

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Vermont	
COUNTY: Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 8 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Kent's Corner Historic District

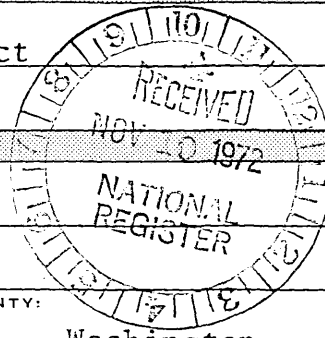
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Kent's Corner

CITY OR TOWN:  
Calais

STATE: Vermont CODE: 50 COUNTY: Washington CODE: 023



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted * <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Multiple Ownership

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Town Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
(No street number)

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

Calais Vermont 50

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Vermont Division of Historic Sites

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

Montpelier Vermont 50

\*The Kent Tavern is open to the public during specified hours.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Vermont  
COUNTY: Washington  
ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 8 1973  
DATE: MAY 8 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Boundary Description

The district extends .25 of a mile north, south, east and west along the four roads whose junction is designated Kent's Corner. The district's boundaries shall coincide with the rear property lines of all properties fronting on these roads for the prescribed distances. In addition to the above boundaries, the district includes an extension of the south road, the width of the three rod right-of-way, for a distance of .55 miles to the south boundary line of the Old West Church property.

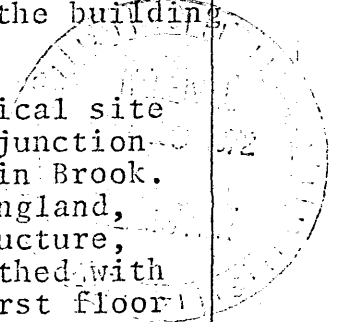
Physical Description

Kent's Corner retains the appearance of a typical Vermont 19th century crossroads hamlet. The most prominent building surviving in the district is the Kent Tavern. This building was built by Abdiel Kent and was opened as "A. Kent's Hotel" in 1837. The hotel serviced the old Canada to Montpelier stage road which passed through Kent's Corner.

The building is now owned and operated by the Vermont Historical Society as a museum. The tavern is a large rectangular brick house, with granite lintils and sills, located on the southeast corner of the crossroads. The gable roof is sheathed with slate and the structure has four large brick interior chimneys. The building has a clapboard ell which extends south. The southern most portion of the ell was A. Kent's Store and presently serves as a country store for the museum. The portion of the ell closest to the main section, the oldest part of the structure, was used by Kent for his living quarters while the rest of the building was being constructed. The museum is built on a central hall plan and is two rooms deep. A large ballroom is located on the second floor. The rooms are furnished with an assortment of period furniture and antique accessories. Of structural interest is the fact that most all the materials for the building were made in the Kent's Corner area.

The Kent's Corner Saw Mill is an industrial archeological site of considerable interest. It is located west of the junction of the road proceeding north from the Corner and Perkin Brook. The mill is of a type, once typical in northern New England, which is now almost extinct. It is a rectangular structure, with a gable roof, of post and beam construction sheathed with wide unpainted boards exposed to the weather. The first floor is used primarily to house the power takeoff equipment. On the north side of the building is the timber wheel house with its vertical turbine still intact. The head of water was supplied by the pond west of the mill. The pond is contained by a stone dam which was faced with concrete in 1961. The water is conducted from the dam to the turbine housing by an iron flume.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	Vermont
COUNTY	Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	WVY 8
DATE	1972

Section 7

(Continuation Sheet)

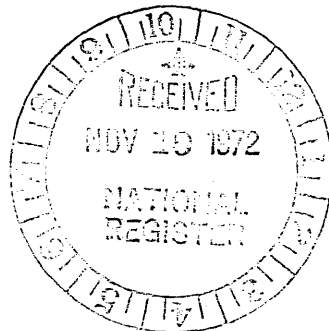
(Number all entries)

The entire hydraulic system is intact and could easily be made operable. The second floor is level with the stream bank on the south and is the working floor of the mill. An array of 19th century feeding and sawing equipment, along with an early 20th century innovative lighting system employing truck headlamps, remains intact.

As a result, the mill is a potential educational resource for the interpretation of the water-powered lumber milling industry in Vermont.

The other houses and barns surrounding the crossroad, along with the general state of preservation of the unpaved, tree-lined roads, greatly contribute to the overall historic environment of the site.

Numerous foundations exist from other houses and buildings connected with the many industries once located in the vicinity of the Corner. These ruins remain as history has left them and no attempt has been made at building reconstructions which would damage the integrity of the district.



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

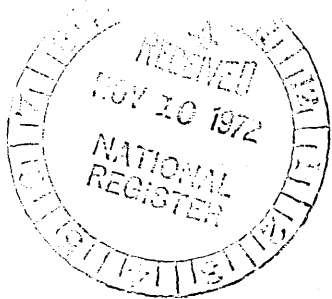
- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry  | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kent's Corner is a relatively unspoiled 19th century Vermont crossroads hamlet. Since new development and suburban sprawl is gradually changing the character of Washington County's rural areas, districts like Kent's Corner must be retained in order to preserve the character of the traditional "Vermont-scape".

The potential for Kent's Corner's preservation is enhanced by the fact that the Tavern is owned by the Vermont Historical Society, and much of the surrounding land still remains in Kent family ownership.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Vermont Historical Society. "Brochure on the Kent Museum" Montpelier:Vermont Historical Society, 1972.
2. Hemenway, Abby Maria. Vermont Historical Gazetteer. Montpelier:Vermont Watchman and State Journal Press, 1882, Vol. IV, pp 158-160.
3. Vermont Historical Society. "News and Notes" Vol. 2, No. 3, November 1950.

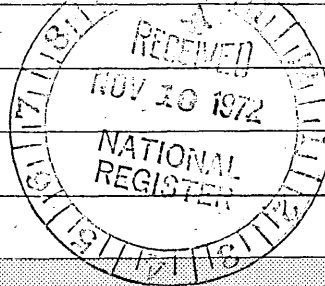
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	44° 22' 15"	72° 29' 45"	°	'	"
NE	44° 22' 15"	72° 28' 50"	°	'	"
SE	44° 21' 30"	72° 28' 50"	°	'	"
SW	44° 21' 30"	72° 29' 45"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 320 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Chester H. Liebs, Supervisor**

ORGANIZATION: **Vermont Division of Historic Sites**      DATE: **10/2/72**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Pavilion Building**

CITY OR TOWN: **Montpelier**      STATE: **Vermont**      CODE: **50**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National  State  Local

Name: William B. Pinney

Title: Director of Historic Sites  
State Liaison Officer

Date: 10/2/72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert K. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/8/73

ATTEST:  
W. S. [Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5-2-73

NW 18/699550  
 4915 950  
 CE  
 NE 18/700700/4915 980  
 SE 18/700700/4914 550  
 SW 18/699600/4914 520  
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS