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DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY MAY 1 0 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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| NAME | | | |
| HISTORIC ** | | | |
| AND/OR COMMON South Royalton Historic District | | | |
| | | | |
| LOCATION A of Payalla | | | _ |
| STREET & NUMBER Along Chelsea, North | | dsor, Railroad, ar | ıd |
| Safford Streets and around the vil | rage kark. | NOT FOR PUBLICATION | |
| CITY, TOWN Royalton X | | congressional distr Vermont | ICT |
| STATE | VICINITY OF CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
| Vermont | 50 | Windsor | 027 |
| CLASSIFICATION | | | |
| CATEGORY OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRES | ENT USE |
| XDISTRICTPUBLIC | · X OCCUPIED | AGRICULTURE | MUSEUM |
| BUILDING(S)PRIVATE | UNOCCUPIED | _XCOMMERCIAL | ZPARK |
| STRUCTUREXBOTH | WORK IN PROGRESS | XEDUCATIONAL | ZPRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| _SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | ENTERTAINMENT | ARELIGIOUS |
| _OBJECTIN PROCESS | YES: RESTRICTED | XGOVERNMENT | SCIENTIFIC |
| BEING CONSIDERED | XYES: UNRESTRICTED | _INDUSTRIAL | TRANSPORTATION |
| | NO | MILITARY | _OTHER: |
| OWNER OF PROPERTY | | | |
| NAME Multiple ownership | | | |
| STREET & NUMBER | | | |
| CITY, TOWN | | STATE | |
| | _ VICINITY OF | | |
| LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCI | RIPTION | | |
| COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,ETC. Office of the To | wm Clerk of Royalto | n | |
| STREET & NUMBER Safford Street | | | |
| CITY, TOWN South Royalton | | STATE | |
| Joden Royalcon | · | Vermont | |
| REPRESENTATION IN EXIST | ING SURVEYS | | |
| TITLE | | | |
| Vermont Historic Sites and | Structures Survey | • | |
| 7/1973, 4/1974 | | STATECOUNTYLOCAL | |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Vermont Division for | | | |
| CITY, TOWN Montpelier | | STATE Vermont | |

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

X_EXCELLENT X_GOOD

X_FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS

__UNEXPOSED

¾UNALTERED ¾ALTERED $\frac{X}{X}$ ORIGINAL SITE $\frac{X}{M}$ DATE $\frac{1893}{M}$

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The South Royalton Historic District includes contiguous residential, educational, public and commercial structures along Chelsea Street, North Windsor Street, South Windsor Street, Rainbow Street, North Street, Railroad Street, Safford Street and including Park Street. The district contains some 80 architecturally or historically significant buildings which reflect the nineteenth century development of a railroad community. Stylistically, the buildings are predominantly Greek Revival for domestic and Italianate Revival for commercial with significant examples of Gothic Revival and Queen Anne style structures.

Chelsea Street functions as the major axis of the district with North Windsor and South Windsor Streets and Railroad Street branching off from it.

The main entrance to the village is through an iron bridge, constructed in 1903 by the United Construction Company of Albany, New York, over the White River. The iron bridge replaced the original wood covered bridge built in 1848 to provide access to the westerly bank of the White River and the land that was to become the village of South Royalton. The iron bridge withstood the flood of 1927; however the westerly bank of the White River eroded away leaving a hundred-fifty foot chasm. Hoyt Knight, a local builder, was hired to construct the present concrete bridge extension connecting Chelsea Street to the 1903 iron bridge. A sharp turn in the concrete bridge slows Vehicular traffic down upon entrance into the pedestrian oriented village.

Proceeding up the gradually rising Chelsea Street, in a west-southwesterly direction, the Schoolhouse (#17) and St. Matthew's Church (#8) are in architectural juxtaposition on opposite sides of the Street. Both Queen Anne style buildings occupy sites originally chosen by the village's founder, Daniel Tarbell Jr., for a church and school. The original Greek Revival style buildings were felt to be out of date and too small in the 1890's and were replaced by the present structures. The church building was torn down and the present church erected but the original schoolhouse was put on rollers, making its original site available for the new school, and moved to a foundation on North Windsor Street, where it stands today (#23).

At the schoolhouse, which is set back from Chelsea Street, the street levels off. Residential buildings line the south-southeast side of the street. Dominating the north-northwest side of Chelsea Street is the highly decorative Queen Anne style Abbott House (#19). Proceeding along Chelsea Street the character of the north-northwest side of the street becomes commercial as it nears the junction with North Windsor and South Windsor Streets. Here the district visually opens up to the village Park.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-1)

| PERIOD | AR | EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH | ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| PREHISTORIC | ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | ZCOMMUNITY PLANNING | _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | RELIGION | | |
| 1400-1499 | ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | CONSERVATION | _XAW | SCIENCE | | |
| 1500-1599 | AGRICULTURE | ECONOMICS | LITERATURE | SCULPTURE | | |
| 1600-1699 | X_ARCHITECTURE | X EDUCATION | MILITARY | SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | | |
| 1700-1799 | ART | ENGINEERING | MUSIC | THEATER | | |
| <u>X</u> 1800-1899 | X COMMERCE | XEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | PHILOSOPHY | XTRANSPORTATION | | |
| 1900- | COMMUNICATIONS | INDUSTRY | POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | _OTHER (SPECIFY) | | |
| | | INVENTION | | | | |
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| | DIVIDED AND A DOUBLE OF | | | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The South Royalton Historic District Contain some 80 architecturally or historically significant buildings which reflect the nineteenth century development of a railroad community. The village illustrates the importance of the railroad in nineteenth century life: settlement and commerce revolved around the railroad, no state road ever having gone through the village. The passenger station, baggage house, and the freight station occupy are prominent side of the village green. The architecturally cohesive residential and commercial street-scapes, centered around the village green, illustrate the village's nineteenth century development.

South Royalton was founded because of the coming of the Vermont Central Railroad up the White River Valley in 1348. Before the construction of the railroad, the land where the village is now located had been the farms of Lyman Benson and Cyrus Safford. The village's existence was the enterprising foresight of Daniel Tarbell Jr., a Tunbridge Vermont mill owner and entrepreneur, who in the early 1840s recognized the economic necessity of securing a freight depot on the proposed route of the Vermont Central Railroad for the prosperous Tunbridge and Chelsea mills. The ideal location for the depot was not in the existing village of Royalton, which had been founded in 1781, but at a site at the head of the Chelsea Road, the present Vermont Route 110, on the plateau above the westerly side of the White River.

Between 1848 and 1853 Daniel Tarbell Jr., purchased several tracts of land from Lyman Benson and Cyrus Safford and, in the role of land speculator, banker, and general contractor, erected numerous stores and houses, a blacksmith shop, a wagon shop, a hotel, a schoolhouse, and a union church building. The 1855 Hosea Doton map shows 28 houses in South Royalton of which ten belonged to Tarbell. In 1884 Tarbell stated that he had built three-fourths of all the houses as they then stood.

