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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIO NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
excellent Хдооd fair	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	UNALTERED X_ALTERED	Xoriginal	SITE DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Galusha House is a handsome two-and-one-half story brick house laid in common bond, with a gable roof, set on a low stone foundation. The main rectangular structure, built 1809, is five bays wide and two bays deep. A small, one-story, two-bay brick ell, built circa 1790, projects from the rear (west) elevation, from which projects a small onestory wooden ell which was originally a carriage shed and was converted to a kitchen, bath and a study in 1960.

In the central bay of the first story of the main (east) facade is the principal entrance, distinguished by an awkwardly proportioned one-bay pedimented gable roof portico which is not original to the house. The fenestration on the main facade contains 2/2 and 1/1 windows with painted jack arch lintels. Wooden louvered shutters originally framed each window on the east facade and are currently (1978) being rehung. A full denticulated cornice runs the entire length of the building, and is original. The two-bay south (left) elevation contains 1/1 windows with brick jack-arch lintels. A small semi-elliptical louvered opening graces the peak of the gable and relates to Federal detailing found throughout the house. The right (north) elevation contains one bay of 1/1 windows and two small attic windows flanking the chimney in the gable peak.

The brick rear elevation is without fenestration, and contains an ell built circa 1790. The openings in this two-bay dependency echo the painted brick jack arches found on the main block. The woodframe ell which projects from the westernmost point of the house is the most recent addition to the house, and is not in keeping with the brick principal block and ell.

On the house's interior, original fireplace mantels and window and door surrounds remain in the north and south chambers on both the first and second floors. The brick ell has been extensively modernized.

# **8** SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION		
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE		
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE		
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<u>X</u> 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER		
<u>X_</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS		POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		INVENTION	•• •• ••			
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SPECIFIC DATES 1790, 1809 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown						
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#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Situated on a small hill overlooking the village of Jericho, the Galusha House takes its historic name from Truman Galusha, prominent Jericho resident, who purchased the house in 1838. The residence was built in two sections consisting of the present rear brick ell (built circa 1790) and the main section believed to have been constructed circa 1809.

Truman Galusha, a prominent and active leader in Jericho, was tied by family to Vermont's early political history. His father was Governor Jonas Galusha of Shaftsbury and his mother was a daughter of Vermont's first Governor (Thomas Chittenden) as well as a sister of Governor Martin Chittenden. His second wife, and mistress of the Jericho house, was a granddaughter of Thomas Chittenden and a niece of Governor Martin Chittenden. (See Chittenden-Martin House, entered in the National Register January 9, 1978.)

Truman Galusha purchased the house in 1838 and the property remained in the family for 106 years though the family name varied through marriage. After Truman Galusha's death in 1859, the house passed to his son, Russell L. Galusha, then to his (Russell's) niece, Edna Percival. The next owners were the Howe family; Truman Galusha's daughter Clarissa married Lucian Howe who owned and enlarged, with their son Frank, the Old Red Mill in Jericho (entered in the National Register, May 15, 1972). Frank Howe owned the house 1904-1932. In 1944, their son's widow sold the house and it passed out of the family.

The Galusha family in Shaftsbury and Jericho were leading opponents of, and very outspoken on, the issue of slavery. It is said that this house was a sanctuary for escaping slaves moving north via the Underground Railroad.

The Galusha House is significant to Vermont's architectural heritage in that it represents a type of vernacular brick building at one time prevalent throughout Chittenden County during the Federal period. The house is in a good state of preservation without having been restored.

Specialized types of vernacular building traditions have been identified throughout Vermont's counties. Stylistically they typify the state's earliest settlement patterns, and the Galusha house is an excellent manifestation of the vernacular Federal brick building tradition of Chittenden County.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carlisle, Lilian Baker, Ed. and Williams, Blair, Looking Around Jericho, Underhill and Westford, Vermont, Chittenden County Historical Society, 1972.

<b>10</b> GEOGRAPHICAL	DATA		
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