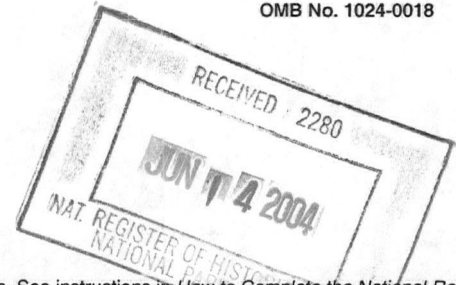


752

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in 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 listed in 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 Edwards Town Hall

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 161 Main St.  not for publication

city or town Edwards  vicinity

state New York code NY county St. Lawrence code 089 zip code 13635

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I 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], SAPP 2/9/04  
Commissioner/State Historic Preservation Officer Date  
Signature of certifying official/Title

**New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**  
State or 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 this 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] Edson W. Beall 7/28/04  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**Edwards Town Hall**

Name of Property

**St. Lawrence County, New York**

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	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		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)

SOCIAL/meeting hall

GOVERNMENT/town hall

RECREATION & CULTURE/opera house

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

SAME

SAME

SAME

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick & Stone

roof Asphalt Shingle

other

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, New York

Section number 7 Page 1

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**Narrative Description**

The Edwards Town Hall, built in 1896, is located at 161 Main Street in the village of Edwards in southern St. Lawrence County, New York. The 43 x 79 feet deep building sits alone on a 66 x 105 foot lot facing southeasterly toward the intersection of Main St. and Maple Ave. Other than a few plantings and the small section of front lawn, which is divided by a concrete walkway, the lot is not landscaped. The rectangular, two-story building, with its prominent square tower and central gable, was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style and is the visual centerpiece in the small commercial district of the village.



*Edwards Town Hall ca. 1911*

**Exterior**

The Edwards Town Hall is constructed of load-bearing local red brick with accents of gray Gouverneur marble and reddish Potsdam sandstone. There is a double band of slightly projecting brick wrapping around three sides of the building just above the windows on each level. The majority of the decorative stonework appears at the lower level of the front facade. There is a wide horizontal band of gray Gouverneur marble with a smaller band of reddish Potsdam sandstone above and a flared band of the sandstone below, running the entire width of the facade, around the tower and throughout the deeply recessed porch. The recessed porch features a painted bead board ceiling and a massive column of marble and sandstone with a

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, New York

Section number 7 Page 2

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short stone balustrade. The porch floor is currently poured concrete; early photos show what appears to have been a wooden porch floor and steps. The original double doors, which open into the ticket area under the stairs in the tower, remain in place. Two windows and two doors in the porch area have been replaced with modern vinyl of a matching size. There are wooden doors, in good condition, stored in the basement and it is believed they came from this porch area.

The 19 one-over-one, double hung windows (replaced by vinyl windows in the 1990's) along the sides of the building are topped by flat brick arches and have sills made of red sandstone. On the front facade as well as in the tower, small, original wooden windows on the second story have either nine-over-nine or nine-over-twelve sash with a single light, arched window with brick arch and sandstone keystone. On the first story they have on-over-one sash with sandstone sill and trim but no arch.

The foundation of the building is constructed of local rubble stone and is in good to fair condition with evidence of some previous repair work.

The second story of the main facade is dominated by a large six-light sash arched window. This window, inexplicably boarded up for at least 40 years, has its original sash in place and shows that dividing muntins once existed in the upper three. There is a heavy sandstone arch detail above this window and a decorative metal spandrel inset below it. Other such metal details on the building include the cornice, finials, and ridge decoration on the front gable, and unusual roof vents and a weather vane on the tower.

The hip roof and steeply pitched tower roof are currently covered with nearly black architectural grade asphalt shingles instead of the standing seam metal roof original to the structure. Window sash, metal trim, gutters and roof details are all currently painted white; all were previously painted a deep green, as seen in the stamped metal spandrel on the front facade.

Though much of the brick work is in good condition, there are several areas that have been damaged through water infiltration and will need restoration. These areas include the front gable and several areas around the roof line. The chimney is in poor condition and has had a couple of previous modifications including a reduction in its overall height by several feet and an early repair using a different type of brick. The dates of these modifications are not known. Areas at the back of the tower and above several of the upstairs windows have had brick repair and repointing done and, it appears, little effort was made to match the brick or mortar making these areas easy to identify. A window on the left side first story of the building was bricked up in 1915 when a vault was installed for the Edwards National Bank when it moved into the office space in the left front. The only other changes to the original fenestration was the closing up of a tall narrow window at the back of the tower, probably to allow an area inside to be partitioned off for what appears to have been an early restroom. Two of the second story's one-over-one windows were made into doorways during the installation of the fire stairs early in the twentieth century.

