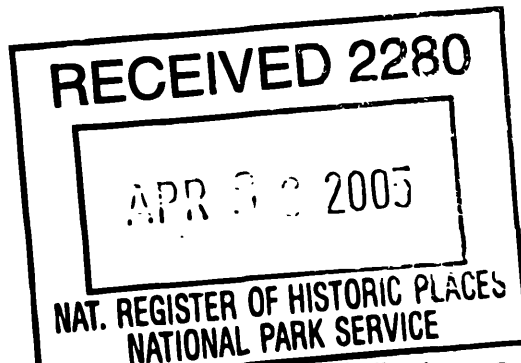


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 North Charlestown Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number River Road  not for publication

city or town Charlestown  vicinity

state New Hampshire code NH county Sullivan code 019 zip code 03603

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.)

James McConaha, SHPO 4/25/05  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

John Beall 6/9/05  
Signature of the Keeper 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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
23	14	buildings
2	0	sites
1	1	structures
2	0	objects
28	15	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**

1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- RELIGION: religious facility
- EDUCATION: school
- SOCIAL: meeting hall
- COMMERCE/TRADE: department store
- INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- RELIGION: religious facility
- EDUCATION: school
- VACANT/NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL

MID-19TH CENTURY

LATE VICTORIAN

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD

BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other N/A

**Narrative Description**

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

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning & Development

Period of Significance

c. 1790-1952

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, National Historic Landmark, Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

Charlestown Historical Society

North Charlestown Historic District  
Name of Property

Sullivan Co., NH  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property approx. 50

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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 Mausolf, Preservation Consultant

organization for the Charlestown Historical Society date January 2005

street & number 20 Terrace Park telephone (781) 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 various (see continuation sheet)

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

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

**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**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 7 Page 1

The North Charlestown Historic District is located in the northern part of the Town of Charlestown, New Hampshire and since the late 18th to early 19th century, has functioned as one of the principal villages in the town, owing to its prominent location along the Great Country Road (also called the Connecticut River Road and the Road to the College) and the Little Sugar River. The area historically considered North Charlestown was originally much larger than the concentration of structures which constitutes the hamlet lining River Road today. When the improved New Hampshire Route 11/12 was constructed in the 1960s, the North Charlestown Historic District was bypassed, effectively separating the main village center from the more disparate settlement located east of Rt. 11/12.

The Great Country Road, now River Road or NH Rt. 12A, is the spine of the district and extends in roughly a north-south orientation. River Road is located west of Rt. 11/12 and east of the Connecticut River. Along its length in the North Charlestown district, River Road crosses two water courses - Ox Brook, to the south of the intersection of River Road and Ox Brook Road, and the Little Sugar River, which is the southern bound of the district.

Although primarily residential in nature, the district also encompasses other uses reflecting the evolution of the district over nearly two hundred years. In addition to fourteen dwellings, there is a school (#5), a church (#7), a cemetery (#2), a store (#20), grange hall (#21) and the remains of a former mill site (#19D). Wood-frame construction dominates although there are several brick buildings including two houses (#3 & #18) and the store (#20) as well as the stone school (#5) and the stone railroad culvert (#22).

The North Charlestown Historic District illustrates a limited range of vernacular versions of architectural styles which were popular in the nineteenth century and includes examples of the Federal, Greek Revival, Second Empire, and Italianate. The buildings in the district range from 1 1/2- to 2 1/2 stories in height. The district also includes one architect-designed property, the Farwell School (#5), which is an excellent example of the vernacular Romanesque Revival style, constructed of river-rounded stone with wood shingle trim. The Farwell School was previously listed on the National Register in 1990.

There are relatively few examples of new construction in the district. A large addition has been built at the rear of the historic Farwell School (#5) and a conference center (#1A) and storage building (#1B) were recently constructed on the Metcalf Tavern property. Other examples of non-contributing construction include the two Ranch-style houses (#10 & #11) set back from the west side of River Road and a number of new garages or barns. The alterations which have occurred to individual properties do not detract from the overall integrity of the district and are generally limited to the application of synthetic sidings or replacement of original windows or doors. Within

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 2

---

the district there are 23 buildings that are considered contributing (as well as one building that was previously listed on the Register); and fourteen (14) buildings which are considered non-contributing. The district also includes two contributing objects, two contributing sites (an historic cemetery and a mill site) and one contributing structure (railroad culvert) in addition to one noncontributing structure.

A description of the individual properties which comprise the district follows, beginning at the northwest corner of the district and continuing southward along the west side of River Road to the southern terminus of the district and then covering the east side of River Road, from north to south. Building/site numbers are keyed to the attached sketch map and table.

**1. Metcalf Tavern, 689 River Road, c.1790. Noncontributing building (due to alteration).**

Marking the northwest edge of the district, the Metcalf Tavern is a 2 1/2-story, 5 x 3-bay, side-gabled dwelling which is sheathed in clapboards. The building displays flush eaves and a small brick chimney rises from the ridge of the asphalt-shingled roof. The center entrance contains a new, six-panel door which is flanked by partial sidelights. The doorway is sheltered by a gable porch supported by plain posts. The windows contain modern, double-hung 12/12 sash with 2/2 sash in the attic.

Extending behind the main house is a two-story, brick ell with 12/12 windows and a gable-hooded entrance on the north side. Attached to the rear of the brick ell is a new 2 1/2-story clapboarded wing with modern 1/1 windows. This replaces a c.1985 barn which had been constructed as office space.

It is not known with certainty who built this house. Capt. John Metcalf bought the property from Job Johnson in 1797. The rear ell was reportedly added to the existing house in 1799. The four Metcalf brothers are said to have built identical houses at North Charlestown, Keene, Milford and Peterborough. Captain John Metcalf, a Revolutionary War veteran, came to North Charlestown from Dedham, Massachusetts as a young adult. Metcalf found work shaving shingles, in the lumber trade and as a farmer. He married in 1796 and had two sons. Ralph Metcalf (1798-1858) became Governor of New Hampshire and was one of the founding members of the precursor of the Republican Party known as the Know Nothing Party. His other son Horace (1801-1879), resided at the family homestead where he was engaged in farming and trade.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 7 Page 3

John Metcalf held a liquor license for a tavern here from 1799 to 1811. The tavern was located on the first floor with a dance hall upstairs over the tavern. John Metcalf's son, Horace, held the liquor license from 1824 to 1833. There was a boat landing behind the Metcalf Tavern where supplies and farm products were shipped up and down the river including John Metcalf's shingles. The river was used as a highway before most of the roads were built. Horace Metcalf later got supplies for his store from the river traffic, too. About 1830 John Metcalf passed the farm and business to Horace and built the house at 572 River Road (see property #3). Horace built the brick store in the village (property #20) and was instrumental in getting a post office for North Charlestown and establishing Hope Hill Cemetery (property #2). John Metcalf died in 1849 and Horace inherited the farm.

Horace died in 1879 and in 1882 the ownership of the property passed from Horace Metcalf's heirs (Julian Metcalf, Maria T. McCann and Sophia J. Gilmore) to Daniel Whitmore. Ownership of the property passed from the heirs of Harry Whitmore to Dwight Hill in 1933. Hill continued to own the property and farmed here until 1960, when it was sold to Janet and Richard Shaw who continued dairy farming. In 1985 the Shaws sold the property to Claire Sarvis who operated a hooked rug business here (Claire Murray). In 1992 the property was purchased by the Student Conservation Association.

A brick school was constructed c.1830 on this property to the south of the house, near the Ox Brook Bridge. The schoolhouse was removed prior to 1897. Today, the land to the south of the house consists of a large open field, surrounded by a three-rail fence.

**1A. Offices/Conference Center, 2002. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

North of the historic house, a building containing offices and a conference center was constructed in 2002. The structure consists of an L-shaped, two-story, gable-roofed building which is sheathed in clapboards. Attached to this is a two-story building which is barn-like in appearance and sheathed in vertical boards. Windows on the building contain double-hung 6/1 sash arranged singly and in pairs.

**1B. Storage Building, 2003. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

To the southwest of the historic house is a two-story storage building constructed in 2003. The building is sheathed in vertical board siding and is capped by an asphalt-shingled roof. Openings on the low gablefront include a recessed doorway, a garage door, a single 1/1 window and a vent at the top of the gable. There are two levels of small 1/1 windows on the side elevations.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 4

---

**2. Hope Hill Cemetery, 1852. Contributing site.**

Hope Hill Cemetery consists of a nine-acre parcel of undulating land set above the fork of the roads from North Charlestown to Claremont and Claremont Junction. Much of the irregularly-shaped parcel of land is enclosed by a fence which alternates granite posts with three horizontal wooden rails. Within the cemetery, gravestones are fashioned from various materials including slate, brownstone, granite and marble, and are designed in a variety of styles. Some graves and stones were moved to Hope Hill Cemetery in the 19th century from an earlier North Charlestown cemetery, Hubbard Hill Cemetery. Among those buried in the cemetery are members of the Metcalf family including John, Horace and Ralph, four Revolutionary War veterans and veterans of other wars. Set into the hillside east of the Old Claremont Road is a stone receiving tomb constructed of granite blocks topped by a massive granite lintel. A metal door with strap hinges accesses the tomb which was probably built shortly after the cemetery was created in 1852.

What may be the original entrance is visible on River Road, marked by a small granite footbridge over a tiny stream with three granite steps leading up the hill and three granite hitching posts. The entrance was intended for pedestrians only. According to the cemetery sexton, there were three distinct walking paths leading up the hillside, all on the diagonal to make it easier for visitors and for the men carrying the caskets to climb. These paths have become overgrown over the years.

A carriage or wagon way was later created up and around the hill, off Ox Brook Road, leading from the road to the hearse house. From there, the path continues to the top of the hill, skirting the top by turning to the south. The focal point of the northern section of the cemetery, is a cast iron fountain installed in 1871 (see below).

