



Hinesburg

A Cultural Walking Tour

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University of Vermont Program in Historic Preservation

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Introduction

The town of Hinesburg was originally chartered by Benning Wentworth in 1762 and named in honor of Abel Hine who was the Proprietor's Clerk. This beautiful town in northwestern Vermont rests along the edge of the Green Mountains and is southeast of Burlington. Hinesburg encompasses around twenty-five thousand acres of field and forest. State Route 116 courses in a mostly north-south direction, following the geological contours. A topographical map of Hinesburg shows the bedrock ledge that the early settlers built around, and one can see how the development of Hinesburg followed these contours up towards Mechanicsville.

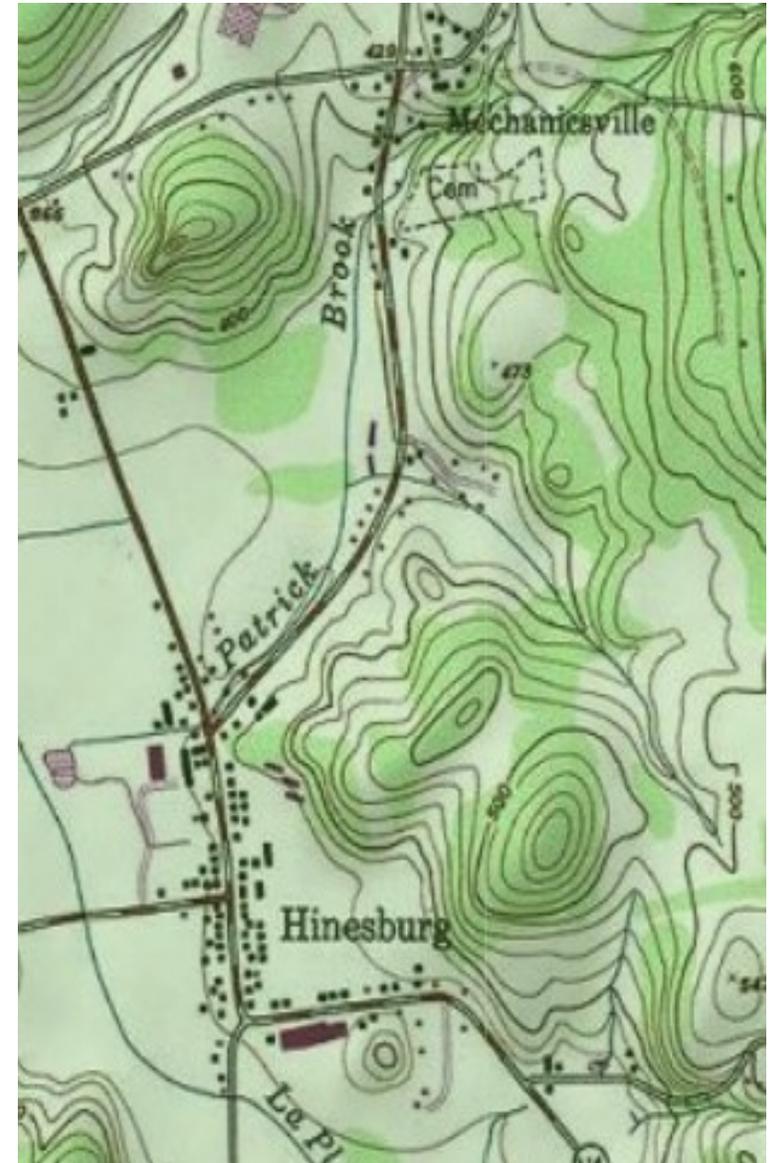
The town of Hinesburg has its history in farming and early water-powered manufacturing. Today, the village is still surrounded by open green farmland along the LaPlatte River and is a small but growing town located within commuting distance to Burlington, Essex and Montpelier. The town encompasses about thirty-six miles square, with the western half in the Champlain Valley and the eastern half in the foothills of the Green Mountains that include Lincoln Hill, Texas Hill and the Hinesburg Town Forest, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Mechanicsville section, once the crux of Hinesburg's 19th century prosperity, and historically referred to as the "upper village," lies to the northwest of the town center. The industries in Mechanicsville were powered by water from Lake Iroquois, Lower Pond, and Pond Brook and included sawmills, grist mills, carding and excelsior mills, a box factory, woolen mill, distillery and starch production. The last remaining industry is the Iroquois Manufacturing Company, producers of truck bodies and heavy equipment.

A hand-dug canal exists in the town center enabling water to power the cheese-making facility once standing in the location near the corner of Mechanicsville Road. Today, Hinesburg "lower village" has buildings in the Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate and Queen Anne styles which date from circa 1810-1895, reflecting the town's prosperity from that era. By 1882 the village contained four churches, three stores, one tailor shop, a grist mill, cheese factory, hotel, high school, Masonic Hall, and with 400 inhabitants that included a doctor and lawyer.

Reminders of this past exist today in the well-maintained structures along Main Street, existing pastureland once used for grazing, a town forest that once yielded forest products, and Sugar Maples that provided sap for maple syrup.

The Town of Hinesburg has had an active tree planting and maintenance history since the late 1990s. Annually, Hinesburg's public trees provide improved air quality, storm water runoff reduction, energy savings, increased property values, and CO2 reduction. Many of the trees highlighted in this cultural walking tour can be found in the 2015 *Hinesburg Public Tree Inventory Report*. This report was prepared for the Town of Hinesburg by the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program (VT UCF), a collaborative effort among the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation, the University of Vermont (UVM) Extension, and the USDA Forest Service. The mission of VT UCF is to lead citizens, businesses, and governments in understanding the value of urban and community forests, foster civic pride in these forests and participate in the stewardship of these resources for current and future generations. Trees were selected for their stress and pest resistance, ornamental qualities, and species diversity.