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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, New York

Section number 7 Page 3

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**Interior**

The interior space of the building consists of two floors. On the ground floor, which has been occupied by local government continuously since 1896, there are three original main spaces which have been partitioned into seven spaces (see the attached diagrams). Originally, the rear two-thirds of the ground floor was one large, open space used for local government functions and as a public gathering space. This area now houses a small museum, the judge's office, assessor's office, courtroom space, and a bank vault that was added in 1915. The bead board ceiling and wooden flooring remain intact in this area and throughout the entire building, as do the iron support columns (they are somewhat decorative in appearance). The beaded wainscot and deep chair rail around the perimeter of the room and in the majority of the building is largely unchanged. Wooden window and door moldings, some with hand-carved, botanically inspired details, remain in original condition throughout the ground floor. Two jail cells were located, approximately, in the center of the ground floor, though the exact location is a matter of debate. Further investigation will be needed to determine if any additional walls existed in this area to isolate the cells from the rest of the space. Currently, acoustic ceilings and paneling are in place in about half of the ground floor area but appear to only cover the original materials below, making these changes easily reversible.

The front third of the ground floor was originally two spaces, the lobby of the opera house and a space used by local businesses, which is now the local government offices. The original lobby space has been divided in two to accommodate an office and a hallway which provides access to the rear offices as well as to the stairway to the opera house, which is in the front of the building

The area of the current restroom seems to have undergone a number of changes. There is evidence of an early toilet area next to the location of an original side entry door (now closed up). The current restroom space occupies the area between the basement stairs and the right side of the building. Some original doors, moldings, plaster walls and wainscot remain, leaving it unclear what the layout and uses were for this area.

Adjacent to this restroom area is the stairway that leads to the opera house on the second floor. Beneath the stairs there is a small, built in, ticket booth. The stairs, balustrade, window trim, and tall bead board wainscot, all constructed of local hardwoods, are in remarkably good condition and, other than the addition of utilitarian handrails and a rubber stair covering, appear to be original. Three newel posts in this stairwell contain carved leaf details. The center newel has these carvings at both the bottom and top. Toward the top of the stairway, the main truss that supports the tower roof has a unique stone base, possibly marble or granite. It protrudes through the wainscot and acts as the base for the supporting brackets of this very pronounced truss structure.

The opera house on the second floor, the true treasure of this building, appears as it did when built in 1896. The only known changes to this space are the two windows that were converted into fire exits early in the 20th century, the

See continuation sheet

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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, New York

Section number 7 Page 4

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replacement of the large, one-over-one windows with same size vinyl windows in the 1990's, some contemporary lighting and life-safety additions, two simple plywood dressing rooms backstage and a projection platform in the main auditorium.

The vast majority of the opera house's double height space is covered in a variety of woodwork, all stained and clear finished. The tray ceiling is completely covered in alternating width bead board and when combined with the very prominent, hammer beam roof trusses, create an almost coffered effect to the ceiling. Each truss displays turned details, including rosettes. The main auditorium has fourteen of these massive trusses. The backstage area is covered in vertical and horizontal bead board and has two, more simply designed trusses.



*Opera House ca. 1976*

There is a vast amount of intricate hand work in the stage area and the proscenium arch appears to have been constructed from dozens of individually created wooden pieces and is comprised of five separate arch elements. The first element, a barrel vault arrangement of bead board, covers the inner edge of the arch. The next section of the arch was created by the use of alternating wood species, from light, clear wood to a dark, burl wood in wedge shapes, creating a striped, fanlike appearance. The next circle in the arch appears as a series of one to two inch wide bands of bent wood, formed into half rings, giving the look of a curved

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, New York

Section number 7 Page 5

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"tube" of wood arching around the stage opening. The fourth element includes more of the carved botanical details present throughout the building. The fifth section of the arch is a large, deep crown molding finished off by a bent wood cap. Each section of the arch is divided by a tiny wooden bead detail. Further down, there is a trio of turned, half round columns flanking each side of the stage above the wainscot, each is decorated with carved floral motifs and appear to have been created from individual logs. To each side of the stage area there is an arch topped door with a short flight of curved stairs providing access to the backstage areas. The stage itself is of a curved shape and stands two feet higher than the auditorium floor.

The beautifully painted canvas backdrop on the stage was hand painted in 1897 by itinerant theater performers and has hung in place for 107 years. It depicts a three-dimensional stage scene of a mountain and lake backdrop with layers of drawn stage curtains. This painted backdrop is in remarkably good condition.

The 270 chairs in the auditorium are constructed of oak seats and backs and have a decorative iron frame. Many of these seats retain their original wire hat racks underneath. About half of the seats are placed on a five degree sloping section of the floor with the remaining half, nearer the stage, on the flat floor.

Edwards Town Hall

Name of Property

St. Lawrence County, New York

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
Politics/Government
Social History
Performing Arts
Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance

1896 - 1954

Significant Dates

1896

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Builder: Grant, William
Williams, Samuel D.P., Williams and Johnston Architects

Primary location of additional data

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

Name of repository: Edwards History Center
St. Lawrence County Historical Society

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, NY

Section number 8 Page 1

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**Statement of Significance**

Constructed in 1896, the Edwards Town Hall is historically significant in the areas of architecture, social history, government/politics, entertainment/recreation and performing arts. Designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style by noted local architect, Samuel D. P. Williams of the prominent architectural firm of Williams and Johnston, the town hall retains a substantial degree of its historic architectural integrity and provides an excellent example of a late-nineteenth century rural government building with an unusually intact and beautifully detailed opera house on its second floor. Locally, the Edwards Town Hall is an important historic resource that represents not only the seat of the town's governing body for the last 107 years, but also the town's center for social and cultural activities.

