

STATE OF VERMONT Division for Historic Preservation VERMONT ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY* Individual Property Survey Form	SURVEY NUMBER: (Assigned by VDHP)
	Listed in State Register <input type="checkbox"/> Date:
	Determined Eligible for State Register <input type="checkbox"/> Date:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Battell Dormitory
	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Battell Dormitory
COUNTY: Addison	PRESENT USE: College Dormitory
TOWN: Middlebury	ORIGINAL USE: College Dormitory
ADDRESS: 63 Chateau Road	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER: Austin & Austin (NY)
COMMON NAME: Battell Dormitory	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Austin & Austin (NY)
PROPERTY TYPE: Building	DATE BUILT: ca. 1950, 1955
OWNER: Middlebury College	
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/>	STYLE: Colonial Revival
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System: 1. <u>Foundation</u> : Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Block <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. <u>Wall Structure</u> a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Metal: Iron <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> d. Other: 3. <u>Wall Cladding</u> : Clapboard <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick Veneer <input type="checkbox"/> Stone Veneer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Exposed, rock-faced concrete block 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 checked="" 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: Appendages : Porches <input type="checkbox"/> Towers <input type="checkbox"/> Cupolas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dormers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chimneys <input type="checkbox"/> Sheds <input type="checkbox"/> Ells <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wings <input type="checkbox"/> Bay Window <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Roof Styles : Gable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hip <input checked="" 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: north and south sections, 2-story; center section, 3-story Entrance Location: Façade Number of Bays: 23 x 9, "E" shaped Approximate Dimensions: 280" x 105'	
Criteria for Eligibility: A: Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B: Person <input type="checkbox"/> C: Architectural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D: Archeological <input type="checkbox"/>	
Integrity: Location <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Setting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Materials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workmanship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feeling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assoc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Areas of Significance: Education, Architecture	

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Summary Statement

Battell Hall is an E-shaped, two and three-story, limestone-clad dormitory building centrally sited within Middlebury College's north campus. The college constructed the original two story, L-shaped Battell north and south buildings in 1950, then joined them in 1955 with a T-shaped structure with a three-story front block to form the present connected building. Centered on each of the three front blocks is a projecting, full height, marble quoined, pedimented entrance with exterior marble stairs accessing a neoclassical style doorway. Roofs are slate covered; the inside hips of the north and south buildings were converted to gable ends and now abut the center block sidewalls below its hipped roof.

The original, oldest part of Middlebury College, built between 1811 and 1860, lines Old Chapel Row on the south side of College Street. Battell Hall faces Chateau Road in the north (formerly the women's) campus on the north side of College street on land donated by Joseph Battell. Around Battell Hall are several other campus buildings constructed in the 1950s and 1960s in response to increased demand in the post-WWII period. As shown on the attached map, the campus has expanded in every decade since, with both new buildings and acquisitions of surrounding residences.

As noted by retired Professor Glen Andres, the Middlebury campus plan reflects important movements in collegiate design, with works by several distinguished 20th century architects. Battell Hall was not built as part of a larger campus plan, nor was connecting the twin, L-shaped "Batts" with the central block envisioned when they were built. The Battell building is objectively utilitarian in its slab concrete and concrete block construction and no-frills interior design. The Colonial Revival appearance and stone cladding were intended to evince the architectural vocabulary of the earlier campus buildings and the alternating broadside/gable front pattern evident on Old Stone Row.

While not tied to any formal campus master plan, and indeed considered by some to have been an intrusion into significant axes and campus design, the Battell is significant for its inclusion in a post-war period of increasing enrollment and campus expansion. Architecturally, the building possesses some Colonial Revival design elements, but its scale and message were muddled when the original L-plan blocks were altered and connected five years after construction. The mix of random bedded, quarry-faced limestone cladding, smooth marble quoins, and clapboarded entrances (now vinyl) were intended to dignify the building's utilitarian design and harmonize with the college historic stone buildings.

For the significance of its inclusion in the post-war expansion of the college campus and patterns of education generally, Battell Dormitory appears eligible for listing in the State Register under Criterion A: Event. As a good representative example of a double loaded corridor dormitory design, and its architectural intent toward campus building traditions, the Battell Dormitory appears eligible for listing in the State Register under Criterion C: Design/Construction.