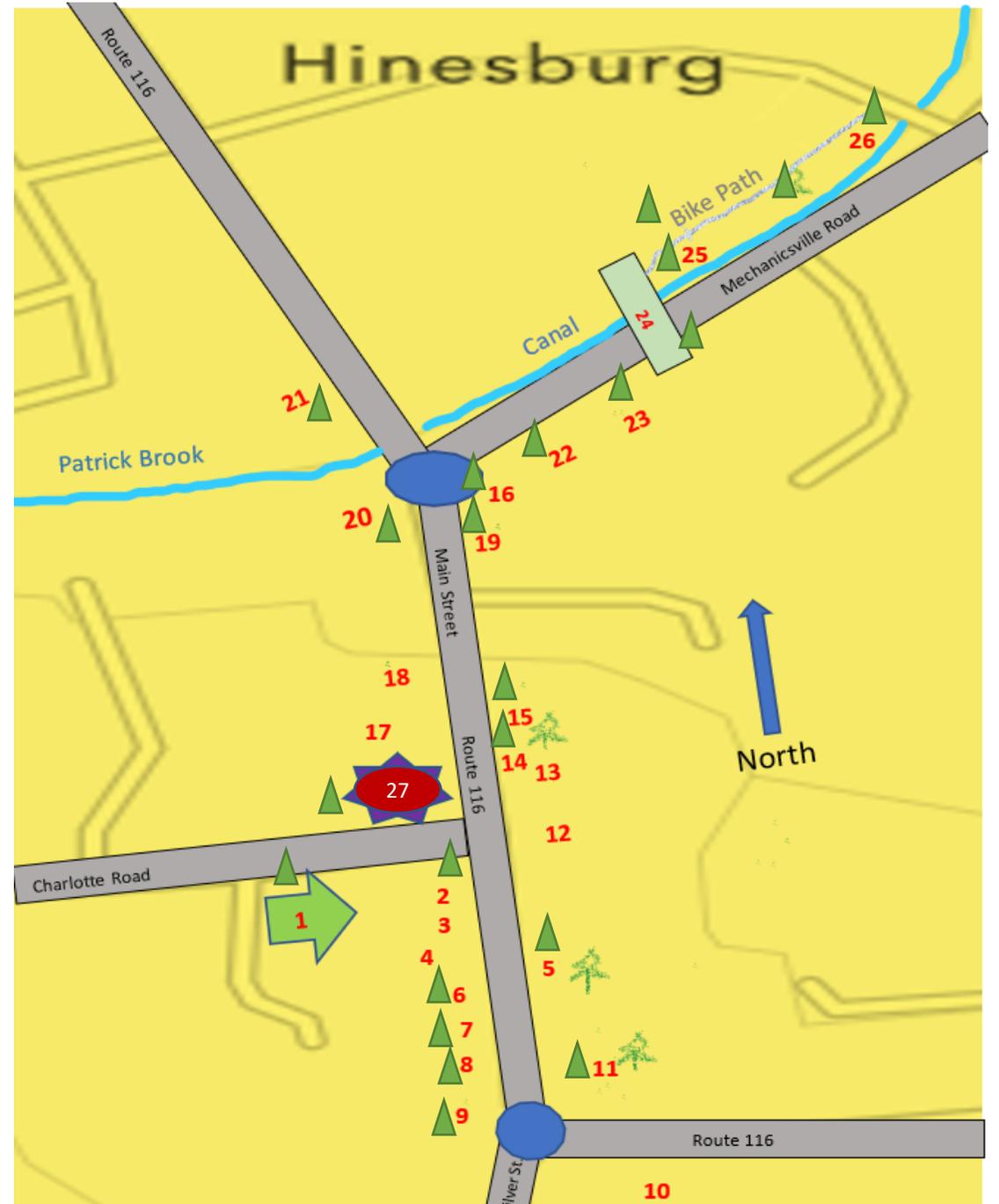
How to do the Hinesburg Cultural Walking Tour:

The best way to do the tour is to park at the Hinesburg Town Hall and then follow the numbers in any order. Streets are busy, cross carefully and use crosswalks. The tour is about 1.5 miles if one makes a loop, and includes houses, trees and even a bridge and canal. All these elements show the cultural layers of Hinesburg that have evolved over time and will continue to evolve from the present into the future.

Enjoy!

Acknowledgements: I am indebted to many for the success of this project. Elise Schadler, Program Manager of the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program at Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation, acted as sponsor for this project from the beginning. Tree Warden Paul Wiczoreck and Landscape Designer and Builder Andrea Morgante provided detailed information about Hinesburg trees and landscape. The Hinesburg Historical Society made available exhaustive detail on the buildings and people of Hinesburg, and several homeowners offered assistance with the history of their houses. My thanks to UVM Professor Robert McCullough for assistance with styles of architecture and for editing this document. Lastly, the descriptions of the houses on this tour rely heavily on information gleaned from the 1980 Hinesburg State Register Historic Places nomination form.

All photographs, unless noted, were taken by Marcella Hain.





MAP NUMBER: 1

DATE BUILT: circa 1830

DESCRIPTION: A Greek Revival style house with front-facing gabled roof and clapboard walls. The gable front has a triangular louvre with a sunburst pattern around it. The windows have flat undecorated surrounds and drip-molding. The front door is fully articulated with pilasters and entablature, reflective of the staid elegance of Greek Revival.

According to the Hinesburg Historical Society, a blacksmith shop stood to the west of this house in the early-to-mid 19th century. In 1869 H. M. Baldwin (possibly Harley M.) lived here; Baldwin's brother F. W. Baldwin built a mill and tannery on Baldwin's Brook and their grandfather was an original proprietor of the town of Hinesburg.

The **Black Walnut**, *Juglans nigra*, is native to Vermont, and produces a nut with a hearty flavor prized by humans and squirrels. It is a strong hardwood used today for fine furniture and in the past by Vermonters for fence posts, water wheels and charcoal for gunpowder. This black walnut tree is between 80-120 years old and its companion **Sugar Maple**, *Acer saccharum*, also a native tree, is around 50 years old.

Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)

MAP NUMBER: 2

DATE BUILT: circa 1820

DESCRIPTION: This house of post and beam construction was originally just small and ordinary. Later a gabled wing was built on the south side and the addition of a steeply pitched roof in the center lends a Gothic element. The entryway is a shallow, one-story, enclosed shelter with partial entablature supported by flat pilasters capped by molded capitals, in turn supporting a molded cornice and low-pitched shed roof. This entrance existed in the late 19th century and is unusual for the period. The recessed entrance door is flanked by narrow molded arched panels in antis, above equally narrow rectangular panels, also molded. The house is clapboarded, and the roof is sheathed in slate. Note the pedimented window heads. Chester Alan Arthur, 21st president of the United States, lived here while his father was pastor at the Baptist Church from 1833-35.

At the corner stands a **White Ash**, *Fraxinus americana*, approximately 200 years old. Notably, the strong and flexible wood of white ash trees is used for baseball bats. Vermonters valued the white ash for firewood, butter tubs, and buckets; Native Americans prized it for snowshoe frames, canoe paddles and sleds. Ash trees are under attack from the emerald ash borer, and the Town of Hinesburg has hired an arborist to protect this tree with an insecticide.

Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)



MAP NUMBER: 3

DATE BUILT: circa 1850s

DESCRIPTION: This three-story Italianate building shows the features of its design with its machine turned wooden decorative elements. This building has a low-pitched flat roof with wide overhanging eaves, cornices embellished with ornate paired brackets with pendills, and pedimented windows. Porches were an almost universal feature for Italianate houses and note the elegant wooden posts and decorative cornices embellishing this cantilevered porch. The fenestration and door placement are original.

According to Town Historian, Leonard Carpenter, this building was once occupied by Louis Sanctuary and operated as a shoe store and candy shop, and from the late 19th century until 1960 it served Hinesburg as a Post Office. The McKenzie sisters were tandem postmasters from 1912-1956. These spinster sisters lived upstairs, and the building was known at the time as the McKenzie Block. The building, apart from the paint color, remains remarkable unaltered from its 19th century appearance. It continues today as a commercial enterprise.



MAP NUMBER: 4

DATE BUILT: 1947

DESCRIPTION: This simple building was given to Hinesburg by Town Historian Leonard E. Carpenter in memory of his mother, and the building, known as the Sarah Carpenter Library, was dedicated on Mother's Day in 1947. The library was built on land donated in 1820 by Jedediah Boynton, which also included the town's early cemetery just south of the building. Behind the former library once stood the Hinesburg Academy, the town school for most of the 19th century, and shown in the right-hand insert. The cemetery was relocated in the mid 19th century to its current location on Mechanicsville Road, about a mile northeast. The building is brick and marble, the latter used for the water table, window lintels and sills, and steps; the roof is slate. Note the front center door with a pedimented portico and the wooden shutters marked with a 'C' for Carpenter.



Photo credit:
UVM Landscape
Change Program

MAP NUMBER: 5

DATE: circa 1970

DESCRIPTION: Trees along the east side of Main Street.

Little Leaf Linden, *Tilia cordata*

According to Andrea Morgante, Landscape Designer and Builder, the **Little Leaf Linden** was very widely grown and promoted in the nursery industry and planted in Vermont in the 1970's and 1980's as a street tree. This variety of linden tree on Main Street has really fragrant flowers and is usually in bloom around the 4th of July, a big holiday in Hinesburg with a parade, so lots of people enjoy the fragrance and wonder what it is. The flower, while fragrant, is rather insignificant.

Contorted Willow, *Salix matsudana 'Tortuosa'*

The contorted willow has been given many names including "Dragon's Claw Willow" and "Wiggerly Willow" and is notable for its narrow twisty leaves. The willow is not native to Vermont and this cultivar is unusual, being hardy for this northern climate. Willows are often the first to leaf out in the spring and the last to shed foliage in the fall.





Red Maple

MAP NUMBER: 6

DATE BUILT: circa 1814

DESCRIPTION: This Greek Revival house has a slate roof, a northern ell, and a recessed door on the front right flanked by Ionic columns in antis. The doorway trim shows a simple Doric pilaster with a full entablature including molded architrave and frieze. A triangular louvered vent is in the gable peak, and the cornice line is defined but plain. These elements are typical for Greek Revival buildings.

Prominent and beloved Hinesburg physician, Dr. Louis J. Wainer (1907-1998), purchased this house a year after arriving in town in 1935. Dr. Wainer, “Doc,” had his office in this house and an exam room upstairs, sometimes keeping patients overnight for observation. (Source: courtesy of the current owner.)

The tree in front is approximately eighty years old and is a **Red Maple**, *Acer rubrum*, perhaps planted by Dr. Wainer himself during his residence in this house.

MAP NUMBER: 7

DATE BUILT : circa 1816-22

DESCRIPTION: This is a Federal style house with brick laid in seven course American bond. There are splayed flat arch brick lintels over the windows and an elliptical arch above the door. The gabled roof is sheathed in slate, the brick exterior has been sandblasted, and the door surround and door are not original to the building. Dr. Daniel Goodyear (1790-1878), who lived in this house, arrived in 1816. Originally from Cornwall VT, Daniel Goodyear endured hardship early on, studied medicine at UVM, came to Hinesburg and continued studying under Dr. William Marsh, eventually entering practice with him. Goodyear married Marsh's daughter Amanda and became Hinesburg's practicing physician after his patron's death. Over his lifetime, Daniel Goodyear served briefly in the War of 1812, was elected County Commissioner as a Temperance leader, ran for Senate and served as Justice of the Peace. Source: Owner's collection, *Burlington Free Press & Burlington Weekly Free Press*.

Adorning the front lawn are a **Sugar Maple**, *Acer saccharum*, to the left and a **River Birch**, *Betula nigra*, to the right. The sugar maple was likely planted 150 years ago, and the river birch about 40 years ago.

★ Note the size of the river birch as a sapling in the lower left insert. The river birch has a distinctive curly bark, and riverbanks and streams are its usual habitats. The twigs do not yield the wintergreen scent common for other birches. This beautiful tree is widely planted as an ornamental shade tree in residential areas. A bonus for Vermont weather, this tree is rarely damaged by wind or ice, and grass will grow readily beneath it. Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)





MAP NUMBER: 8

DATE BUILT : circa 1840

DESCRIPTION: This gable front house reveals a slate roof decorated with imbricated bands. The house is of post and beam construction with a stone foundation, clapboarded siding, and a north facing ell. This house has pedimented window lintels and knee wall windows below the cornice. The front door is recessed and has Italianate hood with heavy brackets; a modern bay window has been added to the right of the door.

