

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hibbard, Judge David, Homestead
other names/site number Norma Stuart Place

2. Location

street & number Woodland Road N/A not for publication
city or town Concord N/A vicinity
state Vermont code VT county Essex code 009 zip code 05824

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
[Signature] 2/22/95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
 - entered in the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain:)

[Signature] hpc
Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall Entered in the National Register 3/31/95
Date of Action

Hibbard, Judge David, Homestead
Name of Property

Essex County, Vermont
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4		buildings
1		sites
2		structures
		objects
7		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling
Agriculture/Agricultural Field
Agriculture/Animal Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling
Agriculture/Agricultural Field

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite
walls Weatherboard
roof Steel
other Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

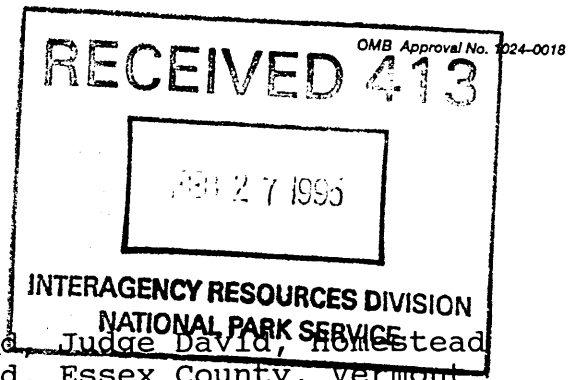
See Continuation Sheet

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Hibbard, Judge David, Homestead
Concord, Essex County, Vermont



On a high plateau in the western corner of the town of Concord, Vermont, sits the Judge David Hibbard Homestead. Approximately one and one half miles northwest of the Concord village center on Woodland Road, the 160 acre property contains four historic buildings, two structures, flat and rolling fields, and forested woodlands. Around 1814 Judge David Hibbard built the stately Federal style house, which is unique in Essex County and northern Vermont because of its intricate hand-carved and planed Federal style trim adapted from the Doric order of Greek architecture. Judge Hibbard, a man of refined taste, was also a farmer who worked his small diversified farm while he studied law, and later became a noted lawyer and judge in northern Vermont. The Hibbard homestead prospered as a farm under subsequent owners during the second half of the 19th century, continuing as dairy farm well into the 20th century. Centered around the c.1814 house (with its c.1805 ell), the related structures include the c.1850 early barn, the c.1900 spring house, the c.1940 garage, c.1930 shed, and c.1940 equipment shed. Taken together, these buildings illustrate Vermont's historical and architectural heritage from the early 1800s to the 1940s. The house, related structures, and landscape retain their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

1. House, c. 1814

Exterior

The house consists of a c. 1814, Federal style, two and one-half story, gable roof, five (front) by two (side) bay, Georgian plan, approximately forty foot, five inch (front) by twenty-four foot, four inch (side) main block, and an earlier c. 1805 one-story, gable roof, approximately thirty-eight foot, five inch (side) by twenty-one foot, seven inch (gable end) kitchen/woodshed ell extending from the rear (north) facade. The ell projects slightly off-center to the west from the rear facade. The distinctive Federal style main entrance surround and cornice trim on the main block has classical detailing adapted from the Doric order of Greek architecture. Both main block and ell are constructed with hand hewn post and beam framing members, and the main block has massive 14 by 14 inch sills, 12 by 12 inch posts and 6 by 8 inch studs. An enclosed shed roof porch sheltering the main entrance to the ell was added around 1980 and is tucked in the corner created by the east facade of the ell and rear facade of the main block. In 1993 the house was resided to match

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the original siding (except for the east side of the ell and ell porch, which have replacement T-111 siding) with replacement, extra clear, radially sawn spruce clapboards, each clapboard with a three-quarter exposure to the weather. The house had long been sided with asphalt shingles, covering the very worn original clapboards. The deteriorated galvanized metal roofing was replaced with enameled galvanized twenty-four gauge steel standing seam roofing. The main block has an unusual dressed foundation which consists of granite stones cut to a thickness of approximately five to six inches, placed as facing stones over fieldstone foundation walls. The vertical joints between the facing stones have been filled with concrete. A simple fieldstone and concrete foundation supports the ell. A c. 1900, roughly square, concrete and stone bulkhead with a metal cover is located directly right of the main entrance to the house and provides access to the cellar.

