

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop

Other names/site number: Petersen Family Blacksmith Shop

Name of related multiple property N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 925 Maple Street

City or town: Salisbury State: Vermont County: Addison

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ A ___ B X C ___ D

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> | <p>_____ Date</p> |
| <p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p> | |

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p> | |
| <p>_____ Signature of commenting official:</p> | <p>_____ Date</p> |
| <p>_____ Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p> | |

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | buildings |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | sites |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | structures |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD: weatherboard
STONE: slate
ASPHALT

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop is located in the center of Salisbury Village in Addison County, Vermont, next door to the post office and across the street from the town hall and public library. The property upon which the blacksmith shop stands was once quite large and included the adjacent home of the shop's original owner and proprietor, John Deming. Due to subdivision of the original property, the blacksmith shop now occupies a small (approximately 0.08 acre), terraced parcel. The building is wood framed and consists of an original main block and a later rear ell. Built at the turn of the nineteenth century, the main block houses the forge and is two stories tall with post and beam construction and wood clapboards. The shop was expanded to the north in the late nineteenth century with the addition of a rear ell which displays distinctive Victorian-era detailing. The rear ell is a 1½ story, post and beam building finished with clapboards. The Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop is the oldest surviving manufacturing facility in town as well as the sole remnant of an extensive late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth century industrial complex clustered around the falls of the Leicester River, which lie several hundred feet southeast of the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop. The building retains all aspects of historic integrity.

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Narrative Description

The main block of the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop faces southwest and presents an eaves-front façade to Maple Street, with a setback of approximately 25 feet from the centerline of the road. Projecting at a right angle from the rear elevation of the main block is an ell that was attached to the building in the early 20th century. Both the main block and the ell are supported by timber frame structures and clad with wood clapboards.

Main Block

The Main Block features a massive oak and hemlock frame. The hand-hewn posts and beams measure up to 10" x 12" in section. The framing is conventional for the time, with the vertical members, such as corner and chimney posts, tied together by massive girts which run the depth of the building. It has a low-pitched gable roof covered with slate tiles. The eave on the front of the Main Block extends approximately 10" beyond the wall plane and is supported by exposed outriggers that are pegged onto the ends of the common rafters supporting the roof. The Main Block also features early, and possibly original, small-paned, twelve-over-eight and nine-over-six double-hung, wood sash windows.

The dominant axis of the Main Block is oriented northwest to southeast, parallel to Maple Street, and has a footprint of 30'-5" by 18'-5". It is supported by a dry-laid fieldstone foundation and the heavily weathered clapboard siding is painted dark red with white trim. The façade has a pair of centrally located side-hinged, wooden double doors that serve as the primary point of access to the first floor. Each door has a glazed upper half above two horizontal panels in the lower half. The doors are flanked by three six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows: one on the right and two on the left. The window located to the right is centered between the door and the corner of the building, while the other two windows are set side-by-side between the left edge of the door and the building's opposite corner. Due to the asymmetry this introduces into the otherwise bilaterally symmetrical façade, it appears that the window closest to the door was added at some point prior to c. 1915, when it is shown in a historic photograph (**Figure 1**). The façade's second story is punctuated by three, evenly spaced, twelve-over-eight double-hung wood sash windows that are set high against the eaves and in line with the original window openings on the first story. The façade is framed by narrow corner boards and a modest frieze board.

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Figure 1: Circa 1915 photograph of Salisbury blacksmith shop's façade (Salisbury Historical Society).

The southeast gable end faces the Salisbury Post Office and is defined by three, evenly spaced, nine-over-six double-hung wood sash windows on the first story. A single, nine-over-six double-hung wood sash window is located in the second story, asymmetrically offset towards the building's front (southwest) corner. Detailing includes a narrow fascia and corner boards.

The northwest gable end faces the former Deming and Peterson home (917 Maple Street) which is located on the adjacent, upslope parcel. This elevation is defined by a single, nine-over-six double-hung wood sash window on the first story. This lower window is asymmetrically offset towards the building's rear northeast corner. A single, twelve-over-eight double-hung wood sash window is located to left of center in the second story. The defining element of this elevation is a set of side-hinged, vertical board doors located adjacent to the building's northwest corner in the second story. These doors open inward on sets of large, hand-forged, interior strap hinges that may have been forged on the premises. The opening is framed with flat trim boards. The exterior stairs that once accessed these doors are no longer extant.

The northeast (rear) elevation of the Main Block is the point of intersection with the rear ell. While much of this elevation is contained within the rear ell, the visible portion has a single, centrally-placed, nine-over-six double-hung wood sash window set high against the eave on the second story. A single, centrally-placed, six-over-six double-hung wood window is located on the first story, to the left of the ell.

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The interior of the Main Block consists of a single, large, open room with the forge located in the northwest quadrant. The term "forge" includes the hearth, chimney, bellows, and related construction. The hearth is constructed of brick and measures approximately 28" high, 54" wide, and 43.5" deep. The base of the hearth is constructed of mortared fieldstone, upon which the brick hearth is constructed. Several types of brick are present in the hearth and chimney, indicating that they have been rebuilt and repaired over the years. Rising from the left side of the hearth is a brick chimney that vented the fumes and smoke from the hearth via a large metal hood attached to its east side. High on the south side of the brick chimney is a thimble for a stovepipe, which would have connected to a woodstove placed centrally in the Main Block. At the west end of the hearth is a large wood and leather bellows. This is a double-chamber bellows, which expels a consistent stream of air into the forge as it is pumped by the blacksmith. The nozzle of the bellows enters the west side of the hearth in a recessed niche in the brickwork, passes under the chimney, and come out in the wall of the ashpit, directly under the firepit. The wooden pole lever was used by the blacksmith to pump the bellows from his position at the forge. It is suspended from the ceiling by an iron chain with a U-bolt at the end, which creates the fulcrum for the pole's up and down motion. Another iron chain is suspended from the end of the pole lever and connected to bottom wooden paddle of the bellows. On the right side of the hearth is an opening for the firepot, in which coal and coke would be burned to create a fire. A blast of compressed air from the bellows into the firepot would raise the temperature of the fire to a level sufficient to heat and soften the metal that is being worked by the blacksmith. Under the firepot is the ash pit, which could be cleaned out via an opening in the brickwork on the south side of the hearth. Notably absent from this forge assembly is a table slab to the right of the hearth, where the blacksmith could lay out hot pieces of metal and assemble small jobs. This work may have been done on the adjacent anvil, or on a separate surface that is no longer present. Associated with the forge is an extensive collection of early blacksmithing tools and a variety of miscellaneous metal objects presumably forged in the shop. A stump-mounted Hay-Budden anvil, a common feature of traditional blacksmith shops stands approximately three feet from the forge. The stump to which the anvil is attached is fastened to the floor with sheet metal anchors. Based upon comparison with other early blacksmith shops (e.g., Light 1984:57), all the permanent elements of the forge assemblage are present and appear to occupy their original locations within the space.

The floor of the first story is made of heavily worn wooden planks. Across the northern two-thirds of the space, these planks run the depth of the building (roughly north-south), while they are oriented parallel to the building's long axis (roughly east-west) in the southern third. The level of wear evident in the surface of the floorboard indicates heavy foot traffic as well as the shoeing of horses in the space.

The second story is accessible via a ladder that leads to a trap door in the ceiling. The three-bay framing of the second story echoes that of the first story, with large, centrally-placed, hand-hewn chimney girts tying together the front and back plates at ceiling level. Smaller oak members measuring approximately 2" x 10" run between the ceiling beams, tying them together and serving as floor joists for the overlying attic. Like the first story, the second story has a wooden plank floor.

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The uppermost level of the Main Block consists of a triangular attic space extending from the eaves to the roof peak. At present, this space lacks floorboards, and is open to the second floor. The roof is framed with common rafters measuring 4 7/8" x 4 7/8" in section and spaced 36" on center. These rafters are joined at the peak with a butt joint.

Rear Ell

The exact date of construction of the rear ell is unknown, but physical evidence suggests that it was constructed in the final quarter of the 19th century. It is not shown as part of the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop on the 1871 Beers Atlas, so its association with the shop post-dates publication of that map (Figure 2).

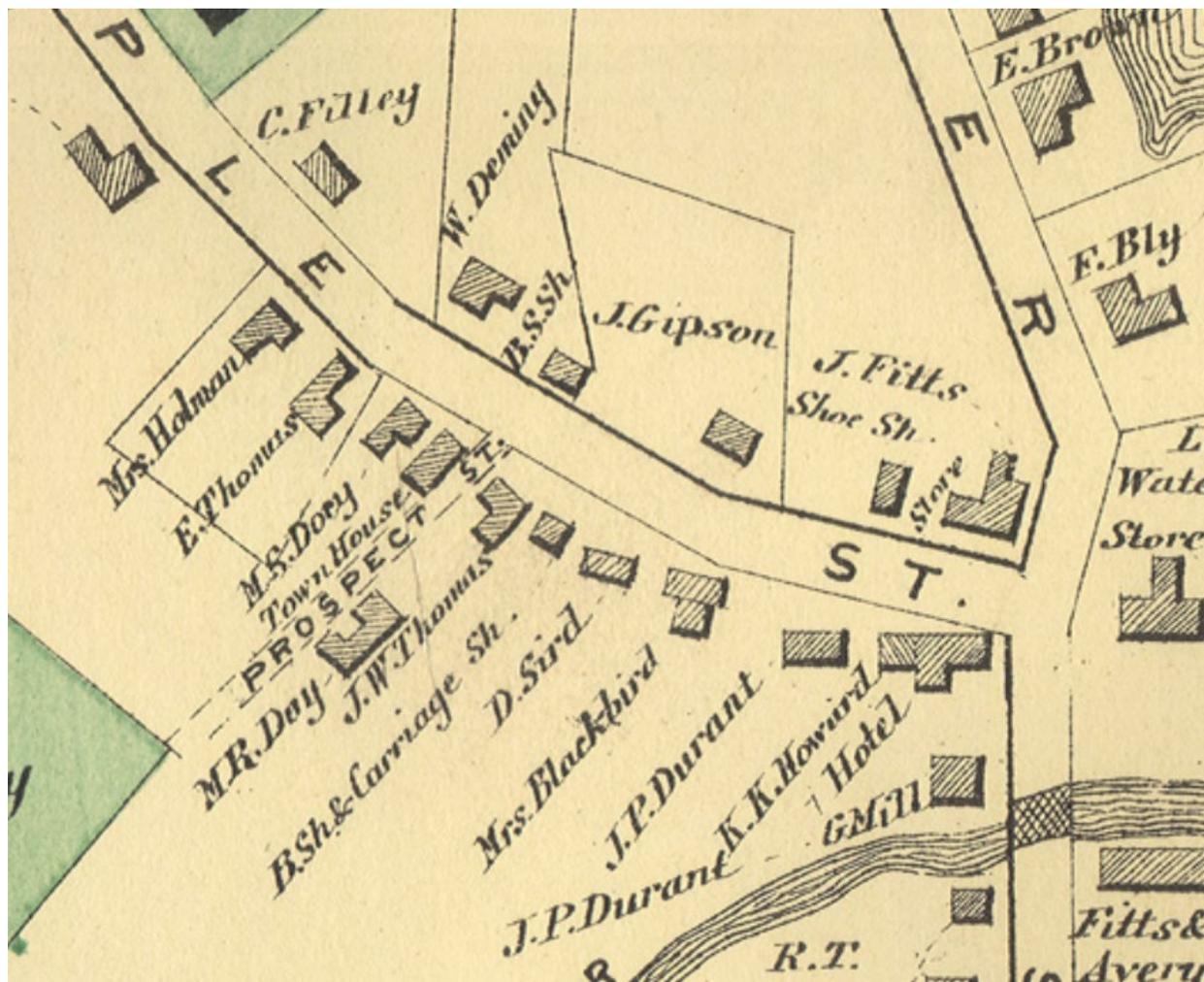


Figure 2: Detail of Salisbury Village from the 1871 Beers Atlas of Addison County. The home and blacksmith shop of W[illiam] Deming are in the upper left quadrant, and the footprint of the blacksmith shop ("B.S.Sh") does not include the rear ell.

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A late-19th century date is also supported by the architectural characteristics of the ell. While not high-style, the architectural detailing reflects its Victorian-era origins. Unlike the Main Block, with multi-light windows comprised of small panes, the rear ell has larger paned 6-over-6 light double-hung wood window sash throughout. The steeply pitched roof has a small louvered cupola centered on the ridgeline. The cupola has a slate roof, which indicates that the existing asphalt shingle roof on the ell may have originally been slate as well. Finally, the rear ell has a generously proportioned frieze, fascia, and corner boards, as well as overhanging eaves with modest returns on the gable end. There is no evidence of a masonry foundation under the Rear Ell, and it seems to have been constructed on wooden sleepers.

The dominant axis of the Rear Ell extends to the northeast—from the rear elevation of the Main Block and has a footprint of 18'-0" by 22'-0" feet. The story-and-a-half Rear Ell intersects with the back wall of the Main Block. While this addition is also post and beam construction, it is less massively constructed than the Main Block. It is sided with dark red clapboards and white trim.

The northwest wall of the Rear Ell lies within two feet of an upslope masonry retaining wall. This elevation has a pair of roughly centered six-over-six light double-hung wood sash windows.

The northeast-facing gable end has a single, centrally-placed six-over-six light wooden sash window located in the peak, while a single, nine-over-six window is located on far left side of this elevation. Interior access is provided by a set of side-hinged, double doors on the right side of this elevation. These vertical board doors open outward on large, single axis metal hinges and would have facilitated movement of larger objects such as horses or carts, in and out of the building.

The southeast side of the Rear Ell has symmetrically placed windows, although the window on the right is larger than the one on the left and has six-over-six double-hung wood sash. The smaller left window has two-over-two double-hung wood sash, possibly indicating its later insertion. Trim details on this side are consistent with those of the other elevations of this wing.

The most distinctive feature of the Rear Ell is the centrally-placed cupola. It has louvered sides, a slate-covered gable roof, and is anchored to the attic framing by a massive, threaded, iron eye-hook. The cupola is open to the structure below and was functional to the extent that it would have ventilated the building.

On the interior, the Rear Ell consists of a single, large room. The portion of the rear wall of the Main Block enclosed by the Rear Ell has been removed, so the two interior spaces flow into each other on the first floor.

Unlike the Main Block, which is framed with three bays, the Rear Ell has only two bays. The 8" x 8" posts and beams are hand-hewn, but less massive than those of the Main Block. The joists supporting the second story measure approximately 4" x 4" in section, except at one location where an opening in the floor of the second level has been infilled with sub-round sleepers. This opening may have been for a staircase that has since been removed.

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The second floor of the Rear Ell has a kneewall measuring approximately 2' high. The roof rafters measure 2" x 5" in section and are spaced 33" on center. They meet with a butt joint at the ridge and are braced with collar ties located approximately eight feet above the floor.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1795-c. 1950

Significant Dates

c.1905

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop is locally significant and is eligible under Criterion A: Industry for its role in the 19th century industrial development of Salisbury Village. It is also eligible under Criterion C: Architecture because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a 19th century blacksmith shop, a building type that was once common throughout the state but is now largely relegated to fabricated museum displays. The Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop provides insight into early blacksmithing practices and reflects Salisbury's history as a vital

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industrial center in 19th century Vermont. The Period of Significance begins c. 1795, when the Main Block was built, and ends c. 1950, when it ceased being actively used as a blacksmith shop.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Ownership/Proprietorship

Throughout the majority of its active use, the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop was owned and operated by successive generations of two local families: the Demings and the Petersons. Although its initial construction date is uncertain, the shop was most likely established by John Deming (1762-1815), a blacksmith who moved to Salisbury in 1794 and worked there until 1807.¹ Two of John Deming's sons, Harvey and Leonard, were also blacksmiths. Being the oldest, Harvey (1785-1847) had joined the business by 1798 (Weeks 1860:126-127). Leonard (1787-1853) worked as a blacksmith in Middlebury until 1810.² Two of Harvey's sons, William and Moses, were also blacksmiths. William (1817-?), the oldest son, took over the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop, while Moses (1820-1866) established his own blacksmith shop across the street (**Figure 3**).³

¹ Judson Keith Deming, *Genealogy of the Descendants of John Deming of Weathersfield, Connecticut* (Dubuque, IA: Mathis-Mets Co., 1904), page 134.

² Judson Keith Deming, *Genealogy of the Descendants of John Deming of Weathersfield, Connecticut* (Dubuque, IA: Mathis-Mets Co., 1904), page 247.

³ In his 1977 oral history, Jim Peterson identifies Moses as Morris. Genealogical records, however, record his name as Moses Sturtevant Deming.

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Figure 3: Detail of Salisbury Village from the 1857 Walling Map of Addison County. The home and blacksmith shop of W[illiam] Deming are in the upper left quadrant. The home and shop of his brother, M[oses] S[turtevant] Deming are in the lower left quadrant. The mills and shops clustered at the falls are shown in the lower right quadrant.

The Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop is also reported to have been run by Nehemiah Pray (Petersen 1976:116), who perhaps served as an agent for the Demings. The Deming family retained control of the business (and the building) into the later part of the 19th century and William Deming was still operating the shop in 1881 (Petersen 1976:115-116). By 1891, records suggest that Isaac Sawyer was running the shop for William Deming (ibid.). Henry Martineau then took over operations in 1892 and continued to work out of the building until ca. 1899. Though there are indications of a brief period of interrupted activity at the address in the final decade of the 19th century, the William Deming house and blacksmith shop were purchased by James Petersen, Sr. (1872-1942) in 1904 and continued to function as a blacksmith shop.⁴ Petersen's son, James Petersen, Jr., (1899-1996) began blacksmithing in the building alongside his father in 1920, and ultimately took over the establishment in the late 1930s. James Petersen, Jr.'s blacksmithing business continued to operate out of the building until the early 1950s. (Petersen 1976:117). The Peterson family leased the building to woodworking and furniture

⁴ "County News: Salisbury," *Middlebury Register*, July 29, 1904, page 7.

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makers in the latter half of the 20th century and retained ownership of the building until its sale to Christopher and Molly Andres in 2019.

Criterion A: Industry

The Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop has the distinction of being both the only surviving commercial blacksmith shop in the town of Salisbury and the only early industrial building still standing in the village. In the mid-19th century, there were at least seven blacksmith shops located throughout the town: two in West Salisbury; three on the east side of town; and two in the village.⁵

The historic significance of the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop is best understood within the broader context of the industrial development of the village, which started in 1784 when Colonel Thomas Sawyer built a dam across the Leicester River to provide hydropower for his saw and grist mills. Col. Sawyer's success led to the establishment of more mills, which processed the goods harvested from the surrounding agricultural and forested landscape. A small settlement developed around the mills in the late 17th century, encouraged by the establishment of the Rutland-Burlington Post Road, which ran through the heart of the village.⁶ The falls of the Leicester River provided power for mills, and the river below the falls feeds into the Otter Creek. Significantly, mill stones, corn, and wheat could be transported along the Otter Creek and up the Leicester River to within 80 rods (ca. 1,300 ft.) of the processing facility (ibid.). The grist mill was followed by an iron forge that Sawyer constructed just below the falls in 1791. John Deming, who moved from Middlebury to Salisbury in 1794, purchased the sawmill, grist mill, and forge in 1795. Soon thereafter, Deming constructed a trip hammer mill just below the village falls to work the iron produced at the forge into bar stock.

While seldom recognized as such, Salisbury's mill district was one of the most heavily industrialized locations in the state and an important focus of continuous manufacturing and processing activities for 150 years (Petersen 1976:16, 30, 32). Other early manufacturing facilities clustered around the falls at the base of the village in the first part of 19th century included a shovel factory, which operated from ca. 1805-1850; a flax mill, established in the 1790s; a fulling mill, 1799-1814; a cotton mill, 1815-1827; a woolen mill, ca. 1833-1843; a second woolen mill, 1844-1892; a chair and cabinet factory, 1850-1867; a clover mill, 1822-1832, which was converted into a carding and fulling mill, 1832-1852, before eventually seeing use as a shingle and cider mill. Other dams were constructed just upstream from the main village falls and these were associated with other manufacturing facilities including dry and wet pulp mills, which operated until 1911, and whose products were used in the manufacture of explosives and paper, respectively (Petersen 1976:18-28).

The original village grist mill and sawmill - constructed by Sawyer and later acquired by Deming - were rebuilt in 1814 before being destroyed by fire in 1835. A new, much larger grist mill was constructed at the falls by Ebenezer Weeks and James Fitts in 1851 and continued to operate as a

⁵ Jim Peterson, Sr. oral history

⁶ Curtis B. Johnson, Editor, *The Historic Architecture of Addison County: Salisbury* (Montpelier: Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, 1992), page 211.

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grist mill and cider press under various owners until its demolition in 1930. As discussed by Petersen (1976:28), the history of the village sawmill - located at the falls next to the grist mill and often under the ownership of the same as the neighboring facility - in many ways parallels that of the grist mill. The sawmill, rebuilt after the 1835 fire, passed into the hands of Eliakim Weeks, who operated it until 1870. By 1877, the mill was being operated by Fitts and Company, before its acquisition by the Salisbury Manufacturing Company in 1879. During this interval of ownership (1879-1887), the mill expanded its production from lumber to shingles and lath (Petersen 1976:29). The village sawmill continued to operate under various owners until 1930 before being demolished in 1934.

As one of only two commercial smithies operating near the industrial center, the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop can be viewed as a bridge between the falls-focused manufacturing sector and other forms of industry taking place in the broader Salisbury community in the late 18th and early 19th centuries (**Figure 4**). Significantly, the blacksmith shop's founder, John Deming, also owned and operated both the forge and trip hammer mills at the falls. The blacksmith shop therefore embodied the final phase in the transformation of iron from ore to finished tool, and its ownership by Deming reflects control of a complete manufacturing process. To this extent, the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop provides insight into the entrepreneurial practices of a shrewd local businessman. It is furthermore interesting to consider that the building's survival is arguably a direct reflection of the fact that while blacksmithing in Salisbury was clearly reliant on raw materials produced via water power at the falls, the services the blacksmith shop provided and the clientele it served lent themselves to siting the building one hundred yards or so distant in a mixed business and residential zone. To this extent, the blacksmith shop's location close to, but not directly within, Salisbury's now vanished industrial epicenter is one of the factors that spared it from the fires and the eventual removal of all remaining buildings in the falls area by the Hortonia Power Company in the 1930s. While the forge was one of several commercial enterprises operating in the upper village - which also supported a cobbler, a carriage shop, a hotel, and several general stores - the blacksmith shop and one of the general store buildings are the only of these structures surviving today. The location of the shop in the village also speaks to the fact that small town blacksmiths often doubled as farriers, and such activity is likely to have taken place in the building to serve the needs of the surrounding community.

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Figure 4: 19th-century view to the northwest of Salisbury village showing the mill pond (Mirror Lake) with early industrial buildings, including the sawmill and grist mill, clustered along its northwestern bank.

Criterion C: Design/Construction

In addition to being unique as Salisbury's only remaining blacksmith shop, the building is representative of late 18th and early 19th century heavy timber, braced frame construction. The members are connected with mortise and tenon joints secured with large wooden trunnels. This type of construction ensured a strong and durable building that could withstand the intensity of use associated with a commercial blacksmith shop. The frame was designed and built using the square rule, in which the framing parts are cut to predetermined and consistent dimensions, and then notched as necessary at the mortise joints to ensure a tight fit. This method of framing began to supplant the scribe rule in the late 18th/early 19th century, which is in keeping with the age of the Salisbury Blacksmith Shop. Physical evidence indicates that the first-floor ceiling was once finished with plaster and lath, perhaps to confer fire resistance to the area closest to the forge.

Beyond the building itself, the key components of a blacksmith shop are the forge (consisting of the hearth, chimney, bellows, and related construction) and the anvil (Figure 5). These elements are present in the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop and show how a 19th century blacksmith worked in the space.

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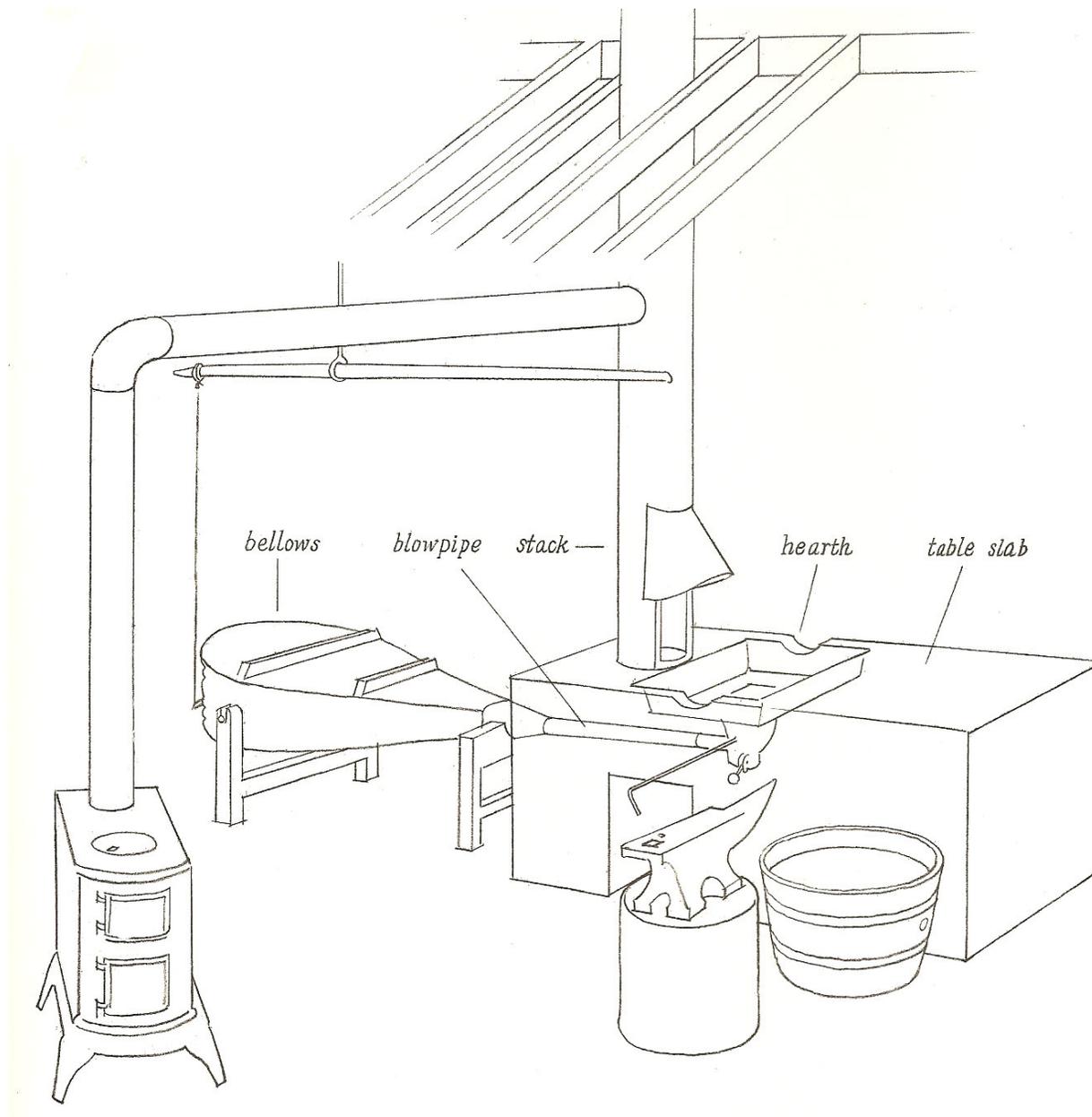


Figure 5: Diagram of a typical forge and related elements (Watson, page 103).

The Main Block has undergone minor alterations, which are commensurate with the age of the building and reflect its long use as blacksmith shop. A c. 1915 photograph of the front and side of the Main Block (**Figure 1**) shows that the window immediately to the left of the entry doors had been installed by that time. The window and door openings shown in the photograph remain intact today, although the side-hinged entry doors have been replaced. On the far left of the image is an exterior staircase that led to the second story opening on the northwest side of the Main Block. This staircase is no longer extant, but the opening it served remains intact.

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Evidence suggests that the Rear Ell was moved onto the site and attached to the back of the Main Block. James Peterson, Jr. noted in an interview that “The back part of it was the corn barn that stood up in our backyard. My father moved it down to make more room.”⁷ James Peterson, Sr. purchased the property in 1904, so the relocation of the corn barn and conversion into the Rear Ell must have occurred after that date. The Petersons lived next door to the blacksmith shop, in the former Deming House, and the foundation of the corn barn remains visible in the backyard. Prior use as a corn barn may explain the presence of the windows and the vented cupola on the rear ell, which were essential to keeping the corn dry by ensuring proper airflow through the building. The lack of a formal foundation under the building also indicates that it was moved onto the site from elsewhere.

In addition to the forge, the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop also retains a large collection of blacksmithing tools, some of which were most likely manufactured by the Demings and Petersons for use in the shop. Objects made in the shop including hooks, the cupola hardware, and strap hinges are integrated directly into the building. Other items, currently scattered around the forge and stored in buckets and boxes in the building, include hand wrought nails, horseshoes, thumb latches, strap hinges, and hooks of various shapes and sizes. While it is often necessary to employ archaeological methods (e.g., Light 1984) or to surmise as to the objects produced and the implements used in surviving smithies that have been stripped of their accoutrements, the surviving relationship between the architecture and the collection of items of portable material culture in the Salisbury blacksmith shop is unusual and lends the premises particular historical significance. Finally, the importance of the forge is reflected in the extent to which items almost certainly produced in this particular blacksmith shop were widely distributed throughout the Salisbury community. While it is difficult to estimate how many locally produced iron objects survive in Salisbury homes, early hand-wrought strap hinges, pintels, hooks, and a variety of forms of thumb latches are currently present in surrounding residences, including those at 848, 908, and 963 Maple Street among others.

Association with John Deere

Over the years there has been speculation as to whether John Deere may have worked in the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop before moving to Illinois in 1836. To date, no evidence has been discovered to definitively link Deere with the shop, but the possibility remains. Deere was born in Rutland, VT in 1804 and moved with his family to Middlebury, VT in 1805. From 1821-1825 Deere apprenticed under Captain Benjamin Lawrence, a blacksmith in Middlebury. He then worked in several blacksmith shops in Addison and Chittenden Counties, and in 1827 married Demarius Lamb of Granville, VT. Their first child, Francis Albert Deere, was born in Salisbury, VT in 1828, and records indicate that Deere lived and worked in Salisbury from 1828 until 1831 (Beemer and Peterson 1999:13; Petersen 1976:116). No records have been located to indicate that Deere owned property in Salisbury, and further research is necessary to determine if Deere was directly associated with the Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop.

⁷ Peterson oral history

Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Beemer, Rod, and Chester Peterson, Jr.

1999 *Inside John Deere: A Factory History*. MBI Publishing Company.

Beers, F.W., and Company

1871 *Atlas of Addison County, Vermont*. From actual surveys by and under the direction of F.W. Beers, assisted by W.S. Peet and others. New York.

Light, John D.

1984 The Archaeological Investigation of Blacksmith Shops. *Journal of Society for Industrial Archaeology* 10(1):55-68.

Petersen, Max P.

1976 *Salisbury: From Birth to Bicentennial*. Printed by The Offset House, South Burlington, Vermont.

Watson, Aldren A.

1990 *The Blacksmith: Ironworker and Farrier*. Printed by W.W. Norton & Company, New York, NY.

Weeks, John M.

1860 *History of Salisbury, Vermont with a Memoir of the Author*. Originally published by A.H. Copeland, Middlebury, Vermont. Reprinted by HardPress Publishing, Miami.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

___ previously listed in the National Register

___ previously determined eligible by the National Register

___ designated a National Historic Landmark

___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop
Name of Property

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Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 0117-30-33

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.08 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 43.89653° N

Longitude: 73.10123° W

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The approximately 0.08 acre parcel upon which the blacksmith shop stands is bounded on the south by Maple Street; on the west by the property of David Moats, 917 Maple St.; to the north by the properties of David Moats, 917 Maple St., and Jim and Maria Provencher, 949 Maple St.; and on the east by the Salisbury Post Office lot.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Description of the boundaries of the property upon which the blacksmith shop is located is based on tax maps available at the Salisbury Town Office and property boundaries as indicated in a GIS shape file of Salisbury village available on-line through the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. The boundary encompasses the area surrounding the blacksmith shop that is historically associated with the property.

Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Christopher R. Andres
organization: owner
street & number: _____
city or town: Salisbury state: Vermont zip code: _____
e-mail: kipandres@hotmail.com
telephone: _____
date: _____

name/title: Devin Colman
organization: Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
street & number: 1 National Life Drive, Floor 6
city or town: Montpelier state: Vermont zip code: 05620
e-mail: devin.colman@vermont.gov
telephone: 802-585-8246
date: September 15, 2020

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop (Petersen Family Blacksmith Shop)

Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop
Name of Property

Addison County, Vermont
County and State

City or Vicinity: Salisbury

County: Addison

State: Vermont

Photographer: Christopher R. Andres

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photograph 1. Exterior view looking northwest at the front and side elevations of the Main Block.
- Photograph 2. Exterior view looking west at the side elevations of the Rear Ell and Main Block, and front elevation on Main Block.
- Photograph 3. Exterior view looking southeast at rear elevation of Rear Ell and side elevations of Rear Ell and Main Block.
- Photograph 4. Exterior view looking southwest at rear gable end and side elevation of Rear Ell, and portion of rear elevation of Main Block.
- Photograph 5. Exterior view looking east at front elevation of Main Block, showing wood clapboards, doors, and windows.
- Photograph 6. Interior view looking north, from Main Block into Rear Ell, with the forge on the left.
- Photograph 7. Interior view looking south, from Rear Ell into Main Block, with forge in the background on the right.
- Photograph 8. Interior view looking southeast across Main Block.
- Photograph 9. Interior view looking west at the forge, with anvil and blacksmithing tools.
- Photograph 10. Interior view looking northwest at the forge, with bellows on the left and pole lever suspended from the ceiling.
- Photograph 11. Interior detail of typical post and beam, showing square rule construction with pinned mortise and tenon joinery.

Salisbury Village Blacksmith Shop
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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.