Physical Description - Exterior

The Battell Dormitory is a 280' by 105', masonry frame, two and three-story, "E"-shaped dormitory building with slate covered gable and hipped roofs, limestone-clad concrete block walls, and a concrete block foundation extending 12" (varies). The Battell buildings, known originally as "the Batts" were built in 1950 as a pair of opposing "L"-shaped, two-story buildings (see historic photos). Five years after construction the L-shaped buildings were connected by a "T"-shaped building to form the Battell Dormitory as it exists today. The rear block of the T-shaped connector was massed to match the west wings of the original buildings, while the front block is three stories tall and projects forward to the edges of the flanking block's eaves.

The inward facing ends of the 1950 buildings were hipped with eyebrow dormers as shown in the historic photographs but were altered to gables in 1955 to connect with the center block walls below the roof line. The west ends of the 1950 buildings retain their hips, with a matching hip at the west end of the 1955 connector block. Harmonizing the three-story front block with the older buildings are hips at the north and south ends of its higher roof which appear to have been recycled from the 1950 buildings. Vermont green slate covers the entirety of the connected building, and the slate extends to the roof edges except for a few segments under valleys which have metal clad snow belts. Red and black slates are scattered among the green slates where replacement was undertaken. Ridge caps are uniformly slate shingle. Capping the front center block is a two-stage wooden cupola. The lower, flat-paneled stage straddles the roof ridge and has a copper paneled roof. The upper stage has a round-topped louvered panel on each of its eight sides, and is capped by a copper clad, octagonal, bell-shaped roof with ball finial and weathervane. Vinyl clad stairwell overruns extend along the north and south walls of the center block above the roofline of the ca.1950 buildings.

The roof is supported on 2" x 10" rafters on 16" centers, with collar ties set close to the ridge. Wooden 4" x 4" posts above the corridor walls carry 4"x4" purlins. Exterior and interior supporting walls are formed from stacked, mortared, six-inch wide concrete blocks. The foundation walls are 18" wide concrete blocks resting on 26" wide concrete footings. Floors are 5" thick concrete slab, carried on the corridor and perimeter walls. The basement concrete slab floor is supported on a 6" deep gravel base. Please refer to the attached building section for additional structural detail. Cladding the concrete block exterior walls from the top of the foundation to the lower edge of the frieze are irregularly sized, random ashlar patterned, quarry faced limestone whose random bedding lends the walls a rusticated appearance. Plans for the 1950 Battell buildings called for the stone and mortar to match Forest Hall:

"Rubble Masonry: Exterior stone walls to be 8" rubble masonry with one-piece lintels of same stone. Stone to be undressed ordinary local field stone in a mixture of red, browns and grays, both light and dark. Stone texture may vary, but in general a rather rough texture is desired to generally match "Forest Hall". Wall panel to be set up for approval. All exposed joints to be tooled to match existing Forest Hall building. Stone masonry to be bonded to concrete. Mortar for stone setting same as specified for concrete block. Mortar for stone pointing shall be non-staining: 1 part Portland

cement, 2 ½ parts clean sharp well graded sand with sufficient lime paste added to give a smooth stiff mixture."

The specifications for the marble elements do not reference a Middlebury college or any other building, and the marble quoins were added as an accessory to give the building a more refined appearance according to Professor Glenn Andres. From the building plans:

"Marble: Marble for window sills, quoins, and main entrance steps shall be Highland Danby Florence, sand finish, accurately cut to shape and dimensions as shown on drawings. Arrises shall be sharp and true, with fragile edges slightly rounded."

Based on the completed building, the 1955 center block appears to have relied on the original building details to guide construction. The exceptions to the stone cladding are the north and south sides of the center block which are sided in vinyl.

Centered on the middle block and offset a single bay on the outer blocks of the building's long axis, are full height, pedimented entrance pavilions with identical designs. Each is framed on the sides by marble quoins and clad with vinyl siding over the original wide clapboards shown in the older photographs. Mortared, marble block stairs with ornamental iron railings access recessed entrances framed by fluted columns and simply designed architraves capped with an ornamental metal railing. Blue painted, six-panel wood doors are flanked by upper half, four-light sidelights over flat lower panels. Six other exterior entrances are located at the rear of the building and are of two types. The first type is common to four entrances, two on each of the original L-shaped buildings, opening into the courtyards. Like the façade entrances, these entrances have paneled doors recessed between fluted columns and simply designed architraves. Here, though, the doors have an upper glass divided into four lights, and there are no sidelights. The second type appears on the west and south elevations of the center section. Simply detailed, these two, pane-and-panel doors are set into the stone cladding with brick molds and irregularly shaped limestone lintels.