Main Block: The main or front (south) facade displays the elaborate entrance surround which is the outstanding feature of the exterior, as well as many other decorative details which adorn all facades of the main block. A top beaded water table board defines the bottom edge of the facade, and side beaded corner pilasters are supported by square bases topped by molded astragal trim details. The molded bases of the pilasters are replacements that were carefully reproduced from ghost profile marks of the original astragal moldings found on the original clapboards. The double hung windows appear to be in their original openings and are regularly spaced across the facade. The first story windows are approximately 5 feet 7 1/2 inches tall by 3 feet 3 1/2 inches wide with reproduction picture frame trim. The one-over-one windows are historic replacements, and appear to date from the early 20th century. The second story windows, which rise to meet the cornice trim, are approximately the same width but slightly shorter than the first story windows. The second story windows have historic twelve-over-eight sash and original picture frame surround trim. New storm sash windows have been installed on the main block windows. A very narrow and delicate dentil frieze spans the top of the front wall just above the second story windows.

The Doric cornice at the eaves has a highly ornamented soffit with carved mutules, or blocks, each pierced on the flat underside with six drilled shadow holes to resemble guttae (which on classical Doric architecture were generally small cone shaped or cylindrical pendants rather than pierced ornamentation). Above

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the soffit, a flat fascia board is trimmed along the top with a delicate row of cone shaped dentils, resembling classical guttae. A graceful cyma recta molding tops the Doric cornice.

The Federal style entrance surround, which is approximately 10 feet tall (measured from the top of the granite door sill) and 7 feet 10 inches wide, has elements borrowed from the Doric order but is not strictly Doric in composition. The intact surround is constructed of intricately carved pieces of wood held together with cut nails and narrow wooden pegs. Painted at least several times over the centuries, and now mostly bare and weathered, the surround shows evidence of salmon colored paint on the door and the lower paneled areas flanking the door. The Christian cross door with six flat panels appears original and contains an early 19th century wrought iron latch. Six-light, two-third length sidelights above single flat panels flank the door, and a five-light transom tops the door. Narrow entry pilasters flank both the door and the sidelights. The pilasters flanking the door are carved in relief with a repetitive vine pattern which has worn away particularly on the right pilaster due to age. These pilasters have a delicate picture frame surround and rest on square bases with chamfered tops. The pilasters flanking the sidelights are flat and unadorned and serve as a background for broader fluted, tapered pilasters which rest on square bases with astragal trim similar to the bases of the corner pilasters. Each vertical fluted section is topped by a drilled shadow hole, and three narrow annulets or square edged astragal moldings project and encircle the pilaster. Above this a flat necking board has a delicate scalloped detail along the top. The capital moldings above the neck consist of a flat echinus with a delicate dentil band topped by flaring cyma recta molding; the dentil band extends across the door surround above the sidelights and transom, with projecting cyma recta moldings above each pilaster. Centered above the transom is an unusual block resembling a triglyph from a classical Doric frieze which is flanked by larger blocks each with a diamond shape carved in relief and surrounded by shadow holes. The frieze above this is a vernacular interpretation of a classical Doric frieze with alternating triglyphs and metopes. Above the frieze is a narrow molding carved with a scalloped band similar to the neck detail of the fluted pilasters, and a band of small dentils lines the cyma recta molding above. Narrow mutules, similar but smaller to those found in the eaves cornice, with shadow holes serve as brackets for the projecting fascia and cyma recta moldings

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topping the cornice. A bold scalloped band trims the face of the cornice fascia.

The east side of the main block has features and materials similar to those on the front facade. Two regularly spaced windows similar to those on the front are located on each story. The decorative dentil cornice wraps around the side wall above the second story windows creating a pedimented gable. The gable tympanum is sided with clapboards and has two small, nearly square regularly spaced gable windows each with a delicate picture frame surround. A wooden louvered gable vent is located in the gable peak. The raking cornice in the gable is somewhat simplified in contrast to the horizontal cornice and has a flat frieze pierced by a band of small holes, square mutule blocks, and a flat fascia with a narrow dentil band, all topped by a molded cyma recta.

The west side is nearly identical to the east gable end except that the pedimented gable has one tall window centered in the tympanum.

The rear (north) facade of the main block has features and trim details similar to the front facade. The eastern portion of the rear facade has one twelve-over-eight window with a plain wood surround without picture frame trim centered in the wall on the second story. The western portion of the rear facade lacks the cornice trim and contains a new concrete block wall chimney which is covered from the roof eaves to the foundation by a clapboard-sided box enclosure. A c. 1948 brick chimney rises from the center of the rear roof slope near the eaves of the main block.

