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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED DEC 12 1978
DATE ENTERED MAR 2 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

Simons' Inn

HABS

AND/OR COMMON

Rowell's Inn

2 LOCATION

SW of Andover on VT 11

STREET & NUMBER

Vermont Route 11

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Andover

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

CODE
50

COUNTY
Windsor

CODE
027

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Patricia Colville and Robert Heintges

STREET & NUMBER

Rowell's Inn, Simonsville

CITY, TOWN

Chester

VICINITY OF

STATE

Vermont

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Andover

STATE

Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

See Continuation Sheet 6-1

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rowell's Inn, on State Route 11 in Andover, Vermont, is an impressive rural stage stop constructed in 1826 by Major Edward L. Simons. The 2½-story, gable front building is constructed from locally made brick laid in 9 course American bond. The most distinguishing feature of the building is the 3-story wood frame porch across the front gable (east) facade. The first two stories of the porch have four chamfered posts and a molded rail with turned balusters. The third story has a gabled roof with a recessed three-centered arched opening fronted by a square baluster railing. Above the opening is painted, in black Caslon bold script, "SIMONS VILLE." The front gable of the porch is sheathed with flush board siding. This porch was added after the original construction of the building and gives the Inn its bold Greek Revival styling.

The five bay facade has a front center door which is recessed within a three centered relieving arch. Double leaf Queen Anne style doors replace the original door which was flanked by sidelights; a wooden blind arch is above the door and has an incorrect date of "1820" painted on it. The windows on the front, the sides, and the rear facades are surmounted by three-centered relieving arches. The windows are 2/2 sash which are not original; the third story of the facade has two 6/6 sash which may have been added when the Greek Revival portico was constructed. The two rear gable windows have original 12/12 sash; they are flanked by 6 light eaves windows. All the windows have soapstone sills and the front door arch has a soapstone keystone. The gabled roof is sheathed in slate and the 5 x 3 bay building measures approximately 40' x 36' and rests on a cut granite foundation.

The right (north) side of the Inn has been altered by the addition of two flat arch window openings on the westerly end, one at the first floor and the other directly above at the second floor. Also two paired first floor windows, with three centered relieving arches, have been enlarged to two larger windows with a Queen Anne style sash; the brick arches remain, but the bricks between the windows have been removed.

Attached to the rear of the Inn is a wood frame, gabled roof, 1½-story ell. The fenestration has been altered as has much of the clapboarding; the original clapboards, which remain near the cornice, have a 4" weather edge whereas the recent replacements have a 2½" to 3" weather edge. Large horizontal eyebrow windows are at the cornice of the south side. There is also a small porch on the south side and a small shed roof dormer on the north side. Attached to this ell is a clapboarded shed with a shed roof dormer.

To the rear of the building is a small garage, c. 1930, which is partially within the right-of-way of Middletown Road (Town Road 25). For this reason, the centerline of the road has been chosen as the northern boundary of the nominated property. Other boundaries are property lines, but the nominated property (less than one acre) consists only of the Colville/Heintges property to the south of Middletown Road and to the west of Vermont 11. These boundaries were chosen because the two roads and the brook form strong existing edges defining the property.

Due to the date of construction of the garage, it is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register and does not contribute to the significance of the Inn.

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 checked="" 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1826

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Maj. Edward L. Simons

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rowell's Inn is located in the hamlet of Simonsville in the town of Andover, Vermont. This southern Windsor County town is located along the eastern slopes of the Green Mountains and when originally granted its charter (by the Royal Colony of New Hampshire in 1761) it included the present town of Weston. In 1799 the town was officially divided east and west, creating the present Andover in the east and Weston in the west. The towns are naturally divided by a mountain ridge, known as Markham Mountain and Mount Terrible, which in earlier times made transportation and communications difficult.

Simonsville, originally Simons Ville, was named after Edward L. Simons who built Rowell's Inn in 1826. Rural stage stops served not only the traveler but also the community as a gathering place for social events. Simons' stage stop was also a post office (from 1826-1950) and a general store. The Inn was purchased in 1910 by Frederick Rowell from whom the present name derives. Because of its rural isolation, the large building has survived with very little modernization or change and stands as a symbol of the extent of Vermont settlement before the railroad, urbanization, and the decline of rural hill communities during the period of western migration.

Architecturally the building is significant. Surveyed by HABS in 1960 (HABS No. VT-50) the building retains much of its original character. Rowell's Inn is an outstanding and unusual example of a 2½-story, brick, Federal style "house" with a five bay, gable front elevation and with chimneys on the side elevations which are integral parts of the brick walls.

The principal difference between Rowell's Inn and a standard 2½-story, brick Federal style house, which is also five bays across the front elevation, is the orientation of the gable roof. On a standard 2½-story, brick, Federal style house, the ridge of the roof runs the length of the house, parallel to the front and rear elevations. Rowell's Inn has, instead, a gable front elevation with the ridge of the roof running the width of the house between the front and rear elevations.

The reason for the change in the "traditional" orientation of the gable roof as found on Federal style houses is that the design for the house, which was erected rather late in the Federal period, was strongly influenced by the emerging Greek Revival style. There was in the Greek Revival period a strong tendency to adapt traditional house types to the Greek Revival style and to erect houses in the form of the Greek temple. Owing to the style lag in Vermont architecture, the Greek Revival influence on Rowell's Inn was limited to the reorientation of the gable roof.

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6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey
October 1973 State
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
Montpelier, VT

Historic American Buildings Survey
1960 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.

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The first floor plan of Rowell's Inn is typical: e.g., two front (east) rooms flanking either side of a center stair hall, a large center room in the rear (west) with a hall and one room flanking the south side and two rooms, originally, flanking the north side. The second floor plan, in contrast, is not typical: e.g., two front (east) rooms flanking either side of a center stair hall which perpendicularly intersects a transverse center hall connecting the four bedrooms along the rear. The second floor plan, with its transverse center hall connecting the bedrooms along the rear, is, in several respects, a forerunner of "modern" commercial hotels first built in the second half of the Nineteenth Century. On the third floor is a ballroom, with a vaulted ceiling, which was common in late Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Century "hotels."

The Inn occupies a prominent location immediately adjacent to two roads, which was an asset to a stage stop. This proximity today creates a potential threat, in the event of improvements to the roads or the intersection. No such construction is presently planned.

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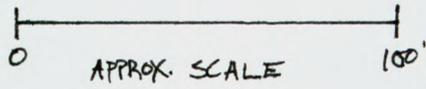
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The boundaries of Rowell's Inn are described as follows: beginning at the intersection of the western edge of the right-of-way of VT 11 and the centerline of Middletown Road (Town Road 25), proceeding south along said edge of right-of-way, which is the eastern boundary of the Rowell's Inn property, to Lyman Brook; turning west and proceeding along the north bank of the brook, which is also a property line, to the point where the property line leaves the bank, heading generally northwest; proceeding along this property line to its intersection with the centerline of Middletown Road; proceeding generally east along the centerline to the point of beginning. (See enclosed sketch map.)

ROWELL'S INN
ANDOVER, VT

BASED ON PROPERTY SURVEY IN
POSSESSION OF BUILDING OWNERS



BOUNDARY OF NOMINATED AREA:
- - - - - PROPERTY LINE