South Royalton had in its early years the "exceptional architectural unity that comes from having all its houses, stores, church, and school, built at the same time in the same style - a very restrained Greek Revival - and all new at once." The railroad brought prosperity, and with the help of fire, fashion.

l Hope Nash, Royalton Vermont, (Royalton, Vermont: The Town of Royalton, South Royalton Woman's Club, and the Royalton Historical Society, 1975), p. 41.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 8-1)

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| 9 | M | Al | OR | BIBLIOGR | APHI | CAL | REFER | RENCES |

Aldrich, Lewis Cass and Holmes, Frank R. (editors) <u>History of Windsor County</u> Vermont. Syracuse, New York: 1891.

Beers, F. W. Atlas of Windsor County, Vermont. F. W. Beers, A. D. Ellis and C. G. Soule, Publishers; New York: 1869.

| , | (Contin | nued on Con | tinuation Sh | eet 9-1) | |
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| 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA | | | | | |
| ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY APPROX. | • 96 acres | | | | |
| UTM REFERENCES | | | | | |
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| VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The South Royalton Historic Di the westerly side of the White survey marker, the north corne continuing from this point in of the Royalton Town School Di | e River. I er of the I a westerly | It begins a Royalton To y direction | t a Point A, wn School Di along the n | marked by strict proof | y a granite operty, erty line |
| an extension in a westerly dir | cection of | the North | property lin | e of the I | Royalton |
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| LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES F | | | | | ARIES |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | | | CODE |
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| John P. Dumville, Researcher ORGANIZATION Vermont Division for Historic STREET & NUMBER | | tion | | ril 16, 19 | 976 |
| Pavilion Building | | | | 2-828-3226 | , |
| CITY OR TOWN | | | STAT | | |
| Montpelier | | | Ve | rmont | |
| 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESER THE EVALUATED SIGN | IFICANCE OF T | THIS PROPERTY | WITHIN THE STA | ATE IS: | |
| NATIONAL | STATE | - | LOCA | \L | |
| As the designated State Historic Preservation Of hereby nominate this property for inclusion in to criteria and procedures set forth by the National STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATU | the National Re Park Service | | fy that it has beer | | cording to the |
| TITLE Director/State Historic P | reservatio | on Officer | DA1 | - | 19 , 1976 |
| OR NPS USE ONLY | | | - | | |
| I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY | 'S INCLUDED I | N THE NATIONA | | 2/- | 1-1 |
| DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND | HISTORIC PRI | ESERVATION | DAT | | 1 16 |
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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The 1887 Italianate Revival style brick commercial "Block" (#38-46) lines the north-northwest side of the village Park and the 1887 Queen Anne style Railroad Station (#48) and Baggage House (#50) border the west-southwest side. The large 1850 Greek Revival style South Royalton House (#51) occupies the south-southwest corner of the Park with the United Church (#75) in the center on the east-northeast side and an 1887 Italianate Revival style brick commercial structure (#78) nearby. Houses, predominantly Greek Revival in style, built circa 1850, and evenly spaced and set back from the streets, occupy the other spaces on the south-southeast and east-northeast sides of the tree-lined Park.

Located within the village Park is the 1892 Queen Anne style Bandstand (#79), a granite Civil War statue, a granite memorial honoring Royalton residents who served in the armed forces during World War I, World War II, and the Korean and Vietnamese conflicts, a fountain, which was originally a two tier cast iron fountain, a cannon, and the 1915 Handy Memorial commemorating the Royalton Raid of 1780. This large stilted arch is constructed from five pieces of granite, polished and engraved on both faces and rough cut on the extrados and intrados; it rests on a cobblestone base. Paths bisect the Park regularly and intersect at the centrally located fountain. Trees border the Park and are located in clusters in various areas within it. Wrought iron benches are casually placed throughout the Park in the summer months.

The only architectural intrusion within the district occurs near the south-southwest corner of the Park--a small imitation log cabin with a gable roof, constructed in 1963 on the Railroad right-of-way.

Proceeding down Railroad Street in a south-southeasterly direction, the railroad right-of-way is on the west-southwest side and is screened by large trees. The structures on the east-northeast side are evenly set back from the Street and shaded by trees. The Royalton Memorial Library (#57) is located at the end of the street, which intersects at this point with Safford Street. Safford Street was built in 1913 and named in honor of Truman Henry Safford, a child prodigy born in Royalton, who at the age of nine could mentally multiply five figures by five figures.

Continuing up Safford Street in an east-northeasterly direction, the Cowdery-Goodrich House (#67) dominates the end of the street where it intersects with South Windsor Street.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-2)

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Proceeding up South Windsor Street from Safford Street, in a north-north-westerly direction, the buildings are residential and uniformly set back from the street. The street passes the village Park and intersects with Chelsea Street and there becomes North Windsor Street. At the intersection is a round granite water trough, now used as a planter, which serves as a buffer to slow vehicular traffic down for the safety of the pedestrians using the streets.

North Windsor Street, beginning at the Lamb-Sears House (#24), is strictly residential in character, the houses being generally well spaced from each other and shaded by trees.

The architecturally significant buildings within the district are:

- 8. St. Matthew's Church Queen Anne style, 1890, 12-story, wood frame, gabled slate roof, cut fieldstone foundation. The building is cruciform in plan. A continuous band of rectangular recessed panels decorate the Church building from the foundation to the first floor windows and forms a sill course. The main exterior wall surface is covered with narrow clapboards. There are shingled hoods over the windows and shingled surfaces, laid in an imbricated pattern, in the gable peaks. A lunette is in each gable. The church steeple is in the south-southwest transept. The steeple tower projects about two feet from the transept and is covered with flush siding. A double leaf door is set in a rounded arch opening above which is a round arched window. Above the window is a section of shingles laid in a straight butt pattern which projects from the wall surface, forming a pointed arch. The first stage of the steeple, above this, is square with two round-arched windows in each facade and surmounted by a modillioned cornice which in turn supports the second stage of the steeple. In this stage, each facade has a balustraded round-arched opening above which is a gablet filled with shingles laid in an imbricated pattern. The high pyramidal steeple, clad in wood shingles and surmounted by a weathervane, rises from this second stage. This building was built under the direction of Ira Spaulding, a local builder-contractor.
- 17. Schoolhouse Queen Anne style, 1892 and 1911, 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, shingles and tongue and groove board siding, brick foundation, truncated hipped roof with asphalt shingles. The building is square in plan with two projecting end pavilions. The southwest corner pavilion is topped by an ornate eight sided, arcaded belfry with a pointed octagonal roof supporting a tall pointed wood finial. There are two gabled dormers on the front elevation and one on the eastnortheast side. The west-southwest side has a shed dormer which is

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-3)

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a later replacement of a gabled dormer. There is a large stilted arch opening in the front center forming a recessed entrance. The wall surface is articulated in five continuous horizontal bands: a bottom band of square recessed panels of tongue and groove boards laid diagonally in opposite directions in every other panel, a band of clapboards, a band of shingles laid in a staggered pattern, another band of clapboards, and a frieze of recessed rectangular panels of tongue and groove boards. The windows are predominantly paired, two sash with two-overtwo lights and transoms, and are located in the bands of clapboards. Single sash windows, vertically grouped, with tongue and groove panels between, flank the entrance. This building was probably designed by George Guernsey who also designed the South Royalton Business Block (#38-46). An addition was constructed at the back of the building in 1911.