Ell: The west side of the ell has double hung one-over-one windows which appear historic with old sill boards and new plain board surrounds. The box cornice at the eaves is topped by a molded trim board which extends from the main block and stops approximately ten feet four inches from the north end of the ell. The box cornice along this end of the ell lacks the molded trim board and is evidence that the north end was a later, but historic addition.

The north gable end of the ell has simple, old corner boards, contains no fenestration and lacks a gable overhang.

The east facade of the ell, on the right, has a top hinged T-111

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opening for loading wood into the shed; left of this opening is a narrow, Christian cross, recessed six panel door to the wood shed. A paired two-over-two window with plain board surround is left of the pass door. The remainder of the east facade is fronted by the enclosed porch which has a concrete foundation, new paired combination double hung windows on the north end, and similar paired windows flanking the central entry on the east (front) facade.

Interior

The interior of the Hibbard House is in a remarkably well-preserved condition. Much of the original floor plan remains intact on both floors and in the ell. The original wood lath and plaster walls have been well-maintained and distinctive Federal style doors and trim boards define the historic interior of the house. Former fireplace mantels have been removed. The beaded corner posts of the post and beam frame are exposed on both stories of the house interior.

Main Block: The cellar reveals the massive 14 by 14 inch sills of the hand hewn post and beam frame. The fieldstone foundation has been insulated and faced with new concrete retaining walls in the cellar. The location of a former chimney base appears evident near the center of the east gable end floor joist system, in which a square area has been patched with board infill. Below this infill brick shards on the cellar floor are additional evidence of the location of a former chimney base that was removed in 1948.

The first story of the main block is divided by a central hall that extends from the main entrance to the rear (north) wall where a door opening leads to the kitchen in the ell. A stairway along the east wall of the central hall ascends to the second floor. Decorative woodwork in a wave and scallop cut out pattern applied along the vertical plane of the stairway carriage, below the railing, appears to be an early 20th century design and suggests that the stairs are a replacement of an earlier stairway. Along the western half of the main block, the dividing wall between two formal parlors has been removed creating one large parlor. Doors at either end of the central hall open to this large room. On the eastern half of the main block a similar pair of doors open into rooms along this side of the house; these rooms appear to have been preserved according to the original floor plan. The front (east) parlor occupies more than

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half of the east side of the main block; along the left side of the north wall of this room a door leads to a small hall. From this hall one may turn right into a small room now serving as a bathroom, continue north through a door to the kitchen, or turn left through the doorway to the central hall.

Details in the first story rooms include wide board flooring in the central hall, and what appears to be later hardwood flooring in the west parlor. Distinctive Federal style, wide architrave window surrounds and door surrounds trim all the window and door openings on the first story. The west side parlor has two types of chair rail trim which span the wall surface only below the window sills. This large room was originally two rooms, and each room appears to have had its own type of chair rail. The chair rail detail in the southern half of the room consists of a continuous band of narrow, vertical reeding with a horizontal or astragal bead along the bottom and a beaded ogee molding along the top. The similar chair rail in the northern half of the parlor, does not display a continuous reeded band, but instead has clusters of four vertical reeds which alternate with a flat planed surface. The elaborate chair rail in the eastern parlor indicates that this room was originally the most formal parlor. This rail wraps around the room (not just under the windows) as a continuous band of diagonal reeding with an astragal bead along the bottom, a wide rope molding above the reeding, and a projecting beaded ogee molding along the top.

The second story has a full-length central hall with a small landing at the top of the stairs. A door on the north wall in the hall leads to the ell attic. A door to the right leads to a small bedroom in the northeast corner of the house. A larger bedroom in the southeast corner has doors both connecting to the hall (near the south wall of the house) and to the smaller bedroom to the north. Two bedrooms of similar proportions and location are found in the western half of the upstairs. A small closet is located along the east wall of the bedroom in the northwest corner of the second floor. The windows and doors have a Federal style ogee picture frame surround and beaded jamb. The Christian cross doors are made with beaded boards, and have raised panels on one side, and recessed panels on the other side. A simple board chair rail with a bead along the bottom edge, features a top board which is continuous with the window sills and has an astragal beaded projecting edge. Beaded details are also found on the base boards, and as edging on the narrow

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horizontal molding board (originally used for hanging pictures/ mirrors) which span the wall space between the front (south) wall windows in the two front bedrooms. Wide board flooring is found throughout the second story.

The attic reveals the log rafter roof framing. A ridge pole was not used.

Ell: The ell appears to have been built in two sections. The attic above is unfinished. The earlier c. 1805 south end section of the ell contains the large kitchen and (in the middle of the ell) the walk-in pantry on the west side and a storage room to the east. The wood shed on the north end of the ell appears to have been built later in the century.

