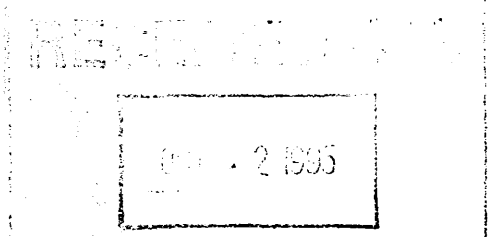


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on the back of the form. 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 an 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 Johnson, Wales N., House

other names/site number Jackson House

2. Location

street & number # 37, U.S. Route 4 N/A not for publication

city or town Woodstock N/A vicinity

state Vermont code VT county Windsor code 027 zip code 05091

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Elva Wilbur, NE specialist September 28, 1995
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
State of 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 official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

11-7-95

Entered in the
National Register

Johnson, Wales N., House
Name of Property

Windsor County, Vermont
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/hotel

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls Weatherboard

Wood shingle

roof Wood shingle

other Wood

Narrative Description

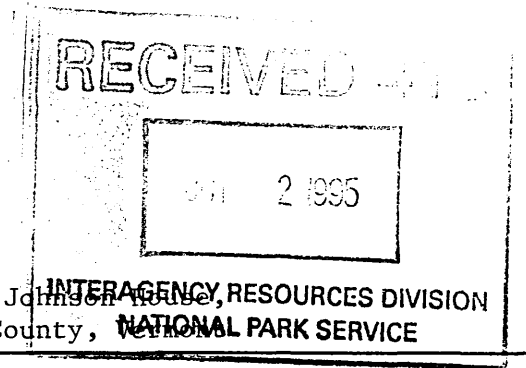
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Wales N. Johnson House
Windsor County, Vermont
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



DESCRIPTION

The 1890 Wales N. Johnson House in Woodstock, east central Vermont, is a well preserved example of a 2-1/2 story, 5x2 bay, vernacular Queen Anne style, single dwelling having Italianate features and an attached 1-1/2 story wing, ell, former carriage barn wing, and new 1-story ell with deck and garage bays. The balloon-framed house rests on an ashlar stone foundation and is sided primarily with clapboards; Queen Anne style decorative shingles and vergeboards distinguish gable ends. A wood shingle, gable roof with a center front peaked dormer has twin, brick chimney stacks on the ridge. Windows characteristic of the Queen Anne style having perimeter stained glass grace the double-leafed, principal entrance. An Italianate style porch with chamfered, bracketed posts and scroll-sawn balustrade is pedimented over the central entrance, wrapping around the right flank of the eaves-front facade and gable end of the house. The interior retains many fine architectural features fashioned from a variety of types of decorative wood acquired from Wales Johnson's own sawmill. The house on its original, open, 3-acre lot is set on a gently sloping site on the west side of US Route 4 just south of the village of West Woodstock across from the west bank of the Ottauquechee River. Non-original alterations to the building date primarily from c. 1983, are minimal, on the rear portions of the house, and retain

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The setting of the Johnson House at the edge of a forest is further from the original location of US Route 4, which has been relocated approximately 100' to the east. The road leading to Bridgewater leaves the present alignment of Route 4 just to the south and the surrounding pre-1890 residences are 250' from the house. A small brook from the Cox Reservoir on the Bridgewater Road runs parallel to the rear of the lot bordering on the forest. The 20th century Woodstock Union High School is due east of the dwelling and Route 4 on the banks of the river.

The fieldstone foundations are capped with large ashlar stones. According to an original invoice, the cellar was dug and the foundations laid between October 8 and 22, 1889 for a cost of \$194. The house features a cedar shingle roof installed in 1987, replacing a slate and galvanized roof from 1912. The original roofing material was cedar shingle as indicated in the original stock list written by Wales Johnson and in the possession of the present owner. Twin interior brick chimney stacks rise from the ridge of the main block. An original peaked dormer rises from the center front slope of the roof; three gable dormers having doors were added to the rear slope c. 1983 when a rear fire escape and deck were added.

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**National Register of Historic Places
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Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

The clapboard siding of the main block of the house is articulated with a molded watertable, plain cornerboards bracketed at the cornice, and a continuous frieze under the molded cornice which forms a pediment on the gable ends. These gable ends are detailed in the Queen Anne style with ornamental vergeboards on the raking eaves and decorative shingle siding flaring out about 6" from the wall surface above the frieze which has small, twin brackets at the center. A lintel course defines the two windows in the gable. The front dormer is articulated in the same manner.

The main block has a central Queen Anne style double door and sidelights, with stained glass perimeter lights and etched center lights. The original center lights of deep purple glass were removed and stored in the house. Queen Anne style sash also light the center hall of the second story, the center front dormer and gable ends of the main block. Remaining sash is generally 2/2 with plain trim and louvered wood shutters. An Italianate style bay window is located on the left flank of the front facade.