**Historic Context**

The Town of Edwards started out as Township No.8 in Great Tract No.3 of Macomb's Purchase. The land was acquired by Daniel McCormick in 1795, surveyed by Reuben Ashman of Russell, New York, and later named for his brother, Edward Ashman. In 1812, the construction of the military turnpike system through this region allowed the settlement of Edwards. A family that worked in the construction of the turnpike became its first settlers in 1812. When the township was acquired by Joseph Pitcairn in 1816, a land agent was hired and the area promoted abroad, bringing the first of many Scottish settlers to Edwards in 1819. Passage from Edinburgh, Scotland was "free", upon the signing of a three-year indenture agreement by the settler. Once the three years of working the land and other stipulations of the indenture was completed, the settler could purchase land in Edwards at "favorable" rates. By 1827, the Town of Edwards was organized with 129 "taxable inhabitants".

Water power spurred further growth of the community and many mills were constructed along the Oswegatchie River, which runs through Edwards. There were saw mills, pulp mills, a starch mill, grist mills, a planing mill, an excelsior mill; and an early version of foam "packing peanuts" made from wood fiber. This mill activity, along with agriculture, was the basis of the thriving economy of Edwards in its early days.

It is not clear exactly when the first of Edwards' three town halls was built, only that between 1827 and 1894, with milling, agriculture and the discovery of the first talc deposits and its subsequent mining in 1878, the community had built a thriving Main Street commercial district. Early photos show a variety of ornate two and three story wooden structures in various Victorian styles of architecture. In 1893, Edwards became a stop on the Gouverneur and Oswegatchie Branch line railroad.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, NY

Section number 8 Page 2

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Sometime around 1890, Edwards lost its first town hall to fire. A second town hall was built and it too was also lost in the great Edwards fire of July 4th, 1894. This fire, which started as an out of control chimney fire, destroyed the entire Main Street business district of about 40 structures.

Within two years of the great fire, downtown Edwards was completely rebuilt, including the present town hall. The site for the new town hall was donated by a local physician, Dr. Charles Murray, whose office, prominently located at the center of Main Street, had also been lost in the fire. (The two previous town halls had been located a few hundred feet away, on Maple Avenue.)

A newspaper clipping from the *Northern Tribune* dated August 22, 1894 states:

Williams & Johnston, Architects of Ogdensburg, have just completed plans for a handsome new town hall for this town {Edwards} to take the place of the one destroyed by fire July 4<sup>th</sup>. The new building will have a frontage of 45 feet and be 80 feet deep. The first story will be of Gouvernour marble with Potsdam sand stone trimings and the second floor will be of brick. There will be a tower about 75 feet high on the right hand corner of the building and over the colonial entrance there will be a large triplet window with stone arch. Within on the first floor will be the town meeting room and on the second floor an amusement hall with a seating capacity of about 400. The town officers' rooms and the town lockup are on the first floor. The building is a very pretty one and will be a credit to the town. The work of erection will be commenced in a week or ten days and the building will be completed in the present season."

On November 7th, 1894, four months after the fire, the *Northern Tribune*, reported the rebuilding was "...Phoenix like from the ashes" and that the planned Town Hall "will be one of the finest in the county and we can safely say the finest in a town of this size."

The new town hall was designed by Samuel D.P. Williams, a noted local architect of the firm Williams and Johnston Architects of Ogdensburg, New York. Williams was also the architect for a number of significant St. Lawrence County structures, including the St. Lawrence County Courthouse, County Jail, and County Clerk's Office in Canton; and the Masonic Temple, A. Barton Hepburn Hospital, Old City Market and St. John's Rectory in Ogdensburg. Another fine example of his work is the Russell Town Hall/Opera House completed in 1921 and also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The contractor responsible for the construction of the new Town Hall was William Grant, who was Edwards Town Supervisor from 1885-1887 and is also credited with designing the previous Town Hall. A contract dated May 27, 1895 indicates that the construction cost of the new Town Hall was to be \$7,650.

The new Edwards Town Hall was completed in 1896, a year later than initially anticipated. All construction work on was done by local craftsmen using local materials, illustrating the highly skilled labor available in this remote rural

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, NY

Section number 8 Page 3

community of approximately 1000 people in the latter half of the nineteenth century. However, it is not clear why the construction was delayed, but handwritten modifications to the project scope on the construction contract suggest that the design may have been reconsidered for some period of time. Although the architect's preliminary design was submitted shortly after the fire, the final construction drawings and bidding for the work may have extended the project schedule.



*Edwards Town Hall ca. 1896*

The new town hall, built in the then popular Richardsonian Romanesque style, was a very prominent feature of the downtown streetscape owing to its imposing brick and stone masonry, steeply pitched hipped roof, large corner tower, and round arched window in front facade.

