

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Woodbury Graded School
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number T. H. 22
city, town Woodbury
state Vermont code VT county Washington code 023 zip code 05681

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private, public-local (checked), public-State, public-Federal
Category of Property: building(s) (checked), district, site, structure, object
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing 0, Total 1

Name of related multiple property listing: Educational Resources of Vermont
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
Date: 7/24/93

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official
Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
determined eligible for the National Register.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other, (explain:)

entered in the National Register
Signature of the Keeper: Delores Byers
Date of Action: 9/30/93

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/ school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/ school

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls weatherboard

shingle

roof asphalt

other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheets for description.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1914 - 1943

Significant Dates

1914

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet for statement of significance.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Industrial Vermont. Essex Junction, Vt.: Vermont Bureau of Publicity,
Office of the Secretary of State, 1914.

Sanborn Insurance Map. Washington County, Vermont. (September 1914).

Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey. Woodbury. Vermont Division for
Historic Preservation. Montpelier, Vt.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 5

UTM References

A

118	6987210	48970810
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes all the land historically associated with this school.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephanie Jacon
 organization University of Vermont Historic Preservation date May 8, 1990
 street & number Program, Wheeler House telephone (802) 656-3180
 city or town Burlington state Vermont zip code 05405

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Woodbury Elementary School
Woodbury, Washington Co., Vermont

Section number 7 Page 1

The Woodbury Graded School, a two story Colonial Revival elementary school located in the Town of Woodbury, Washington County, Vermont, is an example of school architecture in early twentieth century Vermont. This 1914 structure includes elements such as large banks of windows that were standard in Vermont schools after 1904. Standing approximately seventy-five feet south of Town Highway 22 and just west of Route 14 on the side of a hill that rises to the west, the building dominates the rural village of Woodbury. The school retains its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

This rectangular plan, nine by six bay, hipped roof structure has two massive, rectangular brick interior end chimneys at the north and south roof edges. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The walls have wood shingles on the second floor and clapboards on the first floor. There is a poured concrete foundation. With few exceptions, the east (main) and west facades are identical, as are the north and south facades.

A shingled hipped roof dormer containing a bank of three 8 pane fixed sash windows projects over the central bays of the 9 bay east and west facades. The deep eaves containing a cornice molding and modillions continue along the roofline of the second story. Two identical groups of four 20/20 4' x 9' double hung windows, each window in the group spaced several inches apart, are located approximately three inches below the cornice line and five feet towards the center from each side edge of these long facades. A bank of three 8/1 double hung 4' x 9' windows is located in the central bay. All the school windows are topped by a simple cornice molding projecting approximately one inch beyond the side of the windows. The lower three courses of the second story square shingles flare out slightly over the simple cornice molding belt course, approximately six inches high, that

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separates the second and first stories. Beginning just under the belt course in the first story, two groups of four 8/1 windows identical in appearance, size and placement to those described in the second story are located to either side of the central entrance bay that contains a wooden door with sidelights capped by a massive gabled, cantilevered pedimented entry hood. Simple wood trim appears at the side edges of the first story and as a water table between the first story and the exposed basement.

The roofline treatment, the belt course, the water table, the side edge trim and the exposed basement all continue on the southern and northern facades. On the second story of these short facades, two identical banks of three double hung 20/20 windows are located just below the roofline and approximately three feet in from the sides. The window treatment is exactly the same on the first floor except the windows are 8/1.

The central bay of both the east and west facades contains the most outstanding exterior feature of the school, the entry hood. The peak of the hood gable is located just below the second story central bank of three windows and its roofline begins at the belt course. The deep eaves with modillions of the school's roofline repeat around the hood roofline and in a raking position along the inclined edges of the gable end of the hood. Simple L-shaped brackets with rounded ends and a diagonal member support the hood. Under the center of the hood directly below the belt course is a pair of fixed sash transoms, each containing six panels divided up into eight panes in a Colonial Revival style pattern of a horizontal, a vertical and two diagonal muntins. Located just below this pair of windows is a simple rectangular plywood sign with wooden letters reading "Woodbury Graded School." A 6/1 double hung window is located under the hood to either side of the sign. The bottoms of these windows are at approximately the same level as the bottom

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of the sign. The main door on the eastern facade, located immediately under the sign, has a 9 paned window in its top half, a rectangular recessed wooden panel in the middle and two square recessed wooden panels in its bottom third. The main door on the western facade, located in the same place, has 3 vertical rectangular windows in its top half and three vertical rectangular wooden recessed panels in its bottom half. Two half length sidelights above rectangular recessed wooden panels frame the door.

Significant interior features include the relatively unaltered floor plans of the four classrooms on the first floor and the gymnasium/auditorium on the second floor. Original materials such as pressed metal ceilings, hardwood floors, wooden wainscoting, blackboards and basement coal bins are found throughout the school.

Stairs lead from each vestibule up to the first floor rectangular central hallway that the entire first floor plan is arranged around. Four large, virtually identical rectangular classrooms open off this space, one in each corner of the building. One long and one short wall of each classroom contain banks of windows. A blackboard and assorted cabinets appear on the other long wall and a small lavatory and supply closet are built into the other short wall. Two stairways to the second floor are located off the central hallway, along the east and west walls of the building. The entire second floor is open except for a stage and two flanking rooms against the south wall.

