the twentieth century.

Mechanicsville stretches along the main branch of the Saxtons River, Grafton's source of water power. The hamlet's development began just before the turn of the nineteenth century, when the first industrial sites were constructed. By the very early nineteenth century, there were three industrial sites in Mechanicsville (two in the historic district and one just north of it), as well as several homes that housed the mill owners and workers. Eight of the ten historic primary resources were constructed as residences for mill owners. By no later than 1850, there was also a blacksmith shop, which was shortly thereafter converted to a house for a mill owner, and by the early 1860s all of the extant historic houses in the historic district had been constructed. All of these houses remain standing and intact.

Mechanicsville lines what is now called Route 121 East, which runs parallel to the river. Since the early nineteenth century, this road has been an important route that connects Grafton to Bellows Falls on the Connecticut River to the east, and to towns west of Grafton. Route 121 as it

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passes through Mechanicsville has also been known as Pickle Street for at least one hundred years.

The significance of the historic district also lies in its collection of intact nineteenth century architecture. There are Cape Cod, Classic Cottage, Greek Revival, and vernacular Italianate residences, all with a unique appearance. All of the wood frame primary historic resources remain sheathed with wood siding, all but one house has wood shutters, and all of the houses have multi-pane wood windows except for one house that has vinyl replacement windows. Also, the historic district's intact setting includes a well-preserved streetscape and undeveloped surrounding rural area.

Grafton received its first charter in 1754, and was originally named Thomlinson after two of the original grantees, John Thomlinson Jr., and John Thomlinson, Esq. It was the last town chartered by Benning Wentworth of New Hampshire prior to the outbreak of the French & Indian War. As in all other Windham County towns, the conditions of the Thomlinson charter were not fulfilled, and a new charter was granted in 1763. At this point, Grafton was divided into a grid of 120 acre lots, which were labeled according to "lot numbers" and "ranges." The first settler in Grafton, a Mr. Slack, arrived in 1768. He resided in Howeville, one of Grafton's first hamlets, which is now long since abandoned. Three other families arrived about this time, the Hinkleys, Hills, and Waltons, who lived near the Hinckley Brook west of Grafton village. All of these families left after a few years.

According to Hamilton Child's 1884 *Gazetteer*, Grafton's first permanent settlers arrived in 1779 and were Asa Fisher of Hopkinton, Massachusetts (he probably meant Amos Fisher), Aaron Putnam, James Guild and William Parkhurst of Winchendon, Connecticut, and Thomas Kinney of Marrowfield, Connecticut. Town records were first kept in 1782, and the first town meeting was held in 1783. The first burial took place in 1780 at the town's first cemetery on Middletown hill. The first birth was recorded in 1783, and the first marriage in 1784. Most of the eighteenth century residents of Grafton were farmers. The 1791 census, the first census recorded in Vermont, documents the population of Grafton as 561 people.

Grafton's first village was called Middletown, due to its location; as in many of Vermont's early towns, this first village was settled near the center of the township, and atop a hill. This village was located about 1 ½ miles northwest of Mechanicsville on Middletown Road. Most of its above-ground historic resources have vanished over time, leaving scattered historic farmsteads and the town's first cemetery. Two early hamlets in town were Howeville, which was located



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west of Grafton village, also atop a hill, and has no remaining above-ground historic resources, and Houghtonville, which survives and is located about 3 ½ miles northwest of Mechanicsville. Other early settlers lived on farmsteads scattered throughout the hills.

Middletown contained Grafton's first meeting house, tavern, parsonage, cemetery, store, and school, which was actually in a barn. However, the first two framed houses in Grafton were not located in Middletown, or in Howeville or Houghtonville. One is the 1782 James Rhoades house on Townshend Road, which reportedly remains standing (outside of the historic district), and the other is the 1787 house built for Job Gleason in the northern part of the town, which is probably no longer standing.

In 1791, the town's name was changed to Grafton. This occurred when many residents decided that the town should be named after their own hometown in Massachusetts or Connecticut, and the name was offered at auction to the highest bidder. Joseph Axtell was the winning bidder, and he reportedly paid "five dollars and a jug of rum" to name the town Grafton after his hometown in Massachusetts.

Until the 1790s, it is likely that there was no building or road development in what is now Mechanicsville or Grafton village. By the end of the eighteenth century, there was a road from Middletown to what is now Grafton village, which is probably Route 121/Houghtonville Road. There would also have been at least a trail that is now Main Street in the village, and probably a trail leading to Saxtons River Village and Bellows Falls Village to the east, which is now Route 121 East.

As in all of Vermont's developing towns in the late eighteenth century, the settlers needed locally-produced goods such as lumber and grist, and entrepreneurs took advantage of the waterways to power mills such as sawmills and grist mills. From 1790 to the early 1800s, six dams were constructed along the Saxtons River in Grafton to provide waterpower for new mills. Three of the dams and mill sites were in Mechanicsville, and the other three were in Grafton village. (The hamlet of Cambridgeport, which straddles the Grafton/Rockingham town line, was also the location of an early mill site, which was technically in Rockingham.)