F. W. Baldwin lived in this house during the mid 19th century. Records show he operated a store and shoe shop here in 1857 and weighed hay here in 1869. A blacksmith shop was formerly at the rear of the house and there is an old foundation on the front lawn. In 1820 Frederick W. Baldwin built a tannery, with a bark mill and machine for rolling leather on Baldwin's Brook, a stream located about one and one-half miles south-east of the lower village. Several mills operated along Baldwin's Brook soon after the town was first settled.

Visible behind the house is a **Weeping Willow**, *Salix babylonica*. Not native to Vermont, the willow is originally from China and was brought here by European settlers. Willows escaped cultivation and are now found in the farmland and forests of New England. Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)

MAP NUMBER: 9

DATE BUILT: circa 1840

DESCRIPTION: This Greek Revival style house has a pedimented gable and a standing seam roof. The house has a stone foundation, retains its original six/six windows, and has a recessed doorway with sidelights. A slight projection shelters the front entrance, and the door frame has Doric pilasters supporting an entablature with molded architrave and frieze. In the early part of the 20th century the telephone switchboard was located here. The rear ell of the house may be of earlier construction.

A **Northern White Cedar**, *Thuja occidentalis* 'Smaragd' (aka Emerald Green) adorns the front lawn. White cedar is rich in Vitamin C and has been used by Native Americans and modern herbalists as a remedy for ailments such as headaches, fevers and coughs. It is valued for uses as fence posts, shingles and shakes and cabin logs.

To the left is a **White Spruce**, *Picea glauca*. This spruce has small pinecones, and the branches are favored in spring for nesting birds such as chickadees, woodpeckers, thrushes, finches and warblers. White spruce wood is of a light quality, easily sawn and useful for framing houses, perhaps even some on this tour. The white spruce is native to Vermont and has been used for boxes and containers (an industry for Hinesburg in the 19th century) as well as musical instruments.

A **Norway Spruce**, *Picea abies*, is south of the house, on the corner of Route 116 and Silver Street. Not native to New England, Norway spruces provide good shelter for birds during harsh winter months. The Norway spruce has large pinecones and a distinctive shape, different from the drooping silhouette of the white spruce.

Tree descriptions source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)

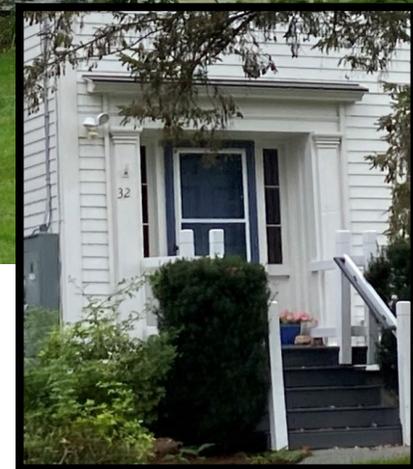


White
Spruce

White
Cedar



Norway
Spruce



MAP NUMBER: 10

DATE BUILT: 1915

DESCRIPTION: This Neo-classical Revival style building served as the Hinesburg School until the 1960s. It has a truncated hipped roof sheathed in slate, high scored concrete foundation, and the walls are clapboarded. There is a pedimented central gable on the hipped roof. The fenestration is original but the window sash are replacements. The front (north) facade has central grouped windows; on the first floor they have a common label-molded lintel that runs the length of all six, and the windows are flanked on either side by two-story round-arch windows. Below these round arch windows are the entrances which have pedimented porches supported by Tuscan columns.

Schooling has always been important in Hinesburg, even before the state law of 1870 requiring attendance for children. During the 1880s concern about the state's system of district schools developed. It was felt they were poorly run, and a town-wide system of operation and consolidation led to more modern and standardized curricula and facilities. In 1892 a state law was passed making the town the basic unit of control for its schools.



MAP NUMBER: 11

DATE: VARIOUS

DESCRIPTION: Memorial Park has two stone tablets honoring Hinesburg residents who served in WWI, WWII, the Vietnam War, Korean Conflict, and Operation Desert Storm.

Hardy and ornamental trees were selected for the park, including sugar maple, elm, blue spruce, ginkgo and the latest cultivar, magnolia 'Elizabeth'.

Sugar Maple, *Acer saccharum*, is the state tree of Vermont.

Blue Spruce, *Picea pungens*, is a slow growing conifer often planted in yards, towns, and cemeteries. The mature tree takes on a conical form and provides winter shelter for birds and nesting habitat for songbirds. Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)

Ginkgo, *Ginkgo biloba*, is a hardy tree prized as both a shade and ornamental tree and adds beauty with its overall shape and bright green fan shaped leaves. It transplants easily, and tolerates heat, air pollution and winter salting. The female tree can be messy and odorific with its fruit, so often only male specimens are planted. The Ginkgo is a living fossil, dating from 270 million years ago. Rediscovered in China in 1691, it came to this country in the late 18th century. The seeds and leaves are used in medicine worldwide. Source: [Ginkgo Tree on the Tree Guide at arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

Elm, *Ulmus* 'Morton' ACCOLADE, was chosen by the town for its resistance to pollution and Dutch elm disease and serves well as a street or lawn tree. Source: [Ulmus 'Morton' ACCOLADE - Plant Finder \(missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](http://missouribotanicalgarden.org)

Magnolia 'Elizabeth' is a hybrid cross between *Magnolia acuminata* and *Magnolia denudate* created at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.



