

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024

Name, Location, Ownership

- 1. Historic name James S. Rogers House
- 2. District or area Squam Lakes Multiple Property.Doc.
- 3. Street and number 645 Holderness Road
- 4. City or town Sandwich
- 5. County Carroll
- 6. Current owner Squam Lakes Conservation Society

Function or Use

- 7. Current use(s) Vacant/Not in Use; land in conservation
- 8. Historic use(s) Farmhouse; supervisor's headquarters and maintenance depot for Coolidge Estate

Architectural Information

- 9. Style Greek Revival
- 10. Architect/builder Unknown
- 11. Source Sandwich Historical Society Excursion 17
- 12. Construction date c. 1850
- 13. Source Physical inspection and report
- 14. Alterations, with dates Shed dormer added to rear section before 1922; window sashes replaced early twentieth century; chimney repaired/altered c. 1950.
- 15. Moved? no yes X date: c. 1850

Exterior Features

- 16. Foundation Granite
- 17. Cladding Clapboard
- 18. Roof material Asphalt shingles
- 19. Chimney material Brick
- 20. Type of roof Gable
- 21. Chimney location Ridge center
- 22. Number of stories One and a half
- 23. Entry location Facade, center
- 24. Windows Double hung
Replacement? no yes X date: 20th century

Site Features

- 25. Setting Agricultural/farm
- 26. Outbuildings Garage
- 27. Landscape features Cleared open fields; trees
- 28. Acreage 12.5



- 35. Photo #1 Direction: Camera facing northeast
- 36. Date May 18, 2021
- 37. Reference (file name or frame#): DSC 0139

- 29. Tax map/parcel # Map R-19; Lot 21
- 30. State Plane Feet (NAD83) X: -7959781.139090; Y: 5434423.416375; see plan of polygon coordinates
- 31. USGS quadrangle and scale Squam Mountains NH 1:24000 (1995)

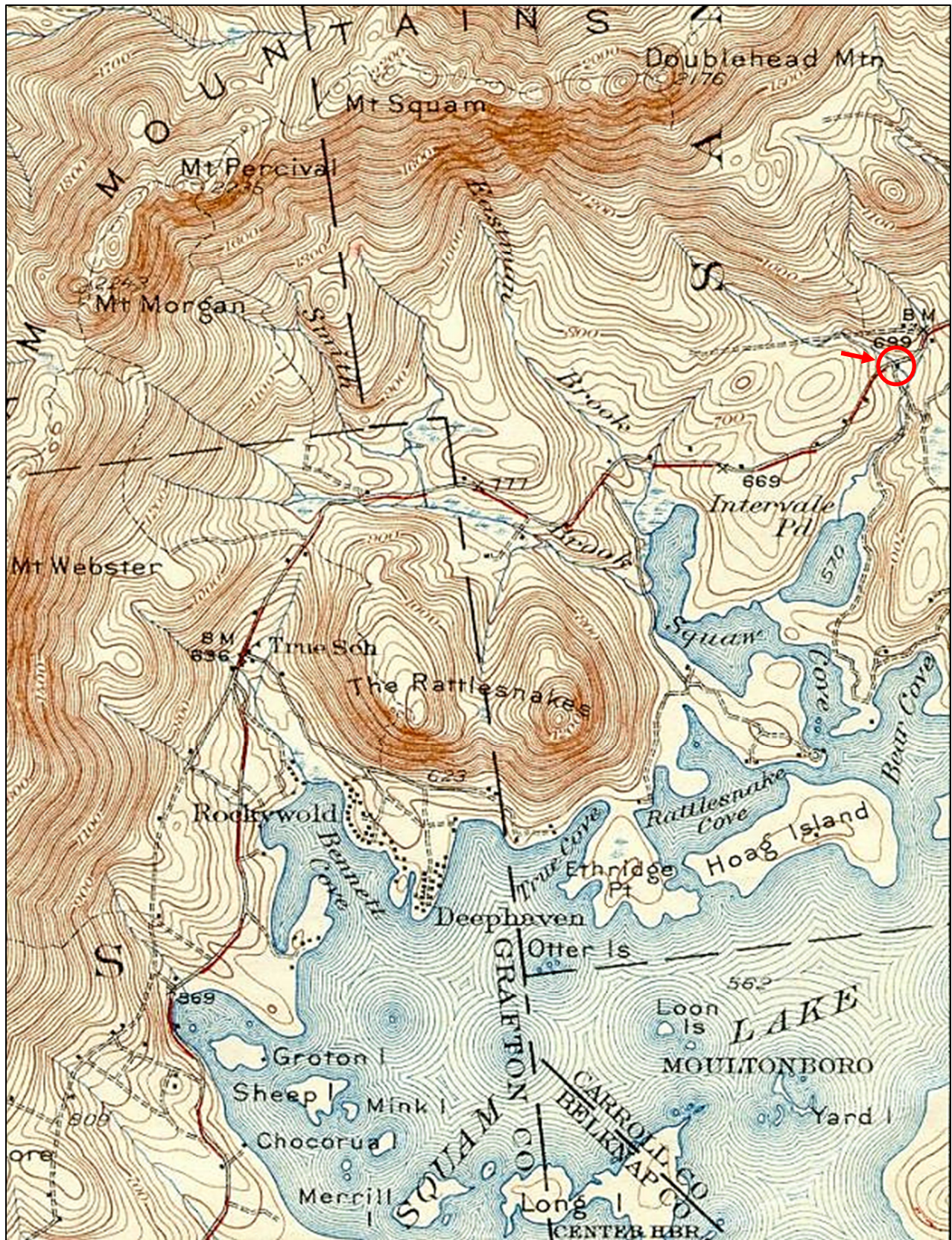
Form prepared by

- 32. Name James L. Garvin
- 33. Organization _____
- 34. Date of survey May 18, 2021

