

(August 1994)

Determination of Eligibility (DOE)

Date received: December 24, 1998

Inventory #: DUR0002

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: Jones Farm

County: Strafford

Address: 59 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 five of the NH DHR Inventory Form.

ENTERED INTO DATABASE

ACREAGE: 121.6

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:

ER Muzzey

NHDHR Inventory # *A DUR0002*

Code

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES—INVENTORY FORM

Included in Area -
County Strafford
Town/City Durham

09C
D14

Address 59 Piscataqua Road (Rt. 4)
Current Owner Robert & Leda Keefe
Property Name Jones Farm

Acreage 121.6A
Tax Map/Parcel# 11-13
UTM ref. 19/345295/4778000
USGS Quadrangle Dover West Scale 1:24,000

*Sp: 1188405
234558*

Use: Present single dwelling
Original single dwelling

DSD
DSD

Exterior Building Materials:			
Roof: asphalt	ASP	Walls: clapboard	WWB
Foundation: granite	STG	Chimney: brick	BRI
# of Stories: 2-1/2		Roof Shape: gable	
Chimney Location: center ridge		Entry Location: center	
Sash Type: 6/6 & varied		Plan Configuration: rectang'r with side wing	



Major Alterations (with dates):
fenestration; wing renovations; gar. addition; new sdg
Condition: good

Photographer facing: N
Photograph date: October 1998
roll# 1 frame# 5
Negative stored at: NHDOT

Outbuildings: attached garage, barn, shed, cemetery

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

Architect/Builder: unknown

Source:

Orig. Construction Date: ca. 1815

Source: research & physical evidence

Multiple building campaigns (see reverse)

Style/Form: Federal/Greek Revival

Moved: no

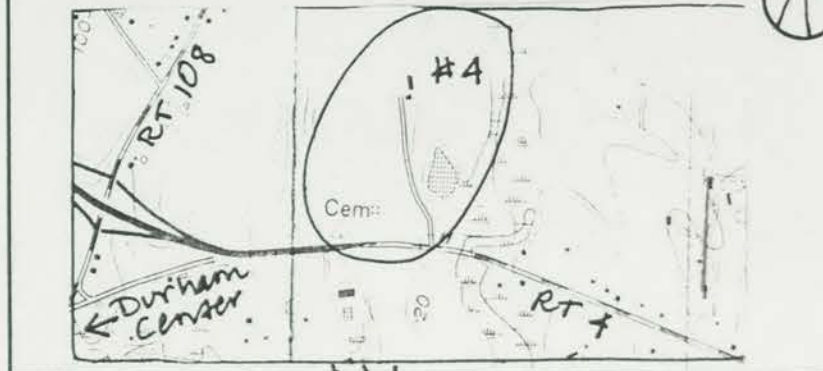
Date:

Surveyor: Elizabeth Durfee Hengen

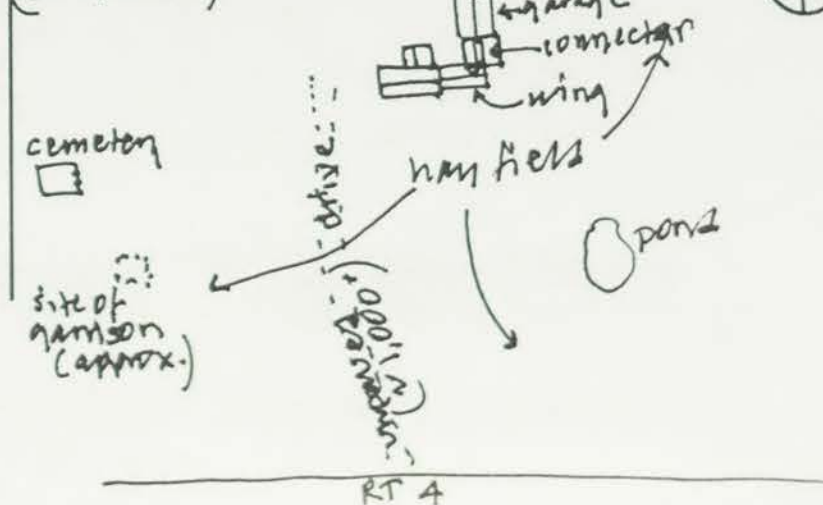
Recorded by:

Date of field survey: October 1998

Location Map indicate North with arrow



Property Map (not to scale) indicate North with arrow



ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND COMPARATIVE EVALUATION:

The Jones Farm is situated on the north side of Route 4, just east of its intersection with Route 108. The former farm includes nearly 122 acres of rolling fields (which are still hayed), woods and a pond in front of the house. A former stage road, which connected Durham and Dover but is now in disuse, crosses the property at its north end. Structures on the property include the house with connected garage, which is set back from Route 4 nearly one-quarter mile, barn, a shed and a family cemetery.

According to a descendant of the original builder and owner in 1913, the house was built ca. 1815; its exterior physical appearance corroborates this date.¹ It is a 2-1/2 story, 3x2-bay, side-gabled building with a center entrance and chimney and early east wing. It rests on a granite foundation. Asphalt shingles cover the roof; the close-cropped molded cornice with its abbreviated return is typical of the Federal style. Walls are clad with clapboards (replaced on the facade in the 1990s); trim is mostly flat and includes window casings (many with quarter-round caps), frieze board and paneled corner pilasters. The house combines simple Federal and Greek Revival stylistic features. The main entrance surround and full sidelights are Greek Revival in nature, though the four-panel door is reminiscent of the Federal period. Fenestration on the main house has undergone recent alterations as the standard-sized openings with 6/6 sash have been replaced on the first floor of the facade with tripartite sash set in enlarged openings. Fenestration on the rear elevation is irregularly spaced, though the openings are similarly sized and contain 12/8 sash. Access from the rear is provided through a gabled roof enclosed entry projection that appears to date from the mid-nineteenth century, based on its granite foundation, corner pilasters, flat trim, window openings with quarter-round caps, and cornice profile. The door is a six-panel, Federal-type door. (Heavy foliage around the projection makes it difficult to photograph: see photo #5.)

A 1-1/2 story, high knee-wall, three-bay wide wing (possibly an earlier house on the site but heavily altered in the mid-late twentieth century) extends to the east of the main block. It rests on a granite foundation, and has flat frieze and cornerboard trim. A stove chimney rises from the ridge. Its facade (south) entrance has a peaked entablature. Flanking it is a large, horizontal multi-pane picture window to the west and a pair of single-light windows to the east. Above the entrance is a wide tripartite window with a single pane in each section. The east elevation of the wing has sliding doors on each story (though there is no porch or deck) and a bricked-in opening in the cellar level. An historic photograph of the house (attached) taken prior to 1913 shows this wing as a 1-1/2 story structure of similar length but far

¹ Stackpole, 1913: 65. Dr. Alice Chesley owned the property in 1913 (see Historical Background section).

lower roofline. The south entrance is in much the same location, but instead of the peaked entablature, has a transom above the door. Though the photograph lacks clarity, the proportions of the wing suggest it might pre-date the main block.

A two-story gabled connector appended to the rear of the wing leads to a large, two-story garage addition (ca. 1950s; photo #6 & 7) that contains two vehicular bays on the west side of the first story (flush overhead doors) and living space above lit by standard-sized window openings with 9/6 sash on the west wall and a wide, tripartite window with single-lights on the east wall. An exterior brick chimney is found near the south end of the east wall. At the south end of the addition and attached to the east side of the connector is a one-story addition with triple windows on the east wall and sliding doors on the south (leading to the same non-existent porch or deck -- see photo #7). Both the garage and one-story addition have poured concrete foundations.

North of the garage addition is a collapsed shed that had vertical and horizontal board siding and a granite block foundation. Beyond it is a mid-twentieth century low-slung, front-gable barn clad with board and batten siding and a corrugated roof. Rolling double doors extend the length of the front; a traditionally sized transom and hay-type door is found above. According to the owner, the barn replaced an earlier dairy barn (located slightly to the east; stone foundation visible through scrub) that burned ca. 1950.

