Darling Estate Historic District NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 10024-0018

Caledonia County, Vermont

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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 any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name Darling Estate Historic District	-
other names/site number	
2. Location	-
street & number Darling Hill Road in Burke and Lyndon; Pinkham Road in Burke not for publication N/A	-
code VT county Caledonia	anda 005
zip code 05832 in Burke 05851 in Lyndon	code 005
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	-
request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the Na Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, t does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally x statewide locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)	he property v mosta
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO September 28, 2010 Date	
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation	
State or Federal agency and bureau	
n my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continua omments.)	tion sheet for additional
Signature of commenting or other official/Title Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau	

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41

the National Register

Number of contributing resources previously listed in

n/a

I hereby certify	hat this property	y is:		
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	ed eligible for t			
	Register.	120		
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	ed not eligible f			
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sites

structures

6

objects

Total

1

1

10

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

Darling Estate Historic District

#### 6. Function or Use

Historic Fund	tions	(Enter categories from ins	tructions)	
		DOMESTIC	Sub:	Single dwalling
C. 447 (		Domeone	_ 540	Single dwelling Multiple dwelling
				Secondary structure
	1	AGRICULTURE		Processing
		And the second second second		Agricultural field
			t	Animal facility
			-	Horticultural facility
			-	Agricultural outbuilding
		INDUSTRY		Waterworks
			- 7	
Current Funct	tions (	Enter categories from inst	ructions)	
Cat:		DOMESTIC	Sub:	Single dwelling
			140 B	Multiple dwelling
G	A	GRICULTURE	2 I E	Agricultural field
-	_			Animal facility
	-			Agricultural outbuilding
7. Description				
found roof walls other	lation asp stee	el eatherboard	id current co	ondition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
8. Statement of	f Signi	ficance		
Applicable Na isting)	tional	Register Criteria (Mark "x	" in one or i	more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register
X	_ A	Property is associated w	ith events th	at have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
	_ B	Property is associated w	ith the lives	of persons significant in our past.
x	_ c	Property embodies the d a master, or possesses hi individual distinction.	istinctive ch gh artistic v	aracteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of alues, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Darling Estate Historic District

Caledonia County, Vermont

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

A	owned by a rel	igious institution or used	for religious purposes.
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	B removed from its original location.
	C a birthplace or a grave.
1	D a cemetery.
1	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F	a commemorative property.
	3 less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

	Agriculture	
	Architecture	
		3
Period of Significance	c1810-c1940	
Significant Dates	1883	
	1908	
Significant Person (Comp	olete if Criterion B is marked above	re)
Cultural Affiliation	n/a	
Architect/Builder	Jardine, Kent & Jardine	
Narrative Statement of C	gnificance (Explain the significan	ce of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on fi	ile (NPS	S)
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- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- x previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

# #

Darling Estate	Historic	District
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10. Geographical Data         Acreage of Property         Burke (approx. 650 acres); Lyndon (approx. 1100 acres)		
(approx. 1100 acres)		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)		
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting	Northing	
$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$		
X See continuation sheet.		
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a contin	nuation sheet )	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation		
	on sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By		
name/title John Johnson		_
Organization	4	
	date 4/30/2	2010
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street & number 5378 Hollister Hill Road city or town <u>Marshfield</u> state <u>VT</u> 2 Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps	telephone	A C M
street & number 5378 Hollister Hill Road city or town Marshfield state VT 2 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	telephone zip code05658	A C M
street & number 5378 Hollister Hill Road city or town <u>Marshfield</u> state <u>VT</u> 2 Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps	telephone zip code05658	A C M

Darling Estate Historic District Property Owner		Caledonia County, Vermont
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) name 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 the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