Hope Hill Cemetery was established in 1852 and initially contained about three or four acres of land. The Frizzell Town History indicates that local merchant Horace Metcalf was instrumental in improving the cemetery. A codicil in his will set aside a trust fund of \$500 to be used to keep the fountain and his family plot in good repair. The cemetery acreage was increased by the acquisition of 4 1/2 acres and 1 1/2 acres of land from Henry Whitmore in 1918 and 1926 as well as a parcel of land from Dwight Hill in 1955.

**2A. Barn/Hearse House, late 19th century. Contributing building.**

Set back from the Old Claremont Road, this small clapboarded building measures 15'5" x 20'5". It is capped by a gable, standing seam metal roof and is set on a dry laid stone foundation.



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 5

---

Centered on the gable front is a set of double doors. Each of the doors displays four panels which are filled with diagonal wood strips. At the top of each gable is a double-hung 2/2 sash.

This building was originally constructed as a hearse house. The floor is reportedly grooved to allow the water to run off the hearse and into the ground.

**2B. Fountain, 1871. Contributing object.**

In the northern part of the cemetery is a cast iron fountain, twelve feet tall, set on an octagonal granite base. The base is centered in a concrete bowl/pool approximately ten feet in diameter with cast iron trim around the rim. The pool is surrounded by random stones, now set halfway into the ground. The fountain incorporates three bowls of graduated size, separated by pedestals. Two cherub faces adorn the lower, scrolled urn-like pedestal which is also decorated by classically-inspired moldings and motifs.

According to the Frizzell Town History, the fountain was installed at the center of the cemetery about 1871. A similar cast iron fountain is also located in the town's Forest Hill Cemetery.

**3. Metcalf-Pelouze House, 572 River Road, c.1840. Contributing building.**

This 1 1/2-story, side-gabled brick house occupies a prominent location at the intersection of River and Ox Brook Roads, overlooking Ox Brook. The 5 x 3-bay building is capped by an asphalt-shingled roof with an interior chimney rising from near the east edge of the south slope. The center entrance is sheltered by a pedimented enclosed porch with clapboarded sidewalls. The six-panel door is flanked by partial sidelights. Windows contain double-hung 12/12 windows and are fitted with plank shutters. The gable ends display shallow returns; with a 12/12 window and small square windows lighting each end.

Extending to the west of the main house is a single-story clapboarded wing. The east half of the wing is fronted by a projecting porch supported by plain posts and sheltering three windows and a door. At the west end of the wing is a double-wide garage door. The west gable end is sheathed in vertical boards and punctuated by a pair of 3 x 2-light windows. This garage section was probably added c.1950.

It appears that this house was constructed sometime between 1836 and 1849 for John Metcalf after he gave the family farm (#1-689 River Road) and his business to his son, Horace. It is known that

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 6

---

John Metcalf bought the property from Dyer W. Wright in 1836 and that there was then an older house on the property. Metcalf apparently had the brick house constructed. Metcalf died in 1849 and his sons sold the property to Ezra Redfield in 1853. In 1856 Redfield sold the house to Charles V. Barker who was married to Francis Pelouze, daughter of Edmund Pelouze, Jr. Lewis Pelouze acquired the property in 1861. He was the youngest child of Dr. Edmund Pelouze and died in 1876, willing it to his eldest son, Louis Pelouze. The 1892 map indicates that the house was then occupied by Mrs. F. Barker (Francis Pelouze Barker). The property remained in the Pelouze family until 1961 when it was sold by Harry Pelouze (great-great-grandson of Dr. Edmund Pelouze) who maintained the house as a seasonal residence. William and Florence Roberts acquired the property in 1961. Charles and Irene Muir purchased the home in 1967 and sold it to Wayne and Juanita Sweet the following year. Vincent M. Jewell became the owner in 2004.

**3A. Garage, c.1980. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

This modern one-car garage is set far to the west of the house and close to River Road. The 13' x 21' gable-roofed building is clad in board-and-batten siding with an asphalt-shingled roof. There is an overhead garage door on the gablefront with a door and 2 x 2-light window on the east wall.

**4. Bridge, over Ox Brook, 2002. Noncontributing structure (due to age).**

This bridge was constructed in 2002, replacing a c.1930 through plate girder bridge resting on two concrete supports with concrete railings. The present bridge has metal railings.

**5. Farwell School (North Charlestown Community School), River Road, 1889 (with 1993-5 addition). [Previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 12/6/1990]**

The North Charlestown Community School consists of an historic two-room stone schoolhouse known as the Farwell School with a stone lavatory addition at the rear dating to 1926 and a large addition at the rear constructed in 1993-5. This addition is held away from the school, allowing the historic building to maintain its prominence on the site.

The original building is constructed of fieldstone in varied sizes, shapes and colors laid in a red mortar. The original building is roughly rectangular in plan with a round projection at the northeast corner topped by a conical cap and a central gabled pavilion sheathed in staggered wood

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 7

---

shingles with a saw-tooth bottom edge, projecting from the facade. Centered in the gable are paired round-headed windows; the glass is now covered with boards. The building is capped by a hip roof, originally clad with wood shingles and now covered by asphalt shingles. An elongated octagonal ventilator topped by a conical roof is centered on the main roof and a large corbelled cap brick chimney rises to the rear. A wide masonry arch precedes the recessed entry door. Inside the entrance porch the walls are clad in staggered shingles and the front door has five raised panels with large plate glass sidelights above wood panels. Above the arch is a rectangular stone inscribed "Farwell School, 1889". The windows have granite lintels and include groupings of windows with 4 x 3-light panes above a single light lower window, nearly square windows on the conical section and an elliptical stained glass window.

Behind the original building is a single-story stone ell, added in 1926. The ell is fronted on the south side by a concrete block addition which encases the south wall and extends beyond to the west, connecting the original building to a new gabled pavilion which echoes the detailing of the facade gable. The overhanging roof displays exposed rafter tails. The large gable-roofed section to the rear is sheathed in vinyl siding above a band of wood shingles below the windows. There is an arcade on the east wall and a square tower centered on the roof.

Farwell School was designed by Detroit architects Ward & McFarland and was constructed by Hira Beckwith of Claremont. The cost of construction and the land were funded equally by Jesse Farwell, a Detroit businessman raised in North Charlestown and his wife, Emer Godfrey Farwell of Detroit. Construction was supervised by David Farwell, Jesse Farwell's brother.

Prior to the construction of the new North Charlestown Community School, the Trustees of the Jesse Farwell Trust donated the existing Farwell School and parcel to the Fall Mountain Regional School District. The new school was built with money and labor from the community including generous donations from Harvey and Christina Hill and the St. Pierre families. The elementary school serves kindergarten through fifth grade. Without this expansion, Farwell School would have been abandoned.

**6. Fire Department Shed, c.1910. Contributing building.**

To the west of the school is a 1 1/2-story wooden shed sheathed in clapboards and beaded board. The gable roof is sheathed in asphalt. The front (east) facade is punctuated by an attic hatch and swinging doors.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 7 Page 8

This small building was constructed some time before 1920 to house horse-drawn equipment for the volunteer fire department. A 1883 deed indicates that at that time the church next door had a hearse house beside it. It is possible that this building was at one time the hearse house. When the new school was built in the 1990s, the shed was moved further west on the school district lot.

**7. North Charlestown Methodist Church, 471 River Road, 1841. Contributing building.**

Greek Revival in style, the Methodist Church is a single-story building with a square tower rising from the front edge of its gable roof. Now clad in aluminum siding, the church is set on a painted brick foundation and is capped by a slate roof with an exterior brick chimney rising from the west gable end. The pedimented facade features paired entries, each of which contains a wooden door with four recessed panels flanked by partial sidelights. The door surrounds have been encased in siding. Above each entrance is a double-hung 8/8 window framed by wooden blinds and capped by a pointed arch louvered panel which overlaps the plain frieze wrapping around the building. A triangular louvered panel is mounted in the pediment above. The entire facade is fronted by a concrete ramp and platform with a metal rail. The tower replaces an earlier version and dates to 1899. On each elevation there is a rectangular louvered vent with a peaked top. The projecting cornice is topped by a balustrade consisting of square corner post with pointed caps spanned by a railing of repeating Xs formed by wooden boards.

Both the north and south side elevations are three bays deep with double-hung 20/20 sash capped by pointed arch louvered fans. Near the front of the south elevation is a pedimented porch supported by Doric columns and sheltering the metal door which accesses the lower level.

The first Methodist Society at North Charlestown was formed in 1830. Founding members of the congregation included William Smith, Jacob Wright, Nathan Howard, Thomas Whipple and Jonathan Hubbard. On January 20, 1841 it was voted to build a meetinghouse and land was subsequently acquired from Sylvester Mathews. A total of \$1098.50 was raised by subscription and the building was dedicated on August 13, 1841. In 1854 a bell was installed. Manufactured by G.H. Holbrook of East Medway, Massachusetts in 1834, the bell had formerly hung in the Methodist Church in Charlestown. Horsesheds were built south of the church in 1854; they were removed about 1928. In 1884 the interior of the church was remodeled. At that time the choir gallery was closed, the pew doors removed, the preacher's desk lowered, the short pews at the left of the pulpit were removed, a platform was installed for the choir, and the ceiling was arched. An exterior chimney was also constructed and new carpet was installed. In 1899 a new church spire

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 9

---

was installed on the church, designed by W.C. Hobart (who lived at property #14). At about the same time the roof of the church was slated.

