

ETHAN ALLEN PARKS
Burlington

TOWER 2000 COMMITTEE
POST OFFICE BOX 466
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05402 USA

802.864.7695 Fax 865.0490

Offices at 177 Pearl

December 13, 1992

RECEIVED DEC 17 1992

Mr. Steven J. Sinclair
Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator
Department of Forests and Parks
Agency of Natural Resources
103 South Main Street, Building 10 South
Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0601

RE: Gen'l. Ethan Allen Park and Tower; your memorandum of December 8th

Dear Steven:

Thank you very much for following up our initial telephone conversation of some time ago and consequent letters to you of November 10th and 24th. We are most interested in applying for the Community Planning Grant you suggested. A detailed natural resource inventory and mapping of the area will provide important basis information for a new masterplan of General Ethan Allen Park. We will anticipate receiving the grant application package from you in January.

We are interested also in undertaking geographic, geologic, archeologic, and further history/use studies of the Park area. Would you please be so kind as to provide us guidance toward those appropriate organization and agency people who might be helpful in forwarding these efforts? We are hopeful copies of this letter and attachment will elicit and engage helpful correspondence between those folks listed below and our committee.

Attached is the most recent draft of the Park/Tower history and project overview developed by me over the last two years. Although it will take a period of years to bring together, our goal is the creation of a model Urban Park and Leadership Initiative through development of this rich resource as an exceptional Urban Forest Destination Park. The Park's flora and fauna, geologic, archeologic, historical, educational, recreational and scenic attributes presented by a fresh masterplan and well capitalized rehabilitation would be unparalleled, anywhere.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation. We look forward to hearing from you and working with you as the project progresses.

Very truly yours,


Stephen C. Brooks

cc: Chuck Vile, Urban and Community Forester,
Department of Forests Parks and Recreation

Warren Spinner, City Arborist,
Burlington Parks and Recreation Department

Scott Stevens, Executive Director,
Ethan Allen Homestead Trust

Chris Fichtel, Vermont Natural Heritage Program

Eric Gilbertson, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
Division for Historic Preservation,
Vermont Agency for Development and Community Affairs

Professor Chester Liebs, Department of History
University of Vermont

The Preservation Trust of Vermont

David G. Rahr, Executive Director,
The Vermont Community Foundation

The Vermont Historical Society

P. Jeffrey Potash, President,
Chittenden County Historical Society

Donald J. Bessler, Director,
Burlington Department of Parks and Recreation

Kenneth Lerner, Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning,
Burlington Planning Commission

Dianne M. Deforge, Tower 2000 Committee Director

Albert J. DiPietro, Tower 2000 Committee Director

John A. Rasys, Tower 2000 Committee Director

Robert L. Whalen, Tower 2000 Committee Director

TOWER 2000 COMMITTEE
POST OFFICE BOX 466
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General Ethan Allen Park and Tower

History and Project Overview

December 12, 1992

Perhaps the most unique structure in the City of Burlington is the very special Norman-style General Ethan Allen Tower, located in the New North End on top of Indian Rock, and in the center of Gen'l. Ethan Allen Park. Indian Rock was the highest point within Gen'l. Ethan Allen's historic homestead farm of 1,400 acres. The Park has a 67 acre oblong shape, and is second largest in size of the 26 designated park areas within the City of Burlington. From its main entry at the intersection of North Avenue and Ethan Allen Parkway, the Park's east-west width varies between 600 and 1,100 feet over the northern course of its almost one mile length.