Southwest of the house and closer to Route 4 is a family cemetery set on a knoll. Used by members of the Jones family, it is set off by a granite block retaining wall with posts at the front corners and main (east) entrance, secured by a wrought iron gate.² The words "Jones" and "1895" are carved on the entry posts; granite steps lead into the graveyard. Approximately eleven granite or marble markers and two red granite markers stand; the yard is overgrown and other markers likely survive on the ground.

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

According to the Durham history, this property has been in the Jones family since the 1670s. Stephen Jones became an inhabitant of Oyster River, as Durham was originally known - in 1665 or 1666. In 1672 he was given a portion of Thomas Johnson's estate (from which Johnson's Creek received its name) and was residing

² Stackpole considered the granite wall "the best built burial enclosure to be found in this section of the country." (Vol. I, p. 240)

here by 1680.³ Shortly after receiving the land, Jones constructed a garrison on the property. It stood on the flat area south of the existing family cemetery and about twelve rods from the west property line. Though it burned prior to 1732, as recently as 1937, the spot was still marked by a depression in the ground where broken bricks and pieces of pottery and flint could be found.⁴ Jones' wife Elizabeth was the daughter of Darby Field, a resident of Oyster River Point as early as 1640 and distinguished as the first to climb Mount Washington.⁵

The farm remained in the Jones family until at least the mid-twentieth century. Following the first Stephen Jones, two successive generations of the same name farmed here. Captain Stephen Jones (1665-1756 and second generation) is described in Stackpole's 1913 history as a locally prominent citizen who "successfully defended his garrison and gave refuge to many in the massacre of 1694" (p. 231).⁶ Third generation Major Stephen Jones (1706-1797) lived to be ninety.⁷ His son Thomas (1775-1849) resided here in the first half of the nineteenth century. His wife, Betsey Chesley, was a direct descendant of Philip Chesley, who had been granted the land just west of the Jones Farm in the mid-1600s (and in whose family it remained into the 20th century). Thomas and Betsey Jones would have been the builders of the existing house. At the time they erected it, the First New Hampshire Turnpike, on which it fronted, had been open to travel for little more than a decade. A major route for goods and transportation, the Jones would have seen a great deal of daily traffic in the first half of the nineteenth century. By 1871 their eldest son William F. (1818-99) had inherited the property; he remained here until his death in 1899. William married Laura Chase in 1862 and served in the state legislature in 1862 and 1864.⁸

In the early twentieth century, the farm passed to Dr. Alice Chesley, the granddaughter of Thomas and Betsey Jones and niece of William F. Jones.⁹ Chesley was a successful physician who graduated from Tufts Medical School in 1900 and became the first female doctor in Exeter. She served as the school physician for

³ Stackpole, 1913: 64, 231. Thomas Johnson had had a 100-acre grant, but died intestate with no children. The land was re-granted to Jones. Thereafter, the lower portion of the creek was known as Jones' Creek.

⁴ The Colonial Garrisons of New Hampshire: 26. Oyster River Plantation had at least fourteen garrisons prior to 1694, many of which provided a line of defense along the Oyster River. ["Durham Garrisons"]

⁵ Stackpole: 190.

⁶ During this massacre, the Indians destroyed three garrisons and thirteen houses, and "killed and carried away" 94 people. Stackpole: 89. The newer red granite stones in the cemetery commemorate Captain Stephen and his wife Abigail.

⁷ Major Stephen and his wife Susannah Millett (1740-1829) are in the family plot.

⁸ 1871 and 1892 maps of Durham; probate records; Stackpole: II:235.

⁹ Though William F. Jones had two daughters apparently neither resided here.