#### Summary

The Darling Estate Historic District, located along Darling Hill Road in the towns of Burke and Lyndon, and Pinkham Road in Burke, is a well-preserved gentleman farm estate consisting of Mountain View Farm (#4) and companion farms, which Elmer Darling developed around an earlier 1800s rural agricultural area. The district includes Burklyn Hall (#1), listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973; it is one of the most outstanding Colonial Revival style properties in Vermont. Among district resources are Cape Cod, Greek Revival and Colonial Revival style houses, vernacular and Colonial Revival style agricultural buildings and outbuildings, and a historic agricultural landscape with barns, open fields and pastures, stone walls, wood lots, and mature maples lining Darling Hill Road. The district is discontiguous; two properties (#11 and #12) are included that were part of and historically did not abut the historic Darling gentleman farm (#4), and intervening modern rural residential development now separates some of the historic properties. The historic properties that are included in the district were all inventoried in great detail in the probate inventory taken at Elmer Darling's death in 1931 and collectively constitute a visible reminder of the impact of Darling's Estate on the formation of the landscape. The historic properties retain integrity of association, design, feeling, workmanship, materials, location and setting. In the 12 properties included in the district, there are 41 contributing resources and 10 non-contributing. Today the individual properties in the District look much as they did during the period of significance (c1810-c1940). The historic pattern of land uses, in fields, pastures and woodland are still visible and the views are expansive to the distant mountains to the west and the east. This historic vernacular landscape evolved from a two-century old agricultural tradition that was conserved and improved through the social and cultural values of Elmer A. Darling.

The name selected for the original owner of each property is selected from deeds, newspapers, maps, local histories and/or property records in the Towns of Burke and Lyndon. The historic map references are H. F. Walling (1858) and F. W. Beers (1875).

1. <u>Burklyn Hall</u>, 2864 Darling Hill Road, Burke and Lyndon, 1908, contributing. This property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

This 86 acre property is located in both the Towns of Burke and Lyndon, has a house east of the road and 5 barns west of the road. The Colonial Revival style mansion, built between 1904 and 1908, sits on a ridge with a magnificent 360 degree vista of the surrounding countryside and mountains. The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, hip roof, 3x3 bay, house has a formal entrance on the north elevation, a porte-cochere on the west elevation and landscaped gardens on the east elevation. The house, designed with two connected blocks (north block 48' x 56' and south block 42' x 44'), sits on a limestone and granite foundation, with painted clapboards and asphalt shingle roof. Similar to its Georgian style prototype, the principal areas of elaboration are the entrances, cornices and windows. The house is painted the original colors with colonial yellow and white trim.

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Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

The south elevation of the house has a shed-roof, conservatory (8' x 42'); that leads to a greenhouse (22' x 36') (glass removed) that rests on granite block walls; that leads to a wood-columned, porte-cochere (19' x 19'); that leads to a long terrace (19' x 36') and an octagonal terrace (originally the base of a 2 story greenhouse) with a single bay, automobile garage underneath, constructed of granite blocks.

The north or front elevation features a full-height, portico supported on 2 Ionic, fluted round wood columns and 2 Ionic, fluted square wood columns. The gabled portico has a fanlight window in the gable end and a curved veranda with balustrade.

The west elevation has a classical entrance with a porte-cochere  $(14' \times 24')$ , supported on wood columns, that extends to a separate building  $(22' \times 32')$  known as the 'billiard room'. The paneled billiard room is a tall, single story, building with full-length, keystone windows on all elevations and a brick chimney on the west elevation. This building has granite block foundation, a hip roof with round dormers and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a classical entrance with single-story portico supported on wood columns, topped with a veranda and balustrade.

These three elevations have doorways with elaborate, decorative surrounds, a denticulated cornice with wide frieze band, flat and corner pilasters and rectangular windows with double hung wood sash. The first floor windows have unbroken pediments on the first floor and there is a full Palladian window overlooking the veranda on the east elevation facing Burke Mountain. These three elevations also have a low balustrade around a platform porch.

The north block has two brick chimneys on the north side of the hip roof, 3 pedimented gable dormers on the north elevation, 2 pedimented, gable dormers with a centered fanlight window on the east and west elevations, and the flat roof has a lookout with balustrade. The south block has three gable dormers and three eyebrow dormers on the east elevation, a pedimented gable dormer on the south elevation and three pedimented gable dormers and one eyebrow dormer on the west elevation.

The interior of the house has a total of 31 rooms, with 10 bathrooms and 12 bedrooms, for a total of about 24,000 square feet. On the first floor of the north block (48' x 56') the main hall (14' wide) connects the east and west entrances with a short hall that leads to the north entrance portico. The main hallway is paneled in white painted woodwork, with pilasters of mahogany. The fireplace has an over mantel with the Darling family coat of arms ('Dei Donum' means Gift of God). Surrounding the main hall are four large rooms (each 16' x 23'): drawing room, library, sitting room and dining room. This floor has an interior vault (5' x 7') currently used for the storage of original wallpaper samples and architectural drawings. An elaborate stairway on the east end of the main hall leads to the second floor. On the second floor the main hall is repeated and surrounded by four large bedrooms (each 16' x 23') with accompanying bathrooms. The third floor has sleeping quarters for servants, bathrooms and storerooms.