A 6-1/2' deep, Queen Anne style porch covers the principal entryway and extends across one end of the main block. A molded cornice supports the copper-clad, hip roof of the porch with a pediment distinguishing the entrance bay. Similar brackets are placed at each face of the cornerboards under the principal cornice

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

of the facade. The Italianate style, chamfered, 6" square solid wood posts of the porch are flanked by scrollsawn brackets at the cornice. One inch thick, white oak boards were jigsawn to form the balusters of the porch rail.

The 4x2 bay wing of 1-1/2 stories reflects the details of the main block in its porch detail, facade articulation and window treatment. A center front peaked dormer of the same design as that on the main block was added in 1983 to replace an original. The ell which continues the wall surface of the gable end of the wing has had a gable entrance hood on plain, gently curved braces added in 1983. An original shed dormer continues across the rear of the ell and wing.

The 1-1/2 story former carriage barn wing was altered to incorporate living quarters c. 1983. A polygonal bay window was added to the exterior center front of the barn to replace the carriage bay opening and small loft door. A peaked dormer similar to those on the main block and wing is centered above the present bay window. The gable end of the wing has had two entries, clapboard siding, an exterior staircase, and modern fenestration added. The rear slope of the roof has a long shed dormer added with multilight sash. Four garage doors were added at ground level at the rear of the shed and rear deck that occupies the ell formed by

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

the carriage barn and former poultry shed. The poultry shed was removed at the time of renovations due to its deteriorated condition.

The original Georgian floor plan and materials of the interior of the main block have been retained despite the alteration of the rooms to accommodate guests. Each pair of rooms was originally separated by a pair of 2-1/2' deep closets that have been slightly enlarged to provide bathrooms and resurfaced in sheetrock. The house features two parlors on the left flank of the first floor of plan, separated from each other by pocket doors opening into the dining room located in the wing. The front parlor opens onto the wing porch via a French door. The original straight-run staircase of the center hallway features maple treads and risers and an exceptional, turned, black cherry balustrade with ornate newel posts having lambs-tongue corners, recessed medallions and elliptical domed caps. Records indicate that the deep natural patina of the cherry was enhanced by burying it in the yard of Wales Johnson's sawmill. The original, hand-grained oak trim surrounding windows and doors has been painted and features chamfered edges and corner blocks with patera. The interior is further articulated with plain baseboards. Interior doors of the main block are of frame and panel construction, with 5 flat raised panels and molded frames. Also originally hand grained, these have

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 6Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

been painted. The doorway into the front parlor was widened in 1983. The majority of the walls and ceilings throughout bear their original plaster finish and floors are of various types of hardwood. The parlors and entry hall have black cherry flooring, while basswood covers the remaining floors of the first story. At the rear of the hall on the first floor is a small room in which a bathroom was placed in the early 20th century. In 1983 the rotten maple flooring of the bathroom was replaced with oak and modern fixtures were installed. Second story floors are generally maple: that of the hall is straight grained restrained with cherry, the southeast room has a birdseye grain, and the other three have a tiger grain. The stairway to the attic, finished in original plaster, leads to two guest rooms and bathrooms which were added in the 1980's.

The 1-1/2 story wing houses the dining room, pantry and original kitchen. Floors are hard maple throughout. Interior finish of the dining room on the first floor of the wing features striking and originally finished vertical board wainscoting made of alternating tiger-grain hard maple and black cherry, with molded chairrails and simple baseboards. A novel feature, a triangular, built-in, pass-through corner cupboard, is accessible from all three rooms. The cupboard has plain oak trim, corner blocks with patera, and twin raised panel cabinet doors. The trim of the

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 7

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

cupboard on the kitchen side appears to have been replaced with pine. An enclosed stair (enclosure added in 1983) to the upper story has a twin-light transom above the door. There is also an enclosed stairway to the cellar. A hall with a pantry at either side leads back to the present kitchen, located in the adjacent ell. A bathroom was made with the addition of a full dormer at the front of the wing. In the ell, the present kitchen and workroom were modernized in the 1980's , retaining the oak trim and original doors. The interior of the former carriage barn has been made into living quarters. The 1 story, gable roofed ell and deck above four garage entries replaces a former poultry shed.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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

Period of Significance

1889-1890

Significant Dates

1890

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Johnson, Wales N.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Johnson, Wales N., House
Name of Property

Windsor County, Vermont
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 3 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	8
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4	8	3	1	5	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