UNH and Bradford Junior College. Both her office and residence were on High Street in Exeter, but she retained ownership of the farm until her death in 1943. Whether she spent any time here is unknown, but it is likely she employed a tenant farmer to manage the property.¹⁰ Following her death, the 150-acre property passed from her husband, George M. Lamprey, to her sister, Grace M. Chesley. Over the next few years, rights to the timber were sold and 30 acres sold off (unclear where, but not along road front). Between 1947 and 1957, the farm passed through several hands, including William Sleeper, Robert and Dorothy Westphal, and Gilbert and Winifred Davis. From 1957 until 1977 John and Rhoda Hogan owned the farm; the present owners, Robert and Leda Keefe, bought the property in 1977.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

A: The Jones Farm is not eligible for the National Register under criterion A. Though of interest for its nearly 300 years of association with the Jones family and its lengthy association with agriculture, a locally important industry for many years, many of the features associated with agriculture have been lost, most notably an historic barn and outbuildings. The loss of 30 acres in the mid-twentieth century does not affect its integrity. The survival of open fields on the remaining 120 acres is visually significant and enhances the setting of the property, but does not sufficiently outweigh the impact of lost agricultural structures to render it eligible for agriculture.

B: The Jones Farm is not eligible for the National Register under criterion B. Though members of the family played prominent roles in local history, none are known to have been highly distinguished. Dr. Alice Chesley's contributions to medicine may be significant, but since both her office and primary residence were in Exeter, the Jones Farm lacks direct associations with her in that manner.

C: The Jones Farm is not eligible for the National Register under criterion C. Though representative of an early nineteenth century residence with Federal and Greek Revival stylistic details, it has undergone major renovations in the mid-late twentieth century (altered fenestration, additions to and raised roof of the ell and new siding) which impact its architectural integrity.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:

n/a

¹⁰ Merrill, 1988: 53, 210; Stackpole: 66; 1931 Property Map; 1933 NHDOT plan.

STATEMENT OF INTEGRITY:

The Jones Farm retains integrity of location, setting, materials, and association. Its integrity of design, workmanship and feeling have been challenged by alterations to the fenestration on primary facades and substantial renovations to the historic wing. The garage addition in and of itself has less of an impact on the property's integrity, but cumulatively adds to the major reworking of a nineteenth century building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES:

The Colonial Garrisons of New Hampshire. Published by New Hampshire Society of Colonial Dames of America. Exeter: News Letter Press, 1937.

"Durham Garrisons." Unpublished manuscript in collection of Durham Historical Society, undated.

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

Durham Historical Society photograph files.

Garvin, Donna-Belle and James L., *On the Road North of Boston: New Hampshire Taverns and Turnpikes, 1700-1900.* Concord, NH: New Hampshire Historical Society, 1988.

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

Merrill, Nancy C., *Exeter, New Hampshire, 1888-1988.* Portsmouth: Peter E. Randall, 1988.

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.

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL
RESOURCES - INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR Inventory # 4 DUR0002
NHDHR Area Letter -
Town/City Durham
County Strafford

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Maps, Atlases & Plans

[undated] Map of Durham, drawn between 1804 and 1855. Collection of New Hampshire Historical Society. [does not show buildings beyond the center of town]

1856 Map of Durham. From J. Chace Jr.'s *Map of Strafford County*. Philadelphia: Smith & Bartlett.

1871 Map of Durham. From Sanford & Evert's *Atlas of Strafford County*.

1871 *Map of Strafford County*. Published by Sanford & Evert.

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:

45. Mixed agriculture and the family farm, 1630-present.

Surveyor's Evaluation:

NR listed: individual NR criteria: A NR eligible: individual
 within district B within district
 C not eligible
Integrity: yes D more info needed
 no