Both Grafton village and Mechanicsville began as industrial hamlets with mills that produced lumber, grist, and wool cloth. It is possible that the first dam constructed in Grafton was built at the north end of Mechanicsville in 1790, just north of the historic district, and served what was probably the first mill in Grafton, a grist mill owned by Amos Fisher. Fisher was one of the first

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settlers in Grafton and its first physician. Before Mechanicsville was developed, Fisher also owned Lot 5 in the 4<sup>th</sup> range of lots of Grafton, which is all of the land within Mechanicsville. He also owned many other of the 120 acre surveyed lots in Grafton, including the lot to the east of Mechanicsville, now known as the Fisher Hill area. In 1792, Elisha Briggs constructed a saw mill next to Fisher's grist mill. In the early 1800s, a cider mill was constructed near these mills.

Grafton's other earliest industrialist, William Wier, built two dams in Grafton village by the turn of the nineteenth century. The water power from these dams served his grist, saw, and wool fulling mills. Wool fulling and carding mills had begun to appear in Vermont at the turn of the nineteenth century, so Grafton was at the forefront of this type of mill. In 1806, Amos Fisher sold Wier half of Lot 5 in the 4<sup>th</sup> range, which included all of the historic district except for property #12. In 1807, Wier constructed the southernmost dam in Mechanicsville, at a location just east of the confluence of the north and south branches of the Saxtons River. It is likely that the first mills at the south end of Mechanicsville were also a saw mill and a grist mill operated by Wier, and were located on what is now property #1. The middle dam in Mechanicsville, which was located behind property #4, may also have been built by Wier. It is unclear what the first mill was at this site, but it may have been a cider mill.

Long narrow flumes/canals led from all three dams in Mechanicsville to the mill sites. The southern/western canal ran parallel and very close to the street in between Grafton village and Mechanicsville, and ended at the house site on property #1. An approximately fifty yard long section of the fieldstone wall of this flume survives, and is the only surviving canal wall in Grafton. The canal for the middle mill site was cut into the land on the west side of the river. It began at the dam behind property #4 and ended just south of what is now known as the Howland Mill Bridge across from property #10. The third canal began at the dam across the river from the house at property #12 and led north to a saw mill, which is now where the town's public works building is located north of the historic district. All of these dams and canals, which were unused by the early twentieth century, were washed out by freshets that occurred no later than the 1938 hurricane.

By 1814, the trail from Bellows Falls Village to Grafton village had been improved to the point that it was considered a true road. The road continued north from Grafton village along what is now Route 121, through Houghtonville, and onto the towns of Windham and Londonderry. Grafton village then became an important trading area, and its stores, churches, taverns, post office and schools served nearby Mechanicsville.

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The early history of the southernmost mill site (#1) in Mechanicsville is unclear after William Wier's time, but it is known that it was acquired by Stephen Sherwin before 1824. Sherwin built what is probably the oldest house in Mechanicsville, a c. 1817 Cape Cod (#6), although it is possible the house was built earlier and occupied by William Wier. Sherwin also owned the cider mill at the north end of Mechanicsville. Sherwin's southern mills were replaced in 1828 or 1829 by a grist mill and saw mill built for William Whitcomb, whose family was also involved in mill sites in Grafton village. The mills were owned by Nathan Wheeler of New Hampshire, but operated by Whitcomb.

The middle mill site was acquired by Erastus Burgess and Liber Barden in 1811. In 1816, they sold it to Abner Parker, who converted the structure into a carding mill. This was at the advent of the sheep boom in Vermont, and yet in 1817, Parker sold the mill to Abel Bunditt and Jonathan Gibson, and they sold it only six years later to John Woolley and Lucius Alexander, who continued to operate it as a carding mill. Woolley & Alexander had also owned the woolen mill in Grafton village since 1816. In 1818, Mechanicsville's only brick house was built for Woolley (#10) across the river from his mill. In 1829, he sold his share in the Grafton village mill to Alexander, and Alexander sold his share in the Mechanicsville mill to Woolley. In 1834, Woolley's son William joined the business, which was renamed Woolley & Son. About 1841, a house was built for William across the river from the mill site (#8). In the 1840s, William Day joined the partnership, and the business was renamed Woolley, Woolley & Day. About 1848, a house was built for William Day (#11) just north of John Woolley's house.

The southern mill site of Mechanicsville was sold to Luther Burnap in 1844. Burnap lived in the adjacent town of Townshend, and the mills were operated by his son Luke. Probably the same year, Luke Burnap and his family moved into his new house built next to the mill site (#2), on land that at that point was part of the mill parcel. About 1851, the saw mill was taken over by wheelwright J. Hubbard Amsden, who also built himself a house nearby (#4) that year. By this point, all but one house in the historic district had been constructed.

Writer Zadock Thompson reported in his 1824 book *Gazetteer of the State of Vermont*, that in 1823, Grafton had three grist mills, five sawmills, two carding machines, two fulling mills, two tanneries, and two stores. Two of these grist mills, two of the saw mills, one of the carding machines, and one of the fulling mills were in Mechanicsville.

