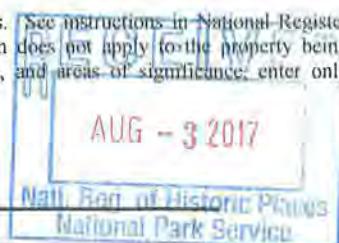


SG-1L21

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Emery FarmOther names/site number: Chase Tavern

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 16 Emery LaneCity or town: Stratham State: NH County: RockinghamNot For Publication:  Vicinity: 

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

8/2/17

Signature of certifying official&gt;Title:

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

*for Edson R. Beall*

Signature of the Keeper

*9.18.17*

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:   
Public – Local   
Public – State   
Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)   
District   
Site   
Structure   
Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
_____	_____	sites
1	0	structures
_____	_____	objects
3	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE: tavern  
AGRICULTURE: barn  
AGRICULTURE: irrigation system  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Georgian

Greek Revival

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### Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Weatherboard, Granite, Metal,  
Brick

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Emery farmhouse is a 2 ½-story, side-gabled house with center chimney constructed c.1740. According to historic accounts an additional section originally extended to the north but was removed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Projecting from the rear elevation of the main house block is a shallow, two-story section and a small single-story porch was added to the north gable end in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Offset at the southwest corner is a two-story wing, altered in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. To the south of the house there is a large gablefront barn with cow stalls and attached corn crib. The level eleven-acre property also includes remnants of a late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century irrigation system including several wells and brick-lined cisterns as well as a large metal tank on the upper level of the barn. The house is located on a historic alignment later bypassed by a new multi-lane, busier road (Portsmouth Avenue/NH Rt. 108) to the east. There are several historic properties to the north including the town cemetery and a church and open land extends behind the house to the west. Although modified in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the interior of the house retains a number of original Georgian-style features as well as the imprint of the later Greek Revival. Although no longer in agricultural use, there are still open fields behind the house and barn and the property retains historic integrity.

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### Narrative Description

Located on the west side of Emery Lane at its southerly junction with Portsmouth Avenue (NH Rt. 108) in the town of Stratham, the Emery House is a two-story dwelling which is a single bay deep and presents a three-bay façade eastward to the road. The house is sheathed in wood clapboards which extend nearly to the ground, largely obscuring a foundation that combines stone and concrete. The building is outlined by simple cornerboards and the eaves are close. The gable roof is presently sheathed in sheet metal with a large, central brick chimney (rebuilt) rising from the ridge. The façade is screened by a tall Russian Olive hedge that runs along the road. Centered on the east façade, the main entrance contains a four-panel door that is hidden behind an outer door of vertical boards. The entrance is flanked by partial (three-light) sidelights and capped by a shallow door hood. Historic images indicate that the present entrance was preceded by a Greek Revival-style entablature door surround with full sidelights. The façade windows consist of wooden double-hung six-over-six sash. Those on the second story are slightly smaller and the tops of the windows extend to the eaves.

The north gable end was historically a single-bay wide and the center opening on each floor is filled with modern replacement 6/6 sash. Projecting from the west corner is a 20<sup>th</sup> century single-story porch suspended on stilts. Inside the porch there is a glass-and-panel door and an additional window.

The west (rear) elevation is a shallow, two-story projection eight feet deep supplementing the main house block which measures approximately 37' x 22'. A 1953 photograph of the house shows four double-hung 9/6 windows on the second floor of the rear elevation; these have been replaced by a casement unit, greenhouse window and fixed pane. The three lower level openings contain modern 1/1 and 6/6 sash.

The south gable end of the building features an exposed granite foundation, two 6/6 windows on the first floor, a single smaller 6/6 centered on the second floor and a small square 2/2 sash lighting the attic above. Offset to the southwest is a clapboarded two-story addition set above a brick foundation with a lower level exposed by the sloping ground behind. A 1956 article about the house notes that the original house had only four rooms but that additions had "increased the number to 13, including four basement rooms. Two grandmothers, a great aunt, and Emery children required space that was made by the additions".<sup>1</sup> The illustration accompanying the article shows the front of the wing largely as it appears today. The metal-covered roof above the second floor windows on the would-be gable front is flat and there is a narrow brick chimney. The front of the wing has two 6/6 windows on the first floor and a door adjacent to the main house block, sheltered by a simple hip roof with lattice side panel. The two upper level façade

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<sup>1</sup> "The Emery House, Stratham, NH", *The Haverhill Gazette*, Feb. 11, 1956.