The south block (42' x 44') contains the kitchen, butler's pantry, storerooms, a breakfast room, a servant's dining room, a servant's sitting room and laundry. A long

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Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

corridor leads to the conservatory. There are eleven rooms on the second floor and 12 rooms on the third floor that were originally sleeping quarters for servants.

Each of the 10 fireplaces in the house has an ornate, carved-wood mantel and a surround of different marble. The mansion features modern early 20<sup>th</sup> century and gas light fixtures (now converted to electric). The house had three river-water storage tanks, for the fire suppression system, in the attic (only one remains). A door in the attic leads to the lookout on the roof.

The landscaped grounds surrounding Burklyn Hall include lawns, terraced paths and select plantings of shade trees. A semi-circular access road leads through the porte-cochere to Darling Hill Road. The four original cast-iron pole lamps, with spherical glass globes, are set on granite bases (carved with a 'D') and still mark the entrances to the circular driveway on this property. Most of the 86 acres is open fields marked with stone walls.

### 1a. Carriage Barn, c. 1908, contributing.

The frame, 3 ½ story, hip-on-gable, Colonial Revival style carriage barn (48' x 60') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof with molded cornices. The barn also has corner pilasters, a molded water table and round arched windows in the dormers. The east elevation has a tall, double barn door and center pediment supported on large brackets, flanked with 3 sets of fixed, four-light wood windows on both sides of the first and second floors; and two gabled dormers. The south elevation has double barn doors on the bottom floor, flanked with 2 sets of fixed, four-light south elevation has double barn doors on the bottom floor; and a pediment supported on 2 square wood columns and a gabled dormer. The roof features an eight sided cupola with round headed louvers and topped by a directional weathervane. The first floor of the barn has 15 horse stalls and an interior ramp leads up the second floor that is used to store carriages and has a small tack room. The third floor is a hay loft.

### 1b. Arena, c. 1940, contributing.

Buildings 1a and 1b are connected by a frame, single story, gable roof, building with a solid wood entry door and two 6/6 wood sash windows on the east elevation. The Carriage Barn and the Show Barn are joined by this connector that has an interior observation room overlooking the riding ring. The frame, single story, 8 bay, arch roof, Colonial Revival style Arena (76' x 180') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and roll roofing with molded cornices. The arched roof is supported on 8 steel roof trusses. The east elevation has 2 symmetrical, cross-gables (in bays 2 and 7, with round arched windows) and seven fixed, three-part, single pane, wood sash windows. The north elevation has an entry door in the first bay and similar windows. The roof features 2 square and 1 rectangular, wood-louvered cupolas

1c. Morgan Horse Barn, c. 1905, contributing.

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The frame, 2 ½ story, hip-on gable, 5x3 bay, Colonial Revival style barn (32' x 72') sits on a stone foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. The barn has corner pilasters, molded cornices on all roof lines and a molded water table. The east elevation has a centered French style door with full sidelights (not original), twenty-light transom and a pediment supported on large wood brackets; flanked with two (first floor) and three (second floor) sets of fixed, 2/2 wood sash; 2 hay doors (second floor) near the ends of the barn; and two gabled dormers with round arched windows and molded trim with keystone. The north elevation has 3 pairs of tall fixed, twelve-light wood windows, a door on the first floor and a gable dormer. The roof features an octagonal cupola with round-headed louvers with molded trim and keystone. The louvered openings are separated by pilasters. The north elevation of the basement level has a centered barn door flanked with fixed four pane wood windows. The first floor of the barn has rough wood stalls and a chicken coop in the addition; the second floor has box stalls (2), standing stalls (5) and original sliding barn-type doors; the third floor is a hay loft. The bain has an original 'Kasper's Self-Acting Oats Cleaner' that cleaned the oats before they were fed to the horses. The west elevation has a 2 story. gable roof addition with four, fixed four pane wood windows on the north, west and south elevations and a brick chimney. The second floor of the addition is a horse-

### 1d. Wagon Barn, c. 1906, contributing.

The wood-frame, single story, hip roof, Colonial Revival style wagon barn (18' x 32') sits on a brick foundation with a molded water table, clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof with molded cornice. The east elevation has 5 open bays separated by molded, keystone, round arches supported on Ionic square wood columns.