After the building was completed, the Town Board voted \$400 to purchase 336 "plain oak chairs, guaranteed for ten years". These chairs were for the upstairs opera house and are still in use today.

On the stage still hangs the original roll down curtain made of unbleached muslin with an intricate hand-painted scene on it. The artists' initials, a *B* overwritten with a *Y*, and the date 1897 written in the lower right hand corner are plainly visible. A news item of April 6, 1897 notes:

See continuation sheet

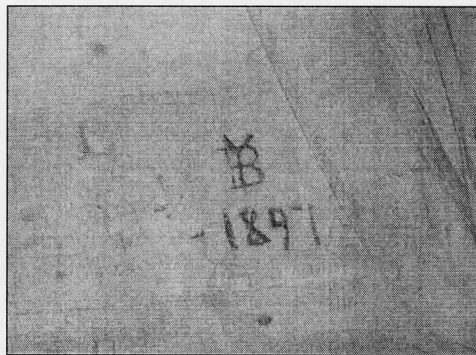
United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, NY

Section number 8 Page 4

"Great satisfaction is being expressed in the work of Messrs. Yerance and Berry, the scenic artists, who are painting the scenery for the town hall. They gave entertainments in the hall last Friday and Saturday evenings, which were well attended. They present the comedy drama, 'Kathleen's Dream' next Saturday evening."



*View of Artists' Initials and Date on Curtain*

The upstairs Opera House was used for nearly all the programs of interest to the public. One of the programs noted in a news article was - February 1898 - "widow McGinty" was put on by the Masons in the Town Hall. Total receipts were \$68.00 - profit to the Masons was \$47.00.

As the school in the village had no facilities for public gatherings, all programs involving the students were held in the Town Hall's Opera House. This included all graduation ceremonies from the first graduating class in 1914 through the class of 1935.

The Edwards Town Hall has been the center of local government and community since its construction in 1896. It has witnessed a wide variety of government and non government activities throughout its colorful history. The first floor, always housing local town and village offices, also let space to a diverse group of private businesses. It has housed a post office, bank, and a "tonsorial parlor" (barber shop) complete with a public bath, for men only, of course! Roller skating was even permitted, for a time, in the open space at the rear of the building. This rear area is now sectioned off and houses a museum. The Edwards Museum is filled to overflowing with local artifacts and materials relating to the history of agriculture, mining and other details of daily life in this community of 1150 people.

The opera house on the second floor has played a central role in the life of this community since its first live musical performance band concert, held March 24th, 1896, almost immediately after the town hall was completed and prior to the installation of the permanent seating. Over the years, the opera house has hosted a

See continuation sheet

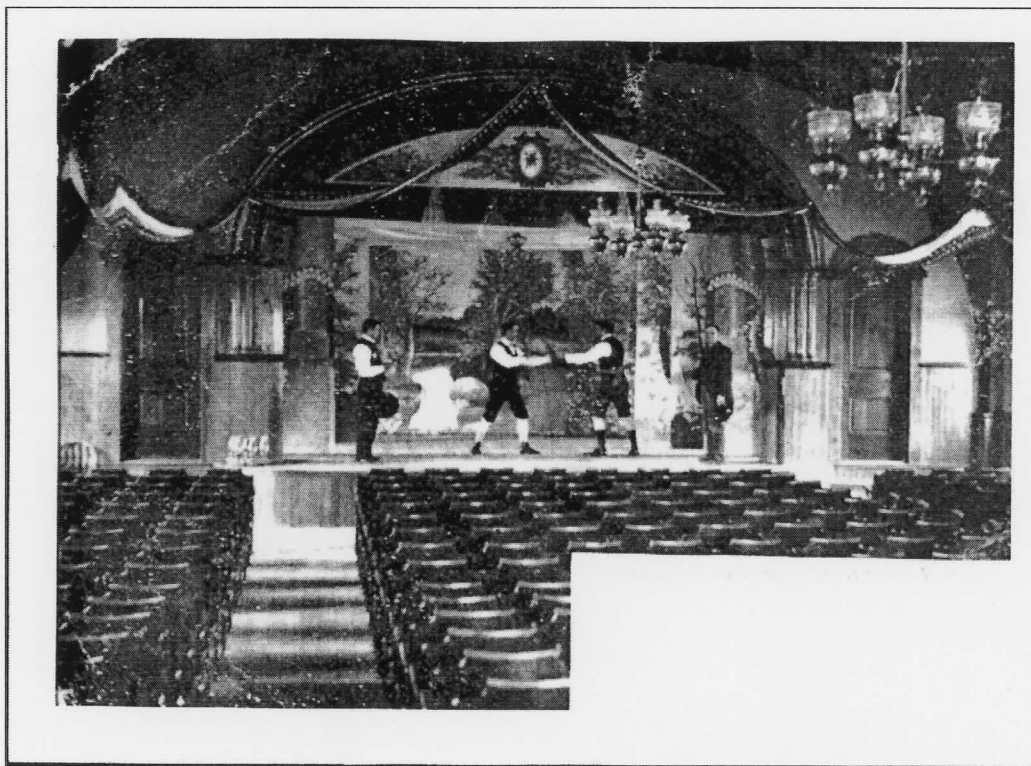
United States Department of the Interior  
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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, NY