All windows are replacement, simulated divided light, vinyl double hungs set into the original openings with wood brick mold surrounds. The windows are regularly spaced at each story and along every elevation to light and ventilate the rows of dorm rooms. Entrance pavilion windows, also vinyl replacements, appear to be inserts that necessitated the addition of wood blocking inside the original flat stock casings. Projecting window sills are smooth marble blocks. Other openings in the building include louvered eyebrow dormers with metal clad roofs on the rear hips of the west extending blocks, and round louvered vents in the façade pediments. Wood trim is minimal on the building, including plain boxed eaves with an ogee cornice molding under the drip edge, and a plank frieze board. Pediments are trimmed similarly to the eaves, with box eaves and cornice molding under the drip edge.

Physical Description - Interior

As expected, the interior layout of this 250-person dormitory building consists of long corridors with student living spaces on each side (please see attached existing conditions floorplans). With a few exceptions this pattern is true for the first, second, and third floors. The five-foot-wide corridors were painted concrete block until the year 2000 when they were

skim coated and covered with paint and wallpaper, the upper and lower sections of walls divided by a maple chair rail. Corridor floors are uniformly commercial carpet over the concrete slabs, and the ceilings are acoustic tiles over concrete. Solid core plywood doors accessing the dorm rooms are set in metal frames and have brass keypad locks. Most of the electrical wiring is exposed and surface mounted, as is the sprinkler pipe distribution. Doors separating the long sections of corridor are steel construction with four upper lights. Floor to ceiling height is uniformly 7'11".

Dorm rooms are as small as 141 sq.ft. for a single, 173 sq.ft. for a double (most of the rooms), and 345 sq.ft. for a triple. All the dorm rooms are fully occupied, but for the purposes of this evaluation the author was escorted into a small sample of rooms to take photographs over the Christmas break. Like the hallways, dorm rooms have concrete floors and ceilings, though the ceilings are painted or tile covered, and the floors are covered in sheet vinyl. The outside and corridor side walls are painted concrete block which has been parged smooth, and the side walls and any interior partitions are sheetrocked. Windows are recessed into the concrete block/stone clad walls cased in flat stock boards and a quarter round. Some of the windows are partially blocked-in, indicating the use of window inserts. Below the windows are radiators with metal covers distributing the water from the campus steam powered central heating plant. Please see dorm room photos: 1-A (120-124); dorm room 1-B (125-130); dorm room 2-A (131-133); dorm room 3-A (182-183).

There are six stairwells in the building. Four of the stairwells have similar designs: two are located in the west ends of the 1950 buildings and connect the first and second floors; and two are located in the 1950 buildings where they abut the center front block and extend from the basement to the third floor. Note that the latter two were raised into overruns over the second floors to connect with the third floor of the center block in 1955. All four have painted concrete wall enclosures (some with murals), concrete filled steel stairs and landings, and steel railing systems with rectangular spindles and newel posts. The fifth stairwell is located at the west end of the center building and provides an egress from the second floor to the exterior. It is also contained within a concrete block enclosure with three windows and handrails on each side (photos 154-156). The sixth stairwell is simply designed and connects the basement and the first floor in the front block reception area (photos 25, 88).

Several common and support spaces are present within the building, including an airlock and lobby at each of the three principal facade entrances (south entrance photos 66-71; central entrance photos 84-91; north entrance photos 98-103). Utilitarian in design and plainly detailed, the entrance lobbies have rubber mat flooring and acoustic tile ceilings and single and paired solid core plywood doors in metal frames – some with square upper lights. Walls are the same as the corridors. The airlocks are small, plain enclosures with the same finishes. If there is relief from the uniformity of utilitarian interior design, it may be found in the glass panels above the central lobby stairs to the basement and aside the door into the hallway (photos 86, 89). North of the south lobby is a larger common space for students, distinct for its natural lighting (photos 72-75) as compared to the windowless basement study rooms. A second larger common room is located south of the north lobby with similar design (photos 104-107). The small, first floor student kitchenette can be seen in photos 108-109.