A large wood burning enameled cook stove remains as a focal point in the kitchen, centered near the south wall between the two doorways leading to the main block. The kitchen has features typical of early nineteenth century cape architecture in Vermont, such as the exposed corner posts, a low ceiling, and windows with a simple, delicate beaded picture frame surround and beaded sill. Similar window treatment is found in the pantry. New shelving was recently installed in the pantry and the walls have been replaced and insulated to prevent food from freezing during the winter. The unusual, very old door to the kitchen on the east wall of the ell is short by modern standards and measures six feet one inch (h) by three feet one inch (w). The inside face of this door displays six vertical raised panels (grouped three over three), and the exterior of the door is obscured by what appears to be a recently applied flat board.

The woodshed is still used for wood storage. The walls of this utility space are covered with remains of old wood lath and plaster.

2. Early Barn, c. 1850

Exterior: This vernacular style approximately thirty (front) feet by forty (side) feet one and one-half story, gable front Early Barn is constructed with a hand hewn post and beam frame. The barn has vertical board siding applied with wrought iron cut nails, sheet metal roofing, and a fieldstone foundation. Exposure to weather has caused structural problems to the frame and foundation. A rather narrow south gable front entrance is missing a door; a pedestrian door is centered on the north gable

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end. The west side has no window or door openings, and several randomly cut openings have been made to the vertical siding on the east facade.

Interior: The interior is open with no remaining flooring or wall divisions. Characteristic of Early Barns of this type in Vermont, the structure was probably originally constructed to function as shelter for various livestock on the first story and for hay storage in the loft. The barn may have originally had a central eavesfront entrance. The building is no longer used.

3. Springhouse, c. 1900

Exterior: This small, nearly square, one-story, gable roof structure, constructed with dimension lumber and wire nails, is in deteriorating condition. The roof has collapsed, and the wood shingle sided walls have nearly failed. Evidence of a pedestrian door remains on the west side. Hinges above an opening on the lower exterior facade of the west side may have attached an outward swinging protective cover or shutter-like appendage over the exposed concrete cistern, which projects from the interior to the outside of the structure along this wall. A square opening centered on the south gable wall has been boarded over.

Interior: The interior contains a large concrete cistern which extends to the outside through the above mentioned opening in the lower portion of the west wall.

4. One-bay Garage, c. 1940

Exterior: This vernacular style, one-story, gable front, rectangular garage has a concrete foundation, sheet metal roofing, and horizontal board siding, with vertical boards used in the gable peaks. The dimension lumber and log frame has exposed rafter tails along the eaves. The west gable front central garage bay has a pair of vertical board doors which slide on an exterior track.

Interior: The interior of the structure is open and serves as storage space.

5. Shed, c. 1930

Exterior: This small, vernacular style, one-story, gable front, rectangular shed rests on a stone pier foundation, has sheet metal siding and sheet metal roofing. A vertical board door is roughly centered in the south gable end and a board ramp leads up

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to the door. A small square window with a single sash is centered on the west facade.

Interior: The simple open interior appears to be no longer used except for storage.

6. Equipment Shed, c. 1940

This vernacular style, one-story, gable roof, three-bay, open shed has a pole frame, a stone pier foundation, sheet metal roofing, and vertical board siding on the west (rear) facade and north gable end. The structure is open on the south end and along the three-bay eastern eavesfront. The structure is used for storage of wood and miscellaneous items.

7. Landscape

The property of the Judge David Hibbard Homestead, comprising 160 acres of land more or less, is believed to be the original plot of land historically associated with the homestead. The roughly rectangular property extends from southwest to northeast and the buildings are located near the western boundary (see sketch map). The buildings sit roughly in the center of the open land and are surrounded by approximately 60 acres of fields which are named according to their geographical relationship to the house. The "east field" is east of the house and Woodland Road, the "south field" is south of the house and west of Woodland Road, the "north field" consists of all the rolling open land north of the house. Approximately 100 acres of wooded land extend to the northeast of the property. A stand of softwood trees were planted c. 1960 along the edge of the wooded area north of the house. Fieldstone walls bound nearly three-fourths of the property, with wire fencing along part of the east boundary. Two rectangular parcels are bounded by stonewalls in the wooded area to the east. Crumbling stone walls line both sides of a former farm road parallel to the rear of the house, and old apples trees along this lane are remnants of past orchards. Other remains of stone walls along the sides of the old road leading west in front of the Early Barn, and across this road to the south of the barn, appear to mark the edges of the "south field". Similar walls along the rear of the Equipment Shed may have marked the western edge of the "east field". A spring in the "east field" is no longer used because of its low volume of water in late summer. A bear ben has been identified on the land and moose are often sighted as well.