Traditionally known as Indian Rock, (sometimes "Prospect Rock"), the Park's most unique promontory is a rocky bluff at 297 feet of elevation. The Algonquin Indians came here often to watch the movements of their adversaries, the Iroquois, and later during the Revolutionary War by the Green Mountain Boys watching for British warships traveling the lake. As of yet, no one has identified the nearby cave used by the Green Mountain Boys to store munitions. At the base of the west side of the Indian Rock precipice were chestnut tree stumps. They are not indigenous, and therefore evidence of foodstuffs brought by the Algonquins when they came to the Champlain Valley each warm season from the Connecticut River Valley, via the Winooski River. The Algonquins would make camp at Indian Rock and throw their debris, including chestnut parts, over the sharp cliff to the west. There is also a very old grove of chestnut trees near the old Allen farmhouse. Indian Rock commands a fabulous and otherwise unavailable view of Lake Champlain as far as the eye can reach, including the Adirondack and Green Mountain ranges, from Cumberland Head all the way south to Split Rock. The Winooski River can be viewed winding through fertile intervalees along its nearly ten-mile course between Winooski Falls and its mouth at Lake Champlain. The Park is home to many types of ferns, including the rare Walking Fern and also an extensive variety of native wildflowers including some rare orchids. Various medicinal plants within the Park include Wild Ginger and Blue Cohosh. The Park also contains two rare upland forest plants as well as an outcrop plant and an open upland plant, which are both threatened species. The Park is Burlington's only ancient forest. In 1989 the Vermont Natural Heritage Program described the Park's forest qualities as "exceptional" and "uncommon" (in Vermont) because its various tree species are usually found in dry, warmer-climate hilltop

areas. This extensive and unusual collection of trees includes very old White Oak, Red Oak, Shagbark Hickory, Sugar Maple, Beech, White Pine, and Hophornbeam. These fine, mature, and mostly deciduous woods have three interior and partially overgrown meadow areas as well as an extensive, random, and unmanaged footpath system. Each of these areas can be accessed by the well-engineered but now abandoned auto road. The north/south-running rock ridge in the center of the Park is punctuated on its northern end by an unusually articulated cut-stone gazebo. This ridge-end at 304 feet of elevation, (traditionally referred to as "The Pinnacle"), has a potential but overgrown 240° far-away view swinging from the southwest around north to the southeast. The southern ridge-end is marked by Gen'l. Ethan Allen Tower.

Before the time of the Revolution, these Allen farm lands were owned by Ira Allen and sold by him to Felix Powell in 1774. In 1776 Powell sold to William Marsh, a staunch Tory. Because of his loyalty to Great Britain, he was forced to leave the country. His estate was subsequently confiscated and purchased by Gen'l Ethan Allen in 1778 from Col. James Claghorn, "Commissioner for the Confiscation and Sale of the Estates of the Enemies of the Republic of Vermont and the United States." Ethan Allen was living here at the time of his death, February 12, 1789. In 1814, some years after Gen'l. Ethan Allen's death, Indian Rock and 300 acres of the surrounding Allen Farm were purchased from his heirs by Cornelius P. Van Ness (the 11th governor of Vermont). After passing through other hands, in 1862 it became the property of Mr. Alfred Brookes of New York. At his death in 1878 it went by his will to his son, Col. Horace J. Brookes. In 1902 ex-Burlington Mayor William J. Van Patten purchased the land from Col. Brookes. Later, Van Patten deeded the farm portion of the property to his daughter Mary (Mrs. A.D. Billings) as a wedding present. On November 11, 1903, at a meeting of the Vermont Society of Sons of the American Revolution held at St. Albans, Frederick S. Pease of Burlington proposed that the society purchase a certain sixty acre portion of the historic 1,400-acre Ethan Allen Farm, containing Indian Rock. A committee of the Society, including President H. D. Holton, W. J. Van Patten, and G. G. Benedict was designated to consider the proposal and prepare a report. However, before this committee ever acted, a more exciting plan was proposed. At the annual meeting of the Society in Montpelier on November 16, 1904, Mr. Van Patten offered to give Indian Rock and a surrounding 5 or 6 acres of land to the Society. There was a condition. The Society would have to agree to erect a memorial Tower within the Park, to that famous local resident and Revolutionary War hero, Ethan Allen, leader of the Green Mountain Boys.

In the November 29th, 1904 edition, the Burlington Free Press said: "It will certainly be the most notable addition that has been made in some time to the attractive features of what we delight to hear called Beautiful Burlington. Some of the best judges of natural scenery have declared the view from Indian Rock and from the North Pinnacle to be perhaps the two finest views in the state. It will contribute very much to the best interests of Burlington to have an opportunity to take visitors to such a place and show them the wonderful beauty of our city and it's surroundings."