The mills were not the only industrial sites in Mechanicsville. By 1850, probably earlier, a blacksmith shop stood in the middle of the hamlet (#7), which was operated by William Pitt. He

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moved out of town in the early 1850s, and by the end of this decade it was converted to a house, which it remains to this day. Two other nineteenth century houses in the historic district were probably not built for industrialists. One is the c. 1835 house built for Jonathan and Sally Sherwin (#3). It is unknown what Sherwin did for a living. However, the home's subsequent owner, Marshall M. Wright, who acquired the property in 1860, was first a carpenter, and then also manufactured violins in a shop next to the house from 1885 until his death in 1903. The other house not built for an industrialist is a farmhouse built on a large tract of land at the north end of the historic district (#12). It is possible that the rear wing was the earliest section of the house, and built as early as the 1815 for Robert Thompson, whose occupation is unknown. The main block was constructed about 1833 for farmer James Cutter.

In the 1850s, the Woolley, Woolley & Day woolen mill entered into foreclosure. In 1854, the mill was sold to local industrialists and businessmen Peter Dean, Lewis Walker, Hyman Burgess and Luther Conant, and it the new business, which continued as a woolen mill, was called Burgess, Walker and Company. Dean owned the woolen mill in Grafton village, which was enlarged and update with new machinery the same year. After this, the Grafton village mill manufactured wool cloth, so the Mechanicsville mill probably remained a fulling mill. Lewis Walker lived across the river (#7), and probably managed the mill.

In 1859, Walker bought out his partners and converted the structure to a saw mill, possibly due to consolidation at the Grafton woolen mill. It was common in Vermont for small textile factories to consolidate into larger ones after 1850. This conversion must have benefited Walker, because about 1862, he and his family moved into large new house across the street from his mill (#9). This was the last house constructed in Mechanicsville.

In 1865, Walker sold the saw mill to Elisha Lyman of Massachusetts, who also acquired Walker's old house (#7), and Walker became a lawyer. Lyman sold the mill in 1866 to his sons Justis and Thaddeus, who lived in the house. The mill was known as the Lyman Brothers saw, planing and turning mill. In 1869, they sold the mill to Gardner Messner, who sold it in 1871 to Charles S. White. White lived just north of Mechanicsville.

During the Civil War, one in three Grafton men enlisted in the army, which was reportedly a higher ratio than in any other town in Vermont. Despite the loss of about twenty-two local men during the war, Grafton continued to prosper and all its mills continued to operate. In 1881, Charles White's employee Vestus A. Wilbur, who lived up the street (#12), joined him as partner, and the business was renamed White & Wilbur. They manufactured lumber, shingles,

**United States Department of the Interior  
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 7

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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and cider. According to Hamilton Child's 1884 *Windham County Gazetteer*, White & Wilbur was one of the leading industries of Grafton, and in 1884 they manufactured about 300,000 feet of lumber, 500,000 shingles, 600 barrels of cider, and also did a custom grinding and feed business. Together, they owned 210 acres of farmland as well.

At the southern mill site in Mechanicsville, Luke Burnap continued to operate the grist mill until his death in 1873. His son Wilder L. Burnap, who was an attorney in Burlington, Vermont, inherited the mill site and Burnap house, and the grist mill was then operated by R.W. Bullard. Amsden continued to operate his wheelwright shop next door. In 1884, the mills and Burnap house (#4) were sold to William H. Gallup. Gallup moved into the house and converted the grist mill to a saw mill. Amsden continued to operate the wheelwright shop until his death in the 1880s.

By the early twentieth century, the only industries in Grafton village were blacksmith shops, but the three mill sites in Mechanicsville, all lumber-related at this point, were all still in operation, and Grafton became an important area for logging, with its vast forests that had grown back after the sheep boom ended in the 1860s. It is not unusual that the three mills in Mechanicsville were saw mills, as it was very common for the amount of logging to increase in Vermont's mountains during the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

All three saw mills continued operation into the twentieth century, and helped Grafton survive the Depression. In 1900, Charles White and Vestus Wilbur sold Mechanicsville's middle saw mill to Adelbert Covey, who acquired and moved into the house across the street (#10) the following year. Covey also acquired the Gallup saw mill in 1903, a year after William Gallup's death. In 1904, the former White & Wilbur saw mill burned down and was rebuilt by Covey.

Covey sold Gallup mill about 1907, but retained the White & Wilbur mill until he went bankrupt in 1915. From 1917 to 1921 this mill was owned by the Austin-Sutherland Lumber Co. George Austin was from the industrial city of Lawrence, Massachusetts. Both mills were later acquired by Frank D.P. Howland – the Gallup mill in 1908, and the Austin-Sutherland mill in 1921.

Frank Howland moved to Grafton in 1908 after operating the Pendleton Woolen Mill in Oregon. He lived in Grafton village with his new bride, Elizabeth, and manufactured the Madam Waitee Stocking Darner and the Dandy Shoe Shiners, plus other turnings at the former Gallup mill at the southern mill site in Mechanicsville. This mill burned down in 1914 and was rebuilt. From

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**Section 8 Page 8**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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1910 to 1922, George Austin was his partner at this mill. In 1937, the mill burned down, and was not rebuilt.

After acquiring the Austin-Sutherland mill in 1921, Howland used it as a lumber mill until the other mill burned down in 1937. Then, he continued to manufacture the stocking darners at this mill, until he reportedly retired in 1950 due to health issues (the local business directory includes Howland's stocking darner factory until 1957). This was the last standing mill in Grafton, and was removed in 1965. Both mill sites were acquired by Norman and Joan Lake, who later built a house at the southern mill site (#1), and sold the middle mill site to the Windham Foundation of Grafton, which uses it as a mowing.