MAP NUMBER: 12

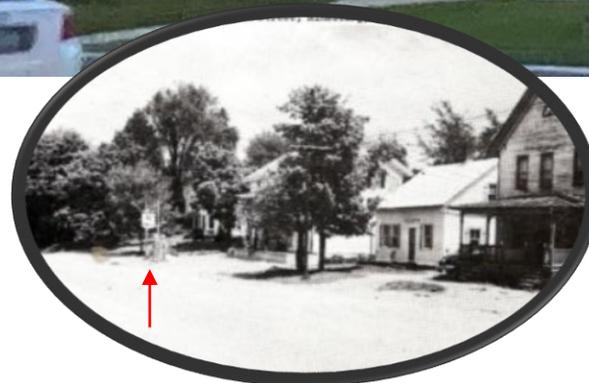
DATE BUILT: 1860

DESCRIPTION: This three-story, much altered, Greek Revival style building has a stone foundation and clapboard siding. The building is of heavy post and beam construction, and stands on the site of Hinesburg's first tavern, built in 1788. Most windows have pedimented lintels, and the building has wide, flat corner pilasters and a heavy cornice. The third floor has a row of west facing windows with label molded lintels. The façade facing west was added in the mid 1960's and obscures the Greek Revival detail.

The structure was originally built by Royal Wright Post as the Hinesburg Hotel and could house as many as sixty to seventy guests. The hotel changed hands often and closed in the early 20th Century. At one time it had a two-story porch and had been marginally used as a harness shop. The building was in a general state of neglect when William Lantman and his sons purchased the derelict building in 1922. By 1926 the Lantmans had converted it into a store that provided customers with products ranging from grocery items like sugar, flour and coffee to hardware, appliances and even property insurance. In the 1930s, gas pumps were located on the west side in front of the store. Source: HHS

Lantman's still operates as an independent grocery store today.

A vintage photograph shows gas pumps that once existed on the west side of the property (courtesy of the UVM Landscape Change Program), and a more recent photo from the 1970s (courtesy of the 1980 Hinesburg State Register Historic Places nomination form.)



MAP NUMBER: 13

DATE BUILT: 1825

DESCRIPTION: Built by prominent town member Jedediah Boynton, this gabled roof building with stone foundation is sheathed in clapboard. This house was once used as an inn before becoming a working farm. Note the farm bell surmounting the center of the roof. In the 1890's the house was remodeled by Herman Arthur Post, and he replaced the original sash with two/two sash windows, added the two-level bay window on the right (south) side, and also a porch across the front facade. An original fireplace remains inside the house. During its restoration an early brick with the date "1796" was discovered in the fireback. The house does not date from this period so perhaps this is from an earlier building which stood on this site. Jedediah Boynton helped dig the canal nearby that powered the cheese factory at the corner of Mechanicsville Road.

Now called Trillium Hill Farm, the property continues as a working farm with a farm store, barns, and sugar house on the premises. Miles of trails behind the buildings and beyond the fields beckon to hikers.



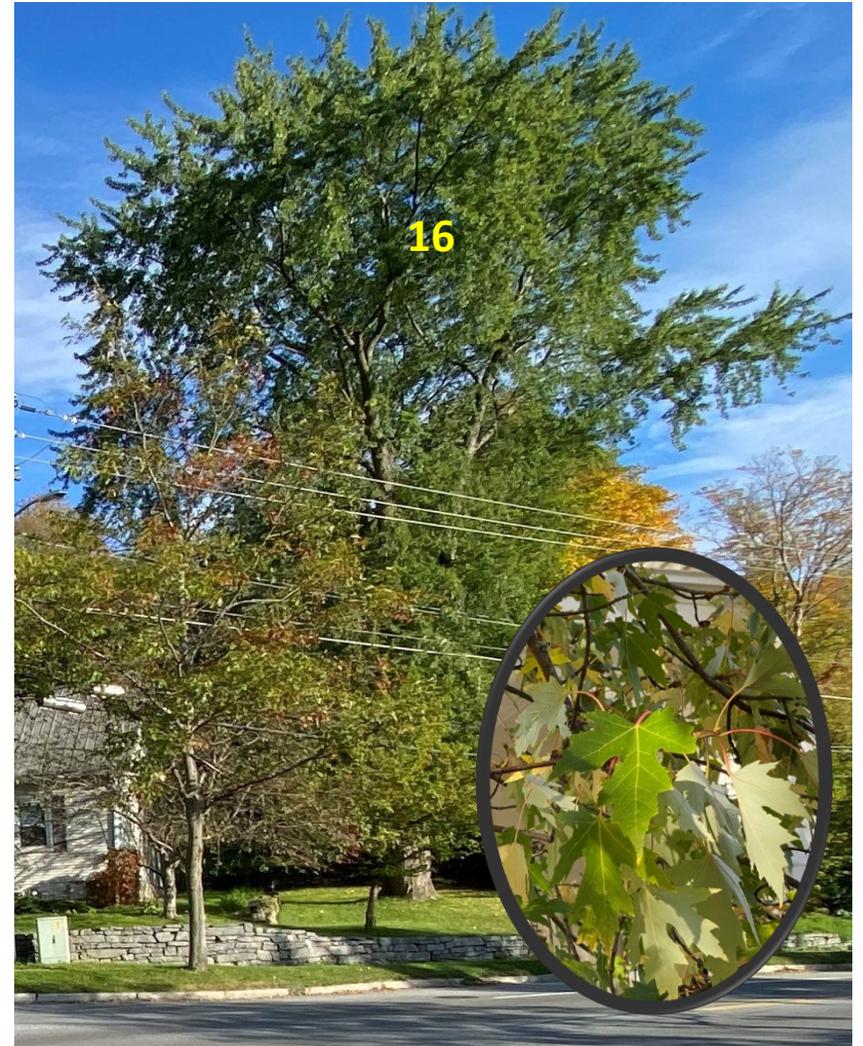
MAP NUMBER: 14, 15, 16

DESCRIPTIONS: Trees along the eastern side Main Street, walking north.

14: Sugar Maples *Acer saccharum*, in front of Trillium Hill Farm, may have been tapped in earlier years for maple syrup production.

15: Thornless Honey Locust *Gleditsia triacanthos* form 'inermis', the "honey" in the name comes from the sticky sweet substance found in its seed pods. It prefers full sun, grows in a wide range of soils and is drought and salt tolerant. The seeds and pods can be fed to livestock and the strong durable wood has traditionally been sought after for fence posts.

16: Silver Maple *Acer saccharinum* are the fastest growing of all the maples. They have leaves that are dark on top and light on the underside. When ruffled by the wind the underside gives a silvery impression, thus the name. Their fall foliage is rather drab, just a dull yellow with greenish tinge.