Section number 8 Page 5

variety of public functions including amateur and professional plays and band concerts. There were patent medicine shows, complete with vaudeville style entertainment, which were free in hopes that the audience would purchase some of whichever "medicine" was being sold. There were talent shows, church services and Tom Thumb weddings; in which a company came to town and enlisted local children to participate in the "wedding". They supplied the children's costumes and props and invited relatives to pay a fee to see their children on stage. For their cooperation, the children were promised sweets. From 1914 through 1935, school graduations were also held in the opera house. Silent films were shown there with local pianists providing the needed accompaniment. When "talkies" arrived, the opera house was used as a movie house, showing first run movies on into the 1950's.



*Historic View of the Opera House*

The opera house continues to be used sporadically with the next live musical performance scheduled for early August, 2003, sponsored by the newly formed Edwards Arts Council, Inc., which plans a full slate of live entertainment in the Opera House over the coming months and years.

See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

**Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, NY**

Section number 8 Page 6

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The Edwards Town Hall is significant local resource that is architecturally distinctive, but more importantly, it holds a special place in the hearts and minds of the community as a place where important events and fond memories occurred. After 107 years, it is still used for the same purposes for which it was built and stands as a reminder of the history and evolution of this town and its inhabitants.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Edwards Town Hall  
St. Lawrence County, New York

Section number 9 Page 1

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**Bibliography**

Crawford & Stearns Architects and Preservation Planners *Conditions Assessment  
Report for the Edwards Town Hall.* September 2002.

Edwards Bicentennial Committee *Edwards on the Oswegatchie.* 1976.

*Matriarch of Main Street* web site [www.herd.org/edwards/museum/townhall.html](http://www.herd.org/edwards/museum/townhall.html)

Edwards Town Hall  
Name of Property

St. Lawrence County, New York  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	479908	4907767	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Boundaries for nominated property are indicated on attached tax map

**Boundary Justification**

Nominated boundaries are consistent with those of the property historically associated with the town hall.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Brigitte Clark (ed. by: L. Garofalini, NYSOPRHP, 518-237-8643 ext. 3267)  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 8/19/03  
street & number 67 Maple Street. telephone 518-761-3836  
city or town Edwards state NY zip code 13635

**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 the SHPO or FPO.)

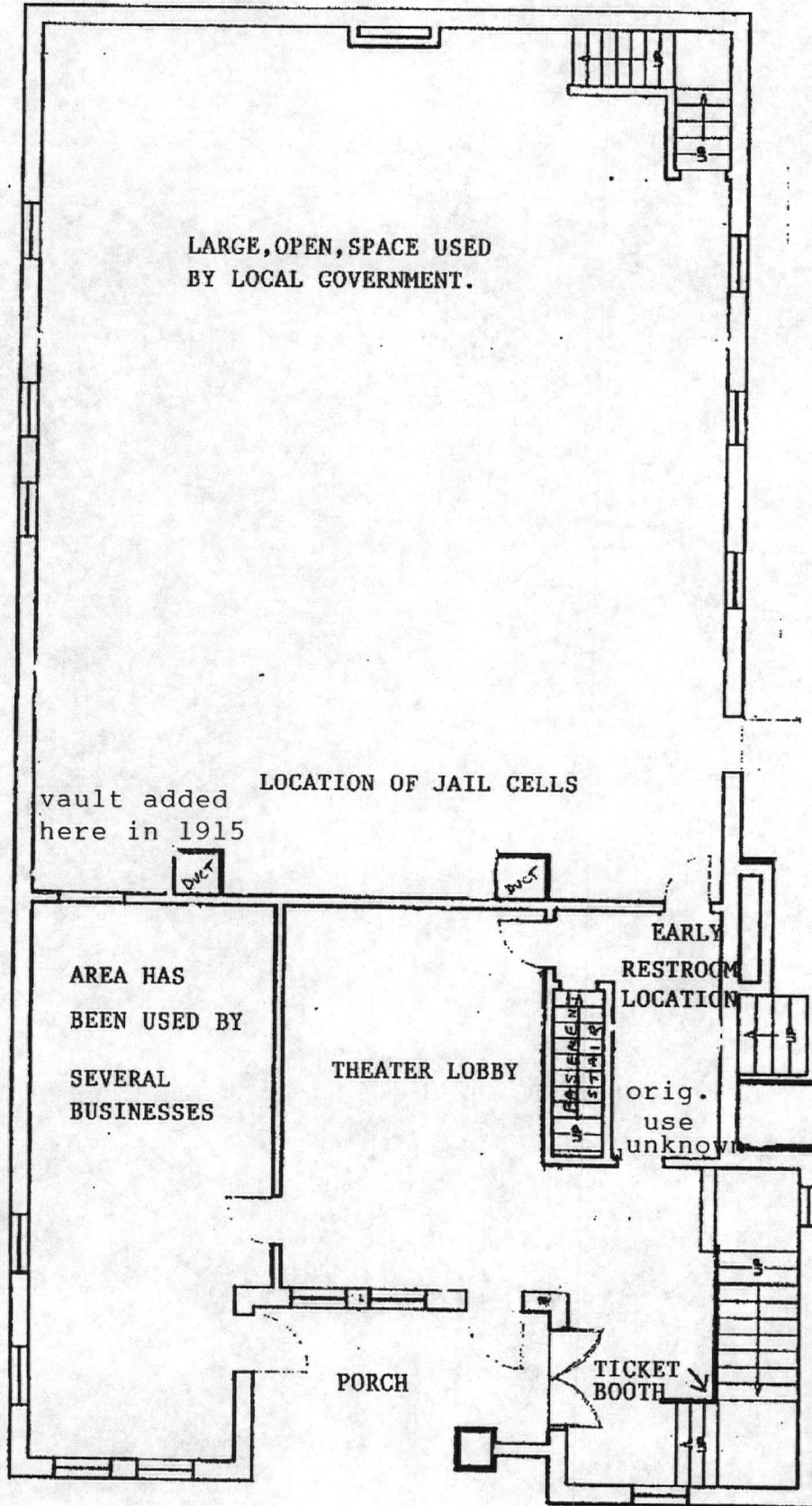
name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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.