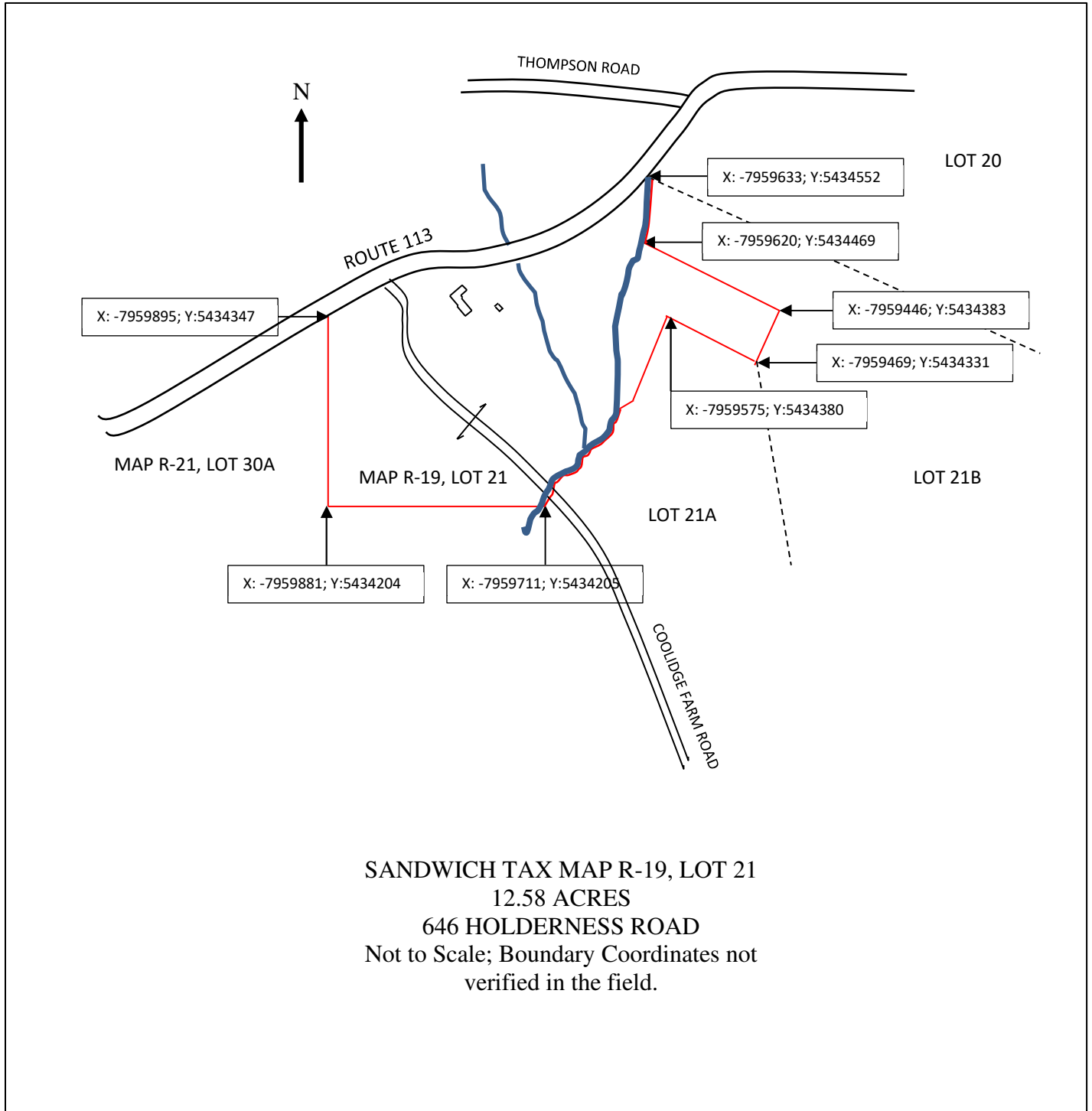
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39. LOCATION MAP



40. PROPERTY MAP



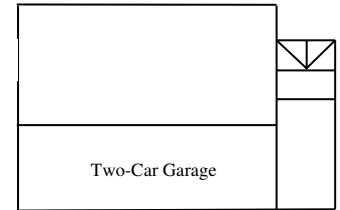
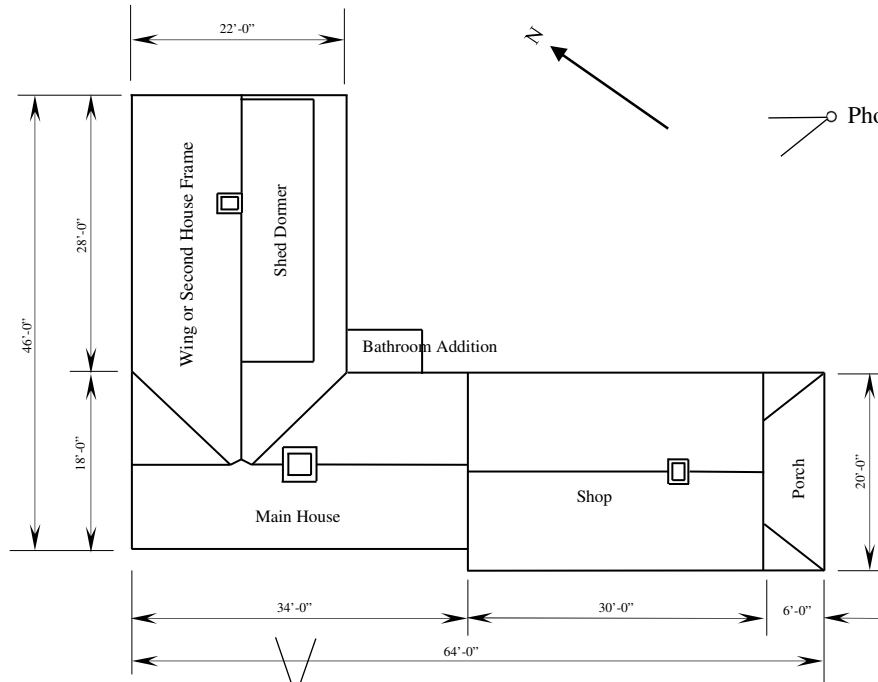



Photo 4

Photo 3

Photo 6



Location of camera  Field of View

KEY TO EXTERIOR PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 2

Photo 5

Photo 1

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

The house referred to in this Inventory Form as the James S. Rogers House began its existence as three separate structures that were assembled to form the present complex. It is unknown whether these structures originally stood on one parcel of land, or on separately owned parcels, or how far the separate frames were moved when they were brought together and connected as seen in Photo 1 and the plan on page 4. As described below, the date of their assembly as they are seen today may be estimated at circa 1850, and "c. 1850" is cited as the period of significance of the property under Criterion C (architecture).

