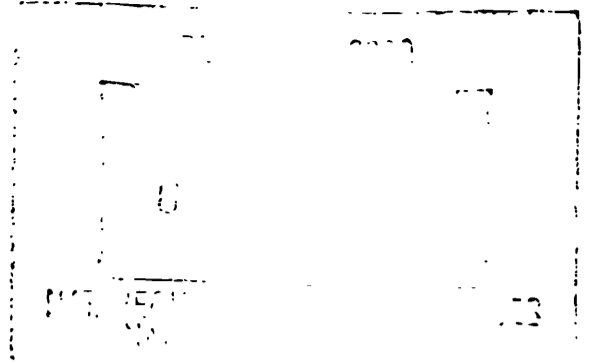


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

1463



### 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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A)*. Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name Durgin, Gershom, House

other names/site number NA

#### 2. Location

street & number 391 Franklin Highway NA  not for publication

city or town Andover NA  vicinity

state NH code NH county Merrimack code 013 zip code 03216

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Marcy C. Dutton

10/26/00

Signature of certifying official

Date

New Hampshire  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

[Signature]

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Gerson H. Beall 12/1/00

**5. Classification**

<b>Ownership of Property</b> (Check as many boxes as apply)	<b>Category of Property</b> (Check only one box)	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b> (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private <input type="checkbox"/> public-local <input type="checkbox"/> public-State <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> district <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	Contributing <u>2</u>	Noncontributing <u>0</u>
		_____ buildings	
		_____ sites	
		_____ structures	
		_____ objects	
		_____ Total	

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA

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

**6. Function or Use**

<b>Historic Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: _____ Sub: _____	Cat: _____ Sub: _____
<u>Domestic/Single Dwelling</u>	<u>Domestic/Single Dwelling</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**7. Description**

<b>Architectural Classification</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Materials</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
Other: <u>Cape Cod</u>	foundation <u>Granite</u>
_____	roof <u>Metal</u>
_____	walls <u>Weatherboard</u>
	_____
	other <u>Brick</u>
	_____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Gershom Durgin House  
Andover NH  
(Merrimack County)**

Section   7   Page   1  

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**DESCRIPTION**

The Gershom Durgin House is a one and a half story frame structure sheathed in clapboards with rectangular plan. It rests on a granite foundation and terminates in a gable roof clad with standing seam metal and punctuated by two interior brick chimneys on the ridge. Its end gable orientation faces south to the road. Five bays by two in configuration, the center entry on front (south) elevation consists of an early six-panel door topped by a four-pane transom light. Simple flat casings and cornerboards and closely-cropped eaves are the only other details. The first story 9/6 windows replaced mid-19<sup>th</sup> century 2/2s in the last decade or so; second story 6/6 sash are a mix of historic and replacement. A one bay enclosed entry pavilion is located centrally on the side (east) elevation. It has a gable roof and is sheathed in clapboards. [Hengen, 1996:2]

The interior plan consists of a central half hall with two rooms to either side. Framing has been exposed upstairs and down, and a small section of the upstairs floor removed opening the northeast room to the upstairs landing.

Stylistically, the entire first story reflects the Federal style. There are some hierarchical differences between front and rear rooms, with the more elaborate joinery in the front, as would be expected. The southwest room was apparently the original parlor. This room has fully developed federal style joiner's work, with six-panel doors, double architraves or casings, and an excellent federal-style mantelpiece. Other areas of the main floor have period joinery of good quality, more detailed on the northwest and southeast rooms, less complex in the original kitchen in the northeast room.

Just behind the northeast corner of the house and extending to the northeast stands the barn. It is 2 ½ stories and appears to have been originally constructed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century as a one level barn and added to subsequently. A lean to extension to the gable roofed structure creates a saltbox configuration. The roof is sheathed in asphalt, the walls with an assortment of wooden materials. The opening in front is covered by a sliding door. It still houses the original hand dug stone lined well that services the house. The barn was once attached to the house, but the connection was removed c1980 to qualify the house for fire insurance.

The house occupies a 1.7 acre lot that rises to a wooded knoll at the rear of the property. Lawn surrounds the house. The small yard to the east is enclosed by a picket fence as is the rear yard going from the northwest corner of the house turning east to join the northwest corner of the barn. There are three ancient apple trees on the property. A small garden to the east grows bulbs, herbs, and perennials. Within the curved driveway in front is another small garden with perennials, strawberries, and wildflowers. Stonewalls surround most of the property.