The northern mill site remained a saw mill until at least the 1920s. It is unknown when it closed or was removed. From 1866 until at least the 1880s, it was owned and operated by Ellery C. Tenney, who lived in the historic district (#11).

The only store that ever existed in the historic district was in the front room of the Willie Prouty house (#12). The house was acquired by his mother in 1897 and conveyed to him in 1899. The store probably opened in the early 1900s, and was operated by his brother-in-law James Field and Prouty's son Ernest. The store remained in operation until at least the 1950s but no later than the early 1960s.

A handful of the properties in the Mechanicsville Historic District were small farms for short periods of time from the late nineteenth to the early twentieth century. Only one property has been the long-term location of a large farm (#12), from the time the first house was built on the property about the 1810s, until at least the 1920s, possibly as late as the 1950s. Farmers at this property included members of the Thompson family, Captain James Cutter, Vestus Wilbur, and members of the Prouty family. In 1880, Vestus Wilbur owned 800 acres of land, and was a sheep breeder. That year, which was during a time when most farmers did not have any sheep except for personal use, Wilbur had the largest sheep farm in Grafton by quite a large margin. In 1880, Wilbur purchased 500 sheep and sold 230, and sold over 1,000 pounds of wool. In addition, the 1884 *Windham County Gazetteer* lists Vestus Wilbur as having a sugar bush of 2,000 trees and an apple orchard of 300 trees. This was at the same time that Wilbur was a partner in one of Mechanicsville's saw mills.

In addition to depicting Mechanicsville's rich history, the historic district's significance also lies in its collection of intact classical style architecture and its preserved streetscape, and its

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 9

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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collection of intact buildings that are over 150 years old. Although the historic buildings in the hamlet are limited mostly to the Federal and Greek Revival periods, there is a mix of styles and building types that helps enrich the appearance of and create a unique historic landscape. These include the Cape Cod type (#6 and 8), Federal style (#10), 1 ½ story front-gable Greek Revival style (#2 and 11), 2 ½ story front-gable Greek Revival style (#12), Classic Cottage type (#3 and 4), plus one vernacular Italianate building (#9). The variety includes one brick structure, which is a good example of an intact Federal style house (#10), and some of the houses have Victorian-era porches such as one house that has a cut-out decorative balustrade and tripartite chamfered posts (#11). There is also a good example of continuous architecture (#11) and a good example of an early English Barn (#12A), which help depict the agricultural history of Mechanicsville. Also, the overall uniformity of classical styles defines the hamlet as one that was developed during a particular time period.

Due to its rich history and intact historic resources, the Mechanicsville Historic District is a significant hamlet with architectural and landscape features that are visual reminders of a vibrant rural nineteenth century well-cared for by its residents. Grafton's active historical society helps educate residents and visitors about the significance of the local historic architecture and landscape, and with the help of residents' donations, it funded 100% of the cost of this National Register nomination.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 9 Page 1**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 9 Page 2**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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United States Bureau of the Census. U.S. Census records for Grafton Village, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930.

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Personal Correspondence – Grafton Residents

Bea Fisher  
Cynthia Gibbs  
Jennifer Karpin & Draa Hobbs  
Joan Lake  
Rod Lawrence  
Mary Anne Newcomb  
H.M. Royal

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 56

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
18	695215	4782985	3	18	695275 4782200
2	18	695425 4782855	4	18	694787 4782179

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

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

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Paula Sagerman, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization n/a date February 17, 2009

street & number 7 Winter Haven Dr. telephone (802) 464-5179

city or town Wilmington state VT zip code 05363

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 10 Page 1**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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**Boundary Description**

The boundary of the Mechanicsville Historic District is delineated on the sketch map accompanying the nomination form. The irregular boundary follows the perimeter property lines of the tax parcels included in the historic district, which are all adjacent to Route 121 East. These property lines are derived from the Town of Grafton tax map for Grafton village (it has no map #). The Grafton tax parcels that are part of the historic district are:

9-16, 9-26, 9-27, 9-28, 9-29, 9-30, 9-31, 9-32, 9-33, 9-37, 9-38, 9-39, and 9-40.

**Boundary Justification**

The historic district boundary includes most of what is commonly considered the historic and current Mechanicsville boundary. The boundary was chosen to include an intact cluster of historic resources within the hamlet of Mechanicsville, and omits a small section at the north end of the hamlet due to modern intrusions and the loss of historic structures in this area. North of the historic district, there are late twentieth century nondescript public buildings on both sides of the street. In other directions, the historic district is bounded by the Saxtons River to the east and south, by the Grafton Village Historic District and an undeveloped bend in the road to the southwest, and by a wooded hillside to the west. The historic district boundary is sufficient to convey the historic significance of the Mechanicsville Historic District.