### 1e. Field Barn, c. 1906, contributing.

The wood-frame, single story, side-gable, Field barn  $(22' \times 26')$  sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and sheet metal roofing. The south elevation has a centered double barn door and an open pedestrian entry near the southwest corner.

2. <u>Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm</u>, 4235 Darling Hill Road, Burke, c. 1908, contributing (E. Humphrey on the 1858 map and E. & J. A. Humphrey on the 1875 map. This earlier house burned about 1950).

This 44.2 acre property has a farmhouse, a barn and open fields and pasture marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, front-gable, vernacular, side hall house was constructed about 1908 with a south elevation facing the Darling Hill Road. The frame house (18' x 26') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof with wide overhang. There is a brick chimney in both the house and the wing. The east elevation (front) has a covered, hip roof porch that wraps around in semicircular fashion to the wing; the porch is supported on simple wood posts and has

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no balustrade. The south elevation has a single story wing. The north elevation has a 1 1/2 story wing with a large, 2-bay, shed roof dormer with paired 1/1 windows and an attached 2 bay garage with molded, keystone round arches supported on Ionic bases. The west elevation has an open covered porch and two double dormers. Trim includes drip molds over the windows, wide corner boards and fascia. There are two brick chimneys. A majority of the windows are original 2/2 wood frame sash with wooden lintels. The front yard has a post and rail fence.

### 2a. Barn, c. 1908, contributing

This 3 ½ story, Gable Front Bank Barn (46' x 110') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and sheet metal roof with wide overhang. The east elevation has a high drive with bridge that leads to a large door, topped with a transom, on the second floor. The north elevation has an attached single-story, gable roof, frame implement shed (24' x 35') with 3 open bays and a sheet metal roof, which was constructed about 1980. The west elevation has fixed windows on all three floors. The north elevation has two doors on the first floor and a small two story addition that projects from the first and second floors.

3. Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse, 3585 Darling Hill Road, Burke, c. 1825, contributing (B. F. Belden on the 1858 map and W. Belden on the 1875 map).

This 76.56 acre property has a farmhouse, a barn and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1 1/2 story, side-gable, 5x2 bay, Cape Cod house has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (38' x 28') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation features half-length, 4 pane sidelights around the door and 12/12 frame windows. The west elevation has two, single story additions (14' x 16' and 9' x 14'). The south elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story two bay garage (24' x 40') and entry door on the east elevation and a 2/2 window in the gable. There is a central brick chimney and a brick chimney on the garage. Trim includes simple corner boards and a miscellaneous selection of windows. The front yard features an original MVF style sign set in a free-standing iron frame with wood post.

#### 3a. Barn, c. 1825, contributing.

The 1 ½ story, side-gable, timber frame, English Barn (20' x 40') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and sheet metal roof. There is a central double hinged door on the north elevation and a double hinged hay door on the south elevation. The barn has only one, fixed 2 light window on the east elevation.

4. Mountain View Farmhouse, 3383 Darling Hill Road, Burke, c. 1855, contributing (H. B. & H. M. Hall on the 1858 map and H. M. Hall on the 1875 map).

This 442.4 acre property has a farmhouse, barns (5), a creamery, outbuildings (4), an historic marker and open fields and pastures marked with stone walls. The

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property is currently a seasonal restaurant and inn, as well as an event center and farm animal sanctuary.

This 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side gable, Greek Revival style Farmhouse has an east elevation facing the road. The 3x3 bay, historic farmhouse now has 4 apartments. The frame house (31' x 41') sits on a granite block foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a c. 1885 Queen Anne style open porch (10' x 51') with a shed roof with molded cornice, supported on 8 turned wood columns (toped with brackets supporting a decorative band of dentils), and wood steps, a turned balustrade and lattice skirt. The porch wraps around to the first bay on the side elevations. The entry door has a full decorative surround with wide pilasters supporting a full entablature and three-quarter length side lights; the windows are 12/12 on the first floor and 6/6 on the second floor with molded lintels.