19. Abbott House: Queen Anne style, 1905, 2½-story, wood frame, "L" shaped, gabled roof sheathed with slate. This house was built by Ira Spaulding, a local carpenter, and is an excellent example of a vernacular Queen Anne style house. Architecturally, the house is unusual for the decorative quality of the exterior wall surface and for the one-story "steamboat Gothic" veranda. The wall surface is articulated horizontally by continuous alternating bands of shingles laid in an imbricated pattern and narrow clapboards. The window openings are located in the bands of narrow clapboards and, with the clapboards, are outlined as continuous bands of fenestration by a continuous window sill and a continuous band above the windows with repetitive applied turnings running the perimeter of the house. The decorative banding runs, around both the main block of the house and the wing but is discontinuous at the junction because of the wing's lower profile. The peak of the gable is decorated with an elaborately detailed spool pendant. The outstanding exterior architectural detail is the one story veranda, an array of turned decorative elements; e.g., posts, balusters, valance spindles, etc. A second story porch one bay wide, with the same turned decorative elements and with twin gables projecting from a shed roof, sits directly above the main entrance on the front gable elevation. In 1928 a harness makers shop was added on the west-southwest side; this has a false front and a shed roof, and a one story porch across its front elevation.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-4)

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- 29. Goff-Knight House Gothic Revival style, circa 1860-70, 1½-story, 3 bays wide across the front elevation, clapboarded, stone foundation and gabled roof. This house is a standard, gable front, revival house type built in the 1860's for William Goff. The house is well proportioned and is detailed in a variety of revival styles, the result of the builder's probable dependence on pattern books for design and details. The distinguishing exterior architectural details are the wave pattern bargeboards and six quatrefoil punchouts in the front door.
- 31. Viall-Vesper House Gothic Revival style, built shortly before 1869, 1½-story, 3 bays wide across the front elevation, wood frame, clapboarded, stone and brick foundation and gabled roof. This house was built shortly before 1869 by Isaac Shepard, a local carpenter builder who built in the Gothic Revival style. This house is an excellent example of a house in the carpenter Gothic Revival style. Unlike the Soper-Eckert House (#82) which Shepard also designed and built, this house is "gothic" in details only; e.g., long, narrow, double hung windows, a steeply pitched roof, and decorative bargeboards. The most distinguishing "gothic" form on the house is the slender central pavilion with a steeply pitched gabled roof projecting from the east-northeast front elevation. The pavilion is detailed with decorative bargeboards, a circular star paned window in the gable and a broken pediment with a pitch equal to that of the pavilion roof supported by stylized pilasters framing the doorway.
- 38- "The Block" Italianate Revival style, completed in 1887, designed by 46 George Guernsey, a Montpelier Vermont architect, 2-story, cast iron and brick. The block was originally twelve separate store units which were unified across their front elevation by a continuous, architecturally cohesive facade. Three of the stores on the east-northeast end burned in 1963. The facade is not a continuous design, but is instead divided into units, each significantly different from each of the other units with regard to specific architectural detailings.
- 38. This is an individual store unit. The first floor facade is divided into 4 bays a store front consisting of a central double leaf doorway flanked by two window bays, with a doorway to the second floor to the left of the store front. Both doorways are recessed and summounted by rectangular transoms. The window bays contain four large lights, two-over-two,

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-5).

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and are original. The store front is cast iron with stylized Corinthian columns. A stamped metal cornice divides the cast iron and glass store front from the brick second story. The second story is four bays wide with round arched double hung windows with brick hood moldings with brick keystones. The sills are rusticated granite. A double horizontal band of bricks, laid in a sawtooth pattern, connect the windows just below the impost level. This band continues across the entire facade of the block, visually linking the individual building units. Above the windows is a frieze of corbelled brick laid in a band of nine continuous round headed arches with a triple band of corbelling above. This frieze also appears in #43. Above the frieze is a cornice of stamped metal with decorative bracketed finials at each end.

39. These two stores were designed as a double unit. The store fronts are 40. divided into three bays for each store. The door is in the center of each store. The double leaf doors were replaced in the 1960's by a small modern single leaf door; the remaining space and transom were filled in with wood. There are two window bays for each store with six large lights in each bay, three-over-three. The store fronts are cast iron. The cast iron acanthus leaves have been removed from the capitals of the columns which are square with long rectangular panels. A stamped metal cornice divides the cast iron and glass store from the brick second story. The doors to the second story are between the two store fronts and are treated separately. The door for #39 is on the left of the store and is recessed. It is a double leaf door with a single rectangular transom light. The door for the second floor of #40 is a single leaf door with a transom and is also recessed. It is to the right side of the store. The second floor above each store, is three bays wide, each with segmental arched double hung windows with two-over-two lights. Corbelled brick labels with a granite keystone are above the windows; this window treatment is the same as in units #41, 42, 44, 45, and 46. The window sills are rusticated granite. A double band of bricks, laid in a sawtooth pattern, connect the windows just below the impost level. This band continues across the entire facade of the block, visually linking the individual building units. A granite block is above the center window of #39 and is engraved "Skinner, 1386," A. P. Skinner financed this unit of the block. A frieze of combelled brick, laid in a variety of different horizontal bonds, is above the windows. This band is similar to that on #s 44, 45 and 46. A stamped metal cornice, ending in double bracketed

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-6)

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finials, is above the corbelled frieze. The area in the center, above the two doors leading to the second story, is treated differently than the area above the store fronts: there are two round-arched, double hung windows with two-over-two lights and corbelled hood moldings with granite keystones. This is the same window treatment as in #43. The window sills are rusticated granite. A double band of bricks, laid in a sawtooth pattern, connect the windows just below the impost level. This band continues across the entire facade of the block, visually linking the individual building units. Above the two windows is a corbelled frieze of two large segmental arches. Above the arches is a double horizontal band of corbelled brick which is the same as the band on the flanking storefronts but is approximately three brick courses higher. A stamped metal cornice is above the frieze. Two flat brick pilasters, on each side of the center section extend above the cornice and end as corbelled chimney caps.

