

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED APR 10 1978
DATE ENTERED SEP 20 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Enosburg Opera House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 31 Depot Street
CITY, TOWN Enosburg Falls VICINITY OF Vermont
STATE Vermont CODE 50 COUNTY Franklin CODE 011
NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Town of Enosburg
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Enosburg VICINITY OF STATE Vermont

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of the Town Clerk
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Enosburg STATE Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey
DATE 1974 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
CITY, TOWN Montpelier STATE Vermont

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Enosburg Opera House is a large frame building set among undistinguished smaller buildings and structures of various ages which do not constitute an historic district. The main (south) facade of the building is three large bays in width, with an attached stair tower. This tower, like the rest of the building, is sheathed in narrow clapboards for most of its height. It rises approximately 3-1/2 stories and is a highly visible village landmark.

The tower is visually divided into four elements. It rests on a high shiplap basement over an uncoursed ashlar foundation, as does the rest of the building. Separated from this by a slightly projecting stringcourse is the lower principal section which is the same height as the body of the main mass. This section contains, on each of the three visible facades, a double-hung Queen Anne window in a plain board surround, and a larger rectangular window above it, also in the Queen Anne mode and in a similar surround. This section is separated from the one above it by a band of flush vertical boards, which aligns with the frieze line of the main mass of the building. Above this is a slightly flared band of shingles.

The next section begins above this band and is completely plain except for a large blind oculus just below center. This may have been intended for a clock. This section of the tower terminates in a simplified entablature consisting of a plain board architrave, a course of dentils and a box cornice.

The tower is capped by a sharply pitched pyramidal slate roof, with a small pointed finial. Each face of the roof contains a large round-arch roof dormer, infilled with plywood.

The principal mass of the building also rests on a high shiplap basement over the uncoursed ashlar foundation. The principal entry is in the center of the facade, and, being at grade, breaks the foundation and the basement. It is deeply recessed, creating a feeling of massiveness by implying very thick walls, contrary to the usual "thin" feeling in buildings of this period. To the left of the entry is a plain basement window.

The string course is at the level of the main floor of the Opera House, and those parts above it are treated more decoratively. On the piano nobile directly above the entrance is a tall double 2/2 window with stained panes in a diamond pattern. The two windows are joined by a heavy wooden mullion, which also divides their respective transoms. To the left of this window, directly above the basement window, is a similar 2/2 stained glass window, also with a stained glass transom.

The righthand bay of the facade is identical to the left, but projects slightly from the main block. This bay, by projecting, balances the tower and its fenestration completes the symmetry of the recessed main block. This projection terminates in a pedimented gable. The main block is terminated by a simple box cornice over a plain board frieze.

Centered on the facade above the windows is a narrow wooden sign painted black with gold lettering which reads OPERA HOUSE. Above this is a smaller sign reading 1892.

The roof of the building is slate, in a modified hip configuration with a small gable at the peak.

The four-bay side facades are nearly identical. They are lit by basement windows below tall stained glass windows in a fenestration identical to the flanking bays in the main facade. The right (east) facade also includes a door to the main floor between the second and third bays, which is reached by a flight of stairs.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The rear (north) facade is clapboarded and is totally blank with the exception of two basement windows. The cornerboards at the rear corners support small cornice returns.

Towards the rear of the building is a small cross gable, containing two quarter-round windows.

The principal space of the main floor is a large hall, seating 600, with a stage at the rear (north) end. The room retains its original tongue and groove wainscoting and its original movable folding seating. The basement is used for ticket sales, offices, dressing rooms, storage, and mechanical systems.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Enosburg Opera House was built in 1892 as an act of benevolence by the B. J. Kendall Company. This company was founded in 1879 by Dr. B. J. Kendall, a local pharmacist. He discovered, by an unknown means, a remedy which was "peculiarly beneficial when applied to horses affected with the infirmity commonly called a 'spavin'."¹ The remedy was marketed as "Kendall's Spavin Cure" and eventually made Kendall and his partners wealthy. Kendall later wrote a book (Dr. Kendall's Treatise on the Horse) which was widely distributed. The company also branched out into "Dr. Flint's Condition Powders" and a preparation known as "anti-aploplectine."

The company was generous to the town, and contributed to civic improvements in the latter part of the 19th century. The Opera House was one manifestation of this generosity. Built in 1892, it was turned over to the town two years later. It served several purposes. First, prior to its construction there was no town hall, which is important to the traditional New England town meeting form of government. The company used it for its own medicine shows, as well as traveling shows, medical and otherwise. Among the performers who appeared here is John Philip Sousa.

The building, unaltered except for routine maintenance and modern facilities, retains its original functions. It is used for town meetings in March of each year and hosts traveling musicians and locally produced theater. It continues to be a viable public hall and the center of the town's community life.

While its architecture could not be considered outstanding, it is impressive for a village the size of Enosburg Falls, as well as a highly visible symbol of the Town's ties to the Kendall Company. (Several other company buildings exist, although not in the neighborhood of the Opera House.) It is an important building in the village, both visually and historically, as shown by the vigor with which its preservation is being pursued by the community.

¹ Lewis C. Aldrich, History of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties (Syracuse, D. Mason and Co., 1891), p. 441.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Supplement to The Enosburg Standard August 1901.