**8. Nathan Allen House, 451 River Road, c.1790. Contributing building.**

Parts of the Allen House may date to the late 18th century but overall the house has seen many changes over the years. The two-story, 5 x 2-bay dwelling is now sheathed in aluminum siding and rests on a foundation which has been faced with concrete. The asphalt-shingled roof displays overhanging eaves and is punctuated on the south end by a brick ridge chimney; an additional brick exterior chimney breaks through the roof on the north end of the house. The center entrance contains a c.1910 glass-and-wood door and is flanked by partial sidelights. It is sheltered by a gable door hood resting on c.1960 metal supports. The predominant window form is a double-hung 2/2 sash, fitted with storm windows and shutters. The present owners indicate that at one time the house had large 6/6 windows on the facade, larger than the present replacements.

Extending behind the main house is a single-story ell with a shed addition on the north side resting on a concrete foundation. The ell connects to an angled barn.

The earliest known owner of this property was Captain John Church who is known to have been in Charlestown in 1768, if not earlier, and was one of three persons appointed to divide the town into districts in 1770. After Captain Church's death, ownership of the property passed to his son, Simeon Church in 1786, who conveyed it soon thereafter to his brother-in-law, Nathan Allen. On April 22, 1786 Nathan Allen, then almost 18 years of age, married Deborah Farwell. The 1786 deed from Church to Allen makes specific mention of "all buildings and tenements" (Book 19, Page 103), suggesting there were already several buildings on the property although it is not known if these included the present house. Nathan Allen served as a town selectman from 1811 to 1818 and from 1821 to 1824. He died on December 7, 1833.

The next deed found for the property indicates that in 1841 it was sold by Sylvester Mathews to Marshall Myrick. The deed refers to the 100 acre property as the Allen Farm. In the early 1840s there was a cordwainer shop located next to the house. It was operated by William Hubbard from 1841 to 1843 and probably operated as some other kind of shop at other times.

In 1850 Myrick sold the property to Isaac Harriman. Subsequent owners included Ruel Durkee in 1851 and Henry Jenney in 1876. The next deed found for the property indicates that George Sanborn sold the property to Louise Hutchinson in 1903. In 1908 Evelyn and George Eastman purchased the property from the Hutchinsons. In 1925 the Eastmans conveyed the property to

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 10

---

George Goben. Alex Rayno owned the property from 1926 until 1945. Later owners included Robert Southwick (1947-1951) and Paul Thibault (1953-1961). The 45 acre property was purchased by Ronald and Carol Ferland in 1961 and is now comprised of thirty-one acres.

**8A. Shed, c.1920. Contributing building.**

To the south of the main house is a small shed with sliding doors on its gablefront.

**8B. Barn, c.1980. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Located behind the Methodist Church is a large free-standing barn clad in horizontal flushboard and capped by a gambrel, metal roof. The east end of the barn is spanned by a single-story shed. A slightly lower single-story gable section projects to the north.

**8C. Barn, c.1980. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

This barn is sheathed in vertical boards and capped by a gable, asphalt-shingled roof.

**9. Gay House (Methodist Parsonage), 443 River Road, betw. 1841 & 1849. Contributing building.**

Serving for many years as the Methodist Parsonage, the Gay house is a 1 1/2-story clapboarded dwelling with the sloping site accommodating a lower level exposed on the south side. The house is capped by an asphalt-shingled roof with a brick chimney rising from the south slope. Indicative of a Greek Revival-style influence the five bays of openings on the first floor of the facade are capped by a closed gable or pediment containing two window openings. The center entrance is sheltered by a c.1910 single-bay porch consisting of Roman Doric columns supporting a hip roof. The columns and the stick balustrade rest on a concrete platform. Most of the windows contain 2/2 sash. The lower level openings on the south side have been filled with clapboards and small modern 1/1 windows have been inserted.

Offset to the northwest is a gable-roofed wing/barn. The north elevation is a single story in height and is clapboarded with 2/2 windows and a vertical plank door. The full two stories are visible on the south side; this elevation is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 11

---

Deed research suggests that this property was initially occupied by the broom shop of Rand White which was moved about 1841. The present house was probably built between 1841 and 1849. Deeds indicate that a dwelling house was sold by Rand White to William Hubbard in 1849. This house was purchased by Miss Lavinia Gay in 1852. After Lavinia's death in 1869 the house was bequeathed to the Methodist Society. In 1970 the United Methodist Church of North Charlestown sold the property to Lee and Carol Hiltunen who owned it until 1977. It was acquired by Ronald Ferland from Scott & Gail Dumas in 1983.

**10. St. Pierre House, 439 River Road, 1978. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Located at the end of a long driveway, set back from River Road, the St. Pierre House is a single-story Ranch style dwelling measuring 44' x 24' and capped by a gable roof. The house is clad in vinyl siding and rests on a concrete foundation. An enclosed porch spans much of the facade.

**10A. Garage, 1980. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

The single-story, two-car garage measures 24' x 32'. It is set on a concrete slab and cinderblock foundation with an asphalt-shingled gable roof. The building is sheathed in vinyl siding.

**11. House, 437 River Road, 1963. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Sharing a driveway with 439 River Road, this single-story, clapboarded Ranch-style dwelling measures 24' x 32'. It rests on a concrete block foundation and is capped by a low-pitched, gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The north-facing facade has an offcenter entrance with a single window to the east and two to the west. A closed porch spans much of the rear elevation.

**11A. Barn/Garage, 1975. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Located to the west of the main house, the barn measures 24' x 36'. There is a sliding door on the gable front which displays projecting eaves.

**12. House, 423 River Road, c.1800. Contributing building.**

The house at 423 River Road is a 1 1/2-story, side-gabled dwelling which is sheathed in aluminum siding and capped by an asphalt-shingled, gable roof with projecting eaves. There is a brick



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 7 Page 12

chimney rising from the south ridge. The foundation has been faced with concrete but appears to be mortared stone underneath. Centered on the facade is a two-story projecting gable. On the first floor of the projection, the exterior storm door is flanked by a 1/1 window on either side; upstairs there are two 6/6 windows. Inside the vestibule the front door displays four panels. Except for several 2/2 windows in the attic, most of the remaining windows on the house, including the window on either side of the entrance vestibule, have been replaced by modern 1/1 sash. A single-story projection on the north side of the house appears to be in the process of being removed.

According to Mrs. Frizzell writing in the Town History, this house was said to have been constructed by Nathan White in 1803. However, there is no other mention of a Nathan White in either town history or in county probate records. It is possible that Mrs. Frizzell had meant that the house was built by Nathan Allen as it is known that the property was purchased by Nathan Allen in 1786 and was later owned by Rand and Fanny (daughter of Nathan Allen) White. Rand White operated a broom shop. Rand White died in 1873 and Fanny died in 1895. For a time, the house was occupied by their son, George White. Ownership of the property later passed to their daughter, Ellen White Hamlin, whose husband Giles was proprietor of the Metcalf store. In 1911 Mrs. Hamlin's heirs conveyed the property to George W. Preston, who sold the property in 1914 to Vina Rowe. Later owners included Elizabeth Buinicky (1918-1931), Stanley and Veronica Hill (1931-1941) and Gustav Meyer (1946-1962). The house was sold by Norman and Lena Cobb to Walter Sombric, Jr. in 1969. The property was conveyed by Walter Sombric to Alice Sombric in 1980, who subsequently conveyed it to Shirley Sombric (later Benson), also in 1980.

**13. Thomas Whipple House, 397 River Road, c.1790, remodeled c.1850. Contributing building.**

The Whipple House is a 1 1/2-story, side-gabled dwelling which rests on a brick foundation and is sheathed in composite shingles. The building is capped by an asphalt-shingled roof. A concrete block chimney rises from the north ridge; there is an exterior brick chimney on the south end of the building. Centered on the five bay facade is an early 20th century door with horizontal panels. The door is flanked by partial sidelights and is fronted by a brick and slate stoop. Above the entrance, a gable rises from the roof, containing a 6/6 window. Other windows on the building contain a mix of 2/2 sash and modern 6/6 sash. Extending behind the main house is a single-story, clapboarded ell which connects to a single-car garage sheathed in a combination of horizontal boards and board-and-batten type siding.



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 13

It is difficult to discern the early history of this house. Physical evidence suggests that the house may date to as early as c.1790. There is a huge fireplace mass located under the south front of the house. It appears that the house was remodeled about 1850 with a long front added to the road.

The first known owner was Thomas Whipple although the deed for his initial acquisition has not been found. It is known that Whipple added acreage to his existing property in 1824. Whipple was born in Charlestown, son of Moses Whipple, and lived in town his entire life. He worked as a teacher, a surveyor and in real estate. He served as a postmaster of North Charlestown, a Justice of the Peace (35 years) and Superintendent of Schools (13 years). Whipple died in 1870.

Later owners included Henry Jenney in 1900, Fred Holden in 1903, George Farrow in 1908 and Henry Caine in 1938. In 1965 Elizabeth Woodman conveyed the property to Jasper Morgan who sold it to John Soper in 1971. Daniel and Caryl McPherson purchased the property in 1989.

**13A. Barn, 1962 with 1992 addition. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Located to the southwest of the house, the barn measures 60' x 32'. It is constructed of concrete block with wood shingled ends and is capped by a gambrel roof sheathed in sheet metal. There is a large exterior brick chimney on the facade. Fenestration includes square 4 x 3-light windows. Attached to the west side of the barn is a single-story sugarhouse addition measuring 20' x 16 and constructed about 1992 of vertical boards.

**14. Metcalf House, 391 River Road, c.1830/c.1870 addition/alteration. Contributing building.**

Like several of the houses in the village, the oldest part of this house is the south-facing Cape at the rear. The 1 1/2-story front section capped by a slate-shingled, hip-on-bellcast mansard roof was added c.1870. The house is fronted by a three-bay wide, recessed porch supported by fluted posts set on pedestal bases with raised octagonal panels. The sidehall entrance contains a wooden door with two arched openings filled with etched glass. A single double-hung 1/1 window punctuates the wall adjacent to the entrance. Remaining windows include 1/1 windows on the first floor. Low gable dormers containing 2/2 sash rise from the mansard roof, two on the facade and one each on the adjacent elevations.