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windows are smaller. The south elevation of the wing has a mixture of modern windows and the rear (west) elevation has a bump-out added c.2000.

### Interior Description

The two-story main house block displays a hall and parlor house floor plan with two rooms on each floor arranged around a central chimney with the addition of a lean-to at the rear. The house's interior displays a combination of 18<sup>th</sup> century Georgian and mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Greek Revival features and finishes. Set against the chimney the main triple-run staircase has delicate turned newel and angle posts and simple spindle balusters. The open string has elaborately carved brackets. The door surrounds framing the openings on either side of the front stairhall are Greek Revival in style with fluted moldings and cornerblocks with raised pyramids. Several of the four-panel doors have thumb latches.

The south room on the first floor has a simple kitchen fireplace that incorporates a brick oven with a hinged cast iron door with a movable vent. The room has exposed posts and beams and unpainted rough wainscoting. Across the stairhall, the north room on the first floor has a simple mantelpiece with incised pilasters enframing the fireplace opening and supporting a shelf above. Of the four rooms in main block, the north room on the second floor exhibits the most elaborate joinery. The fireplace wall features raised panels, simple fluted pilasters and a later two-panel door on one side. The door leading to the hallway is of a four-panel configuration. In the south room on the second floor, the finishes are noticeably more simple. There is a plain brick fireplace with a shelf added above and a four-panel door to the west. The beams have been exposed and the ceiling stuccoed by the present owner.

On the first floor, the lean-to attached to the rear of the main house block now houses a modern kitchen. A fifth fireplace is hidden behind the east wall of the kitchen. Below this, in the basement, there is a simple (sixth) brick fireplace. Inscribed in the concrete hearth of the basement fireplace are the initials "J.F.E" (John Fred Emery) in script and the date - Jan. 12, 1928. According to a 1956 article, the original house had only four rooms but additions had increased the number to 13, including four basement rooms to house various family members.<sup>2</sup> The two-story wing offset to the southwest has modern finishes.

### Barn (Contributing building)

To the south of the house is a gablefront, post and beam barn with close eaves and a center entrance consisting of double vertical board doors in what was originally a larger opening. The barn is flanked on either side by a lean-to with 6/6 windows on the north and south elevations. The south shed has a vertical board door facing the road while the north shed has double doors. With the exception of the rear elevation, the barn is sheathed in clapboards and the roof is

<sup>2</sup> *Haverhill Gazette*, Feb. 11, 1956.

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covered in corrugated metal and/or asphalt shingles. The foundation materials include rubble and concrete blocks. The west (rear) elevation of the barn has an exterior of vertical boards and there is an attached corn crib. The south lean-to extends the entire length of the barn while the north lean-to is shorter with a sliding door on the rear elevation. A late 20<sup>th</sup> century greenhouse was located on the south side. There are two cow stalls on the main level as well as sleeping quarters for a farmhand and numerous examples of names of former workers and dates carved into the wood.

Irrigation System (Contributing Structure)

The property still retains various remnants of a late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century irrigation system that once watered the fields behind the house and barn. According to the present owner, there was originally a dug well in the back woods that was later filled. In the middle of the field there is a brick-lined, below ground cistern and a steam pump which was at one time sheltered by a small wooden building. A second cistern with a hand pump is located just behind the barn. A large metal water tank is located at the highest point of the barn and was used to irrigate the fields. It is believed that there was at one time a windmill that pumped the water.

Description of Remainder of Lot

The property encompasses approximately 11 acres of level land with open fields and woods. The area immediately surrounding the house includes small trees and other vegetation.

The house is located at the south end of Emery Lane, just off Rt. 108, a busy State-maintained road in the town of Stratham. To the north of the house, there are two dwellings that were also owned by the Emery family at one point and beyond that is the Community Church and Cemetery. To the south of the house there is a mix of what was formerly agricultural land and modern housing developments.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture

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**Period of Significance**

c.1840-1967 (Criterion A)

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**Significant Dates**

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**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

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**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

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**Architect/Builder**

Timothy Jones, joiner (?)

