

STATE OF VERMONT Division for Historic Preservation  VERMONT ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY  Individual Property Survey Form	SURVEY NUMBER: 0303-120 (Assigned by VDHP)
	Listed in State Register <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for State Register Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -or- No <input type="checkbox"/> Date:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Old North Church
	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Union Meeting House
COUNTY: Caledonia	PRESENT USE: ecumenical lamp light services, weddings, Danville school baccalaureate ceremonies
TOWN: Danville	ORIGINAL USE: church used by 4 denominations
ADDRESS: 2724 North Church Rd.	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
COMMON NAME: Old North Church	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
PROPERTY TYPE: Building	DATE BUILT: 1832
OWNER: Danville Historical Society ADDRESS: 121 Hill St. P.O. Box 274, Danville, VT 05828	
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
	STYLE: Greek Revival massing with Federal details
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: <b>Structural System:</b> 1. <u>Foundation</u> : Stone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Block <input type="checkbox"/> 2. <u>Wall Structure</u> a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plank <input type="checkbox"/> Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Platform <input type="checkbox"/> b. Load Bearing Masonry: Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Block <input type="checkbox"/> c. Metal: Iron <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> d. Other: 3. <u>Wall Cladding</u> : Clapboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Shiplap <input type="checkbox"/> Novelty <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Vinyl Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Brick Veneer <input type="checkbox"/> Stone Veneer <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 4. <u>Roof Structure</u> Truss: Wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iron <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 5. <u>Roof Covering</u> : Slate <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Sheet Metal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Built Up <input type="checkbox"/> Rolled <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Standing Seam <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 6. <u>Engineering Structure</u> : 7. Other:	
<b>Appendages:</b> Porches <input type="checkbox"/> Towers <input type="checkbox"/> Cupolas <input type="checkbox"/> Dormers <input type="checkbox"/> Chimneys <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheds <input type="checkbox"/> Ells <input type="checkbox"/> Wings <input type="checkbox"/> Bay Window <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
<b>Roof Styles:</b> Gable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Jerkinhead <input type="checkbox"/> Saw Tooth <input type="checkbox"/> With Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> With Bellcast <input type="checkbox"/> With Parapet <input type="checkbox"/> With False Front <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Number of Stories: 1 1/2 Entrance Location: two entrances gable end, south elevation Number of Bays: 3 x 5 Approximate Dimensions: 40' x 55'	

#### ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The center of the south gable front facade is embellished with a fine Palladian-like window. An elliptical arch with radiating muntins and molded trim with a keystone is centered over the lower portion, consisting of a 12/12 double hung sash flanked by narrow 3/3 double hung sash. Four Doric pilasters articulate the joints between the sash and the trim. The center window is flanked by twin entrances identical in detail. The raised-panel doors are set between Doric pilasters with prominent entasis supporting a full entablature. The pilasters are set off from the clapboard sidings by a plain rectangular wood enframingent the width of the entablature.

A rectangular 12/12 light double-hung window in the gable peak is covered with two louvered wood shutters, with architrave trim. The simple rectangular massing is embellished with corner boards, frieze, a returning molded box cornice and a molded watertable. The five bays of fenestration on each eave side elevation have 12/12 sash with louvered shutters. A ridge chimney is located at the north end.

The ceiling of the sanctuary is open, exposing the king post truss roof system.

A raised pulpit in the north gable end of the church is set beneath a portion of the wall which projects inward and is framed with paneled pilasters on paneled pedestals. The pulpit is separated from the pew area by curved balustrade with elaborately turned newel-type posts punctuated by simply turned spindles.

An open choir loft is situated above the foyer and lit by the upper portion of the Palladian-like window. The floor is wide pine boards. The slip pews and the doors from the foyer into the sanctuary are grain painted to resemble tiger maple.

A circular chandelier holding 14 kerosene lamps was added in 1868 and is still in use, as are the kerosene lamps held in wall brackets. The structure has not been electrified.

#### RELATED RESOURCES ON THE PROPERTY:

An outhouse built in 2010

#### HISTORICAL OVERVIEW:

This Church with its simple massing and relatively unadorned facade is a Federal style ecclesiastical structure in North Danville. The structure and exterior details maintain the original construction of the building while changes that occurred during restorations of the interior show the evolution of changing architectural preferences in ecclesiastical design.

The church was built in 1832 for \$1400 by four denominations: Methodist, Free Will Baptist, Congregational, and Christian. \$800 was raised by the sale of family-style box pews, with the remaining \$600 donated by John A. Stanton and Theophilus Drew, who were on the building committee.

This church was built during a period in Vermont known as the Age of Benevolence, 1816-1837. Four congregations building the church jointly was not only a financial decision but also a

theological decision as Jacobus Arminius and John Wesley theology “that man may help to save himself” was becoming popular.

The location of the church on a rise in a remote area also denotes the move to erecting churches in a location central to the population of a sprawling township. At the time of construction, the church was surrounded by farms.

Music was provided by tuning forks, a bass viol, a melodeon, and later a pump organ, which is still in use.

