

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**

**Name, Location, Ownership**

- 1. Historic name: Wagon Hill Farm
- 2. District or area: n/a
- 3. Street and number: 156 Piscataqua Road (US 4)
- 4. City or town: Durham
- 5. County: Strafford
- 6. Current owner: Town of Durham

**Function or Use**

- 7. Current use(s): Outdoor recreation, Conservation area
- 8. Historic use(s): Single dwelling, Farm

**Architectural Information**

- 9. Style: Federal/Greek Revival
- 10. Architect/builder: unknown
- 11. Source: n/a
- 12. Construction date: ca. 1804
- 13. Source: Research, Inspection
- 14. Alterations, with dates: Roof raised ca. 1830, ell built ca.1850, stable rebuilt ca. 2017
- 15. Moved? no  yes  date: N/A

**Exterior Features**

- 16. Foundation: Granite
- 17. Cladding: Wood, clapboard
- 18. Roof material: Asphalt shingles
- 19. Chimney material: Brick
- 20. Type of roof: Gable
- 21. Chimney location: Ridge paired
- 22. Number of stories: 2½
- 23. Entry location: Facade, center
- 24. Windows: 6/6  
Replacement? no  yes   
date: ca. 1995

**Site Features**

- 25. Setting: Rural highway, waterfront
- 26. Outbuildings: Barn, connected
- 27. Landscape features: Cleared/open fields, Burial ground, Mature trees, Paths, Orchard, River, Stone walls, Wood lot



35. Photo 1 Direction: S  
36. Date: October 2018  
37. Reference (file name): PIC\_542

- 28. Acreage: 101 and 38 acres
  - 29. Tax map/parcel: 12/8/2 and 12/8/1
  - 30. State Plane Feet (NAD83): X: 1196109.757979; Y: 230536.658194
  - 31. USGS quadrangle and scale: Dover, NH-ME, 1:24000
- Form prepared by**
- 32. Name: Kari (Federer) Laprey, Lynne Monroe
  - 33. Organization: Preservation Company, Kensington, NH
  - 34. Date of survey: September 2018

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**39. Location Map**



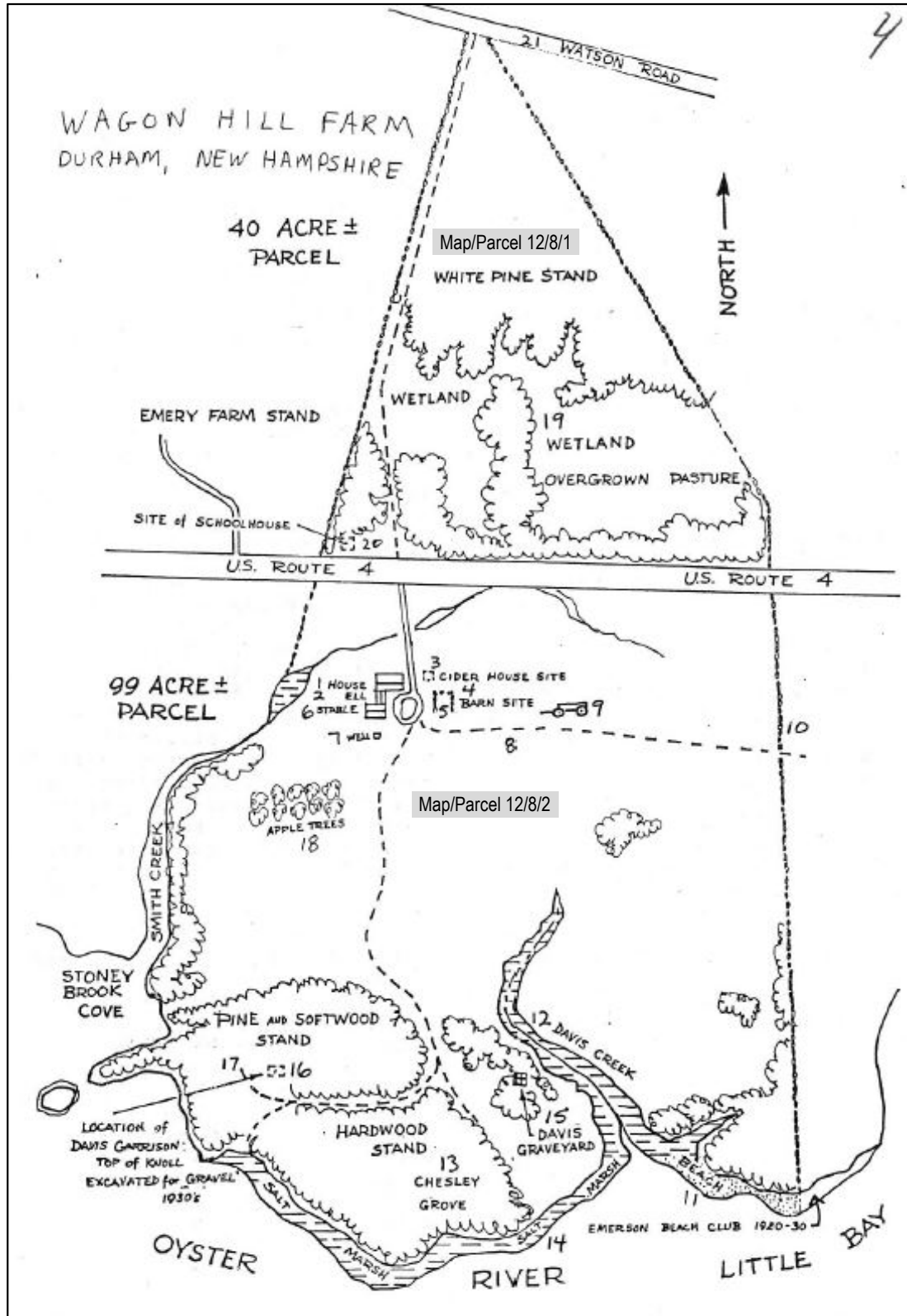
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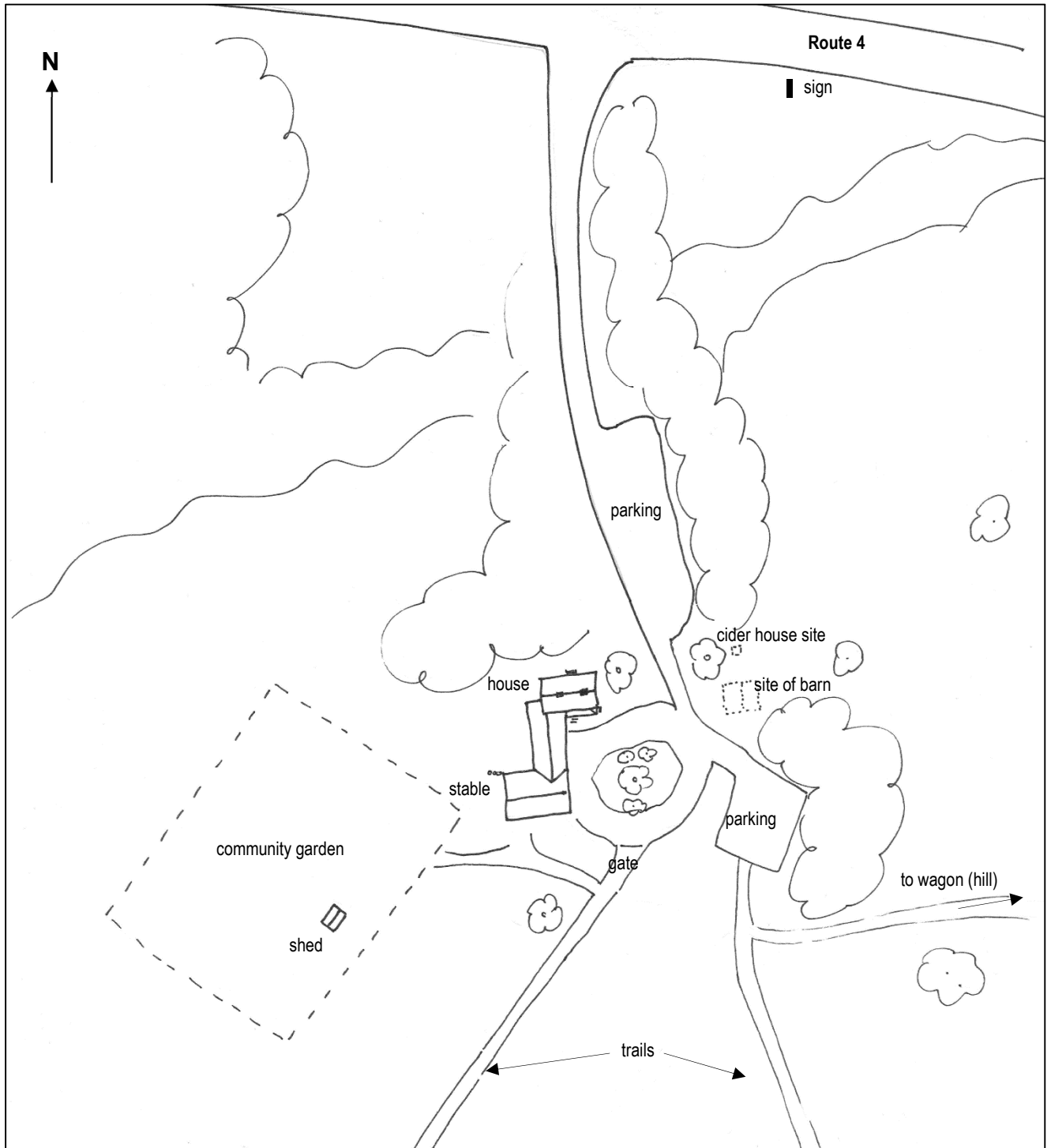
40. Property Map



Sketch map of property showing buildings, landscaping, both parcels and their bounds

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Sketch map of property showing buildings, landscaping details

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**41. Historical Background and Role in the Town or City's Development**

Wagon Hill Farm is a large, historically agricultural property on US Route 4/Piscataqua Road that has owned by the Town of Durham since 1989. The farmhouse, sited on the crest of the hill, dates from the early 1800s with mid-1800s updates. The 139-acre property extends from the Oyster River across the highway to the Madbury town line. This was one of the first farms in the area to be settled, and it remained in agricultural productivity for nearly three-hundred years. During that period, it was owned by just three families: Davis, Bickford and Chesley. The size and boundaries of the farm have remained the same and only discontinuous pasture and woodlots sold. Open fields cover much of the approximately 101 acres between the river and Piscataqua Road. The "back forty," north of the road, is about 38 acres of reforested pasture and woodland.

This inventory form was prepared for the Town of Durham to document the property and determine its eligibility for the National and New Hampshire State registers. The historical background is based on the 1991 master's thesis of the current author of this form, with additional information from the Durham Historic Association and other reports about the property.<sup>1</sup> The inventory form does not reproduce the entire historic background that can be found in the thesis. The main sources are listed in the bibliography below. The thesis contains detailed sourcing and footnotes that have not been reproduced here. The 1991 document relied on materials from the Durham Historic Association, New Hampshire State Archives, New Hampshire State Library and the Essex Institute in Salem, Massachusetts, as well as oral history from the former property owners and long-time neighbors. Illustrations reproduced from the thesis include hand-drawn site plans and 1990 measured drawings by local architect Donald M. Sumner. Historic photographs are from the collection of the Durham Historic Association.

*Geographic Context*

The early history of Wagon Hill Farm is closely tied to its location on the Oyster River and the highway that is now Piscataqua Road/US Route 4. The Oyster River is a tributary of the Piscataqua and part of the Great Bay Estuary. It flows east through Strafford County to empty into Little Bay. The river is tidal below the Oyster River falls in Durham's town center, about 2.5 miles upriver from Wagon Hill Farm, which is located near the mouth of the river. The river was an important means of travel historically, navigable up to the falls. The rolling terrain north of the river includes low knolls and ridges, with historic farmhouses sited on the higher points. The south-facing slope was good farm land, while the low-lying wetlands to the north were better suited for pasture.

The banks of the Oyster River have numerous inlets where tidal creeks flow in and out. The shoreline includes saltmarshes and mudflats. The western bound of Wagon Hill Farm at the Smith/Emery Farm has always been defined by the mouth of Smith Creek, which is named for the property owners to the west, but has its source in the wetlands on Wagon Hill Farm. Stoney Brook Cove is the inlet sheltered by a narrow peninsula on the Wagon Hill shoreline. At the end is a small rocky island, less than one-tenth acre above the high-water line and surrounded by mud flats at low tide. In the nineteenth century, it was nicknamed Barnes' Island (alternately Bodge's), for a river boatman whose mates stranded him there.<sup>2</sup> The Wagon Hill Farm shoreline is broken by Davis Creek, which drains the hillside fields. The east bank of the tidal inlet had a beach that was used as a boat landing, assessable at all tides, and later swimming place according to oral history.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Wagon Hill Farm – Past, Present and Future" is on file with the Town of Durham and at the Durham Historic Association.

<sup>2</sup> Stiles 2014; Thompson 1892:15

<sup>3</sup> Interviews were conducted in 1990 with former property owner Theron Tirrell and neighboring property owners Rosamond Emerson Leland and Evelyn Emerson MacLean.

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Wagon Hill Farm is a roughly triangular tract with over 6,000 feet of shoreline and land on both sides of Piscataqua Road/US 4, coming to a point on the north end at Watson Road near the Madbury line. Other historic farms in the area follow the same pattern, with buildings set back from the highway that was laid out through the middle of existing properties in the early 1800s. Oblong parcels of land extend from the river to Watson Road, which is now a dead-end, but was part of the original road to Durham's town center. Piscataqua Road, formerly the First New Hampshire Turnpike, runs in a straight line east-west, parallel to the north side of the Oyster River. From Cedar Point, in the confluence of the Oyster and Bellamy rivers at Little Bay, Route 4 crosses the Scammell Bridge to Dover Point. The first Scammell Bridge was built in 1934. The earlier turnpike bridge, which stood from the 1790s to the 1850s, crossed to Fox Point in Newington. Back River Road, the route to Dover, intersects Piscataqua Road near the crossing.

*1653-1798: Davis Farm*

During the seventeen and eighteenth centuries, the land that is now Wagon Hill Farm was occupied by three generations of the Davis family. When Durham was originally settled by English colonists, it was part of Dover, which was centered on Dover Point from the 1620s. Out-lots of farm and marsh land on the shores of the Little and Great bays were granted to the settlers. In 1643, Valentine Hill received land between a creek at Oyster River "that hath an island at the mouth of it" and Royal's Cove at the Back River. Hill was a merchant in Boston and Dover and subsequently settled in Durham where he had a mill at the falls from 1651. As the original grantees sold to the next wave of settlers, farms were established on the valuable farmland along the Oyster River. Seven houses shown on the north side of the river on the ca. 1660 map represent the density of settlement at the time.<sup>4</sup>

Sixty acres of the land that is now Wagon Hill Farm was sold by Valentine Hill to John Davis in 1654.<sup>5</sup> Davis (1623-ca. 1685) had come from England with his father in the 1630s and lived in Newbury and then Haverhill, Massachusetts. He was married in 1646, and he and his wife had five children when they moved to Oyster River, plus six more born there. The Davis home was sited on high ground near the riverfront. First appearing on the tax list in 1657, John Davis became one of the area's wealthier residents; active in local affairs as Surveyor of Lands and Dover selectman.<sup>6</sup> His probate record suggests the house was two-stories with a lean-to. There were a barn and other outbuildings. The foundation stones were still visible in the early twentieth century before the gravel pit was excavated.<sup>7</sup>

The property was inherited by youngest son, James Davis (1662-1749) who married Elizabeth Chesley in 1688. The house was garrisoned during King William's War (1688-1697). In the 1694 raid on Oyster River, when about 100 settlers were killed or captured and five garrison houses and other dwellings destroyed, Davis sent his wife and young children away by boat and successfully defended his home, extinguishing the fire applied to it. In later French and Indian Wars, Davis led northward expeditions. He achieved the rank of Captain in 1703 during Queen Anne's War and was made a Colonel in 1720. Locally, he played a role as selectman, tax assessor, justice of the peace, Dover town moderator and moderator of Durham's first town meeting in 1732 and in the following decade.<sup>8</sup>

Col. Davis also held religious meetings at his home and the town history tells of a tragedy that occurred at a time when the region saw a series of small-scale attacks by Indian raiders. In about 1706, six or seven people were killed while on their way home from a meeting at Col. Davis' as they were returning

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<sup>4</sup> J.S. ca. 1660

<sup>5</sup> SCRD 5:219

<sup>6</sup> Noyes 1988:185; Stackpole et. al. 1913 II: 95-96

<sup>7</sup> Stackpole et. al. 1913, I: 240

<sup>8</sup> Stackpole et. al. 1913, I: 99-100

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to their boat to cross back over the river to Durham Point, presumably from the beach at the mouth of Davis Creek, then owned by the Meader family and later part of Wagon Hill Farm. The victims are said to have been discovered a few days later and covered with earth where they lay. The mound was pointed out to visitors by the Chesley family. In 1939, a historical marker was placed there by the Northam Colonists, but it was removed in about the 1960s and the exact location is now unknown according to the Durham Historic Association.<sup>9</sup>

The earliest public road between the farms on the north side of the Oyster River, and connecting to the King's Highway between Durham/Oyster River and Dover/Cochecho, was laid out in the early 1700s. This was today's Watson Road, formerly connected to Drew Road and Jenkins Road in Madbury. The road skirted the upper reaches of the tidal creeks and crossed the northern ends of the Davis farm and other adjacent properties. Watson Road is three-quarters of a mile from the Davis house of that time and was accessed via the present farm road, Wagon Hill Farm driveway and the path through the north forty-acre parcel.

The Davis farm is documented beginning in 1657 by tax records of Dover and Durham from 1732. Cattle were the primary focus here and throughout the region, with its salt marshes. The Davis family was taxed for ten cattle in 1732 and seventeen in 1742. They owned 4-6 oxen and several horses.<sup>10</sup> The present boundaries of Wagon Hill Farm were established by the end of the eighteenth century including land east of Davis Creek acquired from Joseph Meader in the 1770s or 80s.<sup>11</sup> In addition to the main farm, there were two parcels nearby in Madbury on Watson Road, estimated at forty acres, which were long associated with the property. The Davis' also owned thirty acres on Durham Point and woodlands in Barrington and Lee at one time.

It is not known whether the Davis family lived in the same seventeenth century house near the riverfront throughout their long occupancy of the farm, or if it was replaced. The local history suggests that the old house stood until at least the mid-1700s, when it says James Davis died in 1749 in the same house in which he had been born in 1662.<sup>12</sup> His grave in the burial ground is marked, as is his wife's. Ephraim Davis (1704-1791), the youngest surviving son, inherited the farm where he lived with wife Ruth and five children.