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The primary significance of the Emery Farm is under National Register Criterion A, Agriculture, on the local level, for its associations with market gardening in the town of Stratham. The property had operated as Chase's Tavern, an important local center for business and community affairs in the 18<sup>th</sup> century but by the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century has ceased to function in that capacity. In 1829 the property was acquired by Joseph Emery, a blacksmith, who also apparently operated a modest farm operation here. After Joseph's death in 1840 his widow, Sophronia, and son, John, continued that practice. In a community which was dominated by farming, John Emery became a local market gardening pioneer in the 1850s, taking his fruits and vegetables by horse-drawn wagon to sell in Exeter, Portsmouth and Dover. The growing popularity of market gardening in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the success of the Emery family illustrates the changing realities for local farmers. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the Emerys opened a roadside stand that was to become a local landmark. All told, the family engaged in market gardening for more than a hundred years, finally selling the property in 1971. The period of significance for the property under Criterion A is 1840-1967 (the National Register cut-off).

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History

What is now the town of Stratham was first settled in 1638 and the main road, the King's Highway (now Portsmouth Avenue) was laid out in 1681 and linked Portsmouth and Exeter. The town was incorporated in 1716 and the first church/meetinghouse was built in 1717. A town center developed where Portsmouth Avenue intersected with roads leading east (the present day Winnicutt Road) and west (College Road/Route 108). For the first hundred or so years, town affairs were conducted in taverns, at the meeting house and in private homes.

In January 1748 or 1749 Timothy Jones (1716-1795), a Stratham joiner, sold what appears to be the property at 16 Emery Lane to Jonathan Chase for 1050 pounds.<sup>3</sup> The "messuage or tenement" contained approximately four and a quarter acres of land and included a dwelling house, barn, and all other buildings thereon.<sup>4</sup> Jonathan Chase (1652-1749) died in 1749 and left the property to his wife Joanna (1680-1756). Joanna gave the house and land to her son, Thomas Chase.<sup>5</sup>

Thomas Chase (1720-1757) was the first family member to operate Chase's Tavern at what is now 16 Emery Lane. Located near the meetinghouse, Chase's Tavern was an important center for business and community affairs and the most noted of the old taverns that once operated in Stratham. According to R.M. Scammon, writing in 1899, the tavern was "kept in the house now owned by John Emery, though the original house was considerably larger, an addition on the north end having been taken down many years ago".<sup>6</sup> Town meetings were occasionally held at Chase's Tavern and the selectmen also transacted town business here.<sup>7</sup> After Thomas Chase's death, the tavern was run by his widow, Love Chase (1718-1802). Samuel Lane, a Stratham resident who died in 1806, mentions Chase's Tavern on numerous occasions in his diary. Lane "logged considerable time at Chase's neighborhood tavern, meeting with individuals to write

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<sup>3</sup> The deed (Rockingham County Registry of Deeds, Brentwood, NH, Book 73, Page 225) indicates that the sale took place the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, "One Thousand Seven Hundred and forty Eight Nine". Timothy Jones was born in Stratham. He signed the Association Test in Epping in 1776 and served in the militia. He died in Epping in 1795.

<sup>4</sup> Jones had purchased the lot of land from John Clark in July 1747 for 175 pounds (Book 33, Page 229).

<sup>5</sup> Rockingham County Registry of Deeds, Book 40, Page 115.

<sup>6</sup> R.M. Scammon. "Down the King's Great Highway: A Sketch of Stratham", *Granite Monthly*, vol. XXVI, no. 3, March 1899, p. 143. Another version of the story was told by Rev. Roland D. Sawyer in 1953. He suggests that the back side of the house is a section that was the original Chase Hall. According to him the first town meeting of the town of Stratham (established in 1716) was held on April 10, 1716 in the Chase Hall. Rev. Sawyer (1874-1969) was a Congregational minister, politician and self-publishing historian who lived in Kensington, NH. His version of the history of Chase Hall has not been verified. See "Views and Reviews of Old Rockingham: The Chase-Emery House in Stratham", *Hampton Union*, Nov. 26, 1953.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