MAP NUMBER: 17

DATE BUILT: 1826

DESCRIPTION: The Church building has clapboard siding, a gabled roof sheathed in slate, stone foundation, a modillion cornice and a chancel that projects from the rear of the building similar to an apse.

The front door is double leaf, and the surrounding frame is Federal in detail with an entablature decorated by triglyphs. It is flanked by two, two-story, unfluted Ionic columns with Scamozzi capitals supporting a pediment protecting a segmentally arched window and the doorway.

The steeple is in two stages, covered in Terne-plate tin surmounted by an ornate iron weathervane. The six stained glass windows are of good quality and updated in the recent past. The original pews and turned posts, which support the balcony, display the painting technique of graining.

The building is currently occupied by the United Church of Hinesburg.



MAP NUMBER: 18

DATE BUILT: circa 1820

DESCRIPTION: The house was at one time used as the Baptist parsonage. During prohibition the local rum-runner, "Tilly", lived here. According to the Hinesburg Historical Society, it was an open secret that "Tilly" kept his booze hidden in the pulpit of the church next door (currently the United Church of Hinesburg).

This house has a gable front orientation, displays simple elegant lines and windows, is sheathed in clapboard, and is of post and beam construction. A pedimented portico presents an elegant entranceway with Italianate posts and brackets. This portico was likely added at a later date.



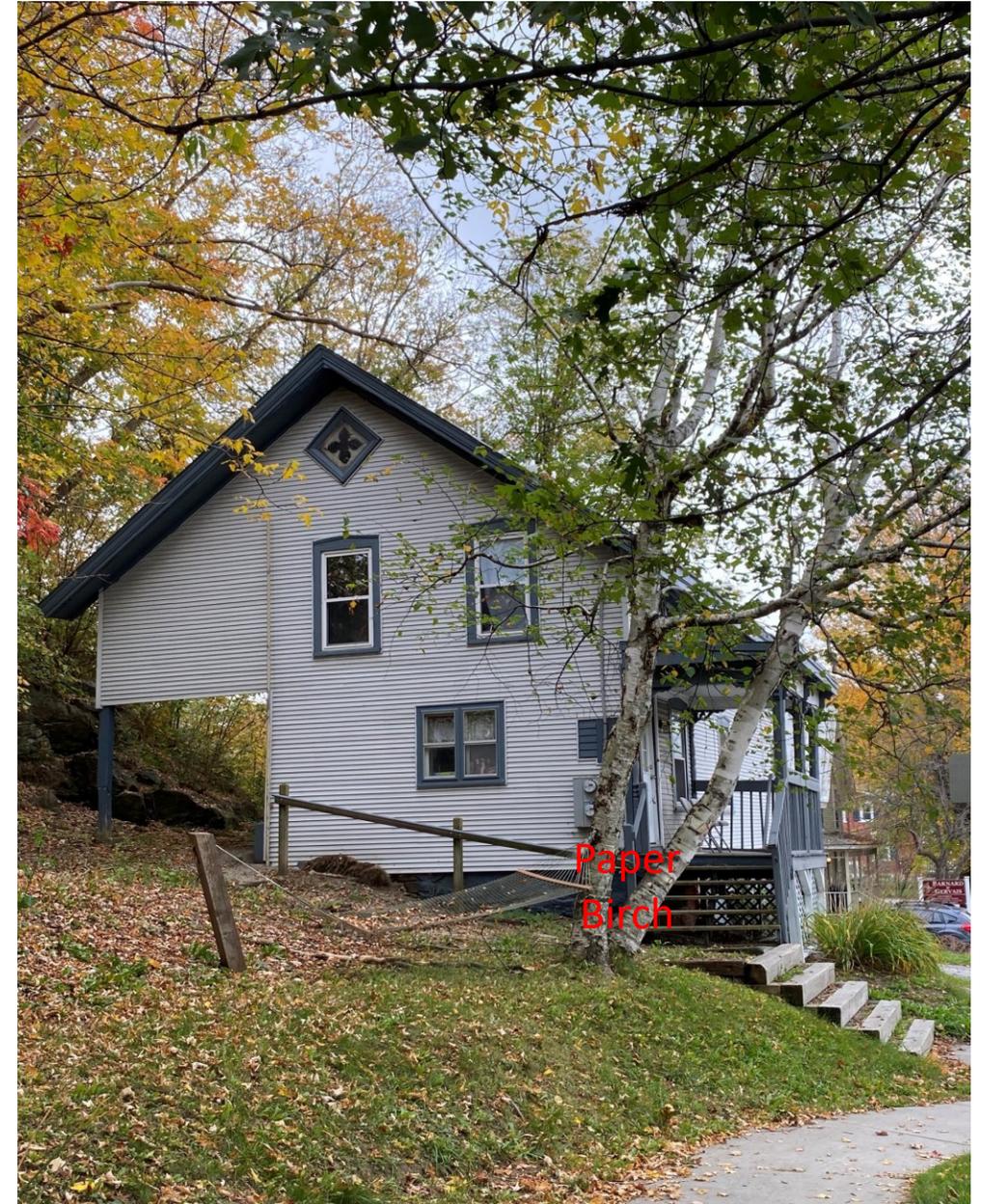
MAP NUMBER: 19

DATE BUILT: circa 1850

DESCRIPTION: This side-gabled house has a roof sheathed in sheet metal, and a brick foundation. The walls are clapboarded with lacy bargeboard along raking eaves; pedimented window surrounds; an open porch entry on the front façade; and quatrefoil windows in each gable end. An unusual feature of this building is the north gable end, one third of which is a false wall. Lewis Bissonnette had a tailor shop here in the mid 19th century.

Note the rock ledge along the back end of the house that is an extension of the north-south ridge line giving shape to the development of Hinesburg by the early settlers. A young paper birch grows at the north end of the property.

