STATE OF VERMONT	SURVEY NUMBER: 1018-3				
Division for Historic Preservation	(Assigned by VDHP)				
	Listed in State Register \Box				
VERMONT ARCHITECTURAL	Eligible for State Register Yes ⊠ -or- No □				
RESOURCE INVENTORY	Date: 9/27/2023				
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Hitchcock Memorial				
Individual Property Survey Form	Museum and Library				
	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Hitchcock Memorial				
	Museum and Library				
COUNTY: Orleans	PRESENT USE: Library/Museum				
TOWN: Westfield	ORIGINAL USE: Library/Museum				
ADDRESS: 1252 VT Route 100	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER: George D. Story & Co.				
COMMON NAME: Hitchcock Memorial Museum &	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: H.W. Burnham				
PROPERTY TYPE: Building	DATE BUILT: 1899-1900				
OWNER: Town of Westfield ADDRESS: School Street, Westfield, VT 05874					
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:				
Yes \boxtimes No \square Restricted \square	$ Good \boxtimes Fair \square Poor \square $				
	STYLE: Colonial Revival				
GENERAL DESCRIPTION:					
Structural System:					
1. <u>Foundation:</u> Stone⊠ Brick□ Concret	e □ Concrete Block □				
2. Wall Structure					
a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam □ Plank □ Balloon □ Platform ⊠					
b. Load Bearing Masonry: Brick Stone Concrete Concrete Block					
c. Metal: Iron Steel d. Other:					
3. <u>Wall Cladding:</u> Clapboard □ Board & Batten □ Wood Shingle □ Shiplap □					
	m Siding $oxtimes$ Asphalt Shingle \Box Vinyl Siding \Box				
Brick Veneer Stone Veneer Other:					
4. <u>Roof Structure</u>					
Truss: Wood⊠ Iron Steel Concre	te 🗆 Other:				
5. <u>Roof Covering:</u> Slate□ Wood Shingle□]Asphalt Shingle⊠ Sheet Metal□				
Built Up Rolled Tile Standing S					
6. <u>Engineering Structure:</u> 7. Other:					
Annondagos: Porches Towers Cupolas	□ Dormers□ Chimneys⊠ Sheds□				
Appendages: Porches⊠ Towers⊠ Cupolas⊡ Dormers⊡ Chimneys⊠ Sheds⊡					
Ells□ Wings□ Bay Window□ Other:					
Roof Styles : Gable□ Hip⊠ Shed□ Flat□ Mansard□ Gambrel□ Jerkinhead□					
Saw Tooth□ With Monitor□ With Bellcast□ With Parapet□ With False Front□					
Other:					
Number of Stories: 2					
Entrance Location: center bay, front elevation					
Number of Bays: 5 x 3					
Approximate Dimensions: 30' W x 60' L					

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Completed in 1899, using native woods and ornate design, the Library/Museum has a staircase on either side of the entrance room, leading to a balcony, where the natural history displays are located. Interior is elaborately paneled with wood and has a pressed metal ceiling.

RELATED RESOURCES ON THE PROPERTY: N/A

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW:

The Hitchcock Memorial Museum and Library was a gift to the Town of Westfield by Aaron Charles Hitchcock, a successful farmer, businessman, and member of an early Westfield family in 1899. He gave the land and sum of \$10,000 to the Town of Westfield to erect a two-story building; the lower story to be used as a public library and the second story to be devoted to a museum of Natural History and Science.

Town records indicate that the building was designed by George W. Story & Co. of Newport, VT, and built by H.W. Burnham at a cost of \$3,074. One half of the balance of \$7000 was to be used for specimens and furniture, while the other half was to be put into a trust. The building was completed in 1899. A.C. Hitchcock died in 1900. The Hitchcock Memorial Museum and Library operates today as its desired intention.

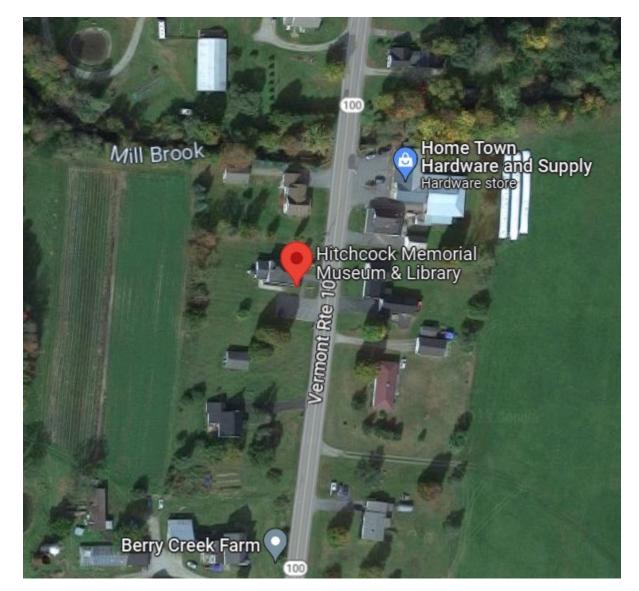
REFERENCE CITATIONS:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Woodland					
Scattered Buildings \Box Moderately Built Up \boxtimes Densely Built Up \Box					
Residential 🖂	Commercial	□ Agricultura	\square	Industrial 🗆	Mixed Use \Box
Roadside Strip	Development	□ Other:			