POSSIBLE ORIGINAL LAYOUT  
OF THE GROUND FLOOR.



WINDOWS HAVE BEEN  
BRICKED UP ON THIS  
ELEVATION.

vault added  
here in 1915

LOCATION OF JAIL CELLS

AREA HAS  
BEEN USED BY  
SEVERAL  
BUSINESSES

THEATER LOBBY

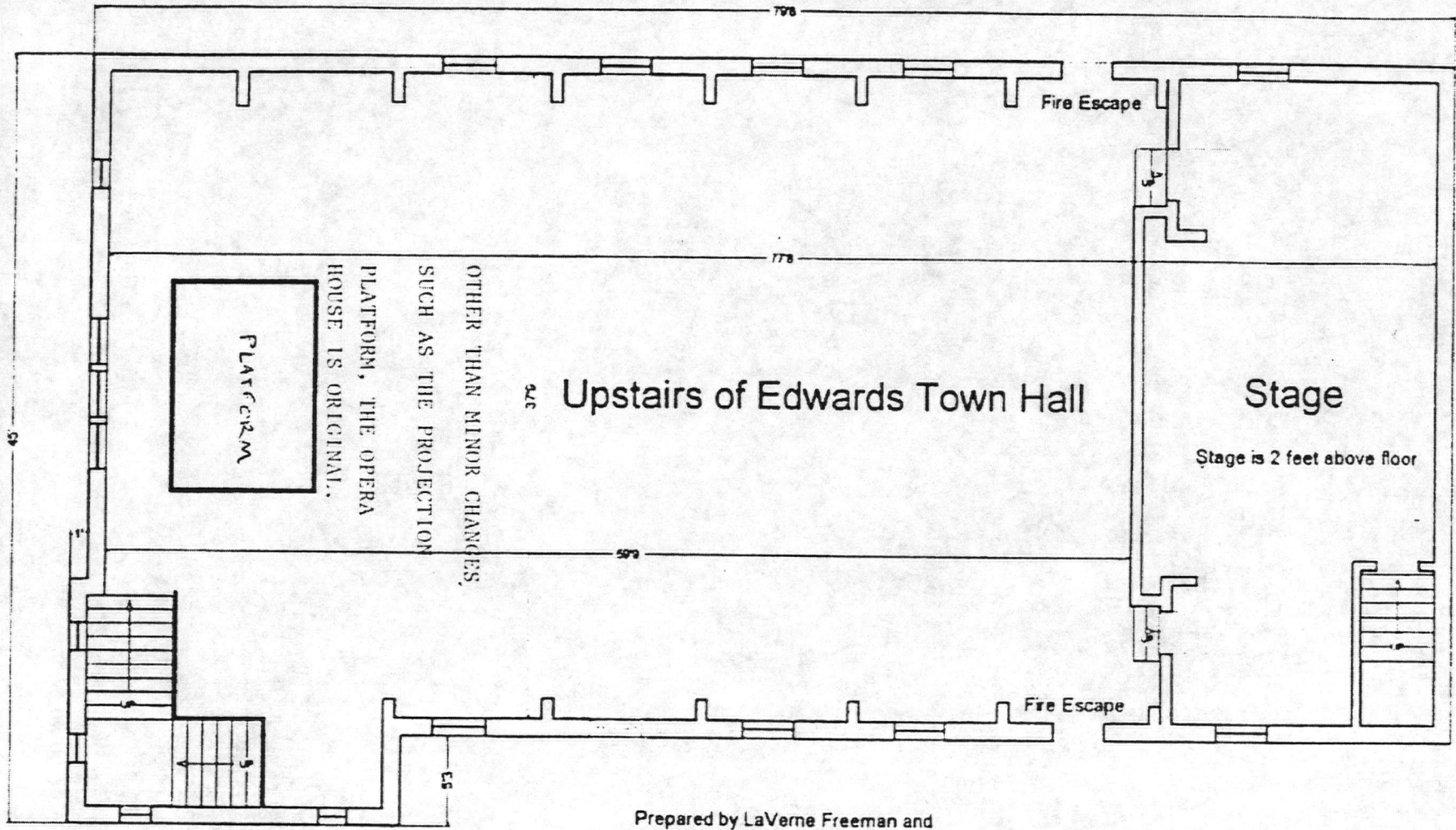
EARLY  
RESTROOM  
LOCATION

orig.  
use  
unknown

location of  
an early  
door.