41. These two stores were also designed as a double unit. The store fronts 42. are divided into three bays for each store. A recessed double leaf door, with a rectangular transom, is in the center of each unit. There are two window bays for each store with six large lights in each bay, three-over-three. The doorway to the second story apartments is between the two store fronts; it is also recessed and has a single leaf door with a rectangular transom. The store fronts are cast iron with panelled columns and acanthus leaf capitals. A stamped metal cornice divides the cast iron and glass store front from the brick second story. The second story, above each store, is three bays wide. The double hung two-over-two windows are segmentally arched with corbelled brick labels with a granite keystone and rusticated granite sill. This is the same window treatment as in #39, 40, 44, 45, and 46. A double band of bricks, laid in a sawtooth pattern, connect the windows just below the impost level. This band continues across the entire facade of the block, visually linking the individual building units. A granite block, above the center window of #41, is engraved "Sargent, 1866," N. J. Sargent financed this unit of the block. Above the windows is a corbelled band, laid in a series of twelve continuous semi-circular arches, for each unit. A stamped metal cornice, ending in double bracketed finials, is above the corbelled frieze. The area in the center, above the door leading to the second story, is treated differently than the area above the store fronts; here are two narrow round-arched double hung windows with corbelled brick hoods and granite keystones. The windows have a common rusticated granite sill. Above these two windows are two smaller round arched windows, also with a common granite sill; above them is a stamped metal cornice. Two flat brick pilasters, on each side of this center section, extend above the cornice and end as corbelled chimney caps.

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- 43. This is an individual store unit. The first floor facade is divided into 4 bays - a store front consisting of a central double leaf doorway flanked by two window bays, with a doorway to the second floor to the right of the store front. Both doorways are recessed and surmounted by rectangular transoms. The window bays contain six lights, threeover-three, and are original. The store front is cast iron; the acanthus leaves have been removed from the panelled square columns. Instead of having a stamped metal cornice above the store front, as do all the other stores in the block, there are brick segmental arches with a granite keystone above each bay. A horizontal band of bricks. laid in a sawtooth pattern, is above the arches. This brick work has been painted white. The second story is four bays wide with segmentally arched double hung, two-over-two, windows with corbelled hoods and granite keystones. This is the same window treatment as over the second story entry-way of #39 and 40. A double horizontal band of bricks, laid in a sawtooth pattern, connect the windows just below the impost level. This band continues across the entire facade of the block, Visually linking the individual building units. Above the windows is a corbelled brick frieze in a band of nine continuous round arches with a triple band of corbelling above. This corbelled frieze is similar to #38. Above the frieze is a cornice of stamped metal with decorative double bracketed finials at each end.
- 44. These three stores were designed as a triple unit. The cornice line
- 45. of these three store units is higher than that on the outer store
- 46. units. The store front of #44 is divided into 3 bays. A recessed doorway is in the center with window bays on either side which have four large lights, two-over-two. The recessed area by the door is also glazed with large one-over-one lights. The store front is cast iron; the acanthus leaves have been removed from the capitals of the columns which are square with long rectangular panels. A stamped metal cornice is above the cast iron and glass front; this cornice continues across the other two store fronts. The store fronts on #45 and 46 are also cast iron; however these stores are treated differently than the other store units in the block. They share a common recessed door which is in #46; two large glass bays are on either side with two-over-two lights. The recessed doorway for the second story meeting rooms and apartment is located to the right of #45; it has a large one leaf door. The 2 doors to the 3 store units were replaced

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-8)

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in the 1960's by a small modern door and the remaining space and transom were filled in with wood. Tongue and groove board siding was also dropped over the top third of the windows. The second story is brick and is three bays wide over each unit. The windows are segmentally arched with double hung, two-over-two lights and with corbelled brick labels, granite keystones and rusticated granite sills. This is the same window treatment as in #39, 40, 41, and 42. A double band of bricks, laid in a sawtooth pattern, connect the windows just below the impost level. This same band continues across the entire facade of the block, visually linking the individual building units. A corbelled brick frieze, laid in a horizontal band, is above the windows; this is the same style band as on #39 and 40. In unit #44 and 46, there is an additional corbelled frieze divided into rectangular panels, over the windows; here the soldier of the brick is laid in a sawtooth pattern. These panels and corbelled frieze are carried on around the west-southwest side of the block, which is ten bays deep. The windows on this side are treated in the same manner as they are on the front. A wooden belcast roof is on the side of the building protecting a loading platform. Unit #45, in the center, has three corbelled segmental arches above the corbelled frieze which are spaced above the three windows. Above these decorative segmental arches is a repeat of the rectangular panels of soldier bricks laid in a sawtooth pattern. This center unit (#45) is slightly higher than the units on either side. The rectangular panels of soldier bricks is the same height as the metal cornice on units #44 and 46. A pressed metal cornice tops the three units. There are two double bracketed finials on each side of the center (#45) unit. The ends of the cornice are plain.

48. South Royalton Railroad Station - Queen Anne, 1886, 1½-story, gabled roof sheathed with slate, load bearing brick walls with clapboards and shingles, laid in an imbricated pattern, in the gable peaks. There are decorative bargeboards along the gable ends. A porch, with belcast eaves supported by brackets, surrounds the station. Two bay windows, with gabledroofs, are on the east-northeast and west-southwest sides. Two horseshoe arched window openings, with stained and leaded glass, are in the south-southeast and north-northwest ends. The other windows are double hung and bordered with colored glass. Decorative terra cotta corner blocks are above the windows and doors. The building is visually tied together by a belt course at the sill level. This outstanding example of a Queen Anne style station was built by the Vermont Central Railroad following the fire of 1886 which resulted in the building of the Block (#38-46) and the doubling in size of the village park.

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- 51. South Royalton House Greek Revival, 1850, 3½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof facing the park. Three gabled dormers are on the east-northeast and the west-southwest sides. A two story porch, supported by panelled square columns is recessed across the north-northwest gable elevation and continues across the west-southwest elevation. The South Royalton House was built in 1850 by Daniel Tarbell Jr.; about 1880 an ell was added to the south-southeast end and in 1909 this roof was raised and made flat. Until the 1960's when part of it was removed the ell extended to the Livery Stable (#52).
- 81. Soper-Eckert House, Gothic Revival c. 1870, 15-story, wood frame, gabled roof built for William Soper by Issac Shepard, a local carpenter builder who also built #31. The house is an excellent example of a Gothic Revival House with elaborate decorative detailing. The distinguishing exterior architectural details are: the cruciform floor plan; the bargeboard with inverted wave pattern; the second floor recessed porch with a stylized inflected arch in the gable on the south elevation; the second floor balconies; the hood moldings over the windows and doors and the board and batten siding. The house is architecturally well developed on a cruciform plan according to the basic principles of the Gothic Revival style as outlined by Alexander Jackson Davis, Andrew Jackson Downing, et al; e.g., proportion, interesting silhouette, symmetrical regularity, variety of architectural form in order to produce a play of light and shadow, etc. Even though the builder was dependent on popular pattern books for the design and details, the house shows the skill of a master carpenter whose knowledge of architecture went beyond the use of standard architect's and builder's pattern books.

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Inventory of Structures Located Within the South Royalton Historic District, Royalton, Vermont.

