

Listed on State Register  
 VT ACHP  
 Date: 11/19/1997

STATE OF VERMONT  
 Division for Historic Preservation  
 Montpelier, VT 05602

HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY  
 District ☐ Complex ☐ Survey Form

COUNTY:
TOWN:
LOCATION: Silver Street
NAME OF DISTRICT:
TYPE OF DISTRICT:
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURES: Excellent      %   Good      % Fair          %   Poor        %
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/>
THEMES:

SURVEY NUMBER:
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER(S):
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing A B C D
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
COMPLEX INFORMATION ONLY
COMMON NAME:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
TYPE OF COMPLEX:
TYPES OF STRUCTURES:
PRESENT USE:
ORIGINAL USE:
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The first street east of South Street, Silver Street, extends southward from Main Street, crossing Union Street, meeting the east end of Hillside Street, and continuing into the hillside residential area to the south meeting the west end of Imperial Avenue, crossing Grandview Street, meeting the west end of Norton Street and ending at the intersection with Prospect Street. The first block of Silver Street, between Main and Union was surveyed during Phase I of the Bennington Village Historic Resource Survey in 1987. This survey, Phase III, will include the remainder of Silver Street between Union Street and Prospect Street.

Early maps of Bennington tell us that Silver Street was not laid out in its present form until 1852. Prior to that, the 1833 Union Academy occupied a spot on land south of Union and east of the area soon to be developed as Silver Street. (The academy building burned some years prior to 1880 and a new graded school, built on School Street in 1874-5 in the French Second Empire Style, was considered at the time to be the finest public school building in the state.) South of the academy, the area where Silver Street was to be cut through was mostly woodland, and the area around the Safford House (#317) was known, according to Bennington residents, as Hawk Woods, after the man who owned much of the property in this part of town.

During the nineteenth century, Silver Street at its south end included the east-west block connecting with South Street; it was not until the twentieth century that this block was considered part of Prospect Street.

Silver Street is residential in character. The most recently constructed houses were built near the south end of the street, as residential growth in Bennington after the turn of the century extended beyond the hillside around Grandview Street to the newer streets to the south and east.

Most of the earliest constructed homes on the street are still standing today. The Safford House (#317), a well-maintained classic cottage, is probably the oldest. Its residents claim the house was built around 1832 by Solomon Safford, a Revolutionary War veteran. Dr. J. N. Scranton's house, built around 1860, is the only brick house on the street, and is a good example of a Greek Revival sidehall plan house.

Between 1873 and c. 1900, six duplexes were constructed in the stretch between Union and just south of the intersection with Grandview. Five of the duplexes (204-206, 302-304, 306-308, 307-309, 311-313) are simple, vernacular, gable roof, eavesfront structures; one (#310-312), is a more elaborate tri-gable ell plan structure with Queen Anne style embellishment.

The 1894 Miller map appears to indicate that several of the duplexes were rental properties for local businessmen during the turn-of-the-century. #204-206, the first duplex on Silver (1873), was included in the lot of the 201 Union Street residence of W. D. Newton. Newton, a plumber and steam and gas fitter with a rapid trade at 107 Silver, owned a number of parcels of property in Bennington around the 1890s. At about the same time, A. Z. Cutler, a native of Bennington and a respected dentist, owned the duplex at #306-308 Silver. #310-12 was probably built around 1900 by F. Smith, who owned the lot on which it was built, in the 1890s. Smith was a merchant tailor and haberdasher with an establishment at 104 North Street.

Silver Street also boasts a number of high style residences and related buildings built for notable Bennington businessmen. The largest and one of the most architecturally significant Colonial Revival style houses in Bennington is the H. S. Bingham house at 217 Silver Street, built around 1885. Although the architect of the house is unknown, its arched window openings, wrap around porch, irregular plan, abundant use of dormers and gables, and variety of windows, indicate it may have been designed by William C. Bull. It is known that Bull designed the Edward L. Bates House which

stood directly across the road from Bingham's house, at 212 Silver Street where the Silver Street apartments are today.

Henry S. Bingham was known for his box factory which was established in 1870 by H. Dewey, as one of the largest machine factories in Vermont. Bingham purchased the factory in 1878, and in 1909 he sold the successful and growing paper box business to H. B. North. During the 1890s, Bingham's leading business was his brokerage business which was started by his father Hiram around 1860. Bingham sold ladies', men's and children's underwear, made in Bennington's knitting mills, to markets throughout the west and New England. In 1894 Bingham was elected President of the village, and also Representative to the Vermont Legislature. His wife was one of the Lady Commissioners selected to represent Vermont at the Atlanta Exposition.

According to the Bennington Banner, Bingham's house was bought by Mr. Cooper around 1915. Cooper moved the house from its site on the southeast corner of Hillside Avenue to its current location on Silver Street. Cooper built a tennis court on the new site, prior to World War I.

M. W. Stewart, like Bingham, was in the business of manufacturing packing boxes. From 1853 until at least the 1880s, Stewart employed up to five men in his business which also included the planing of lumber. His house at 208 Silver (c. 1890) is one of the more stylistically detailed Queen Anne style houses on the street.