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their deeds, plot their land, or tend to their probate needs".<sup>8</sup> He also noted the tavern as the location for meetings held on behalf of the Bow Proprietors beginning in 1759 and to plan a new meetinghouse in 1768. In 1776 Mrs. Chase's was the location for a town meeting to draw a petition to be presented to the Congress against the assumption of unwarranted powers. Other meetings were also held here related to the War for Independence over the next several years.<sup>9</sup>

Mrs. Love Chase was assisted in the operation of the tavern by her son, Maj. Dudley Leavitt Chase (1751-1816). He was commissioned in the Continental Army in October 1776 and left the army in 1780. Major Chase was a skilled flute player and entertaining storyteller. An ardent champion of the Revolution, he was at the center of many a spirited discussion at the tavern.<sup>10</sup> At the time of her death in 1802 Love Chase left the property to her grandson Andrew Chase, the son of Dudley Leavitt Chase. "Chase's Inn" is shown on both the 1793 Phineas Merrill map as well as the 1806 revision of the 1793 map. Andrew Chase (1787-1875) lived here for a time with his wife, the former Sarah Clark.

In 1829 Andrew Chase, Jr. of Roxbury, Massachusetts sold the property on which his parents had resided to Joseph Emery, a blacksmith, for \$200 (Book 258, Page 397). The deed describes the property as a "tenement containing about four acres of land with all buildings thereon" lying on the west side of the road from Exeter to Portsmouth.<sup>11</sup> The important role that the tavern played in town affairs had come to an end. A new Congregational Church was constructed in 1837 (the present Stratham Community Church, 6 Emery Lane) and the town leased the basement for town offices.<sup>12</sup>

It was Joseph Emery (1802-1840) that made the weathervane that caps the Church but he died an untimely death several years later in 1840 at the age of 38. County probate records include an inventory of the property at 16 Emery Lane, completed on behalf of his widow Sophronia.<sup>13</sup> At the time of his death Joseph Emery, described as a machinist, left his home place valued at \$900, a woodlot (oak) valued at \$38, \$100, and a pew at the Congregational Church valued at \$50. The inventory also lists the various household items. It would appear that Emery maintained a modest farming operation with a cow, hay, farming utensils, a wheelbarrow and provisions consisting of Indian corn, pork and potatoes. The household furniture included a clock, two tables, six yellow chairs, four red chairs, five other chairs, a rocking chair and arm chair, a cook stove, one half post bedstead, a feather bed, two other beds including a trundle bed, several looking glasses and pictures. In addition to crockery, glassware, tinware, utensils and linens,

<sup>8</sup> Jerald E. Brown. *The Years of the Life of Samuel Lane, 1718-1806: A New Hampshire Man & His World*. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2000, p. xxii.

<sup>9</sup> Charles Lane Hanson, editor. *A Journal for the Years 1739-1803 by Samuel Lane of Stratham, New Hampshire*. Concord: NH Historical Society, 1937, p. 10 & 49.

<sup>10</sup> Scammon, p. 143.

<sup>11</sup> A number of 20<sup>th</sup> century newspaper articles state that the Emery family purchased the property in the early 1820s. This could not be verified however it is possible that the property was rented to the Emery family before they purchased it.

<sup>12</sup> Discussions regarding building a separate town building began in the 1850s but Stratham's first town hall was not built until 1877. The French Second Empire style building still stands at 151 Portsmouth Avenue.

<sup>13</sup> Rockingham County Probate Case #13987.

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there were also books and a set of silver spoons. In 1858 Sophronia Emery (1800-1886) sold the property to her twenty-four-year old son John Emery for \$300.<sup>14</sup> On May 29, 1859 John Emery (1834-1923) married Mary Hodgdon. Sophronia continued to live with her son and daughter-in-law for many years.