Projecting from the west elevation is a 2 ½ story, gable roof, ell (32' x 22') with a second, two story gable roof addition (26' x 45') at the southwest corner. This second addition also has a two-story, hip roof addition (32' x 25') on its south elevation. The south elevation of the house has a bay window and an open porch (7' x 10') with a shed roof supported on 2 square wood columns with a balustrade. The north elevation of the ell has an open porch with a hip roof supported on 2 square wood columns with a balustrade. The north elevation of the first addition has an open porch with a shed roof supported on 3 square wood columns with balustrade. The west elevation of the second edition also has an open porch with a shed roof supported on a square wood column with balustrade. There are brick chimneys on the house, ell, first addition and second addition. There is a decorative cupola with a square base, bell, and pyramidal cap on the second addition. Trim includes wide corner pilasters supporting a full entablature and a paired bracketed molded cornice with returns on the house. The windows are 12/12 on the first floor and 6/6 on the second floor of the house; and 6/6 throughout the ell and both additions. The farmhouse has been remodeled into four apartments. The front yard has a wood post and board fence painted white with two granite posts, carved with the initial 'D', set at the entrance to the farm.

## 4a. Scale Barn and Dairy Barns, c. 1885, 1890, 1906, contributing.

This Scale Barn (with covered high-drive) has three later Dairy Barn additions. The first section constructed is the Scale Barn (c. 1885); a square, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, gable roof barn (46' x 46'), with a covered high drive and bridge (12' wide clearance) on the west elevation. The door of the high drive is capped with an 8-light transom. The high drive leads to a standard Fairbanks Hay Wagon and Stock Scale inside the barn. This scale, manufactured by the Fairbanks-Morse Company of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, has the original weight cabinet attached to the wall and a platform (8' x 16') built into the wood floor. At this location, wagons of loose hay were brought into the massive barn, weighed and driven into the East, South or North Additions.

The East Addition (c. 1890) is a 4 story, 8 bay, timber frame Gable Front Barn  $(46' \times 124')$  set on a fieldstone foundation (c. 1855) with vertical weatherboard siding

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and a sheet metal roof. There are 3/3 fixed windows throughout and 6/6 wood frame sash only in the gable end on the east elevation. The east elevation of the East Addition is the front of the barn facing the road. It has three 3/3 and four 6/6 wood frame sash and a pedestrian door centered on the first floor. The date 1855 is painted in the gable end; this is the date of the fieldstone foundation for the original barn on this site that was substantially rebuilt c. 1890. The southeast corner of the first floor was converted into a concrete-floor milking parlor (c. 1960) and was later remodeled into a workshop with three fixed pane windows on the east elevation and eleven fixed pane windows on the south elevation. On the south elevation is a shed roof addition that has an elevated, interior wooden ramp used to let the dairy cows in and out of the barn. The south elevation also has 3/3 wood frame sash windows and a pedestrian door, with bracketed door hood, on the right side. The north elevation has 3/3 wood frame sash windows and a sliding barn door on the first level.

The South Addition (1890) is a 3 story, 8 bay, timber frame Gable Front Barn (46' x 116') set on a granite block foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and a sheet metal roof. There are 3/3 fixed windows throughout and 6/6 wood frame sash only in the gable end on the south elevation. This addition has 2 sets of sliding barn doors on the east elevation of the bottom level and a single set in the south elevation: each sheltered by a narrow shed roof. The east elevation also has a pedestrian door in the first bay at the top of a stone and dirt ramp. The South Addition has a milk room and a bull room, as well as a small oat thresher (Ellis Keystone Agricultural Works, Pottstown, PA, #16662), a Simplex drum butter churn (D. H. Burrell & Co, Little Falls, NY, patent applied for Nov. 1, 1899), and a large, round-shaped cheese press C. J.