Extending behind the mansarded mass is a 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed wing, sheathed in clapboards and capped by a slate roof with a brick ridge chimney. On the north side there is a late 19th

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 14

---

century porch supported by turned posts with scroll brackets. The end of the porch roof and the section of wall facing the road display decorative wood shingles. A bay window projects from the south elevation. To the west of the wing is another wing which was originally a carriage house. Fenestration includes a single modern overhead garage door opening and a modern bay window on the first floor with two dormer windows above.

The early history of this house remains unclear. It has been suggested that the oldest part of this house was constructed by Captain John Metcalf although no proof that John Metcalf ever owned this property been found.

However, deeds suggest that the house was constructed somewhat later (c.1830). The earliest deed found for the property indicates that in 1829 Mark Batchelder granted Thomas Whipple a \$90 mortgage. In 1835 Thomas Whipple sold the property, then containing 3/8 acre, to Horace Metcalf. The First Town History indicates that Whipple was "often employed as a conveyancer of real estate" (p. 615). It would appear that Horace Metcalf bought the house to be near his brick store across the street which was built in 1835. Horace Metcalf was also instrumental in getting a post office for North Charlestown and establishing Hope Hill Cemetery.

The house was sold by Horace Metcalf in 1856. Clark Converse was living here by 1860. Converse served as a town selectman in 1852-3 and 1854. In 1870 he moved to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin and sold the property to William C. Hobart (1831-1915). It seems likely that it was Hobart who was responsible for adding the Second Empire-style front section to the house. It is known that Hobart designed a new steeple for the Methodist Church in 1899. When the church was remodeled in 1884, the pews were used as paneling in this house and can still be seen. The house was owned briefly by George Preston from 1919 to 1922 and then by Earl Farnum from 1922 to 1929. Earl Farnum and his wife Nora moved to North Charlestown in the 1920s and established a Tea Room and Guest Room in the house. The house was purchased in 1929 by Francis P. Thayer (1854-1939) who had served as pastor of the Methodist Church from 1915-1920. Ownership of the house was later conveyed to Thayer's daughter, Caroline, and her husband, John W. Bailey. In 1978 the house was sold by Caroline's estate to Charles Edson. Later owners included Donald and Irmgard Snowden (1980-1986), Eugene and Yvette Sedlewicz (1986-1987) and Allan and Mary Freelon (1987-1989). It was purchased by James McClammer and Sharon Morisi in 1989.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 15

---

**14A. Barn, 19th c. Contributing building.**

To the southwest of the main house is a side-gabled, detached barn which is capped by an asphalt-shingled roof. There is an offcenter sliding door on the front with a loft door above. There is a 12/12 window to the south of the sliding door and a 2/2 window and door to the north. The south gable end has a door and 3 x 2 windows with a diamond shaped window at the top of the gable.

**15. David Parks House, 373 River Road, c.1860. Contributing building.**

Marking the southern boundary of the district just north of the Little Sugar River, the Parks House is a 1 1/2-story, side-gabled dwelling sheathed in clapboards. The main portion of the house is capped by a standing-seam metal roof with overhanging eaves; the ell roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Centered on the facade is a four-panel door with full sidelights set into a simple trabeated surround. The entrance is sheltered by a single bay wide porch supported by plain posts above which is a second story gable with two windows. The porch and gable appear to date to the late 19th century. To the north of the entrance are two double-hung 6/6 windows. On the south side there is a three-sided window resting on a concrete block foundation with two 6/6 windows on the front face and a single window on either side. An exterior brick chimney is centered on the north gable.

To the south of the main house is a single-story wing which is offset slightly to the southwest. The wing is fronted by a single-story porch supported by turned posts set on a wooden deck. Underneath the porch there are two early 20th century glass-and-panel doors. Two 6/6 windows alternate with the doors. At the south end of the wing is an attached shed with a sliding door on the east elevation. The shed displays close eaves and has a shed addition at the rear. A 3 x 2-light window is located in the gable.

According to the Frizzell Town History, this house was constructed for David Parks (b.1818), a blacksmith, after his previous house burned, about 1860. Parks came to Charlestown in 1840; his blacksmith shop was located between the house and the river. (According to deeds there was already a blacksmith shop on the property by 1829). The North Charlestown Hay Scale Co. was also located on this property and was operated by Parks. (The scale was owned by a group of North Charlestown farmers and the store owner, Horace Metcalf.) The property was sold by David W. Parks to Fannie Fifield in 1896. Addie Woodward (wife of Walter) owned the property from 1901 until 1935. It was later owned by Carl and Bernice Stoughton. The property was conveyed by Bernice Stoughton Edgerly to Walter and Beatrice (Stoughton) O'Hearne in 1950.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 16

---

Walter O’Hearne inherited the property from his wife in 1963 and died in 1993. At his death, the property passed to his daughter, Maureen O’Hearne French who conveyed the property to her brother, Michael O’Hearne, in 2000.

**15A. Garage, 1970. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

The clapboarded garage is capped by an asphalt-shingled, gable roof. It is accessed by a sliding door on the front. Behind the house are two small wood sheds, built in 1970 and 2002 according to tax records.

**16. Charles Gay House, 470 River Road, c.1870. Contributing building.**

Located at the northeast corner of River Road and Chestnut Hill Road, the Charles Gay House is a late 19th century vernacular gable-front house with a lateral ell extending to the south. The 1 1/2-story house is sheathed in clapboards and capped by an asphalt-shingled roof. The gable front is outlined by recessed panel pilasters and the projecting eaves end in cornice returns. The sidehall entrance contains a wooden door with two upper glass panes and is fitted with an exterior storm door. The door is sheltered by a gable door hood resting on plain braces. Adjacent to the entrance is a single-story, three-sided bay window. Most of the remaining windows on the main house contain double-hung 2/2 sash; on the north elevation there is a square Queen Anne-style window with colored glass. A pedimented wall dormer breaks through the roof on the south side.

A single-story ell extends to the south and displays pilasters and cornice returns like those on the main house. A single-story porch fronts the section of the ell adjacent to the main house. Fenestration on the ell includes a pair of 1/1 windows; a shed dormer spans the front roof slope.

The house is set on 1.6 acres of land. A detached barn was originally located to the north of the main house.

In the late 19th century this house was occupied by Charles Gay (b.1828), who is shown as the owner on the 1892 map. The house appears to have been built by Edward J. Fifield about 1870 and sold by Fifield to Charles Gay in 1873. According to the Frizzell Town History, the house was “new not long before the Gays moved there”. Charles Gay served as a town selectman from 1861 to 1865 and in 1873, as well as a state representative in 1866 and 1867. Ownership of the property later passed to Gay’s daughter, Carrie, who married Almer Wilson in 1903. She was a teacher and died in 1959; he was a farmer and died in 1944. In 1959, the property later passed to

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 17

---

the Wilson's only surviving child, Stanley Wilson. After Stanley Wilson's death, the property was sold to Wessell and Arlene Lafoe in 1967. The Lafoes sold the property to St. Pierre, Inc. in 1989.

**17. Allen-Merrill House, 18 Chestnut Hill Road, c.1825. Contributing building.**

The Allen-Merrill House is a 1 1/2-story, clapboarded dwelling oriented with its principal elevation facing south. The house is set on a brick foundation and capped by an asphalt-shingled roof displaying projecting eaves that are without returns. Two interior brick chimneys rise from the ridge. The facade displays an unusual seven-bay massing with doors located in the second and sixth bays. A single-story, shed-roofed porch supported by modern plain posts spans much of the south facade. The low, broad, west gable end facing the road is punctuated by three 2/2 windows on the first floor and a single window in the attic. Offset to the northeast is a 1 1/2-story, clapboarded wing displaying double-hung 12/12 windows including two on the north elevation and three on the east.

The earliest deed found for this property indicates that it was conveyed by Nathan Allen (b.1768) to his son, Charles Allen (b.1794), in 1826, with the stipulation that Charles would take possession in 1830. [Nathan Allen lived across the street at 451 River Road (#8).] The 1860 map indicates that in that year it was occupied by Charles Allen. The property was owned by Wilbur F. Merrill (1831-1921) from 1870 until 1919 (he is shown as the owner on the 1892 map). In 1919 the property was sold by Wilbur Merrill to Lewis James Perry. Ownership subsequently passed to Perry's daughter, Helen P. Thayer (wife of Charles Thayer). The property was conveyed by Mrs. Thayer's estate to Malcolm, Ramona, and John Wadleigh in 1978. Mrs. Thayer was Malcolm Wadleigh's aunt. Malcolm Wadleigh died in 2002 and the property was subsequently conveyed by his widow, Ramona Wadleigh, to their son, John Wadleigh.

**17A. Barn, 19th century. Contributing building.**

This barn complex consists of a large barn sheathed in a combination of board-and-batten siding and sheet metal with a slightly smaller clapboarded and sheet metal barn attached to the west end. Sliding doors are located on the south broad elevation of the eastern barn. The broad west gable-end of the clapboarded extension displays projecting eaves and has an offcenter beadboard, sliding door and adjacent window above which are two individual 12/12 windows.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 18

---

**17B. Shed, c.1940. Contributing building.**

To the south of the barn is a gable-roofed shed sheathed in tarpaper and punctuated by 4 x 3 and 3 x 2 windows.

**18. Putnam-Way House, 398 River Road, c.1830/2002 addition. Contributing building.**

Setback from the east side of River Road, the Putnam-Way House is a 1 1/2-story, south-facing, brick Cape Cod-style dwelling with a clapboarded 1 1/2-story wing extending to the east, constructed in 2002. The gable roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and displays cornice returns. Two brick chimneys rise from the interior ends of the main house roof. Centered on the facade of the 5 x 3-bay brick house, the entrance is capped by a five-light transom and sheltered by a simple gable door hood. The predominant window is a double-hung 6/6 modern sash. An additional entrance, now boarded, is located in the northernmost bay on the west end. Adjacent there are two windows with a single sash in the attic.

