

(August 1994)

Determination of Eligibility (DOE)

Date received: December 24, 1998

Inventory #: DUR0005

Date of group review: December 30, 1998

Area: Rt 4, btwn Rt 108 and Riverview Rd., R4

DHR staff: Linda

Town/City: Durham

Property name: Harold and Carolyn Palmer House

County: Strafford

Address: 82 Piscataqua Road (Route 4)

Reviewed for: R&C PTI NR SR Survey Other
NH DOT 12959

Individual Properties

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| NR | SR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible, also in district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible, in district |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> More information needed |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Not evaluated for individual eligibility |

Districts

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| NR | SR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> More information needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Not evaluated @ district |

Integrity: Location Design Setting Materials Workmanship Feeling Association

Criteria: A. Event B. Person C. Architecture/Engineering D. Archaeology E. Exception

Level: Local State National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

IF THIS PROPERTY IS REVIEWED IN THE FUTURE, ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION WILL BE NEEDED.

Please see page three of the NH DHR Inventory Form.

ENTERED INTO DATABASE

ACREAGE: 1.5

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: N/A

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: N/A

BOUNDARY: N/A

SURVEYOR: Elizabeth Durfee Hengen

FOLLOW-UP: Notify NH DOT

Final DOE approved by:

EJ Muzley

NHDHR Inventory # *1 DUR 0005*

Code

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES—INVENTORY FORM

Included in Area -
County Strafford
Town/City Durham

09C
D14

Address 82 Piscataqua Road (Rt. 4)
Current Owner James & Pamela Hilton
Property Name Harold & Carolyn Palmer House

Acreage 1.5A *SP: 1190534*
Tax Map/Parcel# 11-30 *232625*
UTM ref. 19/345900/4777375
USGS Quadrangle Dover West Scale 1:24,000

Use: Present single dwelling
Original single dwelling

DSD
DSD

Exterior Building Materials:			
Roof:		Walls:	
asbestos shingle	ASB	asbestos shingle	ASB
Foundation:		Chimney:	
brick & concrete	BRI	brick	BRI
# of Stories:		Roof Shape:	
2-1/2		gable	
Chimney Location:		Entry Location:	
ridge		east facade bay	
Sash Type:		Plan Configuration:	
8/1,6/1		rectangular	

Major Alterations (with dates):
none

Condition: good

Outbuildings: garage

Setting: semi-rural res'l; major artery; deep setback

Architect/Builder: unknown

Source:

Orig. Construction Date: ca. 1932

Source: research

Multiple building campaigns (see reverse)

Style/Form: Colonial Revival

RCR

Moved: no

Date:

Surveyor: Elizabeth Durfee Hengen

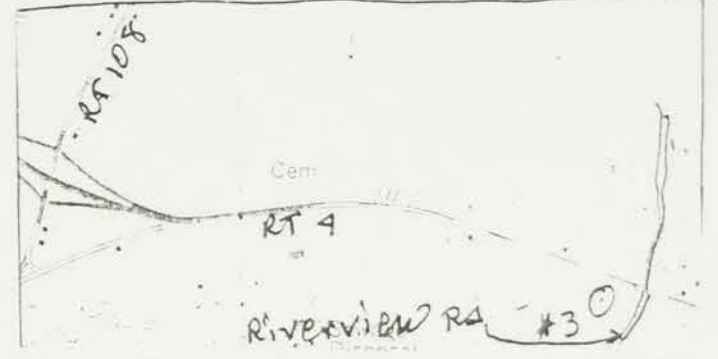
Recorded by:

Date of field survey: October 1998

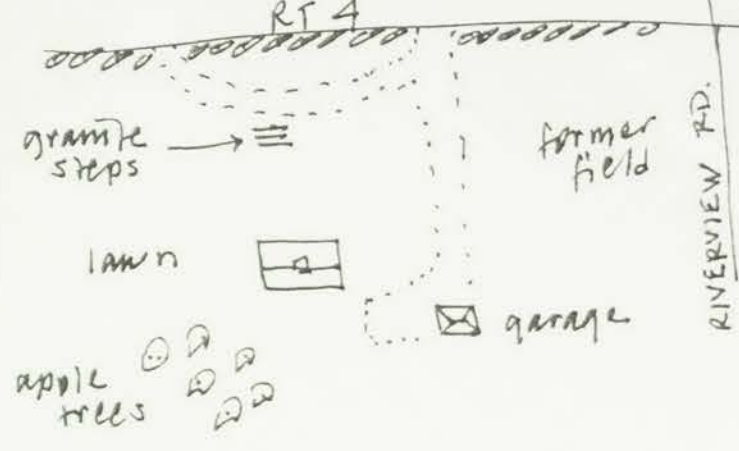


Photographer facing: SE
Photograph date: October 1998
roll# 1 frame# 23
Negative stored at: NHDOT

Location Map indicate North with arrow



Property Map indicate North with arrow



ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND COMPARATIVE EVALUATION:

The Palmer House is situated on the south side of Route 4, east of its intersection with Route 108. The 1.5-acre lot, which includes a house and detached garage, slopes upward and is shielded from the road by scrub behind a dry-laid stone wall. The south and west edges of the property are wooded. Both buildings are set well back from and above the road. A short set of granite and stone steps leads from the curved drive (no longer in use) toward the front entrance of the house. Old apple trees dot the land behind the house. Between this property and Riverview Drive to the east is an overgrown field.