Like the first floor, the second-floor corridor is plainly designed and lined with dorm rooms but with fewer common spaces. Three examples of common spaces are study rooms 2-20, 2-21, and 2-22 (photos 140-141, 162-163, 157-158), none with windows but have long desks and a couch as they cannot be used for sleeping. The finishes of the third floor are indistinguishable from the second floor other than a different floor covering (photos 175-178). The sole common space is a small kitchenette in room 3-4. Note that common bathrooms are present on each floor, with modern fixtures and showers. Photos of several of the bathrooms are included in the photo sheets.

The basement level is fully below grade, extends under the central front block and part of the adjoining ca. 1950 front blocks, and is windowless. For that reason, there are no sleeping areas at the basement level. Occupying this level are mechanical rooms clustered at the south end of the corridor, storage rooms (some of which were locked), a kitchenette, and common study and lounge rooms. Visible at the basement level are painted concrete walls, the same as appeared on the upper floors until they were resurfaced and painted ca. 2000. A larger study room, B-13, is shown in photos 16-18, with painted concrete block walls and concrete ceiling. Door sidelights into the hallway lend the room a slightly more open feeling. A lounge/game room in B-8 is shown in photos 19-21. A small, central kitchenette is located off the lounge area in room B-2.

RELATED RESOURCES ON THE PROPERTY:

The Battell Building is one of dozens of Middlebury College-owned buildings located on the 350-acre north and south campuses. The text in the next section discusses key buildings on the north campus to help contextualize the siting, design, and significance of the Battell Dormitory, and the attached annotated campus map proposes an initial boundary for a Middlebury College Historic District. The buildings contained within the boundaries of the proposed district should be considered related resources on a preliminary basis. A definitive response to related resources will require finalizing the boundaries of the historic district, which will require a research undertaking outside the scope of this Determination of Eligibility for the Battell Dormitory.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW:

Founded in 1800 by Congregationalists as an all-male liberal arts college, Middlebury College is Vermont's oldest operating college with a 2023 enrollment of 2,773 students in 45 liberal arts majors and several graduate schools. The 350-acre college occupies a hill west of Middlebury village with the Adirondack mountains to the west, and Vermont's Green Mountains to the east.

Having outgrown the shared quarters in the Addison County Grammar School, the college unveiled plans in 1810 for a new campus on a ridge west of the village. Using Yale University as its prototype for curriculum and campus planning, what is today known as Old Chapel Row

was envisioned, modeled after Yale's Old Brick Row (1792). Three limestone buildings formed Old Chapel Row, Painter Hall, Old chapel, and Starr Hall, all constructed before 1865. These buildings remain and appear on the attached 1932 and 2023 campus maps.

Enrollment grew and the college expanded west from Old Chapel Row. New construction would formalize the main quadrangle, including two buildings designed by W. Nicholas Albertson, the Voter and McCullough Halls, both faced in marble. York and Sawyer would design and build the Starr Library (later renamed the Axinn Center) and Warner Hall. The harmony of materials and formal relationships among the buildings created an enduring City Beautiful arrangement, among the finest in Vermont.

College trustees voted to accept women students in 1883 under President Hamlin, the transition among the first for all-male liberal arts colleges. The first space used by male and female students was the upper floor of the old Chapel. In 1891 the former Presidents house at the corner of College and Weybridge Streets was converted to the first women's dormitory, noted as Battell Cottage on the campus map. A separate "Women's College" was chartered in 1902 and planning began on a location and privately owned land north of College Street was eyed for this purpose. The college approached Jospeh Battell, a major benefactor of the college, who subsequently purchased and donated 12 acres, then another 36-acres to the west for the women's campus. The gently sloping property had views of the Adirondack mountains to the west and Green Mountains to the east, and several master plans (attached) were prepared to develop the site into a separate campus. Plans developed by W. Nicholas Albertson, Dwight James Baum, and McKim Mead and White were Colonial Revival; the plan by Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson in a Brutalist theme. As noted by Glenn Andres and Curtis Johnson in their article for the SAH Archipedia ...

"none of these schemes was executed as proposed, but each firm designed at least one building: Alberston, the Georgian Revival Pearson's Hall (1911), Baum, the Georgian Revival Forest Hall (1936); McKim, Mead and White, the classical Wright Memorial Theatre (1958); Jean Paul Carnihan for Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott, the Brutalist Christian A Johnson Memorial Building (1968).

