

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

645

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.

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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Drake Farm

Other names/site number: N/A

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: 148 Lafayette Road

City or town: North Hampton State: NH County: Rockingham

Not For Publication: Vicinity: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

<u>Elizabeth J. Murphy</u>	<u>7/28/16</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>SHPO and Director, NH Division of Historical Resources</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> 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:)


Signature of the Keeper

9/20/14
Date of Action

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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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Italianate

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: wood clapboards, wood shingles, brick, granite, slate, asphalt shingles

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.)

Summary Paragraph

The former Drake Farm is located in the town of North Hampton, in New Hampshire's seacoast region and is an example of a 19th century New Hampshire connected farm building. At the east end of the complex, the main house is a 2 1/2-story, 3 x 4-bay, wood-frame Italianate style dwelling. The structure was first located here about 1890 to replace an earlier dwelling that was torn down. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the present house may have been moved here from another site. To the west of the main house block there is a two-story wing which in turn links to a 1 1/2-story barn and a larger offset barn at the southwest corner. In front of the house there is a hip-roofed well house which dates to the late 19th or early 20th century and a memorial marker erected in 1927. A small detached donkey barn is located behind the house and was constructed in 1995. The 1.14-acre parcel on which the buildings sit is outlined by stone walls and is bounded on the west by the former Eastern Railroad. An additional 9.75 acres of former farmland, now reforested, is located to the north of the stone wall. The property faces a busy road which is lined by a mix of older, historic properties set on large parcels of cleared land and fields as well as 20th century commercial development. The Drake Farm barns were renovated for use as a book/antique shop in 1993 and in 2015 were renovated again for use as a furniture store. Despite a change from its original agricultural use, the buildings retain a high degree of integrity.

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Narrative Description

The Drake Farm property is located on the north side of Lafayette Road (U.S. Rt. 1) in the town of North Hampton. The main house with its two attached barns extending to the west is set back about thirty feet from the road with a dirt driveway extending in front of the house. The patch of lawn in front of the house, between the driveway and the road, contains a small well house dating to the early 20th century. To the south of the well house, and quite close to the road, there is a small boulder with bronze plaque, installed in 1927. In the rear yard there is a small donkey barn, constructed in 1995. The various resources are described below.

A. Main House with two connected barns, 19th century. Contributing building.

The Drake Farm house is a 2 ½-story, 4 x 3-bay vernacular Italianate dwelling which has two attached barns extending to the west. The house is clad in wood clapboards above a brick foundation. The predominant window is a wooden two-over-two double-hung sash set into a molded surround and capped by a bold entablature lintel. A single-story porch, supported by simple chamfered wooden posts with chamfered caps and topped by paired wooden brackets, fronts the south and east elevations. The gable roof is sheathed in slate and two corbel-cap brick chimneys with recessed panels rise from the ridge. The house is outlined by simple cornerboards. On the gable ends the overhanging eaves end in returns with a narrow frieze decorated by paired brackets. Overlaid on the frieze are the entablature lintels of the attic windows. On the lateral eaves the paired brackets are placed on a deeper trim band but the placement of the brackets do not correspond with the four second floor windows but instead reflect the three bay arrangement of the first floor. The main entrance is centered on the south elevation and contains a pair of wooden doors with upper glass panes, sheltered by vertical wooden exterior doors. The entrance is flanked by simple pilasters supporting a wide frieze. The entrance is flanked on either side by a single-story, three-sided bay window with recessed panels placed below the double-hung windows (central 2/2 flanked by 1/1). Another entrance containing a wooden door with horizontal panels and upper glass is located in the rearmost of the three bays on the east elevation although it does not correspond to an interior hall/stair as its “sidehall” placement would suggest. The north (rear) elevation of the main house has three irregularly spaced bays on either floor; although this is a lesser elevation, the windows are fitted with the same bold entablature lintels evident on the south and east elevations.

Extending to the west of the main house block is a slightly lower wing which is offset toward the rear, aligned toward the north wall. Like the main house, the wing is set on a brick foundation and displays paired brackets at the cornice which do not correspond to the window openings. The south elevation facing Lafayette Road is four bays wide with the easternmost bay on the first floor containing a doorway which is sheltered by the main house porch. The wooden door has two upper rectangular panes of etched glass and three panels below and is sheltered by a modern storm door. The north (rear) elevation of the wing has three irregularly spaced bays. The westernmost bay on the first floor has seen the replacement of the original double-hung sash with a smaller modern casement window although the entablature lintel has been retained. On the

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west gable end of the wing the attic window and single window toward the front of the first and second floors have molded surrounds but no entablatures.

Attached to the west wall of the wing is a single-story barn which projects further to the north, revealing a single bay on the east elevation (visible from the rear). This attached barn is believed to be the earliest part of the connected set of buildings. Its date of construction is not known but it definitely predates the construction of the house as it appears in a photograph of the house previously on the site (torn down about 1890). It may date to the 18th century. In the mid 20th century the structure was used as a garage. The small barn is sheathed in clapboards and capped by an asphalt roof. It rests on a granite foundation in contrast to the main house which is set on a brick foundation. There are simple cornerboards and overhanging returns on the east gable end but there is no frieze and none of the decorative entablature lintels found on the main house and wing. Much of the fenestration on this building reflects the 1993 alterations which were made when the building was converted to a book shop. On the south façade the two former sliding door openings retain vertical board doors. The opening to the east is filled with paired, multi-pane doors installed in 1993. A single 2/2 window is located just to the east. The upper level of the small barn is punctuated on the south façade by four evenly space 4 x 2-pane fixed windows which are tucked under the eaves. The east end of this structure (visible from the rear) has another modern multi-glass door on the first floor and a double-hung 6/6 window above. The north (rear) elevation has a multi-paned door near the center flanked by two individual 6/6 windows on either side. The west gable end of the small barn has a mix of 6/6 and fixed windows. On the north wall, there is a lower level, double door access topped by transom lights and a small privy appendage set on a brick foundation with a 2/2 window.