John Emery was the first in Stratham to operate as a market gardener and was a pioneer in the business.<sup>15</sup> He is said to have begun market gardening in 1855. The Emery horse-drawn wagon was a familiar sight in Exeter, Portsmouth, and Dover and it wasn't long before other farmers followed their lead by offering door-to-door deliveries.<sup>16</sup> The U.S. Census, Agricultural Schedule for 1860 offers a detailed look at the John Emery farm operation. At that time the farm included 8 improved acres and had a cash value of \$1,000, making it one of the smaller of the 117 farms operating in town in 1860. Emery had a horse, a milk cow and a pig and harvested 25 bushels of Indian corn, 2 bushels of peas and 30 bushels of Irish Potatoes as well as producing 100 lbs. of butter. The value of produce grown for market was \$150. At the time there were only four farms in Stratham that were engaged in market gardening – the other three belonged to Nathan Adams whose produce was valued at \$180; James Drinan (\$300) and William Roby (\$700). By the time of the 1870 Census Emery was one of eight market gardeners in town and one of the two most profitable, earning \$500 from produce on nine acres of land. In 1871 the editor of the Exeter newspaper published a brief mention boasting of "a feast of green corn and ripe tomatoes of the Trophy variety, raised out of doors, which were a sight to behold", the products of Emery's "model farm".<sup>17</sup> Strawberries were relatively scarce in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and Emery took the first cultivated strawberries into Portsmouth.<sup>18</sup> His strawberries brought more 40 cents and more per box and his melons sold for half a dollar. In 1880 Emery was tilling thirteen acres and also had 14 acres of meadow and 8 acres of woodland. That year there were 103 farms in town, including nine other market gardeners. The value of the produce Emery sold in 1879 was \$330, second only to the Furnald farm which sold \$450. According to an 1899 article, "no business in town has developed more rapidly in recent years than market gardening. The work is exacting, and the products are varied as the list in the seed catalogue but it is uniformly profitable."<sup>19</sup>

Farming in New Hampshire was tough work and not as profitable as in other areas of the country. To combat declining revenues, farmers tried to emphasize other strategies including orcharding, dairy farming, market gardening, poultry raising and stock breeding. Market gardening paid well and became increasingly popular near cities and large towns in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Publications like *New Hampshire Farms for Summer Homes* issued by the state Board of Agriculture included figures to show that money could be made on the New

<sup>14</sup> Rockingham County Registry of Deeds, Book 382, Page 174.

<sup>15</sup> Scammon, p. 148.

<sup>16</sup> Virginia Rae, "Stratham's Oldest Voter Has Been Farming 88 Years", *The Boston Sunday Globe*, September 18, 1955, p. 80.

<sup>17</sup> *Exeter News-Letter*, July 28, 1871

<sup>18</sup> Rae.

<sup>19</sup> Scammon, p. 149.

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Hampshire farm by dairying, market gardening, raising hay, vegetables and fruits and stock breeding.<sup>20</sup>

As a young man, John Fred Emery (1869-1963) began helping his father, John L. Emery, and after graduating from Exeter High School in 1886 John Fred Emery became his father's partner in the market garden business. J. Fred married his wife, the former Frances Stoddard, on March 18, 1896. On their wedding day the couple went to live in the old homestead.<sup>21</sup>

In 1899 the Portsmouth newspaper reported that J. Fred Emery, had erected a small greenhouse.<sup>22</sup> In 1915 the Emery farm consisted "of eighty acres, is improved with good substantial building, and is under a high state of cultivation".<sup>23</sup> In 1919 John Fred Emery opened the summer roadside stand known as Emery's Drive-In, the first in the area. A somewhat direct sign at the stand declared "God help those who help themselves, but God pity those found here helping themselves".<sup>24</sup> Emery was known for his sense of humor and also for his poetry. He wrote poems for almost every occasion and many had a historical bent. Emery apparently wrote out his drafts longhand in preparation for typing. The Stratham Historical Society has multiple copies of his handwritten drafts in cursive that were later typed. An excerpt of his poem "Parson's Elm" is visible on Page 19 of this nomination.

J. Fred Emery kept his fruit and vegetables in cold storage, bringing out small lots as needed. Much of the produce sold at the stand was grown on the Emery farm, including melons, tomatoes and corn.<sup>25</sup> The 1923 Town Valuation lists John Emery as owning 37 acres of land with J. Fred Emery the owner of 27 acres. In addition to the homestead at 16 Emery Lane, the Emery family also owned the two adjacent dwellings to the north at 12 Emery Lane and 14 Emery Lane.<sup>26</sup> Rows of vegetables and fruits were planted behind the three houses. Representing the latest in farm technology, a windmill pumped water from wells and a large storage tank (still extant) was located on the upper level of the barn. From here the accumulated water flowed by gravity to the fields for irrigation. As the 20<sup>th</sup> century progressed, the number of market gardeners in Stratham decreased. In 1911 there were eight including John F. Emery.<sup>27</sup> By 1955 only John Emery and Benjamin Gowen on High Street were listed in the local directory as market gardeners.