Just after the turn of the century, during the initial phase of the American Park System Movement, a trend developed focusing on areas exemplifying the natural environment. With his black Morgan horse, "Old Mattie," Van Patten sought out the easiest ascent trails on and around the lands he owned adjacent to Indian Rock, and here a road system was laid out. He hired crews of men to clear out the underbrush and fallen trees, cut away timber, and open up new views of scenic beauty. Van Patten established four winding carriage drives, naming them; Drive to Tablet Rock, River Bank Drive, Eastern Drive, and The Pinnacle. On Memorial Day, 1905 he invited Burlington residents to visit the new park. At this time Van Patten also had built an elegant wooden gazebo at "The Pinnacle."

The Society proceeded with great fervor in assembling plans, estimates, and in appointing a fundraising committee of fourteen members, one from each of Vermont's counties. The dedication date was set as August 16, 1905, the 128th anniversary of the Battle of Bennington. Construction was undertaken by Van Patten's Champlain Manufacturing Company of Burlington, and the Tower (designed by C.M.C.'s architect and manager R.C. Cottam) was completed before the dedication date. On August 10, 1905, Mr. Van Patten executed a deed for a 15.171 acre portion of Gen'l. Ethan Allen's original farm, including Indian Rock, in favor of the Vermont Society of Sons of The American Revolution. This conveyance was made subject to the following conditions: "First, that in the event that said Society shall cease to exist, then the ownership of and title to said described property shall pass to and be vested in the corporation of said City of Burlington, its successors and assigns forever. Second, provided that the said property shall be forever kept for the use of the public, as a public park and be always subject to the care, management, and control of said City of Burlington for such purposes." At a special meeting of the Burlington Board of Aldermen, Tuesday September 12, 1905 at 8 p.m.; the Board resolved as follows: "... that in behalf of said city, we hereby accept and assume the care, management, and control of the property deeded August 10, 1905, to be used as a public park, by William J. Van Patten to the Vermont Society of Sons of the American Revolution, agreeably to the terms and conditions of his deed thereof which is recorded in Volume 52 on page 482 of the Land Records of the City." Mr. Van Patten's prescribed proper name for this gift of land was "General Ethan Allen Park". At a later time, the same construction company built the large masonry entryway to the Park of stone similar to that of the Tower. The entire cost of construction, in the amount of \$2435.61, was provided by private contributions from every corner of our state.

The preparations for the dedication and surrounding celebration were gargantuan by any standard. Vermont had never seen the likes of such a party. Decorators from New York and Boston were brought in to drape masses of red, white, and blue bunting and thousands of flags on public and private buildings all over the city. The railroads, boats and wagons brought thousands of visitors to Burlington, and the festive air continued during the evenings under the glow of multitudes of colored electric lights festooned throughout City Hall Park. An international-sized procession from downtown filed into Gen'l. Ethan Allen Park about 2:30 p.m., August 6, 1905. Thousands of military, political, and business notables, as well as military

cavalry, troops, and citizenry from near and far, assembled in the Park, including Vice President Fairbanks, who was sent by President Roosevelt, and Roosevelt's Secretary of the Interior Ethan Allen Hitchcock, (a great-grandson of Gen'l. Ethan Allen,) who represented the President personally. Joining Vermont's Governor Charles J. Bell were governors past and present from various states, and an otherwise strong and lengthy list of celebrities from all over were in attendance. A massive amphitheater and platform had been built accommodating several thousand persons for the presentation and acceptance of prayers, speeches, flags, hymns, and a review of cavalry, artillery, and infantry. A poem entitled "The Voice of the Tower" written by Vermont's poet laureate, Julia C. R. Dorr of Rutland was read by Congressman D.J. Foster. All attending sang "The Star Spangled Banner" as the Stars and Stripes were raised above the turret of the Tower, and United States military artillery roared a 21-gun salute. Everyone was dressed to the teeth in uniforms, coats with long tails, lace, white gloves and tall beaverskin top hats. All evening the receptions and banquets unfolded, but not before the crowds sang "America," together with a large band upon closing the dedication ceremonies. By the time of the dedication, Van Patten's original offer of 5 to 6 acres had grown to 15. On August 5th, 1907, for a price of \$10,000, Van Patten sold to the City of Burlington additional lands now comprised as the northern portion of the Park. The deed recorded in the land records of the City in Volume 54 on page 560, describes a conveyance of "about 52 acres" stretching north to the bank of the Winooski River.