The property passed to Ephraim's daughter Hannah Davis Drew (ca. 1745-1797) and her husband Andrew Drew (1750- 1841). From Madbury, he was her first cousin once removed and related to other members of the Drew family in the area. Tax records suggest they lived here for a time and also elsewhere nearby.<sup>13</sup> Their son was buried in the cemetery in 1788. In 1795, they transferred ownership to prominent local resident Judge Ebenezer Thompson who held it for several years, possibly to protect it from an execution that was being made against Drew at the time.<sup>14</sup>

*1798-1829: Bickford House on First New Hampshire Turnpike*

The 1790s were a period of change. The Piscataqua Bridge between Fox Point in Newington and Cedar Point in Durham was built in 1794 to facilitate travel west to inland towns. Planning for the First New Hampshire Turnpike (now US 4) between Portsmouth and Concord began in 1796 and construction took place 1800-1803. The new road cut through the existing farms in the area. On this property and others nearby, new houses were soon built along the new road. The river was still used

<sup>9</sup> Stackpole et.al. 1913, I: 239; Scales 1914:298

<sup>10</sup> Durham Tax Inventories

<sup>11</sup> Thompson 1892:174

<sup>12</sup> Stackpole et. al. 1913, II:96

<sup>13</sup> Durham Tax Inventories

<sup>14</sup> SCRD 20:119; SCRD 20:120

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for transport of heavy goods such as hay and bricks and there was a small wharf on the waterfront here into the twentieth century.

Beginning in 1798, after Hannah Davis Drew's death, Andrew Drew and the other heirs sold their shares of the 127-acre farm to sea captain John Bickford (1765-1813), who also acquired the two Madbury pastures separately. Bickford was a resident of Salem, Massachusetts, but owned his family's homestead across the river on Durham Point.<sup>15</sup> A few years later, his younger sister, Esther Cromwell Bickford would marry Andrew Drew who was then living on another farm in the area. Captain Bickford, or Beckford as he was also known, had gone to Salem as a young man and become ships master for William Gray, as did his brother Thomas. Both used the name Beckford in Salem, though in Durham, the family was always Bickford. John Beckford was married to Mary Ramsdell (1767-1851), daughter of mariner William Ramsdell and Mary White, whose father was also a sea captain. They lived on Bridge Street in Salem and Beckford was an early member of the East India Marine Society, founded in 1799 and now part of the Essex Institute. He was frequently away from home on trading voyages and others must have managed his properties. In New Hampshire, he owned several farms in Durham in addition to his father's homestead, farms in Gilford and New Holderness and a house lot in Portsmouth. All of the farms were occupied and operated by tenant farmers, most of who were taxed for the land and livestock jointly with Bickford. This was known as the Drew Farm or Back River Farm.<sup>16</sup>

Tax records and other documents indicate the present Bickford-Chesley House on Wagon Hill Farm was built around 1804, shortly after the First New Hampshire Turnpike opened. It was home to a series of Bickford tenants. Two full-sized cooking fireplaces suggest two households could occupy the house separately. It was not unheard of for a single family home to have two cooking hearths, but two of full size is unusual. Captain Bickford may have maintained quarters in the house for his own use when in town. This was the only one of his New Hampshire farms where he had belongings at the time of his death. The probate inventory listed a bedstead and bedding, a pine bureau, a four foot table and six chairs, two arm chairs, crockery, and fire tools.

The large farm, of 129 or 137 acres was essentially today's Wagon Hill Farm and the same two pastures of 25 and 35 acres to the north on Watson Road remained associated with it for many years. While the house and barn were near the river, land use was likely similar with hay on the hillside, crops on high ground and pasture in the wetter areas. Livestock maintained on the farm were 2-3 pair of oxen, two horses, 10-20 milk cows, a bull and a few hogs. There was a flock of about thirty sheep plus lambs.<sup>17</sup> Captain Bickford was absent for several years before he died in December 1813 in Montevideo (Uruguay), South America, where his ship had been seized. News of his death did not reach the family until summer.<sup>18</sup> The value of Bickford's property in New Hampshire was reported in the *Portsmouth Oracle* in August, 1814. It amounted to over \$25,000 and was in addition to \$16,000-worth in Salem. Shares, stocks and notes held amounted to another \$10,000.<sup>19</sup>

Mary Bickford/Beckford and her children remained in Salem. Her widow's dower included a life-right in the "Drew farm" in Durham, said to be 129 acres, plus pastures of 25 and 30 acres to the north on the Madbury line. She owned the farm under tenant farmers, David Balch and Moses Thompson, for fifteen years. In 1829, the Bickford heirs began selling Samuel Chesley their shares of the farm,

<sup>15</sup> SCRD 27:584, SCRD 33:177

<sup>16</sup> Durham Tax Inventories, Collection of Durham Historic Association

<sup>17</sup> Durham Tax Inventories

<sup>18</sup> Bentley 1914:273.

<sup>19</sup> Strafford County, NH Registry of Probate, vol. 16, p. 129; Essex County, MA Registry of Probate #2276.



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then called 137 acres, and the two pastures.<sup>20</sup> This was the last of the properties to be disposed of. At the time, Mrs. Beckford was acting as housekeeper for her uncle Captain Joseph White (1748-1830), owner of the Gardner-Pingree House, until he was murdered. She spent the end of her life with her daughter's family in Wenham, Massachusetts.

*1830-1869: Samuel and Stephen Chesley*

Samuel Chesley (1772-1863) and his wife Nancy Perkins, both descendants of the region's early settlers, moved from Madbury to Durham in 1830 and their son Stephen Chesley (1804-1869) stayed on the Madbury farm with his growing family.<sup>21</sup> They had a teenage boy and a young woman, possibly grandchildren, living with them in 1830 and in 1840, an older male and a woman lived in the house. They were taxed for five acres of arable land, about thirty acres of mowing, thirty of pasture and an orchard. Livestock were four oxen, two horses, three or four milk cows, plus four or five two-year-olds and a dozen sheep.<sup>22</sup>

Around 1840, when he was nearly seventy, Samuel Chesley distributed his real estate among his children. The Durham farm became property of Stephen.<sup>23</sup> The elder Chesleys retained the use and income of it, but they spent their last years in the homes of various children. Stephen and his second wife Elizabeth Woodman moved to Durham, with his daughters and their young son, John S. Chesley. The children attended the district schoolhouse that stood just across the road from their house on a lot deeded to the town by Samuel Chesley in 1838.<sup>24</sup> Three hired-hands boarded on the farm according to the population censuses. The roof of the house was raised sometime in the 1830s-40s to provide extra storage space. The large gable front barn that stood east of the house until the 1950s may also have been built in that period. From 1841, there were railroad stations in Durham and Dover, about 2.5 and 4 miles away respectively. Traffic on the First New Hampshire Turnpike declined and when the Piscataqua Bridge was washed out in 1855, it was not rebuilt. For about eighty years, the roads to Durham and Dover came to a dead end on Cedar Point. The Chesley family had ties with Madbury and Dover and they are buried in the Pine Hill Cemetery in Dover.

Diversified farming based on cattle and sheep continued. Wool was profitable in the 1830s and the Chesley flock reached twenty-four sheep, but declined to only a few in the next decade. When railroad transportation brought competition from western sheep and cattle farms, dairy farming became the focus in New England. The Chesleys milked six cows and raised young stock. There were about fifty acres of pasture and thirty acres of mowing land for hay, as well as saltmarsh. The cows were driven down the driveway and across the road to the pasture each day. The northern land was wet and rocky but it had a spring for watering the cattle. The five acres of arable land was behind the house. The orchard expanded in the mid-1800s as there was increasing demand for fruit in the growing cities. An ell, largely replaced in 2017, was added to the house to provide a milk room, woodshed and other storage. It dates from the 1850s or early 1860s which was when John Chesley married and took over management of the farm prior to his father's death in 1869 at age 65.

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<sup>20</sup> SCR 142:315, SCR 144:46, SCR 139:339.

<sup>21</sup> Stackpole et. al. 1913, II: 71-72 ; Census 1830. "Roselawn Farm" on Perkins Road is still owned by Chesley descendants. Samuel Chesley was a direct descendant of John Davis and Jane Peasley, who settled Wagon Hill Farm. Stephen's wife Elizabeth Woodman was also a great grandchild of John Davis.

<sup>22</sup> Census 1830, 1840; Durham Tax Inventories 1830, 1834, 1840

<sup>23</sup> SCR 189:272

<sup>24</sup> SCR 180:322. The Bridge School was in a central location, attended by children living in the eastern part of Madbury as well as Durham. Some children walked to school on Watson Road and then south along the farm road through Wagon Hill Farm.

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*1869-1896: John S. and Nancy Chesley*

John S. Chesley (1839- 1896) and Nancy Adaline Sanborn (1839-1916) had seven children born between 1862 and 1875. Four of them lived on the farm throughout their lives. Mixed farming with a focus on dairy and orchard continued. Deeds give the acreage of the farm as 134 acres, most of which was tilled land and hay field, plus the separate pastures and woodlot.

The Chesleys continued to milk about six cows according to the censuses. Lacking proximity to a railroad depot, they produced mainly butter and some cheese, rather than fresh milk as was typical of the region. In 1880, 600 pounds of butter were made. Poultry farming became increasingly important and the Chesley flock reached 75 birds. They built a chicken house on the hilltop southeast of the barn. Sheep were raised, which was not typical, but perhaps it was lucrative because of the proximity of Sawyer Woolen Mills, just up Back River Road in Dover. Hay was one of the most important crops including salt hay and thatch. It was a cash crop for urban markets and could be transported from the farm by gundalow. Horse drawn mowers and hake rakes came into use in this period. Fifty acres of mowing land, mostly on the hillsides around the buildings, yielded a hundred tons of hay each year. The orchard expanded, at its height covering the hillside around the barn. There were a hundred bearing trees as of 1880. Apples were shipped by rail from Durham or Dover and cider and cider vinegar were produced on the farm. As many as 200 bushels of corn were grown, including sweet corn, popcorn and silage corn. Other crops were barley and potatoes. Cord wood was necessary and additional wood lots were acquired during this period. The schoolhouse lot on the north side of the road reverted to the family when the Bridge School was closed and the few students then living in the district were transported to the Village School.

*1896-1943: Chesley Siblings*

The widow Nancy Chesley and four unmarried Chesley siblings, Stephen, Wilbert, Elizabeth and Gadiella, carried on the farm into the twentieth century. Their brothers and sister married and lived elsewhere but continued to visit and help on the farm. During the early twentieth century agriculture in New England declined, but farmers with established dairy and orchard operations like the Chesleys were able to fill existing markets for fresh produce, milk and eggs, which were still too costly to ship from the west.

Nancy Chesley's 1912-1914 diary in the collection of the Durham Historic Association, combined with Durham tax inventories, documents the farm in this period. They kept one or two carriage horses, a team of work horses for plowing and a team of oxen to haul wood and gravel. Wilbert Chesley built a stable off the back of the ell ca. 1900, freeing up space for as many as ten cows in the barn. Cream was their main cash dairy product according to the diary. They used a hand separator. The milk room in the ell had an ice cooler and there was an ice house in the back. The basement of the stable housed the pigs whose feed included the skim milk, which was a byproduct of cream for butter production. All types of vegetables were grown and potatoes were an important crop. New Hampshire College students were hired to assist at harvest time. The early 1900s diary tells that the Chesley men cut and hauled wood on their land and others. They worked for hire on other neighboring farms. As of the 1920s, the poultry flock totaled fifty hens, as well as ducks, geese and turkeys. There was a henhouse southeast of the large barn. Crates of eggs and live fowl were shipped by rail to Boston. The family acquired an automobile by the 1920s. The cider mill was no longer in use. The old schoolhouse remained standing empty until about the 1930s.

Here, and elsewhere in the region, farm income was supplemented by taking in summer boarders. Up to ten guests were accommodated at the Chesley farm. Most were from the Boston area and came by train to Dover, where they were picked up in the automobile. They stayed for a week or a month; rowed, swam and dined on fresh produce. A local girl was hired to assist with cooking and serving.

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A swimming beach was located at the mouth of Davis Creek. There was a telephone by 1913. In the house, running water to the kitchen and an upstairs bathroom was installed in the 1920s. Electrification came relatively late to this part of town on a dead end road. An easement suggests the installation of an electric line in 1931. The old ice house was removed and an electric cooler installed in the milk room. Coal and then oil stoves heated the downstairs rooms and all but one of the fireplaces were closed up.

Chesley's Grove, where oak trees shaded the edge of the field overlooking the water, became the site of the annual Durham Day picnic in the 1920s. A popular event was an automobile race up the hill from the shore. Durham held a bicentennial celebration at Chesley's Grove in 1932. In the 1930s, gravel was hauled from the riverbank and a gravel pit near the original house site. This was used when US Route 4 was re-routed across the new Scammell Bridge to follow the former First NH Turnpike through Durham rather than the circuitous route through Dover, part of a Public Works Administration funded project to restore a direct route between Portsmouth and Concord.

Bert Chelsey died in 1935, Stephen in 1937, and Gadriella in 1943.

*1943-1966: Elizabeth Chesley*

Elizabeth Chesley acquired full ownership of the farm and she lived there alone for over two decades. She kept poultry and a few cows and sold eggs and butter to local residents. The barn was severely damaged by Hurricane Carol in 1954 and the cows were moved to the stable. Elizabeth Chesley was then eighty-one years old and ceased farming not long after. In 1960, she sold the main portion of the farm (said to be 142 acres) to Loring V. and Mary Tirrell. They were neighbors who lived on another farm to the west on Piscataqua Road and had helped on the Chesley farm for many years. The parcels of old pasture and woodland off Watson Road were sold separately. Elizabeth Chesley retained the right to live in the house and when she died in 1966, she was the last of the Davis descendants to own the farm. She was the sixth great granddaughter of John Davis who settled the farm more than 300 years earlier.

*1966-1989: Tirrell Family*

The Tirrells moved in to the old house in 1968. Loring V. Tirrell (1896-1975) was a retired professor of animal husbandry at UNH. The house was modernized with central heating, new kitchen and bathroom. They bought an old beer hauling wagon at an auction and placed it on the crest of the hill to create a picturesque silhouette. Over time, the site became known to area residents as "Wagon Hill Farm." The scenic spot was often depicted in paintings and photographs making it a well-known local landmark of the late twentieth century. The cider house was taken down except the foundation and the henhouse was removed. After Loring Tirrell's death, Mary J. Tirrell (1901-1988) moved into an apartment created in the ell and Theron and Alma Tirrell came to live with her. Theron Tirrell ran a gas station in Durham. He hayed some fields, but the pasture north of the road began to reforest. The apple trees were no longer pruned. Christmas trees were planted south of the orchard, but not harvested, and white pines filled in the field around them.

*1989-present: Town of Durham*

Mary Tirrell's will stipulated that the property was to be sold and the proceeds distributed among her heirs. Shortly after her death in 1989, when developers began considering the site for housing construction, the Town secured a purchase and sales option from June to September. Following the public referendum necessary for expenditure of over one million dollars, the Durham Town Council voted at the end of July to purchase the property for 3.1 million dollars and the Town received general obligation twenty-year municipal bond. The stated purpose of the acquisition was "To preserve its scenic vistas, provide for future municipal purposes and preserve open space in order to provide for

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healthful and attractive outdoor environment for work and recreation and to conserve land, water, forest and wildlife resources.”

The property was opened to the public almost immediately. The driveway was rebuilt and parking created in 1990-92. Temporary stabilization measures were made to the stable. The house was re-roofed in 1995. The windows were replaced and the exterior has been painted several times. The house was rented to a long-time tenant until recently. Wagon Hill Farm is used for walking, picnicking, kayaking and swimming, cross-country skiing and sledding on the hill. Public Works Department maintains the fields, picnic tables, trash cans, etc. A community garden was established in 2009. The Town has replaced the wagon several times. The most recent was funded by donations from Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brooks, who are related to the Tirrell who placed the original wagon. The stable was determined to be structurally unsound and a decision was made to replace it with a new building of the same form and footprint in 2017. Roof trusses allow for a large open space that can be used for public meetings and events and there is a full concrete basement for storage.

**42. Applicable NHDHR Historic Contexts:**

- 101. First settlements on the NH seacoast, 1623-1660.
- 200. The French and Indian Wars in NH.
- 500. Mixed agriculture and the family farm, 1630-present.
- 502. Saltmarsh farming in New Hampshire, 1630-present.
- 504. Orchards and cider production, 1650-present.
- 506. Local-scale dairy farming, 1800-present.
- 514. Poultry farming, 1870-present.
- 515. Dairy farming for urban markets, 1880-1940.
- 602. Boarding house tourism, 1875-1920.
- 700. Pre-automobile land travel, 1630-1920.
- 703. River navigation 1790-1890.
- 1100. Local government, 1630-present.
- 1506. The land conservation movement in New Hampshire.
- 1507. Public and private cemeteries and burials.

**43. Architectural Description and Comparative Evaluation**

Wagon Hill Farm is a large, historically agricultural property, with open fields and a farmhouse at the crest of the hill overlooking US 4/Piscataqua Road. The Federal style house dates from the early 1800s, with a mid-nineteenth century gable roof and Greek Revival style elements. A service ell connects to a small barn, rebuilt in 2017 to replicate the appearance of the early twentieth century stable. The 2½-story farmhouse retains integrity with few modern alterations. The front half of the 1½-story ell is original structure, remodeled as an apartment in the 1970s. The south end of the ell is new construction of the same size and form as the original. The attached 1½-story barn has a gable-front façade like the historic building. Open land covers the hillside south of the highway and slopes downhill toward the Oyster River. A driveway leads up to the house and a modern gravel parking areas for recreational users. A network of tracks and trails incorporates old farm lanes and newer paths. The landmark wagon is the fourth to occupy the hilltop site since the 1960s. North of the highway is a smaller tract of primarily wooded land that has always been associated with the property. A small family cemetery and potential archaeological sites are located near the waterfront. The fenced gardens behind the house and the picnic shelter by the water are modern features.

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*Farmhouse*

The Wagon Hill Farm farmhouse is a relatively unaltered Federal and Greek Revival style building with interior woodwork and fireplaces intact. The Bickford-Chesley House was built ca. 1804 and remodeled around 1840 and again in the 1850s-60s. The 2½-story, 5 x 3 bay house has twin fireplace chimneys and a center entry, plus a side door on the west gable end. The high gable roof replaced an original hip roof and the chimneys were extended. The original front entry and window trim are Federal in style, while the Greek Revival corner pilasters, projecting eaves and cornice were added when the roof was raised. The back porch with Italianate style posts followed construction of the ell. The interior of the house retains original Federal style woodwork and doors throughout, with later nineteenth century updates in one room.

The foundation of the timber framed house is granite blocks with mortared rubble stone below grade. The walls sheathed in clapboards include the original clapboards on the front and most of the side walls. The Greek Revival corner pilasters have a simple base, a broad flat panel and capital of with ovolo molded projecting cornice. There is a narrow frieze, bed molding, and projecting eaves with boxed cornice and returns. The gable roof is asphalt shingled. The twin chimneys are directly in front of the ridge pole. They are interior chimneys inset from the end walls and roughly centered between the front and back rooms of the double house. The chimneys above the roofline date from ca. 1840. The pointed arch chimney caps are somewhat later. In the attic, the tops of the original chimneys are visible.