A. P. Childs, who at the turn of the century owned the other large residence on Hillside Avenue (west of Bingham) had a large barn, now gone, across Silver Street just south of Imperial Avenue. Childs was a general agent for the New York Life Insurance Co. for Vermont in 1890s. He also was a lawyer, and Representative in the Legislature in the 1880s.

Unique on the street is the Colonial Revival style house, #219, which is one of only several Bennington houses with Prairie style features such as the wrap-around front porch, with broad pier supports faced with rough plaster and adorned with applied bands at the top.

Between Grandview Street and Prospect Street, five Colonial Revival style houses (#s316, 318, 320, 324, 330), built between 1906 and 1927, reflect America's favored building style of the time, harking back to the modest building styles of our forefathers. Many of these homes were constructed by local contractors who used pattern book building plans. One such builder, according to residents of 320 Silver Street, was L. A. Carrier, who built not only their house but also an identical one on Putnam Street.



Today, Silver Street continues to reflect the many eras of Bennington history in its architecture, from the modest farmhouses of the early to mid-nineteenth century agriculturally based economy, to the workers' housing during the era of water-powered mills later in the century, to modest dwellings from the years of expanded manufacturing in the early twentieth century.

SOURCES:

Hinsdill map, 1835  
Presdee and Edwards map, 1852  
Rice and Harwood map, 1856  
Beers map, 1869  
Stoner birdseye map, 1877  
Burleigh birdseye map, 1887  
Sanborn fire insurance maps, 1912-1925  
Village sewer maps, 1892-93  
D.L. Miller map, 1894  
"Bennington Banner", Supplement, March, 1895;  
Bennington Lister's Office Records  
"Bennington Reformer", October 23, 1896; June 16, 1899.  
Childs Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1880-81  
Nunn, P. H., ed. Illustrated and Descriptive Bennington, Vt.  
Boston. Board of Trade Publishing Co., 1914.  
Robinson, Melvin H., ed. Bennington Souvenir. Troy, NY.  
Troy Times Art Press, 1903-4.  
Resch, Tyler, ed. The Shires of Bennington, A Sampler of  
Green Mountain Heritage. Bennington Banner for  
Bennington Museum, Bennington, Vermont, 1975.

INTERVIEWS:

D. Fredrickson, Bennington, VT	August 19, 1992
Jerry and Lorretta Amadon, Bennington, VT	August 19, 1992

RECORDED BY:  
LIZ PRITCHETT

ORGANIZATION:  
BENN. CLG. FOR VDHP

DATE RECORDED:  
MARCH, 1993

## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE 1 of 14

204-206 Silver St., 1873

## Duplex

Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, 3 x 2 bay classic cottage facing west with broad central eavesfront wall dormer. Asphalt shingle roof, clapboard siding and rough stone foundation. Corner board, wide water table board, molded cornice board trim on main block. Two 1-story gable roof ells project from the rear and are joined by a central shed roof connector. Primarily 6/6 windows, main block second story gables have a 6/9, front dormer has a paired 1/1 with peaked lintel and rounded drip molding. Gable end brick chimneys on main block, south end chimney appears new. Hip roof, 2 bay central front porch has chamfered posts, scroll sawn brackets, square post balustrade, board deck, concrete steps, beaded board ceiling. Replacement pair of entrance doors have 4 light upper half over paneled lower portion. Owned in the 1890s by Wm. D. Newton. The Sanborn Insurance Map of 1925, indicates that by this date the rear ells had not yet been joined by the shed roof connector. 92-A-99, #2.

A. Garage, c. 1935

Vernacular, 1 story, 5 bay, shed roof garage facing west. Concrete foundation, novelty siding, asphalt shingle roofing. Corner board, box cornice trim. Vertical board, hinged double doors. 92-A-99, #3.

207 Silver St., c. 1890

Vernacular Greek Revival, 1 1/2-story, sidehall plan, 3 bay house facing east has a 1 1/2 story gable roof ell with full front porch on the south side, and 1 story rear flat roof projection. Slate roof. Clapboard siding. Smooth, coursed, random ashlar and concrete foundation on main block. Corner board and returning box cornice trim; molded cornice trim on gable. Entrance has a full entablature, pilasters, narrow 4 light 3/4 length sidelights and a 6-panel christian cross door. North side brick wall chimney with corbelled cap. Primarily 6/1 windows; 3/3 kneewall window on south facade over ell porch roof. 2 bay ell porch has tapered square posts on bases with molded caps, board deck, board infill and 1/1 windows between the posts, lattice skirt. Ell entrance, right, through porch, has french doors. Rear appendage



## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE 2 of 14

appears recently redone over an old stone foundation; deck on roof. Owned in the 1890s by A. B. Sibley. 92-A-99, #0.

A. Garage, c. 1940

Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, gable front, 1 bay garage facing east with an open 1-story shed roof appendage on the south side. Clapboard siding, asphalt shingle roof, concrete foundation, rear gable end brick chimney with concrete cap. Fan window in front gable. Wide double door entrance bay has two 3-part hinged sections each with paired vertical panels topped by square 4 light window. 92-A-99, #4.