Extending to the east of the brick house is a 1 1/2-story clapboarded wing fronted by a single-story porch supported by four smooth columns. This wing was built in 2002, replacing an earlier clapboarded wing of similar massing. The building is capped by an asphalt roof and the gable end displays projecting eaves which end in returns. Fenestration includes multi-light picture windows, double-hung sash and a glass-and-metal door.

There were buildings on this property as early as 1786. It appears that the present brick house was probably built by Ira Putnam. Deeds indicate that in 1829 Thomas Whipple sold a piece of land containing 7/8 of an acre across from his own dwelling (397 River Road) to Ira Putnam for \$30 (this was the front of the property, not where the house currently stands). In 1833 Putnam acquired additional acreage from Charles Allen. In 1839 the property, encompassing 95 square rods, was conveyed by Ira Putnam to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It subsequently served as the first parsonage but was sold to Silas Beckwith in 1854 for \$112. At the time, Beckwith was the operator of the adjacent sawmill. It appears that the house was either greatly renovated or the brick section was added during this period. Beckwith moved to Minnesota in 1856 and sold the property to Edwin Whipple (b.1817), son of Thomas Whipple.

Charles Way (1836-1909) purchased the property in 1869. According to the Town History published in 1876, Way came to Charlestown in 1865 and manufactured fishing rods, carriage bows, toy harps and snow shovels at North Charlestown. (The 1892 map shows the fishing rod

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 7 Page 19

factory was located to the east of the brick store, on the north side of the river. The mill reportedly burned in 1900.) In 1867 Charles Way married Caroline Elizabeth White, daughter of Rand and Fanny (Allen) White. During the Ways' ownership, the brick house and property was known as "Wayside". The Ways built a summer house on the hill where ice cream parties were held and also had a tennis court beside their house. The Ways probably also greatly renovated the old house. The chestnut woodwork and pocket doors as well as the door and window trim date approximately to this period.

C.A. Way died in 1909. The property, then encompassing 3 1/2 acres, was sold by Charles Way's estate to Albert Lane (1851-1931) in 1910. The property was conveyed to Arthur and Sarah Reid in 1931. Richard and Elsie Cromwell purchased the property from Elsie's aunt, Sarah Reid, in 1943. They rented the house for several years before buying it. Richard Cromwell died in 1967. The attached barn collapsed about 1998. The property was purchased by Thomas and Susan Laware in 2002 who removed the ruined barn and the summer kitchen ell. They extensively restored and renovated the house, adding a new kitchen ell. Large maple trees, over one hundred years old, line the dirt driveway.

**18A. Way Summer House, c.1880. Contributing building.**

Located at the top of the hill northwest of the house is a small, wood-frame summer shelter. The square building is sheathed in a combination of clapboards and wood shingles and capped by a hip roof with overhanging eaves supported by decorative jigsaw brackets. The building currently stands in a deteriorated condition and much of the roof has caved in.

**18B. Garage, 2003. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

This 24' x 27' garage was constructed in 2003. Set on a concrete slab, it is sheathed in clapboard with an asphalt-shingled roof. Two individual, overhead garage doors punctuate the facade with a loft-like door located in the gable above.

**19. Wheeler-Gilmore House, 390 River Road, c.1780/c.1820. Contributing building.**

The oldest part of this house is the south-facing Cape at the rear; the 1 1/2-story 3 x 2-bay, gable-roofed front section was added c.1820. The clapboarded front building is outlined by simple cornerboards with a plain watertable atop the brick foundation and a projecting boxed cornice with the eaves on the gable ends ending in returns. The center entrance contains a wooden door with



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 20

---

four recessed panels and is capped by a five-light transom with five-light sidelights set into the wall adjacent to the door. On either side of the entrance is a double-hung 12/8 window. The gable ends are each two bays deep with 12/8 windows on the first floor and 6/6 sash in the attic.

Extending behind the front section, the single-story original house rests on a mortared stone foundation and is capped by a gable roof. This older section is slightly taller than the later, front section. Fenestration on the south side of the original house includes a door with two upper glass panes and a beadboard exterior door with two lights. There is a 9/6 window on either side of the entrance with two 12/8 windows toward the rear of the elevation. The north elevation is punctuated by four 6/6 windows tucked under the eaves. At the east end of the building is an attached shed set on a concrete foundation with a vertical board door and two 6/6 windows on the south side.

The early ownership of this house is intertwined with the history of the mill privilege on the Little Sugar River, making it difficult to ascertain the exact age of the house from deeds. The property was originally part of a fifty-acre lot (#9) in the third division of Upland. It was conveyed by the original proprietors to Thomas Putnam or John Church in 1754 and it was owned by Moses Wheeler, Jr. in 1774. Moses Wheeler conveyed the land (but not the mill privilege) to John Harper in 1790. It is known that Harper had a store and sold liquor somewhere in North Charlestown and it is likely that this was the location of the store. Harper sold the property to Abel McGregory in 1797 for \$123.34; in 1800 McGregory sold the property to Shubael Griswold and Epaphran Matteson for \$600. (The mill privilege was separate from the property from 1790 to c.1800). Griswold continued to own the property until 1821 when it was sold to Samuel and Hiram Putnam. The acreage at the time of the sale had been reduced from 50 acres to 20. Thomas Whipple owned it from 1821 to 1824. The house, mill privilege and six acres of land were purchased by Elijah Drace in 1824; the following year he sold the same property to Richard Kimball and Lewis Gilmore. Gilmore achieved sole ownership of the house and an acre of land in 1826. The mill property was separated from the house. Gilmore and others owned the mills and Gilmore was the miller. The mill privilege was with the owner of the property at the time.

In 1827 Gilmore built or bought a woolen mill on the Little Sugar River. He also owned saw and grist mills and the post office was located in the north side of his house from 1843 to 1852. In 1835 Gilmore gave Horace Metcalf 1/4 acre of land for the construction of a store. At the time of his death in 1851, Gilmore's property inventory showed he owned half of the woolen factory and 2/3 of the sawmill.



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 21

---

In 1906 Lewis Gilmore's daughters, Julia and Emily Gilmore of Concord, Massachusetts, conveyed the property to Willifred Hunt for \$500. It was purchased by A. Lloyd Hamlin in 1911 and transferred to Howard and Hilda Hamlin in 1927, at which time the 3/4 acre of land was supplemented by an additional three acres. William and Edith Elmes purchased the house in 1930 and William continued to own it until 1947 when it was conveyed to Rosalie Harrington who sold it to Chester and Lydia Hunter in 1956. Later owners included Finette Sullivan (1960-1970), her daughter, Mary Mecheski (1970-1980) and Wax Brackett (1980-1987). The present owners, Charles and Joyce Higgins, purchased the property in 1993.

**19A. Roadside Shed/Shop, c.1920. Contributing building.**

Set close to the road, to the south of the Wheeler-Gilmore House, is this unique, small shop. The single-story, clapboarded building displays a three-sided facade and an asphalt roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. The central six-panel door is flanked by 2 x 2 windows; with three 2 x 2 windows lighting the adjacent walls. The rear wall is straight and incorporates an open wood shed. The yard in front of the shop is enclosed by a picket fence.

The glass-fronted shed began life across the road beside 397 River Road and was moved to its present location about 1960. It was originally used by the farmer, George Farrow, who owned 397 River Road to sell vegetables and was called the "Squash House". It was moved by Finette Sullivan to be used as part of her antiques shop.

**19B. Garage, 1997. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Behind the ell is a detached, two-car garage which is clapboarded, set on a concrete slab and capped by an asphalt-shingled roof. The gable-front faces south and is punctuated by two overhead doors with clipped corners.

**19C. Shed, c.1920. Contributing building.**

To the east of the garage is a small, clapboarded shed with a saltbox profile. The building is set on posts. The mixed fenestration includes a vertical board door, single pane square windows, windows with four vertical panes, and casement units. A small shed-roofed section is attached to the east end.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 22

---

The building was moved here c.1970 for use as a chicken coop. Its original location is not known.

**19D. Mill Site. Contributing site.**

This 3.01 acre property, now wooded, also includes the remains of a saw mill, mill dam, canals and rough piles of rocks that may have been foundations of the saw mill, grist mill and woolen factory which were once located here.

**20. Horace Metcalf Store, 380 River Road, 1835. Contributing building.**

The Metcalf Store is a 2 1/2-story, side-gabled brick building measuring 30' x 50', capped by an asphalt roof with two brick chimneys rising from the interior ends of the front slope. The brickwork is laid in a bond alternating nine courses of stretcher brick to a single row of headers. The building is set on a foundation of mortared, irregular fieldstone. The first floor of the facade alternates three sets of windows with two doors. The openings are presently covered with boards but it appears that there are double windows at the north end and in the center with a single window to the south. Concrete steps and platforms front much of the facade. The second floor of the facade is punctuated by eight 12/12 windows which are fitted with storm sash and display stone sills and lintels.

The south-gabled end has a central door opening on the first and second floors. Framed by cornice returns, there are three attic openings. On the north side of the building the windows have been left uncovered. The first floor only has a door in the rear bay while there are three 12/12 windows on the second floor. Lighting the attic, there is a central 12/12 window flanked by a pair of 6/6 sash.

Openings on the rear elevation include an arched basement access and four windows on the first floor. There are five windows on the second floor and a door which once led to storage in an attached barn.