The front entry retains a Federal period six-panel door and fanlight. Characteristic of the Federal style, the door is framed by pilasters and an entablature. The pilasters have pedestal base and capitals and the entablature is comprised of characteristic frieze and cornice. The semi-circular fanlight has six lights and reeded trim. The molding across the bottom is a cyma reversa ogee. The door is placed with flat panels to the exterior and raised panels in the hall. There is no storm door in use. The windows of the façade and the front bay of both side elevations have original molded casings. The rear bays and south elevation windows have later nineteenth century flat trim replaced at various times. All windows were replaced in the 1990s with vinyl double-hung sash with 6/6 muntin bars. Prior to that, the front windows had original wooden sash, 9/6 on the first floor and 6/6 above. The windows of the back rooms in the southeast corner on both stories had late nineteenth century 2/2 sash.<sup>25</sup> The original 6/6 attic windows remain in place. They have the knife edge muntins typical of the 1830s-50s period.

The side entry on the east elevation is direct access from the driveway and side yard to the family sitting room and what was originally the east kitchen. It has a simple Federal period door surround with entablature. A rectangular transom light was probably filled in when the late nineteenth century door with square light was installed. The west elevation of the house has a casement window in the kitchen remodeled in the 1960s.

The appearance of the rear elevation dates from the mid-nineteenth century when the ell was built. The porch, added not long after, shelters the doorway into the back hallway and kitchens and the door into the apartment that was the milk room of the ell. There are late twentieth century doors in original openings. The porch deck and the bases of the four posts have been rebuilt. The upper halves of the square posts have Italianate style projecting molded cornices. There are granite steps, some old and some replaced. A piazza was a common addition after about 1850 to provide covered outside workspace and a place to relax, in this case overlooking a scenic view. The dooryard work area

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<sup>25</sup> Federer 1991

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sheltered in the corner of house and ell, now serves as gravel parking spaces for the house and town functions.

*House Interior*

The floor plan of the house is unaltered. The house has a two-room deep, twin chimney form. It is a typical center hall plan except for the division of the central bay into front and back stair halls and full kitchen hearths in both back rooms. The double run stairs are a continuation of an older layout used with a center chimney plan. The front rooms are slightly smaller than the back ones due to the chimney wall placement. The downstairs front rooms on either side of the front entrance hall include the best room or parlor in the cold northwest corner, used as a dining room in the twentieth century and the less formal parlor in the northeast corner. The southeast back room was originally a kitchen, later used as a family sitting room. The southwest room has long been the primary kitchen. There is a small windowless room in the central bay, used for storage and as a bathroom since the 1960s. The second floor has three large chambers and one smaller interior room, all with fireplaces originally, and two small unheated back rooms, one of which has been the bathroom since the 1920s. The spaces have original baseboards showing the floorplan is unchanged. All chambers are accessible from the back hallway. The back stairs access the attic, back door and basement.

The original ca. 1804 construction and framing of the house is visible in some areas of the cellar. The split rubble and slabs of the stone foundation are finished with flat surface on the inside. The granite underpinnings are backed by brick, which was typical. The full basement extends under the whole building with full height rooms. The floor framing is roughly hewn, live-edged timbers. The floor below the kitchen in the southeast room was rebuilt recently with new subflooring.

In the attic, the hewn frame of the high gable roof has six principal rafters and six common purlins plus a ridge purlin. The major timbers are hewn square, mortised and tenoned with wooden pegs. The purlins are rough-hewn, squared off with some live edges. The roof boards have vertical saw marks. The studs in the end walls are sawn as was typical of construction in the 1830-40s. The evidence of the original hip roof is in the bricks of the chimneys now enclosed by the attic. The chimneys below the original roof line include various reused bricks, possibly from the earlier house on the property. The tops of the old chimneys are visible just below the roof.

There are original finishes and materials throughout the house. One room was updated in the nineteenth century, but the only more recent change was the remodeling of the west kitchen in the late 1960s. All rooms but one have original wood floors, probably refinished in the 1960s. The walls are plaster, probably accordion lathe as can be seen in some areas and which was used between 1800 and the 1830s. Wallpaper was hung in the late 1960s, but has been removed in most rooms. Many rooms have dropped ceilings also probably from the 1960s. Throughout the house are original six-panel doors, placed with raised panels on the room side, flat on the back. A mix of doorknobs includes some original white ceramic knobs. Windows and doors have original Federal style casings with double back band moldings, comprised of an ovolo and bead and ogee. Window sash were replaced but interior sliding shutters were left in place in most of the front openings. The back rooms have simpler trim with single ovolo and filet molding. There are original baseboards throughout the house. The front hallway features a Federal style staircase. The slender turned newel post and plain square balusters are typical of the period, as is the carved stringer.

There are five Federal-period fireplace mantels. The northwest front room has an open hearth, while others are boarded up. The kitchen fireplaces have Greek Revival and Colonial Revival mantels and open hearths restored in the 1960s renovations. The northwest front room has the finest woodwork. The fireplace surround features classical thin paneled pilasters, strongly projecting molded mantel

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shelf, and diagonal reeding. The original hearth has square brick tiles. The northeast front room has a Federal-style ogee curve mantel, molded surround and tile hearth. Upstairs, the two front chambers have matching fireplaces with a molded casing like the doors and windows, a straight mantel with cornice and tile hearth.

The southeast room was redecorated into a sitting room in the middle decades of the nineteenth century and a larger vestibule created in the east entry foyer. New woodwork included baseboards and window casings, doors and fireplace mantel. The four panel doors, channeled boards and corner blocks are typical of the Greek Revival style. This type of symmetrical molded trim was popular for many years, with round bosses characteristic of the second half of the nineteenth century.

The southwest room has always been used as the kitchen. The original cooking fireplace with granite hearth, metal crane, and bake oven with metal door are intact. A cook stove was installed in front in the late nineteenth century. The room was refinished ca. 1968 with pine paneling and cabinets. The bathroom was created at the same time. The brick patterned vinyl flooring is typical. The windows and six panel doors were replaced.

The cellar of the house was accessible from the back hall and was used for kitchen-related storage. The space has a dirt floor and exposed stone and brick walls. The chimney bases are supported by double brick arches. A finished milk room is located in the northeast corner of the cellar. It has brick walls, wooden shelving, and a plaster ceiling which is presently collapsing. The oil tank and an old wooden coal bin are in the southeast room. A bulkhead is located in the opposite corner.

The attic is a very large, unfinished open space with roof frame and chimneys exposed. The attic is accessed from the back hallway above the back kitchen stairs. The room is fully floored with wide smooth boards. The exceptionally tall roof required a double run of stairs to reach the trap door in the roof in case of chimney fire and to clean the chimneys.

*Ell and Stable*

A mid-nineteenth century, 1½-story ell with high-posted frame projects from the southwest corner of the main block. A stable was added at the rear ca. 1900 according to oral history. In 2017, the back half of the ell and the attached 1½-story outbuilding were rebuilt, replicating the historic footprint and massing with new materials. The historic ell, part of which remains extant, was added sometime after the roof of the house was raised, as indicated by the molded cornice and eave return visible in the attic of the ell. The common rafter roof frame and circular sawn timbers of the ell are transitional between timber and balloon framing, suggesting a date from about 1850 through the 1860s. Possibly because there were already two kitchens in the house, the ell was not a typical kitchen ell, but rather contained work and storage space.<sup>26</sup>

The old portion of the ell, nearest the house, was remodeled in a studio apartment in the 1970s. This was once the milk room, adjoining the old kitchen. It was the location of an ice box in the late nineteenth century and electric refrigerator from the 1930s. The apartment entrance is from the back porch of the house, where there was a door historically. On the west elevation a picture window and a door that opened to a deck, now gone, date from the 1970s. The foundation is granite block with a section of brick. The back portion of the ell, replaced in 2017 as a large open room open to the rafters, historically contained the woodshed and privy with an unlit storage loft above. The new ell structure has a poured concrete foundation. The clapboards and flat trim match the old building. The exterior side rolling door is similar to the historic door of the stable and positioned where the original door into

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<sup>26</sup> Federer 1991

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what was probably the woodshed was located. There are additional 6/6 windows, one on the front and two on the rear.

The 2017 reconstruction of the stable replicated the size and form of the ca. 1900 building. It is 1½ stories in height, with its gable end to the dooryard and driveway. The framing is modern with roof trusses and is a single large open room on the interior. The foundation is poured concrete. Originally the building rested on rubble stone and boulders. The walls are sheathed in new wooden clapboards. The flat trim and projecting boxed eaves with returns match the building that was replaced. The fenestration on the side and rear matches the historic building. The gable front façade was modified slightly to a center entry. The upper hayloft doors and windows were replicated. The central entry has side rolling doors, similar to the original door, though the latter rolled in a single direction, across the front of the ell. The placement of the 6/6 windows closely matches the original. On the south elevation is a row of square stall windows. The interior of the historic stable was divided into vehicle bay and stalls, one story in height, with multi-level hay loft above. The basement was accessed from the back gable end as it is now.

*Landscape*

The farmhouse is set back from Piscataqua Road/US 4 on the crest of the hill, with a terraced front yard, dooryard to one side, gardens and orchard in the rear, and fields surrounding. The long gravel driveway now provides access to the public recreation area. The farm road continues south past the house, downhill along the edge of the fields, to the river. North of the highway, across from the driveway, an old path through the wooded land connects to Watson Road, which was the earliest highway. The house faces due north, a slight angle to Piscataqua Road. The gravel driveway was rebuilt in the 1990s in its historic location. The front lawn became overgrown with bushes, but was recently cleared.

The driveway opens into a circular drive alongside the house and forms a dooryard shaded by mature trees. The barn site east of the house is now gravel parking lots. There is an old well south of the stable, across the driveway from where the barnyard was located. From the late nineteenth century, water was pumped to a sink in the milk room. A new well was installed west of the house in the 1950s, at the same time as waterline to Pease Air Force Base from the Madbury reservoir was laid through the property. The location of the community garden established in 2009 south of the buildings has always been cultivated garden space, some of the only really level and dry land on the property. There are now rectangular raised garden beds in a grid and a small modern garden shed, surrounded by tall wire fencing.

Wagon Hill Farm contains roughly 140 acres. The property is comprised of two tax parcels, 8-2 and 8-1. According to current tax records, the main parcel is considered to be 101 acres, with another 38 acres north of the highway. Alternately it is called 99 acres and 40 acres. There has not been a boundary survey. The total acreage generated by the GIS mapping is approximately 127 acres, with 93 acres south of US 4 and 34 acres to the north.<sup>27</sup> The boundaries of the farm are unchanged since the eighteenth century. There are stone walls the length of the property lines except on the riverbank.

Wagon Hill Farm has about 1,460 feet of road frontage on each side of Piscataqua Road/US 4 which bisected the property in the early 1800s. South of the highway, open hay fields with tree-lined edges extend up hill on both sides of the driveway and cover the hilltop around the wagon, sloping down toward the river beyond. The wagon sits at the highest elevation, which is sixty feet above sea-level. Most of the land has slope gradients in the 2 percent to 10 percent range. There are farmland soils on

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<sup>27</sup> Snyder 2009:5



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over 70 percent of the property. Sixty acres are prime farmland soils, ten acres are soils of statewide importance, and eighteen acres are farm soils of local importance. There are poorly drained soils beneath the wetland on the north forty acres and associated with the marshes along the Oyster River and its creeks.<sup>28</sup> Hay was historical one of the main crops. There are approximately sixty acres of grasslands now. Aerial views show that there are drainage ditches in the low lying fields along the highway. The open land is maintained by annual mowing and historic field edges are evident. The lower ends of the fields toward the waterfront have reforested. Gardens and tilled land have always been in the area behind the house (south) where the community garden is now. There are about a dozen apple trees remaining in the early twentieth century orchard on the hillside south of the garden. Earlier, orchard covered the top of the hill east and south of the barn and scattered trees remain on the hillside and at field edges. There has always been a path along the top of the ridge connecting to the adjacent property to the east. The current wagon has only been there a few years. The previous model is now inside the stable.

The farm road that continues past the house toward the river is a gravel road used as occasional vehicle access to the boat launch. This is the same roadway used since the property was first settled. West of the road, an overgrown plantation of spruce mixed with pine dates from the 1960s-70s and is now overgrown. A stand of oak and hickory trees near the waterfront is known as Chesley Grove. The family cut their firewood here at one time. The shaded field edge has long been the site of local picnics and other events. Oak and pine forest covers the southwest corner of the property. Old gravel pits are uneven ground, now wooded. The original Davis house was reportedly sited there on a knoll that was about twenty feet above sea-level. The area was excavated in the 1930s.

The curving shoreline that forms the southern edge of the property measures about 6,800 feet. The tidal riverfront has mudflats and a narrow fringe of salt marsh along the shore. In the early 2000s, to prevent further erosion, the town re-designed the beach/landing and installed riprap and wooden fencing parallel to the shore.<sup>29</sup> The remains of the stone and timber wharf that projected into the river are visible at what was once the end of the old farm road. A small warehouse stood there in the early twentieth century according to oral history. The old road was extended to end at a small sandy beach. A small modern picnic shelter stands nearby.

There are mown paths maintained in the fields and woods paths along the shore. Modern walking paths parallel the shoreline through the woods along the edge of Davis Creek to the east and around the southwestern point. Just off the shore at the southwest tip is a small rocky island which is legally considered to be part of Wagon Hill Farm although there is no reference to it in deeds and probate files. The rocky island measures less than one-tenth of an acre. It has no historic function other than possibly for fishing and oystering.<sup>30</sup> The riverbank of the inlet at the mouth of Smith Creek was excavated for gravel in the early twentieth century.

The “back forty” parcel on the north side of Piscataqua Road/US 4 is semi-wooded, with newly cleared land at the north end. A large grassy, scrub-shrub, and forested wetland of about twenty acres is located in the southern portion of this parcel. The northern twenty acres of upland was white pine successional forest until 2016 when it was cleared by New Hampshire Fish and Wildlife for cottontail habitat. The is about eighty feet of frontage on Watson Road. This part of the property is accessed off Watson Road, but there is no formal parking. One trail leads from Watson Road through the property in a southeasterly direction before exiting onto a neighboring property. The old roadway

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<sup>28</sup> Snyder 2009:10

<sup>29</sup> Snyder 2009:5, 14.

<sup>30</sup> Stiles 2014.

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along the western edge of the parcel is evident, but a road crossing is not maintained from the driveway for safety reasons.<sup>31</sup>

*Cemetery*

The Davis burying ground is a cluster of small gravestones beside the farm road that leads to the riverfront. It is a semi-wooded area, with no fencing. The ground is hard packed and mossy and slightly uneven. There are about a dozen stones, including rough field stones and dressed granite headstones. The five legible lettered stones date from 1749-1788. The stones have the same tablet shape with square shoulders and an arched top. They are hand carved in similar style. The block printed lettering appears typical of the eighteenth century, though somewhat uneven and vernacular in spelling. The dressed stone slabs are probably local granite. Two 1749 stones read, "... DEPARTED THIS LIFE IN..." while the later stones read, HEIR (or HER) LYES THE BODY OF ...." The lettering fills the space and there is no visible decoration. The markers record the burials of Col. James Davis (1662-1749) and Elizabeth Chesley Davis (1669-1749), Ruth Davis (1705-1776) wife of Ephraim, Ruth Davis (1737-1784) unmarried daughter of Ephraim, and Francis Drew (d. 1788) grandson of Ephraim. There is no lettered marker for Ephraim Davis who died in 1791; could he have been the carver? Those were also the last burials on the property. The Drews and Bickfords who owned it in the early 1800s are buried elsewhere.

*Foundations and Sites*

The property includes the locations of known no-longer extant buildings and foundations, as well as other possible sites. There has been no archaeological investigation to-date.

Across the driveway from the farmhouse is the granite block foundation of the cider house, built in the mid-nineteenth century and taken down around 1970. Granite slabs and chunks are dry-laid, with smaller stone chinking. The split pieces show plug and feathers splitting marks. The foundation is a U-shape that supported the uphill side of the building, with a wood framed lower level on the downhill side as shown in a historic photo. The building was sited gable end to the driveway and sheathed in vertical boards.

The gravel parking lot at the top of the hill east of the house was built in the 1990s within the stone outline of the nineteenth century barn that came down in the 1950s. The lot was expanded to the east ca. 2016. Large stones, including old foundation stones, are arranged in rectangles with flat gravel parking areas between. According to oral history, the old barn was a large gable-front barn, with its gable end toward the road, and with no cellar. There was an added lean-to with cow tie ups along the west side of the barn and the barnyard was adjacent to the dooryard and driveway.

The approximate location of the original Davis house or garrison is believed to be in the wooded area in the southwest corner of the property, west of the farm road and cemetery. According to the early 1900s local history, the cellar of the garrison was then easily found on elevated ground on the west side of a little creek.<sup>32</sup> In the 1930s the site was disturbed when gravel was excavated. There are some large stone slabs on the present high ground at the edge of the old gravel pit that could be disturbed foundation stones.

The exact location of the mass burial of ca. 1704 is presently unknown, although the reported site was marked with a sign from the 1930s-1960s. It was said to be in the southeast corner of the property, in the wooded area east side of Davis Creek.

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<sup>31</sup> Snyder 2009:5; Lynch 2018.

<sup>32</sup> Stackpole et. al. 1913, I: 62

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North of Piscataqua Road/US 4, the district schoolhouse was located near the western edge of the property until about the 1930s. The area is wooded and overgrown, but there are granite foundation slabs and bricks on the site.

**Comparative Evaluation**

The early 1800s were a period of prosperity in Durham resulting in significant architecture from that period. There has not been a town-wide inventory. In the Durham Historic District, most of the houses are somewhat earlier, dating to the mid- to late-eighteenth century. This is one of the largest tracts of open land in Durham. Other properties with large open mown fields are located on Durham Point and Newmarket and Bennett roads.

Architecturally, Durham has Federal style houses in the downtown area and on Durham Point. There has been no Townwide survey to identify them and determine which have comparable construction dates.

The most closely related historic properties are the Emery Farm to the west of Wagon Hill Farm on Piscataqua Road and the Folsom Tavern to the east on the corner of Back River Road. Both were built at the time of the First New Hampshire Turnpike. The Smith house (135 Piscataqua Road) at Emery Farm is a 2½ story, 5 x 2 bay, center chimney house (ca. 1800) with original Federal-style front entry, ell, and barns. The farm land is owned separately but remains in agricultural use. East of Wagon Hill Farm, the Emerson house (184 Piscataqua Road) is a cape, built ca. 1780, predating the turnpike and oriented south and toward the water. Folsom's Tavern/Odiorne Farm, on the corner of Back River Road and Piscataqua Road, was listed in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places in 2006 (DUR0008). It was built ca. 1805, with a center chimney plan and has a somewhat later Greek Revival style front entry, ell, and large well-preserved barn. The property contains 50+ acres of open fields.

**44. National or State Register Criteria Statement of Significance**

Wagon Hill Farm can be considered differently under two criteria. The historic farmstead and large tract of open farm land in cultivation for three hundred years, is eligible for the New Hampshire State Register for its role in local agriculture under Criterion A. The farmhouse itself may be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural significance under Criterion C. This inventory form does not assess the archaeological significance of the property.

Criterion A: Wagon Hill Farm is popularly recognized as a historic agricultural property due to its large area of open fields. However, because there are no extant historic outbuildings or other agricultural landscape features, Wagon Hill Farm lacks sufficient integrity to merit listing in the National Register in the Area of Agriculture. The property is associated with agricultural contexts, but does not retain the essential physical features necessary to convey the aspect of history with which it is associated, namely the farm buildings. Additionally the farming patterns and special organization were altered by the changes to the dooryard and barnyard areas for parking lots. Wagon Hill Farm's local role as a recreational site dates from the past fifty years and is not of exceptional significance that would qualify it for the National Register in recreation or conservation.