The first attempt to describe the history of the building complex was apparently made in 1936, when the then-owner of the property, James S. Rogers, was a contributing author of a published *Excursion* of the Sandwich Historical Society. At that date Rogers, the presumed author of the entry on his own house, stated that

Samuel Kimball lived here, and his son James (1815-1889), then George Gurdy who married the widow of [James] Kimball. Norman Hodge also occupied it. It was owned by the Coolidges for a considerable period, and is now the property of Mr. and Mrs. James Rogers, who live here. Two houses and a shed were placed together to make the present dwelling, but so long ago that no one now remembers where the buildings originally stood.¹

While later maps indicate the buildings with a single symbol, the 1860 *Topographical Map of Carroll County, New Hampshire* shows James and Samuel Kimball occupying separate but adjacent houses on the current lot. As described below in Section 43, physical evidence suggests that the separate buildings were merged into the present homestead around 1850, so it is possible that the 1860 map (which contains various topographical inaccuracies) mistakenly shows the connected properties as two independent but nearby structures occupied by father and son rather than as a single connected dwelling.²

After passing through the various nineteenth-century owners listed above, the property was acquired by the Coolidge family of Boston. As described below under 44. "National or State Register Criteria Statement of Significance," the Coolidges began in the 1890s to purchase a number of farmsteads in the area at the north end of Squam Lake and into the Squam Mountain Range, eventually assembling holdings that totaled some 5,000 acres in extent (see 39 Location Map). These holdings included several farmsteads that were adjacent to the Rogers House. As described in the 1936 Sandwich Historical Society *Excursion*, the Coolidges restored those farmhouses on their properties that were in deteriorating condition, thereby initiating a program of deliberate preservation of rural buildings and their associated cultural landscapes.

The Rogers House was important to the Coolidges' conservation efforts. The house was made the gate lodge to the Coolidge Farm Road, a gravel road that provided the western point of access to the Coolidge Estate and the various preserved buildings and new camps that occupied sites across the Coolidge family holdings. Under the occupancy of the manager of the estate, James S. Rogers, the house and shop served as the maintenance headquarters and field office of the estate.

The Coolidges' motives in assembling these holdings were several. Paramount was the family's love of Squam Lake, which began when brothers Harold Jefferson Coolidge (1870-1934) and Julian Lowell Coolidge (1873-1954) first became acquainted with the lake when they spent summers as campers and councilors at Camp

¹ Property 35 in *Seventeenth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Covering that Part of Sandwich West of Chick's Corner*. August 20, 1936, p. 15.

² H. F. Walling. *Topographical Map of Carroll County, New Hampshire, from Actual Surveys*. New York, 1861.

Chocorua in the 1880s.³ A second interest, evidenced by the family's acquisition and restoration of a number of farmsteads and the restoration of their buildings (and occasionally their use as sites for family agricultural activities such as sheep farming), was the rescue and reuse of abandoned or failing farmsteads. In this effort, the Coolidges participated in a statewide and state-sponsored campaign to counteract the pervasive and portentous abandonment of New Hampshire's iconic farms and the state's traditional agricultural economy, as then seen in hundreds of empty farms in every part of the state. Led by Nahum J. Bachelder, secretary of the New Hampshire Board of Agriculture, the effort strove to induce out-of-state residents, some of them with strong roots in New Hampshire, to return to the state and purchase farms for use as summer homes or for a return to agricultural productivity.⁴ Third, in an initiative that was led by Joseph Randolph Coolidge VII (1887-1936) and James S. Rogers, the Coolidges managed their vast holdings with scientific forestry practices, harvesting trees and manufacturing lumber for sale and for use by family members in building their summer homes and camps.

The history of this multifaceted enterprise was summarized by James S. Rogers in his roles as manager of the Coolidge Estate and as a contributing author to the 1939 Sandwich Historical Society *Excursion*:

The beginning of this estate was in 1893 when J. Randolph Coolidge [V] [1828-1925] of Boston and Brookline purchased the Smith Farm. As time went on the family became more and more interested in maintaining a summer home and place for recreation and bought such adjoining and nearby properties as were for sale, bearing in mind protection of holdings acquired and [the] needs of the family group. By 1929, at the time of the death of Professor Archibald Carey Coolidge [1866-1928], the estate had reached its maximum size and a rough estimate places it as encompassing between four and five thousand acres, including farm buildings and summer homes and camps. In addition to the highways passing through the property, the writer estimates that about twelve miles of private ways have been built, many of them with fine stone culverts and surfaced with "rotten rock."

As a result of this aggregation of property, which is the largest in the history of the town of Sandwich, excepting that of the large timber holdings formerly of Parker Young Co. and later of The Draper Corporation, a large crew of men has been maintained for many years until quite recently. Teams and trucks with laborers were needed for the building and maintenance of the roads. Others were needed for the care and running of the farms; carpenters and others for the care and repair of the many buildings; and at other times when extensive building was going on, skilled artisans of various kinds were called in The operations also included the running of a mill for getting out building materials, and that in turn meant choppers, teams, teamsters, swampers, and the usual run of millmen with others to handle the sawed lumber. The very nature of the property, including large islands in Squam, such as Hoag Island and Long Island situated partly in Moultonboro, Center Harbor, and Holderness, has necessitated keeping a fleet of boats for use by members of the family, others for workmen and their tools and scows for transporting lumber and other building materials. Almost needless to say, some capable person has been needed to supervise and look after the business of the property and these men have been Frank W. Morrill, now of Kneeland-Morrill Lumber Co., Worcester, Mass., and James S. Rogers of Sandwich, a trained forester, engineer, and man of practical experience in such matters.⁵

³ Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, "SQUAM: The Evolution & Preservation of a Lakeside Community." National Register Multiple Property Documentation/Cover Form, 2012, p. 33.