Offset to the southwest of the smaller barn is a larger, attached, two-story clapboarded barn set on a granite foundation. Its date of construction is also not known but is believed to be mid 19th century. Like the smaller barn, the current appearance of this structure reflects 1993 and 2015 renovations for commercial use. The barn is outlined by simple cornerboards and the projecting eaves are without returns. On the east gable end there are a set of vertical board sliding double doors which are slightly off-center. Each door is punctuated by a 3 x 2-pane fixed window. Other windows punctuating the east wall include three 3 x 2-pane windows, two 6/6 sash in the attic and two vertical-light windows over the doors. An additional 3 x 2-pane window in the northernmost bay on the first floor gablefront was removed as part of the 2015 rehabilitation to accommodate a flush steel exit door (painted yellow to blend).

On the long south elevation, the main floor of the barn has four sliding doors on the south wall, now fitted with large glazed windows and six 3 x 2-light fixed windows. An unmortared stone wall marks the east side of the ramp leading down to the basement. The original doors had been replaced by 1993. A pair of pedestrian-scaled four-panel doors and a 3 x 2-light window (relocated from the east wall) now punctuate the lower level façade. As part of the 2015 renovation a wooden ramp was constructed above the lower level, extending along the south façade to provide at grade handicapped access into the main level of the barn. The ramp has simple wooden posts and minimalistic metal mesh infill and connects to a set of steps and landing in front of the west gable end. A commercial entrance, deck and ramp was originally added in 1993 but the entrance has recently been redesigned to minimize the former glass infill

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and emphasize the scale of the original barn door opening. The large, slightly off-center opening now contains a pair of multi-light doors with vertical board infill to each side and above. The other windows on the west end are similar to those on the east and include 6/6 double-hung units in the attic and basement, fixed vertical lights over the doorway and four fixed 3 x 2-light windows. The deck in front of the entrance has been rebuilt and has wooden posts spanned by metal mesh. The area below the deck is enclosed by wooden latticework panels.

The north (rear) elevation of the large barn is sheathed primarily in wood shingles with some clapboarding on the lowest level. Fenestration includes a mix of 6/6 double-hung windows, fixed 3 x 2-light windows, and four-pane strips of varying sizes. As part of the 2015 renovations, a 1993 window at the west end of the lower level was removed to accommodate placement of a metal four-panel fire door.

Interior Description

Inside, the house retains many original features and has seen minimal changes in the twentieth century. The first floor of the main house block is divided into four rooms of roughly equal size arranged around a main entrance/stair hall centered on the wide south elevation. Double doors open into a small entrance hall with a narrow single flight central staircase leading upstairs. The stairs are enclosed between two walls and are without balusters, newel posts or other decorative elements. At the base of the stairs, there is a niche to the west intended for a grandfather clock and a niche to the east containing a radiator. The two front rooms are more formal and incorporate the three-sided bay windows visible on the exterior. The southeast (front) room has an ornamental cornice with coved frieze wrapping around the room, compound molded baseboards and door and window surrounds. The painted wood mantel on the north wall is decorated by spools, rondels, and dentils with two fluted brackets supporting the shallow shelf and a narrow cupboard on the east wall of the fireplace. There is a simple plaster ceiling medallion at the center of the room.

The southwest (front) room has more extensive molded plaster ceilings although the woodwork is decidedly simpler, consisting of simple varnished trim. A double set of four-panel doors leads from the southwest room to the northeast room and the doors leading to the hallway and closet under the front stairs are of the same configuration. The northwest room includes a closet on its south wall and a half bathroom and under stairs closet on the east wall, accessed by side-by-side four-panel doors. Molded cornice trim encircles the room with a coved band below. The corners of the walls display distinctive beaded edges. The northeast room is the simplest of the four rooms on the first floor of the main house block with plain painted door and window trim, baseboards and no ceiling embellishment. A sink with drain board is mounted on the west wall and there is an exterior door on the east wall.

The first floor of the wing consists of a large kitchen area with varnished wainscoting. An enclosed flight of stairs on the east wall leads up to the attic (south side) and down to the basement (north side). Stairs in the southwest corner of the wing lead down to the adjacent smaller barn.

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The second floor of the main house is divided into three bedrooms with a bathroom occupying the northwest corner. All of the upstairs spaces have plain window and door trim and baseboards and four panel doors. Most of the woodwork has been painted but some are varnished. Three additional bedrooms are located on the second floor of the wing, arranged along hallways running along the north wall and the east wall, adjacent to the back stairs. All of the bedrooms have plain, painted trim.

Two chimneys rise through the attic area above the main house block. The chimney to the east is parged and corbelled and is angled in order to penetrate the roof at the ridge. A single chimney rises in the wing attic. Visible throughout the attic are various bits of graffiti which may offer clues to the history of the house. One hand-painted message reads "Put on scuttle June 4, 1871", an apparent reference to the movable skylight penetrating the north slope of the roof. This would seem to confirm that the house predates 1890 and was moved to the site. There is also a handwritten signature of a George F. Marston dated March 29, 1890, perhaps recording the relocation of the house to the site.

The first floor of the smaller barn reflects the rehabilitation of the space in 1993 for commercial use including the addition of some ceiling beams, a new plaster ceiling and track lighting although various original features and finishes are extant. The worn floor boards survive although the north wall has new vertical board sheathing. There is a dry sink/cabinet adjacent to the stairs leading from the wing and a two-seat privy on the west wall. The stairs leading up to the attic are enclosed with a vertical wood door at the base. Only minimal additional alterations were made to the interior of the smaller barn as part of the 2015 rehabilitation. These consist of the construction of a new fire wall and door separating the first floor of the small barn from the large barn and the addition of collar ties, a center post and ties on the second floor of the barn in order to support/stabilize the rafters and eliminate the outward thrust on the walls.