For the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places, Wagon Hill Farm does have importance for the story it tells about agriculture in Durham. The site has changed over the years, but it retains historic fabric in the house and open land that illustrates its uses and role in the community. The property retains more than fifty acres of open fields, historic farmhouse, stone walls, farm roads, wells, field ditching, wharf site and family burial ground. A wagon has been a fixture of the site for fifty years now. Wagon Hill Farm has one of a diminishing number of intact large historic parcels of open land

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in Durham and the Piscataqua Region as a whole. The hay fields with hilltop wagon and farmhouse form an irreplaceable feature of the New Hampshire landscape. Prominently sited on U.S. Route 4 in Durham, Wagon Hill Farm serves as a scenic reminder of the region's agricultural history.

The wide expanse of open country with views toward Little Bay is unique in the area. Typical New England agricultural practices created the scenic historic landscape visible today. Farmed continuously from the 1650s to the 1950s, the property remains in essentially the same form it had taken by the end of the eighteenth century. The farm went through the full range of historic trends from settlement near the on river, to hilltop building overlooking turnpike, mixed farming and summer boardinghouse tourism. The placement of the wagon and continued haying of the fields was part of the mid-twentieth century Colonial Revival period, as farming declined and forests and houses reclaimed land throughout the state. Although it cannot fully convey the history of farming on the property, Wagon Hill Farm has characteristics to make it a good representative of a rural property type, including the farmhouse, hilltop site, fields, and woods. It has rural landscape characteristics including the circulation networks of old roads, river landing places, clear boundary demarcations and vegetation related to historic land use.

While Wagon Hill Farm alone does not appear to be individually National Register eligible in the Area of Agriculture, it is part of a larger area that may form a historic district along Piscataqua Road. The Emery Farm, Wagon Hill Farm, Emerson property and Odiorne farm have large tracts of undivided land settled in the seventeenth century, with farmhouses, several barns, open land, in cultivation or mowing, water frontage, family cemeteries, potential archaeological sites and other features.

Criterion B: The residents of this property, among Durham's prosperous farmers, were not sufficiently distinguished in a particular field to qualify it under this criterion. The early Davis family members were influential in Durham's early history, but the property, with a nineteenth century house on it, does not retain integrity from their period of occupancy; only their gravestones remain.

Criterion C: The Bickford-Chesley House at Wagon Hill Farm may be significant in the Area of Architecture and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The ca. 1804 Federal-style farmhouse with mid-nineteenth century updates is a well-preserved example of local architecture and construction. The house retains a high degree of integrity, with few changes since the nineteenth century period. The house has significance for Federal and Greek Revival style design and timber frame construction. It embodies distinctive characteristics of the Federal period in the center hall, twin chimney floor plan, and architectural features such as the woodwork, doors, flooring, interior shutters, and fireplaces. The Bickford-Chesley House is an important example of local building practices. The house has common features of Federal house types and structural systems and variations such as the double kitchens and back entry stair hall and the tall added gable roof. The placement and layout of the house are typical of the early 1800s, including the orientation due north and directly toward the turnpike road, and the south facing dooryard.

The connected farm arrangement was a historic adaptation of the original house made in the mid-nineteenth century, creating a sheltered dooryard and back porch for covered work space outside the kitchen and a place to relax and enjoy the view. The present building conveys a sense of this form and the appearance of a connected farm complex. However, since the attached outbuilding and part of the ell were rebuilt in 2017, they no longer contribute to the National Register significance of the property. The ell and stable do not meet Criterion Consideration E for reconstructed properties. They are not an accurate reproduction of the exact construction and appearance of the old building. The reconstructed sections are included in the National Register boundary for the house, because they are connected to the main block, forming a single building.

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The Davis Cemetery on Wagon Hill Farm may meet Criteria Consideration D for cemeteries because it appears to have design significance due to the age of the legible carved headstones. The Davis stones are rare as such early gravestones were often replaced by later descendants. Additional information about local burying grounds could be provided by the Durham Historic Association for comparative evaluation.

**45. Period of Significance**

ca. 1804/ca. 1840-1969: The architectural period of significance begins with the construction date of the existing house ca. 1804 and includes the Greek Revival period renovations to the house around 1840. The period for which the property could be nominated to the state register extends to the fifty-year cutoff, 1969, which is when the first wagon was placed on the hill. The archaeological significance of the property in an earlier period has not been determined.

**46. Statement of Integrity**

Wagon Hill Farm has a high degree of integrity of setting and feeling in its open fields, road frontage on US 4, and hilltop-sited farmhouse. The wagon adds to the scenic rural quality and a wagon has been a feature of the property for fifty years, although several wagons have been used. The setting includes the frontage on the tidal Oyster River and inlet creeks, hillside fields and surrounding woodlands.

The house has integrity of location. Other historic buildings are no longer extant. The main block of the house still has most of its historic fabric and a high degree of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The exterior has wooden clapboards, original window trim, corner pilasters and eaves treatment. Since the mid-to late-nineteenth-century sitting room remodel, the only major change to the interior was the remodeling of the kitchen in the 1960s. Federal style design details include the front staircase, six panel doors, molded casings, and fireplace mantels. There are Greek Revival style updates to the exterior and one interior room. All other rooms retain original plaster walls, wood floors, doors, hardware, and woodwork. The most substantial change was the replacement in the 1990s of all windows, including many original sashes, with vinyl windows. Casings and interior shutters were left in place.

The rear of the ell and the stable do not have integrity of materials or workmanship, although the overall massing and exterior materials of the historic building were replicated. The exterior design closely matches that of the original, so the feeling is the same and the building contributes to the historic character of the farm. The fabric is mostly new and the historic construction methods were not reproduced. Some of the old wood was reused. The rebuilt ell and stable are visually the same and contribute to the setting and rural associations of the property. However, the room placement and uses were not retained and agricultural trends and functions are no longer conveyed. Sympathetic materials including wooden clapboards and windows were used but the framing and foundation are modern.

The property's associations with agriculture are diminished because there are no extant outbuildings. The land itself cannot fully convey farming trends and activities. The loss of the large barn took place during the historic period and farming continued afterward. However, the conversion of the 1980s conversion of the milk room into an apartment and the replacement of the stable and ell in 2017 caused a loss of integrity as a building complex. Changes to the site have also impacted the ability to convey the farm's historic character. The barn foundation was evident before parking lots were created in recent decades, although its low stone walls were overgrown and there was no cellar hole. The stones

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

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remain to outline the shape and size of the building now, but they have been moved. The granite cider house foundation contributes to the setting of the dooryard, but the driveway was widened for parking.

The land remains to represent the historic agricultural use of the property. The boundaries are unchanged and the settlement and circulation patterns are evident in the placement of roads and house site. The land-use patterns are conveyed by the fields, apple trees, hardwood grove and old pasture. The community gardens are a modern feature of the landscape but are located where cropland was historically. There has been limited modern trail construction. The paths are mostly mown through the fields or incorporate the old farm roads.

The Davis Cemetery retains early headstones in varying condition. The site is worn due to foot traffic by visitors. The setting of the waterfront includes historic and modern landing places. Erosion has affected the shoreline in recent years. The potential for archaeological sites on the property has not been evaluated, but the Davis house site is believed to be disturbed or destroyed.

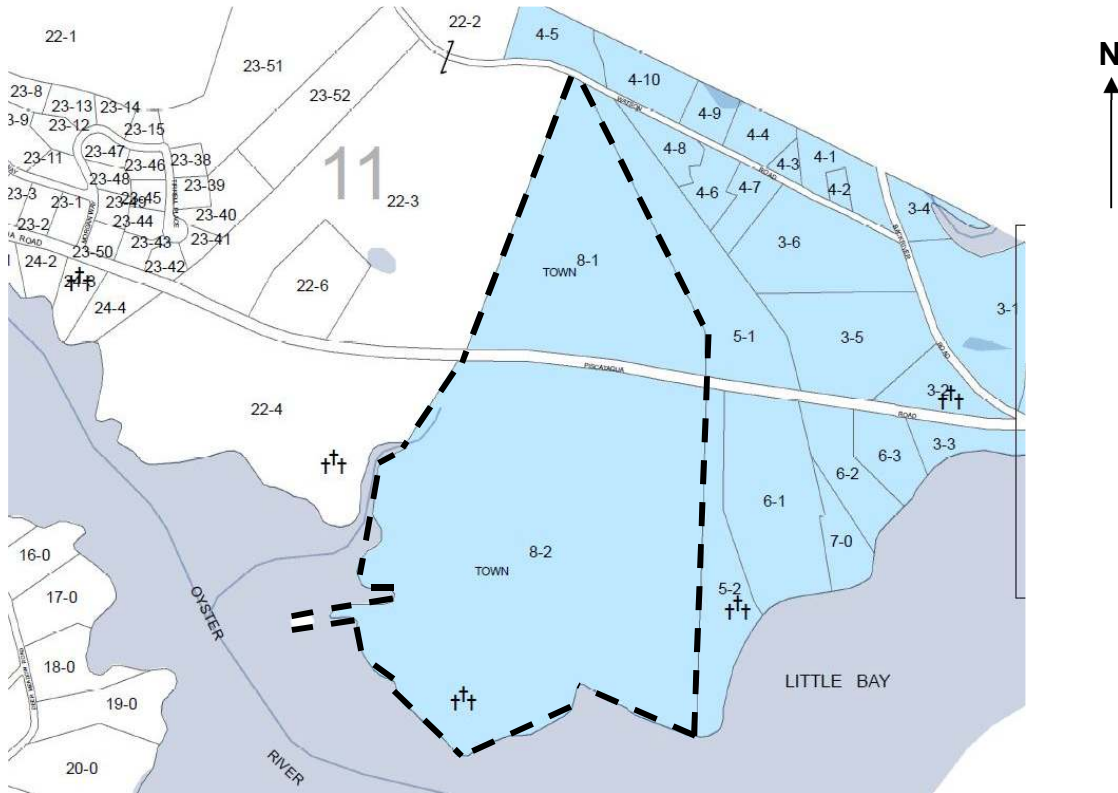
**47. Boundary Discussion**

The survey area is the entire town-owned property on two parcels. Wagon Hill Farm officially contains a total of 139 acres according to the tax records, though there has been no recorded survey. This land has been associated with the property throughout its history and the boundaries are unchanged since the eighteenth century. The acreage was recorded in deeds variously as 127, 137, 134 acres and 142 acres, but the property lines are the same. Durham tax parcel 12/8/2 is the main parcel and 12/8/1 is the land across the road. The sides of both parcels are marked by stone walls and old fencing. The southern edge of the property has always been the river. The western bound at the cove and creek was established when the land was first granted. The farm has contained the land on both sides of Davis Creek since the eighteenth century. The abutters to the west and east are the same long-time families.

The historic agricultural property recommended as eligible for the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places includes the entire Wagon Hill Farm property on two parcels. The lot lines are unchanged since the eighteenth century. This is the home farm always associated with the historic farmhouse. The edges are marked by stone walls and old fencing. Watson Road defines the northern tip and the Oyster River borders the southern edge. The small island off the southeast corner is legally considered part of Wagon Hill Farm. To the west and east are other large historic farmsteads. The New Hampshire State Register boundary is shown on the Durham tax map below.

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The nineteenth century farmhouse is potentially National Register eligible under Criterion C and the recommended boundary encompasses the setting and associated domestic space, taking in the connected reconstructed ell and stable which are non-contributing portions of the single large connected building. The surrounding land although part of the larger setting, does not contribute to the significance of the house in the Area of Architecture. A potential boundary would be a rectangular parcel surrounding the historic farmhouse, extending out roughly ninety (90) feet from each outer wall of the main block. This is the approximate length of the ell and stable that projects to the rear. A similar distance in all other directions encompasses the yards and domestic space associated with the house. This includes the formal front yard and the side dooryard. The northern boundary is parallel to the façade, ninety feet to the north, encompassing the front lawn and driveway. The southern boundary is in line with the south wall of the rebuilt stable. The eastern bound, ninety feet from the east elevation of the house, encompasses the side yard and circular driveway. This boundary is shown below on a recent aerial photograph.



**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**

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N.H. Death and Burial Records

*Portsmouth Herald*

Public Member Trees

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U.S. Federal Census Collection

U.S. Find a Grave Index

**Historic Maps**

Chace, J. Jr.

1856 Map of Strafford County, New Hampshire. Philadelphia: Smith & Coffin (<http://www.loc.gov/item/2006626003>)

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1892 Town and City Atlas of the State of New Hampshire. Boston: D.H. Hurd & Co. (<http://www.davidrumsey.com/>).

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ca. 1660 "Pascataway River in New England," reprinted late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Maine Historical Society (<https://www.mainememory.net/artifact/6665/zoom>).NETROnline (<http://www.historicaerials.com/>)

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1871 Atlas of Strafford County, New Hampshire. Philadelphia: Sanford & Everts (<http://www.davidrumsey.com/>).

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**Historic Photos**

Collection of Durham Historic Association.

**Strafford County Registry of Deeds**

1654	Book 5, Page 219	1841	Book 189, Page 272
1798	Book 27, Page 583	1868	Book 243, Page 360
1798	Book 27, Page 584	1937	Book 477, Page 7
1799	Book 30, Page 450	1949	Book 571, Page 129
1829	Book 142, Page 315	1960	Book 719, Page 186
1829	Book 144, Page 46.	1989	Book 1470, Page 335
1838	Book 180, Page 322		

**Interviews**

Michael Lynch, Town of Durham, October 2018.

Nancy Sandberg, Janet Mackie, Durham Historic Association, October 2018.

**Surveyor's Evaluation**

NR listed: individual   
within district

Integrity: yes   
no

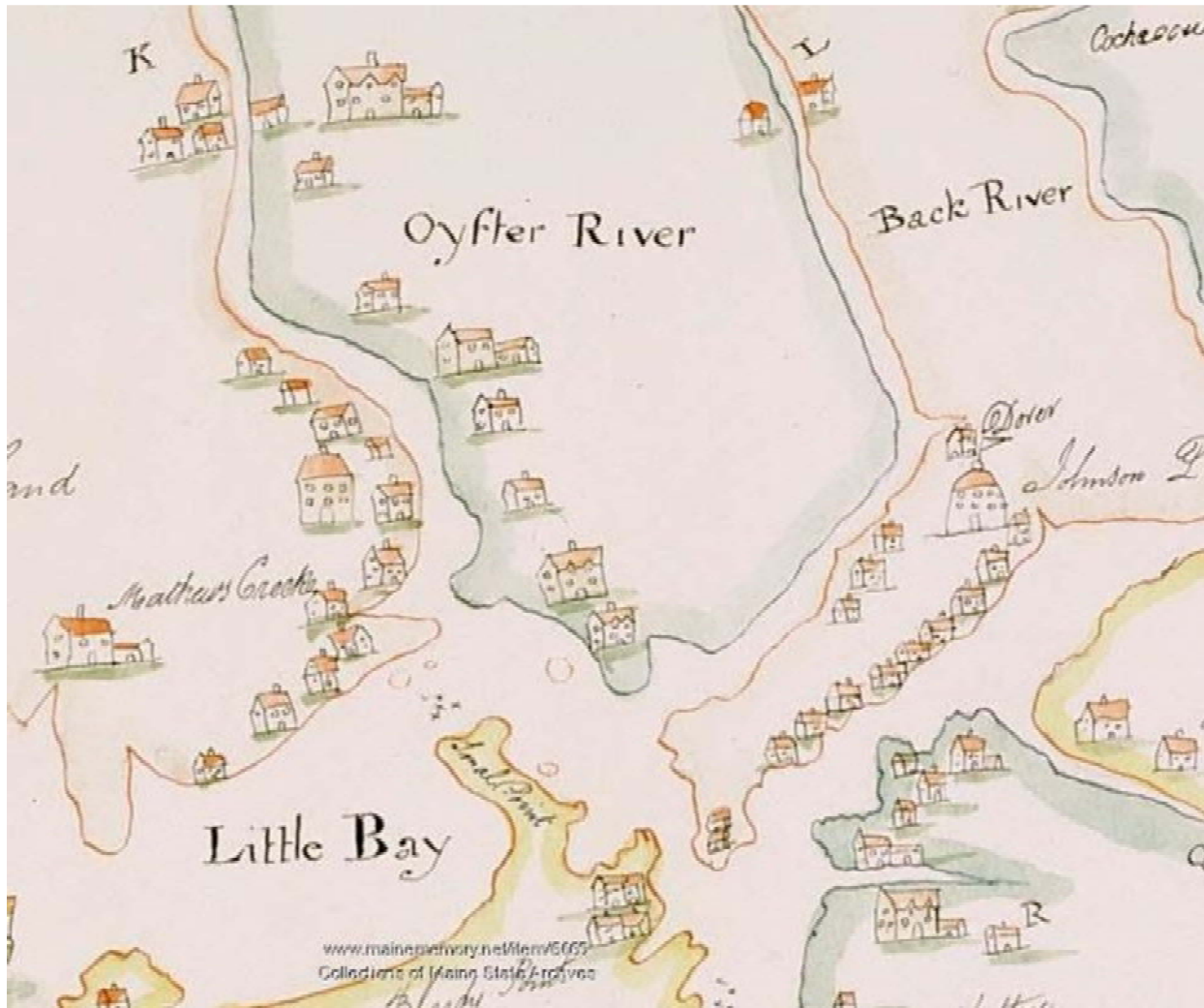
NR eligible: individual   
within district   
not eligible   
more info needed

NR Criteria: A   
B   
C   
D   
E

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**Historic Maps**



ca. 1660 map of the “Pascataway River” around the time of settlement by John Davis with no house shown on this point of land yet (J.S. ca. 1660)

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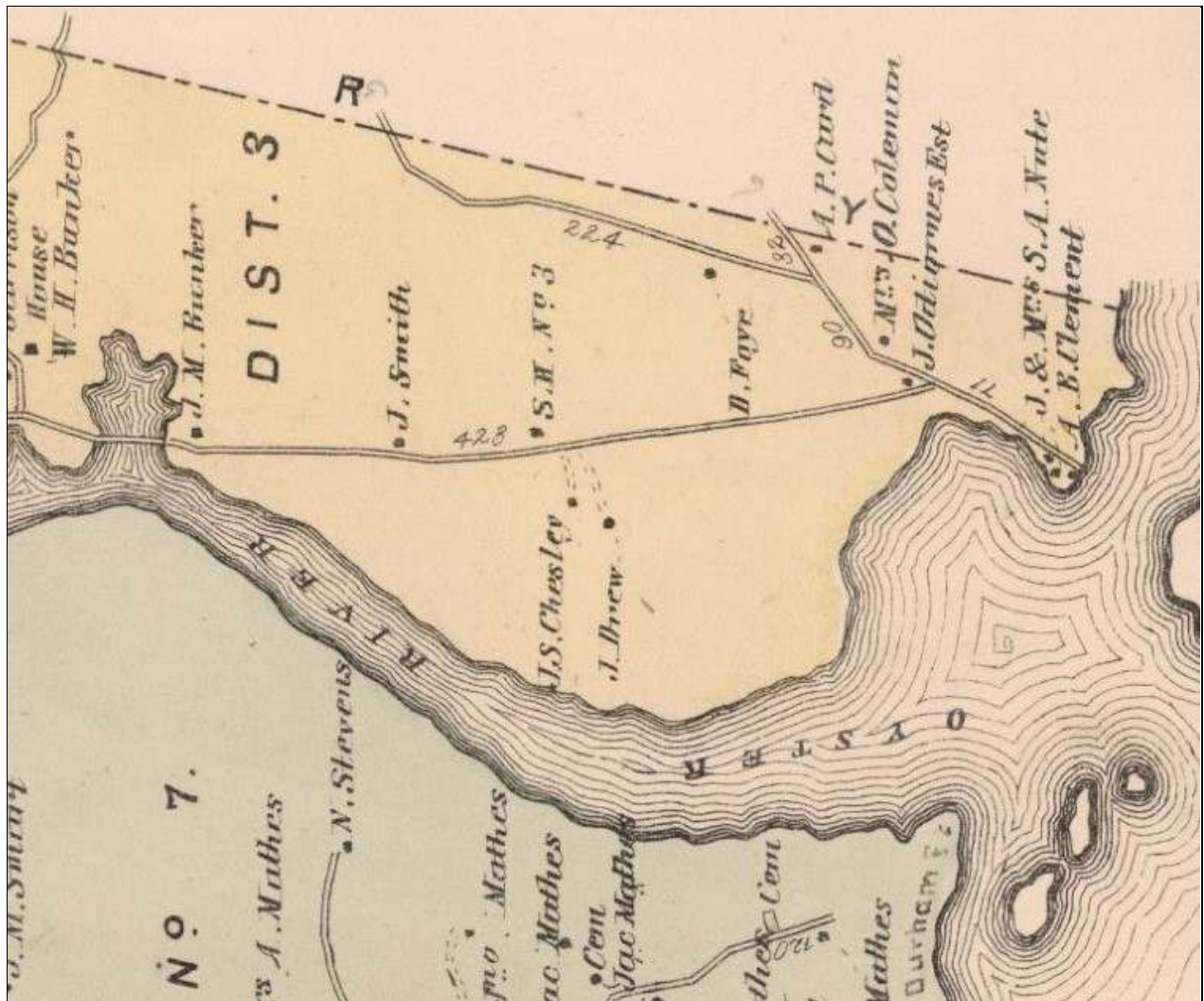
NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033



1856 Strafford County map shows First New Hampshire Turnpike, Piscataqua Bridge just before it came down (J. Chace Jr. 1856). (Locations are approximate and maps not to scale, so S.P. Chesley house was shown closer to road than actual and schoolhouse east of the house.)

