

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0676730

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RECEIVED MAR 26 1979
DATE ENTERED 25 1979

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

3.26.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC THE LATE WILLIAM ROSSITER <sup>House</sup> RESIDENCE

AND/OR COMMON  
THE PILLARS

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
11 Mulberry Street

CITY, TOWN  
Claremont

STATE  
New Hampshire

VICINITY OF  
Second

CODE  
33

COUNTY  
Sullivan

CODE  
019

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Wayne R. & Cheryl A. Bishop

STREET & NUMBER  
11 Mulberry Street

CITY, TOWN  
Claremont

VICINITY OF  
New Hampshire

STATE  
03743

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Sullivan County Registry of Deeds, Sullivan County Records Building

STREET & NUMBER  
24A Main Street, PO Box 448

CITY, TOWN  
Newport

STATE  
New Hampshire 03773

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
N/A

DATE  
\_FEDERAL \_STATE \_COUNTY \_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN  
STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Rossiter residence consists of three distinct connected buildings, preserving the visible changes of its architectural history. The original dwelling faces the street and was built during the Federal period, circa 1813; the ell was added during the Greek Revival period, 1830-1850, at which time major exterior changes were made to the original building; the two-stall garage was added in the early twentieth century.

The original building is an "I" house type, characteristically one room deep, two and a half stories high, and five bays wide. The building is of post and beam construction, its structural members of hand-hewn pine. The roof was dramatically altered during the Greek Revival period to extend beyond the southeast elevation and form a monumental tetrastyle portico with wooden columns of the Doric order, that extend two stories high and support a full entablature. The front entrance consists of an eight paneled door with applied ogee moulding surrounded by two-thirds length sidelights, transom lights, fluted pilasters and a full entablature. Nearly all of the original twelve over twelve window sash have had the lower sash replaced with a late nineteenth century one light sash. Although this twelve over one window treatment is seen consistently throughout the later additions, the muntins of the original building's twelve pane sash indicate an earlier construction. Two chimneys project behind the ridge and the roof's original wooden shingles have been replaced recently with asphalt shingling.

The interior of the original structure has undergone several changes. The best remaining examples of the original woodwork are the four Federal fireplace mantelpieces. Flat pilasters, as originally suggested by Asher Benjamin's American Builder's Companion of 1806, support the delicate mantels. The fireplaces were built according to the recommendations of Count Rumford. The doors are also original to the Federal building, four fielded panels and ovolo mouldings distinguishing their age. They are hung by butt-hinges, and many retain their original Norfolk latches. Door frames have ogee-moulded backbands. Cornice moulding and baseboards with beading remain intact throughout the four rooms and entranceway. Hardwood floors, probably a mid-nineteenth century addition, and the sand-paint on the ceilings, a recent addition, are also seen throughout. The woodwork in the staircase suggests a form characteristic of the Renaissance Revival. The heavy newell-post has a square base and hexagonal column decorated with applied ornaments and a flattened urn finial. There are two balusters of typical late nineteenth century classical form per tread. Local legend states that this balustrade was added about 1890 when a local woodworking firm liquidated its stock. Two bathrooms have been recently added in the southwest rooms of the first and second stories.

During the Greek Revival period, the ell was added to the northwest elevation of the original building. The addition is four rooms square, two stories high, with a central stove chimney. The smaller addition projecting off the northwest wall of the ell appears to be contemporary with the ell. It serves as an entrance stairwell and porch on the second floor. The walls and ceiling of the stairwell are rendered in unpainted-beaded matchboarding.

The construction of the ell is lighter than the original building, yet still depends on the post and beam support system. The pine framing members were hand-hewn; circular saw marks are visible on other exposed members.

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAIL ROOMS
DATE ENTERED	2

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Greek Revival characteristics of the ell include simplicity and symmetry. Other exterior features include the use of echines moulding in the crown of the eaves, a window treatment similar to those in the original building, and a northeast entrance consisting of a small porch recently enclosed to create a study area.

Interior details include applied baseboards and simple crown moulding. The four paneled doors have raised panels with applied ogee moulding and plain frames. The floors are hardwood. Other than a recently modernized kitchen on the first story, the detailing in the ell remains intact.

Last to be added to the structure is a two-stall garage. The ceilings and walls of the separate stalls are rendered with unpainted-beaded matchboarding similar to that in the northwest entrance stairwell.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: The William Rossiter house exhibits one of the most impressive Greek Revival porticoes in Claremont and surrounding area. The monumental classical temple form is amply embodied in this connected vernacular structure. As the house of the prosperous Claremont businessman, William Rossiter, it reflects certain sophisticated architectural elements that he used to "modernize" his home.

Commerce: The house was built circa 1813 by Austin Tyler. William Rossiter, 1805-1860, owned the house. Rossiter was an active businessman in Claremont, New Hampshire, operating the Sullivan Wollen Mills. He served as a selectman in 1839, 1845, 1850, and 1852 and as a State legislator in 1842 and 1848.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of the Town of Claremont, New Hampshire, by Otis F. R. Waite, 1885, pp. 65, 198, 201, 202, 308, 311, 347, 361, 459, 460, and 476.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 7/8 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	711511215	48105131715	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Claremont, Tax Records: Map 28, Block 2, Lot 3

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne Bishop and Jack Kline

March 14, 1978

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

11 Mulreary Street

TELEPHONE

532-7980

CITY OR TOWN

Claremont, New Hampshire

STATE

New Hampshire

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

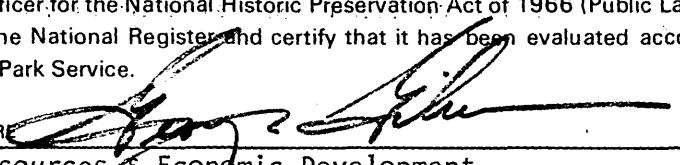
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL  *see called 5/15/79*

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Resources & Economic Development  
NH State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE August 17, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Atty. Gen. Charles W. Starnes*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 5/25/79

ATTEST: *Maria Ann [unclear]*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 5/25/79