According to the Town History, inside there is an ingenious fireproof vault in the southwest corner of the store as well as a sunken floor in part of the deep cellar with a well in the center. The land on which the brick store stands was sold by Lewis Gilmore (see 390 River Road) to Horace Metcalf in 1835. Gilmore sold the land for \$40 with the proviso that the Metcalf heirs "shall build upon the said premises an English and West India goods store on or before the first of September

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 23

---

next". In the ledger of the North Charlestown Hay Scale Co. (1857-1880) the store is always referred to as Metcalf & Hamlin's Store. Giles Hamlin was Metcalf's clerk for years and may have also been his business partner in later years.

The property was owned by Horace Metcalf until 1880 and changed hands frequently over the following years. Horace's daughter, Sophia Jane Gilmore and her husband, George M. Gilmore, inherited the store in 1880 and sold it three years later to Clarence Bixby. Bixby conveyed the property in 1891 to A. Lloyd and George Hamlin. The Hamlins rented the store to various proprietors including Edward Grant in 1902 and Richard Bacon from 1907-8. The property was sold by Minnie Hamlin to Herbert Dickinson in 1912 who continued to own it until 1926. Carl Stoughton was the owner of the property from 1926 to 1939. During the early 20th century the store also dispensed gasoline. Other owners included Robert and Edith Goodwin (1939 to 1941), Ellen Buxton (1941), Sadie and Alansar Wainwright (1941-6) and Donald Harrington (1946-1947). The store was owned by Ernest and Joyce Coull from about 1947 to 1963. Mahlon Dudley and Margaret Evelyn Rich owned the property from 1968 until 1979. Donald and Patricia Daigle purchased the property in 1979 and continue to own it today.

**20A. Horse Trough, 1891. Contributing object.**

Located in front of the store is this granite watering trough with rounded corners. It is inscribed "Gilmore 1891" and was possibly donated by the Misses Gilmore, Julia and Emily or by Sophia J. and George M. Gilmore.

**20B. Garage, c.1990. Noncontributing building (due to age).**

Behind the store building is a single-story unfinished garage constructed of plywood, measuring 24' x 30'. The roof of the building collapsed about 1999 in the winter.

**21. Union Hall, 372 River Road, 1884. Contributing building.**

The former Sugar River Grange is a two-story, 2 x 4-bay, clapboarded building set on a concrete block foundation and capped by an asphalt-shingled gable roof with overhanging eaves with two brick chimneys rising from the ridge. Spanning the rear elevation is a slightly shorter addition, a single bay in depth, capped by a low, gable roof. The building is set with its gable-front to the street with two bays of openings, aligned near the north and south edges of the facade. In recent years, the original double leaf doors, each with two panels, have been replaced by a single, modern

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 24

---

metal door. Concrete steps front the entrance. Windows contain double-hung 6/6 sash and are fitted with storm windows. A wooden sign reading "Sugar River Grange" is mounted between the second story facade windows.

The south elevation has four bays of 6/6 windows on the main building with a small square single pane window added on the first floor. The rear addition has a 6/6 window on the first floor of the south elevation with a 3 x 2-light window above. The north side has four 6/6 windows on each floor with a former door opening at the rear replaced by a window. The rear elevation is without openings other than a set of double doors, each of which has two long narrow panels over two shorter panels. The front doors were originally the same as these rear doors.

Union Hall was constructed in 1883 following the burning of the old hall near the depot. The building was dedicated on February 12 and 14, 1884. The Union Hall Association was given a 99-year lease by C.A. Way and C.M. Bixby in 1884. At one time there was a bandstand in front of the building.

Union Hall was sold by Howard Hamlin to Henry and Sarah Knights in 1928. In 1932 Union Hall Association, Inc. was incorporated to provide a community hall and common meeting place for the fraternal organizations, religious societies, educational organizations and North Charlestown residents to use in their social, recreational, religious and educational facility. In 1937, the building was sold by the Knights to Union Hall Association, Inc. In 1949 Union Hall Association entered into a ten year lease with the Sugar River Grange #190. The Association sold the building to Maxwell Sargent in February 2000. Robert Ashton purchased the property in 2002.

**22. Railroad Culvert, 1848. Contributing structure.**

Located in the wooded area east of the brick store, this large stone culvert was constructed to allow the Little Sugar River to pass under the Sullivan Railroad. The culvert is constructed of large, dry laid, granite blocks. The arch, outlined by stone voussoirs, is approximately fifteen feet high. Barely visible on the west keystone is an inscription reading "1848".

The Sullivan Railroad was opened in 1849 and this culvert apparently dates to its original construction. The line was later taken over by the Boston & Maine Railroad. It is still active today.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 7 Page 25

---

During World War I, the train line was considered so essential to the war effort that the culvert was guarded by the 6th Mass. Regiment of the National Guard. The area in front of the west face of the culvert served as a town swimming hole for many years.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

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

Map #	Tax Map	Historic Name	Street Address	Const. Date	Contrib./ Non.
1	4-2	Metcalf Tavern	689 River Road	c.1790	NC (alt.)
1A	4-2	Offices	689 River Road	2002	NC (age)
1B	4-2	Storage Building	689 River Road	2003	NC (age)
2	4-15	Hope Hill Cemetery	River & Ox Brook Roads	1852	C (Si)
2A	4-15	Barn		late 19th c.	C
2B	4-15	Fountain		1871	C (O)
3	4-16	Metcalf-Pelouze House	572 River Road	c.1840	C
3A	4-16	Garage	572 River Road	c.1980	NC (age)
4		Bridge	River Road over Ox Brook	2002	NC (St)(age)
5	4-3-1	Farwell School	River Road	1889 (w/1995 add.)	NRC
6		Fire Department Shed	River Road	c.1910	C
7	4-5	Methodist Church	471 River Road	1841	C
8	4-6	Nathan Allen House	451 River Road	c.1790	C
8A	4-6	Shed	451 River Road	c.1920	C
8B	4-6	Barn	451 River Road	c.1980	NC (age)
8C	4-6	Barn	451 River Road	c.1980	NC (age)
9	4-7	Gay House (Methodist Parsonage)	443 River Road	betw. 1841 & 1849	C
10	4-8	St. Pierre House	439 River Road	1978	NC (age)
10A	4-8	Barn	439 River Road	1980	NC (age)
11	4-10	House	437 River Road	1963	NC (age)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

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

Map #	Tax Map	Historic Name	Street Address	Const. Date	Contrib./ Non.
11A	4-10	Barn/Garage	437 River Road	1975	NC (age)
12	4-9	House	423 River Road	c.1800	C
13	4-11	Thomas Whipple House	397 River Road	c.1790/ c.1850	C
13A	4-11	Barn	397 River Road	1962/ 1992	NC (age)
14	6-1	Metcalf House	391 River Road	c.1830/ c.1870	C
14A	6-1	Barn	391 River Road	19th c.	C
15	6-4	David Parks House	373 River Road	c.1860	C
15A	6-4	Garage	373 River Road	1970	NC (age)
16	4-45	Charles Gay House	470 River Road	c.1870	C
17	4-49	Allen-Merrill House	18 Chestnut Hill Road	c.1825	C
17A	4-49	Barn	18 Chestnut Hill Rd.	19th c.	C
17B	4-49	Shed	18 Chestnut Hill Rd.	c.1940	C
18	4-50	Putnam-Way House	398 River Road	c.1830	C
18A	4-49	Way Summer House	398 River Road	c.1880	C
18B	4-49	Garage	398 River Road	2003	NC (age)
19	6-28	Wheeler-Gilmore House	390 River Road	c.1780/ c.1820	C
19A	6-28	Shed/Shop	390 River Road	c.1920	C
19B	6-28	Garage		1997	NC (age)
19C	6-28	Shed	390 River Road	c.1920	C
19D	6-28	Mill Site/ Dam Remains	390 River Road		C (Si)
20	6-26	Horace Metcalf Store	380 River Road	1835	C
20A	6-26	Water Trough		1891	C (O)
20B	6-26	Garage	380 River Road	c.1990	NC (age)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

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

Map #	Tax Map	Historic Name	Street Address	Const. Date	Contrib./ Non.
21	6-27	Union Hall (Grange)	372 River Road	1884	C
22		Railroad Culvert		1848	C(St)

**KEY**

- NRC            Already individually listed (contributing) on the National Register
- C              Contributing (building unless otherwise noted)
- NC (age)      Noncontributing due to age (less than 50 years)
- NC (alt.)     Noncontributing due to alteration
- O              Object
- Si             Site
- St             Structure

**TOTALS**

- 23    Contributing buildings
- 1    Building already listed on National Register
- 14   Noncontributing buildings
- 2    Contributing objects
- 2    Contributing sites
- 0    Noncontributing sites
- 1    Contributing structure
- 1    Noncontributing structure



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 8 Page 1

---

The North Charlestown Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development and Criterion C, Architecture. It is significant on the local level and possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association for the period of significance which runs from c.1790, reflecting the date of the earliest settlement in the area, to 1955, the 50-year cut-off date. The area has been a local civic, religious, commercial and transportation center for over two hundred years and the sense of a small village center remains strong today.

The district is a well-preserved example of vernacular community development, illustrating the evolution of a village center over two hundred years without a deliberate design or plan. The Little Sugar River served as an early focal point of the village, providing water power for various small mills. Proximity to the Connecticut River allowed for the movement of goods and the establishment of early roads such as the County Road after 1828 resulted in through traffic and promoted the growth of local businesses. Later in the century, the railroad provided the means to move goods and passengers. The resources in the district include residential structures, a tavern and a brick store which illustrate the era of prosperity during the 19th century, a church, a cemetery, a school, a community hall, and the sites of early mills.

The district is also significant architecturally as a largely intact and diverse rural New Hampshire villagelandscape. As is typical in small rural towns, there is a general lack of stylistic detailing and few of the buildings could be labeled with a specific architectural style. But together, this group of primarily vernacular buildings form a cohesive unit, a distinguishable entity, whose individual components generally lack the same presence.

