

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet 9-1

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Quad: Port Henry, NY - VT

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  $\frac{+}{-}$  2

Scale: 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

639

A	1, 8	6, 3, 8	0, 2, 5	4, 8	9, 1	0, 5, 0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C						
D						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property consists of the Samuel Paddock Strong House and the property currently owned by Mr. E. W. Graves, consisting of approximately two acres in a nearly rectangular plot measuring approximately 400' x 200'.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John P. Dumville, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Pavilion Office Building

TELEPHONE

802-828-3226

CITY OR TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*William B. Finney*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6-4-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Caryl Shul*  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

8-15-79

ATTEST:

*Paul Mac Dwyer*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7/19/79

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

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SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1839

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Samuel Paddock Strong House in Vergennes is prominently situated along State Route 22A (West Main Street) and creates a gracious welcome at the southern entrance to Vermont's smallest and first incorporated city. The large Greek Revival house was built for Samuel Paddock Strong (1793-1864) on land he purchased after his father's death in 1832. His father, General Samuel Strong, directed the Vermont Militia and the volunteer army at the Battle of Plattsburgh during the War of 1812 and was a successful and prominent resident of Vergennes. His house, one of the finer examples of the Federal-Adamesque style in Vermont, was listed on the National Register in April 11, 1973. The Samuel Paddock Strong House, although of more vernacular origins than the General Strong House, is also an excellent example of its style.

The 2½-story main mass of the house is flanked on either side by symmetrical 1½-story wings. It is said the house was constructed at a cost of \$10,000. The wood was cut on Snake Mountain in Addison, a nearby town in which the Strong family had holdings, and the black marble for the parlor fireplaces quarried locally, possibly from Shoreham, and polished in Vergennes. The building was designed and constructed as a whole and each section embellished with Greek Revival features. The corner pilasters, window heads, and door surrounds have a Greek fret motif and were possibly derived from one of the Asher Benjamin or Minard Lefever builders' handbooks so common in Vermont in the Nineteenth Century.

The house has been well maintained and has undergone no major alterations since the time of its construction. The house is a fine example of quality domestic architecture from the second quarter of the Nineteenth Century and is an important visual asset to the City of Vergennes and the State of Vermont.

The nominated property consists of the house and the approximately two acres held by the present owner. This generally rectangular area comprises the significant features associated with the property; the rectangle is bounded by farmland and VT 22A.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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

The Samuel Paddock Strong House on West Main Street (State Route 22A) in Vergennes commands a view of the Green Mountains to the east, the Adirondack Mountains to the west and the City of Vergennes to the north (see Vergennes Historic District, entered on the National Register September 3, 1976). The large Greek Revival style house was built ca. 1839 for Samuel P. Strong (1793-1864) who was a director and later president of the Bank of Vergennes and a director of the Rutland and Burlington Railroad. The house exhibits many high style Greek Revival features and has undergone little exterior alteration since its construction. The visible changes have not been to the house itself but to the grounds; a carriage barn, necessary for all Nineteenth Century houses, no longer exists nor does the elaborate wooden fence with urns illustrated in The White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs. The fence urns are in the possession of the owner of the house.

The T-plan house is of post and beam construction infilled with nogging of soft brick and clad in clapboards. The gable roofs are sheathed in slate; the North (right) wing, however, has been reclad in asphalt. The main section of the house is 2½ stories and 3 bays wide with a right-entry side hall plan. The front door is recessed and flanked by ¾ length side lights and surmounted by a transom; these windows have thin intersecting muntions and are surrounded by a fluted architrave with corner blocks. The door surround has molded trim with the lintel containing a Greek fret and a centrally located raised panel. The first floor windows have this same detail which is similar to that illustrated on Plate 31 of Asher Benjamin's Practical House Carpenter published after this house was constructed. The house is framed by corner pilasters which also have a Greek fret; the pilasters support a plain entablature with a denticulated cornice. The gable front is pedimented with a triangular glazed light in the tympanum.

The gable-front main block of the house is flanked by 1½ story, 3 bay symmetrical wings. The wings have the same architectural detailing as the main section but have a simplified door surround and no entablature, only the denticulated cornice.

All the windows retain their original 6/6 sash and are flanked by functional louvered shutters.

There are three remaining fireplaces in the house; a black marble mantelpiece, quarried in nearby Shoreham and polished in Vergennes, and two brick fireplaces with wooden mantelpieces.

Although the interior of the house has been modernized for today's lifestyle, care and attention has been given to the preservation of the exterior. The house is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style and of the private stewardship of an important local landmark and community asset.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUN 13 1979  
DATE ENTERED AUG 15 1979

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

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Samuel Paddock Strong House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

82 West Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Vergennes

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

CODE

50

COUNTY

Addison

CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. E. W. Graves

STREET & NUMBER

82 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Vergennes

VICINITY OF

STATE

Vermont

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the City Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Vergennes

STATE

Vermont

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey

DATE

1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	JUL 20 1979
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	AUG 15 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 9-1 ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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1. Benjamin, Asher. Architect, or Practical House Carpenter. Boston, Mass: Benjamin B. Mussey, 1845.
2. Hopkins, Alfred. "Fences & Fence Posts of Colonial Times" in The White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs,
3. Smith, H. P. History of Addison County, Vermont. Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., Publishers, 1886.
4. Spalding, George B. A Discourse Commemorative of General Samuel P. Strong . . . Burlington, VT: Free Press Print, 1864.
5. Winters, Terry. Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey, Vergennes, Addison County. Montpelier, Vermont: Division for Historic Preservation, 1975.