Hibbard, Judge David, Homestead
Name of Property

Essex County, Vermont
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

Period of Significance

c. 1814 - 1943

Significant Dates

c. 1814

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Hibbard, Judge David, Homestead
Name of Property

Essex County, Vermont
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 160

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	19	269300	4925940
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	19	270300	4926480

3	19	270530	4925820
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	19	269550	4925300

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth F. Pritchett

organization Liz Pritchett Associates date December 10, 1993

street & number 79 Main Street telephone 802-229-1035

city or town Montpelier state Vermont zip code 05602

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Elizabeth K. Norsworthy, Esq.

street & number 69 Medway Street telephone 508-520-7101

city or town Norfolk state MA zip code 02056

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
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Concord, Essex County, Vermont

The Judge David Hibbard Homestead in Concord, Vermont is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its contribution to the broad patterns of Vermont history. The house was built by Judge David Hibbard whose integrity of character and successful legal career have left their mark on the history of Vermont. Judge Hibbard, his son David, III, and later owners worked the farm as it evolved from an early 19th century home-use operation, to a small diversified farm, and in the last half of the 19th century, to a more specialized dairy farm with the manufacture of cheese and butter. The Judge David Hibbard Homestead also qualifies for statewide significance under National Register Criterion C for being an excellent example of the Federal style of architecture in Vermont embodied by its sophisticated two-story Georgian plan main block with elaborate entrance surround and cornice details adapted from the Doric order of Greek architecture, as well as its well-preserved interior plan and interior Federal style trim details. The house and related structures, set in an intact surrounding landscape comprising 160 acres, retain their workmanship, setting, locations, feeling and association.

The town of Concord is located in the southwestern corner of Essex County. About seven miles east of St. Johnsbury, Concord is bounded on the north by Victory, on the northeast by Lunenburg, on the southeast by the Connecticut River, on the southwest by Waterford, on the northwest by Kirby, and on the east by Lunenburg. The town was chartered by Governor Wentworth on September 15, 1781 to Reuben Jones and sixty-four others.

As with many Vermont towns, particularly those in the northern regions of the state, settlement began in earnest after the Revolutionary War. The more rapid settlement of Concord in relation to most towns in Essex County was probably due to its location along the Connecticut River, which was a major transportation route for early settlers moving to Vermont.

From its earliest days, the town was considered to possess good agricultural land, and its rolling, but stony hills were rich with fertile soil. Fine meadows and soft-water springs mark the lower lands along the Connecticut and Moose Rivers.

One of the first settlers in Concord was Deacon David Hibbard, born in Connecticut in 1755. Deacon Hibbard first moved to

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Norwich, Vermont and then in 1799 came to Concord with his wife Eunice Talcott, with whom he fathered thirteen children. Hibbard settled on a farm in the southern part of town. With no religious society in Concord during the early years, Hibbard, a Congregationalist, would gather the few inhabitants together to "lead their minds to the throne of grace in prayer"¹ After the Congregationalist Church was organized in Concord, Hibbard became the first deacon of the church in 1807, and the name Deacon Hibbard remained with him for the remainder of his life.

Deacon Hibbard's eldest son David Jr. was born in Coventry, Connecticut. Soon after David, Jr. came with his parents to Concord he acquired "a farm on the heights, built a small cabin or log house, married in 1807 Susannah Streeter of Lisbon, NH."² David Jr. set about to make his farm productive enough to support his growing family and then proceeded to study law. A self-taught lawyer, he became "an excellent judge of law", and one of the few lawyers in Essex County during the first half of the 19th century. David, Jr. also became a leading member of the Caledonia County bar, a State's Attorney of Essex County for many years, a town representative to the Vermont Legislature, and a county assistant or "side" judge, after which he acquired the title, Judge Hibbard. "He was known for the use of strong language and was a master of derogatory epithet but he was also a man of unbending integrity and one who despised duplicity and dishonesty".³

According to local history, Judge David Hibbard built the large Georgian plan main block of his house around 1814 and attached it to an existing c. 1805 small farmhouse which became the kitchen ell. Most written sources and the architectural features of the main block and ell support these dates although one source says the existing ell is a later c. 1835 addition built to replace the earlier farmhouse/ell which was moved across the road.⁴ During these early years, local history suggests that Judge Hibbard's