The Tower and Park's situation by the Winooski River is reminiscent of the Scottish National Monument at Stirling, a memorial to Sir William Wallace, on Firth-of-Forth river. Both monuments are perched on substantial rock outcroppings overlooking winding rivers. Although both towers are Norman, a style found throughout the British Isles, they are in fact a form of Romanesque architecture. The ornamentation is geometrical and frequently uses battlements or crenellations.

Gen'l. Ethan Allen Tower is built of native stone referenced locally as "Mallett's Bay Marble" or "Willard's Ledge Redstone," quarried from the southeastern edge of the rock outcrop ridge within the park. Evidence of stone quarrying is clear upon observation from "Eastern Drive" near its entry into the Park woods just north of the auto parking area and southern-most meadow. One very old deed refers to the "Allen Granite Quarry." The Tower is 24 feet square at the base, of the same dimensions at the top, and 18 feet square at the neck. Long ago, a turret, 7 feet square and 4 feet high, rose from the southwest corner of the roof parapet. The total height of the Tower, to the top of the now absent turret, was 46 feet. Over the years, many organizations have represented the Tower in their logos, including the Burlington Police Department, the Burlington Fire Department, and the Chittenden County Transportation Authority. When the City of Burlington celebrated the centennial of its founding, the Tower became the city's symbol.

Over the years, the Park was a popular tourist attraction for Burlington, hosting many weddings and social events. During the summer of 1905 the Burlington Traction Company extended its trolley line from Institute Road to the entry of the Park. A

nickel would buy a ride from downtown to its terminus at the Park entry. During the summer of 1937, the Burlington Parks Department replaced Van Patten's wooden gazebo "the Pinnacle" with a cut-stone imitation. In 1974 the Tower was closed for safety reasons. In December of 1982, a citizen effort, Save the Tower, Inc., was founded for the purpose of undertaking necessary Tower maintenance, which the city administration had neglected.

Gen'l. Ethan Allen Tower and Park are suffering again from improper maintenance and neglect (a recurring theme of media stories and file notes over the years). The Park has needed various and extensive capital improvements since its roadways were barricaded and closed years ago. Encouraged by our efforts, on September 15th, 1992, the City of Burlington Director of Parks, Donald J. Bessler, declared Gen'l. Ethan Allen Park in need of a new Masterplan. Many folks are interested in an extensive community undertaking to satisfy the long-term engineering and renovation needs of the Tower and Park. Many would like the Park opened for everyone, not just those capable of walking. During the last two years the Tower 2000 Committee has developed plans toward these goals. Two local firms, Shelter Design Architecture and Champlain Consulting Engineers, have completed a contract with the Committee, studying the condition of the Tower and providing a written report. Initial funding was provided by the Vermont Community Foundation. Presently, Gen'l. Ethan Allen Tower is not listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Interested persons and organizations are encouraged to join the Committee. Committee Directors are Dianne M. Deforge, Albert J. Dipietro, John A. Rasys, Robert L. Whalen, and Stephen C. Brooks.

We would be delighted to anticipate your contribution and collaboration, and look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,


Stephen C. Brooks

ETHAN ALLEN PARKS



Preservation
Montpelier, VT 05602

HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY
Individual Structure Survey Form

COUNTY: Chittenden
TOWN: Burlington
LOCATION: 519 Ethan Allen Parkway
COMMON NAME:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:
OWNER: Lorenzo Howe
ADDRESS: 81 S. Williams St.
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
Yes No Restricted
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Local State National