Several steps at the west end of the small barn lead into the larger barn which was retrofitted in 1993 for a bookstore. Inside the sliding doors on the east gable end, a large set of double four panel doors has been mounted. Original features include two sliding doors with original hardware and a low wall with heavy door and large hinges. Throughout the barn there are signatures of workers or occupants from long ago (i.e. "Elmer Drake", "Leon Marvin Knowles" and "E.L. Tobey"). Additional handwritten notes on the door leading to the basement include the date "1893" and various dated details of farm operations including the plowing of a field, the planting of potatoes, hauling manure, and egg counts (all are dated between 1893 and 1896). In 1993 a second floor level was inserted, accessed by a new set of wooden stairs at the southeast corner of the barn. The second floor level has a simple railing with stick balusters. The 2015 renovation added an additional code-required enclosed staircase at the northwest corner of the large barn.

On the lower level of the large barn, the mortared stone walls which were formerly exposed have been enclosed by drywall. The center of the room retains irregularly shaped granite posts used for support. Visible on the stones are the distinctive marks of the plug drill, an indication that the granite was split after 1830. The former dirt floor recently has been covered by a new 4" concrete floor slab.

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B. Well House, early 20th century. Contributing building.

Located to the south of the house is a small well house, sheathed in novelty siding and capped by a steeply-pitched hip roof which is covered in asphalt shingles. The well house is set on a concrete foundation. Fenestration includes two 2/2 windows and a sliding vertical board door on the north side, facing the house. Inside the structure, the stone-lined well is visible beneath the wooden floor boards. Also surviving are the pump and gears.

C. Memorial, 1927. Contributing object.

To the south of the well house, facing the road, there is a small boulder with a rectangular bronze plaque. The plaque reads:

THIS BOULDER
MARKS THE SITE OF THE HOME OF
COLONEL- ABRAHAM - DRAKE
DECEMBER 4, 1715-AUGUST 1, 1781
CAPTAIN OF HORSE IN FRENCH AND INDIAN
WARS-FOUGHT AT CROWN POINT 1755-6
ONE OF THE FIRST TO TAKE UP ARMS IN
THE REVOLUTION—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
IN 3D N.H. VOLUNTEERS-COMMANDED BY
GEN. WASHINGTON TO ATTEND COUNCILS
OF WAR.
MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL CONGRESS
AT EXETER 1775.
COLONEL IN N.H. MILITIA 1776-1777
MARCHED WITH HIS COMPANY DRAWING
ARTILLERY WITH OXEN FROM HERE TO
SARATOGA TO INTERCEPT GEN. BURGOYNE
AND WAS PRESENT AT HIS SURRENDER.

PLACED BY CLIFFORD S. DRAKE
1927

The home mentioned in the plaque was removed about 1890.

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D. Donkey Barn, 1995. Noncontributing building (due to age).

An unmortared, fieldstone wall runs behind the house. Just outside the wall is a small donkey barn sheathed in board-and-batten siding and capped by a shed roof.

Behind the house, the land slopes down to the northwest to the former railroad tracks of the Eastern/Boston & Maine Railroad. To the northeast of the parcel containing the house (1.13 acres) is another lot of vacant land measuring 9.75 acres also owned by the same owner. Originally farmland or pastureland, it is now largely dotted by trees.

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.)

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- 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture
Agriculture

Period of Significance

c.1890-1966

Significant Dates

c.1890

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

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Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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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.)

Drake Farm is significant under Criterion C, as a good example of a late 19th century New Hampshire connected farm building consisting of main house, kitchen wing, back house (small barn) and larger principal barn. Drake Farm also has secondary significance under National Register Criterion A, Agriculture. The land housed successive generations of the Drake Family from the early 18th century to 1990. The present house replaces an original house which stood closer to Rt. 1 and was built by Abraham Drake (1688-1767) in what was then Hampton. The original house was torn down about 1890 and the present house was built by Joshua Pickering Drake (1823-1901). Joshua Drake and his son Justin Drake (1855-1938) were both farmers who earned their living working what was then an eighty-acre farm. Justin's son Joshua Drake (1898-1988) was a master carpenter and served as a town selectman for 27 years from 1929 and 1955.

Drake family members retained ownership until 1990, making very few changes over the years. In 1993 the two attached barns were renovated for use selling books and antiques but the house remained intact. The complex retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The period of significance for the Drake Farm is c.1890 under Criterion C and c.1890-1966 under Criterion A. The first date corresponds to the house's original date of construction; the latter reflects the 50 year cut off of the National Register.

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

Architecture

The Drake Farm is a good example of a New Hampshire connected farm building dating to the late 19th century. Of the hundred or so farms operating in North Hampton in the late 19th century, the Drake Farm may well be one of the most important late surviving examples of the connected farmhouse in the town. It is notable for its integrity and also as a relatively late example of the use of the connected farm building tradition.

The series of attached structures features a main house at the east end containing social spaces and bedrooms, a kitchen wing, a back house (smaller barn) and a larger principal barn marking the west end. It reflects an important change in New England's rural architecture which took place between 1800 and 1900 when many farmers abandoned their detached house and barn arrangement in favor of a connected house and barn plan.¹ The Drake Farm incorporates and retains many features which are typical of the connected farm building. The main house is

¹ Thomas C. Hubka. *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England*. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1984.

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limited to public spaces and bedrooms with a small bathroom inserted under the stairs and a sink in the adjacent bedroom. As is typical the more formal spaces are located in the front rooms of the main house. Removed from the main house and located in the adjacent wing, the kitchen space is largely devoid of architectural trim other than the functional vertical board wainscoting that protects the lower portions of the walls. The smaller bedrooms over the kitchen could well have been occupied by farm laborers, servants, or boarders. Workrooms in the back house closest to the kitchen were likely used as milk room, laundry or wash room, woodshed, storage, summer kitchen or general kitchen storage area. The areas closest to the main barn were frequently the wagon or carriage shed and included a privy (still extant in this case). The main barn at the west end of the connected building complex emphasizes the importance of the property's agricultural operation. The large barn with its major door in the gable end is typical of post-1850 New Hampshire barns.