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)

---

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Property Owner

---

---

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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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.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Table of Properties Page 1**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

Map #	Address	Name of Property	Date	Style	Contributing or Non-Contributing
1	300 Route 121 East	Lake, Norman & Joan, House	2002	Neo Colonial Revival	NC
1A	300 Route 121 East	Workshop	2003	n/a	NC
2	372 Route 121 East	Burnap, Luke & Eliza, House	c. 1844	Greek Revival	C
2A	372 Route 121 East	Camp	c. 1940	n/a	NC
3	419 Route 121 East	Sherwin-Hunt-Wright House	c. 1835	Classic Cottage	C
3A	419 Route 121 East	Garage	c. 1970	n/a	NC
4	434 Route 121 East	Amsden, Jonas & Minerva, House	c. 1851	Classic Cottage	C
4A	434 Route 121 East	Garage	1980	n/a	NC
5	460 Route 121 East	Lake, Henry & Ernestine, House	c. 1835, c. 1971	vernacular	NC
6	499 Route 121 East	Sherwin-Walker-Eaton House	c. 1817	Cape Cod	C
6A	499 Route 121 East	Barn	c. 1988	n/a	NC
7	516 Route 121 East	Pitt Blacksmith Shop/Walker-Watrous House	c. 1850	vernacular	C
8	539 Route 121 East	Woolley, William & Mary, House	c. 1841	Cape Cod	C
9	567 Route 121 East	Walker, Lewis & Cordelia, House	c. 1862	vernacular Italianate	C
9A	567 Route 121 East	Barn/Garage	c.	n/a	NC
10	587 Route 121 East	Woolley-Taylor House	c. 1818	Federal	C
11	615 Route 121 East	Day, William and Abigail, House	c. 1848	Greek Revival	C
12	673 Route 121 East	Thompson-Cutter-Wilbur-Prouty House	c. 1820, c. 1833	Greek Revival	C
12A	673 Route 121 East	Barn	c. 1850	n/a	C

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section Photograph Labels Page 1**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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The following is the same for all photographs:

Mechanicsville Historic District

Grafton, Windham County, Vermont

Photographs by Paula Sagerman

Photographs are dated November 2008 unless otherwise noted

CD with digital images on file at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Photograph #1

Facing north toward #7, 4 and 2

December 2008

Photograph #2

Facing north toward #9, 10, 11 and 12

Photograph #3

Facing south toward #7, 5, 4 and 6

February 2009

Photograph #4

Facing SE toward Lake House (#1)

Photograph #5

Facing east toward canal wall and #1

Photograph #6

Facing NE toward Burnap House (#2)

Photograph #7

Facing south toward Camp (#2A)

Photograph #8

Facing north toward Sherwin-Hunt-Wright House (#3)

Photograph #9

Facing NE toward Amsden House (#4)

Photograph #10

Facing east toward Lake House (#5)

Photograph #11

Facing north toward Sherwin-Walker-Eaton House and Barn (#6 and 6A)

Photograph #12

Facing NE toward Pitt Blacksmith Shop/Walker-Watrous House (#7)

Photograph #13

Facing NW toward Woolley House (#8)

Photograph #14

Facing NW toward Walker House (#9)

Photograph #15

Facing NW toward Barn/Garage (#9A)

Photograph #16

Facing west toward Woolley-Taylor House (#10)

Photograph #17

Facing NW toward Day House (#11)

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section Photograph Labels Page 2**

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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Photograph #18  
Facing north toward Thompson-Cutter-  
Wilbur-Prouty House (#12)

Photograph #19  
Facing NW toward Barn (#12A)

**United States Department of the Interior  
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Historic Photographs Page 1

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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Barn replaced at Property #9  
2007  
Photo courtesy of H.M. Royal



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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Historic Photographs Page 2

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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Cutter-Wilbur-Prouty House (#12)