Located on the banks of the Connecticut River, the town of Charlestown, New Hampshire was founded in 1737. Known early on as Number 4, what is now Charlestown was significant in the 18th century as the northernmost outpost in the Connecticut River Valley. A fort was built in the lower end of what is now Main Street in 1743 and continued to stand until the 1760s. Charlestown functioned as a major supply and recruiting center for the patriots during the Revolutionary War and was an important communication and wholesale distribution center from Connecticut and Massachusetts. Historically the economy of the community centered on farming with a limited amount of manufacturing owing to a lack of commercial water power.

The area known as North Charlestown is located five miles north of the town center. The land area now known as North Charlestown was lotted and apportioned to early settlers in 1754. In the late 18th century it became one of the principal villages in the town owing to its prominent location at one of the town's major road junctions, the Great Country Road and the Unity Road and the water power of the Little Sugar River. The area historically considered North Charlestown was

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 8 Page 2

---

originally much larger than the concentration of structures which constitutes the hamlet lining Rt. 12A today. Until the 1960s the village was prominently located along the main north-south road on the New Hampshire side of the Connecticut River. When the improved Route 11/12 was constructed, the small village center was bypassed, effectively separating the main village center from the more disparate settlement located east of Rt. 11/12.

Historically, the north-south road along the Connecticut River was known as "the road to the College", "the Great Country Road" or the "Connecticut River Road". It had its own traffic and was not dependent on points east. By 1801 there was a weekly stage up and down the Connecticut River Valley. Before 1820 a stage line to Hanover with a two-horse coach had been established. Between 1820 and 1840 business increased immensely. In 1831 Dickinson ran stage routes from Walpole to Windsor, Vermont, on both sides of the river.

Saw and grist mills were constructed in North Charlestown as early as 1780 although the major mill complex on the middle Little Sugar River above the old iron bridge was not fully developed until after 1793 by the Perkins Family. Other mills downstream included a mill operated by Peleg Williams prior to 1790 (Moses Wheeler had a mill privilege here in 1790), Shubael Griswold (1800), Luman Huntley's sawmill (1797) and Daniel Barker's saw-gristmill (1796). This area of North Charlestown was called "Slab City" due to the sawmill. In North Charlestown lumber trade benefited from a good landing site below the mouth of the Little Sugar River. Local commerce received a boost from a marketable commodity, lumber, in addition to the livestock and associated local products.

By 1800 the village of North Charlestown was substantially as it is today. Most of the North Charlestown houses were in place by 1780 or 1790 although some of the original dwellings were replaced by later houses. There was a sawmill, a tavern and it appears that John Harper operated a store and sold liquor at what is now 390 River Road (#19), convenient to the mill.

North Charlestown actually developed in two sections. One area was along the Road to the College (today's Rt 12A/River Road). The other area developed along Unity Road (today known as Wheeler-Rand Road.). Until the coming of the railroad in 1849, the social center of North Charlestown was located near the fork of the Great Country and Unity Roads. The early business section in North Charlestown was strategically located along what is now the Wheeler Rand Road, to the east of Rt. 11/12. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, this was the main line of travel to Unity and the Second New Hampshire Turnpike, the county road through the Borough leading toward Boston, and the stage road to Claremont and points beyond. On the north side of this road there was the Rand Store, owned by Robert Rand who came to town in 1799. Another store was located further east, on the south side of the road, operated by a man named Pierce about 1832.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 8 Page 3

The North Meetinghouse was constructed on the Unity Road about 1/4 mile beyond the Rand place, on the opposite side of the road about 1810. A number of taverns were established in the North Charlestown area to service the traffic which passed through town. Capt. John Metcalf and his son, Horace, operated a tavern on the River Road at the northern end of North Charlestown (#1). The Metcalfs were licensed to sell liquor at their tavern from 1799-1811 and 1824-33. Other taverns included the Pierce Tavern on the Unity Road and the Parker Tavern (now the Indian Shutters Restaurant) on the River Road, to the south of the proposed district. In 1818, led by Horace Wheeler and Nathan Allen, an act was passed to incorporate an association for a library in the North Parish in Charlestown. What became of this proposal is not known.

Initially the Wheeler-Rand Road area of North Charlestown dominated village life due to the location of stores and other amenities. In time, the center of the village shifted increasingly to River Road. In 1828 the county ordered that the new county road be built through the present village of North Charlestown, known as "Slab City" (due to the sawmill but later known simply as "The City"), shifting the focus of the village westward from the Unity Road to the area that constitutes the present village center. The arrival of the Sullivan Railroad in 1849 and its path just to the east of the village further eclipsed the old eastern village center. About 1850 the old meetinghouse which had been constructed in 1802 on the east side of North Charlestown was demolished.

In 1827 Horace Metcalf was instrumental in getting a post office established in North Charlestown and remained the postmaster for some time. The post office was probably located at his farm (#1). In 1835 Horace Metcalf built the brick store building which still stands in the village (#20). After Metcalf's death in 1879 the store was empty until Clarence Bixby established a store there from 1884 until 1891. The building was owned by George and A. Lloyd Hamlin from 1891 until 1912 and they rented it to Edward Grant (1902) and Richard Bacon in 1907-8. Later owner/store keepers included Herbert Dickinson 1913-1926, Carl Stoughton 1927-1939 and Robert Goodwin. During the 19th century stores were also located in the old Hall building, which burned in 1882 and was located near the depot, near the present intersection with Egypt Road. The old Hall building featuring a hall upstairs and store downstairs run over the years by shopkeepers including Orin Smith and Wesley Hunt. About 1850 the building was used as a shop where women sewed shoes sent up from Lynn, Massachusetts by Newhall Co. There was also a cheese factory on the same site as the Hall. It was built about 1885 by Robert Gowing. Other smaller stores constructed in the village included a grocery store built by Squire G. Smith near the depot in 1881 and a store at the foot of Depot Hill. The depot building stood on the east side of the track south of the crossing on the steep hill. A wood yard to store the supply of wood for the early wood-burning engines was located on the flat south of the depot. In 1850, after the coming of the railroad, the Unity Stage Road was built from the depot to the Unity Road and from the depot to the present

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 8 Page 4

---

overpass. The depot at North Charlestown was one of three, along with South Charlestown and Charlestown Street, which served the town.

The Metcalf family was among the best known of North Charlestown's early families. John Metcalf and his son Horace operated the tavern at the north end of the village (#1) and also built the brick house at the junction of Ox Brook and River Roads (#3) and the brick store in the village (#20). Ralph Metcalf (1798-1858) was born in Charlestown and graduated from Dartmouth College. He was a prominent lawyer who served as Secretary of State in 1831, a member of the State Legislature from 1852-3 and Governor of the State, a candidate of the Know Nothing Party in 1855.

Historically, the Little Sugar River afforded water power for a number of small industries in North Charlestown. The 1816 Carrigan Map indicates that there was then a sawmill and a grist mill on the Little Sugar River. In 1826 Lewis Gilmore settled in North Charlestown and built or bought a woolen mill in addition to the saw and gristmills he already owned on the north side of the river. Two women were employed weaving cassimere and in 1850 they wove 700 yards while the sawmill produced 100M feet of lumber, all powered by water power. Charles Way, who came to North Charlestown in 1865, began manufacturing fishing rods and carriage bows sometime in the 1870s. There was a canal from the river to the mill and under the highway so that there were two bridges. Way supplemented the water power of the river with a 45 HP engine. Production also included wooden knitting pins, snow shovels, toy harps, box boards and velocipedes. Charles and Caroline Way lived in the brick house near the mill. About 1880 they constructed a small summer house/gazebo (#18A) where ice cream parties were held and a tennis court was also located on the property. The Way Mill was destroyed by fire in 1900, at which time newspaper accounts indicated it employed ten men. The factory was never rebuilt; the foundations of the mills, the dam and the canals are still visible in the woods behind the brick store.

The construction of several public buildings reinforced the importance of the village to local residents. The Methodist Church (#7) was constructed in 1841; its belfry is a 1899 replacement. The present Union Hall (#22) was built south of the brick store after the old Hall burned in 1882; it was dedicated in 1884. The Sugar River Grange #87 was organized in 1892 and until recently continued to meet in the building. The Farwell School (#5) was opened in 1890. A gift of industrialist and North Charlestown native Jesse Farwell, the original two-room stone structure was intended to replace the one-room schools of districts 5, 6, 7 and 12. The building has been in continual use as a public school since its construction, although was greatly expanded in the 1990s.

The early 20th century brought few changes to the village and new construction was limited to minor alterations to existing buildings. A small shed (#6) was constructed to house fire fighting

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 8 Page 5

---

equipment. As a result of the advent of the automobile, gas pumps were installed in front of the old brick store (#20). The horse sheds next to the church were removed about 1928.

The construction of improved Rt. 11/12 in the 1960s, bypassing the village center, has generally aided in its preservation. New houses were built at 437 River Road (#11) and 439 River Road (#10) in 1963 and 1978 respectively. Recent years have brought additional changes to North Charlestown although the area is still an important center of community activities. The brick store went out of business in the 1960s. In 1970 the School Board voted to close Farwell School but local residents were able to keep the schoolhouse open. Because of these events and efforts, the community became stronger. In 1993 ownership of the Farwell School was transferred to the Fall Mountain School District and a large addition was constructed utilizing local labor and donations. Today, Farwell School and the Methodist Church continue to serve the community, although the Grange was forced to terminate its activities in recent years due to declining membership. Both Union Hall and the old Metcalf Store stand vacant and await new usefulness. An apple orchard to the west of the school is used as pasture and horses are raised on the property south of the church. The former Metcalf Tavern (#1) now houses the Student Conservation Association.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 9 Page 1

---

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Chamberlin, Christopher. "The Business of Robert Rand, Merchant at North Charlestown, New Hampshire, 1800-1810", M.A. thesis, University of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri, 1985. [NH Historical Society, Concord].