- 1. G. Root House: $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, low one story porch across front gable end.
- 2. Welcome Studio: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, built by Perley Belknap before 1909.
- 3. Brock House and Gas Station: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. Added to the gabled roof house is a projecting addition with a shed roof for the gas station office; two bay garage on the west-southwest side of gable house with a flat roof sloping towards rear. The house was built in 1908 for a feed shop.
- 4. Apartment House: c. 1900, 2½-story, gabled roof. The first story of the building is constructed from pressed concrete block in imitation of stone, the second story and gable are clapboarded. A two story porch is on the gable end and there are small gothic bargeboards along the eaves and raking trim.
- 5. Whitcomb House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, five bays across front elevation, connected carriage sheds which have been converted into offices. The house is similar in basic design to #s 24, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, and 74.
- 6. Dr. O. J. Ellis House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, "T" shaped plan, two story porches on either side of the projecting section and continuing around the main gable end.
- 7. Earl Shepard House: 12-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, shed dormer, attached garage, exterior fireplace chimney.
- 8. St. Matthew's Church: see Description.
- 9. Parsonage: 2-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, gable front elevation, connecting ell with attached garage also with a gabled roof, built by the Methodist Church in 1879 as the Parsonage.

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- 10. Cowdery Place: 12-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, shed dormers.
- 11. Skinner-Eddy House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. A two story bay window on the gable front (north-northwest) and on the west-southwest side, both with flat roofs supported by decorative brackets, and with decorative panels between the basement level, and second story windows. The front door (north-northwest gable end) has a flat roof hood supported by decorative brackets with scroll work. The service section of the house is on the south-southeast end of the main house and is built on a smaller scale than the main house. It has porches on the west-southwest and the east-northeast sides. On the south side of the house are the original separate carriage house and stable. The complex of buildings were built in 1884 by Ira Spaulding for Anson Perkins Skinner.
- 12. Southgate house: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, gabled dormer, facing Chelsea Street (north-northwest elevation). The connecting shed and garage have been converted into offices. The house was built in 1853 by David Adams on speculation for Daniel Tarbell Jr., and purchased in 1854 by C. C. Southgate,
- 13. Foster-Sargent House: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. A classic story-and-a-half cottage with five bays across the front elevation. A low one story porch, with decorative spindles, is across the front elevation. The house was built in 1854 by William Foster. A large gabled roof ell/in back of the main house.
- 14. Fred Sargent Place: 2-story, wood frame, gabled roof, one story porch across front elevation, built c. 1930.
- 15. Southworth-Button House: 2-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, shed dormers, porch across gable front, built shortly after 1930.
- 16. Whitcomb-Leonard House: $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, brick, gabled roof, five bays wide across the front elevation with a low one story porch across front (added 1900 by Lester Corwin), granite splayed lintels over fenestration. A $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood frame ell on the back of the house, along Chelsea Street, is clapboarded, and has a recessed one story porch across half of its side. This is the only brick house in the district and was built in 1854 by Lyman Jones.

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- 17. Schoolhouse: see Description.
- 18. Vermont Law School Library: multiple levels, steel framed, diagonal rough wood siding, unpainted, metal roof painted green, designed by Banwell, White, and Arnold, Inc., of Hanover, New Hampshire and constructed in 1975. A glass enclosed breezeway connects the Library to the schoolhouse (#17).
- 19. Abbott House: see Description.
- 20. Cilley-Flint House: 12-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, one story porch on gable end and west-southwest side, attached sheds, built in 1854 by William Cilley.
- 21. "Valley Graftsman": 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. There is a projecting store front with a second story porch above. A corner (south) oriel begins at the second story and is two stories high with a steep octagonal roof. A decorative cut and scrolled pendant is in the gable peak. The building has a slate roof and attached stables. It was built as a harness shop with an upstairs apartment in 1894 by Ira Spaulding.
- 22. Dickerman Block: 2-story, wood frame, covered in original early pressed metal siding in imitation of brick, flat roof. A later 2-story, flat-roofed addition to the east-northeast side is clapboarded and makes the building "U" shaped in plan. The center section of the building is original and is also covered with metal siding in imitation of brick; it has a two-story porch across the front elevation. The doorway of the store is on the corner of North Windsor and Chelsea Streets and is recessed with a decorative spool valance. The block was built for L. C. Dickerman in 1894 to replace his store which burned on this site in 1893.
- 23. Tarbell-Whitham Office: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, covered with slate. Built in 1855 by Ezra Wells as the South Royalton Graded School, District 18, the building originally stood on the site of #17. It was moved in 1893 to its present site to make room for the new and larger schoolhouse.

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- 24. Lamb-Sears House: $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, five bays wide across the front elevation. The front door is in the center and has side lights and a gabled porch entry. There is a connecting stable and carriage house. The house was built in 1853 for C. M. Lamb, the first lawyer in the village, and is similar in basic design to #'s 5, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, and 74.
- 25. Thompson-Curtis House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, "L" shaped in plan, with a gabled roof. The house was built before 1855. There are two 2-story bay windows with flat roofs on the front and south-southeast sides. There are bracketed hoods over the windows and doors and a connecting stable and carriage house.
- 26. Deacon Young Place: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, "L" shaped in plan, with a gabled roof, corner two-story turret on front (southwest) side, one-story veranda around front (west-southwest) and south-southeast sides, attached stables and carriage house; built between 1893 and 1900.
- 27. Hood-Pixley House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, hipped roof with projecting gable on front northwest corner, one story veranda on front west-southwest side, attached stables and carriage house.
- 28. Bailey-Davis House: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof with shed dormer, five bays wide across front elevation. The attached stables and carriage house have been made over into apartments.
- 29. Goff-Knight House: see Description.
- 30. "Old Congregational Parsonage": 2½-story, wood frame, gabled roof, cruciform plan. A one story flat roofed porch is across the front elevation which is three bays wide. Decorative hoods over the fenestration. The house was built in 1895.
- 31. Viall-Vesper House: see Description.

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- 32. Brock House: 12-story, "L" shaped in plan, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. A one-story porch is across the front of the ell on the east side of the house.
- 33. Preston-Lovering House: 12-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. The house is three bays wide on the front elevation; the front door is flanked by side lights. The windows are six-over-six. This house was an ell to the house Lyman Benson purchased in 1843 and was the first house in the village of South Royalton. In 1859 Luther Preston moved the ell of the house Lyman Benson purchased across the street and made it into a house, the present Preston-Lovering House. The remaining Lyman Benson house burned in 1893. It is the only post and beam constructed building in the village; all other buildings are either of balloon frame or brickload bearing construction.
- 34. Ellis House: $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, corner pilasters. The front elevation of the house is three bays wide and the windows are two-over-two. The front door has a flat roofed hood supported by decorative brackets. There is a one-story rectangular bay window on the south-southeast side with a flat roof supported by decorative brackets. The house was built in 1886 on a foundation of a house that burned in the fire of that year.
- 35. Sara Goodrich Place: 21-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, poly-chrome slate roof, three bays wide on front elevation, flat roofed hood over front door supported by decorative brackets, windows are two-over-two, attached carriage house and stable, built between 1894 and 1901.
- 36. Creamery: 1-story, cement block, hipped roof.
- 37. Manchester-Folsom House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, shed dormers. The front door flat roofed hood is supported by decorative brackets. A one-story bay window, with flat roof, is on the facade. A two-story porch is on the south-southeast side of house; the second story has been enclosed with glass. There is an attached carriage house and shed.
- 38. The Block, Laundromat: see Description.