¹ Hemenway, p. 978

² Walter, p. 93

³ Ibid. p. 93

⁴ Newsletter, p. 1

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law office was located in what is now the ample-sized downstairs bathroom on the east end of the main block.⁵ Local historians have also passed along the legend that Judge Hibbard hired an itinerant craftsman, possibly an escaped convict, to help design and to carve the elaborate detailing on both the exterior and interior of his house. Historians say the craftsman stayed two years on the Hibbard property completing his work before he moved on.⁶

When David, Jr. was farming his land during the early decades of the 19th century, agriculturalists in Concord were primarily involved in home-use subsistence farming. By the 1820s farmers in Vermont were beginning to expand to more diversified types of farming to include raising sheep, horses and cattle. Some agricultural products such as hay, oats and potatoes were grown for sale. By 1840, Concord farmers were the most productive in the county, followed by neighboring town, Lunenburg (also on the Connecticut River). At this time, Concord farmers owned 329 horses and mules, and 3,580 sheep, the largest numbers in the county. The farms' production figures of 3,579 bushels of wheat, 13,150 bushels of oats and 1,906 bushels of Indian corn were among the highest in the county. In addition, Concord farmers produced a large amount of hops, and approximately one quarter of all the maple sugar and dairy products in Essex County during the 1840s. At this time Concord had eight sawmills and one oil mill.⁷

David Hibbard, III, the eldest of Judge Hibbard's three children, married Clementine Peabody of Littleton N.H. in 1835. He inherited the family farm and became a farmer and politician like his father.⁸ The Early Barn (c. 1850) possibly dates from the years when David, III was farming the property. The one and one-half story gable roof barn remains as a good example of the years during the early to mid-19th century when agriculturalists

⁵ Walter, p. 96

⁶ Walter, p. 93

⁷ 1840 Census

⁸ Walter, p. 93

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in Vermont practiced diversified farming and sheltered their few horses, sheep, cows and chickens in one structure.

In the late 1850s the Hibbard family sold the homestead. By 1859 Sprague T. Hale was the owner of the farm and is listed as owner on Beer's Map of that date. In 1860 Hale's farm, with 115 improved acres and 45 unimproved acres was valued at \$4,000. Hale was beginning to follow the trend of other Vermont agriculturalists, moving to more specialized areas of farming particularly the manufacture of dairy products. Besides owning a few swine, one horse and thirteen cattle, Hale was beginning to increase his dairy herd. With four milch cows, Hale produced 1,700 pounds of butter that year, among the highest of Concord farmers, and 200 pounds of cheese. He also had high yields of Indian corn (50 bushels), oats (200 bushels), and Irish potatoes (250 bushels), as well as successful harvests of wheat, wool, peas, and maple sugar.⁹

It is possible that S. T. Hale may have used the early barn to house his small but growing dairy herd. Occasionally farmers around mid-century modified their early barns for dairying. Usually these gable roof structures had been built with a large central entrance along one eaves side, but in later years were modified with a gable front entry such as is found on the Hibbard barn. It is unknown if the gentle sloping hillside location of the Hibbard barn is the original site; possibly Hale moved it there as was often done in mid-century to accommodate manure basements for growing dairy herds.

By the 1870s Austin and Abigail Robinson obtained a mortgage for the homestead from a local bank and continued to operate the farm.¹⁰ In 1870, the value of the farm had increased to \$4,500. \$250 had been paid as wages for hired help (an increasingly common practice during the late 19th century) to assist in the growing agricultural operations. Robinson continued to specialize in dairying, owning seven milch cows, and producing significant yields of butter (820 pounds) and cheese (120 pounds). That year Robinson also had successful harvests of

⁹ U. S. Agricultural Census for 1860

¹⁰ Concord Land Records, Book 13, p. 403

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orchard products, maple sugar, Indian corn and oats. One of few hops growers in town, Robinson's yield totalling 900 pounds was among the highest.¹¹

According to local residents, two additional barns stood on the property. It is very possible that Austin Robinson built one or both of these barns to house his dairy herd. During the late 19th century in Vermont, when specialty dairy farms such as Robinson's manufactured cheese and butter, larger barns were needed and additions were often built onto older barns. It is uncertain where these barns were located as some residents state they were near the existing Early Barn, and others say they were near the existing garage.