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

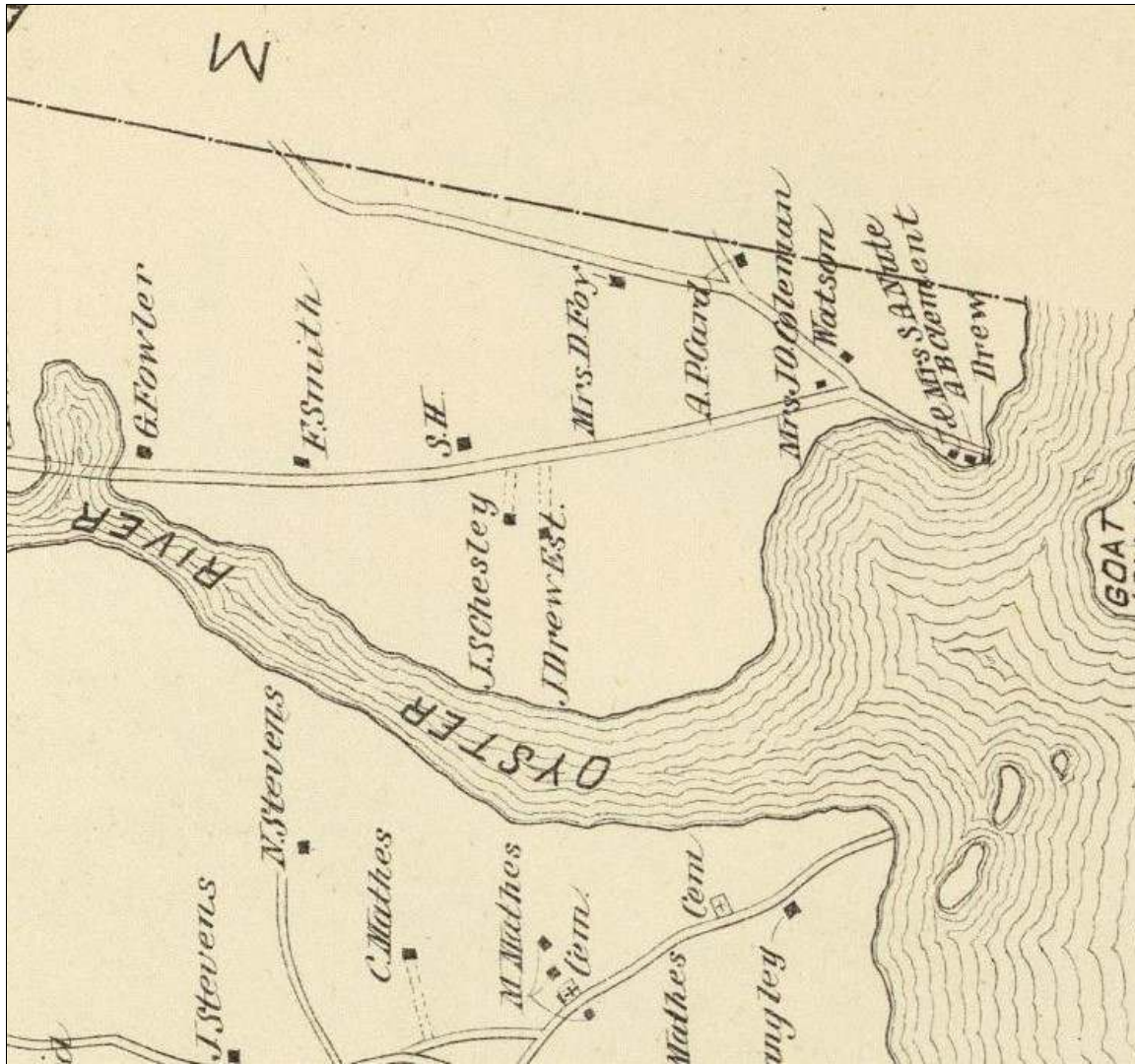
NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033



1871 map shows S.P. Chesley set back from road and schoolhouse in actual position (Sanford & Everts 1871)

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

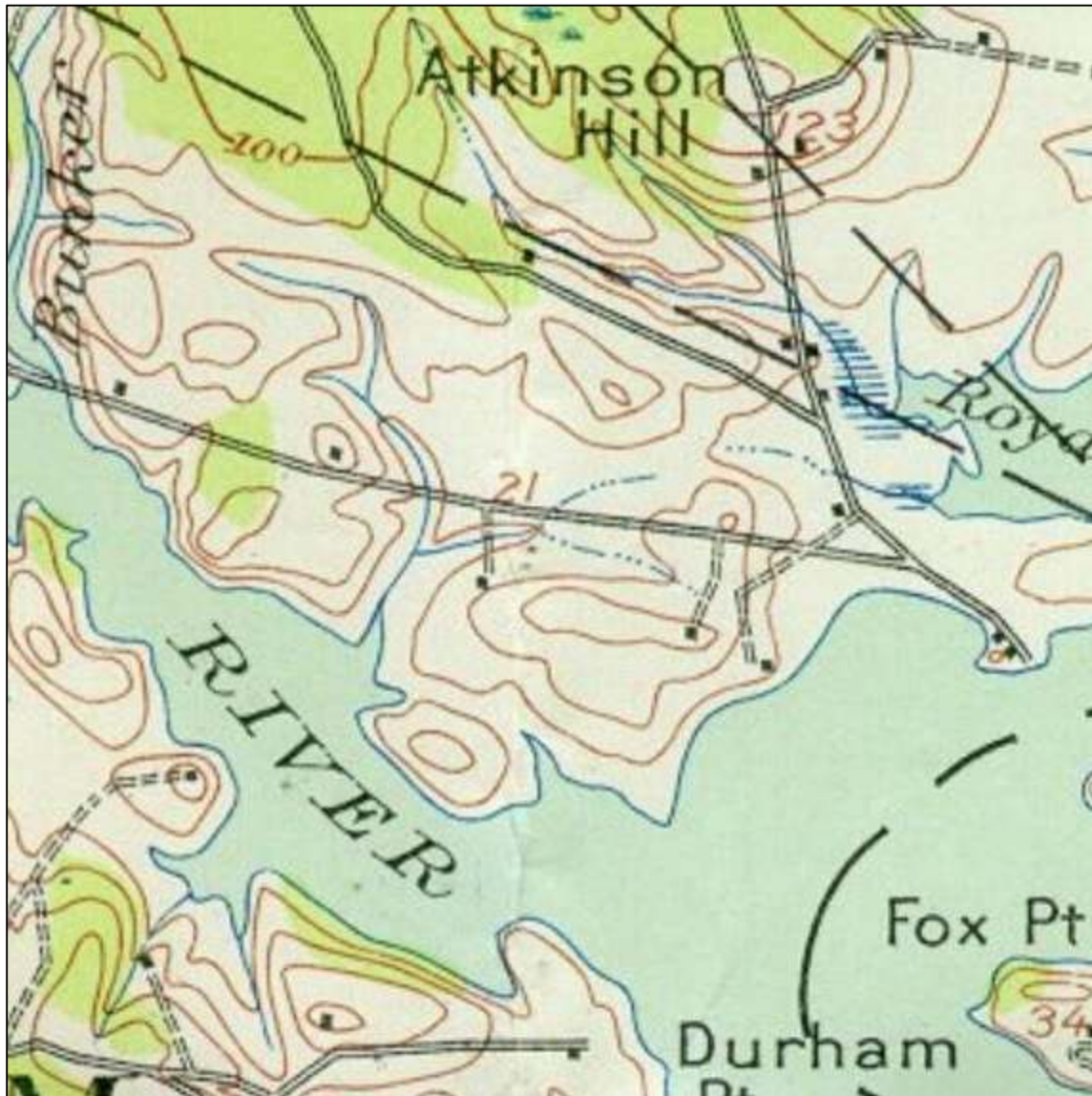
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1892 map (Hurd 1892)

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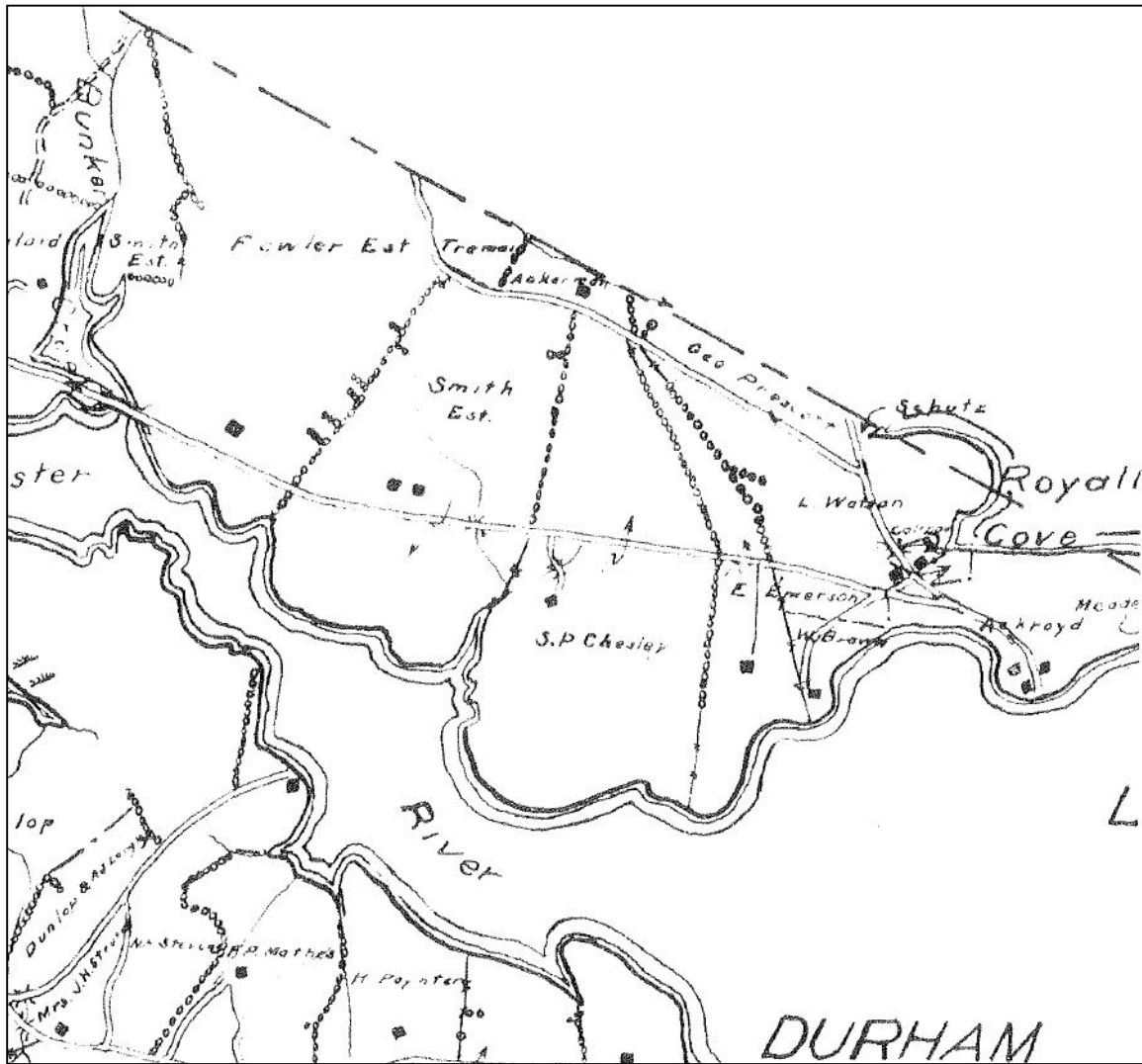
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1918 map shows farms and topography (USGS 1918)

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1931 Walker map shows historic parcels and stone walls (Durham Historic Association)



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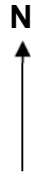
1943 map shows rebuilt US 4 and farm roads (USGS 1943)



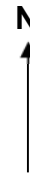
1956 map shows US 4 and gravel pits (USGS 1956)

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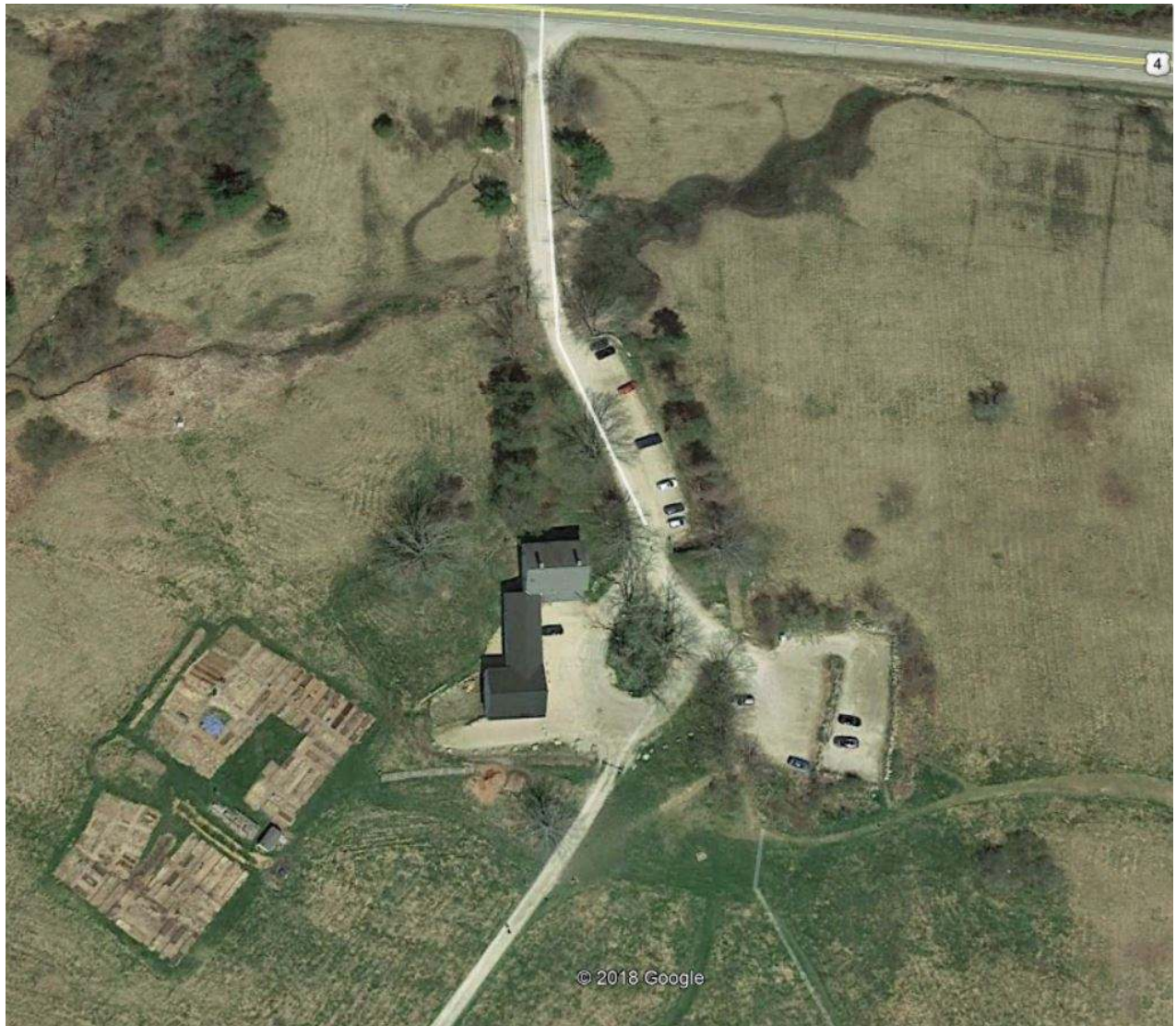
1989 Aerial showing wetlands and Wagon Hill Farm land at time of purchase by the Town (Town of Durham)