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- 39. The Block, Community Shop: see Description.
- 40. The Block, Welch Brother's Hardware: see Description.
- 41. The Block, E. L. Eddy Store: see Description.
- 42. The Block, Dewey Store: see Description.
- 43. The Block, Fran's Food Store: see Description.
- 44. The Block, Moody Furniture Store: see Description.
- 45. The Block, Ken's Barber Shop: see Description.
- 46. The Block, Hazel's Beauty Shop: see Description.
- 47. South Royalton Post Office: 1-story, brick with wood gable, gabled roof, cupola, "colonial style", built in 1963.
- 48. South Royalton Railroad Station: see Description.
- 49. South Royalton Freight House: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, with protective porch overhang supported by brackets. This is the passenger depot crected by the Vermont Central Railroad in 1850. In the fire of 1886 the original freight depot was destroyed. The Railroad, instead of erecting a new freight depot, moved the old passenger station and turned it into the present freight house and built No.'s 48 & 50, the present station and baggage house, respectively.
- 50. Baggage House: 12-story, slate-sheathed gabled roof, brick load bearing construction, clapboards and shingles laid in an imbricated pattern in the gables. There are two windows in the gables, a sliding door on the front (east) facing the Park. Constructed by the Vermont Central Railroad in 1886 at the same time as the Passenger Station (#48).
- 51. South Royalton House: see Description.

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- 52. Livery Stable: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. In 1975 the first floor of the Livery Stable was converted into a performing arts center. The back half of the Livery Stable had been used by the Town of Royalton for the storage of salt trucks, and rotted beyond repair. This section was removed in the renovations in 1975 and the end clapboarded over. On the east-southeast elevation is a projecting pedimented gable-roofed entrance with side lit French doors surmounted by a semi-elliptical leaded fanlight.
- 53. Shepard-Mongeon House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, one-story porch across front gable end.
- 54. Hoyt Knight Blacksmith Shop: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, shed dormers, outside stairway to second story, three-bays wide across front elevation, one story porch across front gable end. Built by Hoyt Knight between 1887 and 1894.
- 55. Grange Hall: $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, pressed concrete block in imitation of rusticated stone, smooth concrete quoins, concrete string course above water table, gabled roof with a stepped front facing Railroad Street. The building was built on a bank and is $1\frac{1}{2}$ stories on the facade (west) and $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories at the rear. The building was constructed in 1911 by Hoyt Knight as an opera house.
- 56. Garage: 1-story, pressed concrete blocks in imitation of rusticated stone, "L" shaped in plan, 13 bays, flat roof, built c. 1911 by Hoyt Knight.
- 57. Royalton Memorial Library: 1920-1924, 1½-story with high basement, brick with cement quoins and cement basement, hipped roof with three gabled dormers (on the north-northwest, east-northeast, and the south-southeast sides). On the west-southwest elevation is a pedimented gabled entrance portico with a side lit door, surmounted by a semi-elliptical arched fan light.
- 58. "Old firehouse": 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, one bay wide. This building was moved in 1914 by Hoyt Knight from across the railroad tracks and converted into a firehouse. In 1965 it was moved to its present location.

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- 59. Hackett-Lovejoy House: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, three bays across front elevation, one-story porch across front; built before 1855.
- 60. Knudson House: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, shed dormer, three bays across front (east) elevation. A flat roofed entry porch is on the facade, has lathe-turned posts, decorative pendents and a low jigsaw cut balustrade.
- 61. Kibby-Doyle House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded and shingled, gabled roof. A carpenter Gothic Revival Style house with steeply pitched gable roofs, a large gabled dormer on the front of the house gives the house the look of having a cruciform floor plan. The exterior wall surface is articulated in five continuous horizontal bands, a bottom band of vertically laid boards, a band of narrow clapboards, a band of vertically laid boards, another band of narrow clapboards, and a band of shingles laid in an imbricated pattern. The first and second story window openings are located in the bands of narrow clapboards. An addition on the back, with a shed roof, carries on the pattern of the main house. Along the front elevation is a one story porch with a sharp gable in the center which follows the shape of the house. Connected one bay garage with a round window above the garage bay.
- 62. Sargent-Adams House: $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood frame, gabled roof, one story porch with turned posts across front (east-northeast) and south-southeast side. Built shortly before 1887.
- 63. Stanley-Skinner House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, three bays wide across front gable elevation, with a one story recessed porch across front. A Greek Revival house built in 1850 for Edward Stanley, a brother-in-law of Daniel Tarbell Jr.
- 64. Martin Skinner Adams House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof. The windows are two-over-two. There are two two-story bay windows (one on the front elevation and one on the west-southwest side) with flat roofs supported by decorative scrolled brackets. The front door has rectangular side lights and transom and a flat roof entry porch supported by square posts and decorative scrolled brackets. This was originally part of a porch that continued around the west-southwest side of the house. House financed by Daniel Tarbell Jr., and built in 1850.

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- 65. Munsell Bungalow: 1½-story with high basement, wood frame, shingled, bungalow style house built in 1915 for C. H. Woodward who ran the South Royalton House but sold it before its completion to Dr. C. P. Munsell.
- 66. Cowdery-Goodrich House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, supported by decorative scrolled paired brackets. The house is five bays wide across the front elevation. The front door is in the center and has side lights. The windows are six-over-six. A low one story porch is across the front elevation. This house is similar in basic design to No's 5, 24, 69, 70, 72, 73, and 74 and was built in 1863.
- 67. Ilsley Place: 2½-story, wood frame, hipped roof, hipped dormer on front elevation, three bays wide across front elevation, one story porch across front. The house was built after 1909 for George Harrington, one of the 20th century proprietors of the South Royalton House.
- 68. Brightwood: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, six bays wide across front elevation, two-over-two windows. There are two front doors with side lights. A one story porch is across the front elevation. This house was built in 1850-1851 as a double house and was financed by Daniel Tarbell Jr. It is similar in basic design to No.'s 5, 24, 67, 70, 72, 73, and 74.
- 69. Pike Place: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, and paired interior end chimneys. The house is five bays wide across the front elevation with the front door in the center with side lights, the windows are six-over-six. A one story porch entry, with a hipped roof and central gable, has lathe-turned posts and a balustrade. The house was built in 1852 and financed by Daniel Tarbell Jr. A carriage house and stable is connected to the house. The house is similar in basic design to No.'s 5, 24, 67, 69, 72, 73 and 74.