⁴ Hengen, "SQUAM," pp. 28-29; Donna-Belle and James L. Garvin, *On the Road North of Boston: New Hampshire Taverns and Turnpikes, 1700-1900* (Concord, N. H.: New Hampshire Historical Society, 1988), pp. 179-83; Lorayne Billings, *One Grand Park: Remaking New Hampshire Farms into Summer Homes* [Saratoga, N. Y.]: L. Billings, 1998.

⁵ *Twentieth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Covering a Part of Squam Lake Section*, August 24, 1939, pp. 15-16.

Among the facilities that the Coolidges provided for their sprawling holdings, some of them being islands in Squam Lake such as Hoag Island and Long Island, was a gasoline-powered sawmill. They located the mill on the road leading south from the Rogers' house toward Squaw Cove on the lake (see 39. Location Map). This allowed logs to be transported to the mill from throughout the connected road system of the estate or floated to the mill from the islands, with finished lumber being distributed in the same ways.⁶ James Rogers would eventually become a specialist in the operation of portable sawmills.

James S. Rogers (1885-1946)

As depicted in James Rogers' own description of the Coolidge Estate and its management, quoted above, Rogers' role as manager of the property, applying the practices of professional forestry, represented a major chapter in the conservation and preservation history of Sandwich. Rogers' work as a trained forester, engineer, and land manager defines the principal period of significance of the Rogers home under Criterion A as the period of Rogers' occupancy, which extended from 1913 to Rogers' death in 1946, although that period of significance has been extended to 1971 (the arbitrary 50-year cutoff date for National Register listing) to include part of the period when the property was occupied by another prominent local family, the Michaels.

James Smith Rogers was born in Newbury, Massachusetts in 1885. His forebears were professional people, among them doctors and ministers. Rogers received his early education at the prestigious Governor Dummer Academy in nearby Byfield, then attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Following his graduation from MIT, Rogers entered the Harvard Forestry School, where he became acquainted with Joseph Randolph Coolidge VII (1887-1936) and graduated with the class of 1912. In December 1910, Coolidge established a partnership with classmates Rogers and Philip P. Brooks (Dartmouth 1910), naming the firm Coolidge, Brooks and Rogers and, upon graduating, opening offices at 89 State Street in Boston and in Sandwich. Rogers temporarily halted his classwork at Harvard to take immediate charge of the earliest work of the partnership.⁷

Rogers moved to Sandwich in 1913 with his new wife, the former Ida Louise Rand (1883-1939), and took up residence in the house at 645 Holderness Road, where the couple lived until their respective deaths. Ida Rogers kept a diary from 1911 through 1917, revealing details of life in the house and the couple's increasingly deep involvement with people and social life in Sandwich. Among other things, the diary reveals the Rogers' arrival at the house on September 24, 1913, the provision of eight cords of firewood for winter heat and ice for refrigeration, and James Rogers' use of the house as a drafting room in drawing maps of the Coolidge Estate.⁸ Cumulatively, these diary records portray the Rogers House both as the site of a family life that reached out into the Sandwich community and as a nerve-center for the surveillance, maintenance, and improvement of the sprawling Coolidge holdings of lands, waters, and structures of many kinds.

Rogers continued to manage the estate throughout his life while maintaining his broader activity in the firm of Coolidge, Brooks and Rogers, which specialized in the manufacture of lumber by portable sawmills. He became deeply embedded in the community of Sandwich, serving on the board of selectmen during the 1920s and 1930s; on the trustees of trust funds, the Town Forest Committee, and the local school district; and in many local organizations including the local Masonic lodge; his wife, Ida, was similarly active with local groups. During World War II, Rogers served as an air raid warden, using his shop to make wooden shovels for moving

⁶ Ibid., p. 23 and map, pp. 25-6.

⁷ *Twenty-Eighth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society* (1947), Necrology, p. 56; *Secretary's Third Report, Harvard College, Class of 1910* (Cambridge, Mass.), March 1917, pp. 84-5.

⁸ Diary of Ida Louise Rand Rogers, Sandwich Historical Society. Excerpts kindly provided by Geoffrey Burrows, curator of the Society.

incendiary explosives that might be dropped on the village. His obituary in 1946 described Rogers as “a man of sterling integrity; everyone respected him and had the greatest confidence in his judgment.”⁹

Joseph Randolph Coolidge VII (1887-1936); often called J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr.

James Rogers’ chief partner in the Coolidge family’s maintenance of the Coolidge Estate was J. Randolph Coolidge VII, the seventh in a direct line of Coolidge eldest sons to bear the same name. The repetition of the name sometimes makes it difficult to distinguish the activities of a particular J. Randolph Coolidge from his father or son since at least three generations were active in the life of Squam Lake and Sandwich and exerted their professional skills toward the betterment of Sandwich even though their roots and permanent homes were in the Boston area. Each of these men often took the designation of “Jr.” during and even after the lifetimes of their fathers, making it still more difficult to decipher references to them in various records.

J. Randolph Coolidge VII was a trained forester. As noted above, he recruited James Rogers and Philip D. Brooks as partners in the firm of Coolidge, Brooks and Rogers, headquartered in Boston but most active in Sandwich. Coolidge’s father, J. Randolph Coolidge VI (1862-1928, also often referred to in his time as J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr.) was a prominent and successful Boston architect who contributed the designs of the Wentworth Library, Town Hall, and Sandwich Home Industries buildings in Sandwich. His wife, Mary Hamilton Hill Coolidge (1862-1952), the mother of forester J. Randolph Coolidge VII, became the founder of the Sandwich Home Industries in 1926 and the first president of the League of New Hampshire Arts and Crafts in 1931.