Paper Birch, *Betula papyrifera*, grows all over New England in a wide variety of soils and topographies. Often valued for its beauty, if the white layer of bark is removed from a living birch, the bark will not replace itself and the tree will bear ugly dark scars. Many varieties of birds feed upon the seeds. Native Americans boiled the sap of paper birch to make a sweet syrup. Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)



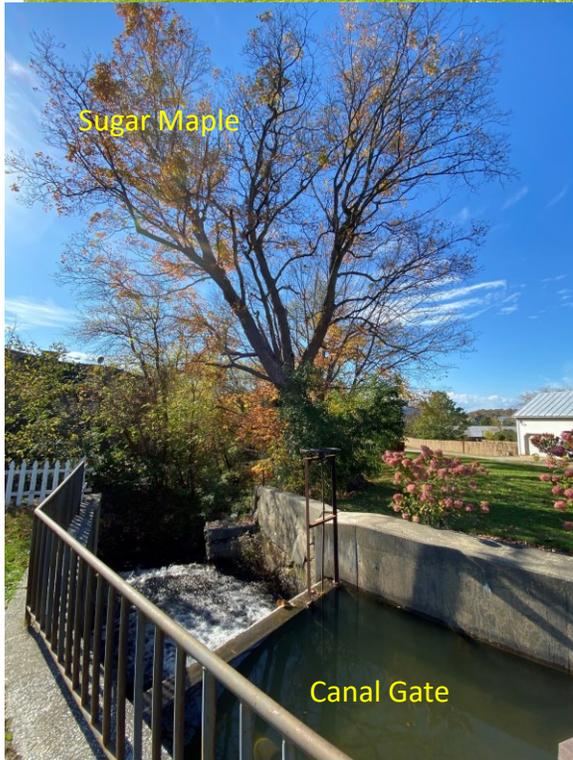


Photo credit: 1980 Hinesburg State Register Historic Places nomination form.

MAP NUMBER: 20

DATE BUILT: VARIOUS

DESCRIPTION: Site of an old cheese factory, currently the “Hinesburgh Public House” restaurant. The canal gate pictured in lower left is located north of the building.

In 1818 this site had a cotton and woolen goods factory, built by Michael Hinsdale and Jedediah Boynton and powered by the canal they had dug by hand in 1820. In the mid-to-late 19th century there was a grist mill, but by the early 20th century the Chittenden County Creamery was operating here. An October fire in 2008 put an end to cheese making, and this site now houses a restaurant.

The white Federal-Greek Revival transitional style house in the lower left picture was built around 1820 and demolished in 1978. In the early 20th century it served as a bakery and had a huge beehive oven.

The **Northern Red Oak** trees (*Quercus rubra*) flanking the sidewalk were planted to enhance the urban tree canopy of Hinesburg in 2000. The **Sugar Maple** (*Acer saccharum*) near the locks is likely 75 years old.

MAP NUMBER: 21

DATE BUILT: circa 1855

DESCRIPTION: The house is characteristic of the Italianate style, with a flat roof, wide overhanging eaves and cornice supported by decorative paired brackets. A typical Italianate window has two/two sash, and these windows include simple drip molding above the sash. The “new” technology of the time enabled machine production of wooden decorative trim and larger panes of glass for windows.

According to the Hinesburg Historical Society, Frederic Lyman bought this house in 1923. Frederick’s grandfather, Frederick Fuller Lyman, operated a cloth dressing and carding mill in Hinesburg in the late 19th century on Pond Brook, just below the present Iroquois Manufacturing Company.

The tree in the foreground is a **Crimson King Maple**, likely planted in the 1920s. The Crimson King are a Norway maple, *Acer platanoides*, and are valued for their ornamental curb appeal but are not native to Vermont.



MAP NUMBER: 22

DATE BUILT: 1896

DESCRIPTION: This elegant wood-frame Queen Anne house has a pedimented gable front with Palladian window and retains most of its original features. It includes a tower, walls with clapboard and fishtail shingles, a decorative slate roof and stone foundation. The ell has a standing seam roof and first floor porch. The colors and trim are reflective of Victorian style. The structure has been rehabilitated and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

This impressive house was built in 1896 by Cicero Goddard Peck, son of distinguished Hinesburg town lawyer Nahum Peck and nephew of Asahel Peck, 35th Governor of Vermont. Peck was educated in Hinesburg, but poor health led him to farming instead of higher education. As a successful farmer, Peck provided leadership that helped to shape the dairy industry of Hinesburg. Peck was active in Hinesburg town affairs and served as Grand Juror for Chittenden County Court, as State Senator in 1878, and as State Representative in 1890.

Flanking the house are a **Sugar Maple**, *Acer saccharum*, and a **Pin Oak**, *Quercus palustris*, both trees around 50 years old. The branches of the pin oak present in a distinctive manner with the crown reaching up, the mid branches extending horizontally, and the lower branches drooping toward the ground. Tolerant of pollution, as well as wind and disease resistant, pin oaks are valued as a street tree.

Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)



MAP NUMBER: 23

DATE BUILT: circa 1825

DESCRIPTION: Classic Cottage with recessed central door surrounded by traditional Greek Revival entablature and pilasters. Windows are symmetrically placed on each side of front entrance with simple framing.

This house was built by Nahum Peck and originally part of a large farm. An eclectic stone wall now graces the front, and recently planted town-maintained crabapple trees line the street

Left of the house is a thirty-year-old **Paperbark Maple**, *Acer griseum*, cultivated by the owner. Originally from China, the paperbark maple was introduced to the United States by the Arnold Arboretum in the early 20th century.