2018 Google Earth aerial

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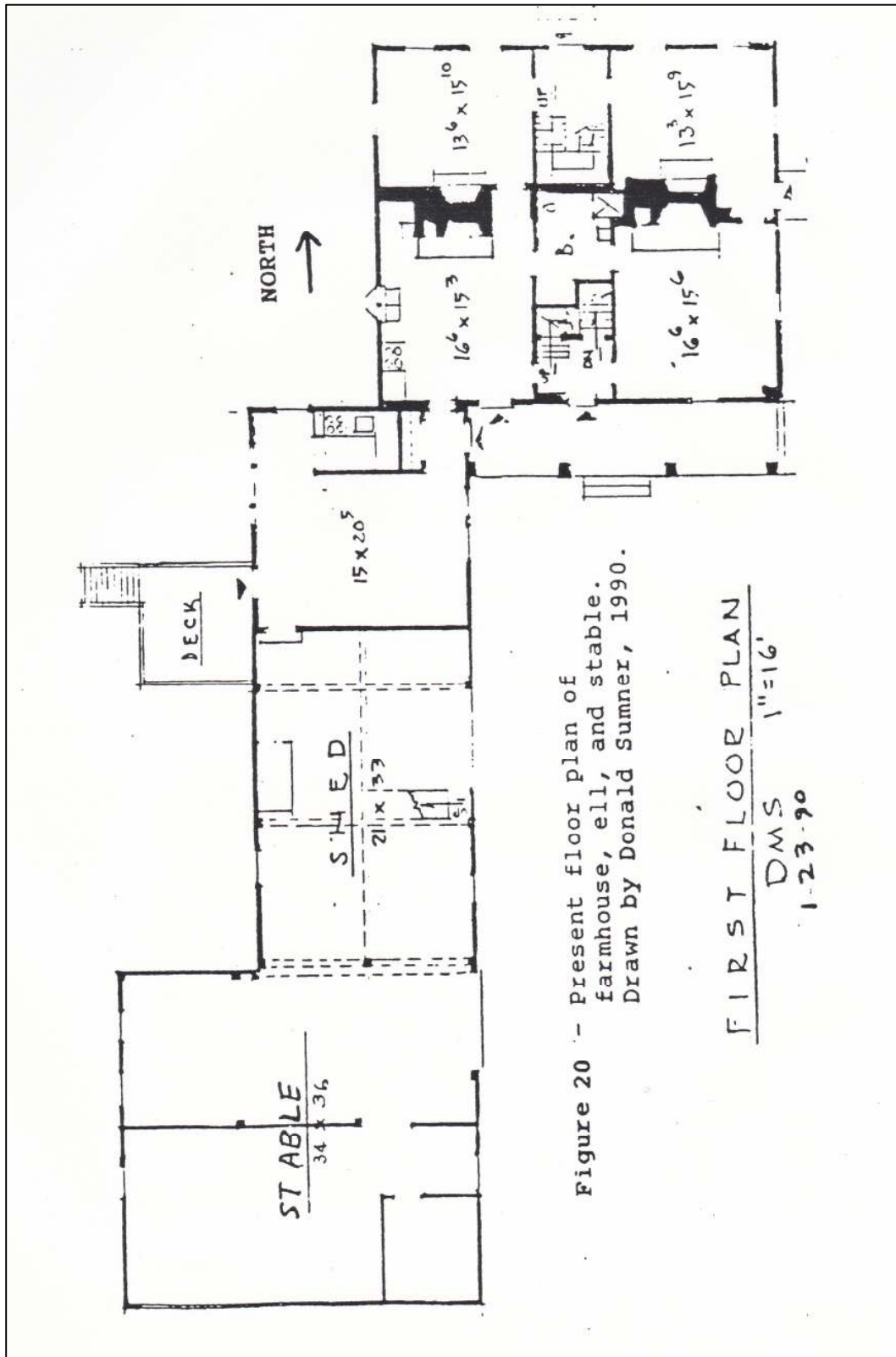
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2018 Google Earth detail shows driveway, parking/barn site, community garden

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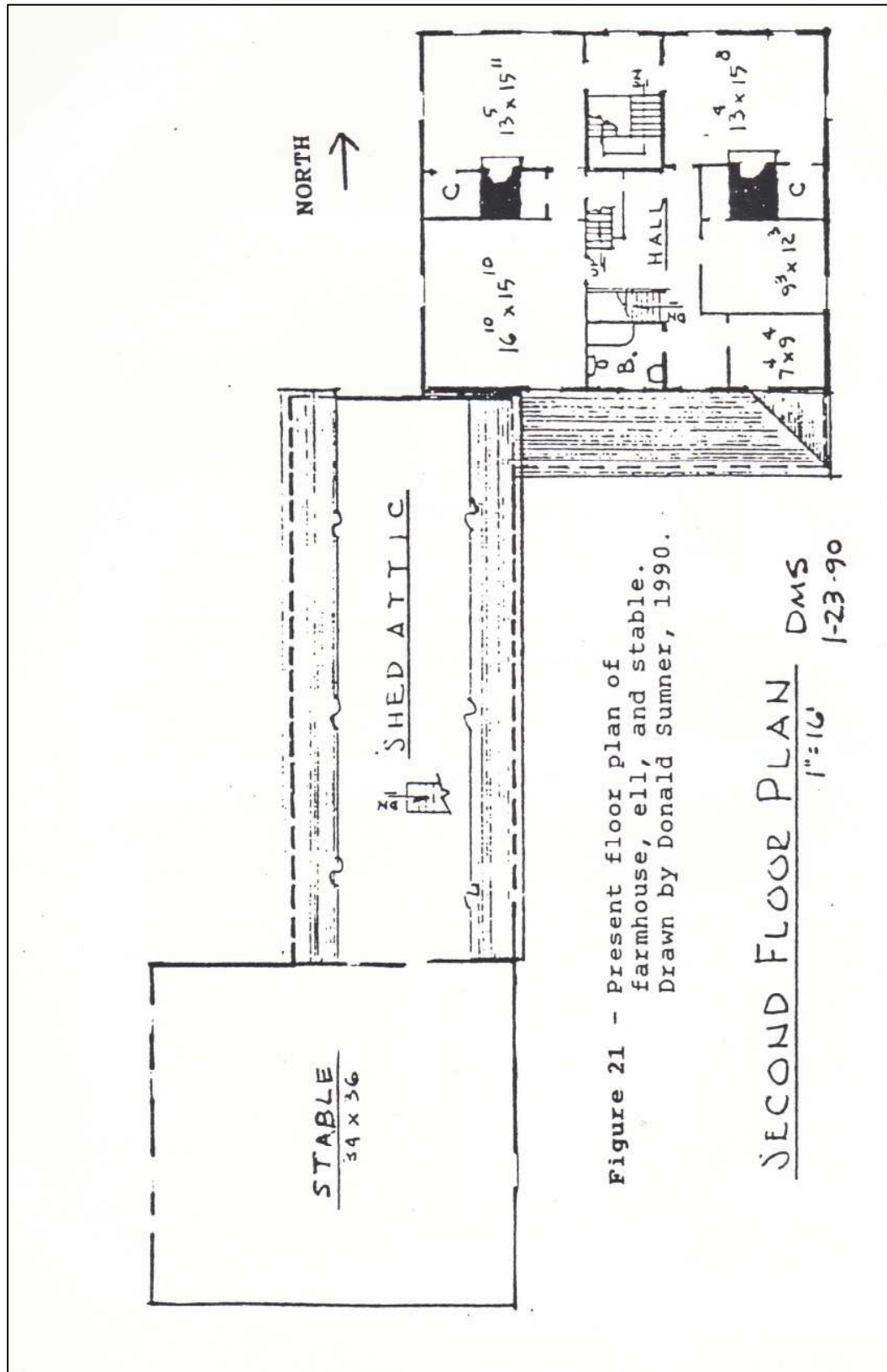
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1990 First Floor Plan by Donald M. Sumner (Federer 1991)

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033



1990 Second Floor Plan by Donald M. Sumner (Federer 1991)

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**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**

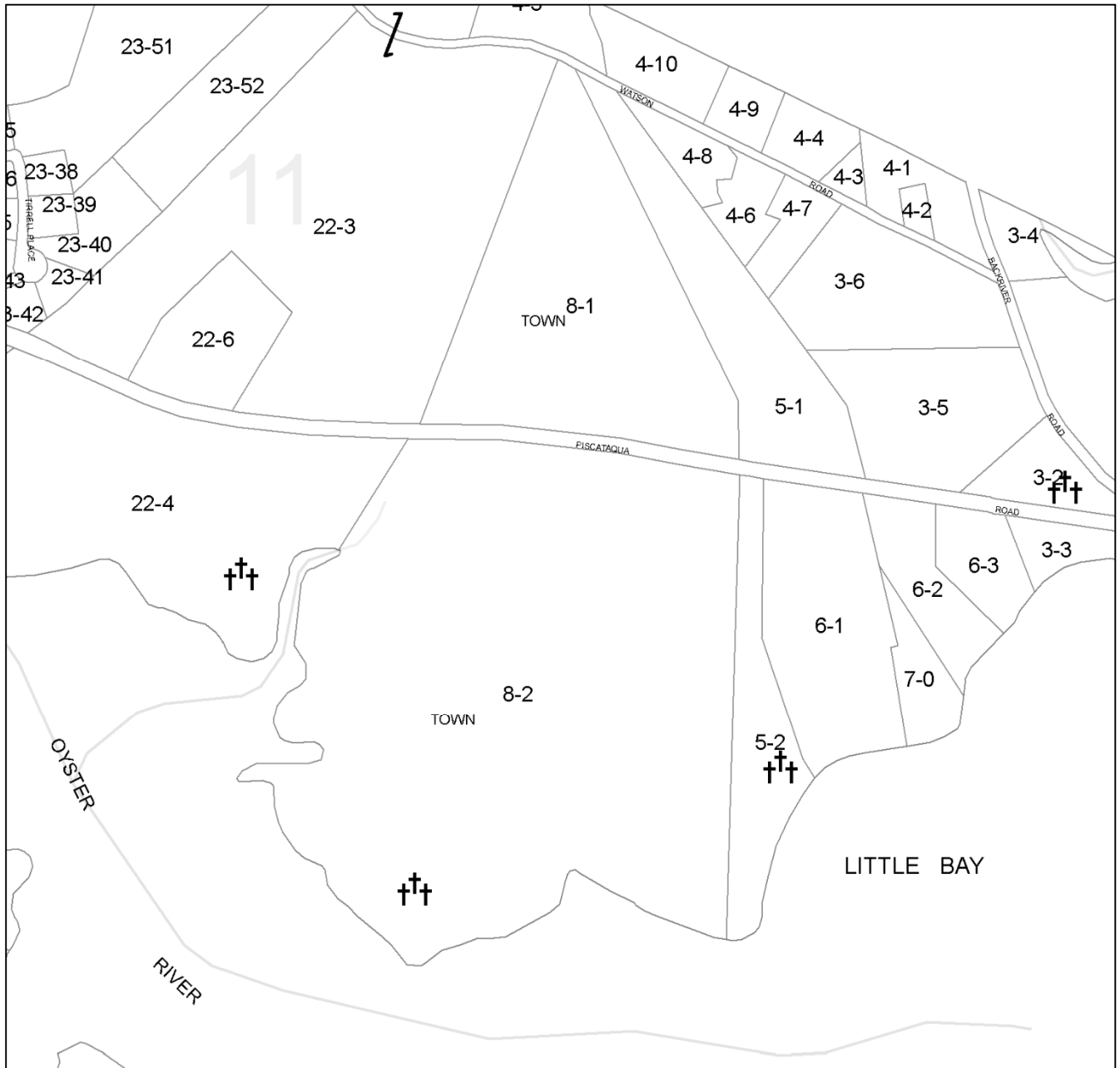
**Current Maps**



2019 Bing Maps aerial shows Wagon Hill Farm and surroundings, including Emery Farm at left and Odiorne Farm right

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Tax Map 12 (Town of Durham)

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**Historic Images**



ca. 1880s photo shows cider house at left (Durham Historic Association)



ca. 1890s photo from dooryard (Durham Historic Association)



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ca. 1900 photo (Durham Historic Association)

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Durham Day at Chesley's grove ca. 1970s (Durham Historic Association)



Facade 1990 shows original windows (Federer 1991)

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1990 rear elevation showing original stable and ell (Federer 1991)



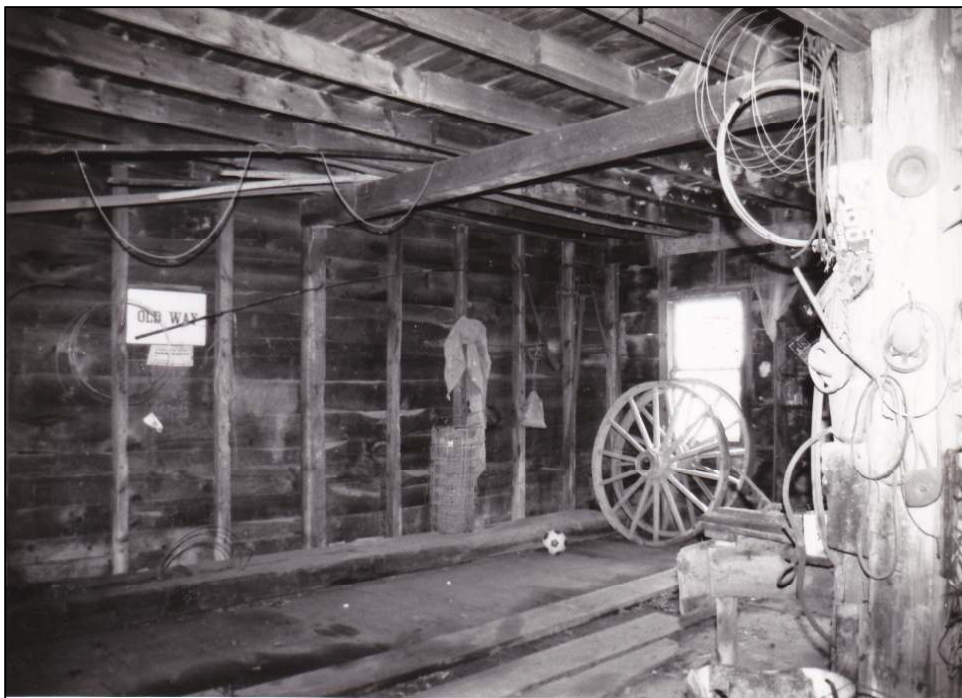
1990 shows original ell framing now gone (Federer 1991)

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1990 interior of ell interior loft, partially rebuilt in 2017 (Federer 1991)



1990 interior of stable, replaced 2017 (Federer 1991)

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View of buildings from wagon in 1990 (Federer 1991)



Fields looking toward water in 1990 (Federer 1991)

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2017 stable and ell before reconstruction (Town of Durham)



2017 stable rear elevation before reconstruction (Town of Durham)

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2017 stable interior before reconstruction (Town of Durham)

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**Digital Photography Statement**

I, the undersigned, confirm that the photos in this inventory form have not been digitally manipulated and that they conform to the standards set forth in the NHDHR Photo Policy. These photos were printed using the following: Epson SureColor P600 printer on Epson Ultra Premium Photo Paper, glossy. The digital files are housed with Preservation Company in Kensington, NH.



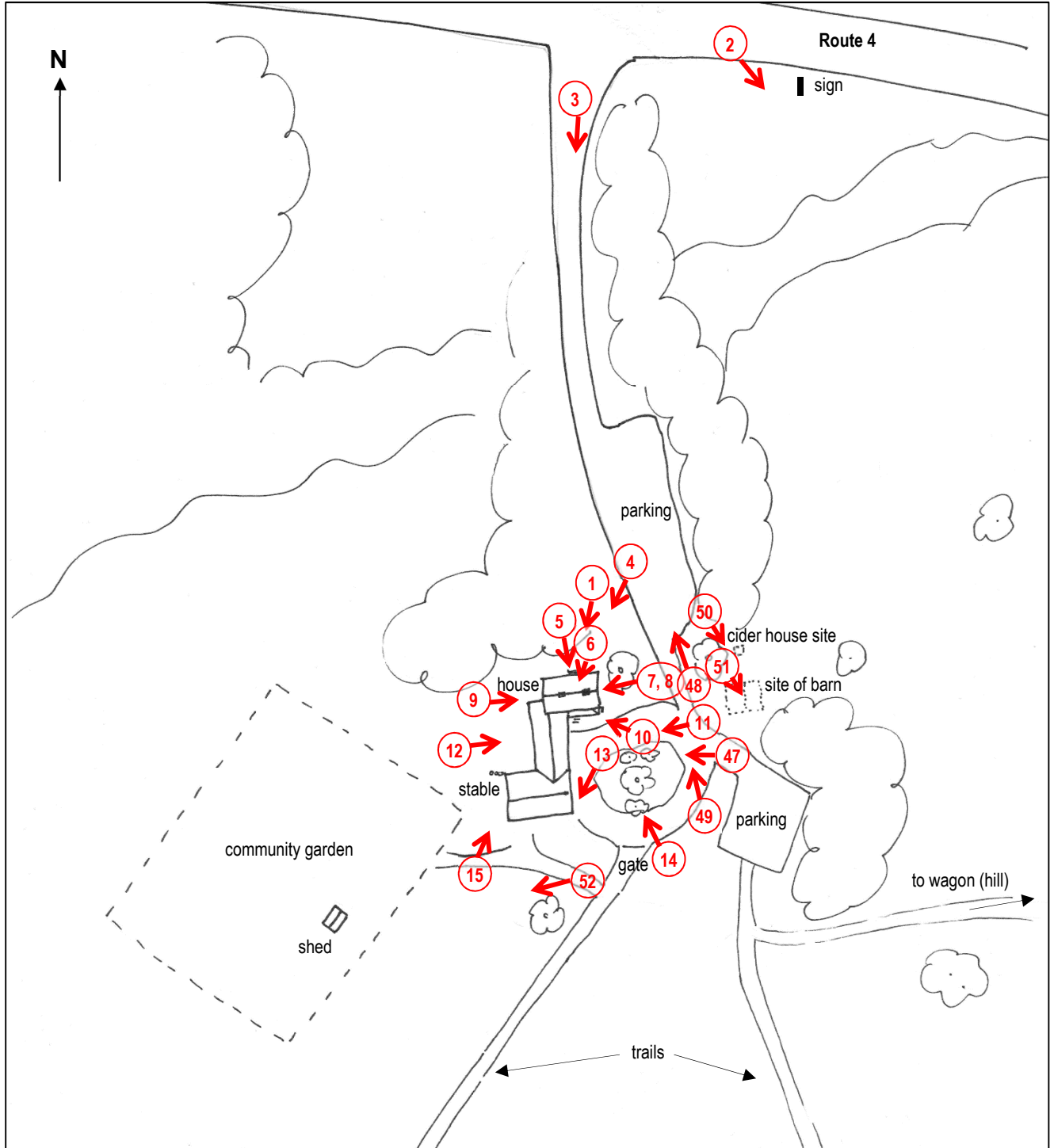
Lynne Emerson Monroe, Preservation Company