Despite the artistic talents and interests of his father and mother, J. Randolph Coolidge VII was drawn to forestry at an early age, creating the firm of Coolidge, Brooks and Rogers even before he and his partners had finished their studies at the Harvard Forestry School in 1912. In addition to his own forestry consulting partnership, Coolidge was a director of the Colonial Lumber Company and a member of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.¹⁰ At first interested in the operation of portable sawmills for lumber production, Coolidge eventually became a specialist in preservatives for structural timber. In 1925 and 1927, he received patents for impregnating wood with preservatives; both patents focused on the use of montan wax, derived by extraction from lignite or coal, as a preservative or in combination with more traditional wood preservatives such as creosote. Coolidge established the Montan Treating Company (Montan, Inc.) in Boston and acted as its president.¹¹ Although Coolidge’s montan process was initially intended to treat timbers, pilings, and utility poles, the technique quickly adapted to the treatment of other wooden products, including baseball bats, where it reportedly improved the essential qualities of the wood.¹² In 1938, Coolidge received another patent for methods of utilizing creosote impregnating plants for the application of other wood preservatives without the previously required decontamination of the plant from all creosote residues.¹³

Monroe and Bernice Michael

After the deaths of Ida Rogers in 1939 and of James in 1946, the Rogers House became the property of Monroe and Bernice Michael, who assumed roles in the community similar to those of James and Ida Rogers and are affectionately remembered by Sandwich residents of the current generation. Monroe (“Mike”) Michael (1916-

⁹ *Twenty-Eighth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society* (1947), Necrology, p. 56.

¹⁰ *Secretary’s Third Report, Harvard College, Class of 1910* (Cambridge, Mass.), March 1917, pp. 84-5.

¹¹ Obituaries, *Boston Globe*, September 23, 1936, September 24, 1936; U. S. Patents 1,556,570, October 6, 1925 and 1,648,295, November 8, 1927.

¹² *Springfield Reporter* (Springfield, Vermont), November 13, 1931.

¹³ U. S. Patent 2,135,463, November 1, 1938.

2010), a native of New York City, moved to Sandwich after his father's death and joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), working in New England and as far west as Colorado. Michael served in the European Campaign as a soldier in the 825th Tank Destroyer Battalion during World War II. In 1948, he married Bernice and operated an express company with a brother, living in the Rogers House (more recently known in the Sandwich area as the Michael Farmhouse) for over sixty years and raising a family there. He worked at the Sandwich village store for over thirty years, becoming a fixture in the social life of the community.¹⁴

Bernice ("Bunny") Michael (1914-2018) was born in Manchester, N. H., and earned a four-year degree in teaching from the Keene Normal School (now Keene State College) in 1935. Upon graduating, she moved to Sandwich to teach home economics at the Quimby School, followed by brief service as the town librarian and by thirty-five years of employment in the Sandwich Post Office, including service as postmaster, until her retirement. Like Ida Rogers before her, Bunny was active in many Sandwich organizations, including Eastern Star, the Grange, the Sandwich Historical Society, and the Community Church, becoming one of the community's best-known figures and dying at the age of 104 in 2018.¹⁵

42. Applicable NHDHR Historic Contexts (please list names from appendix C):

- 404. Logging, lumbering and sawmills, 1630-present
- 405. Wood products mills and shops in New Hampshire
- 520. Agriculture, general
- 1506. The land conservation movement in New Hampshire

43. Architectural Description and Comparative Evaluation:

The Rogers House set of buildings includes 1) a center-chimney timber-framed Cape Cod dwelling that faces southwest toward Coolidge Farm Road, a private gravel road; 2) a framed wing that extends northeasterly from the rear side of the center chimney dwelling and has its own chimney; 3) a large, kneewall-framed shop, also with a chimney, attached directly to the eastern end elevation of the center-chimney house; and 4) a detached two-car garage that has a framed addition on its southeastern end.

A sketch map or roof plan of the principal complex, with approximate building dimensions, is provided on page 4 as a Photo Key. As noted under Section 41, the Sandwich Historical Society has stated that "the two houses and a shed [shop] were placed together to make the present dwelling, but so long ago that no one now remembers where the buildings originally stood." Physical evidence on the exterior and interior of the buildings suggests that the houses were moved to the present site around 1850 and remodeled into the connected complex that survives today.

The group of buildings stands on a 12.5-acre lot which is largely an open field along Coolidge Farm Road but is forested behind (to the northeast of) the house. Forest cover is largely mixed hardwood species. A small brook runs in a southerly direction behind the house and merges with a second brook that forms sections of the easterly boundary of the lot. The merged stream eventually discharges into Squam Lake. Adjacent parcels of land, privately owned, were once portions of the larger farmstead but have been subdivided for ownership by former family members.

¹⁴ Obituary, Manchester (N. H.) *Union Leader*, March 3, 2010.

¹⁵ Obituary, <https://www.currentobituary.com/obit/225887>.

The Cape Cod House

As seen in Photo 2, the Cape Cod house was treated as the foremost building in the assemblage of structures that were assembled on the site around 1850. The single feature that indicates that this was not a house that originally stood on this site is the fact that it has no cellar, but only a shallow crawl space beneath the first floor. The outer walls of the building are supported by a low perimeter footing of stone. The interior floor girders are supported on wooden posts set in the ground.

The Cape Cod house structural unit was clearly chosen as the façade of the assembled pair of houses because it replicates the appearance of a traditional one-and-a-half-story dwelling. With its symmetrical fenestration, large central chimney, and low eaves, this unit cannot be recognized from the exterior as anything other than a characteristic dwelling of the early 1800s. Due to its present irregular fenestration, the second house, which functions as a large wing in the assemblage, has lost its resemblance to a typical dwelling of the early 1800s.

