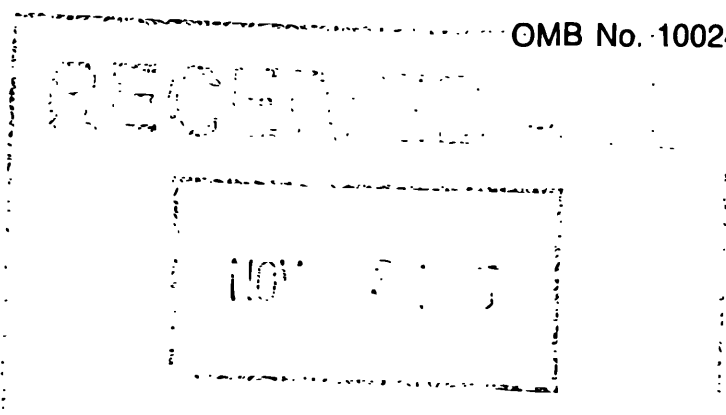


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 an 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 Goffstown Memorial Library

other names/site number Goffstown Public Library (Preferred)

2. Location

street & number 2 High Street N/A not for publication

city or town Goffstown N/A vicinity

state New Hampshire code NH county Hillsborough code 011 zip code 03045

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Nancy C. Miller October 26, 1995
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NEW HAMPSHIRE
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:) _____

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

12-7-95

Goffstown Public Library
Name of Property

Hillsborough, NH
County and State

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: library

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: library

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: granite

walls BRICK

roof STONE: slate

other STONE

Narrative Description

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

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Goffstown Public Library
Goffstown (Hillsborough County)
New HampshireSection number 7 Page 1

A symmetrical, single story structure constructed in the Classical Revival style in 1909, the Goffstown Public Library is typical of the type of small municipal library structures erected across the country in the early 20th century. Constructed of brick with stone trim, the building is capped by a hip roof sheathed in slate shingles, with two corbel cap chimneys punctuating the rear roof slope. The brick is laid in a stretcher bond laid with a reddish mortar, alternating six stretcher courses to a single row alternating stretchers and headers. The building rests on a granite block foundation with its three bay facade facing west. The pedimented central entrance bay projects slightly, fronted by a set of granite stairs with a modern metal railing. The double doored entrance contains a pair of glass and panel doors capped by a large horizontal panel transom. The surround displays consoles supporting a modillioned cornice. A pair of Ionic columns support the full frieze which bears the inscription "Memorial Library". Above, a divided circular window with central keystone rests on a cornucopia base which in turn rests on the top of the frieze. To each side of the entrance is a narrow rectangular window. Fluted bronze lamp standards with globes flank the central staircase.

A stone water table with a cavetto profile wraps around the building above the basement windows. The area between the water course and the foundation consists of banded rustication, with each band consisting of four courses of brick. The two pairs of windows flanking the central bay are recessed slightly and each consist of three parts with plain transoms over doublehung 1/1 sash. Continuous simple stone sills and stone lintels decorated by Greek fret designs frame the windows. The panel below the window and above the stone water table is decorated by a brick diamond diaper pattern within a border of header brick. The projecting cornice is adorned by modillions with a plain frieze with a dentil-like brick course below.

Each of the north and south side elevations measures three bays wide with single window units in a three-part form like that on the facade, recessed slightly between brick strips. Below, single pane windows punctuate the space between the water table and foundation. The center section of the rear elevation projects slightly. The main level of this portion of the building is lit by seven thin, vertical windows with three doublehung 1/1 windows lighting the rusticated basement level below. Plexiglass side panels surround the shed roofed back entrance at the southeast corner of the building.

Inside, the building retains virtually all of its original architectural detailing, most notably oak doors and moldings. The front doors open into a small entrance vestibule from which a series of four individual glass and panel oak doors on the side walls access the attic, lower level, bathroom and storage while a pair of double doors lead to the central foyer of the library. The vestibule is sheathed in a paneled wainscoting above a marble baseboard. The terrazzo floor displays a border of small colored tiles. A bead and reel molding runs around the room above the large double doors while a dentil course decorates the cornice. The vestibule retains its original pendant light with link chain and bulbous glass globe. Here and throughout the library, the walls are a rough-faced plaster.