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**Photo Keys**

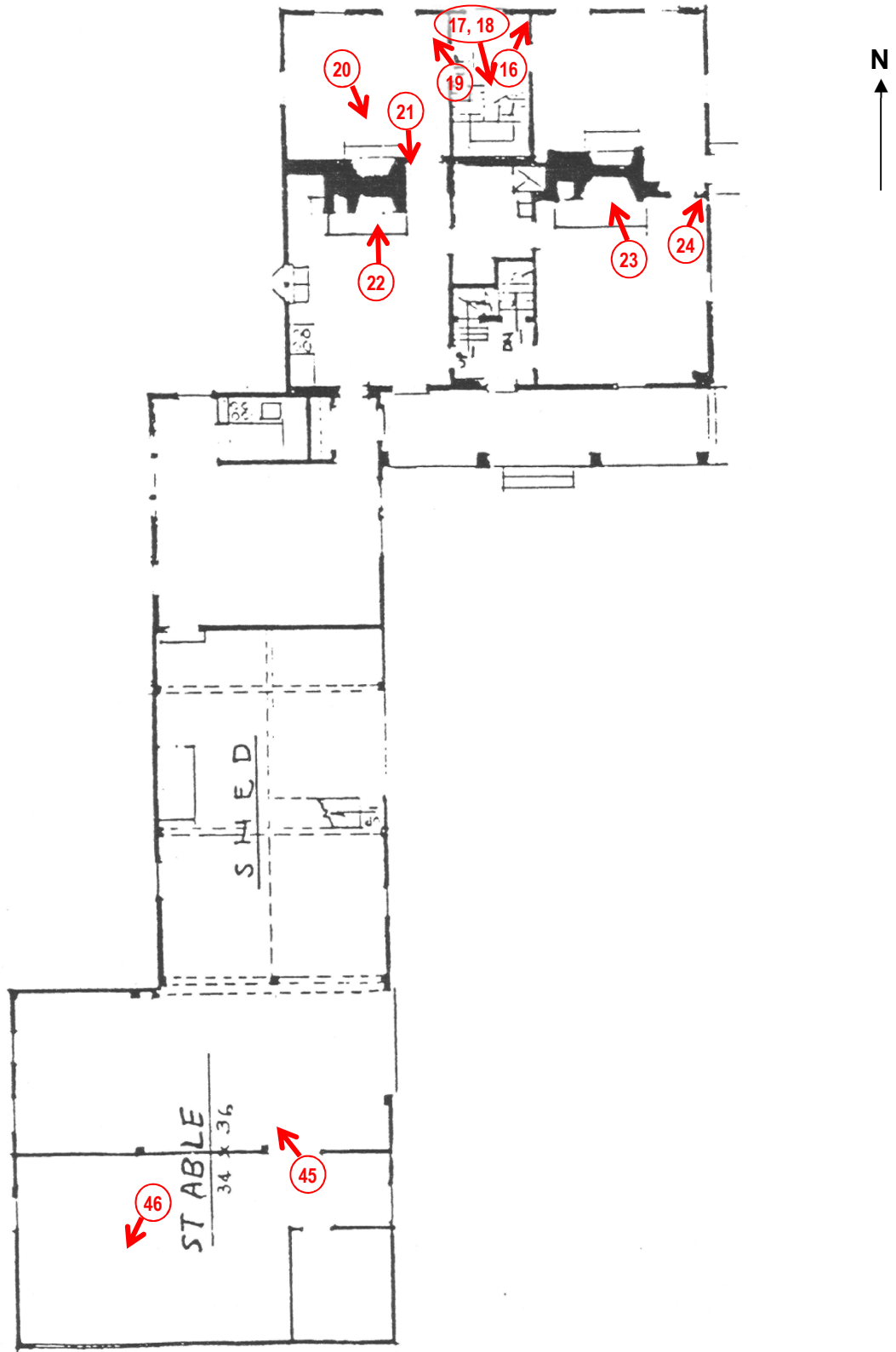


Exterior Photos 1-15, 47-52 (buildings and immediate surroundings)

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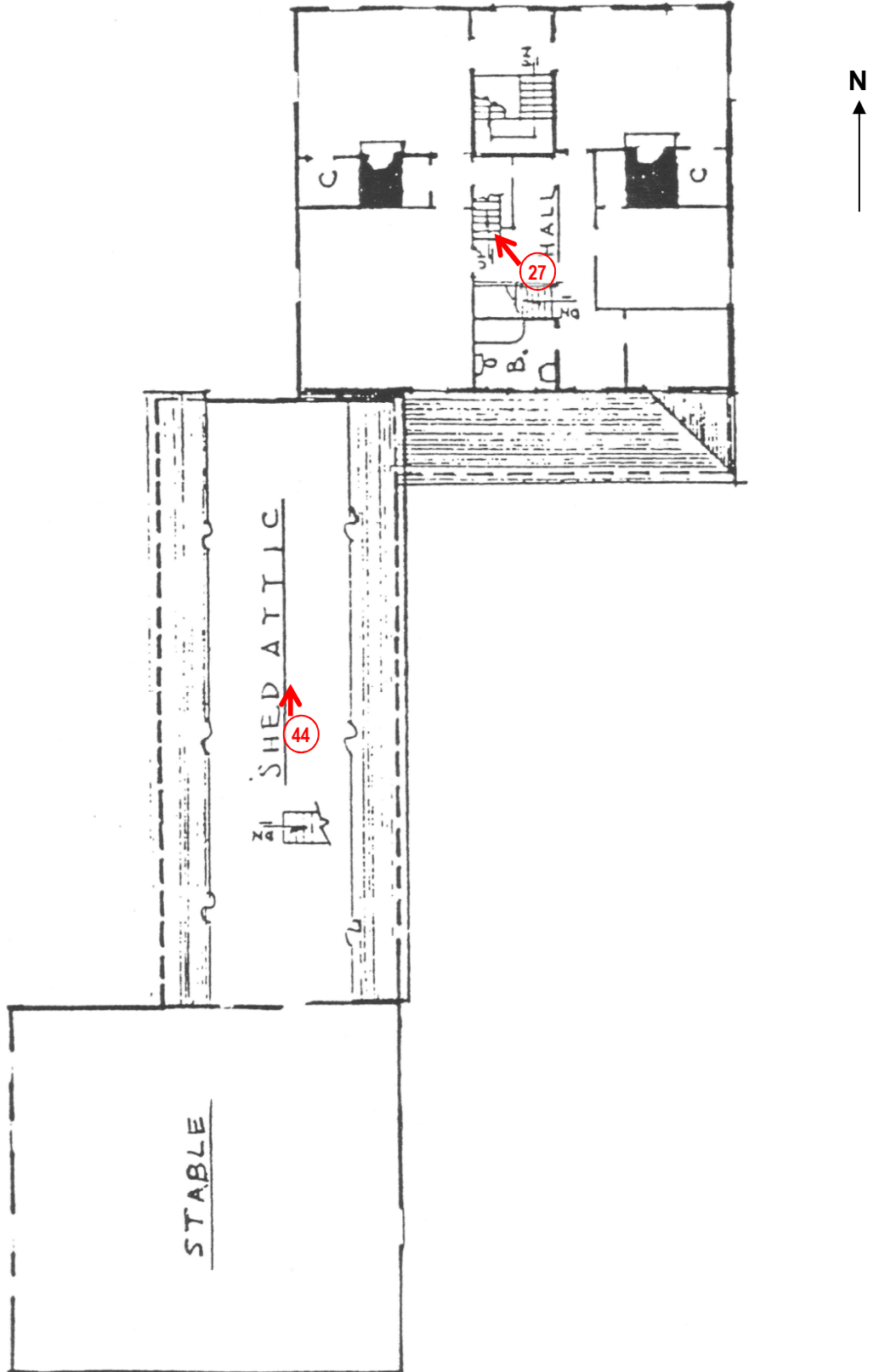
**Interior**



First Floor Photos 16-24 (house), Photos 45-46 (stable)  
[Shown on 1990 plan, shed and stable rebuilt 2017]

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

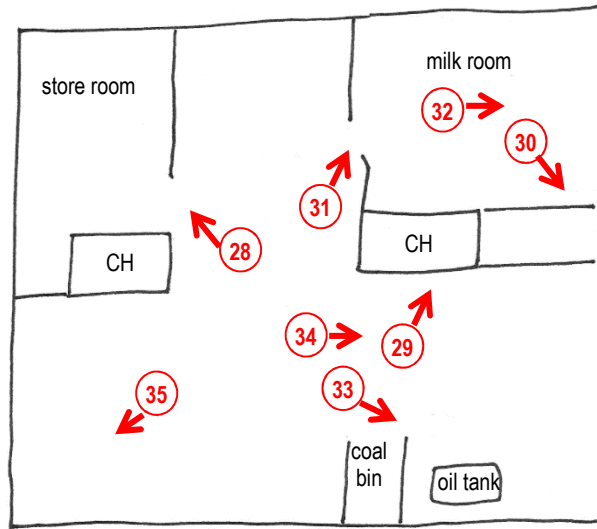
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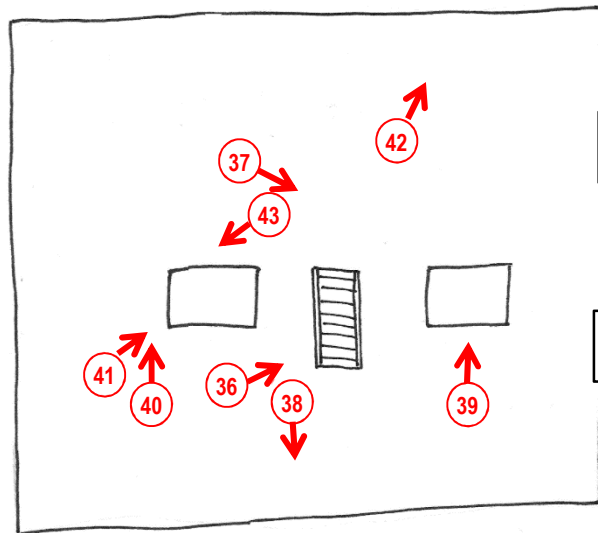
Second Floor Photos 26 and 44  
[shown on 1990 plan, shed and stable rebuilt 2017]

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Basement Photos 28-35

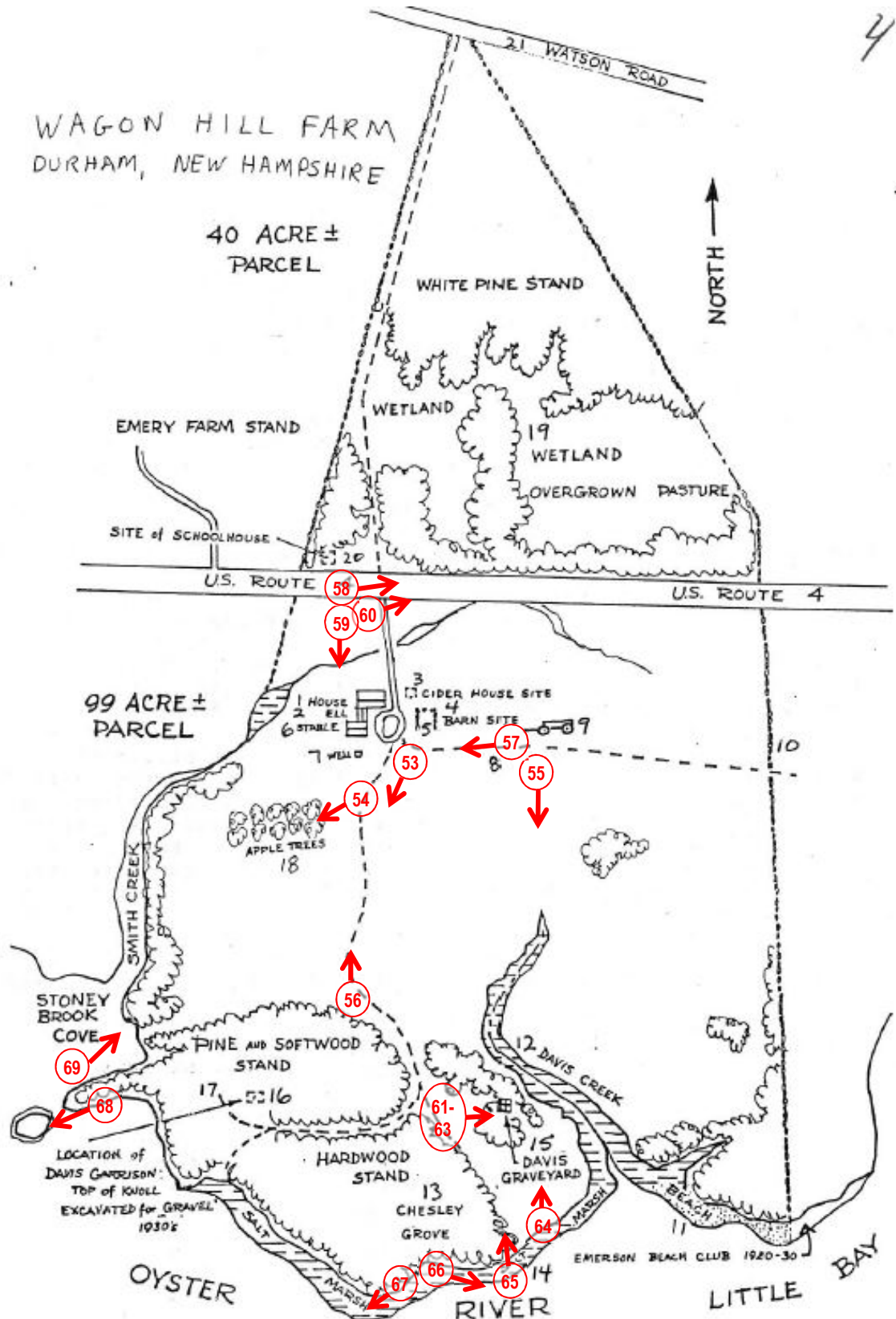


Attic Photos 36-43

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Setting



Site map (from Federer 1991), showing Photos 53-69

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**Current Photographs**

**Exteriors**



Photo 2) Wagon Hill Farm field with wagon, roadside view  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0534

Direction: SE  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 3) Wagon Hill Farm entrance, looking up driveway from road  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0537

Direction: S  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 4) farmhouse from driveway  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0527

Direction: SSW  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 5) façade detail  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0524

Direction: S  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 6) front entry detail  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0526

Direction: SSW  
Date taken: October 2018



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Photo 7) east elevation from driveway  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0545

Direction: W  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 8) east elevation, attic windows and cornice detail  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1893

Direction: W  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 9) west elevation  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0521

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 10) rear elevation with back porch  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0507

Direction: NW  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 11) ell, east elevation, left hand bays rebuilt 2017  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0508

Direction: W  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 12) ell, west elevation shows original (left) and reconstructed ell  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0518

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 13) stable, west elevation from dooryard, reconstructed 2017  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0511

Direction: SW  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 14) stable, ell, and house, rear and east elevations and dooryard  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0470

Direction: NNW  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 15) house, ell and stable, west and rear elevations  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0515

Direction: NE  
Date taken: October 2018

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**INTERIORS**



Photo 16) house interior, front door  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1854

Direction: NNE  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 17) front staircase  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1850

Direction: SSE  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 18) staircase detail  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1852

Direction: SE  
Date taken: February 2019



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Photo 19) door, hallway to northwest front room  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1851

Direction: NW  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 20) northwest front room  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1856

Direction: SSE  
Date taken: February 2019



Photo 21) northwest front room, fireplace detail  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1855

Direction: S  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 22) kitchen fireplace  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1857

Direction: N  
Date taken: February 2019



Photo 23) kitchen-sitting room fireplace  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1847

Direction: NNW  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 24) east side entry, Greek Revival trim  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1848

Direction: NNE  
Date taken: February 2019

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Photo 25) interior shutter  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1864

Direction: NNE  
Date taken: February 2019

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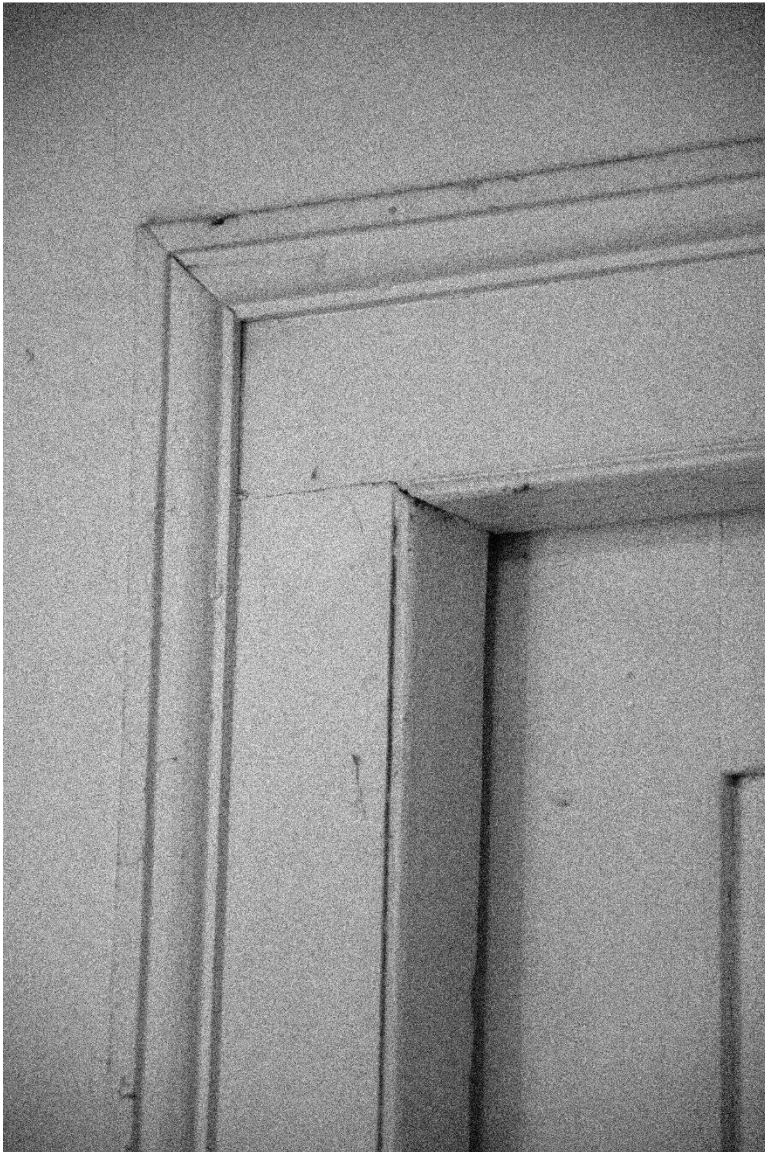


Photo 26) door casing detail, back rooms  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0585

Direction: W  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 27) attic stairs  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1890

