

Nahum Trask House
25 North Main Street
Windsor
Windsor County
Vermont

HABS No. VT-33

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

NAHUM TRASK HOUSE

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Street Address: 25 North Main Street, Windsor, Windsor County, Vermont

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Garrand, 25 North Main Street,
Windsor, Vermont

Present Occupant: Owner

Present Use: Residence

Brief Statement of Significance: This is a well-preserved example of a typical early, frame house.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Built and originally owned by Nahum Trask. To General Isham Green Searcy. To William Batchelder, Windsor Town Clerk, who owned the house in 1884. To various owners until 1929, when John F. Blamy, father of Mrs. Ralph Garrand, present owner, bought the house.
2. Date of erection: 1796 - front part. Adjoining ell 1829. Rear ell behind presumably later.
3. Architect: Unknown
Builder, suppliers, etc.: Local
4. Original plans, construction, etc.: Unknown
5. Notes on alterations and additions: The front part of the house survives essentially unaltered. The kitchen area has undergone modern alterations. There have apparently been early alterations where the ell attaches to the front part of the house, possibly done at the time of the construction of the ell in 1829. The location of the original pre-1829 kitchen is not clear. The fan light over the front door had a single pane of glass in it when John F. Blamy bought the house in 1929, and the present fan light was built by him. The present two-light over two-light, large pane glass windows are obviously not original.
6. References: Herbert Wheaton Congdon, Old Vermont Houses, Stephen Daye Press, Brattleboro, Vermont, 1940, p. 48 (designated Trask-Blamy house). Hamilton Child, Gazetteer and Business Directory of Windsor County, Vermont, for 1883-1884, Syracuse, New York, 1884, p. 269. The White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs, Russell F.

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Whitehead, editor, The White Pine Bureau, 1915-1939, Vol. 4, No. 6, p. 6. Old Buildings Project of the Robert Hull Fleming Museum at the University of Vermont, Burlington, 1937-1938. Miss Katherine Conlin, Town Clerk, Windsor, Vermont. Mrs. Ralph Garrard, 25 North Main Street, Windsor, Vermont.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: None known.

Prepared by Osmund R. Overby
November 1959

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Well-preserved example of a typical early frame house.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Two-and-a-half stories, plus cellar. Front, rectangular block approximately 35' x 20', plus two rear ells.
2. Foundations: Field stone, random laid foundations.
3. Wall construction: Hewn timber frame, clapboards.
4. Chimneys: Two original chimneys in front part of house; one original chimney, unused, in rear ell; one modern chimney in ell. Herbert Wheaton Congdon in Old Vermont Houses cites this house as showing the typical solution of the problem of the bulky chimney projecting into the area of the room that occurs with chimneys at the outside wall line but built entirely within the hewn frame of the dwelling. This problem is solved in this house by placing the wall line in the interior at the interior face of the chimney creating deep alcoves at the two flanking windows, which are finished with window seats and built-in cabinets. The alcoves have rather crudely arched openings.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Six-panel front door. Four-panel back door. Ornamented front door with pilasters, fan light and pediment; moulded trim with dentil course on pediment. This type of entrance doorway is infrequently seen in this area.

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- b. Windows and shutters: Two-over-two double hung windows, fixed slat shutters. Wood lintel ornaments with reeding over first floor windows.

7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Gable roof - slate shingles.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Simple, boxed, moulded eaves.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: Central hall type with exterior wall chimneys within the timber frame. Principal rooms to either side of central hall, dining room and kitchen to the rear in first ell, shed and garage behind in second ell.
2. Stairways: Principal stairway, straight run, in central hall.
3. Flooring: Modern hardwood flooring over original wide pine boards.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plastered and painted or papered.
5. Doorways and doors: Four and six panel doors.
6. Trim: Moulded, wood trim.
7. Hardware: Some original wrought-iron hardware.
8. Lighting: Electric.
9. Heating: Central.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Faces west on flat town lot on principal street.
2. Enclosures: None.
3. Outbuildings: None.
4. Landscaping, gardens, etc.: Informal - lawn, trees, shrubs, flowers.