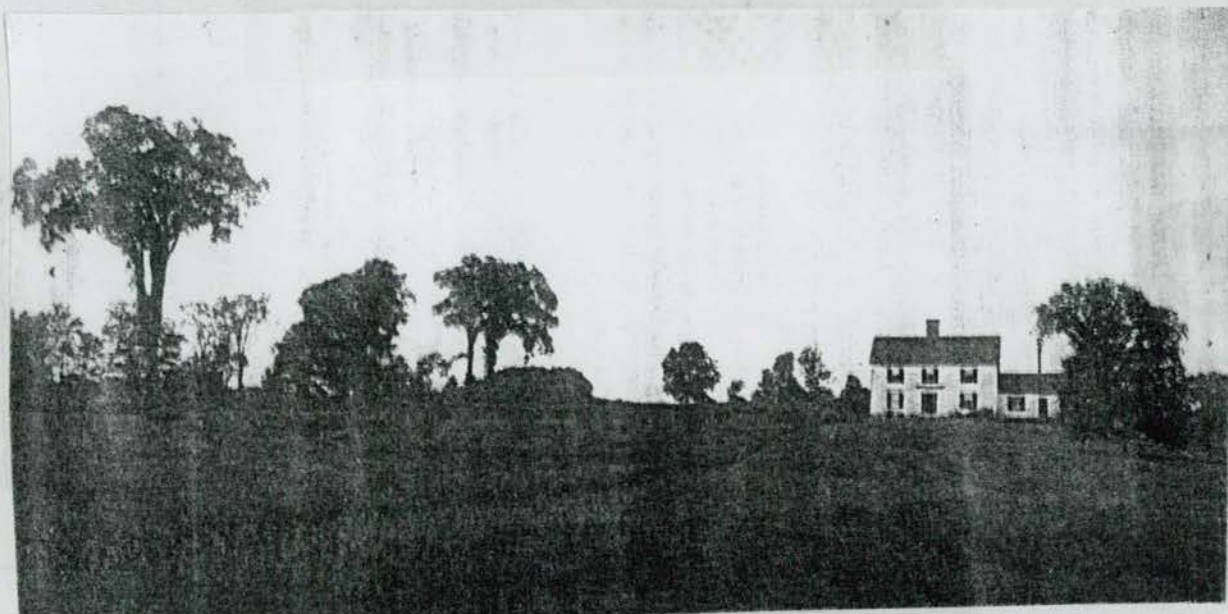
SHPO office - Reviewed for Determination of Eligibility (date): _____

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL
RESOURCES - INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR Inventory # 4 *DUR0002*
NHDHR Area Letter -
Town/City Durham
County Strafford

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Jones Farm
View taken ca. 1913
from Stackpole's *History of Durham*





NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF
HISTORICAL RESOURCES
PHOTO SHEET

Inv # 4 *DURO002*

Area: -

Town: Durham

Sheet 1 of 4

Date of Photographs: 10/98

Negs stored at: NHDOT

PHOTO # 1

Subject: Facade of main block

Photographer facing: N

Roll-frame#: 1-6

PHOTO # 2

Subject: Facade of wing

Photographer facing: NE

Roll-frame #: 1-7



PHOTO # 3

Subject: West elevation of main block

Photographer facing: NE

Roll-frame#: 1-13



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF
HISTORICAL RESOURCES
PHOTO SHEET

Inv # 4 *DUR0002*

Area: -

Town: Durham

Sheet 2 of 4

Date of Photographs: 10/98

Negs stored at: NHDOT

PHOTO # 4

Subject: Rear of main block

Photographer facing: SE

Roll-frame#: 1-14



PHOTO # 5

Subject: Rear of main block, showing
entry add-on

Photographer facing: SW

Roll-frame #: 1-8



PHOTO # 6

Subject: Attached shed/garage

Photographer facing: E

Roll-frame#: 1-9



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF
HISTORICAL RESOURCES
PHOTO SHEET

Inv# 4 *DUR0002*

Area: -

Town: Durham

Sheet 3 of 4

Date of Photographs: 10/98

Negs stored at: NHDOT

PHOTO # 7

Subject: East elevation, showing wing
& garage addition

Photographer facing: SW

Roll-frame#: 1-12



PHOTO # 8

Subject: Barn

Photographer facing: N

Roll-frame #: 1-10



PHOTO # 9

Subject: Collapsed shed

Photographer facing: N

Roll-frame#: 1-11



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF
HISTORICAL RESOURCES
PHOTO SHEET

Inv # 4 DUR 0002

Area: -

Town: Durham

Sheet 4 of 4

Date of Photographs: 10/98

Negs stored at: NHDOT

PHOTO # 10

Subject: View up drive toward house

Photographer facing: N

Roll-frame#: 1-1



PHOTO # 11

Subject: Family cemetery plot

Photographer facing: NW

Roll-frame #: 1-2



PHOTO # 12

Subject: Detail of cemetery entrance

Photographer facing: W

Roll-frame#: 1-3