Frizzell, Martha McD. *Second History of Charlestown, N.H.: the Old Number Four*. Littleton: Courier Printing Co., 1955.

Higgins, Joyce. "Brick Store Owners in North Charlestown, N.H.", 1996. Unpublished manuscript provided by the author.

Higgins, Joyce. "North Charlestown Village", *SooNipi Magazine*, Winter 2002, pp. 22-24.

Howard, Thomas D. "Charlestown "Number Four"", *Granite Monthly*, vol. 28, 1900, pp. 93-97.

Hunt, Emma A. "History of the Methodist Church at North Charlestown", n.d. [Charlestown Historical Society].

Hurd, D. H. *Town and City Atlas of New Hampshire*. Boston: D.H. Hurd & Co., 1892.

LeClair, Ron. Information on Hope Hill Cemetery.

Mausolf, Lisa. Area form for North Charlestown, prepared for the NH Department of Transportation, December 1995. [Division of Historical Resources, Concord].

Reed, Susan. National Register Nomination for the Farwell School, North Charlestown, Listed 1990. [Division of Historical Resources, Concord].

Saunderson, Henry H. *History of Charlestown, New Hampshire: The Old No. 4*. Claremont: Claremont Manufacturing Co., 1876.

Silby Library, Charlestown, Photographic collection.

Sullivan County Register of Deeds, Newport, New Hampshire. [Research by Joyce Higgins]

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New HampshireSection number 10 Page 1**UTM REFERENCES**

A	Z18	E711420	N4798820
B	Z18	E711900	N4798820
C	Z18	E711900	N4798560
D	Z18	E711820	N4798560
E	Z18	E711840	N4798250
F	Z18	E711900	N4798260
G	Z18	E711940	N4798120
H	Z18	E712140	N4798060
I	Z18	E712320	N4798120
J	Z18	E712260	N4797980
K	Z18	E712040	N4797860
L	Z18	E711800	N4797830

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries of the North Charlestown Historic District are delineated with a dashed line on the attached sketch map.

**Boundary Justification**

Boundaries for the North Charlestown Historic District reflect the major concentration of resources which survive from the 18th to 19th century mill village and which were constructed along the River Road corridor, west of the present Route 11/12 and the railroad tracks. Despite a loss of integrity due to alteration and new construction, the Metcalf Tavern (#1) has been included due to its historic significance and associations with the locally-important Metcalf family. The western bound of the district is a line 400 feet from River Road, designed to encompass the buildings but not the full extent of the properties which in many cases extend another 100 to 1000 feet west to the Connecticut River. The Little Sugar River marks the southern bound of the district. The eastern bound is drawn to include Hope Hill Cemetery and the Metcalf-Pelouze House (#3) but then extends south along the east side of River Road to exclude the gravel pit on the east side of the road. The bound includes the Gay House property at 470 River Road (#16 - northeast corner of River Road and Chestnut Hill Road) and then extends east along Chestnut Hill Road to the railroad tracks in order to include the Railroad Culvert (#22) over the Little Sugar River.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 11 Page 1

---

**LIST OF OWNERS (BY SITE #)**

- |     |       |   |
|-----|-------|---|
| 1   | 4-2   | Student Conservation Association<br>P.O. Box 550<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                       |
| 2   | 4-15  | Town of Charlestown<br>P.O. Box 385<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                    |
| 3   | 4-16  | Vincent M. Jewell<br>572 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                    |
| 4   |       | State of New Hampshire<br>Concord, NH   |
| 5,6 | 4-3   | Fall Mountain School District   |
|     | 4-3-1 | P.O. Box 600  |
|     | 4-4   | Charlestown, NH 03603   |
| 7   | 4-5   | North Charlestown Methodist Church<br>c/o Mary R. Gray<br>P.O. Box 735<br>Charlestown, NH 03603 |
| 8   | 4-6   | Ronald & Carol Ferland<br>451 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                               |
| 9   | 4-7   | Ronald Ferland<br>451 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                       |
| 10  | 4-8   | Richard St. Pierre<br>439 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                   |



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 11 Page 2

---

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 11 | 4-10 | Arthur & Christine Beebe<br>P.O. Box 113<br>Claremont, NH 03743            |
| 12 | 4-9  | Shirley A. Benson<br>28 Clark Circle<br>Lynn, MA 01905                     |
| 13 | 4-11 | Daniel & Caryl McPherson<br>397 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603        |
| 14 | 6-1  | James McClammer & Sharon Morisi<br>391 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603 |
| 15 | 6-4  | Michael & Marie O'Hearne<br>373 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603        |
| 16 | 4-45 | St. Pierre, Inc.<br>31 Chestnut Hill Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603         |
| 17 | 4-49 | John P. Wadleigh<br>18 Chestnut Hill Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603         |
| 18 | 4-50 | Thomas W. & Susan E. Laware<br>398 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603     |
| 19 | 6-28 | Charles & Joyce Higgins<br>390 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603         |

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 11 Page 3

---

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 20 | 6-26 | Donald & Patricia Daigle<br>P.O. Box 4026<br>White River Junction, VT 05001                              |
| 21 | 6-27 | Robert B. Ashton<br>6 Occum Ridge Road<br>Hanover, NH 03755  |
| 22 |      | Railamerica, Inc.<br>New England Central Railroad<br>2 Federal Street, Suite 201<br>St. Albans, VT 05478 |

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 11 Page 1A

---

**LIST OF OWNERS (ALPHABETICAL)**

- |    |                     |   |
|----|---------------------|---|
| 21 | 6-27                | Robert B. Ashton<br>6 Occum Ridge Road<br>Hanover, NH 03755                 |
| 11 | 4-10                | Arthur & Christine Beebe<br>P.O. Box 113<br>Claremont, NH 03743             |
| 12 | 4-9                 | Shirley A. Benson<br>28 Clark Circle<br>Lynn, MA 01905                      |
| 20 | 6-26                | Donald & Patricia Daigle<br>P.O. Box 4026<br>White River Junction, VT 05001 |
| 5  | 4-3<br>4-3-1<br>4-4 | Fall Mountain School District<br>P.O. Box 600<br>Charlestown, NH 03603      |
| 8  | 4-6                 | Ronald & Carol Ferland<br>451 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603           |
| 9  | 4-7                 | Ronald Ferland<br>451 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                   |
| 19 | 6-28                | Charles & Joyce Higgins<br>390 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603          |
| 3  | 4-16                | Vincent M. Jewell<br>572 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                |

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 11 Page 2A

---

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 18 | 4-50 | Thomas W. & Susan E. Laware<br>398 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                   |
| 14 | 6-1  | James McClammer & Sharon Morisi<br>391 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                               |
| 13 | 4-11 | Daniel & Caryl McPherson<br>397 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                      |
| 7  | 4-5  | North Charlestown Methodist Church<br>c/o Mary R. Gray<br>P.O. Box 735<br>Charlestown, NH 03603          |
| 15 | 6-4  | Michael & Marie O'Hearne<br>373 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                      |
| 22 |      | Railamerica, Inc.<br>New England Central Railroad<br>2 Federal Street, Suite 201<br>St. Albans, VT 05478 |
| 10 | 4-8  | Richard St. Pierre<br>439 River Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603  |
| 16 | 4-45 | St. Pierre, Inc.<br>31 Chestnut Hill Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603                                       |
| 4  |      | State of New Hampshire<br>Concord, NH  |

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

Section number 11 Page 3A

---

- |    |      |   |
|----|------|---|
| 1  | 4-2  | Student Conservation Association<br>P.O. Box 550<br>Charlestown, NH 03603 |
| 2  | 4-15 | Town of Charlestown<br>P.O. Box 385<br>Charlestown, NH 03603              |
| 17 | 4-49 | John Wadleigh<br>18 Chestnut Hill Road<br>Charlestown, NH 03603           |

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

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

---

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Name of Property: North Charlestown Historic District  
Town/County/State: Charlestown, Sullivan County, New Hampshire  
Photographer: Lisa Mausolf  
Date of Photograph: July 2004  
Location of Negative: Joyce Higgins, Charlestown, NH

**Photo #1**

Description of view: Metcalf Tavern, 689 River Road (#1), East (facade) elevation, looking west.

**Photo #2**

Description of view: Hope Hill Cemetery (#2), Receiving tomb and barn/hearse house, looking east.

**Photo #3**

Description of view: Hope Hill Cemetery (#2), Fountain, looking east.

**Photo #4**

Description of view: Metcalf-Pelouze House, 572 River Road (#3), south (facade) elevation, looking north.

**Photo #5**

Description of view: Methodist Church, 471 River Road (#7) south and east (facade) elevations with Farwell School (#5) visible in distance at right, looking northwest.

**Photo #6**

Description of view: Gay House (Methodist Parsonage), 443 River Road (#9), east (facade), looking west.

**Photo #7**

Description of view: Metcalf House, 391 River Road (#14) and Thomas Whipple House, 397 River Road (#13), east (facade) elevations, looking northwest.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

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

---

**Photo #8**

**Description of view:** Charles Gay House, 470 River Road (#16), west (facade) and south elevations, looking northeast.

**Photo #9**

**Description of view:** Putnam-Way House, 398 River Road (#18), west and south (facade) elevations, looking northeast.

**Photo #10**

**Description of view:** Horace Metcalf Store, 380 River Road (#20) and Union Hall, 372 River Road (#21), west (facade) and south elevations, looking northeast.

**Photo #11**

**Description of view:** Railroad Culvert (#22), looking east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

North Charlestown Historic District  
Charlestown (Sullivan County)  
New Hampshire

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

North Charlestown National Register  
District  
Charlestown, NH