None of the master plan concepts for the women's campus proved affordable, the availability of funds dampened by the depression, two wars, and the untimely death of an individual who may have financed an entire master plan. Rather, as stated by Glenn Andres in his recent interview with the author, the ultimate build out of the north campus did not adhere to an organized plan. The organizing principle, to the extent one existed, was the appearance of the buildings constructed after Forest Hall on a common list of campus needs.

The intention with all the master plans was to create a second, City Beautiful ensemble organized to retain formal relationships among the buildings and preserve significant axes. As early as 1909, the Albertson plan sought to connect the south and north campuses with a formal axis between the McCullough building and the site of the future Chateau, the latter was to preside over a large, oval, French garden. The 1931 York and Sawyer plan also formalized an arrangement of north campus buildings and introduced an axis across the campus from Pearson Hall, and a second down into the south campus. The 1936 Baum plan is

similarly designed, and like the York and Sawyer plan isolated and excluded what they considered the incongruous Chateau to the north. The 2008 volume plan by Dennis Associates accommodates the existing buildings and suggests changes and a proposed build out. Here, the focus is arranging buildings to formalize two, north campus quadrangles, the Battell quad to the west, and the smaller Chateau quad to the east. This design created east-west and north south axes to further organize the building arrangement. Note Battell Hall has been removed in the Dennis Associates plan to enable the quadrangles and the return of the axes.

Early north campus buildings (see attached 2023 campus map) were constructed with a vision of a grand plan. Forest Hall (1936), originally designed by Baum, was intended as the corner structure of Baum's masterplan for the women's campus. Its name was derived from the sale of a large portion of the Green Mountain Forest to the federal government, land gifted to the college by Joseph Battell. The adjacent, ca. 1880 Adirondack House was part of the farm purchased for the women's campus by Joseph Battell. In 1909 Frank Lyman Austin designed its long ell for a women's dormitory and dining hall. The ca. 1911, Georgian-inspired Pearsons Hall by Nicholas Albertson was built of marble to anchor the west side of the campus and house 62 women along with offices and a gymnasium. Le Chateau was constructed in 1925 to anchor the northeast corner of the campus. Le Chateau, the nation's first "maisons francaise" by James Layng Mills of Boston, was a gift of Frederica Proctor and modeled after the 17th century Pavillon Henry IV at the Palace de Fontainebleau in France. It housed the college's entire French language program, including dormitories, classrooms, dining facilities, and offices.

Many of the male students served in WWII and several campus buildings were used to support the war effort. After Gifford and Munroe Halls had been built to form the northern flank of the south campus, the college looked back to the north campus to accommodate a large increase in demand for education after the war. Under the Stratton administration student enrollment grew 50% from a prewar 800 enrollment to 1200 students. With high demand and limited resources, this period of expansion was one of practicality and value, over grand plans and designs

The ca. 1950 Battell buildings were envisioned to meet needs for student housing and provide summer housing for the German language school which had been operating in Bristol school buildings for 25 years. The "Batts" as they were then known (Battell south, Battell north) were named for Joseph Battell who had donated the land for the women's campus. Austin & Austin, a design-build Company out of New York was awarded the \$400,000 contract for the twin buildings. The design intent for the new buildings, common to many of the newer college buildings, was to arrange the massing so each elevation would be roughly proportional to those of the older buildings on the south campus. The gap between the Battells was intended to restrain their apparent size, control height-to-width ratios, and retain the axis eastward from the Pearson Hall anchor building. Glenn Andres recalled that Austin and Austin offered the college a menu of accessory building options, including marble quoins, stairs, sills, and eyebrow dormers. All were selected and the twin buildings were constructed as shown in the attached historic photographs. Short on dormitory space five years later, the college again hired Austin & Austin to build the central, T-shaped section to

connect the ca. 1950 blocks and transform the Battells into the present E-shaped building. It is clear that the original 1950 details, which were required in the plans to be modeled after Forest Hall (1936), were meticulously copied by Austin & Austin in the ca. 1955 center block. A third story and cupola were added to highlight the prominence of the new center block and the symmetry of the connected façade.