The joinery of the Cape Cod house is characteristic of the 1850 period. As seen in Photo 2, the exterior window casings are composed of flat boards without backband moldings or other embellishment. This stylistic severity is characteristic of the late Greek Revival style. The style began to find favor around 1830, supplanting the more delicate Federal style. The Grecian style began to be supplanted by more elaborate Victorian detailing after 1850. In the years toward the mid-1800s, the style was often expressed through details of extreme simplicity. Such simplicity is seen in the front doorway of the house (Photo 3). Although the doorway has some molded features, its general expression is one of deliberate simplicity and plainness. This would have been recognized as stylistically modern in the mid-nineteenth century.

The interior of the house retains its mid-nineteenth-century style in the large room or parlor that faces toward Holderness Road on the western end of the building (Photos 8 and 9). The parlor mantelpiece (Photo 8) adheres to the very plain Greek Revival style, contrasting with the rather sophisticated door casings and doors of this room, which reflect a more elaborate interpretation of the same style.

The rooms on the eastern end of the house have been reconfigured and remodeled at various times during the twentieth century and have lost earlier datable features. An eastern room, which evidently functioned as the nineteenth-century kitchen of the house, retains a cast iron door for a brick oven. The door bears the cast inscription "Lake Village, N. H.;" Lake Village is now Lakeport, N. H. The style of this door is characteristic of the 1850 period, and its general pattern was shared with a number of doors made in various New Hampshire iron foundries at about this date; one pattern, made in South Newmarket (today Newfields), usually bears the date "1849." This date correlates with the appearance of the woodwork in the western room of this house. Because a chimney would normally be dismantled from a house that was to be moved, and reconstructed in the new location, the oven door of circa 1850 strengthens the likelihood that this house, and presumably its companion structures, were moved to this site and joined together around 1850.

The Wing or Ell

The second building unit in the assemblage (Photo 4), treated as a wing extending from the rear of the Cape Cod dwelling in the front, has one large room and two small rooms (one treated as a modern kitchen) on its first story. Above, in what was undoubtedly an unfinished attic for many years, are two finished bedchambers reached by a staircase that ascends from the front house. Because these upper rooms are finished with plaster or gypsum board, the roof frame of this unit is hidden from view.

As seen in Photo 4, the eastern slope of the roof of this structure was provided with a shed dormer to light the bedrooms. A historic wintertime photograph of 1922 of James Rogers and his automobile (Photo 7) shows that the dormer had been added to the roof by that date. The dormer can almost certainly be associated with the Rogers occupancy or ownership of the house, which is the period of its principal significance under Criterion A.

The lower frame of this structure is marked by projecting corner posts, while the corner posts for the Cape Cod house in front are invisible. It was a common practice in the first few decades of the nineteenth century to hew back the projecting corners of such posts in order to allow plaster to be carried to the corners of the rooms, and this may have been done in the front house. The plaster in the rear building is applied over split-board lath, which was the common lathing system from the late 1700s until 1850 or later, depending on the date when circular saws became locally available to saw individual wooden laths.

While there is no cellar under the Cape Cod house, the rear wing was provided with a deep cellar that extends under the full frame. The stones of the cellar walls are mortared, not laid dry, and are whitewashed. They may have been bedded in mortar from the date of construction, although dry-laid foundations were not rare in the mid-1800s.

Because of its interior remodeling at various times, this building unit has fewer datable features than those seen in the front house. Two doors of this section, and a number of window casings, appear to be original features and indicate a date that is earlier than 1850. This type of door dates from the end of the Federal period of joinery and carries into the early Greek Revival period, which began around 1830. It is simple in its detailing and was probably most commonly fashioned for less expensive or less elaborate houses. These details may have been retained without much change when this building was moved to the present site.

Shop Building

The shop building (Photo 5) was an important place of work for James Rogers, who was a skilled woodworker as well as a trained forester. The building is attached directly to the eastern gable end of the Cape Cod house. The clapboards of the house, retaining an early dark paint and showing few signs of weathering, remain on the gable end house that abuts the shop and are visible from the shop at a door that connects the attics of the two buildings.

The shop has the appearance of a small English barn, but is too small to have been built as a barn and is framed differently from most English barns. It was apparently built as a high-posted shop or an agricultural storage building.

The building is framed with hewn timbers. As in the roof system of the Cape Cod house, the timbers were hewn with a broadaxe and not further smoothed. The roof of the shop, like that of the Cape and presumably of the rear house, is a rafter-and-purlin frame. The principal difference between the shop's roof frame and those of the two houses is the fact that the shop has a kneewall frame. In such a frame, the second story is supported by posts (and sometimes girts) that lie well below the wall plates that receive the feet of the rafters, providing a high attic with raised walls, called "kneewalls," around the perimeter of the spacious attic and increasing the capacity of the attic for storage.

Kneewall buildings, used for both houses and barns, began to be popular in New Hampshire in the 1830s. It is possible that this shop dates from that general period, although it could of course be later. The shop may have been brought to the site along with the two houses, or could have been added to the complex at some time after the houses were brought together and remodeled as a single dwelling.

The interior of the shop is unfinished (Photo 10) and has a stove chimney that was not present in Photo 7, taken around 1922.

Two-Bay Garage

Standing alone to the east of the connected buildings is a two-bay garage for motor vehicles (Photo 6). The garage has a two-part shed connected to its southeastern end, one portion of which could formerly have been a privy. The detailing of the garage, with its heavily framed sliding doors and diagonal sheathing, suggests a date of the 1910s or 1920s. Inside, the garage has wood-sheathed side walls and a concrete floor, adding to the substantial, early-twentieth-century appearance of the building. The rear (northeastern) wall of the garage was extended by a shed-roofed addition to accommodate longer vehicles, a common alteration of garages that were originally proportioned for Ford automobiles or trucks.