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
Structural System
1. Foundation: Stone Brick Concrete Concrete Block
2. Wall Structure
a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam Balloon
b. Load Bearing Masonry: Brick Stone Concrete
Concrete Block
c. Iron d. Steel e. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard Board & Batten Wood Shingle
Shiplap Novelty Asbestos Shingle Sheet Metal
Aluminum Asphalt Shingle Brick Veneer Stone Veneer
Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
a. Truss: Wood Iron Steel Concrete
b. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate Wood Shingle Asphalt Shingle
Sheet Metal Built Up Rolled Tile Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:
Appendages: Porches Towers Cupolas Dormers Chimneys
Sheds Ells Wings Bay Window Other:
Roof Style: Gable Hip Shed Flat Mansard Gambrel
Jerkinhead Saw Tooth With Monitor With Bellcast
With Parapet With False Front Other:
Number of Stories: 2½
Number of Bays: 5 x 2
Approximate Dimensions:

SURVEY NUMBER:
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
78-A-228
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
PRESENT USE: Eugene Goodrich residence
ORIGINAL USE: residence
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
Excellent Good
Fair Poor
STYLE: Italianate
DATE BUILT: c. 1880

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:
No Threat Zoning Roads
Development Deterioration
Alteration Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:
Positive Negative
Mixed Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Massing - Rectangular mass with 1 1/2 story ell on north elevation. 1 x 5 bay veranda on facade. 2 sheds on rear elevation. Center chimney. Projecting eaves.

Fenestration - 2/2 sash, peaked lintels, paired window, 2 round headed windows on south elevation in gable. French windows along facade on 1st floor.

Entrance - Queen Anne styled O door with light. Peaked architrave.

Enrichments - Pilaster strips on corners with Eastlake detailing. Turned posts with brackets on veranda.

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

Rectangular massed barn with shed. Clapboarded. Slate roof.

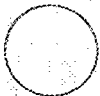
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This farm probably dates from the late eighteenth century, when the intervale was particularly attractive to early pioneers. The first man known to have farmed here was Eugene Goodrich, who was here from before the Civil War to the late 1880's. This house was undoubtedly built for him sometime during his tennure.

REFERENCES:

1869, 1890, Sanborn maps; directories.

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Land Woodland
Scattered Buildings
Moderately Built Up
Densely Built Up
Residential Commercial
Agricultural Industrial
Roadside Strip Development
Other:

RECORDED BY:

C. R. Morsbach

ORGANIZATION:

VT. Div. for Historic Preservation

DATE RECORDED:

10/30/78



OF VERMONT
 ion for Historic Preservation
 Montpelier, VT 05602

HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY
 Individual Structure Survey Form

COUNTY: Chittenden
 TOWN: Burlington
 LOCATION: Ethan Allen Park North Avenue
 COMMON NAME:
 FUNCTIONAL TYPE: tourist lookout
 OWNER: City of Burlington
 ADDRESS:
 ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
 Yes No Restricted
 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 Local State National

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
 Structural System
 1. Foundation: Stone Brick Concrete Concrete Block
 2. Wall Structure
 a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam Balloon
 b. Load Bearing Masonry: Brick Stone Concrete
 Concrete Block
 c. Iron d. Steel e. Other:
 3. Wall Covering: Clapboard Board & Batten Wood Shingle
 Shiplap Novelty Asbestos Shingle Sheet Metal
 Aluminum Asphalt Shingle Brick Veneer Stone Veneer
 Bonding Pattern: rockfaced ashlar random coursing
 4. Roof Structure
 a. Truss: Wood Iron Steel Concrete
 b. Other:
 5. Roof Covering: Slate Wood Shingle Asphalt Shingle
 Sheet Metal Built Up Rolled Tile Other:
 6. Engineering Structure:
 7. Other:
 Appendages: Porches Towers Cupolas Dormers Chimneys
 Sheds Ells Wings Bay Window Other: conical
 Roof Style: Gable Hip Shed Flat Mansard Gambrel
 Jerkinhead Saw Tooth With Monitor With Bellcast
 With Parapet With False Front Other:
 Number of Stories: 1
 Number of Bays: _____ Entrance Location: _____
 Approximate Dimensions: _____

SURVEY NUMBER:
 NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
 78-A-288
 UTM REFERENCES:
 Zone/Easting/Northing
 U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
 PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
 Pinnacle Pavillion
 ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
 Pinnacle Pavillion
 PRESENT USE:
 ORIGINAL USE:
 ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
 BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
 PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
 Excellent Good
 Fair Poor
 STYLE: Gazebo
 DATE BUILT: 1905

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:
 No Threat Zoning Roads
 Development Deterioration
 Alteration Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:
 Positive Negative
 Mixed Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Massing - Octagonal.