208 Silver St., c. 1890

Queen Anne, 2 1/2 story, gable front house facing west. 3 bay front facade with central entrance has a recessed 2 x 1 bay front porch on the left and a 2 story gable roof bay window, right. Field stone and concrete foundation, synthetic siding, slate roof with 3 rows scalloped shingles. Front gable peak siding projects forward. Molded cornice with scroll sawn and turned bracket trim under eaves. Mainly 1/1 replacement windows, Queen Anne window with stained glass surrounding clear central panel in front gable peak. Gable front second floor windows and eaves side first floor windows have peaked lintels with scroll sawn applied woodwork. Front porch has turned posts and balustrade, ball motif valance, scroll sawn brackets. Queen Anne entrance door has Eastlake style knob, door bell, and paneled door, beaded board ceiling and board deck. North side 1-story shed roof bay window with 3-part window with narrow 1/1 sash topped by 2-part transom lights within peaked lintel and applied woodwork. Later 2 story, shed roof, 1 x 3 bay rear ell on metal posts has a second story sleeping porch above service entrance. Sleeping porch has beaded board skirt, screens and 3/3 windows. Owned by M. W. Stewart in the 1890s. 92-A-99, #1



A. Barn, c. 1890

Vernacular, 1 1/2 story gable roof barn with stone foundation, clapboard siding, slate roof with 2 rows of scalloped shingles. West facing entrance has diagonal board double door (right section slides on an interior track), hay door above. Square stable windows on first floor, 2/2 in gable. 92-A-99 #5.





## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE 3 of 14

B. Barn, c. 1890

Vernacular, 1 story, gable roof barn in deteriorating condition, with clapboard siding, box cornice and corner board trim, metal standing seam roof. 93-A-8, #7.

212 Silver St., c. 1985Silver Street Apartments

Non-contributing due to age. 2 story, hip roof, irregular plan, multi-unit apartment building facing south. Clapboard siding, asphalt single roof, concrete foundation, 6/6 single and paired windows. Central entrance has a 5 bay entrance porch projection. 92-A-105, #18.

214 Silver St., c. 1860Dr. D. L. Scranton house

Greek Revival, 1 1/2 story, sidehall plan house facing west with a 1 story 3 x 2 bay front porch which wraps around and is screened in on the north side, and two 1 story rear ells. 1860 date panel on porch north side frieze board. Brick veneer, slate roofing shingles, field stone and concrete foundation. Extended eaves have Italianate curved brackets. Molded cornice, frieze board with narrow molded trim. Queen Anne front porch has cut out board skirt, turned posts, spindle balustrade and valance, scroll sawn brackets, beaded board ceiling, arched hood over entrance bay, scroll sawn brackets under eaves, asphalt shingle roof. Left bay recessed entrance has 1/1 raised flat panel door, marble stoop, 5 light full length sidelights, 6 carved brackets above a 4 light transom, molded narrow surround board. Primarily 6/6 windows; large gable front 6/1 windows with heavy wooden sills and feet, broad wooden lintels with molded tops. Principal block central ridge brick chimney with corbelled cap appears to be a replacement. Rear ell extending from east side of porch, has similar windows and trim, large 8/8 segmental arch windows on north wall with sawn applied woodwork and marble sills. East end ell has 6/6 with marble sills and lintels, two brick chimneys. Listed as early as 1856 on the Rice and Harwood map as owned by Dr. J. N. Scranton, Dentist. Owned by E. L. Bates in the 1890s. 92-A-99, #6.

A. Garage, c. 1935

Vernacular, 1 story, jerkinhead gable roof, 1 x 1 bay garage has novelty siding, asphalt single roof,



## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>4</sup> of<sup>14</sup>

concrete foundation, corner board and exposed rafter tail trim. North side entrance has overhead door, west side pass door, east side horizontal multi-light window. 92-A-99, #8.

216 Silver St., c. 1890

Vernacular 1 1/2 story, gable front, 3 x 2 bay house facing west has a full front 2 x 3 bay hipped roof porch which wraps around the north side, connecting with a 1 1/2 story cross gable ell. Rear 1 1/2 story slightly lower gable roof wing. Clapboard siding, slate roof, stone and concrete foundation. Corner board, molded cornice trim. Front porch has beaded board ceiling, spindle balustrade, chamfered posts, scroll sawn and cut out brackets, cut out board skirt. Entrance doors have paired vertical lights over paired vertical panels with bolelection moldings. Primarily 2/2 windows with shutters, paired 1/1 second story front window has peaked lintel with applied sawn woodwork. Central brick chimney on ridge of main block. Rear wing has south side service entrance with arched hood and lattice sides. Pent gable detail with slate roof runs length of wing eavesides below eaves. Owned by John Cone in the 1890s. 92-A-99, #9, 10.