PORCH

TICKET  
BOOTH



OTHER THAN MINOR CHANGES,  
SUCH AS THE PROJECTION  
PLATFORM, THE OPERA  
HOUSE IS ORIGINAL.

Prepared by LaVerne Freeman and  
Stu Casanova 25 June 2002

Second Floor

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Edwards Town Hall

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, St. Lawrence

DATE RECEIVED: 6/14/04      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/08/04  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/23/04      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/28/04  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 04000752

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT       RETURN       REJECT      7/28/04 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Edwards Town Hall

161 MAIN ST.

Edwards, St. Lawrence County, NY

Photos: Brigitte Clark, 12/03

FRONT FACADE (SOUTHEAST)



Edwards Town Hall

161 MAIN St.

Edwards, St. Lawrence County, NY

Photos: Brigitte Clark. 12/03

2nd Floor Open House

looking towards stage



Edwards Town Hall

161 MAIN ST

Edwards, St. Lawrence County, NY

Photos: Brigitte Clark, 12/03

SOUTH SIDE elevation



Edwards Town Hall

161 Main St.

Edwards, St. Lawrence County, NY

Photos: Brigitte Clark, 12/03

2nd Floor Opera House

Looking towards rear



Edwards Town Hall

1161 Main St.

Edwards, St. Lawrence County

NY

Photos: Brigitte Clark, 12/03

2nd Floor Opera House Seating



Edwards Town Hall

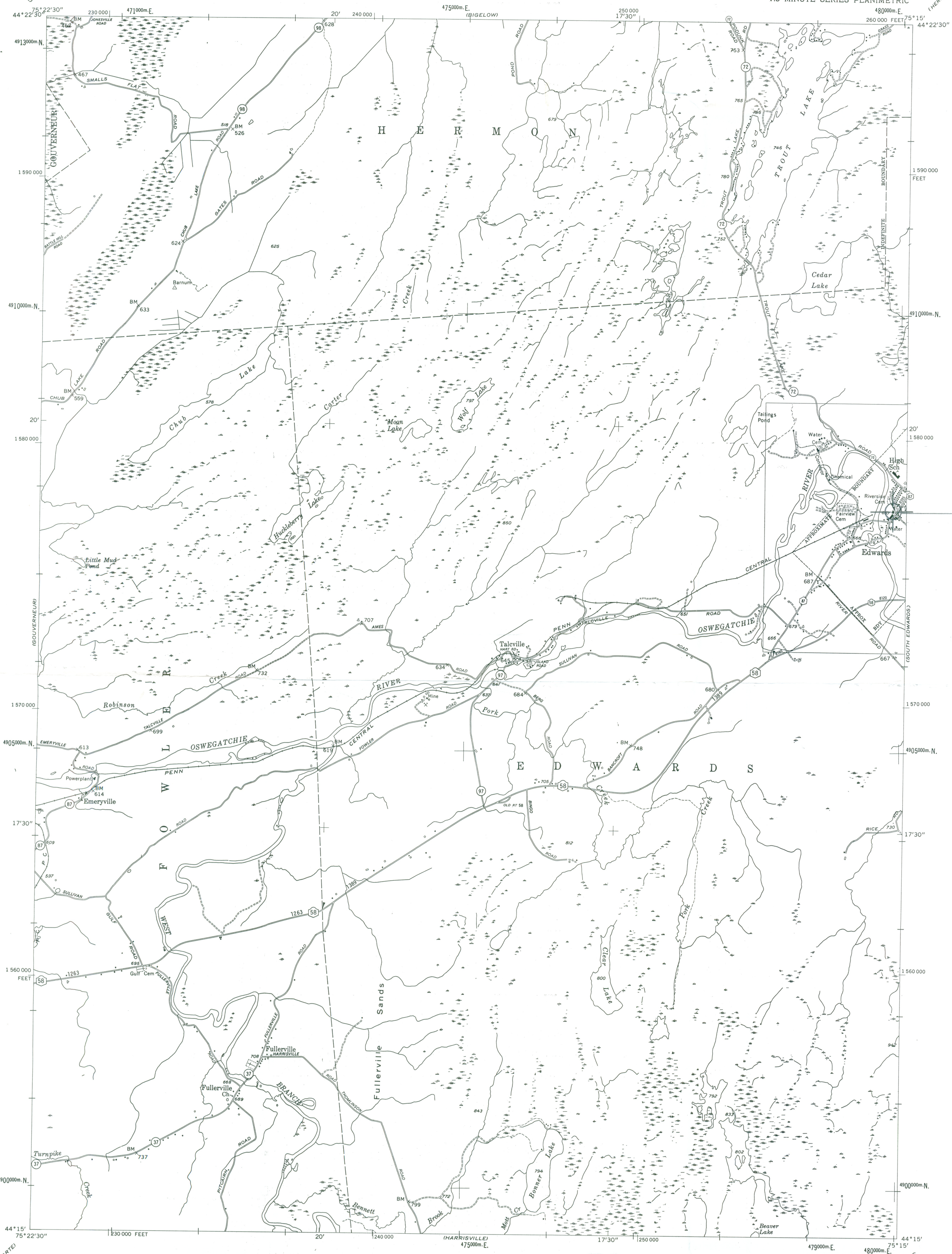
161 Main St.