c. 1890

Note the barn attached to the rear wing of the house

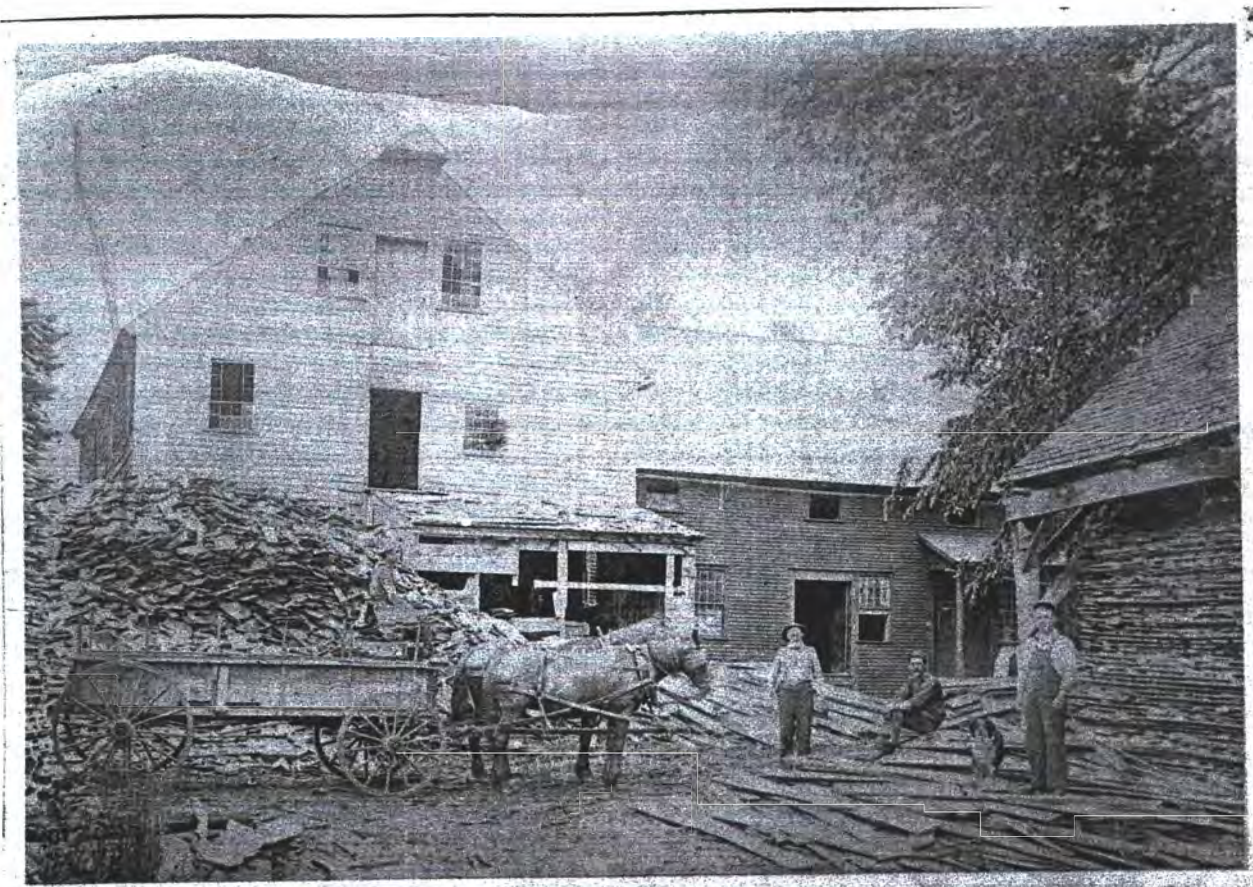
Photo courtesy of the Grafton Historical Society

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Historic Photographs Page 3

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**



White & Wilbur/Covey saw mill at middle mill site in Mechanicsville  
Located on east side of river and accessed by the "Howland Mill Bridge"  
Burned down in 1904 and replaced with the mill on Page 5  
Photo courtesy of Grafton Historical Society

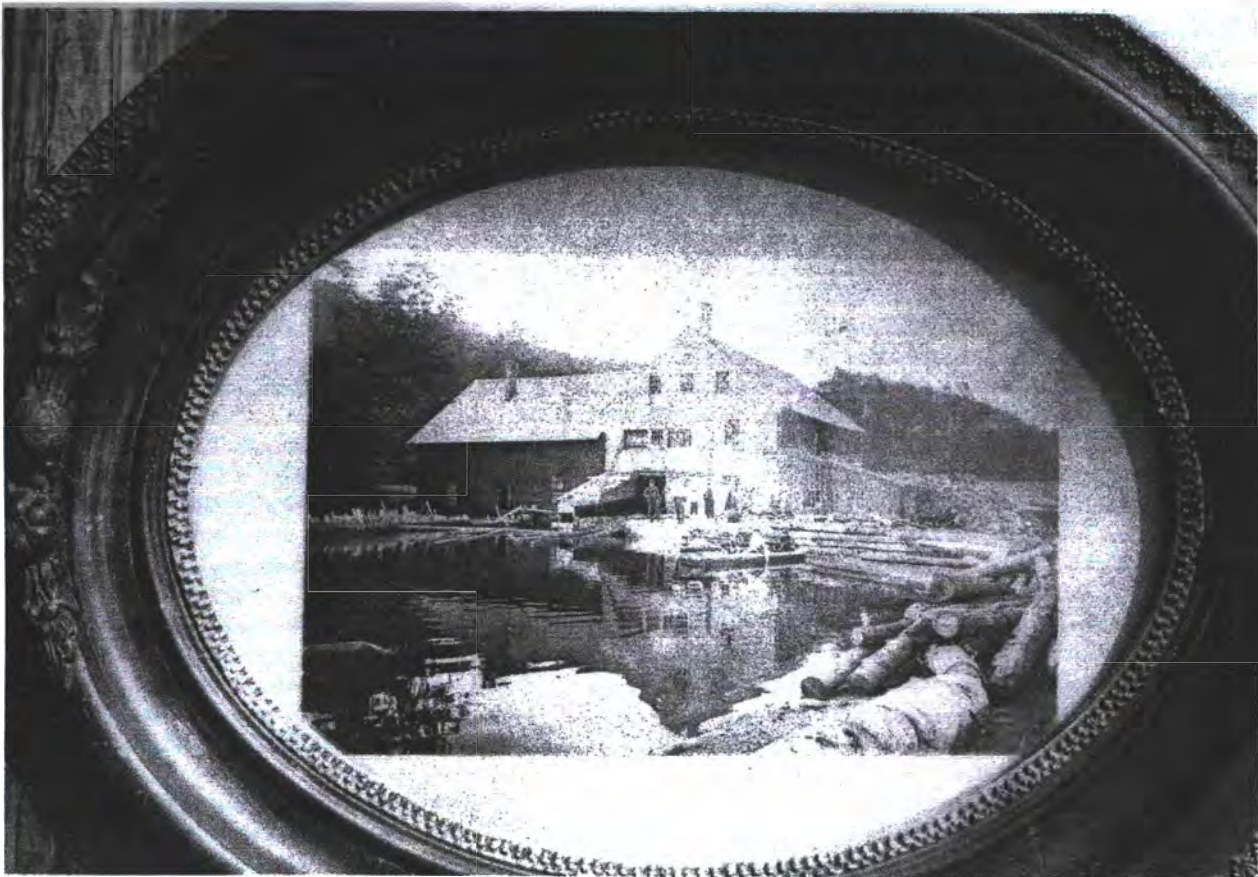
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Historic Photographs Page 4