<sup>20</sup> *Portsmouth Herald*, May 18, 1910

<sup>21</sup> "John Fred Emery", typewritten, dated August, 1957. Stratham Historical Society.

<sup>22</sup> *Portsmouth Herald*, December 7, 1899.

<sup>23</sup> Charles A. Hazlett, *History of Rockingham County, New Hampshire and Representative Citizens*, 1915, p. 1296. The exact number of acres is not clear. The 1923 town valuation indicates that J. Fred Emery then owned 27 acres of land while his father owned an additional 37.

<sup>24</sup> Charles B. Nelson, pp. 98-99.

<sup>25</sup> Rae.

<sup>26</sup> Deed research indicates that John Emery purchased the present 12 Emery Lane from the Richard Horne estate in 1887 (Book 508, Page 90). It was sold by Emery family descendants in 1982.

<sup>27</sup> The others in 1911 were George Gowen on High Street, W. Herbert Lang on Stratham Heights Road, S.M. Pearson and Son on Willow Avenue, James Piper on High Street, Mark Piper on Portsmouth Ave., James Robie on Portsmouth Ave., and Benjamin Witham on Winnicutt Road.

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In addition to his farming, J. Fred Emery was also active in town and state affairs. He served as a selectman, tax collector, police chief, highway agent, auditor and forest fire warden for the town. He was the superintendent of the Congregational Cemetery, and was also a past great sachem of the Independent Order of Redmen of New Hampshire. He also served in the state legislature in both the House and Senate and in 1907 introduced the bill freeing the Stratham-Newmarket (now Newfields) toll bridge, the first toll bridge to be freed in the State.

On June 12, 1923 the *Portsmouth Herald* reported that John Emery, then the second oldest resident of Stratham, had died at the age of 90. He was born in the same house where he died. After his father's passing, John Fred Emery, continued in his father's footsteps. In spite of supermarkets and increasing competition, Emery was still operating the produce stand in 1955 at the age of 88. An article appearing in the *Boston Sunday Globe* declared him New Hampshire's oldest market gardener.<sup>28</sup> In January 1963 John Fred Emery died at his home on Emery Lane at the age of 93 after a long illness. He had just recently celebrated his 66<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with his wife Frances.

Ownership of the Emery Farm passed to John Fred Emery's son, John Lamson Emery (1897-1977). He worked for many years as a custodian of the town hall and local schools and was also cemetery superintendent for the town of Stratham. In 1971 John L. Emery sold the house at 16 Emery Lane to Richard and Miriam Wiggin.<sup>29</sup> In 1978 the Wiggins sold the property to Martin and Diana Koski who owned it only two years before selling to John H. Reiss.<sup>30</sup>

The road in front of the Emery Farm, originally the King's Highway and later Portsmouth Avenue and now Emery Lane, also reflects changing times in Stratham. In 1901 the Portsmouth and Exeter Street Railway trolley line ran past the farm, part of a 12-mile route. It did not last long however. By 1910 the system was bankrupt and in 1912 workmen began tearing up the tracks on Portsmouth Ave.<sup>31</sup>

In the 1930s Portsmouth Avenue was designated NH Route 101, the main east-west road in southern New Hampshire.<sup>32</sup> The road was paved in 1929 using the latest in new concrete road technology.<sup>33</sup> In the 1950s Emery Lane was created as part of a larger plan to improve Route 101 (now Rt. 108/33). By creating Emery Lane, the Community Church was no longer on the state highway. The project also included construction of the traffic circle at College Road.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>28</sup> *Boston Sunday Globe*, September 18, 1955, p. 80.

<sup>29</sup> Rockingham County Registry of Deeds, Book 2113, Page 67.

<sup>30</sup> Rockingham County Registry of Deeds, Book 2304, Page 700 & Book 2379, Page 1755.