At the center of the library is a large open room housing the circulation desk and providing access to the north and south reading rooms as well as a work room and stacks to the east. The terrazzo floor in this space is outlined by a border of tiles in a fret design with iron floor grates. Large paneled pilasters with Ionic capitols frame the openings on the east and west walls give rise to a pair of wooden beams on the ceiling. The original circulation desk has been replaced with a modern unit and fluorescent light fixtures are suspended from the ceiling. Double pocket doors with entablatured doorframes access the north and south reading rooms. In each reading room there is a fireplace on the east wall with a brick face and hearth framed by an oak mantel displaying paneled pilasters framing the opening and a dentil cornice underneath the top shelf.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Goffstown Public Library
Goffstown (Hillsborough County)
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 2

Above the fireplace, the overmantel consists of additional pilasters spanning from the top of the shelf to the cornice running around the room. Between the pilasters a frame of moldings decorates the plain plaster wall. Above the cornice, the ceilings in the two rooms are coved with a border of moldings running around the perimeter of the ceiling. A variety of classically-derived moldings decorate the entablature door frames and cornice in each room including egg and dart, bead, bead and reel and dentil moldings. In the north reading room, the walls flanking the entrance on the south wall feature two large white marble tablets upon which the names of Goffstown's soldiers are written in gold leaf. Fluorescent lights are suspended from the ceiling; the wooden floors in these two rooms have been covered by carpeting. The lower level of the library originally unfinished, was improved in 1971 for use as the children's reading room and features acoustical tile ceilings, wood paneling and carpeting on the floor. The attic level of the library remains unfinished and is used for storage.

The Library is set on a small lot measuring 0.31 acre at the corner of High, Main and Elm Streets. A grassy lawn surrounds the building with evergreen shrubs flanking the front stairs and a large pine tree and maple tree to each side of the concrete central front walk. Granite curbing runs along the front sidewalk while a mortared stone wall borders the parking lot located to the north of the building. The Elm Street lot line is marked by granite panels while granite walls extend from the rear two corners of the building.

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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1909

Significant Dates

1909

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

H.M. Francis & Sons, architects

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Goffstown Public Library
Name of Property

Hillsborough, NH
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.31 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>

3	<u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>

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 Lisa B. Mausolf, Historic Preservation Consultant
 organization for the Goffstown Historic District Commission date July 1995
 street & number 20 Terrace Park telephone (617) 942-2173
 city or town Reading state MA zip code 01867

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Goffstown
 street & number 16 Main Street telephone
 city or town Goffstown state NH zip code 03045

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Goffstown Public Library
Goffstown (Hillsborough County)
New Hampshire

Section number 8 Page 1

The Goffstown Public Library, constructed in 1908-9, is an excellent example of the small Classical Revival town libraries built across the state of New Hampshire in the early 20th century. Secondly, it is of interest as an example of the varying memorial halls which were erected statewide at the turn of the century to honor local soldiers and for its continual use housing the local library from 1909 to the present day. The Library retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and its appearance is virtually unchanged since its construction. The library meets National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level as the best example of Classical Revival architecture in the town.

Typical of the way in which the Classical Revival style was adapted for small local libraries, the Goffstown Public Library is a small, symmetrical brick structure with detailing which embodies an exercise in classical vocabulary. Classically derived features are freely mixed both inside and outside the structure, including the modillioned cornice and front pediment, entablatured entrance flanked by Ionic columns, cornucopia, and a wide variety of moldings including Greek fret, dentils, egg and dart, bead and reel. Inside the brick and stone building, the classical detailing is translated into building materials which reflect the tastes of the turn of the century including golden oak moldings and tiled floors laid in fret motifs.

The history of a library in Goffstown began with the donation of 150 books by Miss Lucy Rogers to the town in 1888. Known then as the Rogers Free Public Library, the collection was housed in the Town Hall building from 1888 to 1907 (no longer extant). In 1908 the town borrowed \$14,000 to build a public library and memorial hall on land given by Frank Parker who further agreed to remove the existing buildings on the site. The work of removing the buildings and grading the ground was begun in the spring of 1908 and the building was constructed according to the plans of H.M. Francis and Sons of Fitchburg, Massachusetts. The Hutchinson Building Company of Concord, New Hampshire served as contractors of the structure at a cost of \$12,125. As a memorial to local soldiers, the north room of the library includes two large marble tablets upon which are inscribed the names of 381 Goffstown men who served in past wars. The front lamps were donated by the late Mrs. Harrison Hobson of Nashua, a former resident of Goffstown. The building was dedicated on October 3, 1909 as the Goffstown Memorial Library. The ceremony included an address in the memory of wartime soldiers and the recitation of an original poem by Moses Gage Shirley entitled "Our Library". In 1910, the name of the library was officially changed to the Goffstown Public Library although "Memorial Library" inscribed above the main entrance, bears continued witness to the dual intent of the building's construction.

Little is known of the architectural firm which designed the building. Henry M. Francis is also credited as the architect of two Romanesque Revival libraries in the western part of the state -- the Ingalls Memorial Library in Rindge (c.1894) and the Clay Library in Jaffrey (1896).