The design of both iterations of the Battell followed the evolving pattern for high occupancy college dormitories, to provide basic living units constructed from the cheapest, toughest materials available while squeezing the largest number of students into the smallest amount of space. While the stone and slate clad appearance of the Battell gives an initial impression of campus compatible materials and quality, the interior design was purposefully durable and inexpensive consistent with the student occupancy and the college's limited resources. Wall and floors are exposed concrete block, parged, carpeted, or clad in acoustic tile. Ceiling heights are less than eight feet. Electrical and plumbing distribution is generally surface mounted. The basement is below grade and windowless. Common spaces lack ornament or embellishment of any kind, and stairs are industrial concrete-filled steel construction. Earlier 'cottage' dormitories, typically houses purchased and adapted for the purpose, had limited space and higher costs. Requirements for ventilation, egress and natural light meant windows were required in every bedroom and the cost-effective solution was rooms lining long corridors. This format limited the width of buildings which were formed into connected wings for better compatibility with the existing campus.

After completing the 1950 Battell, Austin and Austin built the 1951 Carr Hall on the north campus south flank fronting College Street. Three other midcentury buildings were constructed on the north campus to form its east flank. The 1958, neoclassical inspired Wright Theatre (McKim, Mead & White) seats 400 and serves as the college's proscenium stage. The 1965 Sunderland Language Center sits at the intersection of College and the Chateau quadrangle. The 1968, brutalist style Johnson building (Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott) is the home of the college's art and architecture program.

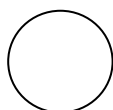
With continual increases in enrollment, more, large buildings were added on the north campus in the 1970s. On the west flank is the 1970 Ross Commons, noted on the campus plan as Lang, Kelly, and Hadley Halls when they were remodeled and connected in 1995. The architect Tai Soo Kim added the connected building (LaForest Hall) to the south in 2004 housing seniors and a new dining hall. As Glenn Andres and Curtis Johnson conclude in the text of Middlebury's walking tour, the architect's intent was to *"play off the existing buildings to create a commons green that preserves and emphasizes the historic view corridor from Pearsons Hall to the Adirondacks, to define a western edge to campus construction, and to terminate the rhythm of dignified stone masses along College Street."* Opposing the north block of Ross Commons on the north campus west flank, and L-shaped to form the corner (like LaForest Hall) is the Allen Hall. Completed in 1963, the building was divisible into four sections for separate language studies. Allen Hall now houses a freshman dorm and offices. Finally, Freeman Hall was built in 1970 at the north central campus to house small dining halls, offices, seminar rooms, and lounges. Designed by Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott, the building mixes contemporary and traditional materials with picturesque massing.

Only one building was added to the north campus in the 1980s and one in the 1990s. The 1986 Coffrin Hall by Edward Larabee Barnes is a series of connected blocks that follows the established pattern of limiting the apparent size of buildings. In 1999, McCardell Hall by Payette Associates of Boston was built at the northwest corner of the north campus where there was sufficient space to combine all the science programs into a single building. Like Coffrin, the 2004 Atwater residence halls follow the path of the north-south ridges, but their cutting-edge environmental systems were better suited to continuous blocks. The rhythm of chimneys designed to echo those prominent in the south campus contain ventilation shafts, and the “suite” design of the residences (no corridors) allow cross ventilation, eliminating the need for conventional air conditioning. The row of east flank buildings aligned with an opportunistic, informal plan to arc the academic buildings along the ridgeline from College Street, a departure from the more organized and rectilinear City Beautiful proposals which retain traction in today’s planning.

REFERENCE CITATIONS:

Austin and Austin – Battell Dormitory Building Plans – 1950
 Middlebury College Archives: North Campus Masterplans
 National Register for Historic Places: Old Stone Row, Middlebury College
 Newspapers.com – Various Articles
 Walking Tour of Middlebury – Glenn M. Andres
 Yanni, Carla. Living on Campus: An Architectural History of the American Dormitory, University of Minnesota Press, 2019
 Interview with Glenn Andres – Retired Professor Emeritus of History, Art & Architecture, Middlebury College
 Interview with Norm Cushman – AVP Middlebury College Facilities

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)
 See attached☒



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open ☐ Woodland ☐
 Scattered Buildings ☐
 Moderately Built Up ☒
 Densely Built Up ☐
 Residential ☐ Commercial ☐
 Agricultural ☐ Industrial ☐
 Roadside Strip Development ☐
 Other: College Campus

RECORDED BY: Scott Newman

ORGANIZATION: 106 Associates

DATE RECORDED: February 8, 2024