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

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Another view of the White & Wilbur saw mill

c. 1900

Note the large mill pond

Photo courtesy of the Grafton Historical Society

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Historic Photographs Page 5

Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont



The Covey Mill in 1905 (later Howland's Mill)  
868 Gift of Mrs. Maude Tuttle

Photo by A. EDDY, Claremont

Covey/Howland saw mill at middle mill site in Mechanicsville  
Constructed c. 1904  
Located on east side of river and accessed by the Howland Mill Bridge  
Photo courtesy of Grafton Historical Society

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Historic Photographs Page 6

**Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

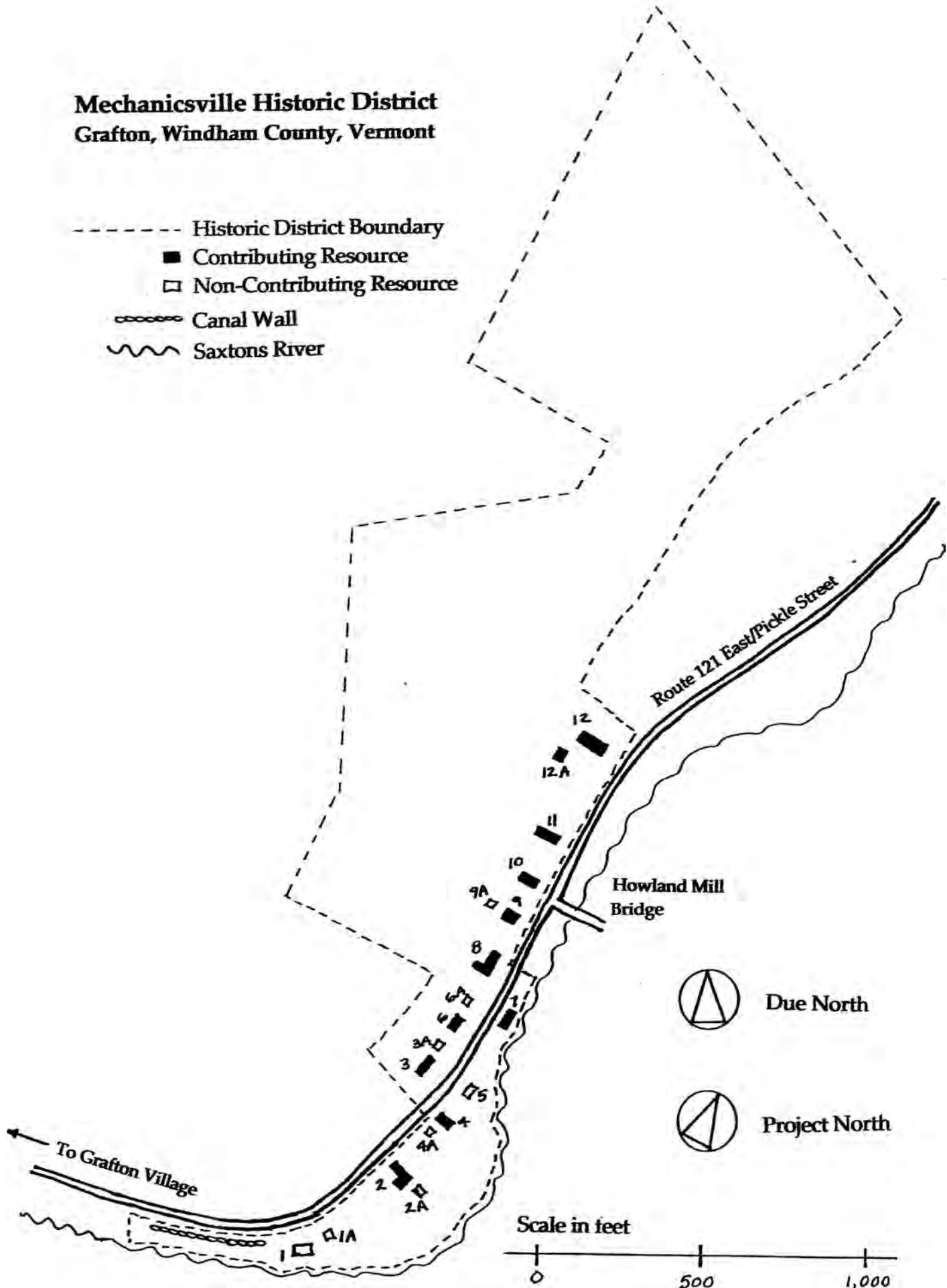
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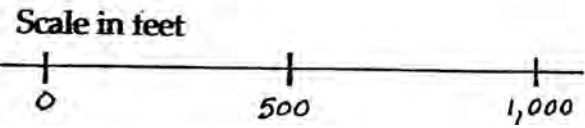
Gallup/Covey/Howland saw mill  
Located on property #1  
Burned down in 1914 and rebuilt  
Photo courtesy of Grafton Historical Society

