

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED OCT 30 1979  
DATE ENTERED DEC 1 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE 1835 DISTRICT #7

AND/OR COMMON

DISTRICT #7 SCHOOL HOUSE

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 10, 2 miles south of Newport

on NH 10

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Newport

VICINITY OF

Second

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

New Hampshire

CODE

33

COUNTY

Sullivan

CODE

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Reprisal Chapter, NH Daughters of the American Revolution

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Newport

VICINITY OF

New Hampshire 03773

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sullivan County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Newport

New Hampshire 03773

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

NA

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

**CONDITION**  
 EXCELLENT       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD             RUINS  
 FAIR              UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**  
 UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**  
 ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The District #7 School House is a one-room structure built in 1835. It is a 1-1/2 story gable roofed structure set on a fieldstone foundation. The entrance is on one of the gabled ends, and the building has two windows on each of the other three walls, fitted with 12/8 sash. Original interior features include a coved ceiling, stove chimney, two double-branched hanging kerosene lamp fixtures, desk benches, a planed and painted wooden blackboard, and wide-board dado and flooring. Changes to the interior include a replastered ceiling and a later woodstove, while a flagpole and single folding window shutters have been added to the exterior. The benches were relocated prior to 1885 to accommodate the new woodstove, but marks on the walls indicate their original location.

# 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 checked="" 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 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      1835                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      John Gilmore

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The District #7 Schoolhouse is a well-preserved example of a one-room New England school building, retaining much of the austere character that was common to such structures. The school was built by local carpenter John Gilmore after taxpayers in Newport's seventh school district appropriated \$140 for its construction on March 16, 1835. The building was used until Newport adopted the union school system in 1891, boasting the highest and most regular attendance of any in town. In 1951 the building was acquired and restored by the local Reprisal Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and is open to the public during the summer.

Architecture: Few New Hampshire district schoolhouses dating before 1850 survive; still fewer survive in essentially unaltered condition. In 1849 the New Hampshire Legislature authorized the distribution of a copy of Henry Barnard's influential School Architecture (1848) to the town clerk of every town in the state. This act inaugurated an era of extensive schoolhouse rebuilding which resulted in the disappearance of many of the older school buildings which the New Hampshire Commissioner of Common Schools in 1847 labelled "dilapidated, rickety, uncouth, slovenly edifice[s], hardly more comfortable than some barns . . ."

Newport's District No. 7 schoolhouse, dating well before the era of schoolhouse reform and little changed even during that period, preserves the appearance of some of the better rural school buildings of the early nineteenth century. In its extreme simplicity (which makes virtually no concession to the styles then current in Newport's domestic architecture), its relatively low level of illumination by means of six separate windows, and its small size and low initial cost, the building is a rare survival of an architectural type seldom available for study.

Education: The pattern of dispersed settlement adopted by most New Hampshire towns required the establishment of district schools throughout each township to serve local families. Such buildings, of which Newport's District No. 7 schoolhouse is typical, were utilized for both summer and winter sessions throughout the 1700s and 1800s. Many New Hampshire towns, including Newport, began a movement to consolidate schools in the late 1800s as population in remote areas decreased. This tendency resulted in the abandonment and eventual destruction or conversion of the small district schoolhouses that had formerly existed at ten or fifteen locations throughout most country townships. Newport's District No. 7 schoolhouse, at one time the most heavily-attended school building in town, is typical of its type of structure, yet is unusual in being so well preserved and so little altered from the period when it served an active and important role in local education.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Records of the Prudential Committee for the School District, Newport, NH

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10,000 sq. ft. more or less

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	7, 2, 9, 5, 5, 0	4, 8, 0, 1, 7, 7, 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

On the East by Route 10, on the South by Pollard Mills Road, on the West and North by the farm of William Heath.

Newport Tax Map #70.

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

Anna R. Tenney (Mrs. Myron Tenney)

May 25, 1978

ORGANIZATION

Chairman, Red School House

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 492

TELEPHONE

603-863-2079

CITY OR TOWN

Newport

STATE

New Hampshire 03773

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

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

DATE

August 13, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Marcus W. Dwyer*  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST

DATE

12/1/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED **OCT 30 1979**  
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