Exact figures are not available as to how many of North Hampton's late 19th century farms utilized the connected farm building form. However, cursory evidence suggests that many of the local farms had detached, rather than connected, barns and few of the connected examples survive today in such an unaltered condition as the Drake Farm. In addition, there are no other known well-preserved examples on the same modest scale as the Drake Farm. One other prominent and well-preserved example, the John W. F. Hobbs Farm was constructed at 2 Elm Road by the native son turned Boston businessman in 1862 and the sizeable house was later updated in a Queen Anne Style.² Unlike the Drake Farm which was a relatively modest mixed family farm, the Hobbs Farm was a much more elaborate, gentleman farmer type of operation.

It is known that the present house on the site replaced an earlier Drake Homestead which dated back to the 18th century. The only known photograph of that structure shows a 2 ½-story, 5 x 2-bay dwelling with a center entrance vestibule and what appears to be a detached barn to the rear. The original Drake House was torn down about 1890; the reason for its removal is not known although in 1893 Justin Drake married and it is possible that a larger house was needed to contain the two families (father's and son's). It is tempting to hypothesize that the Drake family disposed of their antiquated farmhouse in order to construct a more practical, up-to-date connected complex, but of course, this cannot be verified. It appears that the detached barn visible in the historic photograph was retained and connected to the new house. It is the smaller of the two barns visible today.

The Drake Farm house is also of interest architecturally as a vernacular design which was undoubtedly shaped by the needs and tastes of the family which constructed it and lived here for a century. According to Drake family legend, the present house incorporates an earlier house that was moved to the site. Viewed from the east, the current house does in fact appear to be a typical 2 ½-story, gablefront dwelling with sidehall entrance. However upon closer inspection, the interior at the sidehall entrance lacks the stair hallway which would be customary in a sidehall plan. Instead, the entrance provides entry to a lesser room on the first floor of the main house. It would appear that when the house was moved to the site, the interior was gutted with

² John W.F. Hobbs (1815-1890) was one of the town's most prominent citizens and the donor who financed the construction of the Centennial Hall, built in North Hampton in 1876.

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the original entrance location retained to function as a secondary, rather than primary entrance.³ While the former sidehall entrance became a back entrance, the new main entrance was sited at the center of the longer elevation, facing the main road to the south. On the exterior the porches and bay windows were improvements commonly made to farmhouses in the latter 19th century and emphasized the dooryard. Inside, simple farmhouse finishes and minimalistic details such as the stark front stairs contrast with oddly decorative features including elaborate plasterwork ceilings and heavily molded cornices and trim. These embellishments would seem reflect the pride the Drake family took in their home and may also be the handiwork of Joshua Fabian Drake (1898-1989), who was a master carpenter. Stylistic effects are also apparent on the exterior and include the bracketed cornice and the entablature lintels which may have been later additions as is suggested by the way they are overlaid over the cornice frieze on the east end.

Agriculture

The town of North Hampton has a long history of agricultural activity and the Drake Family were prominent, long time farmers. Unfortunately, there is little detailed information available about the farming activities on the Drake Farm. The small post-and-beam barn measuring 23' x 36' is believed to be the earliest building in the present complex and could date back to the 18th century. The large gable-front barn, also of post-and-beam construction, was probably constructed in the mid 19th century. Handwriting on the walls of the barns offers random bits of information about the planting of potatoes, plowing, hauling manure and other activities on the farm. Also visible are the names of farm workers including E.L. Tobey, Elmer Drake, and Leon Marvin Knowles. The long south side of the 80' x 40' barn was divided into cow tie-ups with three horse stalls in the northeast corner. Sliding stall doors were located between the horse stalls and the grain room to the west. Adjacent to the grain bin, there is still a two-hole outhouse. The northwest corner of the barn with its low wall and gate, reportedly served as a pen for lambs. Pigs were housed in the cellar.

The Agricultural Schedules of the U.S. Census provide some interesting insight into the activities at the Drake Farm in the 19th century and how its position changed over the years in comparison with other local farms. Every ten years, from 1850 to 1880, the Census records the values, crops and livestock at approximately 100 North Hampton farms. In 1850 the farm of Joshua P. Drake included 150 improved acres and 50 unimproved acres. It was valued at \$8,000 and included \$500 in livestock including 1 horse, 6 milk cows, four working cows, 14 sheep, and 3 pigs. The crops raised included Indian corn, oats, wool, Irish potatoes, butter cheese, and hay. In 1850 there were 98 North Hampton farms but only four had a value which exceeded Joshua Drake's. It is likely that the large post-and-beam barn was built prior to the 1850 Census. When the larger barn was built, the earlier barn was likely turned into a carriage shed. The 1860 Census indicates that Joshua P. Drake's farm had been reduced in size and then included 76 improved acres and 12 unimproved acres, with a total value of \$5,500. At this time the livestock included a horse, 3 milk cows, 2 working cows, 3 sheep and 3 swine and the fields produced wheat, rye, Indian corn, peas, and potatoes. Other farm products in 1860 included wool, orchard fruits and honey. By

³ It is possible that this back room served as a bedroom for an elder parent as the house was initially occupied by three generations of the Drake Family – father Joshua and his son Justin and his family.