On the western corner of the southern facade a small (approximately 6' wide) half story gable roofed addition extends south from the main wall plane. This modern clapboard structure with an asphalt shingled roof was added in approximately 1970 to cover the bulkhead doors leading into the basement. In 1987 a modern, wooden handicapped access ramp was installed. It begins to the

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south of the main door, extends to the southern edge of the facade, doubles back on itself and ends at a modern door which replaced the original 6/1 double hung window located at approximately the same level and to the south of the plywood sign.

The roof was replaced approximately thirty years ago. In 1987 changes were made to comply with health, safety and access codes and to provide the school with more classroom space and a kitchen. Changes included the addition of the wheelchair ramp, constructing classrooms in the basement, enclosing the stairways to the second floor and converting one of small rooms flanking the stage on the second floor to a working kitchen so that the second floor could be used as a cafeteria in addition to a gymnasium and an auditorium.

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Section number 8 Page 1

The Woodbury Elementary School, a two story hip-roofed building built in 1914 that dominates the village of Woodbury, is an outstanding early 20th century rural Vermont grade school in the Colonial Revival style. It is sided with a combination of clapboards and shingles and ornamented by elaborate door hoods and large modillion blocks under the rooflines. The interior is noteworthy for its four first floor classrooms with their beaded board wainscoting, wooden molded trim framing the banks of windows and doors, and the open second floor, which was used for multiple purposes. The building is also significant for exemplifying trends in education in Vermont during this time period. Woodbury, a small agricultural community, was transformed in the late 19th century when granite was discovered, and the town experienced a major economic and population boom that lasted into the early 20th century. The new school was built to replace the smaller district schools and also to serve the growing number of school children. This school is being nominated under the multiple property submission, "Educational Resources of Vermont." It clearly meets the registration requirements for the property type school.

The Woodbury Elementary School, like many others constructed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, was, to some degree, an architectural product of state law. Regulations which clearly influenced this school were 1) an 1892 state law giving each town control over education and resulting in centrally located, larger schools replacing smaller, scattered district schools and 2) beginning in 1904, State Board of Health standards for adequate sanitation, ventilation and lighting. During its boom period Woodbury needed and could afford to build a substantial, modern school. As built, the Woodbury Elementary School was a relatively large, centrally located structure with large banks of windows, steam heat and indoor plumbing. Unlike many early Vermont district schools which resembled houses and were often located in areas such as swamps which could not be farmed, Woodbury Elementary is an early example of an architecturally distinguished school located on prime land in the town center. From this position, the school dominates the town landscape.

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Woodbury Elementary School
Woodbury, Washington Co., Vermont

The school architecture is a blend of styles and details. The hip roof, eight-paned transom windows, Georgian plan, and oversize cornice molding with modillions are all typical of the Colonial Revival style. The flare at the base of the shingled second story lends a Shingle Style feeling of fluidity to the building. The mixing of these stylistic details with such features as the projecting pedimented entry hood and combination of clapboard and shingle siding gives the building a formal yet vernacular feel.

The Woodbury school was a major village investment that served both the children and the adults of the community. The large second floor gymnasium/auditorium space doubled as a public hall. Its size and central location made it a convenient meeting place. The plan and original materials of both the first floor classrooms and the second floor multipurpose room are intact and retain their integrity.

The success of the granite industry in the Town of Woodbury was largely responsible for creating the need for a new school and the revenues necessary to build one. In the last quarter of the nineteenth century when the granite business began to grow, Woodbury had ten schools and ten school districts. Founded in 1878, the Woodbury Granite Company employed 1800 men by 1914. It was "said to be the largest building granite producer in the world and probably the largest granite concern in the world" according to Industrial Vermont, a guide to the industrial resources of Vermont published by the Vermont Bureau of Publicity in 1914. Many Woodbury Granite workers and their families lived near the Woodbury town center. The Woodbury Elementary School was a central community showpiece built to reduce the number of existing schools and accommodate the growing school population. The community continued to grow and

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attendance at the school increased until the late 1920s. In the past twenty years the population of Woodbury has grown. In the late 1960s approximately 50 children attended Woodbury Elementary; today the enrollment is approximately 90 students in grades K-6.

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Woodbury Elementary School
Woodbury, Washington Co., Vermont

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Beginning at a point on the south side of Town Highway 22 approximately 400 feet southwest from the intersection of the southerly side Town Highway 22 and Route 14: thence southerly approximately 525 feet along a line of trees and shrubbery to a tree line: thence turning at approximately a right angle and following the treeline approximately 300 feet in a westerly direction: thence turning an angle of approximately 130 degrees and following the treeline approximately 325 feet in a northwesterly direction to a point on the southerly line of Town Highway 22: thence following the southerly line of Town Highway 22 in a northeasterly direction to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

This is the lot historically associated with the property. It is sufficient to convey its historic integrity.

OTHER:

Property Owner: Woodbury School Board
c/o Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union
Hardwick, VT 05843

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PHOTOGRAPHS

This information is the same for all photographs.

Woodbury Graded School
Woodbury, Vermont
Credit: Stephanie Jacon
Date: March 1990

Negative filed at the Vermont Division for Historic
Preservation

Photograph 1

Description: View looking east from Town Highway 22, west
side of school.

Photograph 2

Description: View looking north, south end and east side
of school.

Photograph 3

Description: View looking east, west side of school.

Photograph 4

Description: Main entrance detail, east side of school.

Photograph 5

Description: Main entrance transom and sign detail, west
side of school.

Photograph 6

Description: East wall of southwest corner classroom,
first floor interior.

Photograph 7

Description: View looking north in gymnasium/auditorium,
second floor school interior.