Edwards, St. Lawrence County, NY

PHOTOS: BRIGITTE CLARK, 12/03

FRONT STAIR HALL

LOOKING DOWN FROM 2ND FLOOR



EDWARDS TOWN HALL  
EDWARDS, NEW YORK  
ST LAWRENCE COUNTY  
UTM Reference:  
18 479908/4907767

Prepared and published by the New York State Department of Transportation in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Bureau of Public Roads.

Map base reproduced from U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle, edition of 1956.

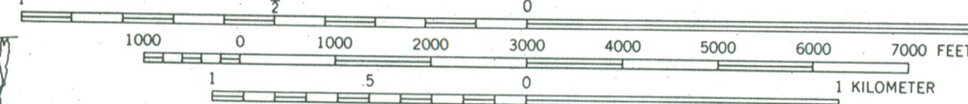
Highways and drainage related to highway construction revised 1969 from construction plans, aerial photography, and various other sources. Boundaries and names revised 1969 from public records and Department of Transportation surveys. Other data shown as of base map date. Revisions do not necessarily comply with National Map Accuracy Standards.

Official changes in boundaries, names and planimetric features should be reported to: Map Information, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, N.Y. 12226



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

SCALE 1:24,000



Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum.

5,000-meter graticule based on U.T.M. grid, Zone 18.

10,000-foot ticks based on New York State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone

INDEX TO ENLARGEMENTS



BOUNDARIES:	
State .....	-----
County .....	-----
Town .....	-----
City or Incorporated Village .....	-----
Federal-aid approved Urban Area .....	-----
Supplemental map enlargement limit .....	-----
ROADS:	
Interstate route .....	Divided highways:
	Main more than 25 feet .....
	Main 25 feet or less .....
U. S. route .....	Undivided highways:
	4 or more lanes .....
	2 or 3 lanes .....
State route .....	Private roads .....
County Road .....	State Highway number and limit .....
	8380

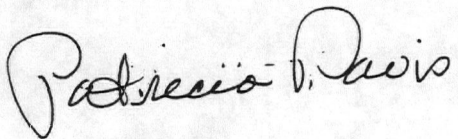


## TOWN OF EDWARDS RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Edwards Town Councilman of the Town of Edwards, New York, corporation subject to the Not-for Profit Corporation Law of New York State and qualified for tax exempt status under Federal Internal Revenue code, do hereby certify that the following resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Town of Edwards Board, Held at the Edwards Town Hall on May 14, 2003, and is on file with the Edwards Town Clerk, Patricia Davis, and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED:** That Brigitte Clark, as Chair of the Edwards Arts Council for the Town of Edwards, is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provision of Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993, in an amount not to exceed \$88,392.00, and upon approval of said request to enter into an execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to the Town of Edwards for Town Hall and Opera House repairs and , if appropriate, a conservation easement/preservation covenant to the deed of the assisted property.

Presented by Town Council David Schryver, and seconded by Town Council Donna Whitford. All voted aye. Carried.



Patricia Davis  
Edwards Town Clerk  
May 14, 2003

Seal:



**New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**

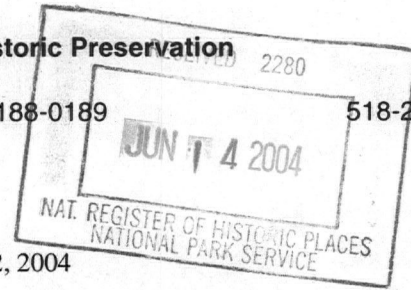
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau

Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

2280

518-237-8643

Bernadette Castro  
Commissioner



May 12, 2004

Ms. Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Transmittal of National Register  
Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to transmit three new National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register as follows:

McDowell, Thomas, House, New Windsor, Orange Co., NY

Snyderville Schoolhouse, Columbia Co., NY

St. Walburga's Academy, New York, New York Co., NY

Glens Falls Cemetery, Warren Co., NY

Edwards Town Hall, St. Lawrence Co., NY

Thank you for your assistance in processing these proposals. Please feel free to call on me at 518-237-8643 ext. 3258 if any questions arise.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Peckham  
National Register  
Program Coordinator

enclosures