

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Strafford Rockingham Regional Council

1 Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire

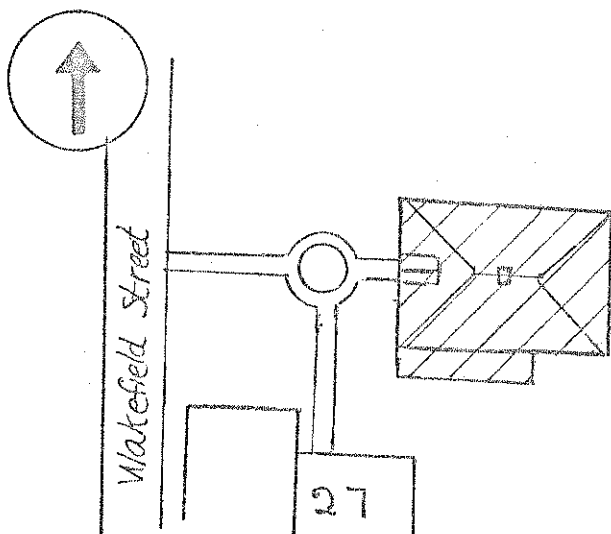
Phone: (603) 778-0885

TOWN: Rochester	COUNTY: Strafford	UTM: Z 19 /E 339 725 /N 4796 475
SURVEY NUMBER: 26		USGS QUAD: Berwick Quad 15' series
COMMON NAME: The Rochester Police Station		FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Fire House
HISTORIC NAME: The Rochester Fire House		PRESENT USE: Police Station
LOCATION: E side of Wakefield st., behind City Hall		ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
OWNER: City of Rochester		CONDITION: Exc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
ADDRESS: City Hall, Rochester, NH		INTEGRITY: Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> (When:)
MAP & PARCEL #: 42/316 120-408		Major alterations & date: Brick vener on facade.
DATE: C. 1904		LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl State Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SOURCE: Inspection		
STYLE: Romanesque		

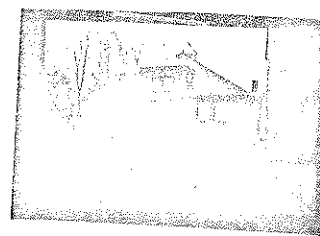
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System

1. FOUNDATION: Stone ☒ Brick ☒ Concrete ☐ Concrete Block ☐
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame ☐ Post & Beam ☐ Ballon Frame ☐ Other ☐
Load Bearing Masonry ☐ Stone ☐ Brick ☒ Concrete Block ☐ Other ☐
Metal ☐ Iron ☐ Steel ☐ Other ☐
3. WALL COVERING: Clapboard ☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Board & Batten ☐ Shiplap ☐ Aluminum ☐
Novelty ☐ Stucco ☐ Stone ☐ Brick ☒ Sheet Metal ☐ Asphalt Shingles ☐ Vinyl ☐
Asphalt Sheeting ☐ Composite Board ☐ Other ☐
4. ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Shingle ☐ Standing Seam Tim ☐ Slate ☒
Pressed Metal ☐ Sheet Metal ☐ Rolled Asphalt ☐ Other ☐
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
6. OTHER:
of Stories 2 1/2 of Bays 3 Approx. Dimensions 50' X 50'
Roof Style: Gable ☐ Hip ☒ Gambrel ☐ Flat ☐ Shed ☐ Mansard ☐ Jerkinhead ☐
Monitor ☐ Sawtooth ☐ Other ☐
Appendages: Porches ☐ Towers ☐ Dormers ☒ Bay Windows ☐ Ells ☐ Chimneys ☐
Wings ☐ Cupolas ☒ Sheds ☐ Garage ☐ Other ☐
Entry Location: Center ☒ Sidehall ☐ Other ☐

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: Facade looking east

Photographer: Roger Brevoort

Negative with: S.R.R.C.

Negative File Number: R-80-A3-14

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

A steeply-pitched hip roof with slate sheathing, and a projecting gable centered over the facade are the only remaining features of this 1904 Romanesque building. A 1975 modernization removed all the stylistic ornamentation, seriously compromised the buildings architectural integrity.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

The building is set well back from the road, and is obscured from street view by the new fire house and the Rochester City Hall.

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION: (LOT SIZE) 154/500

REFERENCES:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

This building was constructed as the Rochester Fire House in 1904. It now serves as the Police Station and District Court building. The 1975 remodeling of both the interior and exterior was conceived by Richard B. Gray, a Somersworth, M.H. architect.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land__ Woodland__ Scattered Bldgs__ Moderately Built Up__
Densely Built Up__ Residential__ Commercial__☒ Industrial__ Agricultural__
Roadside Strip Development__ Other__

Recorded By:

Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/15/80

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM - STRAFFORD ROCKINGHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
One Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire 03833 Phone: (603)778-0885

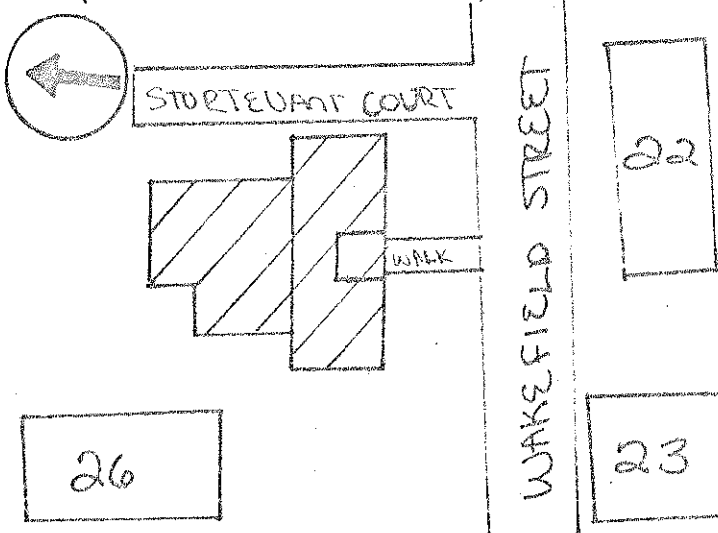
TOWN: Rochester	COUNTY: Strafford
SURVEY NUMBER: 27	
COMMON NAME: Rochester City Hall	
HISTORIC NAME: Rochester City Hall	
LOCATION: 31 Wakefield Street	
OWNER: City of Rochester	
ADDRESS: 31 Wakefield Street Rochester, NH	
MAP & PARCEL # : 42/316 120-408	
DATE: C.1907	
SOURCE: Roch. Annual Report	
STYLE: Neo Classical	