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1860 however the Joshua Drake farm was being eclipsed by other farms. Of the 118 farms in North Hampton in 1860, nine farms had higher values, ranging from \$6,000 to \$12,000 (John Lamprey, John L. Hobbs and Benjamin Hobbs). This trend continued in 1870. In 1870 the farm included 61 improved acres and 12 unimproved acres. Of the 102 farms operating in town, twenty-one were valued more than Joshua Drake's \$6,000 farm. Yet the Drake farm had 2 horses, 4 milk cows and a sheep and sweet potatoes had been planted. The farm also sold considerable butter and milk. By the time of the 1880 Census, the prominence of the Drake Farm had continued to slip as the number of farms in town increased. In 1880 Justin Drake returned to town to operate the farm for his father. At the time of the Census, the farm was valued at just \$3,000. It reportedly included 53 tilled acres, 10 acres of pastures and/or orchards; and 12 acres of woodland. In 1880 there were 69 farms that had a greater value than the Drake Farm and six local farms were valued over \$10,000. Yet it is interesting to note that there were about 36 farms valued close to \$3,000, suggesting a large number of small family farms. In 1880 the Drake Farm had six milk cows and produced a respectable 4,080 gallons of milk. It is not known whether this milk was consumed locally or taken by rail to Boston markets.

The Drake Farm continued in some level of agricultural use into the 20th century, longer than most farms in the town. The history of the family homestead was clearly valued and the property did not leave the family until 1990. In 1927 the memorial stone honoring family patriarch, Col. Abraham Drake, was placed in the front yard. The last Drake family member to occupy the property, Joshua F. Drake, kept cows into the 1970s but earned a living away from the farm as a master carpenter.

History

This property was owned by members of the Drake Family from the early 18th century to 1990. The original house which stood closer to Route 1, roughly where the pump/well house is now located, was probably built by Abraham Drake (1688-1767) in what was then Hampton (the separate town of North Hampton was established in 1742). Abraham and his wife Theodate (Roby) had ten children. Their first son, Abraham (1715-1781) was born in 1715 and had a long and distinguished military career. He began his military career as a lieutenant of cavalry in Major Tash's Battalion of the New Hampshire Provincial Regiment at Fort No. 4. Drake went on to serve as a captain in the French and Indian War (1755-1757) and fought at Crown Point. During the Revolutionary War, Drake was lieutenant colonel of the Third New Hampshire Regiment and was promoted to Colonel of the 2nd New Hampshire Militia Regiment. He served as a member of the New Hampshire Provincial Congress held at Exeter in 1777. In October 1777, Col. Drake played a pivotal role in the decisive battle near Bemis Heights, New York which resulted in the surrender of British General Burgoyne at Saratoga.

The original Drake House was home to successive generations of the family. Upon his death in 1781, Col. Abraham Drake left the property to his seventh son, Nathaniel (1760-1828). Upon Nathaniel's death the property passed to his son Samuel (1792-1835). Samuel left the property to his young son Joshua Pickering Drake (1823-1901). No doubt another Drake relative assisted Joshua in the early years.

Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State

Joshua Drake married Sarah Leavitt in North Hampton on April 23, 1851. The couple had four children – Justin, Elmer, Annie and Hettie. In 1880 Justin came home at the request of his father to carry on the farm and work for Joshua.⁴ It is not known where he was in the interim but indeed at the time of the 1880 Census, Justin was again living at home. The 1880 Census indicates that Joshua, a farmer, was then 57, his wife Sarah was 55 and living with them were their four children: Justin, 25, a fireman; Elmer, 19, a farm laborer; Annie, 18, a housekeeper; and Hettie, 12, a student. Sarah Drake died in 1885. According to family history, the original Drake Homestead was torn down in 1889 or 1890 and another house was moved to the site.⁵ North Hampton assessors' records do indicate that Joshua Drake's assessment increased somewhat significantly between 1889 and 1890 from \$3,043 to \$3,500.⁶ In the attic of the house there are two cryptic pieces of graffiti which offer clues to the age and history of the house. One painted message reads "Put on scuttle June 4, 1871". This would seem to confirm that the house predates 1890 and was moved to the site. There is also a handwritten signature of a George F. Marston dated March 29, 1890, perhaps recording the relocation of the house to the site.

In 1893 oldest son Justin Drake married Ethelyn Grant Toby. The 1900 Census indicates that at that time the widowed father Joshua Drake, then 77, was living here with his son Justin, 44; Ethelyn, 33, their two children Esther (6) and Joshua (2), a servant and two boarders. Joshua Pickering Drake died in November 1901 at the age of 78. His obituary described him as "a substantial farmer and a man of sterling worth who will be missed from the community".⁷ Justin Drake (1855-1938) took over his father's eighty-acre farm in 1880 at the age of 25. He and his wife Ethelyn had four children: Esther, Joshua F., Marion and Dorothy. The couple attended the Congregational Church and Mrs. Drake and her two daughters were members of the Grange.⁸ At the time of the 1920 Census, Justin and Ethelyn Drake were living here with Joshua (21), a carpenter, and Dorothy (17).

At his death in 1938 Justin Drake left the house to his son Joshua Fabian Drake (1898-1989). Justin's widow Ethelyn continued to occupy half the house until her death in 1960. Joshua and his wife Helen (Brown) and their daughter Mary lived in the other half of the house. In addition to being a master carpenter, Joshua F. Drake was a town selectman for 27 years between 1929 and 1955. Cows lived in the Drake Farm barn and grazed in nearby fields until the 1970s.

⁴ This information is contained in an agreement between Joshua P. and Justin E. Drake which was signed in July 1898 and filed with the County on November 27, 1901, shortly after Joshua's death (Book 583, Page 247).

⁵ Information from Mary Drake Hale to Marcia Van Dyke. Inspection of issues of the *Exeter News-Record* in 1889 and 1890 failed to yield any mention of either the demolition of the older house or the relocation of another house to the property.

⁶ Assessments, North Hampton Town Clerk. The assessment for house and 70 acres of land remained constant at \$3,500 until at least 1896. The property was valued at \$2,230 from 1866 to 1869; at \$2,200 from 1870 to 1875; at \$2,660 from 1876 to 1882 and at \$2,926 from 1883 to 1888.

⁷ *Exeter News-Letter*, November 22, 1901, p. 3.