In 1868, the Methodist-Episcopal Church became the sole owner and conducted the first major restoration of the church interior. The original choir loft was enclosed to serve as a kitchen and classroom, the box pews were removed and replaced with the present slip pews. The original seven-lamp kerosene chandelier was replaced with the current 14-lamp kerosene chandelier. The doors between the foyer and sanctuary and the slip pews were grain painted to resemble tiger maple, and current pulpit configuration was installed.

In 1890, Nye Hubbell built a new pulpit of ash.

The second major renovation occurred in 1960, removing failed ceiling plaster and lath to expose the hewn and pegged king truss and purlin construction of the roof. The 1868 wall enclosing the choir loft was also removed, and wood grained wallpaper was installed to cover failing plaster.

The church was deeded to the Danville Historical Society in 1963, and summer lamplight services have been held at various intervals since 1957. The lamplight services were started to raise money for the restoration of the church.

A third major restoration occurred between 2007 and 2012. The clapboards on the front of the church were replaced in-kind, the windows restored, the wallpaper removed, and the plaster preserved.

In 2017 and 2020 the front doors were restored.

REFERENCE CITATIONS:

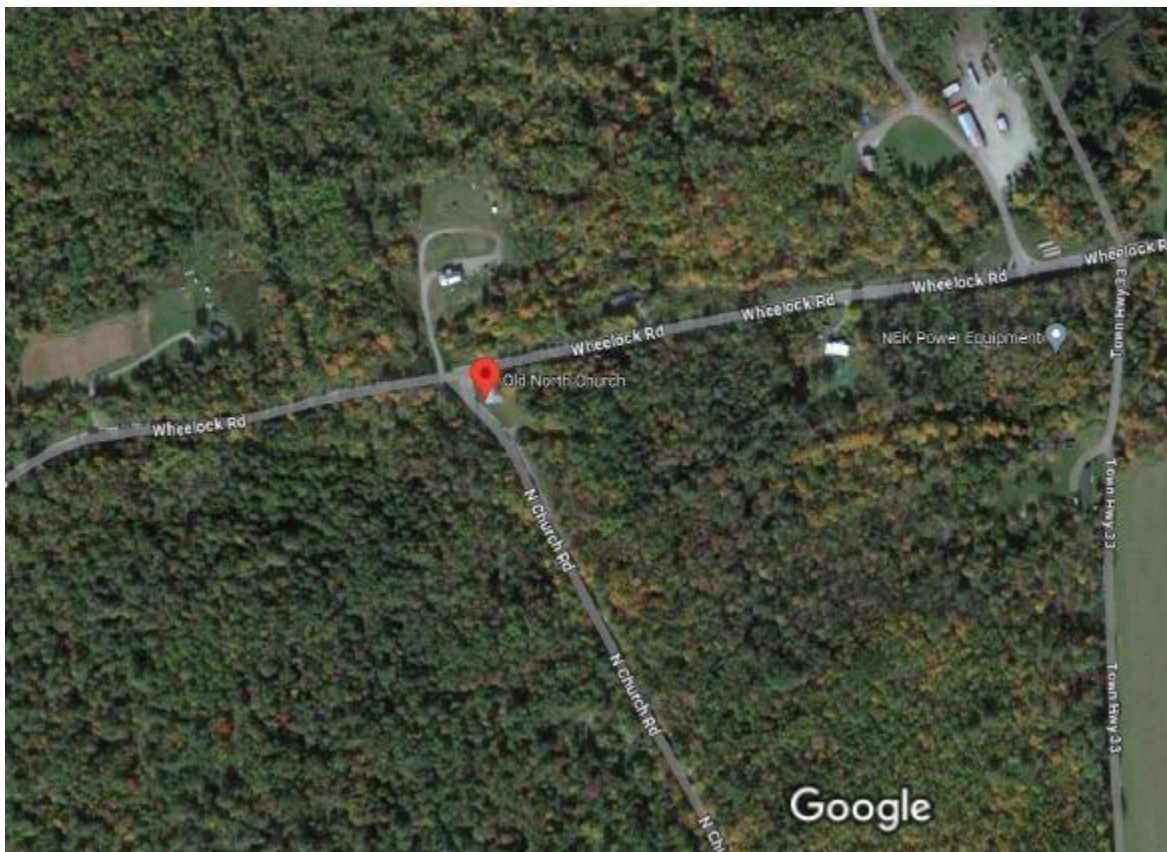
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open  Woodland   
Scattered Buildings  Moderately Built Up  Densely Built Up   
Residential  Commercial  Agricultural  Industrial  Mixed Use   
Roadside Strip Development  Other:

RECORDED BY: Sally Fishburn

ORGANIZATION: Danville Historical Society, Old North Church Committee

DATE RECORDED: 12/29/23

ATTACHMENTS: Please insert maps and photographs here. Use additional pages if necessary.





Old North Church - late 1800's



Old Home Day 1947











December 2023 Advent Lament Service