Historic photographs including glass negatives of the interior of the building taken shortly after construction, indicate that despite the growth of the collection, the architectural features of the building have remained largely unchanged since its erection.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Goffstown Public Library
Goffstown (Hillsborough County)
New Hampshire

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Sanborn Insurance Maps, Town of Goffstown, 1892, 1898, 1912, 1921. [Microfilm collection, NH Historical Society, Concord, NH].

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Goffstown Public Library
Goffstown (Hillsborough County)
New Hampshire

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies Map 34, Lot 107 in the local assessors' records.

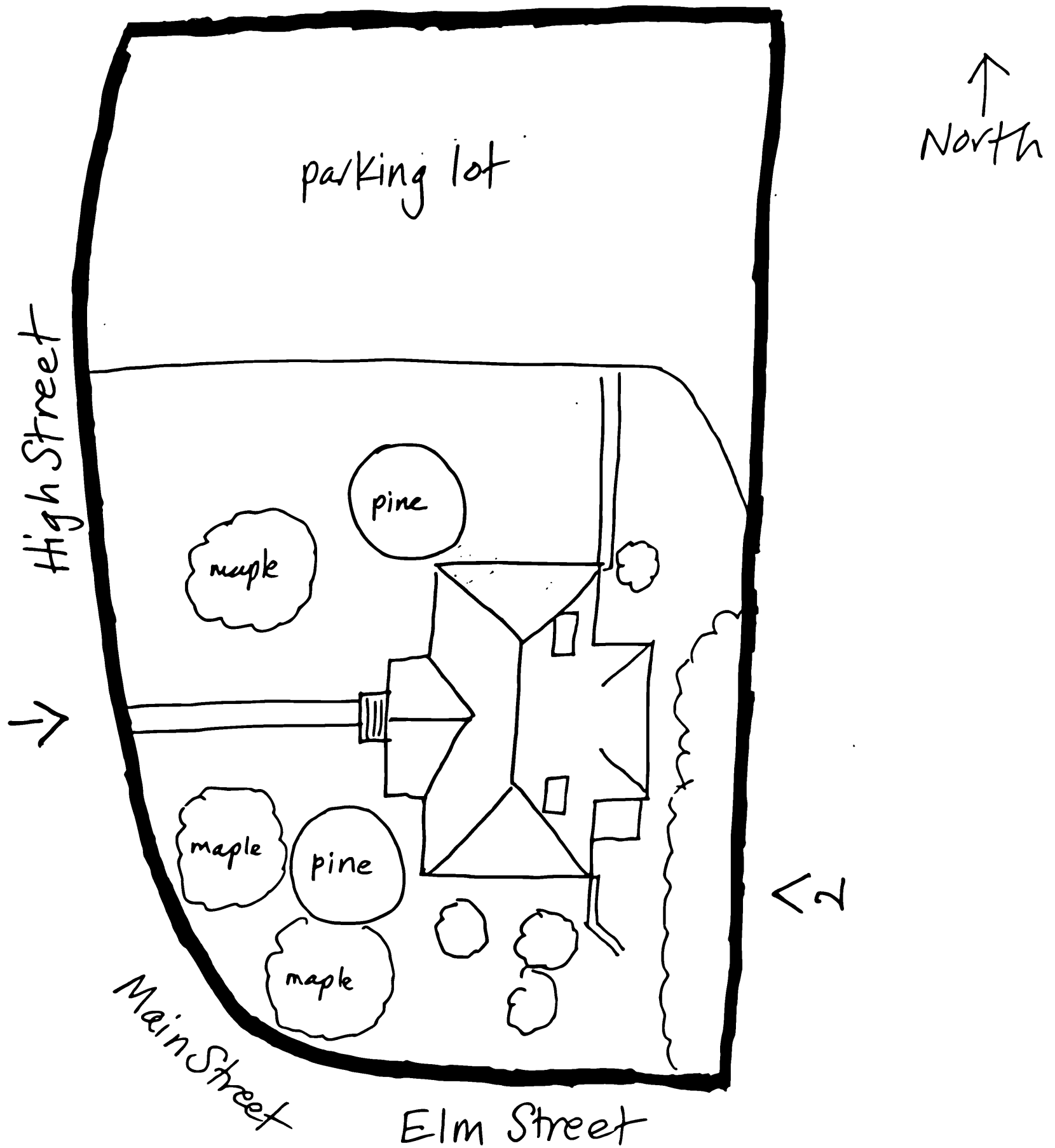
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the nominated property is drawn to include that acreage which survives from the original parcel and which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____



GOFFSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
GOFFSTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Approx. scale $\overline{\quad 25' \quad}$ **—** Property boundary