Source: [Acer griseum - Plant Finder \(missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinder.aspx?genus=Acer&species=griseum)

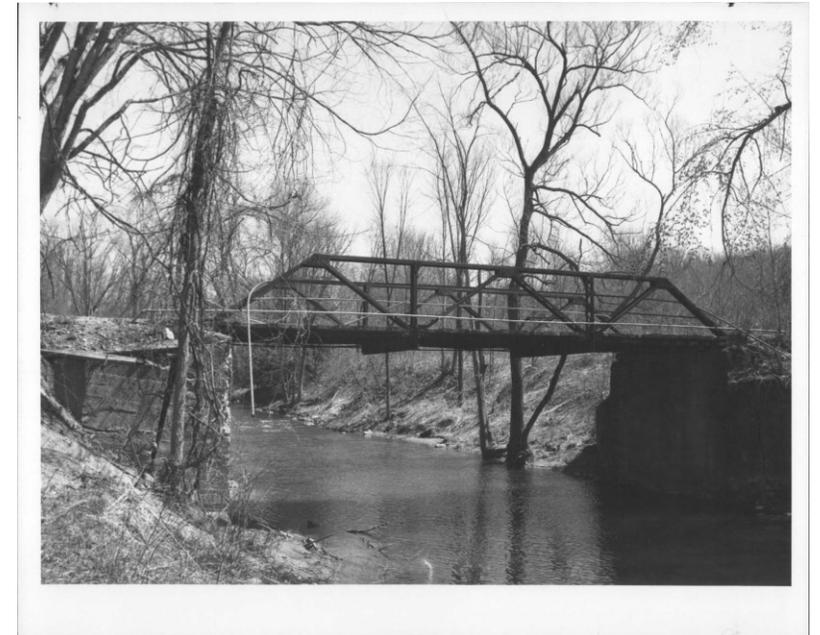
The **Crabapple** trees lining Mechanicsville Road are *Malus* 'Harvest Gold'. The fruit is bitter but edible and can be made into jelly and preserves, unless the birds get them first.



MAP NUMBER: 24

DATE: 1998

DESCRIPTION: "Andrea's Bridge" over canal for bike path



This is a pony truss bridge of light construction and narrow in size, circa 1925, spanning Lewis Creek. This bridge is typical of the engineering practice of the early 20th century when two basic truss designs-Warren and Pratt—had replaced 19th century style construction.

Photo credit: 1980 Hinesburg State Register Historic Places nomination form.

This footbridge was dedicated to Selectboard Member Andrea Morgante in 2019 for 27 years of service on the Hinesburg Selectboard. This truss bridge, formerly spanning Lewis Creek (shown on right) was the prototype for the adaptive reuse component of the Vermont Historic Bridge Program, managed and run by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The Princeton Elm, *Ulmus americana* 'Princeton', was selected for its adaptability and its resistance to Dutch elm disease. The Princeton elm is a fast-growing tree favored for streetscapes.

MAP NUMBER: 25

DATE: 1998

Description: Bike Path towards Mechanicsville with prominent trees Bur Oak and Sycamore next to the canal.

Bur Oak, *Quercus macrocarpa*, also known as mossycup oak, is the northernmost American oak and a member of the white oak group. It likes moist neutral or limestone-sweet soils and does well as a transplanted urban tree. This tree is native to Vermont and can be found in a rare botanical community known as the Wet Clayplain Forest, where it shares company with swamp oak, white oak, red maple, ashes, shagbark hickory, and American elm.

Sycamore, *Platanus occidentalis*, goes by many names: buttonwood, buttonball, American planetree, water beech and whitewood. A distinctive feature of the sycamore is the bark; it is mottled with different colors that resemble a wooden crazy quilt made from white, yellow, beige and green. The tree prefers a habitat near freshwater and often keeps company in Vermont with silver maples and elms. The seeds are not a favorite of wildlife, but finches and squirrels will eat them. The trunk cavities often found in mature trees are sought out for shelter by squirrels, opossums, and racoons, as well as bats and honeybees, owls and woodpeckers. Sycamores tolerate compacted soil and air pollution very well, making them ideal for use as street trees in urban settings.

Source: Charles Fergus. *Trees of New England*. (Guilford, Conn.: FalconGuide, 2005.)



MAP NUMBER: 26

DATE: circa 1998

DESCRIPTION: Red maple at end of bike path

Red Maple, *Acer rubrum*, is easily identifiable by its three-lobed leaf in contrast with the five-lobed leaf of its more famous cousin, the sugar maple. Red maples will grow in a wide range of soils and have been used for a variety of wood products including furniture and even clothespins. Red maple sap can be boiled down for syrup, although its water content is a little higher than sugar maple. Fifty gallons of red maple sap make one gallon of syrup, whereas sugar maples will give one gallon of syrup from forty gallons of sap. Every Vermonter knows the **Sugar Maple** is their state tree. The **Red Maple** is the State Tree of Rhode Island.



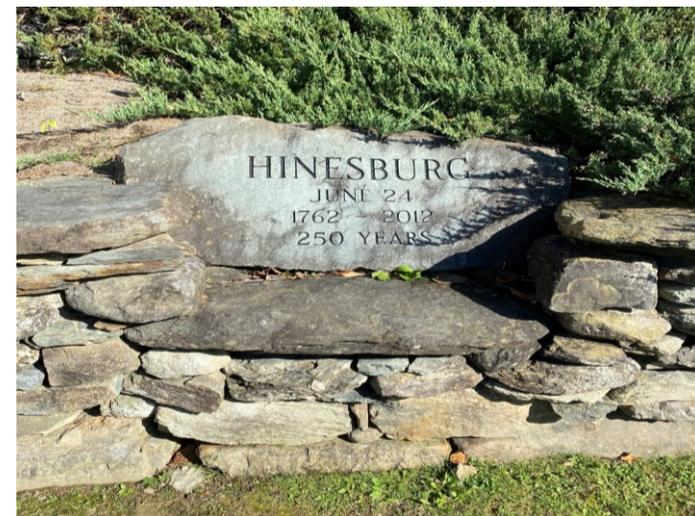
MAP NUMBER: 27

DATE BUILT: 1901

DESCRIPTION: The Town Hall has a gabled roof sheathed in slate, brick foundation, and clapboard siding. The building has a one-story, front entry porch with hipped roof supported by turned posts and a decorative spindle valance. A triangular panel in the gable peak proclaims the hall's construction date.

In 2013 a rock wall with stones donated by residents from all over Hinesburg was created to commemorate the founding of the town 250 years ago. Trees planted around the rock wall include northern catalpas and a Norway spruce.

Norway Spruce, *Picea abies* 'Remontii', is a dwarf cultivar. The **Northern Catalpa**, *Catalpa speciosa*, is fast growing and ornamental. Both trees are not native to Vermont but were selected to increase the diversity of the urban trees in Hinesburg.



Thank you for touring!

Solar fields and soccer fields:
new uses for former farmland in Hinesburg.



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