By the 1880s Concord was a thriving community with a population of about 1,600 residents and thirteen school districts. The railroad now had a station in Concord village. By 1886 the village boasted two churches, a hotel, stores and shops, mills, two physicians, a lawyer and about fifty dwellings. During this time members of the Hibbard family lived in the village, owned a significant amount of land in town, were merchants and manufacturers of hardware, and owned a sawmill which manufactured lumber and shingles.¹²

During the late 19th century in Vermont, fortunes were made in the lumber industry and the value of lumber was regarded as significant enough to serve as collateral in business transactions, such as the transfer of mortgage deeds. The value of the lumber on the Hibbard Homestead was written into several mortgage deeds with different owners of the property and the Passumpsic Bank during the 1880s. Mortgage Deeds to W. and J. S. Merchant, dated December 10, 1883 and Ellen Gilbert dated January 11, 1886 both make reference to reserving the down lumber for payment of the bank's annual interest. "No wood or timber to be cut and drawn from this farm except what shall be necessary for fence, fire and repairs of the buildings unless the same is applied...for the payment of annual interest"¹³

¹¹ U. S. Agricultural Census for 1870

¹² Child, p. 422

¹³ Concord Land Records, Book 18, p. 40

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Between 1901 and 1948 a succession of owners continued to operate the farm. John R. Stuart bought it in 1901, in 1945 John A. and Ethel M. Jones sold it to Nora Stuart.¹⁴ In February, 1949, Herve E., Sr. and Bernadine Cote bought the homestead after a disastrous fire destroyed their property in southern Vermont.

The Cotes were the last to operate the dairy farm. Mr. Cote ceased farming in the 1970s when he changed occupations and went to work for the Vermont Department of Transportation helping with construction of the Interstate (I 91) in the northern part of Vermont.¹⁵

In 1991 Susan and Matthew Kiley purchased the Hibbard Homestead and have started careful rehabilitation of the historic and architecturally significant house, working to bring the unique property in northern Vermont back to its distinctive Federal style glory.

The Judge Hibbard House has a significant history that spans the years from c. 1814 to the 1940s and provides a good example of Vermont's architectural heritage. From the early years when Judge David Hibbard first built the house, designed the ornamentation, and began his small diversified farm operation, to the decades of the 1860s and 1870s when Sprague T. Hale and Austin Robinson expanded to more specialized dairy farming with the manufacture of butter and cheese, the farm has proven to be a significant example of the agricultural trends prevalent in Vermont during the 19th century. During the 20th century, dairy farming continued under a succession of owners until the 1970s. Despite the cessation of agricultural use, the open fields have remained intact. These changes represent the broad patterns of agriculture that have contributed to Vermont's history and make the Hibbard Homestead eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

The Judge David Hibbard Homestead qualifies for statewide significance under National Register Criterion C for the distinctive architecture of the house which reflects a unique

¹⁴ Concord Land Records, Book #20, p. 27; Book 33, p. 40

¹⁵ Interview, Payeur

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embodiment of the Vermont Federal style of architecture. The house has remained unusually intact since it was built and continues to retain its distinctive early 19th century character. Rehabilitation to date includes the extra clear radially sawn spruce replacement clapboards, and some replacement trim which was carefully reproduced from documented original details by qualified, local restoration builders.

The exact origin of the exquisite display of carved Federal style ornamentation on the Hibbard house remains a mystery. The high style detailing stands alone in this part of Essex County. Indeed, neighboring St. Johnsbury, an important cultural and economic center in northern Vermont during the nineteenth century due to the success of the Fairbanks' family Scale Works business there, may not possess any buildings with such refined trim details.

The Homestead is also significant under Criterion C for its group of remaining historic buildings and landscape which form a distinct and distinguishable entity. The House, Early Barn and Spring House all dating from c. 1814 to c. 1900 relate to the 19th century agricultural context of the property. The Equipment Shed has associations with farming, as it was probably built to shelter farm equipment, while the Garage and Shed appear to have associations with the mid-20th century history of the property.

The historic landscape retains components of its earlier agricultural heritage and appears much as it did throughout the 19th to mid-20th century. The land has retained its historic setting with 60 acres of open fields surrounding the homestead, and 100 acres remaining as forested woodland. Stone and barbed wire fences separate the fields from the historic buildings. Taken together, the individual components create a relatively intact landscape set within the existing historic buildings of the Judge David Hibbard Homestead.

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Interviews

Jones, Cora. Concord resident. Phone interview. December 9,
1993

Kiley, Matthew. Owner of Hibbard Homestead. October 29, 1993.

Lewandoski, Jan. Restoration builder. Phone interview. October
27, 1993.

