

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Vermont	
COUNTY: Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 8 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Old West Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
.8 of a mile south of Kent's Corner

CITY OR TOWN:
Calais

STATE: Vermont CODE: 50 COUNTY: Washington CODE: 023

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted * <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Old West Church Association, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
(No street number)

CITY OR TOWN: Calais STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Town Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
(No street number)

CITY OR TOWN: Calais STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey

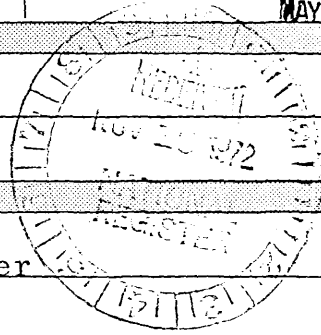
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Vermont Division of Historic Sites

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Vermont

COUNTY: Washington

ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 8 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

* Open to the public during specified hours.

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

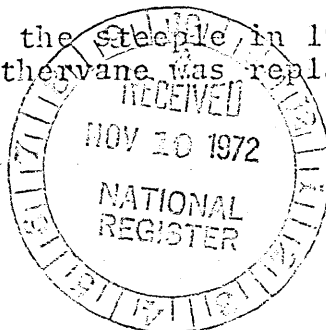
The Old West Church (1823-1825) and churchyard are located along a maple-lined road approximately eight tenths of a mile south of Kent's Corner. The style of the building might be called "Colonial Survival" as it is reminiscent of late 18th century southern New England churches.

The structure is rectangular in plan, sheathed with white clapboards and has its gable end towards the road. The steeple is located at the front gable end and is constructed in three tiers. The third tier is octagonal and a green oval is painted in each panel forming the octagon. This is surmounted by a gilded wooden weathervane.

There are three main entrances arranged symmetrically along the front elevation, each flanked by a wooden pilaster and the whole capped by a shallow cornice. These entrances open into a one story vestibule. Doors, corresponding to the entrances, open from the vestibule into the two story meeting room. Stairs lead from either end of the vestibule to a second story vestibule which in turn provides access to the galleries. The meeting room is flooded with light by two tiers of small paned, clear glass windows. Overhanging galleries supported by square posts are located along the front and side walls leaving a two story central clear span and an unobstructed alter. The church contains its original unpainted pine box pews with raised panel doors and side walls. The structure has never been electrified and is heated by two wood-burning stoves located under the rear gallery. Large wooden letters were set out in a broad semi-circle above the alter in 1886 and read "REMOVE NOT THE ANCIENT LANDMARK WHICH THY FATHERS HAVE SET".

The structure has undergone amazingly few alterations. They are as follows:

1. The pulpit was originally the height of the balconies. It was lowered a few years after construction.
2. The stoves were added in 1831.
3. Lightning struck the steeple in 1953. Repairs were made and the weathervane was replaced at this time.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

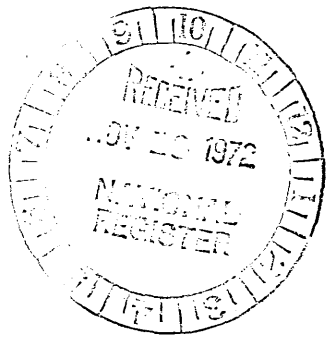
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old West Church, and its surrounding environment, has undergone almost no alterations in design or pattern of usage since its construction. As a result, the structure is an extremely valuable historic resource for interpreting the religious patterns, architectural tastes, and quality of life of early 19th century rural Vermont.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Kent, Louise Andrews. "The Old West Church". (Pamphlet published by the Old West Church Association), n.d.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

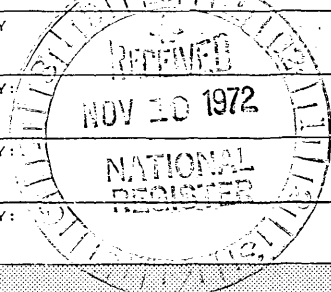
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44° 21' 30"	72° 29' 35"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
18/699750
4914500
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than ten acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Chester H. Liebs, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: Vermont Division of Historic Sites DATE: 10/2/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name William B. Pinney

Title Director of Historic Sites
State Liaison Officer

Date 10/2/72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/8/73

ATTEST:
W. B. Pinney
Keeper of The National Register

Date 5 2 73