2

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3

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Zone Easting Northing

4

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--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leigh Johnson Revised by Vt. Div. for Historic Preservation

organization Preservation Consultant date October 1991/revised July 1995

street & number 397 Massey Road telephone (802) 885-1122

city or town Springfield state Vermont zip code 05156

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

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

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Jack Foster and Bruce McIlveen

street & number The Jackson House at Woodstock telephone (802) 457-2065

city or town Woodstock state Vermont zip code 05091

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wales N. Johnson House, built in 1889, is a well preserved example of the vernacular Queen Anne style as it was interpreted in Woodstock, Vermont. Built by a prosperous sawmill owner, Wales N. Johnson, the house incorporates fine workmanship using a wide variety of more exotic woods than is usual in the area. The house, built in the continuous manner of architecture characteristic of Vermont, meets National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as one of the first examples of the Queen Anne style, along with the Billing's Farm Manager's House, to be constructed in Woodstock.

The Johnson House is illustrative of a general theme in this area of Vermont, which saw little homebuilding in the years following the Civil War. The construction of the Billings and Johnson Houses marks a turning point in the style and form of residential architecture in the region. The period from 1865 to 1900 saw very little homebuilding in Woodstock when, apart from these two homes, only about 18 houses were built. The reasons for this slow period of residential growth include: the loss of young men in the Civil War, the opening of the West to settlement, the growth of large mill towns during this era of the Industrial Revolution that were located near the ocean, and the depression of

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

local economies due to the changes in the wool growing and processing industry. After the advent of the railroad made Vermont industry more accessible to markets, the economy improved and the demand for houses increased, marking a new period of optimism. Most of the new housing of this era was constructed in the prevailing style of the country at the time: the Queen Anne style.

The Wales Johnson House is situated in the hamlet of West Woodstock, known in the 19th century as Machine Village for the concentration of industry which arose on the Ottauquechee River from the first years of early settlement. From c. 1800 to 1830 the manufacturing businesses here included: a fulling mill, a comb factory, a pottery works, a cabinetmaker's shop, a cooper shop, a grist mill, a saw mill and a clothier's works.

In 1831 the grist mill, saw mill and clothier's works were purchased by Rueben and Thomas Daniels, who moved the cabinet shop across the highway and erected the buildings for the Daniels Machine Company. Daniels produced carding machines, shearing machines, spinners, pickers and the like. Also about this time, a factory of tinman's tools was established in West Woodstock by Aaron Whitney. It was here that Wales Johnson began his career in manufacturing, reaching the position of foreman before the flood of 1869 destroyed the dam and source of power for the mill. When

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

Whitney moved his business out of state, Wales Johnson went to work for the Daniels Co., where he again had risen to the position of foreman by 1876, when the owner passed away and left Johnson in charge of the business. The caloric engine purchased by Daniels after the flood was replaced with a more powerful steam engine which increased the productivity of the works. In 1877, Johnson had the dam, canal system, and flume restored, again adding to the prosperity of the business which still included the sawmill that had been purchased in 1831.

It was at this saw mill that Johnson later oversaw the cutting of the lumber stock from which his new house was built. Most, if not all, of the wood for the house came from property he owned. In 1885, Johnson purchased the site in West Woodstock for his home. The house on the site was moved .2 mile west on the same side of the highway, where it stands today as the Emma McClay-Hiram O. Cobb House. This original house was soon remodelled in the Queen Anne style.

The Wales Johnson House was purchased in 1940 by the Robert Jackson family, who opened a lodging house for travellers. This was a common theme in the mountainous New England states at the time of the proliferation of automobile travel and the resulting growth of tourism. Many former Vermont farms and large homes were

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 4

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

able to survive after the Great Depression by doubling as tourist homes. The present owners purchased the lodge in the early 1980's, when the carriage barn was made over into their living quarters and the lodging house operated in the manner of an inn.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, Vermont

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dana, Henry Swan. *History of Woodstock*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin,
and Company, 1889.

Johnson, Curtis B., editor. *A Guide to Vermont Architecture*.
Montpelier, Vermont: Vermont Division for Historic
Preservation, 1988.

Stock List, Wales N. Johnson, 1889.

Invoice, H. C. Lockwood to Wales N. Johnson, 1889.

Letter, Hiram Johnson to Robert Jackson, 1944.

Record of Experiences, Robert Jackson, 1912.

Letter, Richard Johnson to Jack Foster/Bruce McIlveen, 1980.

Letter, Margaret Abbott to Foster/McIlveen, 1981.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Wales N. Johnson House,
Windsor County, VT

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary includes the original 3 acres purchased by Wales N. Johnson and is described in a warranty deed recorded in Book 44, Page 225 of the Woodstock, Vermont Land Records. The lot is on Tax Map 31 as Lot 01, Block 30.

Boundary Justiciation: The legal property lines are sufficient to convey the integrity of the site.