⁸ Charles Hazlett. *History of Rockingham County, New Hampshire* (Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Publishing Co., 1915), p. 1186.

Drake Farm

Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH

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Helen Drake died in 1982 and Joshua went to live at the Wentworth Home in Portsmouth until his passing in 1988. The last Drake to own the homestead was Mary Drake Hale (1930-). She married Wallace Hale in 1953 and lived across the road at 165 Lafayette Road in a new house her father built for them. The old homestead property at 148 Lafayette Road was sold by Mary Hale in 1990 to Melvyn Sudalter. Mrs. Hale now lives in Colorado but still owns 21.3 acres of land on the east side of Lafayette Road, north of North Road, that was once part of the Drake Farm property.

In 1993 the property at 148 Lafayette Road were acquired by Marcia Van Dyke and Robert Gross and the barns were converted to a used book store (Drake Farm Books and Abigail's Gift Shop). In 2013 the bookstore contained more than 50,000 books and was selected as one of the five best used bookstores in New England by a *Yankee* Magazine publication. Drake Farm was purchased by Peter Rhoades in 2014 who has rehabilitated the barn for his furniture store (Hubbington's Furniture). Mr. Rhoades helped fund the work by using the federal 20% tax credit for rehabilitation. This is the first example in New Hampshire of the use of the program for barn rehabilitation. The Town of North Hampton also provided tax relief through the state's Barn Tax Incentive program, RSA 79-D.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Barns of North Hampton, c.2000. [North Hampton Historical Society].

Exeter News-Letter, November 22, 1901 [obituary of Joshua Drake].

Hale, Mary Drake. Interview, July 2015.

Hazlett, Charles. *History of Rockingham County, New Hampshire and Representative Citizens*. Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Publishing Co., 1915.

Hobbs, Stillman Moulton and Helen Davis Hobbs. *The Way It Was in North Hampton*. Canaan, NH: Phoenix Publishing, 1994.

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Hubka, Thomas C. *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England.* Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1984.

Hurd, D. Hamilton. *History of Rockingham and Strafford Counties, New Hampshire, with Biographical Sketches of Many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men.* Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1882.

North Hampton Annual/Town Reports. [North Hampton Public Library]

Rockingham County Registry of Deeds, Brentwood, New Hampshire

Seavey, Margaret and Marion Carter. Scrapbook of Old Houses of North Hampton. North Hampton Women's Club, 1943, 1952 [North Hampton Public Library]

Thompson, Alice Smith. *The Drake Family of New Hampshire.* Concord, NH: New Hampshire Historical Society, 1962.

Town of North Hampton, Assessments. [North Hampton Town Clerk]

U.S. Census, North Hampton, NH, 1880-1940.

Van Dyke, Marcia. Research on Drake Family and Drake Farm, 2005.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 10.88

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 42.9929 | Longitude: -70.8215 |
| 2. Latitude: 42.9924 | Longitude: -70.8200 |
| 3. Latitude: 42.9913 | Longitude: -70.8209 |
| 4. Latitude: 42.9896 | Longitude: -70.8219 |
| 5. Latitude: 42.9894 | Longitude: -70.8213 |
| 6. Latitude: 42.9892 | Longitude: -70.8219 |
| 7. Latitude: 42.9891 | Longitude: -70.8224 |
| 8. Latitude: 42.9889 | Longitude: -70.8229 |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Drake Farm
Name of Property

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

The eligible boundary consists of Parcels 80 and 81 on Tax Map 17 in the North Hampton Assessors' records.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the land historically part of Drake Farm which has not been subdivided for new construction.

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: March 2016

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.)

Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
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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: Drake Farm

City or Vicinity: North Hampton

County: Rockingham State: NH

Photographer: Lisa Mausolf

Date Photographed: January and February 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1: View looking west showing east elevation of Main house with Well House and east gable end of Large Barn visible to left and donkey barn visible at right. (February 2016)

Photo 2: View looking NE showing from left to right: South elevations of small attached barn and Main house. (February 2016)

Photo 3: View looking NW at south and east elevations of Large attached barn. (February 2016)

Photo 4: View looking NE at west and south elevations of Large attached barn (February 2016)

Photo 5: View looking SE at north (rear) and west elevations of Main House Wing, Small attached barn and Large attached barn. (February 2016)

Drake Farm
Name of Property

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Photo 6: View looking NW at Drake Memorial and Well House with Large Barn visible at left and Main House wing visible at right. (February 2016)

Photo 7: View looking east in first floor dining room of Main House, with front door visible at right. (January 2016)

Photo 8: View looking NE in first floor parlor of Main House, showing mantel. (January 2016)

Photo 9: View looking west from first floor of Large barn. (February 2016)

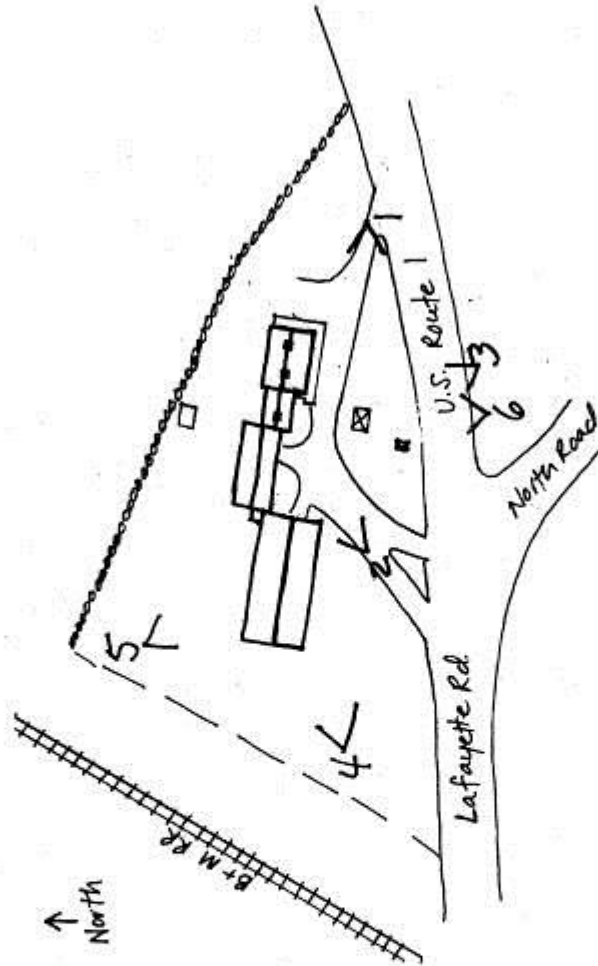
Photo 10: View looking NW on second floor level of Large barn. (February 2016)

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.

Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State



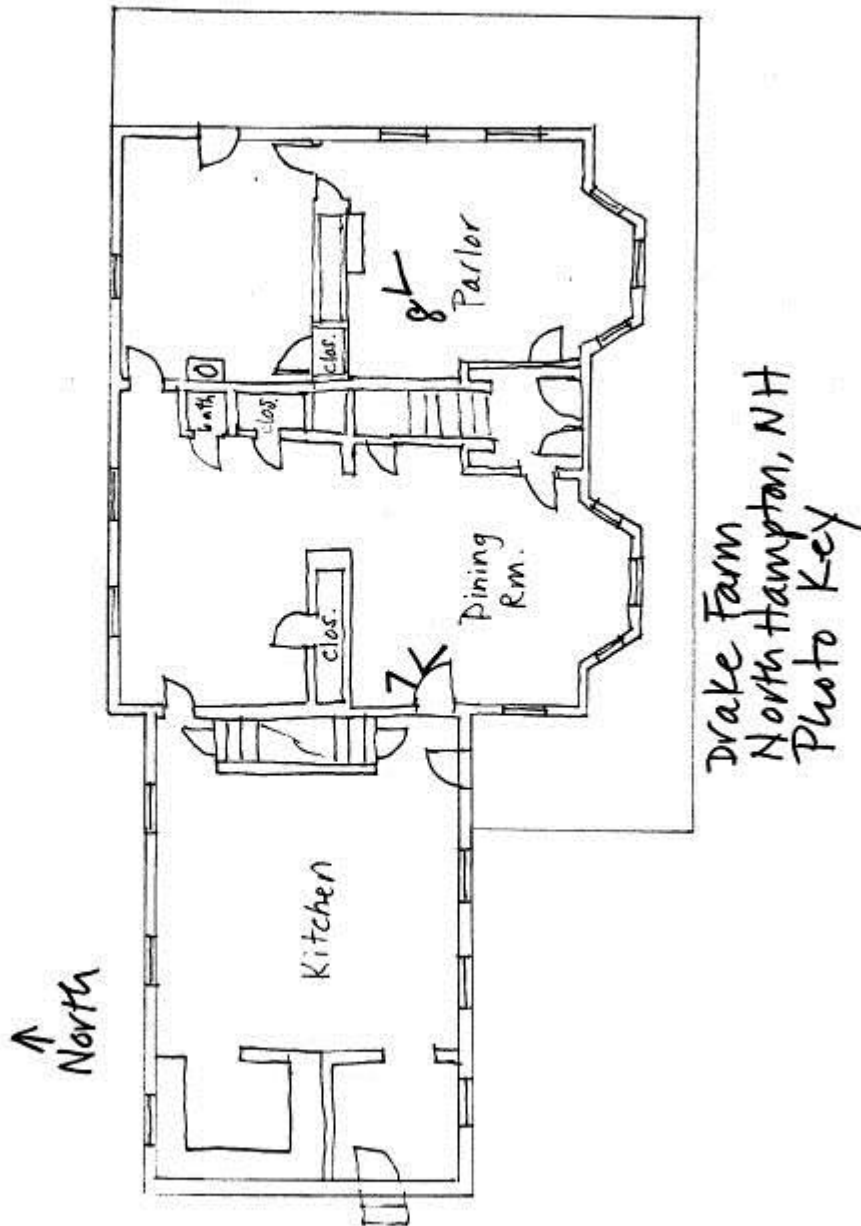
Drake Farm
North Hampton, NH
Exterior Photo Key

Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State

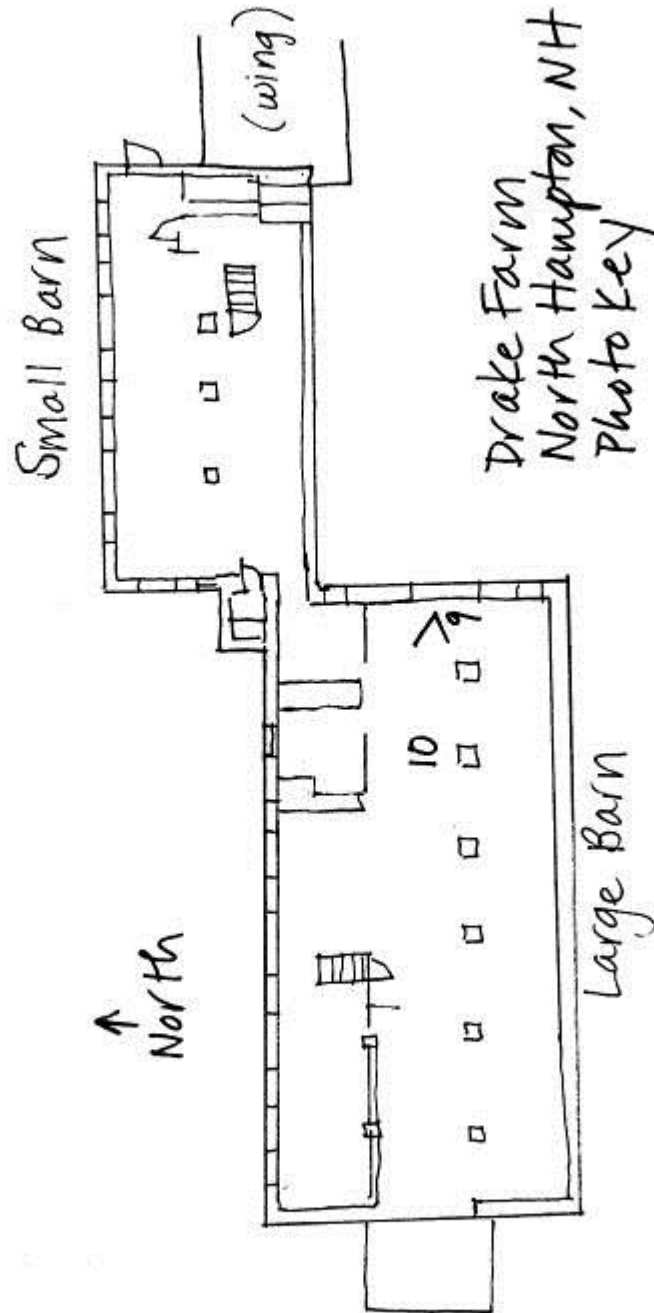
Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State