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- Marvin Hazen House: 21-story, wood frame, gabled polychromed slate roof, a vernacular Queen Anne style house with a front gable elevation. A three story octagonal tower with an octagonal roof topped by a copper finial projects from the front. A one story porch, constructed out of turned component parts and decorative scrolled brackets is across the front elevation. The exterior wall surface of the house is articulated in five continuous horizontal bands, a bottom band of rectangular recessed panels, a band of narrow clapboards, a band of shingles laid in an imbricated pattern, another band of narrow clapboards, and a frieze of rectangular recessed panels. The first and second story windows are located in the bands of narrow clapboards. (There are additional shingled surfaces, also laid in an imbricated pattern, and clapboards, in the gables.) The band of imbricated shingles divides the first and second floor fenestration and is flared at the bottom forming a stringcourse. There is a connected carriage house and stable which is topped by a cupola with louvers and four gable peaks. The house was built between 1887 and 1894 for Marvin H. Hazen.
- 71. Wills-Stoughton House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, five bays across the front elevation, one story porch across two-thirds of front with turned posts and decorative brackets. The house was built in 1849 by Ezra Wills and is similar in basic design to No.'s 5, 24, 67, 69, 70, 73, and 74.
- 72. Lathrop-McBride House: 2-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, paired interior end chimneys. The house is five bays wide across the front elevation with the front door in the center with side lights, the windows are six-over-six. The house was built in 1850, financed by Daniel Tarbell Jr., and is similar in basic design to No.'s 5, 24, 67, 69, 70, 72, and 74.
- 73. Wilmot-Fish House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, paired interior chimneys, wide corner pilasters. The house is six bays wide across the front elevation with six-over-six windows. The original two recessed doors with side lights, have been replaced by one door with side lights. A one story entry, across one third of the front elevation, has a flat roof supported by square posts and decorative brackets. There are large cut granite steps. The south-southeast side entry has a protective corner hood over the door

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supported by decorative brackets with pendents. The granite doorstep is cut in the shape of a tree turnk. Built as a double house in 1850, finance by Daniel Tarbell Jr., it is similar in basic design to No.'s 5, 24, 67, 69, 70, 72, and 73.

- 74. United Church Federated: 2-story with steeple, wood frame with brick first story and remainder clapboarded, gabled roof. Built as a one story church with steeple in 1869, the building was raised in 1889 to allow an additional story to be built underneath. The Town clock with bell is in the steeple.
- 75. "The Red House": $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, one story bay window with flat roof on front elevation, built between 1869 and 1887.
- 76. Smith-Ashley House: 2½-story, wood frame, gabled roof, house built in 1859 for William C. Smith. Extensively remodeled and rebuilt into apartments in the 1960's.
- 77. Whitcomb Block: 2-story, brick with original cast iron store front with square Corinthian columns on first floor, three bays wide on front elevation, corbelled brick cornice and window hoods. An Italianate Revival Queen Anne style commercial block with an unusual shallow curved roof, built in 1887 for H. H. Whitcomb.
- 78. The Bandstand: wood frame, octagonal with an octagonal beleast roof swooping up to a turned wood finial. The eight side panels alternate between shingles laid in an imbricated pattern, vertical board panels, and shingles laid in a sawtooth pattern. The bandstand is raised approximately six feet from the ground, originally with an open base but now enclosed with lattice work and used for storage of Park maintenance equipment. Originally there was a spiral stairway in the center of the bandstand but this was later removed and an exterior staircase added. The bandstand was built in 1892 with money raised through dances and benefits to help the community with Park improvements.
- 79. Benson-Gray House: 2½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, 3 bays wide across front elevation with low one-story porch. Built by Lyman Benson between 1855 and 1869.

(Continued on Continuation Sheet 7-21)

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- 80. Smith-Hazelton House: 1½-story, wood frame, clapboarded, gabled roof, five bays across front elevation of main part of house, connected ell, built between 1887 and 1894.
- 81. Soper-Eckert House: see Description.
- 82. Bridge: Iron bridge over the White River, 4 span, curved cord Pratt type truss. Built in 1903 by the United Construction Company of Albany, N. Y. Connected to the westerly bank of the White River by three 50' concrete "T" beam approach bridge sections constructed in 1928 by Hoyt Knight, a local contractor.

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Four fires, 1878, 1883, 1886, and 1893, helped determine the present appearance of the village, for after each fire the destroyed area of the village was rebuilt. The village's worst fire, in August 1886, destroyed all the stores in the village, some houses, and the freight depot. The opportunity provided by the fire to build a "modern" commercial block was quickly seized by the various merchants involved. The building scheme hinged on whether or not the selectmen would purchase the commercial building lots bordering the village green on the southerly side of Main Street (Chelsea Street) for inclusion in the park. Through the persuasion of the Hon. Dudley Chase Denison of Royalton village, the selectmen purchased the lots and the businessmen hired George Guernsey, a Montpelier Vermont architect, to design a continuous brick commercial block of twelve individual store buildings, 280 feet long and 100 feet wide.

Guernsey, a little known but important Vermont architect, designed the Baptist Church in Ludlow, Vermont (1892-8) and the Wood Academy building in Bradford, Vermont (1893-4). He was probably the architect of the South Royalton Schoolhouse (#17) which was built the year before the Wood Academy and which has many of the same architectural details. The front elevation of the South Royalton stores are unified by an architecturally cohesive facade. Only nine of the original twelve stores survive; the three stores on the corner of North Windsor Street burned in 1963. The facade is not a single continuous design but is, instead, divided into five sections of three, one, two, two, and one stores respectively. The three stores which burned made up the sixth section and originally balanced the other end section of three stores.

The Vermont Central Railroad, interested in the efforts and planning of the town to improve the village's appearance, agreed after the 1886 fire to move the train tracks back from the village green, remodel the old passenger depot into a freight house and erect a "modern" passenger station and baggage house.

With the exception of the addition of the "Block" (#38-46) and the Rail-road buildings (#48 & 50), the character of the village area around the village park has changed very little since the 1850s.

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Two local designer-builders greatly affected the style of residential buildings in South Royalton. Issac Shepard, who built the Viall-Vesper House (#31) and the Soper-Eckert House (#82) built in the Gothic Revival style and Ira Spaulding, who built St. Matthew's Church (#8), the Abbott House (#19), and the Marvin Hazen House (#71) used the Queen Anne style for his buildings.

Vermont's first and only law school is located within the South Royalton Historic District. Vermont Law School purchased the old schoolhouse (#17) from Royalton College who had saved the important building from decay and destruction. The corner turret of the Queen Anne style structure, visible in most of the village, is one of the more prominent landmarks seen when entering the village and has come to symbolize education. Vermont Law School, which is actively playing a leading role in the field of historic preservation in Royalton, has made adaptive use of many buildings in town in order to preserve South Royalton's historic villagescape.