Direction: WNW  
Date taken: February 2019

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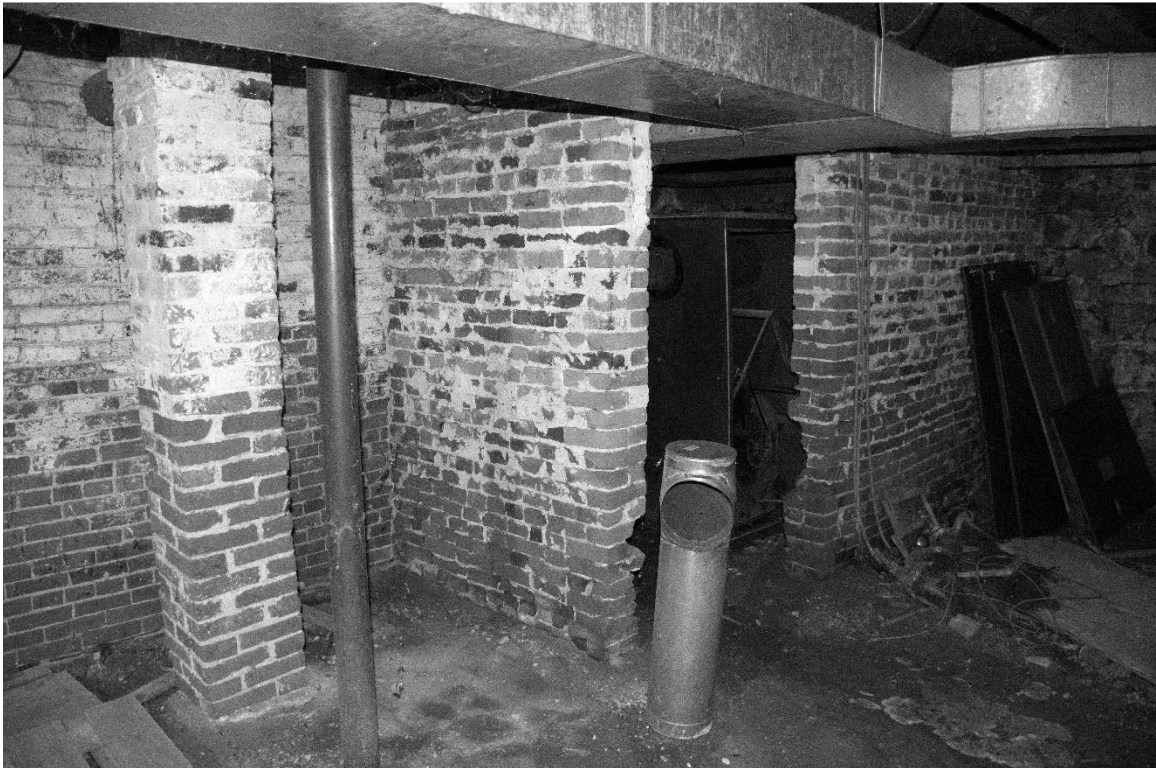


Photo 28) basement, chimney base and store room  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0588

Direction: NW  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 29) chimney arch, east chimney  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1884

Direction: NE  
Date taken: February 2019



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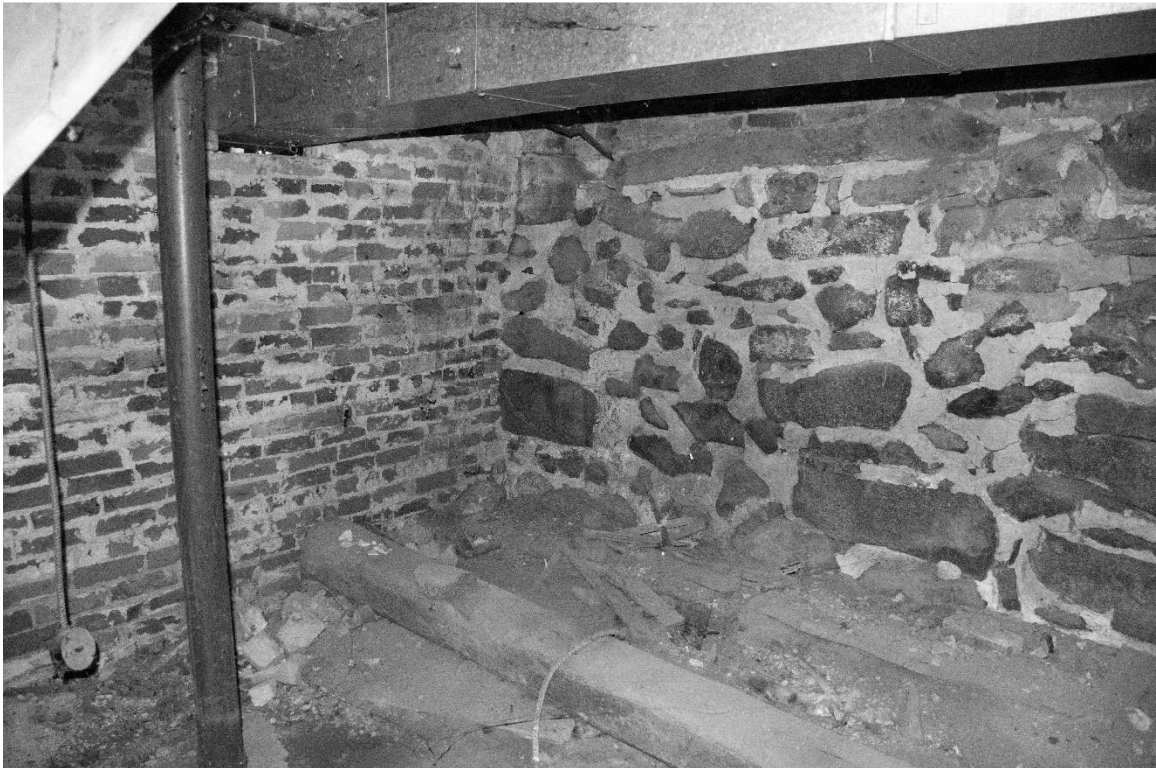


Photo 30) foundation and milk room walls  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0598

Direction: SE  
Date taken: October 2018

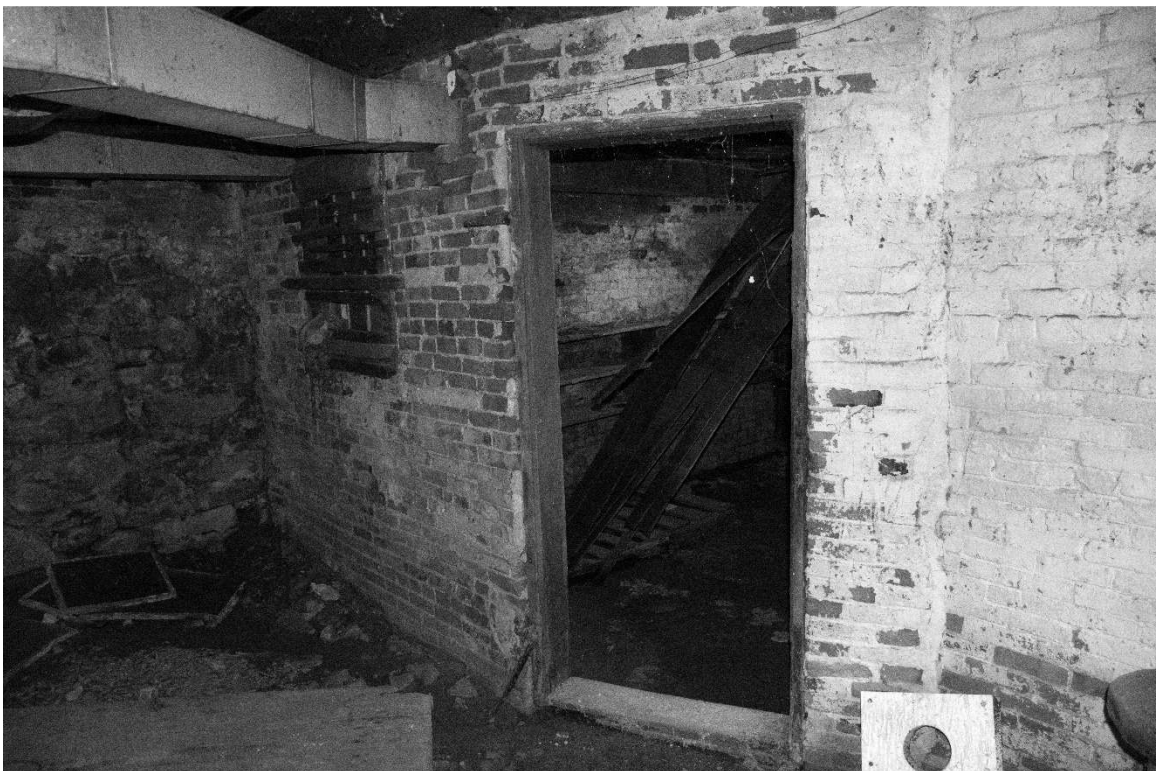


Photo 31) milk room  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0589

Direction: NE  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 32) milk room interior  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0591

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018

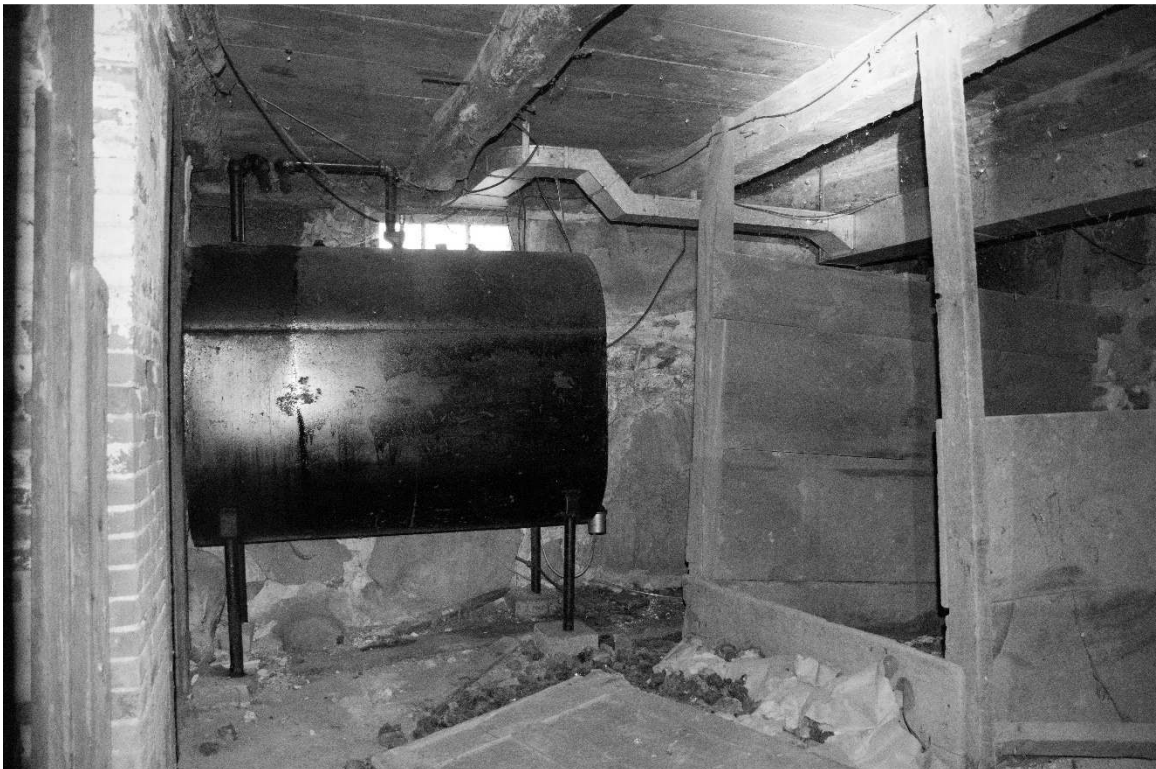


Photo 33) oil tank and coal bin  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0599

Direction: ESE  
Date taken: October 2018

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Photo 34) basement, floor framing detail  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0604

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 35) south foundation wall and rebuilt kitchen floor framing looking toward bulkhead  
Reference (file name): PIC\_1870

Direction: SW  
Date taken: February 2019

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 36) attic showing stairs to roof  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0605

Direction: ENE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 37) attic roof framing and stairs  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0609

Direction: SE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**

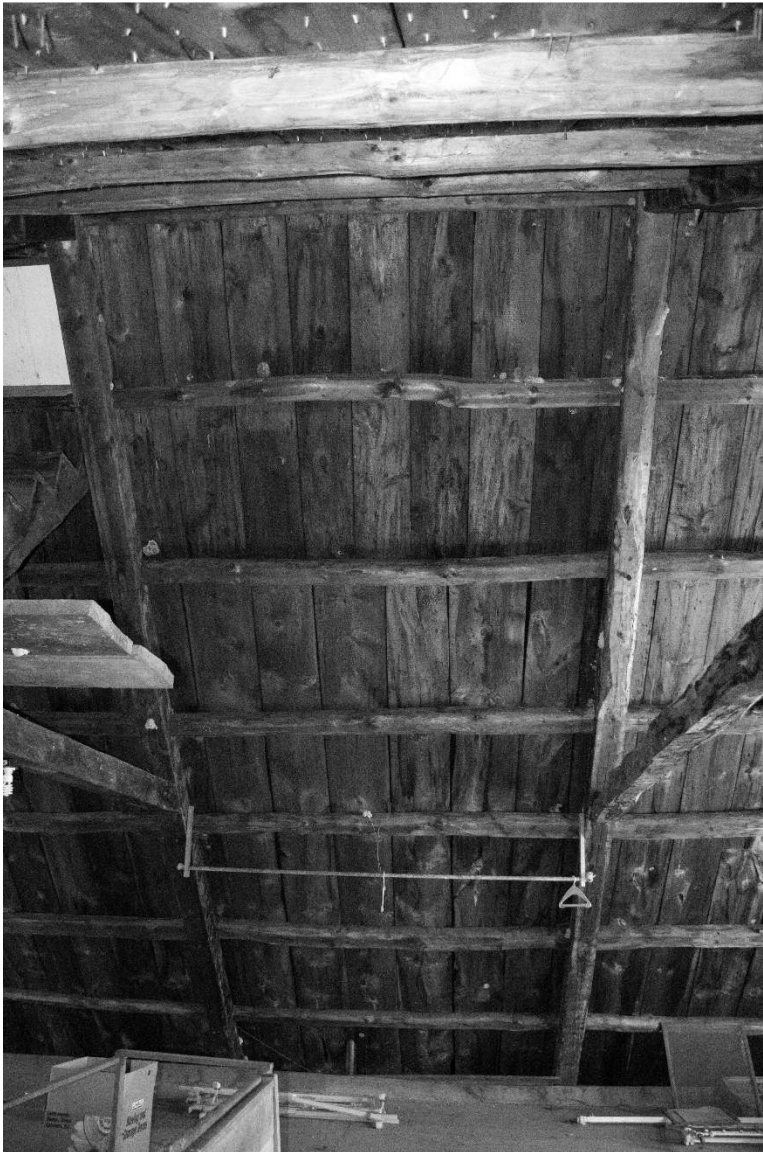


Photo 38) Roof framing shows purlins and rafters  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0628

Direction: S  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 39) eastern chimney, showing original roofline, chimney cap and added stack above Direction: N  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0623 Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 40) attic, western chimney shows original chimney cap  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0606

Direction: N  
Date taken: October 2018



**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 41) attic, western chimney shows original roofline  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0619

Direction: NE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 42) roof framing detail showing pegs and scribe marks  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0611

Direction: NE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 43) roof framing and chimney  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0629

Direction: SW  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 44) ell attic, showing junction of old and rebuilt roof  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0639

Direction: N  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 45) stable and ell, rebuilt 2017  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0645

Direction: NW  
Date taken: October 2018

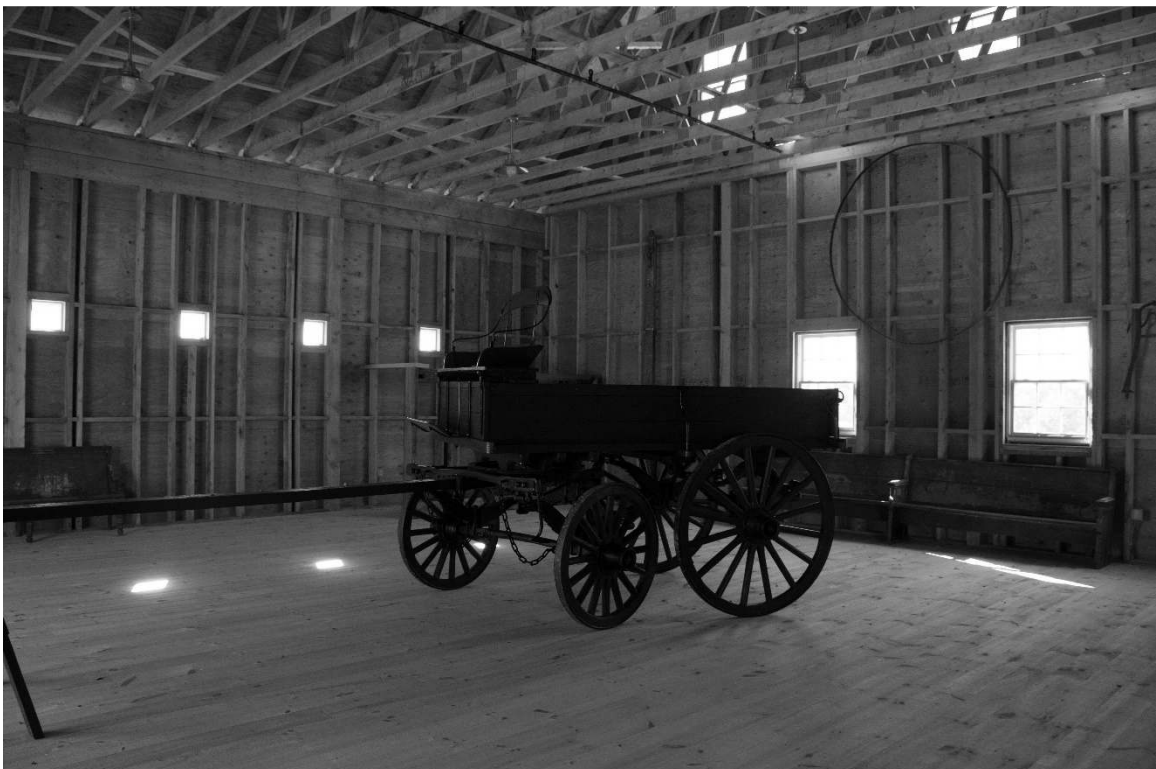


Photo 46) stable, rebuilt 2017  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0642

Direction: SW  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**

**Setting**



Photo 47) stable, ell, and house from dooryard  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0503

Direction: W  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 48) looking toward road from dooryard  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0658

Direction: NNW  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 49) driveway in dooryard  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0659

Direction: NE  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 50) cider mill foundation  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0543

Direction: SE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 51) parking lot, stones of barn foundation  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0500

Direction: SSE  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 52) fields and community garden behind stable  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0471

Direction: WSW  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 53) fields and farm road, orchard  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0472

Direction: SW  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 54) orchard trees  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0475

Direction: SW  
Date taken: October 2018



**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 55) fields looking toward water  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0473

Direction: S  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 56) fields and farm road looking toward rear of house  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0496

Direction: N  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 57) fields looking toward house from crest of hill  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0551

Direction: W  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 58) fields from driveway culvert (1990s), toward road and wooded northern parcel  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0531

Direction: NE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 59) field west of driveway, from road  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0536

Direction: S  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 60) field and road frontage, with wooded northern parcel at left  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0538

Direction: ENE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 61) Davis Cemetery  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0478

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 62) Davis Cemetery  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0480

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 63) Davis Cemetery, Elizabeth Davis stone 1749  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0479

Direction: E  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 64) woods in southwest corner of property  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0492

Direction: N  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 65) from Oyster River shoreline from boat launch toward picnic shelter  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0485

Direction: N  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 66) Oyster River shoreline from old wharf  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0487

Direction: ESE  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 67) Oyster River shoreline showing erosion, looking toward old wharf  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0483

Direction: SW  
Date taken: October 2018



Photo 68) Oyster River shoreline, looking toward island  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0493

Direction: WSW  
Date taken: October 2018

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0033**



Photo 69) Oyster River shoreline, west edge of property looking toward Smith Creek      Direction: NE  
Reference (file name): PIC\_0495      Date taken: October 2018