UTM: Z 19 /E 339725 /N 4796415
USGS QUAD: Berwick Quad 15' series
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: City Hall
PRESENT USE: City Hall
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: G.G. Adams/Frank Blake
CONDITION: Exc. ___ Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair ___ Poor ___ Ruins ___
INTEGRITY: Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved ___ Date ___
Major Alterations & Date:
LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl. ___ State ___ Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

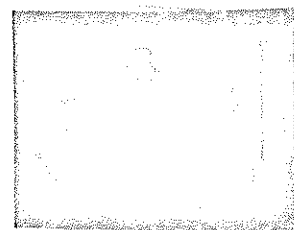
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System

- # Stories 3 # Bays ___ Approx. Dimensions 75X35 w/ell Window Sash ___
Roof Style: Gable ___ Hip ___ Gambrel ___ Flat ☒ Shed ___ Mansard ___ Jerkinhead ___
Monitor ___ Sawtooth ___ Other ___
Appendages: Porches ___ Towers ☒ Dormers ___ Bay Windows ___ Ells ☒ Chimneys ☒
Wings ___ Cupolas ___ Sheds ___ Garage ___ Other ___
Entry Location: Center ☒ Sidehall ___ Other ___
- FOUNDATION: Random Rubble ___ Cut Granite ___ Brick ___ Concrete ___ Concrete Block ___
Other ☒ stone
- WALL STRUCTURE:
Wood Frame: Post & Beam ___ Balloon Frame ___ Other ___
Load Bearing Masonry: Stone ___ Brick ___ Concrete Block ___ Other ___
Metal: Iron ___ Steel ___ Other ___
- WALL COVERING: Clapboard ___ Wood Shingle ___ Board & Batten ___ Shiplap ___
Aluminum ___ Novelty ___ Stucco ___ Stone ___ Brick ☒ Sheet Metal ___ Asphalt Shingles ___
Vinyl ___ Asphalt Sheeting ___ Composite Board ___ Other ___
- ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle ___ Asphalt Shingle ___ Standing Seam Tin ___ Slate ___
Pressed Metal ___ Sheet Metal ___ Rolled Asphalt ___ Gravel ___ Other ☒ composition
- ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: Three Quarter
looking northeast
Negative File Number: RO 80/A3/ 15
Photographer: Roger Brevoort
Negative on file with: SRRC

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Rochester City Hall is a rectangularly-massed Neo Classical style building. The seven bay wide facade is laid in glazed brick. It is dominated by a central entry pavillion which is slightly offset from the main wall surface.

The pavillion has a base of evenly coursed ashlar. Fluted pilasters articulate the corners and frame the entry, and support a projecting cornice. The entry now contains contemporary glass doors. The upper portion of the pavillion features three round-headed window arches which span both the second and third stories. The windows have irregular multi-paned sash, and are joined at the middle by metal spandrels. The window arches, which are semi-circular, have brick voussoirs and keystones. The top of the pavillion features a massive broken segmental pediment embellished with a large floral medallion and the words, "City Hall".

Above the pavillion is a two-stage square tower. The lower section features arched openings on each side. Both sections have projecting classical cornices.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

City Hall is set back from Wakefield and overlooks Central Square.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

The Rochester City Hall was designed by G.G. Adams and built in 1907 by Frank Blake, a local builder. Its Neo Classical/Georgian Revival style was popular for public buildings at the turn of the century. When it was completed it was documented by a photo in the Boston Globe. One of its most significant interior features (all interior ornament is intact) is the theatre on the second and third floor which was in use until recently. This building replaced a smaller town hall which was on the same site. It was built during the decade when many new public buildings were added to Rochester's downtown.

REFERENCES:

Annual Report of the City of Rochester, 1908.

MAP DATA:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land___Woodland___Scattered Bldgs___Moderately Built Up___
Densely Built Up___Residential___X Commercial___X Industrial___Agricultural___
Roadside Strip Development___Other___

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION:

Recorded By: Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/20/80

CONTINUATION SHEET

Description

The building's main facade has three horizontal divisions. At the base, the exposed foundation is evenly coursed ashlar. The brickwork of the first story is laid to resemble the coursed masonry of the pavillion. On this lower level, tripartite windows with stained glass transoms are set within rectangular openings. This section is set off from the upper stories by a stone beltcourse ornamented with a Greek wave pattern.

The second story is laid in glazed brick. The bays flanking the pavillion feature multi-paned, round-headed windows topped by semi-circular arches with brick voussoirs and keystones.

A plain stone beltcourse separates the second and third stories. On the third story, small rectangular windows are set close beneath the roofline.

The roofline is marked by a fully-articulated classical cornice which encircles the building.

The side elevations exhibit identical wall treatment and fenestration as the side bays of the facade. On the south elevation, a side entry is flanked by fluted pilasters supporting an entablature.

An ell features coursed brickwork on the first story and windows set beneath semicircular brick arches on the second story.