RECORDED BY: Jennifer Stelma

ORGANIZATION: Board of Trustees, Hitchcock Memorial Museum & Library

DATE RECORDED: 9/20/2023



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

1252 VT Route 100

Proceedings of the Meeting for Building a Library and Museum Dated October 15th, 1898

The legal voters of the town of Westfield are hereby notified and warned to meet at the town hall Westfield, Saturday, October 15th, 1898 at 1 P.M. to hear and act on proposition of A.C. Hitchcock to build a library and museum building for the town.

> Westfield, Vermont, Oct. 3, 1898 /s/ E.H. Miller /s/ E.H. Hitchcock Selectmen /s/ W.S. Gilpin

Westfield, Vt., Oct. 15th meeting agreeable to warning and the moderator opened the meeting by reading the Warning and proceeded to act on the following proposition of A.C. Hitchcock as follows:

A.C. Hitchcock to the people of Westfield, Vt., the proposition herein made to you is no new thing on my part I conceived the idea over twonty years ago of doing something for my dear native town along the line indicated by the present writing and I caused to be drawn two instruments which embodied my ideas in regard to the matter and them duly executed. But as they were not too operative until after my decease and as in the good Providence of God my life has been graciously spared beyond my expectation, I propose now to enter at once upon my plan if it is accepted by you and do what I can while in life to bring it to perfection.

The advantages of a good library do not need any sounding by me. They are un ----- recognized and believed in. Most heartedly believing in them myself. I herby agree to pay to the town of Westfield the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) in notes or other evidence of indebtedness to be used and appropriated by said town as hereoften indicated. It is my desire that I may have the privilege of making further gifts in addition to the above mentioned sum should I see fit. So to do and ----- for such sums together with the above mentioned sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.) the town shall be responsible only for the amount collected by reasonable diligence. It is my purpose that such portion of said ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.) as may be necessary shall be used by the town to erect, complete and furnish a building, the lower story of which shall be used by the town as its public library and in which the books of the town library shall be stored and preserved and the upper or second story of which shall be devoted to a museum of natural history. The above mentioned building shall be constructed on land deeded by me to the town and in accordance with the plan and specifications drawn by Geo. D. Story and Co. of Newport, Vt., which are submitted herewith. It is my desire that preparations be made the coming winter, by getting lumber, stones and other building materials ready so that active operations may commence as soon as practicable in the spring. It is my further desire that one-half of such sum as shall be found remaining after the construction of said building may be used by the town in procuring and purchasing

specimens for a museum of natural history and that the then remaining sum be safely invested by the town and preserved as a permanent fund, the income from which may be applied first to defray one half the expense of all repairs on the above mentioned building, the balance of which may be used by the town to procure additional specimens for the museum. It is also my desire that the town may at all times keep the above mentioned building in good and suitable repair and that it may be kept open at least one whole day or two half days during each week, in such manners that its advantages may be fully enjoyed by the public.

Westfield, October 15, 1898

/s/ A.C. Hitchcock

The above read by Albert Farman and remarks made by the people of the town on motion of L.S. Woodworth and seconded by Wallace Wakefield to accept A.C. Hitchcock's proposition and a motion to amend by N.C. Hoyt and seconded by E.S. Miller at the pleasure of A.C. Hitchcock the motion was so put. And it was voted to accept of the above writer's proposition at his pleasure of giving it meaning anytime he was ready to furnish the funds on motion of W.D. Miller the town voted to give A.C. Hitchcock the Thanks of the town. Voted to adjourn without date.

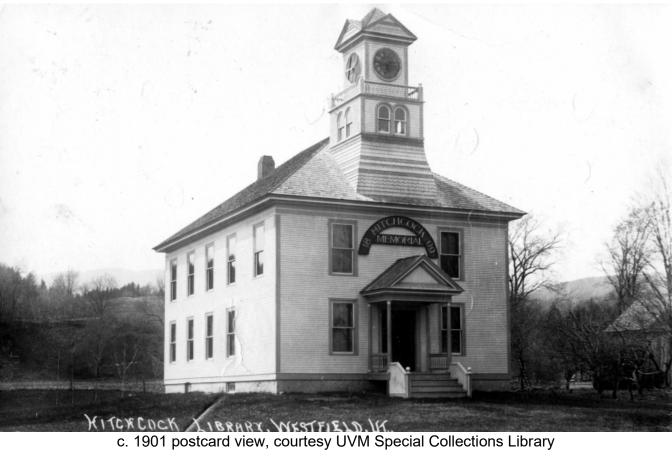
A true copy of the proceedings of the town meeting as near as I could make it.