The house is a 2-1/2 story, side-gabled, 3x3 house with the entrance set in the west facade bay. It rests on a brick foundation faced with concrete. Asbestos shingles cover the roof, and a squat brick chimney is centered on the ridge. Walls are covered with asbestos siding; exposed trim includes molded window casings and molded roof cornice with returns. The front entrance is crowned flat, applied trim boards to form a pediment. Partial sidelights with a double column of lights flank the doorway; the door appears original, with wood panels beneath a row of small lights. Windows contain a mix of 8/1 and 6/1 sash; on the facade, openings are flanked with shutters with star cut-outs and held in place by scrolled iron brackets. Each gable end has a single round-arched window opening with 6/1 sash. Projecting from the east elevation is a one-story, hip-roof porch with Tuscan columns and a brick deck. Double French doors provide access from the house. A smaller, extension off the west elevation is fully enclosed and lit by 6/1-sash windows. The second story of that elevation has paired casement sash set in a paneled surround in the northwest corner. The rear of the house has three windows with 6/1 sash, a narrow window with 4/1, and paired 1/1 sash (appears to be awning type) at the west end; windows on the upper story have standard-sized 6/1 sash throughout.

Southeast of the house is a hip-roof garage with wide clapboard siding, asbestos roof shingles, and a single overhead door on the west wall. The north elevation features paired casement-sash windows flanked by shutters with moon cut-outs.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND and role in Town's/City's development:

The origins of this house date back to late 1925 when Harold and Carolyn Palmer of York, Maine purchased the lot from Forrest Starr Smith. Smith was a descendant of Joseph Smith, the original settler of the 1660s Emery Farm (still in agricultural use and located east of this property, on the north side of Route 4). When he took over the family farm in 1900, he was a Boston realtor. Though he continued to live in Boston, he engaged tenant farmers and spent vacations on the farm. It is likely

Smith purchased the property, perhaps for development, as in the second half of the nineteenth century, the Bunker family had a house on the approximate site of the existing house (Inv. #3).¹

Little is known about the Palmers beyond the fact that Harold Palmer worked in a saw mill as an engineer. The house was standing by 1933, though the couple does not appear in town directories as late as 1936.² Palmer remained here after his wife's death until he sold the property to Lucy and Raymond Lehoulie in 1958. The Lehoulies were very active in local real estate and owned many parcels in Durham.³

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

A: The Palmer House is not eligible for the National Register under criterion A; it lacks association with any historical contexts significant within local history.

B: The Palmer House is not eligible for the National Register under criterion B. Its owners are not known to have played a highly significant role within the community or a particular professional area.

C: The Palmer House does not appear to be eligible for the National Register under criterion C. Based on a brief windshield survey, the Colonial Revival was a locally popular house style in the 1920-40s, but nearly all examples are located within residential neighborhoods in the immediate vicinity of the university. This house was not directly linked to the need for additional faculty housing and the resulting neighborhoods that grew up in the town center. Most of the other examples of the style are also more fully developed than the subject property: more elaborate entry detailing, quoins, and molded window caps are typical features. No other three-bay, side-gabled, sidehall examples were noted.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:

n/a

STATEMENT OF INTEGRITY:

The Palmer House retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials,

¹ 1856, 1871 and 1892 maps; Durham Historic Association, 1985: 153-4. Smith owned substantial real estate in the area. The adjacent housing development (Riverview Drive) to this property, Inv. #3, was laid out by Forrest Emery, F.S. Smith's nephew who inherited the farm.

² NHDOT Plan files.

³ Book 417/376 (1925), 456/171 (1933 mortgage), 687/249 (1958).

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL
RESOURCES - INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR Inventory # 3 DUR0005
NHDHR Area Letter -
Town/City Durham
County Strafford

Page 4 of 5

workmanship, feeling and association.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES:

Durham Historic Association, *Durham, New Hampshire, A History, 1900-1985*.
Canaan: Phoenix Publishing, 1985.

Durham Historical Society photograph files.

Manning's Dover, etc. Directory, 1924-41.

New Hampshire Historical Society photograph files.

Stackpole, Everett S. et. al., *History of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire (Oyster River Plantation)*. Concord: Rumford Press, 1913, two volumes. Reprinted by New Hampshire Publishing Company, Somersworth, 1973.

Strafford County Plan files.

Strafford County Registry of Deeds and Probate.

Maps, Atlases & Plans

1892 Map of Durham. From D.H. Hurd & Co.'s *Town and City Atlas of the State of New Hampshire*.

1931 Property Map of Durham. Collection of New Hampshire Historical Society.

1933 Route 4 Plan. NHDOT Project # NRS 249 (Roll #189).

1964 Route 4 Plan. NHDOT Project # F-012-2(4) (Roll #9-H).

APPLICABLE HISTORIC CONTEXT(S) with code:

none

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF
HISTORICAL RESOURCES
PHOTO SHEET

Inv # § DUR0005

Area: -

Town: Durham

Sheet 1 of 2

Date of Photographs: 10/98

Negs stored at: NHDOT

PHOTO # 1

Subject: Detail of front entrance

Photographer facing: S

Roll-frame#: 1-24



PHOTO # 2

Subject: East elevation

Photographer facing: W

Roll-frame #: 1-25



PHOTO # 3

Subject: Rear

Photographer facing: N

Roll-frame#: 1-26



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF
HISTORICAL RESOURCES
PHOTO SHEET

Inv # 3 *DUR0005*

Area: -

Town: Durham

Sheet 2 of 2

Date of Photographs: 10/98

Negs stored at: NHDOT

PHOTO # 4

Subject: West elevation

Photographer facing: NE

Roll-frame#: 1-27



PHOTO # 5

Subject: Garage

Photographer facing: S

Roll-frame #: 1-28



PHOTO #

Subject:

Photographer facing:

Roll-frame#: 1-