South Royalton is a village that has undergone many changes since its founding in 1848 by Daniel Tarbell Jr. The village is fortunate to have many of its original buildings remaining, but equally as fortunate in having each generation add their own buildings, in their own style, as the need arose. No one architectural style predominates in the village; newer buildings have been interspersed with old, giving a total intergration of styles and periods. Represented are Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate Revival, Queen Anne, California Bungalow, boomtown, and the Colonial Revival styles, forming architecturally cohesive residential and commercial streetscapes which illustrate the village's nineteenth century development. The village is a visual record of its own history.

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- Sanborn Map Company. Maps of the village of South Royalton for the years: 1887, 1894, 1901, 1906, 1914, and 1922.
- Vermont Division of Historic Sites, <u>Historic Sites and Structures Survey</u>, Windsor County, Royalton. Survey Code Number: 1416.

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Town School District property and the center line of S. Windsor Street; thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the center line of S. Windsor St. to a point C at the intersection of an extension in an easterly direction of the south property line of the Hacket-Lovejoy property (#59); thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the south property lines of the Hacket-Lovejoy property (#59), the "old firehouse" property (#58), the Royalton Fire District #1 property and the Royalton Memorial Library Association property (#57), and across Alexander Plaza St. to a point D at the intersection of an extension in a westerly direction of the south property line of the Royalton Memorial Library Association property (#57) and the westernmost Central Vermont Railway track; thence proceeding in a northerly direction along the Central Vermont Railway Tracks and the spur track to a point E, at the intersection of an extension in an easterly direction of the south property line of the Benson-Gray property (#79) and the Central Vermont Railway spur track; thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the south property line of the Benson-Gray property (#79) to a point F at the intersection of an extension in a westerly direction of the south property line of the Benson-Gray property ($\frac{n}{27}$ 79) and the center line of Rainbow St.; thence proceeding in a northerly direction along the center line of Rainbow St. to a point G at the intersection of the center line of Rainbow St. and the center line of North St.; thence proceeding in an easterly direction along the center line of North St. to a point H at the intersection of an extension in a southerly direction of the west property line of the Soper-Eckert property (#81); thence proceeding in a northerly, then easterly direction along the west, then north property lines of the Soper-Eckert property (#81) to a point I at the intersection of an extension in an easterly direction of the north property line of the Soper-Eckert property (#81) and the Central Vermont Railway track; thence proceeding in a northerly direction along the Central Vermont Railway track to a point J at the intersection of an extension in a westerly direction of the north property line of the Goff-Knight property (#29) and the Central Vermont Railway track; thence proceeding in an easterly direction along the north property line of the Goff-Knight property ($\frac{1}{27}$ 29), across N. Windsor St. and along the north property line of the Bailey-Davis property ($^{\prime\prime}_{i7}28$) to a point K at the intersection of an extension in an easterly direction of the north property line of the Bailey-Davis property (#28) with the center line of the White River; thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the center line of the White River, but including all of the 1903 iron bridge (#82), to the point of beginning.

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SOUTH ROYALTON VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT AMENDMENT

This amendment is to correct information provided in the South Royalton Village Historic District nomination on property #82, a historic bridge. The district was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on September 3, 1976.

82. Bridge, c.1935

This is a two-lane steel Parker through truss bridge with riveted construction. It is approached at the westerly end by three 50' concrete "T" beam approach spans. The metal truss bridge is 201' in length and is 21.4' wide. The top chord is a box girder with a latticed underside. The bottom chord has two channels with stay plates. The verticals and diagonals are I-beams (8" \times 12"), and the counter diagonal and horizontal stiffeners are paired channels joined by lattice bars. The top and sway bracing are plate girder struts with cross-bracing of latticed paired angles and crossed angles with a central The floor system consists of rolled I-section floor beams, four I-beam stringers, T-section bottom cross-bracing, and a concrete slab floor. The two-rail guardrail is built up of angles and channels on T-section stanchions. The sidewalk, which is located on the northerly side of the bridge, is built out on plate-girder outriggers. The sidewalk rail has a pipe handrail and square stock balusters.

The three concrete approach spans are carried on five square-section concrete beams that are about 2-1/2 feet deep. They have paneled concrete railings, and rest on rusticated abutments and piers. The abutments are poured on earlier granite random-ashlar abutments. The two western-most spans date from 1928. The span closest to the bridge dates from 1935, and matches the 1928 spans in design and materials. There is a "crook" in the approach to the bridge where the 1935 and 1928 spans meet.

This bridge replaced a narrow one lane camelback iron through truss bridge on stone abutments that had been built in 1903 by the United Construction Company of Albany, New York. It had replaced a wooden covered bridge built in 1848. The 1903 bridge was the only one on the White River to survive the devastating 1927 flood. The approach spans however were completely destroyed during that flood and were rebuilt in concrete in 1928 by Hoyt Knight, a local contractor who also built the grange hall (building #1 in the district).

The 1903 metal truss bridge was replaced in 1935 with the

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current bridge. The Royalton Town Report for fiscal year 1934-35 shows that the bridge was constructed by the Lackawanna Steel Construction Company. The engineers listed were C. B. Keefe and W. H. Day. The approach span closest to the bridge was also rebuilt. The contractor for that was Hoyt Knight. The first orders for payments of expenses for the new bridge were drawn on October 5, 1934. The total cost of the bridge, as reported in the 1935 town report, was \$30,020.78. Of that amount, the federal government paid \$8,727.34, the State of Vermont paid \$13,683.87, and the Town of Royalton paid \$7,609.57. By the time of the 1935 Royalton Town Report the town treasurer could boast a "handsome new bridge across the White River, all bills paid." (p.37)

The Lackawanna Steel Construction Company, begun in Scranton, Pennsylvania, in the 1840s, was based after 1901 in Lackawanna (formerly West Seneca), New York. The company was bought by Bethlehem Steel in 1922. In the comprehensive 1985 survey of all metal truss bridges built before 1940 that are located on public roads in Vermont, only one other bridge is identified as having been built by Lackawanna. That one was built in 1922, the last year of Lackawanna's independent operation.

This 1935 bridge is comparable to other bridges in Vermont built after the 1927 flood, and its rivet for rivet comparability is found only during the period of re-building after the flood. It is identical to the River Street bridge in the neighboring town of Bethel (listed in the Bethel Village Historic District Amendment, entered on the National Register on May 24, 1990). The Bethel bridge, built in 1928, was fabricated by Bethlehem Steel Company in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, for a Massachusetts-based general contractor, C. I. Hosmer. Bethlehem Steel was a large steel company, but not heavily represented among bridge fabricators in Vermont. It appears that after Bethlehem Steel took over Lackawanna and after the 1927 flood, the two companies made use of each other's standard bridge designs.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this amendment to the South Royalton Village Historic District nomination 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 60.

Eric Gilbertson

Director/State Historic Preservation Officer