A. Garage, c. 1930

Vernacular 1 story, hipped roof, 1 x 2 bay garage facing west with clapboard siding on the front, asphalt shingle siding on the other sides, asphalt shingle roof and concrete foundation. Wide overhead garage door. Box cornice trim. 92-A-99, #11

217 Silver St., c. 1885

H. S. Bingham House

Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 story, irregular bay house facing east has a 2 story hipped roof dormer on the south east corner, cross-gabled wall dormers on each roof slope, and a slightly lower 2 1/2 story rear gable-over-hipped roof ell. Front gable peak defined by molding detail. Asbestos shingle siding, wood shingle roof. 5 x 2 bay wrap around front porch has beaded board ceiling, segmental arch openings with reeded detail, flared apron. Main entrance double doors have dentil detail between the single vertical upper light and panel below, dentil frieze above and wide transom with 4 small lights on each end. Various 9/1, 12/1,





## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>5</sup> of 14

12/12 windows with beaded surround, molded cornice, mostly 9/1 in rear. Principal block north side dormer has arched window. North side 2 story gable roof bay with segmental arch gable window. South side dormer has palladian window. East gable has multi-light paired window. North side second floor sun porch has multi-light double windows in arched openings. Gable roof dormer above has a round headed window. Rear foundation of coursed rough ashlar stone with raised tinted red concrete joints. Rear ell has carved bracket at each corner, beaded board soffit on north side. Rear 1 story, hipped roof sunporch with enclosed full-length multi-light panels. 3 brick chimneys with corbelled caps on south side (2 on principal block appear to be replacements). 2 small diamond pane windows flank south wall chimney. Side service porch with small transom window similar to front entrance. Built as residence for H. S. Bingham; moved in the teens from its original north facing location, on the southeast corner of Hillside and Silver. 92-A-99, #12; 93-A-8, #6.

218 Silver St., 1966

Non-contributing due to age. Vernacular, split level house facing west has a 2 story gable front main block with a 1 story north side gable roof ell. Concrete foundation, wide board siding, wood shingle roof, central brick chimney. 92-A-105, #19

219 Silver St., 1911

Colonial Revival, 2 1/2 story, cross gable roof, 3 x 2 bay house facing east; 1 story hipped roof Prairie style 3 x 2 bay porch wraps around the south side. Asphalt single roof, clapboard first story, wood shingle second story, plaster in gable peaks. Pressed concrete block foundation has raised joints. Belt course between first and second stories. Extended eaves with beaded board soffit and square brackets along second story and gable eaves. Palladian window in each gable with denticulated cornice. Primarily single and paired vertical 4-light/1 sash. South facade left bay, left of porch has wide, shallow, rectangular bay window with 4 narrow 4/1 sash, beaded board vertical siding, 3 outrigger supports. West side narrow horizontal stained glass window. North side oriel hipped roof window has beaded board vertical siding. Right bay main entrance door with 8-light transom over a large single panel below. Porch has



narrow, beaded board ceiling, skirt and broad piers faced with rough plaster, applied bands near tops of piers, shallow segmental arches, horizontal drainage openings in skirt just above deck level. Concrete steps face Silver St. Recent sliding glass door on south side opens on to porch. 2 x 1 bay rear service porch appears recently closed in. Brick chimney with concrete cap centered on rear roof slope. 92-A-99, #14

220 Silver St., 1903

Vernacular, 2 1/2 story, 3 x 2 bay, gable roof house facing west with full length eavesfront 1 story 3 x 1 bay hipped roof porch, rear slightly lower gable roof, 2 1/2 story, 1 x 1 bay ell. Clapboard siding, slate roof with bands of scalloped shingles, stone and concrete foundation. Corner board and molded cornice trim. Front porch has chamfered posts, square post balustrade, scroll sawn brackets, lattice skirt. Entrance, through porch has door has dentil molding between single upper light and single lower panel. Primarily single and paired 2/2 windows, vertical 2 light in gable peak, diamond pane window on north side, small Queen Anne multi-light window on rear second story. North side 1 story bay window may be a later addition. Rear hipped roof open service porch on south west side of ell has board posts, small hinged milk delivery door left of entrance. Offset brick chimney on ridge. Lister's office records and residents of the street state the house was built in 1903. Similar house at this location owned by H. S. Armstrong and wife in 1893 (Sewer map) indicates the structure may have been built c. 1890. 92-A-99, #16

302-304 Silver St., c. 1890

Duplex

Vernacular, 2 1/2 story, 6 x 2 bay, gable roof, central entrance duplex facing west. Asphalt shingle roof, asbestos shingle siding, stone and concrete foundation. Molded cornice trim. Full eaves front, hipped roof, 1-story porch has turned posts, spindle balustrade, cut out board skirt. Main entrance doors have 2 vertical upper lights with panels below. Replacement interior end brick chimneys. South and north gable end set back hipped roof service porches have doors with paired, arched vertical lights, turned posts, spindle





balustrade, scroll sawn brackets, beaded board ceiling. Mainly 2/2 sash with clipped corner surrounds; broad eavesfront gabled wall dormer has a paired 1/1 with peaked lintel and extended shoulders, louver in peak with similar trim and applied stickwork. Rear full length shed roof 1-story projection has same siding, a shed roof porch extension, assorted windows, 2 pass doors, false front sides above roof. Owned by J. E. Gibson in the 1890s. 92-A-99 #17

