

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
JUN 21 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 18 1978

**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

Elkins Tavern

AND/OR COMMON

Jonathan Elkins Tavern

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Boiling House Rd

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Peacham

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

CODE

50

COUNTY

Caledonia

CODE

05

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Walter Bogner

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Peacham

— VICINITY OF

Vermont

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Peacham

STATE

Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey

DATE

1977

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on the Bailey-Hazen Road in the Town of Peacham, Vermont, the Elkins Tavern is a three-story, clapboarded, post and beam structure, with a gabled roof, set on a low stone foundation. The main rectangular structure is five bays wide and two bays deep. In the central bay of the first story of the main (west) facade is the main entryway, distinguished by a vernacular Georgian style doorway, characterized by a full entablature, supported by two simple fluted pilasters, the whole surmounted by a gable pediment, presently containing a modern lighting fixture. The door is multi panelled and a multi-paned transom is contained above the door. The windows on the west elevation are capped by a cornice, each window framed by a pair of green louvered shutters, the windows on the north and south facades are also finished in a similar manner. Here, the windows are of a graduated size according to story, the smallest window found in the attic of the gabled peak. The North facade contains an entry in the central bay of the first story. The door surround is a vernacular Federal type, consisting of a modern colonial door flanked by simple pilasters and a plain wooden frieze containing an electrical fixture. The south facade, in terms of fenestration, is similar to the north facade, and contains a one-story wooden porch, a Twentieth Century addition. A large plate-glass window replaces an original window on the south-east side on the first floor.

The rear, or eastern elevation, has been the most extensively altered section of the house. A single story ell is contained on the southern half of the rear (east) elevation and presently serves as the main service area of the house. The ell does not date to the time of construction of the main tavern. A one-story wagon shed extends from the rear ell in a southerly direction.

In terms of the interior, the original Georgian floor plan has been preserved; a preservation that includes the original stairhall, wainscoting, and fireplaces. Eighteenth century vernacular panelling is also found in the first and second floors in both the northwest and southwest chambers. The rear, or eastern, kitchen chamber has been altered with an extensive rebuilding of the kitchen fireplace.

A two-story barn, dating to the second half of the Nineteenth Century, stands vacant across the street. The original cellar hole of the first Elkins "Log House" is believed to exist under the front section of the present barn.

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

3. Elkins, J. Jr., "Copy of Historical Memorandum by Colonel Jonathan Elkins, Jr." Handwritten document in Possession of Peacham Historical Society.
4. McCorison, Marcus A. The Bailey-Hazen Military Road, Norwich, VT. The Pine Tree Press, 1959.
5. Vermont Historical Society. The Bailey-Hazen Road, The Northeast Vermont Development Association, Lyndonville, Vermont, 1959.
6. Watts, J. C. & Choate, E. A. People of Peacham. VT Historical Society, 1965.
7. Professor and Mrs. Walter Bogner, owners of the Elkins Tavern.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input 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 **1787** BUILDER/ARCHITECT **Jonathan Elkins**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1774, General Jacob Bailey of Newbury had been contacted by the proprietors of Peacham, living in Hadley, Mass., to settle their frontier lands. Bailey reportedly made contact with one Jonathan Elkins of Haverhill, New Hampshire, who found the land suitable for farming. Elkins, the future builder of the Tavern, sold his land in Haverhill and moved to Peacham in 1776. The Elkins' first shelter, built in 1775, was described by Jonathan Elkins, Jr., as a "Log House" covered "with bark".³

Elkins' Tavern was built in 1787 on the Bailey-Hazen Military Road. This road, started in 1776 after a recommendation from General George Washington, was to run from Wells River, Vermont, on the Connecticut River, to St. Johns, Quebec, to aid in the plans to capture Canada as a fourteenth colony. After the effort in Canada failed, construction on the road immediately stopped for fear of its being used by the British to stage a counter attack. Work resumed in 1779 with the Americans' plans for another Canadian campaign. The road, however, only reached Hazen Notch in Westford, VT, and, although it never helped the Revolutionary War effort, it did open up the interior of Northern Vermont for settlement.

Although in its earliest years, the Tavern was well used, subsequent re-routing of northern traffic isolated the structure on a dirt road, where it has been fortunately preserved by sensitive owners.

The Tavern is thus significant architecturally in that it contains one of the better Eighteenth Century interiors still intact in the state of Vermont. The stairhall and panelling found throughout the interior show a form of vernacular architecture as it was interpreted and built by the earliest settlers of the Vermont frontier. Derived stylistically from prototypes of a higher fashion found in the settlers' original communities, this type of Vermont vernacular architecture is a definitive statement of the craftsmanship and architectural ability of the early settlers of the State of Vermont.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Bogart, E. L., Peacham: The story of a Vermont Hill Town. VT Historical Society, 1948.
2. Brinton, Crane. "The Hazen Road," Vermont Life, Vol. IX, No. 3, Spring 1955, pp. 32-38.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 75 Acres

QUADRANGLE NAME St. Johnsbury, VT-NH

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8	7	2	6	6	0	4	9	1	1	8	1	5
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B

1	8	7	2	6	7	7	5	4	9	1	1	5	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

1	8	7	2	6	3	2	5	4	9	1	1	2	5	0
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D

1	8	7	2	5	8	7	5	4	9	1	1	2	6	0
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E

1	8	7	2	5	9	5	0	4	9	1	1	6	5	0
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F

1	8	7	2	6	3	7	5	4	9	1	1	8	7	5
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G

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H

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Coextensive with the original Jonathan Elkins land as owned by Mrs. Walter Bogner.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard C. Cote & John P. Dumville, Architectural Historians

ORGANIZATION

VT Division for Historic Preservation

DATE

September 1977-March 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Pavilion Building

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

William B. Pinney

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 6/19/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles H. Murray

DATE 12/15/78

ATTEST:

Anna M. Dwyer
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 12/15/78