<sup>31</sup> Craig Brandon. *Stratham at 300*. Stratham 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, 2014: 136-7.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid, p. 138.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid, p. 143.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid, pp. 145-147.

Emery Farm  
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Source: *Granite Monthly*, March 1899, p. 136

Emery Farm  
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Early 20<sup>th</sup> century view

Source: Stratham Historical Society

Emery Farm  
Name of Property

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c.1953 View of Emery's Drive-In with John Fred Emery

Source: Stratham Historical Society

Emery Farm  
Name of Property

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SHS 85.2.40

## The Parsons Elm.

The stately elm that stood for years  
Beside the Parsons' well  
How many years it proudly stood  
No one living can tell.

When the first skinner roamed the wood-lands  
They saved this tiny sprout  
It was a land for them there  
Without the slightest doubt.

When Thomas Hopper rode afield  
He rested here to shelter  
Until the sun its rays did cool  
And easy travelling made.

When Henry Rust came here to preach  
Our fathers good to do  
He paused here verance years ago  
To rest at this grand tree.

When Washington came to Exeter  
From Portsmouth by the sea  
He paused and ate Salty cod  
This mammoth stately tree.

J. Fred Emery's handwritten draft for "The Parsons Elm"

Source: Stratham Historical Society

Emery Farm  
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Emery Farm  
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U.S. Census, Stratham, New Hampshire, 1840-1940. Population and Agricultural Schedules.

## Maps

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Barker, Bruce. Map showing property boundaries and owners as of 1710. Stratham Historical Society, Acc. #95.4.1.

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Merrill, Phineas. *Plan of the Town of Stratham.* July 17, 1793.

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Stratham Historical Society. *Historical Map; Town of Stratham.* Stratham: 1985.

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## Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register

Emery Farm  
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH  
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- previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** approx. 11 acres \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

1. Zone: 19	Easting: 343760	Northing: 4764220
2. Zone: 19	Easting: 343740	Northing: 4764090
3. Zone: 19	Easting: 343520	Northing: 4764130
4. Zone: 19	Easting: 343405	Northing: 4764230
5. Zone: 19	Easting: 343440	Northing: 4764340
6. Zone: 19	Easting: 343600	Northing: 4764290
7. Zone: 19	Easting: 343600	Northing: 4764250

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property is Tax Map 13, Lots 37 & 38 in the local assessors' records.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary reflects the acreage that remains intact from the Emery Farm property.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Lisa Mausolf, Preservation Consultant  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: 6 Field Pond Drive  
city or town: Reading state: MA zip code: 01867  
e-mail lmausolf@att.net  
telephone: (781) 944-5958  
date: June 2017

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Emery Farm  
Name of Property

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### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Emery Farm

City or Vicinity: Stratham

County: Rockingham

State: NH

Photographer: Lisa Mausolf

Date Photographed: April 27, 2017

Photo 1: View looking west of east façade.