306-308 Silver St., c. 1890

Duplex

Vernacular, 2 1/2 story, 6 x 2 bay, gable roof central entrance duplex facing west. Asphalt shingle roof, aluminum siding, field stone and concrete foundation. Scroll sawn paired brackets in south gable peak, molded cornice. Full eaves front, 3 x 1 bay shed roof porch with gabled central bay, beaded board tympanum, has heavy turned posts, replacement skirt (except for vertical cut out boards on north side). Replacement main entrance doors. Primarily 2/1 windows. Broad cross gable central wall dormer has gable peak window with peaked lintel and cutout detail. Bay windows in southeast and northeast corners appear altered. Rear full length 1 story shed extension has pass doors, assorted windows, a central, narrow shed roof dormer in the roof. Paired interior end brick chimneys. Owned by Dr. A. Z. Cutler in the 1890s. Marble and slate steps and walk in north side yard. 92-A-99, #18.

307-309 Silver St., c. 1900

Duplex

Vernacular, 2 1/2 story, 6 x 2 bay, gable roof, central entrance duplex facing east. Fieldstone foundation, asphalt shingle roof, clapboard siding. Molded cornice and corner board trim. Primarily 2/2 windows. Diamond pane window in eavesfront, central gabled wall dormer, and in north gable peak. Main entrance, left door, has round arch paired lights, right door has a single light. Shed roof porch spanning facade below dormer has slate roof, turned posts. 1 bay service porch, set back on the north side, has turned posts, square post





## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE 8 of 14

balustrade. Rear 1 story, shed projection. Brick interior end chimneys. In 1894, this lot owned by C. Sibbald, was vacant. 92-A-99, #19.

310-312 Silver St., c. 1900

Tenement/ apartment house

Queen Anne, 2 1/2 story, 2 x 3 bay, tri-gable ell plan apartment house facing west has a gable front main block and an ell extending from the north side. Slate roof with 4 courses scalloped shingles, clapboard siding, field stone and concrete foundation. Corner board, molded cornice, scroll sawn bracket trim. A 2 1/2 story, gable roof pavilion projects from front facade of main block. A 1 x 1 bay gable roof entry porch directly right of pavilion and a shed roof 3 x 1 bay porch on front facade of ell have turned posts, cut out board skirts, beaded board tympani and ceilings. Entrance doors have a single light above 3 panels with molded surrounds. Primarily 2/1, 1/1 windows. 2 story tower centered above ell porch has 6-sided slate roof, 3 9-lite windows in top level. Full length 1 story shed projection spans rear of ell. Rear of main block has a small brick chimney on ridge which appears new, recessed northeast corner for height of 2 stories, recessed southeast corner first story porch. Brick chimney with corbelled cap centered in each roof ridge. In 1894, this lot owned by F. Smith, was vacant. 92-A-99, #21



311-313 Silver St., c. 1890

Duplex

Vernacular, 1 1/2 story, 5 x 3 bay, gable roof, central eavesfront entrance, duplex facing east has a rear 1 story shed roof projection. Tall kneewall. Clapboard siding, slate roof with single and double rows of scalloped slate shingles, brick, concrete and stone foundation. Box cornice, corner board trim. Replacement shed roof, 3 x 1 bay front porch has chamfered posts, beaded board tympanum, scroll sawn and cut out brackets, recently added paired horizontal board rails, asphalt shingle roof. Paired entrance has replacement doors, single surround. 2/2 windows have 1 shutter per window, 6/6 in south end gable. Central brick chimney with corbelled cap. Owned by Wm. Hawks in 1894. 92-A-99, #20



## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>9</sup> of 14314 Silver St., 1902

Vernacular, 1 1/2 story, 3 x 3 bay, gable front house facing west. Clapboard siding, fieldstone and concrete foundation, asphalt shingle roof. Corner board, molded cornice trim. Right bay entrance has 1 x 1 bay gable roof porch with square posts, square post balustrade, beaded board tympanum and ceiling, lattice skirt. Main entrance door has four molded panels (the upper panels are arched). Primarily single, paired 2/1, 1/1 sash; some with peaked lintel and applied stick detail, new shutters. Shed roof 1 x 2 bay service porch on north facade has turned posts, square board balustrade, newel post, scroll sawn and cut out brackets, 2 story, gable roof, 1 x 1 bay ell projects from north facade. 1 1/2 story, slightly lower, 3 x 2 bay rear wing. Central brick chimney on main block roof ridge. This lot and building on it was owned by H. Crawford in 1894. 92-A-99, #23

A. Garage, c. 1950.

Non-contributing due to age. 1 story, gable front west facing structure appears recently altered with T-111 siding. Novelty siding in front gable. Overhead door, left. Exposed rafter tails, asphalt shingle roof. East side has assorted windows and another garage door. 92-A-99, #22

316 Silver St., 1906

Vernacular Colonial Revival style, 2 story, hip roof, 2 x 2 bay, west facing main block with a 1 1/2-story gable roof south side ell which has a recessed full front 1 x 1 bay porch and central entrance. Slate roof, clapboard siding, stone and concrete foundation. 2/1 single and paired windows with drip molding. Wide water table board, corner boards and molded cornice trim. Front porch has square post balustrade and newel posts, reeding along the bottom and top rail of balustrade, beaded board ceiling, corner column with molded base and cap, cut-out vertical board skirt. Central brick chimney on ell. A smaller rear ell, right, has a shed roof porch with square posts; newer rear 1-story ell, left, has horizontal 2/2 windows and a flat roof with deck and horizontal board rail. Listed on Sanborn Insurance Map of 1921. 92-A-98, #2.



## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>10</sup> of<sup>14</sup>A. Carriage Barn / Garage, c. 1910

Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, gable front, 1 x 2 bay barn with novelty siding, center gable front, v-groove vertical board, hinged double door, stone and concrete foundation. South side hinged, vertical board double door, left; infilled hay door opening right, over a single vertical board door. Asphalt shingle roof, rear new exterior stairs with a double door entry on second floor. 92-A-98, #3 (left).

B. Shed, c. 1950

Non-contributing due to age. Vernacular, 1-story, 1 x 1 bay, gable roof shed with, north side entrance, replacement wide board siding, small square windows. 92-A-98, #3 (right).

317 Silver St., c. 1850

Solomon and Submit Safford House

Vernacular classic cottage, 1 1/2-stories, gable roof, 5 x 2 bays, east facing central eavesfront entrance, high kneewall. Contemporaneous rear 1 1/2-story, gable roof ell centered on the rear facade. Replacement 6/6 windows, shutters. Brick foundation, slate roof. Returning box cornice, corner board trim. Slightly recessed entrance has 4-light, 2/3 length sidelights, plain board surround, 5-panel door. Rear ell has a central brick chimney; north side c. 1950 1-story screened porch has a clapboard apron; south side 2 x 1 bay, shed roof service porch has a beaded board ceiling, square posts. Current owners state the bricks in the replacement off-center main block chimney came from the first graded school in Bennington and as did the granite front steps and sills. Owners state the house is a post and beam frame, plank house, built by Solomon and Submit Safford c. 1832, probably before Silver Street was laid out. It is uncertain if the house was built at this early date as it does not appear on early maps until the Rice and Harwood Map (1856) lists the property as owned by A. Plum. The D.L. Miller Map (1894) lists T. Plumb as owner; Child's Business Directory (1881) states that Theron S. Plumb was a tin peddler, and owned a house on Silver Street. Plumb grave marker found on the property, now serves as a step for the ell. 92-A-99, #25.





URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>11</sup> of<sup>14</sup>

A. Garage, c. 1960.

Non-contributing due to age. Vernacular 1 1/2-story, gable roof, 3 x 2 bay garage with asphalt shingle roof, 6/1 windows, asbestos shingle siding. 92-A-99, #25.

318 Silver St., 1927

Reverend Max H. Webster House

Vernacular Colonial Revival style, 2 1/2-story, gable roof, 3 x 3 bay, west facing house with concrete foundation, asphalt shingle roof, new brick ridge chimney with corbelled cap, weatherboard siding. Returning box cornice trim. 6/1 windows with drip molding; semi-elliptical gable windows. Eavesfront left entrance has a paneled entrance door with 2 small upper lights. 1 x 1 bay gable roof Colonial Revival style entry porch has a concrete deck and steps, paired square posts on bases with molded caps and neck detail, molded cornice and weatherboard tympanum, beaded board ceiling, metal railings, wood shingle roof, lattice side panels fronted by wooden benches. North side pass door has an arched hooded entry porch with lattice side panels. Rear 1 x 1 bay, 1 story, hip roof ell has a wood shingle roof, weatherboard siding, corner board trim. Marble walk in back with square stones set in a diamond pattern. Owners claim Rev. Max H. Webster built the house with his father's help in the 1920s. 92-A-98, #4.

A. Shed, c. 1930

Vernacular 1-story, 1 x 2 bay shed with rabbit hutch. Novelty siding, rolled roofing, concrete foundation, exposed rafter tail trim. West gable front entrance. 93-A-9, #25.

320 Silver St., 1916

Vernacular Colonial Revival, 2 1/2-story, gable front, west facing, 4 x 3 bay, sidehall plan house with a Colonial Revival full front porch, left of center entrance. Clapboard siding, concrete foundation, slate roof with double rows of scalloped shingles, corner board and molded cornice trim. 3 x 1 bay front porch has square posts which taper on the top with molded capitals and bases, a square stick balustrade with a reeded lower rail, narrow v-groove board ceiling, lattice skirt. Main entrance door has a molded surround framing both a



## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>12</sup> of<sup>14</sup>

large single upper light and a small lower panel. 1/1 single and paired windows have drip moldings; gable front paired window has diamond pane upper sash; north side lattice stair window; south side shallow hip roof bay window. Rear, northeast corner 2-story porch, has clapboard infill on first floor, clapboard apron and a band of 1/1 windows upstairs. Southeast corner rear 1-bay gabled entry porch enclosed c. 1970 with clapboards. Current owners, Jerry and Lorretta Amadon state the house was built in 1916 by Mr. Edson and shortly after was owned by Lyman Royce. The Amadons have been owners for the last 46 years. 92-A-98, #5.