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

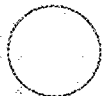
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This gazebo was built in 1905 as part of the creation of Ethan Allen Park. The land was originally part of the General Ethan Allen farm, and the bluff which faces the west, known as Indian Rock, upon which the larger stone tower was built, was said to be a favorite vista of the Revolutionary hero. The farm was known for much of the nineteenth century as the Van Ness farm, after its owner, Governor Cornelius Van Ness. In 1902 it was purchased by William Van Patten, the chemical brain behind the immensely profitable patent medicine firm of Wells, Richardson & Co. Van Patten cleared the narrow driveways around the park, and cleared off all the growth around this pinnacle, so as to give an eastern view as well as the natural western view from Indian Rock. This gazebo, or pavillion as it was called, was then constructed to provide shelter for park users. Van Patten donated the whole park to the city in 1905.

REFERENCES:

See reference files, Wilbur Collection, entitled "Ethan Allen Park" and "Ethan Allen Tower".

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Open Land Woodland
- Scattered Buildings
- Moderately Built Up
- Densely Built Up
- Residential Commercial
- Agricultural Industrial
- Roadside Strip Development
- Other:

park

RECORDED BY:

C. R. Morsbach

ORGANIZATION:

VT. Div. for Historic Preservation

DATE RECORDED:

10/30/78

STATE OF VERMONT
 Division for Historic Preservation
 Montpelier, VT 05602

HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY
 Individual Structure Survey Form

COUNTY: Chittenden
 TOWN: Burlington
 LOCATION: Ethan Allen Park
 COMMON NAME:
 FUNCTIONAL TYPE: lookout tower
 OWNER: City of Burlington
 ADDRESS:
 ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
 Yes No Restricted
 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 Local State National

SURVEY NUMBER:
 NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
 78-A-288
 UTM REFERENCES:
 Zone/Easting/Northing
 U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
 PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
 ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
 PRESENT USE:
 ORIGINAL USE:
 ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
 BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
 PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
 Excellent Good
 Fair Poor
 STYLE: Gothic Revival Picturesque
 DATE BUILT:
 1904

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
 Structural System
 1. Foundation: Stone Brick Concrete Concrete Block
 2. Wall Structure
 a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam Balloon
 b. Load Bearing Masonry: Brick Stone Concrete
 Concrete Block
 c. Iron d. Steel e. Other:
 3. Wall Covering: Clapboard Board & Batten Wood Shingle
 Shiplap Novelty Asbestos Shingle Sheet Metal
 Aluminum Asphalt Shingle Brick Veneer Stone Veneer
 Bonding Pattern: rockfaced ashlar Other:
 4. Roof Structure
 a. Truss: Wood Iron Steel Concrete
 b. Other:
 5. Roof Covering: Slate Wood Shingle Asphalt Shingle
 Sheet Metal Built Up Rolled Tile Other:
 6. Engineering Structure:
 7. Other:
 Appendages: Porches Towers Cupolas Dormers Chimneys
 Sheds Ells Wings Bay Window Other:
 Roof Style: Gable Hip Shed Flat Mansard Gambrel
 Jerkinhead Saw Tooth With Monitor With Bellcast
 With Parapet With False Front Other:
 Number of Stories: _____
 Number of Bays: _____ Entrance Location: northeast
 Approximate Dimensions: _____

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:
 No Threat Zoning Roads
 Development Deterioration
 Alteration Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:
 Positive Negative
 Mixed Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Square tower rises from a battered base terminating with a crenelated parapet that projects over the mass of the tower on corbelled brackets. The entrance is characterized by a 4 point tudor arch. The windows are slits in the wall surface.

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This stone tower was built as a monument to General Ethan Allen, Revolutionary Hero, on whose farm it stands. This bluff has long been known as Indian Rock, as aboriginal relics were once found below it; Ethan Allen is said to have greatly enjoyed the natural vista of the lake from here. The park was a gift to the city from William Van Patten, wealthy patent medicine tycoon of the Wells, Richardson Co. Van Patten cleared the driver, opened up the view to the east from the pinnacle, and built the stone Gazebo there. This tower was constructed by the Sons of the American Revolution. The new park and tower were dedicated in August 1905 with a ceremony featuring Vice-President Charles Fairbanks, U. S. Supreme Court Justice David Brewer, Secretary of the Interiors, Ethan Allen Hitchcock, Asst. Secretary of the Navy Charles Darling, Congressman David Foster, Governor Charles Bell of Vermont and Governor John McLane of New Hampshire.

REFERENCES:

Wilbur Collection Reference File: "Ethan Allen Tower"

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Land Woodland
Scattered Buildings
Moderately Built Up
Densely Built Up
Residential Commercial
Agricultural Industrial
Roadside Strip Development
Other:

RECORDED BY:
C. R. Morsbach

ORGANIZATION:
VT. Div. for Historic Preservation

DATE RECORDED:
10/30/78

ETHAN ALLEN HOUSE

STATE OF VERMONT
Division for Historic Preservation
Montpelier, VT 05602

HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES SURVEY
Individual Structure Survey Form

COUNTY: Chittenden
TOWN: Burlington
LOCATION:
COMMON NAME:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:
OWNER: Berl Morrill
ADDRESS: Off Ethan Allen Parkway
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
Yes No Restricted
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Local State National

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
Structural System
1. Foundation: Stone Brick Concrete Concrete Block
2. Wall Structure
a. Wood Frame: Post & Beam Balloon
b. Load Bearing Masonry: Brick Stone Concrete
Concrete Block
c. Iron d. Steel e. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard Board & Batten Wood Shingle
Shiplap Novelty Asbestos Shingle Sheet Metal
Aluminum Asphalt Shingle Brick Veneer Stone Veneer
Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
a. Truss: Wood Iron Steel Concrete
b. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate Wood Shingle Asphalt Shingle
Sheet Metal Built Up Rolled Tile Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:
Appendages: Porches Towers Cupolas Dormers Chimneys
Sheds Ells Wings Bay Window Other:
Roof Style: Gable Hip Shed Flat Mansard Gambrel
Jerkinhead Saw Tooth With Monitor With Bellcast
With Parapet With False Front Other:
Number of Stories: 1½
Number of Bays: 3x3
Approximate Dimensions:

SURVEY NUMBER:
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
78-A-311
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
Ethan Allen Farm
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
" "
PRESENT USE: Residence
ORIGINAL USE: " "
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
Excellent Good
Fair Poor
STYLE: Vernacular Farm House
DATE BUILT:
c.1787

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:
No Threat Zoning Roads
Development Deterioration
Alteration Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:
Positive Negative
Mixed Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Massing: Rectangular block w/ gabled addition. Gable sided to driveway. Center chimney.

Fenestration: 8/8, 6/6, 3/1 sash. Plain trim, 2 gable dormers on facade.

Entrance: Center. "Modern" Colonial door with gabled hood.

The joists in this structure are both 1/2 round and round logs. Some of the planking has been replaced - original planking is up and down sawn. This house has undergone many adverse alterations.

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

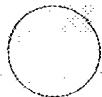
Built c.1787 as the residence of Revolutionary War hero General Ethan Allen. Allen and his brother Ira purchased much of the Champlain Valley on speculation before the war. The surrounding interval farmland was Ethan's first choice of land in the area. He lived here only two years before his death. The timbers were sawed in Ira's mills up the river at Winooski Falls.



REFERENCES:

Hemenway, Gazetteer, I, 655

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Open Land Woodland
- Scattered Buildings
- Moderately Built Up
- Densely Built Up
- Residential Commercial
- Agricultural Industrial
- Roadside Strip Development
- Other:

RECORDED BY:

C. R. Morsbach

ORGANIZATION:

Vt. Div. for Historic Preservation

DATE RECORDED:

12/2/78