This garage displays one anomaly: it is framed with a rafter-and-purlin roof like those of the two connected house frames and the shop, although more crudely hewn and more lightly framed than in those buildings. Such roof frames generally gave way to roofs of closely-spaced common rafters during the 1830s. It seems improbable that any carpenter would frame a building with such a roof in the age of the automobile. This suggests the possibility that the garage may be a remodeled agricultural outbuilding of a relatively early period, thoroughly disguised with well fashioned doors and trim in the early twentieth century. Before its remodeling, the present garage could have stood on this property or, like the other buildings in the group, could have been moved from elsewhere.

Comparative evaluation:

Despite its possible origin in another location, the Rogers House takes the form of a central-chimney Cape Cod house with balanced fenestration on the façade and characteristic Greek Revival exterior detailing. This general type of dwelling is one of the most common house types in Sandwich even in Center Sandwich village, where two-story houses are also commonplace but Cape Cod houses are the single most prevalent domestic type. The National Register nomination for Center Sandwich states that “all of the buildings are either in the vernacular tradition of early to mid-nineteenth-century New England or reflect to some degree the Federal and Greek Revival high styles. The buildings’ forms and materials are also very similar. Of the forty-nine structures built as houses, twenty-six are capes or modified capes, and eleven are symmetrical two or two and a half story buildings, the larger counterpart of the cape. . . Most of these wooden buildings are clapboarded. . . So, while there is little repetition in the design of the District’s buildings, the similarities of style, form, size, and materials give the village a pleasing architectural unity.”¹⁶

44. National or State Register Criteria Statement of Significance:

Under Criterion A, the Rogers House became a significant example of a farmhouse that was acquired by a wealthy family of “summer people” when the Coolidge family purchased it (and several neighboring farmhouses) for preservation and use by tenants. This action placed the property within a context (not yet

¹⁶ David L. Ruell, “Center Sandwich Historic District” (National Register of Historic Places nomination). National Register Information System Number 83003997 (1983). See also David L. Ruell, “Lower Corner Historic District [Sandwich, N. H.]” (National Register of Historic Places nomination). National Register Information System Number 86003380 (1986), and the individual nomination for a classic Cape Cod house: Stearns and H. Charlotte Smalley, “Bradbury Jewell House,” (National Register of Historic Places nomination). National Register Information System Number 86002792 (1986).

represented in the context list of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources) of the dramatic depopulation of rural areas in the late nineteenth century and the energetic state-sponsored initiative to encourage the purchase of abandoned or underutilized farms as summer homes.¹⁷ As a property purchased by the family that was in the process of assembling the largest privately owned land preserve in Sandwich, the Rogers House is likewise significant within the context of the development of country estates in the Squam watershed.¹⁸ As a property that was occupied by James S. Rogers, a partner in the Coolidge-related forestry consulting business and was used as both a residence and as an administrative headquarters in the management of the Coolidge forest lands, the house is significant within the contexts of “Logging, Lumbering, and Sawmills,” “Wood Products Mills and Shops in New Hampshire,” and “The Land Conservation Movement in New Hampshire.”

Under Criterion C, the Rogers House is significant as a characteristic example of a vernacular “Cape Cod” dwelling, a house type that predominates in the Sandwich area, making the house a typical representative of a widely used type of architecture within its region.

45. Period of Significance:

Criterion A (social history): c. 1850-1971 (the arbitrary 50-year cutoff date)

Criterion C (architecture): c. 1850

46. Statement of Integrity:

The Rogers House retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, having been maintained as a family home with little exterior change since the mid-nineteenth century.

47. Boundary Discussion:

The boundary shown in 41. Property Map (Map R-19; Lot 21), is the current land parcel of the Rogers House, now owned by the Squam Lakes Conservation Society. While this 12.5-acre holding does not represent the boundaries of the farmlands that surrounded the house during agricultural use in the nineteenth century, the property is presently being nominated for the significance of the house as a dwelling and an administrative headquarters for forest management on the adjoining Coolidge Estate, not as a component in a farmstead.

48. Bibliography and/or References:

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Brereton, Derek Pomeroy. *Campsteading. Family, Place, and Experience at Squam Lake, New Hampshire*. New York: Routledge, 2010.

Campbell, Catherine Hartshorn. *Little History of the Squam Lakes. In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Squam Lakes Association* (second ed., rev.) Center Sandwich: Harvest Press, 1980.

¹⁷ This context is defined in Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, “SQUAM: The Evolution & Preservation of a Lakeside Community,” National Register Multiple Property Documentation/Cover Form, pp. 28-31.

¹⁸ Hengen, pp. 32-36.

Carley, Rachel. *Squam*. Holderness, N. H.: Squam Lakes Association, 2004.

Cline, A. C. *Harvard Forest Bulletin No. 10*, Part III "The Marketing of Lumber in New Hampshire, 1925." Petersham, Mass.: Harvard Forest, 1926.

Garvin, James L. "Report on the Michael Farmhouse, Formerly Known as the James Rogers House, 645 Holderness Road, Sandwich, New Hampshire" (unpublished), May 22, 2021.

Hengen, Elizabeth Durfee. "SQUAM: The Evolution & Preservation of a Lakeside Community." National Register Multiple Property Documentation/Cover Form. Endorsed by the National Park Service August 2012.

Ruell, David L. "Center Sandwich Historic District" (National Register of Historic Places nomination). National Register Information System Number 83003997 (1983).

----- "Lower Corner Historic District [Sandwich, N. H.]" (National Register of Historic Places nomination). National Register Information System Number 86003380 (1986).

Sandwich Historical Society, *Sandwich, New Hampshire, 1773-1990: "A Little World By Itself."* Portsmouth, N. H.: Peter E. Randall, 1995.

Sandwich Historical Society Annual Excursions (in chronological order):

Rogers, James S., Ida L. Rogers, et al. "Data Concerning Points of Interest Along the Holderness Road West of Chick's Corner." Seventeenth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Sandwich, N. H., 1936 [including the Rogers House].