Payeur, Bernice. Concord historian. Phone interview, December
9, 1993.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

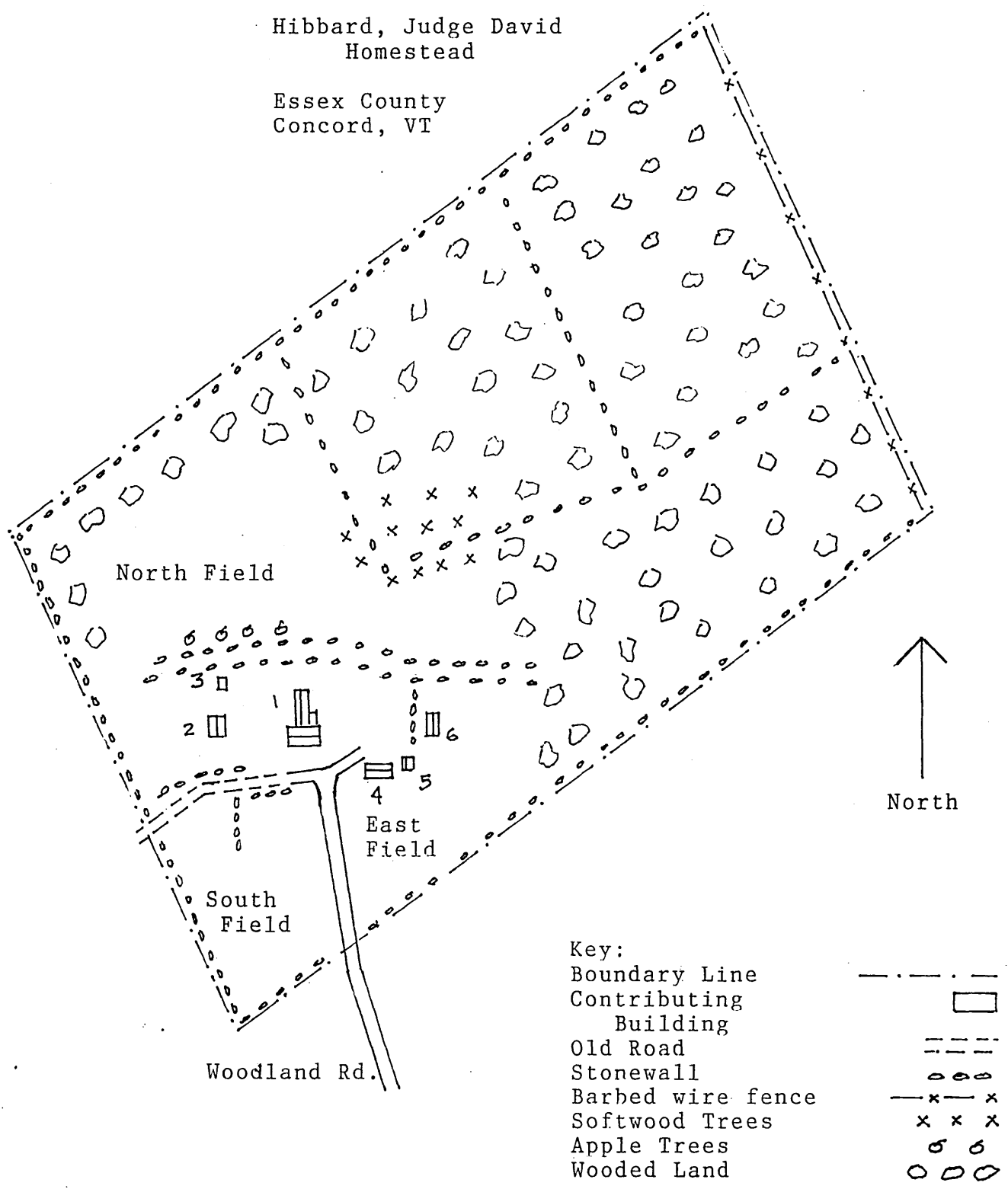
The boundaries of the Judge David Hibbard Homestead are recorded in Book 52, page 90 in the Town Clerk's Office, Concord, Vermont. A copy of the property as shown on an orthophoto map filed with the Department of Forests and Parks, St. Johnsbury, VT has been included. The property is a polygon whose vertices are the following UTM points: A (19/269300/4925940), B (19/270300/4926480), C (19/275399/4925820), D (19/269550/4925300).

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of this rectangular shaped parcel of land includes all buildings and the surrounding open fields and forested woodlands historically associated with the Judge David Hibbard Homestead and that maintain historic integrity.

Hibbard, Judge David
Homestead

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Concord, VT



- Key:
- Boundary Line
 - Contributing Building
 - Old Road
 - Stonewall
 - Barbed wire fence
 - Softwood Trees
 - Apple Trees
 - Wooded Land

Researcher: Liz Pritchett
Not drawn to scale