Photo 2: View looking northwest of south and east (façade) elevations

Photo 3: View looking northwest at south and east elevations of wing

Photo 4: View looking east at west (rear) elevation

Photo 5: View looking southwest at east (façade) and north elevations of barn

Photo 6: View looking east at west (rear) elevation of barn

Photo 7: View looking west at open field behind house

Photo 8: View looking SW at front staircase

Photo 9: View looking SE at paneled wall in upstairs (north front) chamber

Photo 10: View looking south at fireplace in first floor (north front) room

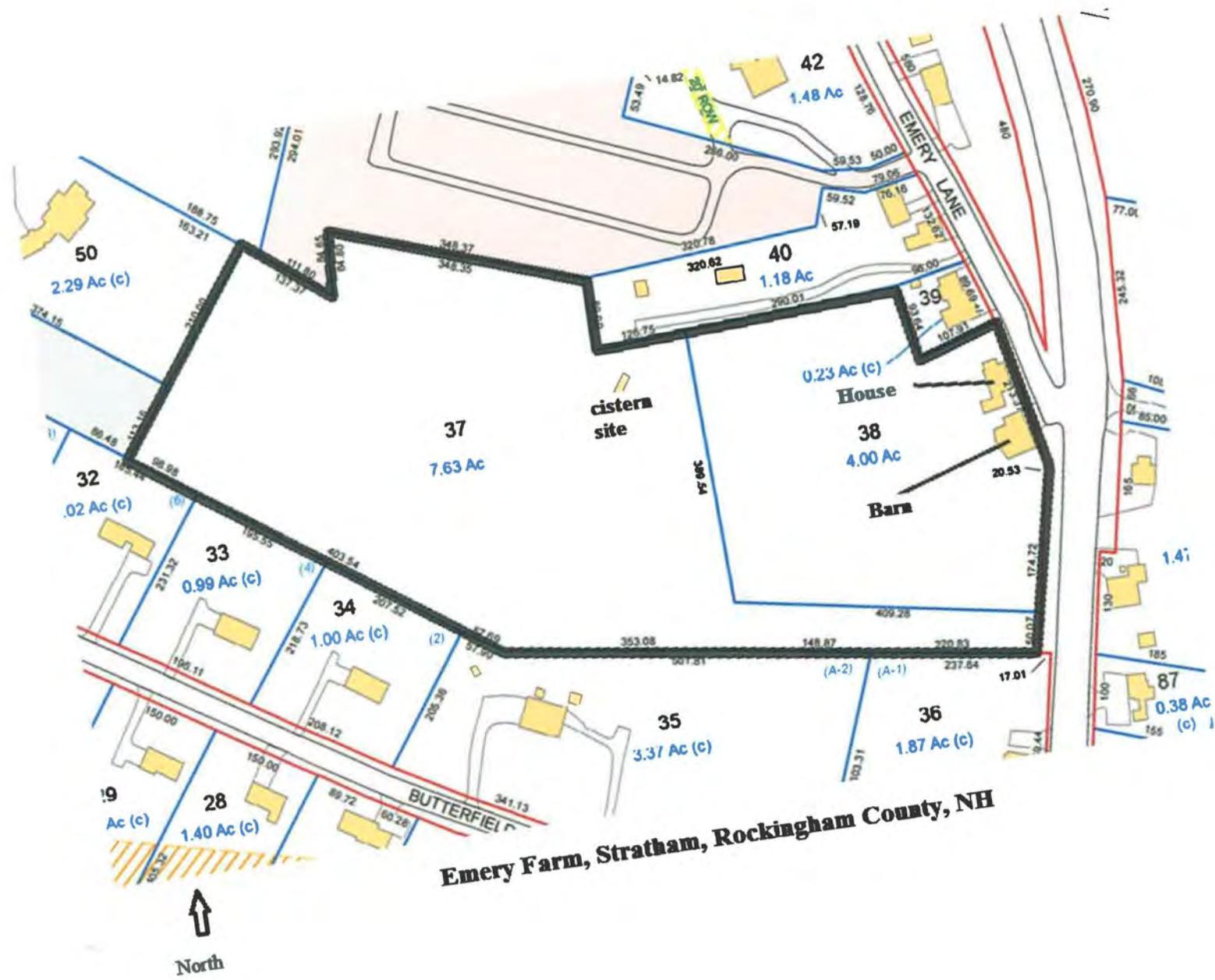
Photo 11: View looking north at fireplace in upstairs (south front) chamber

Emery Farm  
Name of Property

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC.

























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:  Nomination

Property Name: Emery Farm

Multiple Name:

State & County: NEW HAMPSHIRE, Rockingham

Date Received: Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List:  
8/3/2017 9/1/2017 9/18/2017 9/18/2017 9/21/2017

Reference number: SG100001621

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

Accept  Return  Reject 9/18/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments: All procedural requirements have been met; The nomination form is adequately documented;  
The nomination form is technically and professionally correct and sufficient.

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall Discipline Historian

Telephone  Date

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



## NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

RECEIVED 2280

AUG - 3 2017

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### MEMORANDUM

To: Lisa Deline  
From: Peter Michaud  
Subject: National Register Nominations  
Date: August 2, 2017

Dear Lisa,

Enclosed is the true and correct copy of the Emery Farm nomination for the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Peter Michaud  
National Register, Preservation Tax Incentives,  
& Easements Coordinator  
19 Pillsbury Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 271 3583 fax (603) 271 3433  
[Peter.michaud@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:Peter.michaud@dcr.nh.gov)