A. Shed, c. 1930

Vernacular, 1-story, shed roof, 1 x 1 bay shed with clapboard siding, rolled roofing, exposed rafter tail trim, board foundation, south side hinged double entrance door, west side pass door, square east side window. 92-A-98, #6.

323 Silver St., c. 1850

Vernacular, 2 1/2-story, gable front, sidehall plan, 3 x 3 bay, east facing house with an old north side 1 1/2-story gable roof ell. Fieldstone and concrete foundation, replacement wood shingle siding, slate roof. C.1980 rear addition. Historic ell has original 6/6 windows, a recessed full front porch, old clapboard siding. Main block has a replacement, right bay entrance door. Slate roof, standing seam roof on much of old ell. Long returning box cornice on north side porch roof. Current owners state that the ell is the original farmhouse. Numerous alterations to this structure designate it as marginally contributing. The Rice and Harwood Map (1856) lists T. Leonard as owner. Mrs. Leonard is listed as owner on the Beers (1869) and Miller (1894) maps; Child's Business Directory states that Miss Mary Leonard resided here in 1881. 92-A-98, #7.

324 Silver St., c. 1920

Colonial Revival, 2 1/2-story, gable roof, 3 x 2 bay, sidehall plan, eavesfront right bay entrance, west facing house with aluminum siding, concrete foundation, slate roof. Returning molded cornice trim. 8/1 windows; some square 6 light windows. 1-bay entry porch with slate roof, columns with molded bases and capitals, full entablature,



## URBAN DISTRICT BUILDING INVENTORY

SURVEY NUMBER

PAGE<sup>13</sup> of<sup>14</sup>

returning box cornice, arched ceiling with flat board tympanum, beaded board ceiling. 1-story flat roof ell on north side has a deck with spindle balustrade. Central brick ridge chimney with concrete cap. South side flat roof attached garage with eavesfront garage bay right, and service entrance left, has an extended eaves with beaded board soffit, 6/1 widows, rolled roofing. According to local tradition the house was built by a Mr. Edson. The Lamberts were former owners of the property. 92-A-98, #8.

A. Garden Shed, c. 1945

Non-contributing due to age. Vernacular, 1-story, west gable front shed with clapboard siding, asphalt shingle roof. 93-A-8, #5.

325 Silver St., c. 1970

Non-contributing due to age. Vernacular, 1-story, gable roof, 4 x 3 bay house with weatherboard siding, asphalt shingle roof, concrete foundation and south side attached screened porch. 93-A-8, #4.

329 Silver St., c. 1890

Non-contributing due to alterations. Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, gable front, 3 x 2 bay, sidehall plan house with replacement siding, stone and concrete foundation, asphalt shingle roof, new full front porch. 6/6 single and paired windows. Central brick chimney. 93-A-8, #3.

A. Barn/Garage, c. 1890/c.1940

Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, gable roof, south facing, 3 bay garage with slate roof, vertical board and novelty siding. Two left front bays have overhead garage doors, open right bay, far right shed extension with open front bay. 93-A-8, #2.

330 Silver St., c. 1930

Colonial Revival, 2 1/2-story, gable roof, 3 x 3 bay, west facing house with central eavesfront entrance, has an asphalt shingle roof, concrete foundation, weatherboard siding, molded returning box cornice. South side brick wall chimney, brick chimney on rear roof slope. 8/1 windows with shutters, some windows on north side are paired. Colonial Revival 1-bay porch has Tuscan columns,





beaded board ceiling, pedimented tympanum, brick deck. Christian cross paneled door flanked by 4-light, 1/2 length sidelights above a raised panel. Semi-elliptical opening in each gable peak. Rear, hipped roof contemporaneous appendage has a 1 x 1 bay Colonial Revival style service porch with Tuscan columns and a beaded board ceiling at the southeast corner, and is enclosed on the northeast corner. 92-A-98 #10 (left).

A. Garage, c. 1930

Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, 1 x 1 bay, gable front, south facing garage with asphalt shingle roof, concrete foundation, weatherboard siding, 6/1 windows with shutters, returning molded cornice. Historic sliding, double garage doors on an interior track; each hinged 2-part section has a 6-light insert over 6 panels. 92-A-98, #10 (right).

333 Silver St., 1918

Vernacular, 1 1/2-story, gable front, 3 x 2 bay, east facing house with asphalt shingle roof, concrete foundation. 6/1 windows with shutters. Original form and fenestration patterns appear to remain but house is only marginally contributing due to replacement synthetic siding and replacement entrance door. South side 1 x 2 bay porch has original beaded board ceiling, square posts and stick balustrade, Colonial Revival style horizontal window with large central pane surrounded by smaller panes defined by vertical and horizontal muntins, lattice skirt. 1 1/2-story ell behind porch projects from southwest corner of main block and has an exposed basement. 92-A-98, #9 (right).