Attest: /s/ N.C. Hoyt Town Clerk State of Vermont Orleans County, ss. I. Jeanne G. Beaulieu, Town Clerk of Westfield, hereby certify that the Chove 18 thrup nector dug of the proceeding the town meeting held Oct 15-1898 Heant and in Book 3 Has - 449 - 498 of Heat Hestfield Town meeting reads

Minutes of Town Meeting, October 15, 1898, to accept A.C. Hitchcock's offer to fund a library and natural history museum. Plans and specifications drawn by George D. Story & Co. of Newport, VT. *Westfield Town Meeting Records, Book 3, pages 449-450*

14.00 38 3.00 39 84.33 40 3.25 41 8.28 42 13 2.00 43 ror did We give no order for the State tax of 274 221 we give any order for Drighway + School 122 46 County for hor making a totle a he has fai Its will show that recer walt e han made two affointments rotin Remord wood and humber in place o Surgor of Theo Stending Library town-miss Elgie Brown who also went from town The may st they came into our hands Atteheock museum + Fibrary building Tenthou About eight thousand of this money was hourle - Jay and Jaims Du, who was must HiBurnham were turne 10 and a sinted to erect the building land was completed and turned one to us January 25,1900 structure, wel the building a good thorough well made and

Town Records stating that funds for the construction of the building "were turned over to Mr. H.W. Burnham who was chosen and appointed to erect the building." Building completed January 25, 1900.





https://penobscotmarinemuseum.pastperfectonline.com/media/1A092C20-9C7A-4BF2-B160-851343601850

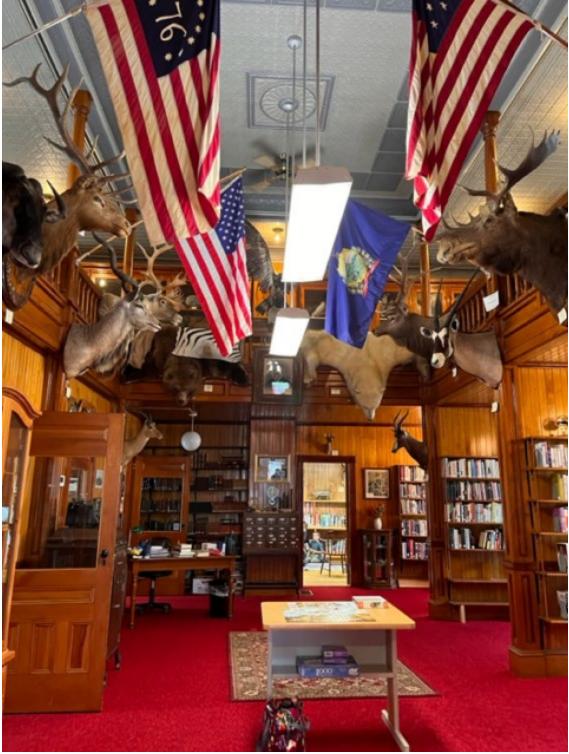


Undated historic street view, with red arrow indicating location of the Hitchcock Memorial





2023



2023 – first floor library



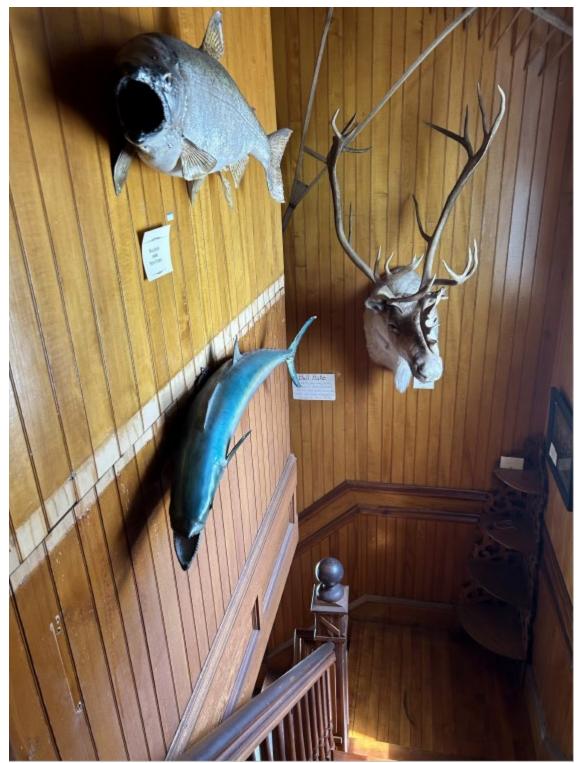
2023 - first floor library



2023 – pressed metal ceiling



2023 – natural history display cabinets



2023 – stairwell between first floor library and second floor natural history museum