### 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 significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory 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 a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

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#### Period of Significance

c.1815

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#### Significant Dates

c.1815

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#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

#### Cultural Affiliation

NA

#### Architect/Builder

Unknown

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography**(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1.7

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	
1 <u>19</u>	<u>275790</u>	<u>4813518</u>	3 _____	_____	_____
2 _____	_____	_____	4 _____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundaries are indicated on accompanying base map

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By SEE CONTINUATION SHEET**

name/title \_\_\_\_\_

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Carmelita Moe

street & number 391 Franklin Highway telephone 603-735-4097

city or town Andover state NH zip code 03216

**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. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1.7

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1 <u>19</u>	<u>275790</u>	<u>4813518</u>	3 _____	_____	_____
2 _____	_____	_____	4 _____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Carmelita Moe } based on 1996 inventory by Elizabeth Hengen  
Christine Fonda \* } and Jim Garvin\*

organization NH Division of Historical Resources\* date September 2000

street & number 391 Franklin Highway, Box 2043\* telephone 603-735-4097 or 603-271-6437

city or town Andover state NH zip code 03216  
Concord state NH zip code 03302-2043

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Carmelita Moe

street & number 391 Franklin Highway telephone 603-735-4097

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Gershom Durgin House  
Andover NH  
(Merrimack County)

Section 8 Page 2

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SIGNIFICANCE

The Gershom Durgin House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, for significance in architecture, as an excellent representation of the Cape Cod style. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association for the period c. 1815, the date of construction. It is unclear whether the house originally had 9/6 windows; the current 9/6 sash were introduced within the last decade or so, replacing 2/2 sash. It is among the best preserved capes in Andover.

The house characterizes the Cape style in its side-gable orientation, rectangular plan, south-facing five-bay center-entry façade, one and a half story massing under a gable roof, and close eaves. Its location close to the road and clapboard sheathing are also typical of this popular late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century rural house type.

The house is of further interest as a double house, a two-room-deep house with two chimneys and central hall. This configuration is most commonly found in two-story houses, although there are a few three-story examples in Portsmouth.

Elizabeth Hengen's 1996 study of the property traces its history:

*The earliest known owner of this property was Gershom Durgin. Both Durgin and his father (also Gershom) were clockmakers in Andover. Yet another member of the family, Gershom senior's grandson, Clark Durgin (1814-1893), also made clocks locally; one labeled clock is known. [Parsons, 1976:309] The senior Gershom Durgin was the first of that trade to settle in the town; he arrived from Hanover ca.1790 and lived on nearby Boston Hill where the Grafton Paper Company Quonset huts were later erected..The local history refers to his remarkable mechanical skill and perception as a clockmaker, yet there are no known works attributed to him. [Eastman, 1910:418; Parsons:309] The junior Gershom Durgin was born in 1784; although the actual date when he moved here is unknown, it was presumably between 1808 and 1820. He remained here, unmarried until his death in 1851. There is no known research on his contributions to the field of clockmaking. [Eastman:37, 114-15, 418; Parsons: 309]*

*The house was inherited by Durgin's three unmarried sisters, Miriam, Mercy and Polly, the last of whom died in 1893. According to the 1892 map, George W. Mitchell was already residing here in 1892. He lived here with his wife, Amelia, until his death in 1901, after which his wife remarried a Mr. Nichols. Their descendants owned the house until purchased by the Hendersons in the 1970s. Among the better known of the Mitchell-Nichols family was its last descendant to reside here, Any Adams, renown for her stout figure (which apparently led to a role in the circus). The nearby Mitchell railroad underpass was named for the family. [Chaffee, 1974:77] (Note: The underpass has since been removed.)*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Gershom Durgin House  
Andover NH  
(Merrimack County)**

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Gershom Durgin House  
Andover, NH  
Merrimack County**

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

Boundaries of the nominated property are indicated on the attached sketch map.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:**

The nominated parcel is that which survives in association with the Gershom Durgin House.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Gershom Durgin House  
Andover, NH  
Merrimack County**

Section 11 Page \_\_\_\_\_

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Carmelita Moe  
391 Franklin Highway  
Andover, N.H. 03216  
(603) 735-4097

Christine E. Fonda  
James L. Garvin  
NH Division of Historical Resources  
PO Box 2043  
Concord, N.H. 03302-2043  
(603) 271-6437

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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