Aldrich, Lewis C. History of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. Syracuse: D. Mason and Co., 1891.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8
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6	7	3	5	0	0
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4	9	7	4	9	2	5
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Co-extensive with the boundaries of the Enosburg Opera House, owned by the Town of Enosburg.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles H. Ashton

ORGANIZATION

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

STREET & NUMBER

Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN

Montpelier

DATE

February 6, 1978

TELEPHONE

802-828-3226

STATE

Vermont 05602

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

William B. Pinney

TITLE

Director/State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

4/3/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

R. B. Rettig

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

9/20/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

William H. Louch

DATE

Sept 18, 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Emosburg Opera House

Franklin

State Vt.

Working Number 4.10.78.2873

TECHNICAL

Photos 1
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK 4.11.78

HISTORIAN

Accept 5/24/78
Je. [Signature]

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept
R. [Signature]
5. 18.78

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

*significant as Kendall Co.'s
contribution to town, as town hall, and
as architecturally ambitious bldg for
apparently small community.*

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Lebowich
9/18/78

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Rettig
9/20/78

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 11-7-78

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered SEP 20 1978

INT:2106-74



OPERA HOUSE

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

00e
SEP 20 1978

Vt. Div. for Historic Preservation
Franklin County Enosburg Falls
72-A-25 Chester Liebs

APR 10 1978

1 of 1

*Enosburg Opera House
Franklin County, Vermont*



ENOSBURG OPERA
HOUSE
ENOSBURG, VT
UTM COORDINATES:
18/673 500 / 4974 925

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and International Bdy. Comm.
Topography by plane-table surveys 1922. Revised 1953
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum.
10,000-foot grid based on Vermont coordinate system.
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue.

UTM GRID AND 1953 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:62500

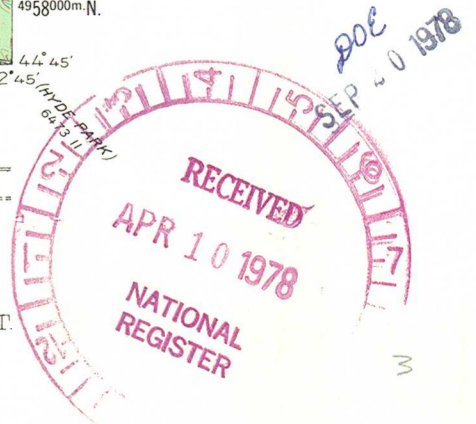
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route State Route

ENOSBURG FALLS, VT
N6445-W7245/75

1953

AMS 6473 IV - SERIES V713





STATE OF VERMONT

AGENCY OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY (802) 828-3211

MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05602

DEPARTMENTS OF:

Economic Development 828-3221
Housing & Community Affairs 828-3217

DIVISIONS OF:

Administration 828-3231
Historic Preservation 828-3226
Vermont Travel Division 828-3236
Vermont Life Magazine 828-3241



April 3, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed please find a National Register nomination form for the following property:

Enosburg Opera House
Franklin County, Vermont

This property is being submitted under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

William B. Pinney
Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

WBP/tt

Enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VERMONT

Date Entered **SEP 20 1978**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Enosburg Opera House	Enosburg Falls Franklin County

Also Notified

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy

Honorable Robert T. Stafford
Honorable James M. Jeffords

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. William B. Pinney
Director
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
Pavilion Office Building
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Enosburg Opera House		2 OTHER NAMES:		3 date of entry: SEP 20 1978	4 county code: 11
5 LOCATION street & number 31 Depot St.		city / town Enosburg Falls	vicinity of	state VT	county Franklin
7 OWNER <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL (agency name)				6 ADMINISTRATOR:	
9 EXISTING SURVEYS <input type="checkbox"/> HABS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NHL		10 FUNDED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT	12 SOURCE of NOMINATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL	
13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		15 AGREEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE ORGANIZATION	
16 CONDITION		17 features:		18 AGREEMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> fair		<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> ruins <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> unexcavated		<input type="checkbox"/> altered <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> excavated	
<input type="checkbox"/> original site <input type="checkbox"/> moved <input type="checkbox"/> unknown		<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-4 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-7		<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-5 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-8	
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONS <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-6 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-9					
19 ACCESS <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No Access <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		19 ADAPTIVE USE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		20 SAVED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE :		22 CLAIMS: explain		IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	
<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE-3 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE-4 <input type="checkbox"/> ART-5		<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING-11 <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT-26 <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION-12 <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH-27 <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY-13 <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION-14		<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 <input type="checkbox"/> LAW-16 <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE-17 <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY-18 <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC-19 <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY-20	
<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVT.-21 <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION-22 <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE-23 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION-25		<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION-28 <input type="checkbox"/> SETTLEMENT-29 <input type="checkbox"/> URBAN PLANNING-31 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		'first' <input type="checkbox"/> 'oldest' <input type="checkbox"/> 'only' <input type="checkbox"/>	
23 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		24 dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION	
26 architectural style(s):		27 architect:		28 master builder:	
29 landscape architect / garden designer:		30 interior decorator:		31 artist:	
32 names give role & date PERSONAL:		33 artisan:		34 builder/contractor:	
EVENTS:					
INSTITUTIONAL:					

35 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP