

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VERMONT

Date Entered JUN 20 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Round Church	Richmond Chittenden County
Centre Covered Bridge	Lyndon vicinity Caledonia County
Rokeby	Ferrisburg vicinity Addison County

**COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

Also Notified

Hon. George D. Aiken  
Hon. Robert T. Stafford  
Hon. Richard W. Mallery

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Vermont
COUNTY:	Addison
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON:	Rokeby
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1 1/4 miles north of Ferrisburg Village on U S Route 7			
CITY OR TOWN: Ferrisburg		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: District 1 Rep. Richard Mallary	
STATE Vermont	CODE 50	COUNTY: Addison	CODE 001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Rowland E Robinson Memorial Association	STATE: Vermont
STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)	
CITY OR TOWN: Ferrisburg	
STATE: Vermont	CODE: 50

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Town Clerk's Office	STATE: Vermont
STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)	
CITY OR TOWN: Ferrisburg	
STATE: Vermont	CODE: 50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey	DATE OF SURVEY: 1968	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Vermont Division of Historic Sites		
STREET AND NUMBER: Pavilion Building	STATE: Vermont	
CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier		
STATE: Vermont	CODE: 50	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Vermont
COUNTY: Addison
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rokeby, the residence of author Rowland Evans Robinson (1833-1900), is located on a slope above U S Route 7 a mile north of the village of Ferrisburg, Vermont. The residence is relatively secluded from the road by a hedgerow and rock wall near the highway. An abundance of large maple and locust trees in the yard provide additional shelter. Main access to the dwelling is by means of a gravel driveway.

There are nine principal structures on the Rokeby grounds, including the main residence. A rubblestone icehouse and a Robinson family schoolhouse south of the main house are of primary interest. Other buildings include a granery, slaughterhouse, a cow barn, garage, and hen house. All of these structures are of middle-to-late 19th century origin except the garage which was built in the 1940's. The schoolhouse is thought to pre-date the Rokeby house, and was a residence prior to Robinson's purchase of the property.

Rokeby was constructed in two portions forming a "T"-plan structure. The original portion of the house, now the rear wing, was constructed about 1790. It is essentially a rectangular plan, 1½ story frame structure set upon a cut stone foundation. It has an asphalt shingled, medium-pitch gable roof pierced by two equidistantly spaced gabled dormers on the north flank and a single dormer on the south flank. A large chimney is centrally spaced on the roof peak. The north flank of the roof is the longer of the two and has a definite break in pitch at the eaves suggesting that a gallery might have once been placed along the north elevation, but it has since been enclosed. Fenestration in this portion of the house is irregularly spaced in all facades but much of the early six-over-six sash remains in place.

The main, front, portion of Rokeby was constructed in 1814 by the author's father. It is essentially a rectangular plan, two-story, clapboard sided frame "I"-house having an asphalt shingled, medium-pitch gable roof. It is set upon a cut stone foundation. An additional bay was added to the south side of this portion in 1900, giving the main (west) elevation a width of six bays. Main access is provided by a doorway on the ground floor in a center bay. The doorway is flanked by sidelight windows. A single story portico, having a gable roof with plain wood cornice and frieze, is appended to the central bay providing a shelter for the doorway. A plain wood cornice and frieze appears at the roofline of the five symmetrical bays. A similar cornice appears on the lower, pedimented roofline of the southern bay. Windows in the main elevation are double-hung sash type throughout and are paired in the 1900 addition. Most of the original sash has been replaced by later, one-over-one sashes.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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Section 7

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

The north elevation in the 1814 portion of Rokeby includes two regularly spaced, double-hung sash windows in each floor and a rounded top attic window located near the peak. A plain cornice with partial cornice return appears on the gable end. The south elevation has a similar cornice to that on the opposite gable. A pair of windows appears on the ground floor of the south elevation, and two windows are equally spaced on the second floor. The icehouse is a small, square, stone building having a high pitch gable roof sheathed in wood shingles. Although the date of construction has not been determined, it is among the earlier outbuildings on the Rokeby property. The family schoolhouse, once used to tutor the Robinson children, is a rectangular frame building constructed of wide planks. Although much of the original fabric has been altered, many of the exterior planks are in place and a large interior brick fireplace remains intact.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rokeby was the family homestead of Rowland Evans Robinson, one of Vermont's most prominent authors of the 19th century. Robinson, a chronicler of Vermont dialect and customs of the 1840's, was born at Rokeby in 1833 and died there in 1900. In the intervening years he resided almost continuously at Rokeby and produced all his work there. Robinson's voluminous sketches, correspondence, and manuscripts exist in their entirety at Rokeby and provide a definitive archive of his life and his work. In addition, the interior and furnishings of Rokeby are completely intact from Robinson's lifetime.

Although Rowland E. Robinson wrote in later years, he is credited as the most accurate documentor of Vermont speech and rural customs of the period 1830-1840. A critic has suggested that Robinson might have been one of the best dialectical writers in American literature.<sup>1</sup> Robinson's major literary production was a series called the "Danvis tales", which were written in the 1890's to dramatize life in a mythical Vermont hill town sixty years previously. Although Robinson has not received sufficient recognition until recently, literary scholars have begun to consider Robinson a serious regionalist, writing "in the shadow of the great New England group of writers which included Emerson, Longfellow, and Whittier."<sup>2</sup>

Robinson began writing after 1893 when his eyesight began to fail. Prior to writing he had illustrated magazine articles for numerous popular 19th century periodicals. With the exception of seven years in New York (1866-1873), Robinson produced all of his illustrations at Rokeby, and all of the sketches survive today in his library. Recently several scrapbooks of unsigned political cartoons, which had been syndicated in the 1870's, were found among the Robinson papers at Rokeby. Prior to this find, scholars were not aware that Robinson was the author of this popular series.

The library at Rokeby also contains a definitive archive of the Vermont Anti-Slavery Society, of which the author's father was Chairman. In addition to the archival resources on Rowland E. Robinson's literary and artistic career, Rokeby contains an invaluable resource on the history of abolitionist activities.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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STATE Vermont	
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Section 8

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

in Vermont

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1 Terrance Martin, "Rowland Evans Robinson", Vermont History, Vol XXIII, (Jan 1955), 3

2 Ibid, 4

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES.

(see continuation sheet)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	°	°	44°	13' 22"	73° 14' 12"
NE	°	°			
SE	°	°			
SW	°	°			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 10 acres 160

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Stephen Raiche, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION: Vermont Division of Historic Sites DATE: 11/14/73

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name William B. Purroy

Title Director of Historic Sites  
State Historic Preservation  
Officer

Date 1/17/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Vermont	
COUNTY	
Addison	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

Section 9

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Bailey, Ann, "Rowland E Robinson A True Vermont Author",  
Vermont History, Vol XXX (April 1952) 162-167

Betterley, Theresa, "Rokeby", Vermonter, Vol 48, (April 1943)  
68-105

Kearney, Mary K, "Author and True Vermonter", Vermont Quarterly,  
Vol XIX, (October 1951), 262-268

Martin, Terrance, "Rowland E Robinson", Vermont History, Vol  
XXIII, (January 1955), 3-15

The Rokeby Messenger (Souvenir Edition), Winter 1970-71

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY NOMINATION FORM

STATE Vermont	
COUNTY Addison	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

Section 10 Continued (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Corrected coordinates:

North  $44^{\circ}13'22''$   
West  $73^{\circ}14'16''$

(WILLSBORO 1:62,500)  
6372 IV

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

73°15' 44°15' 641000m E. BURLINGTON 17 MI. SHELBURNE 10 MI. 12'30" 644 (MOU)



FERRISBURG

Form No. 10-301  
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Vermont	
COUNTY	
Addison	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

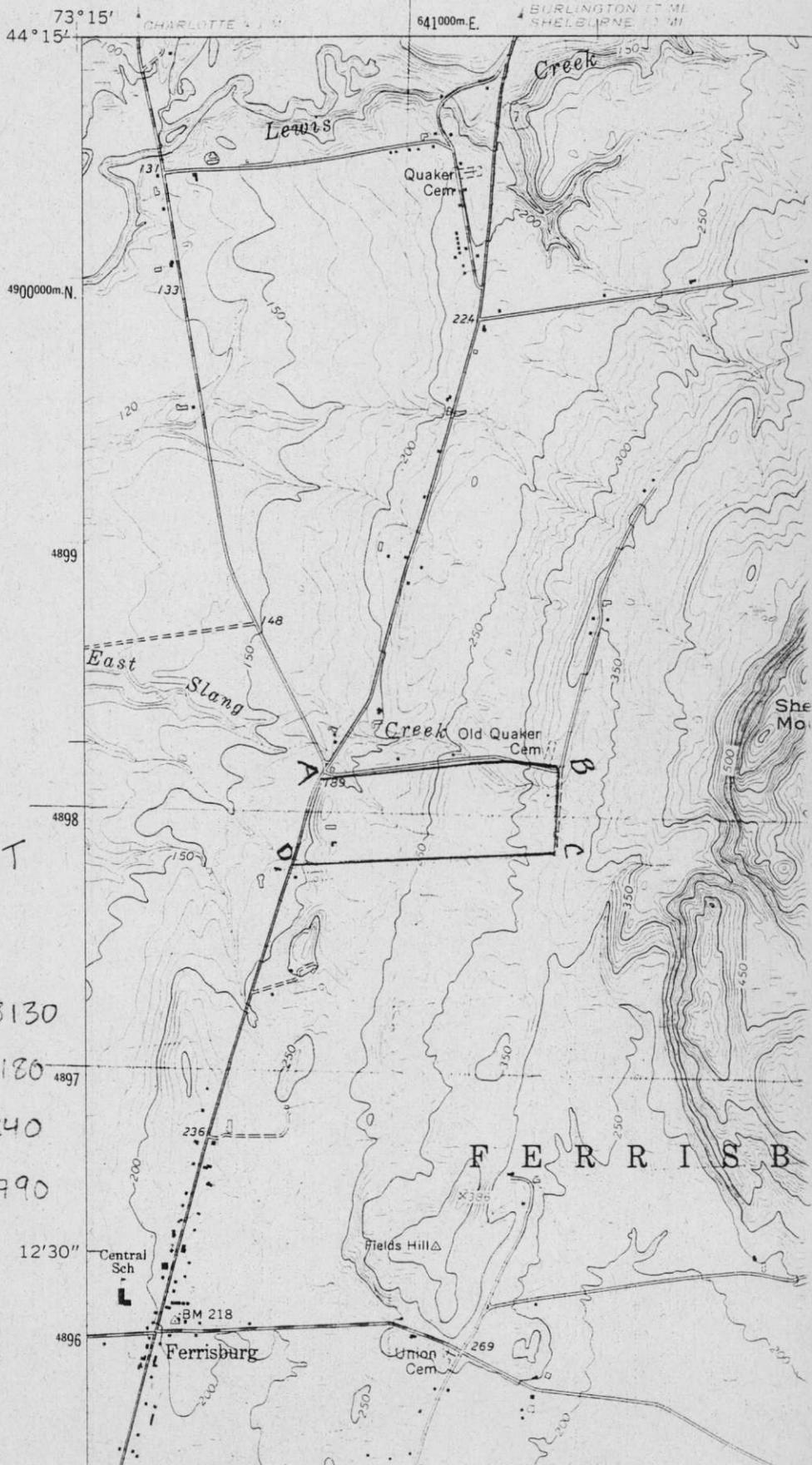
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Rokeby	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
1½ miles north of Ferrisburg Village on U.S. Route 7			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Ferrisburg			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Vermont	50	Addison	001
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle - Monkton, Vermont			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1963			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

INT: 155-72

1:25,000  
(WILLSBORO)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



ROKEBY  
US ROUTE 7  
FERRISBURGH,  
ADDISON COUNTY, VT

UTM References:  
A: 18/640700/4898130  
B: 18/641610/4898180  
C: 18/641600/4897840  
D: 18/640610/4897790



VERMONT DIVISION OF HISTORIC SITES	
COUNTY <i>Addison</i>	TOWN <i>Ferrisburg</i>
SUBJECT <i>Rokeby</i>	
DATE <i>1970</i>	FILE <i>70-C-14</i>
CREDIT <i>W B PINNEY</i>	
VIEW <i>WEST ELEVATION</i>	

*N. R. Photo*

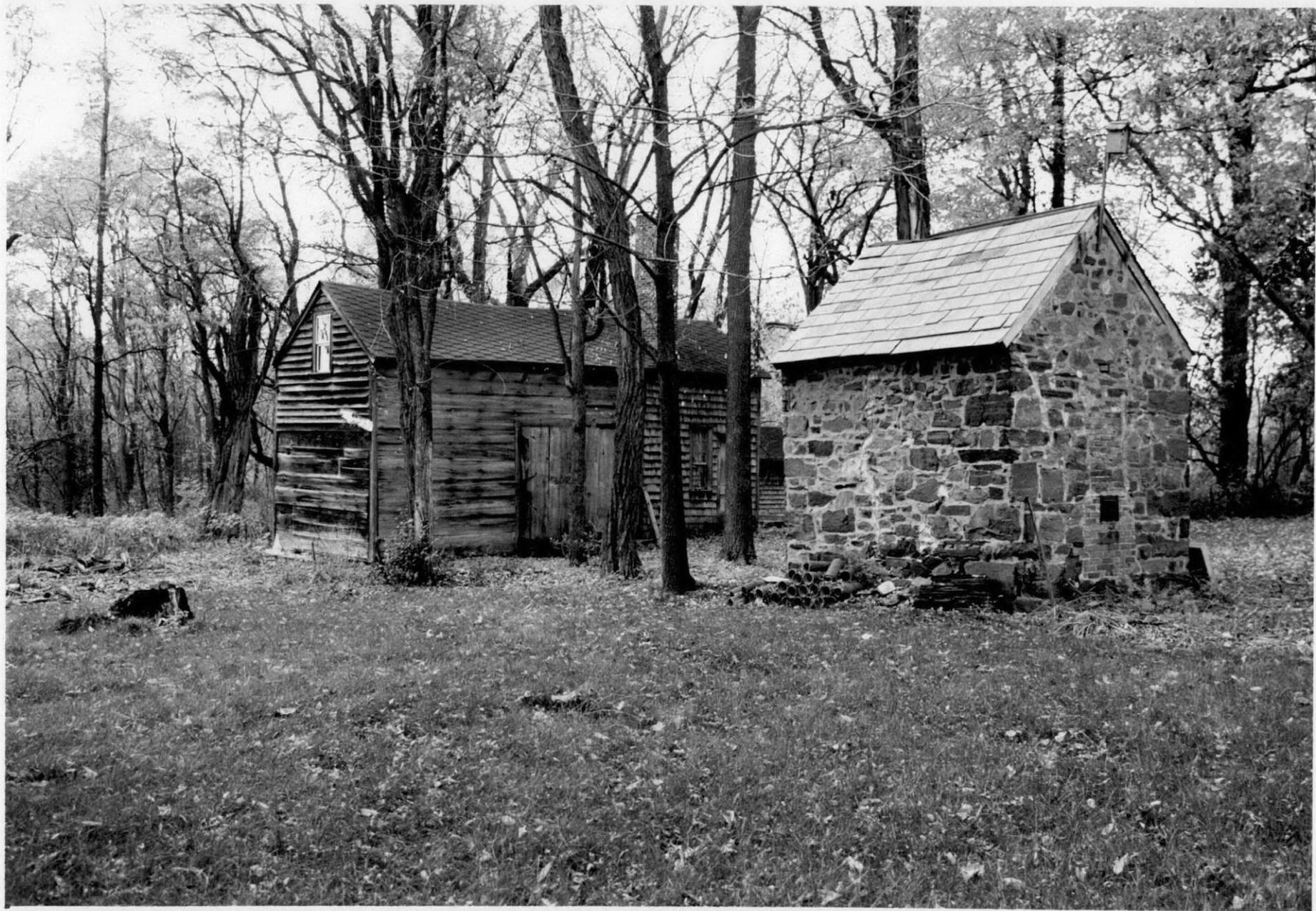
FORM 10-301 A  
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Rokeby		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Vermont	Addison	Ferrisburg
STREET AND NUMBER		
1 1/4 miles north of Ferrisburg Village on U.S. Route 7		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
William Pinney for Vermont Division of Historic Sites	1970	Vermont Division of Historic Sites
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Rokeby, view of main elevation showing landscape features; view east.



VERMONT DIVISION OF HISTORIC SITES

COUNTY ADDISON TOWN FERRISBURG

SUBJECT ROKBY, SCHOOLHOUSE, ICE HS.

DATE 1973 FILE # 73-A-57

CREDIT SJ RAICHE

VIEW SOUTH WEST

W.R. Photo

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Rokeby		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Vermont	Addison	Ferrisburg
STREET AND NUMBER		
1 1/2 miles north of Ferrisburg Village on U S Route 7		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
S J Raiche Vt Division of Historic Sites	1973	Vermont Division of Historic Sites
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Rokeby, ice house and Robinson family schoolhouse, south of main house; view southwest



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

BLDG#1, VIEWEAST

#1



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

BLDG #1, VIEW NE

#2



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

BLDG #1, VIEW SW

#3



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, UT

BLDG # 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, VIEW NORTH

#4



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, UT

BLDG #2, VIEW NE

#5



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, VT

BLDG# 3, VIEW SE

#6



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, VT

BLDG # 7, VIEW NE

#7

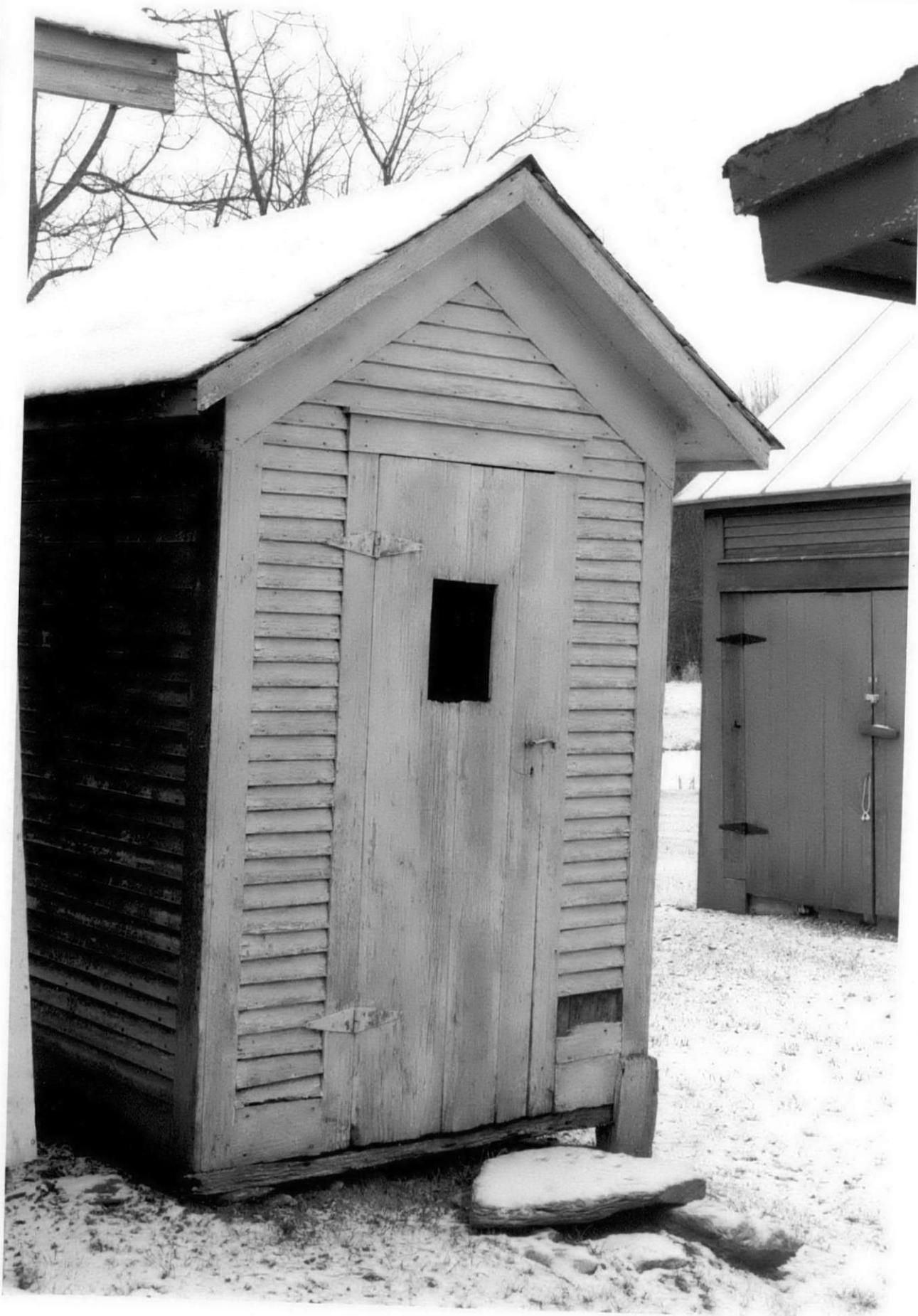


ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, VT

BLDG #5, VIEW NW

#8



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, VT

BLDG #6, VIEW NE

#9

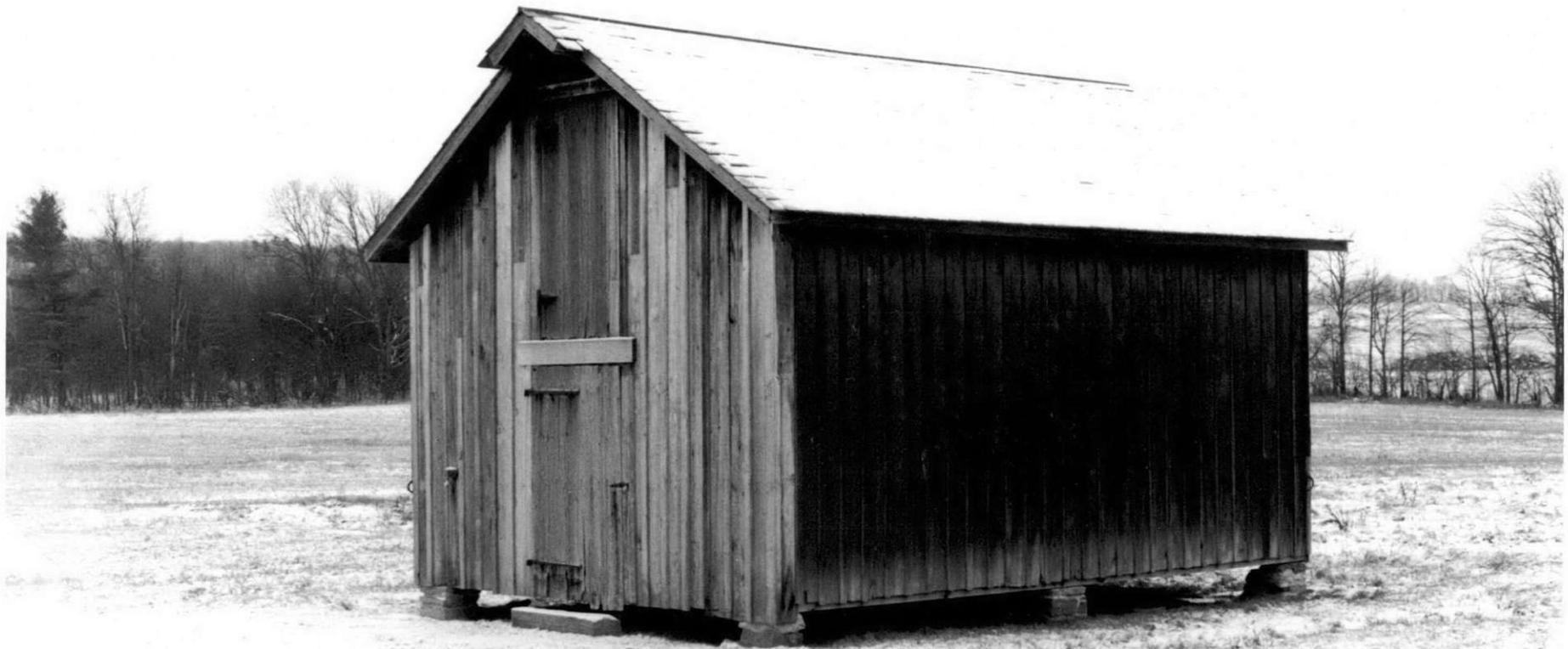


ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, VT

BLDG # 7, VIEW SE

#10



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

BLDG # 9, VIEW EAST

# 12



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON Co, VT

BLDG # 8, VIEW SE

# 11



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

FEATURE # 11, VIEW WEST

#14



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO., VT

BLDG # 10, VIEW NW

#13



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

FEATURE #13, VIEW SE

#16



ROKEBY

FERRIS BURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

FEATURE # 12, VIEW NE

#15



ROKEBY

FERRIS BURGH, ADDISON CO, UT

OLD ORCHARD, VIEW NORTH

#18



ROKEBY

FERRISBURGH, ADDISON CO, VT

BLDG # 8, 9, + FIELD, VIEW EAST

# 17