A. Garage, c. 1940

Vernacular, 1-story, gable front garage has an asphalt shingle roof, weatherboard siding, concrete foundation. East facing overhead sliding garage door, left, 4-light window, right. North eaves side pass door left, and window right. 92-A-98, #9 (left).



Listed on State Register  
VT ACHP  
Date: 11/19/1997

STATE OF VERMONT  
Division for Historic Preservation  
Montpelier, VT 05602

HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY  
District ☐ Complex ☐ Survey Form

COUNTY:	BENNINGTON
TOWN:	BENNINGTON
LOCATION:	
	SOULE STREET
NAME OF DISTRICT:	
TYPE OF DISTRICT:	
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURES:	
Excellent % Good %	
Fair % Poor %	
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:	
Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/>	
HISTORIC CONTEXTS:	

SURVEY NUMBER:
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER(S):
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing
A
B
C
D
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
COMPLEX INFORMATION ONLY
COMMON NAME:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
TYPE OF COMPLEX:
TYPES OF STRUCTURES:
PRESENT USE:
ORIGINAL USE:
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Soule Street is one block long extending southerly approximately 300 feet from #113 West Main Street. The Lebanon Springs railroad bed defines the road's southern terminus where the rail line began a tight northerly loop toward the depot. The street is residential with modest single family dwellings and one duplex, most dating from the 1920's. Three more recent houses were built around 1960 (#s 108, 110 and 117).

Soule Street first appears on the 1921 Sanborn Insurance map, arbitrarily named "Wausau Court" at the time, with one house, the Edward Telford bungalow (#120) near the end of the road on the east side. By 1925 the road name had been changed to Soule Street, apparently for Claire W. Soule who resided at #304 Main Street. Little is known about Soule. Bennington Directories reveal that in 1904 he or she was an insurance agent for Metropolitan Life. By 1912 Soule operated a pool room and shooting gallery located at #110 South Street and by 1919 Soule was involved in real estate. When the street was being developed around 1925, the name Soule was no longer listed in the directories.

By 1927 there were five houses and one duplex on the street. While most of the houses were vernacular, two were built in the popular Colonial Revival style (#105 and #109) and (#120) was a Bungalow style. The Henry Hebert house, #109 would have been very fashionable, similar to many of the foursquare homes being built on Elm, Putnam and Weeks and originally had Clapboard siding on the first story and wood shingles on the second story. The A. H. LaFontaine house (#105) is another interpretation of

the Colonial Revival style with an emphasis on the pedimented gable-front.

Soule Street has slowly continued to grow with a second wave of new houses around 1960 and some garages added to existing houses. In the meantime, all of the original dwellings underwent alterations, possibly in an attempt to make them more energy efficient, with new siding, and some with replacement windows.

SOURCES:

Miller map, 1894

Sanborn fire insurance maps, 1921-1925

Bennington Lister's Office Records

Manning Directory, 1904, 1905, 1925, 1927

RECORDED BY:  
ANN COUSINS

ORGANIZATION:  
BENN. CLG FOR VDHP

DATE RECORDED  
MARCH, 1993



Intersection of Main Street105 Soule St., 1925A. H. LaFontaine House

Colonial Revival style, 2-1/2 story, 2x3 bay, left sidehall plan house facing east with an enclosed, 1 story, gable-roofed porch with battered half-wall beginning directly at the ground spanning the facade; 1 story, shed-roofed half-width enclosed porch at the rear. Concrete foundation. Aluminum siding. Gable roof with asphalt shingles; brick ridge chimney; molded cornice trim with full returns forming a pediment at the facade; pediment is repeated at the porch. Left bay entrance is flanked by pilasters. Windows are mostly 6/1, some paired; square Queen Anne style stair window on the south side; gable fanlight at the facade. A. H. LaFontaine resided at this address in 1927. 92-A-112, #1.

A. Garage, c. 1940

Non-contributing due to age. Vernacular, 1 story, 1 bay, gable-front garage with an overhead sectional garage door facing east. Concrete block foundation; novelty siding; asphalt shingle roofing. 92-A-112, #2.

107 Soule St., c. 1925Minerva Holmes House

Altered, vernacular foursquare, right sidehall plan, 2 story, 2x2 bay house facing east with 1 story, 2 bay, hip-roofed Colonial Revival style porch spanning the facade, enclosed c. 1980; rear deck addition. Concrete foundation. Clapboard siding with a molded water table, cornerboards and plain frieze. Shallow pitched hip roof with asphalt shingles; central brick chimney with concrete cap; molded box cornice. Predominantly 1/1 replacement sash; several awning windows. This house was one of the first built on the street. Minerva Holmes, a manager, lived here in 1925. 92-A-112, #3.

A. Garage, c. 1980

Non-contributing due to age. Large 2-1/2 bay, 1-1/2 story, eaves-front, gable-roofed garage facing east. "T-111" siding, asphalt shingle roofing,