# Mechanicsville Historic District Grafton, Windham County, Vermont

- - - - - Historic District Boundary
- Contributing Resource
- Non-Contributing Resource
- 〰 Canal Wall
- 〰 Saxtons River



- ⊕ Due North
- ⊕ Project North



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Mechanicsville Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VERMONT, Windham

DATE RECEIVED: 8/06/10      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/01/10  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/16/10      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/20/10  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000766

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: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    9.16.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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.







Streetscape #1

Mechanicville Historic District

Grafton, Windham Co., VT

Photograph #1







Streetscape #2  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph #2







Streetscape #3  
Mechanicville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph #3

3

3

3

3





Property #1

Mechanicsville Historic District

Grafton, Windham Co., VT

Photograph # 4





Property #1  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph #5



Property # 2

Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT

Photograph # 6





Property # 2A  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 7







Property # 3  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 8









Property # 4  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 9







Property # 5  
Mechanicville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 10







Property # 6  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 11







Property # 7  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Crafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 12









Property # 8

Mechanicville Historic District

Grafton, Windham Co., VT

Photograph # 13







Property # 9  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 14







Property #9A

Mechanicsville Historic District

Grafton, Windham Co., VT

Photograph # 15







Property # 10  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Crafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 16









Property # 11  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 17







Property # 11  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 17







Property # 12A  
Mechanicsville Historic District  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT  
Photograph # 19





SAXTONS RIVER, VERMONT

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

# Saxtons River VERMONT

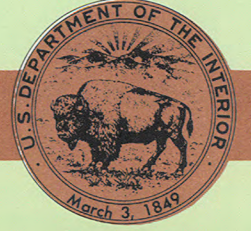
1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



105185  
US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
87195 300-MISC. J. HUNTING AC  
\$5.99

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PROVISIONAL EDITION 1984

PRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
CONTROLLED BY THE NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
FIELD CHECKED BY: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
MAP EDITED BY: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
PROJECTION: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
GRID: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
UTM GRID DECLINATION: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
MAGNETIC DECLINATION: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
VERTICAL DATUM: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
HORIZONTAL DATUM: 1984, NATIONAL AND STATE OF VERMONT AGENCIES  
To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983, move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks (4 meters south and 37 meters west)  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any National or State reservations shown on this map  
*Mechanicsville Historic District*  
Grafton, Windham Co., VT

CONTOUR INTERVAL 6 METERS  
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER  
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
1 - 18 645215 4782425  
2 - 18 645215 4782425  
3 - 18 645215 4782425  
4 - 18 645215 4782425

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5616
3	9.8424
4	13.1232
5	16.4040
6	19.6848
7	22.9656
8	26.2464
9	29.5272
10	32.8080

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808  
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

ADJOINING MAPS	1	2	3
1	Weston	2a	Andover (7.5)
2	Chester (7.5)	3	Springfield
3	Londonderry	4	Bellevue Falls
4	Bellevue Falls	5	Saxtons Mountain
5	Saxtons Mountain	6	Townshend
6	Townshend	7	Walpole
7	Walpole	8	

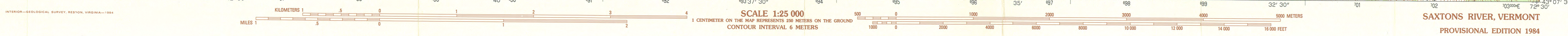
ISBN 0-607-56255-9  
9 780607 562559

ROAD LEGEND

Improved Road	.....
Unimproved Road	.....
Trail	.....

  Interstate Route  
   U. S. Route  
   State Route

PROVISIONAL MAP  
Produced from original manuscript drawings. Information shown as of date of field check



SAXTONS RIVER, VERMONT  
PROVISIONAL EDITION 1984

43072-B5-TM-025

**State of Vermont**  
**Division for Historic Preservation**  
One National Life Drive, Floor 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-1201  
[www.HistoricVermont.org](http://www.HistoricVermont.org)

[phone] 802-828-3211  
[Division fax] 802-828-3206

*Agency of Commerce and  
Community Development*



August 4, 2010

J. Paul Loether  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the National Register nomination for the following property:

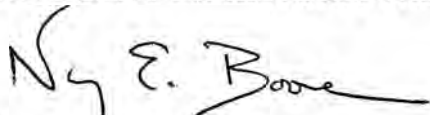
**Mechanicsville Historic District, Grafton, Windham County, Vermont**

This property is being submitted under the Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980, for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions concerning the nomination please do not hesitate to contact me at (802) 828-3045 or [nancy.boone@state.vt.us](mailto:nancy.boone@state.vt.us) .

Sincerely,

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION



Nancy E. Boone  
State Architectural Historian/ Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