Eighteenth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Covering a Part of Center Sandwich, N. H., Sandwich, N. H., 1937.

Nineteenth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Covering a Part of Center Sandwich, N. H., Sandwich, N. H., 1938.

Rogers, James S. et al. "Data Concerning the Squam Lake Section of New Hampshire." Twentieth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Sandwich, N. H., 1939 [including the Coolidge Estate].

Rogers, James S., obituary. Twenty-Eighth Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society, Sandwich, N. H., 1947.

Barney, W. Pope, "Highlights of Sandwich Architecture." Forty-Third Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society." Sandwich, N. H., 1962.

Tolles, Bryant F. Jr., "Architectural Highlights of Center Sandwich Village, A Note." Sixty First Annual Excursion of the Sandwich Historical Society." Sandwich, N. H., 1980.

Smalley, Stearns and Charlotte, "Bradbury Jewell House," (National Register of Historic Places nomination). National Register Information System Number 86002792 (1986) (a classic Cape Cod house in Sandwich).

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024

CONTINUATION PAGE

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 _____

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024

Date photos taken: May 18, 2021



Photo # 2 Description: Front (main) House, front and side elevations
Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0088

Direction: Camera facing east



Photo # 3 Description: Front door of main house, showing Greek Revival stylistic features
Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0086

Direction: Camera facing northeast

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024



Photo # 4 Description: Rear frame (wing) attached to main house, showing added shed dormer
Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0092 Direction: Camera facing northwest



Photo # 5 Description: Shop building attached to main house (partly seen at left)
Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0083 Direction: Camera facing northeast

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024



Photo # 6 Description: Detached two-car garage, early twentieth century

Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0095

Direction: Camera facing northeast



Photo # 7 Description: Historic photo from *Sandwich, New Hampshire, 1763-1990* (1995).

Photograph dated c. 1922, showing James S. Rogers and his Ford "Snowmobile," house in background with shed dormer.

Reference (file name or frame#): Scan from page 167 of the book.

Direction: Camera facing southwest

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024



Photo # 8 Description: Parlor on the western side of the main house
Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0114

Direction: Camera facing east



Photo # 9 Description: Detail of upper right-hand corner of closet shown in Photo 7.
Reference (file name or frame#): DCS0130

Direction: Camera facing southeast

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024



Photo # 10 Description: Interior of shop building looking toward porch

Reference (file name or frame#): DSC0134

Direction: Camera facing southeast

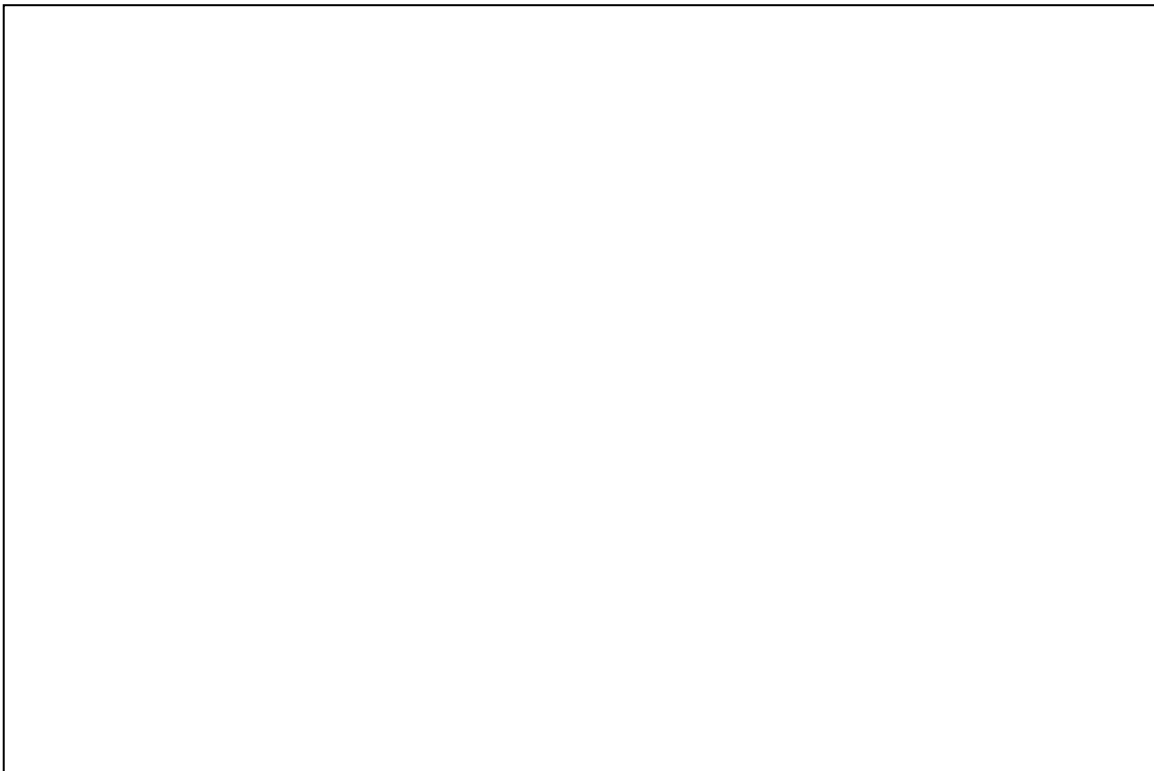


Photo # _____ Description:

Reference (file name or frame#):

Direction:

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY # SWH0024

PHOTO KEY IS LOCATED ON PAGE 4

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 at the following commercial printer OR were printed using the following printer, ink, and paper: _____.
(Color photos must be professionally printed.)
The negatives or digital files are housed at/with: James L. Garvin .

SIGNED

: *James L. Garvin*

FOR STATE REGISTER LISTING ONLY!

If this inventory form is being submitted for consideration of New Hampshire State Register listing, have you included:

 a photo CD with digital images included in the nomination (does not apply if film photography was used)

 the State Register Contact Information sheet