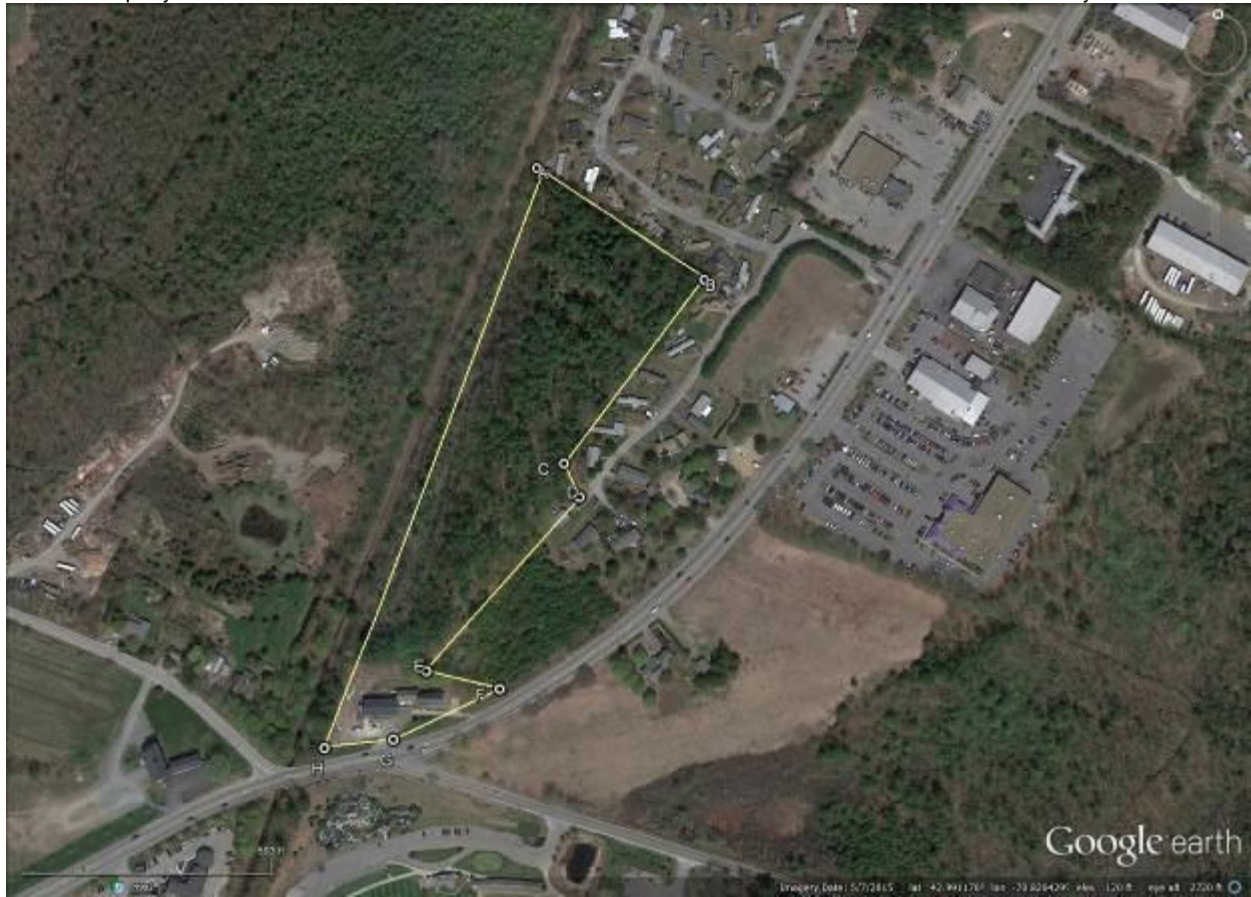
Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State



Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State



Map by NH GRANIT



Legend

- State
- County
- City/Town
- Interstates
- Turnpikes
- US Routes
- State Routes
- Local Roads

Map Scale

1: 2,573



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Map Generated: 2/5/2016

Notes

Drake Farm National Register Boundary
North Hampton, NH



Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State

Photo 1



Photo 2



Drake Farm
Name of Property

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County and State

Photo 3



Photo 4



Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State

Photo 5



Photo 6



Drake Farm
Name of Property

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County and State

Photo 7



Photo 8



Drake Farm
Name of Property

Rockingham Co., NH
County and State

Photo 9



Photo 10









OPEN

PLAQUE ON STONE MARKER













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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Drake Farm
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW HAMPSHIRE, Rockingham

DATE RECEIVED: 8/05/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/02/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/19/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/20/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000645

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/20/16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

architecture + agriculture
c. 1890 - 1966
lens level

RECOM./CRITERIA A & C

REVIEWER W. D. [Signature]

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 9/20/16

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.