The North Addition (1906) is a 3 story, 8 bay, timber frame Gable Front Barn (46' x 116') set on a granite block foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and a sheet metal roof. There are 3/3 fixed windows throughout and 6/6 wood frame sash only in the gable end on the north elevation. This addition has 2 sets of sliding barn doors on east elevation of the bottom level and a single set in the north elevation; each sheltered by a narrow shed roof. The interior of all three additions has a top floor for unloading the hay, a lower level for hay storage, another lower level with dairy cow sanctions and a bottom level for manure collection. The east elevation also has a pedestrian door in the first bay at the top of a stone and dirt ramp. The interior has numerous trap doors throughout the building for dropping hay or manure. The three have large, wood louvered cupolas toped with weathervanes; a life-size, bronze Jersey on the Scale Barn, eagles on the south and north additions and a scroll with letter 'D'

4b. Pump House, c. 1890, contributing.

The frame, single story, gable roof, Colonial Revival style building  $(14' \times 16')$  sits on a concrete foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and asphalt shingle roof

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with wide overhang, molded cornice and fascia. The north and south elevations have two fixed 4 pane wood windows and the south elevation has a hinged, four panel entry door. The windows have flat trim with a narrow drip mold. There is a square, wood louvered cupola, with a gable roof, on the ridge of the building.

### 4c. Piggery, c. 1905, contributing.

The frame, single-story, cross gable, Colonial Revival style building  $(35' \times 151')$  sits on a concrete foundation with vertical board siding and asphalt shingle roof. The east and west elevations have fixed, four light windows (14) set high on the wall and 'pig' doors (7) set low on the wall. The south elevation has a bracketed gable roofed door hood (not original) over an entry door, flanked by 6/6 wood frame sash and a fixed six-light window in the gable end. The north elevation has a solid entry door, flanked by fixed, four-light wood frame sash and a 6/6 wood frame sash window in the gable end. The north elevation has a solid entry door, flanked by fixed, four-light wood frame sash and a 6/6 wood frame sash window in the gable end. The 6 northern most pig doors are paired the southern most one is single and to its left is a pedestrian door. There is a modern brick chimney near the south end and a square, wood louvered cupola, with hip roof and directional weathervane, centered on the ridge of the building. Where the cross gable intersects there is a 6/6 wood frame sash window in the gable peak with a hay door below. The interior has the original slaughter room with a hand-cranked, hoisting pulley (4' diameter) that raised two hogs at a time. The interior has several original pens with a center aisle. There is a directional weathervane at the center of the cross gable.

### 4d. Tool House, c. 1890, contributing.

The frame, single story, shed-roof, 3-bay, vernacular building (22' x 38') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding (only south elevation is horizontal) and sheet metal roof. The north elevation has a double barn door and the west elevation has three 3/3 wood frame sash. The building has a long steel shaft with wooden drive pulley and four grindstones.

### 4e. Ice House, c. 1890, contributing.

The frame, single story, front gable, vernacular building (24' X 36') sits on a concrete foundation with board and batten wood siding with plain trim and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a tall, solid, wood entry door topped with a closed in hay door; and the north and south elevations have one fixed six light wood window. Windows and doors have flat trim with drip molds. An ice room, with original ice storage compartment and rails for hanging meat, is behind a solid wood door.

## 4f. Threshing Barn, c. 1830, reconstructed c. 1990, contributing.

The frame, single story, side-gable English Barn (32' x 46') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and a standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a single entry door next to a large sliding barn door topped with a 14 light transom. The building was disassembled and reassembled, with new siding and roofing,

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about 1990. The barn still has a large threshing machine, "The Champion", manufactured by the Ellis Keystone Agricultural Works of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, that was distributed through the Brackett Shaw & Lunt Company of Summersworth, NH and Boston, MA.

### 4g. Clock Barn, 1912, contributing.

The frame, 3 1/2 story, gambrel roof, Gambrel Front Bank Barn (40' x 96') sits on a fieldstone and concrete foundation with vertical board siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a barn door, flanked by a pair of fixed six-light wood windows on the first floor; a hay door flanked by a 6/6 wood windows on the second floor and there is a wood-faced clock in the gable end. The north and south elevations have 2 story, L-shaped, gable-roof, wagon sheds that form a U shape facing east. Each wagon shed has 6 segmental arched, open bays (some with wood gates) and sliding barn doors on the north elevation. The west elevation of the main barn has a single story, manure storage room addition on the bottom level. The gable end has a large barn door, 2 fixed four-light wood windows and monitor roof. The first level of the barn has a brick chimney for an interior woodstove, breeding stalls (2), horse stalls (12) and 7 pairs of fixed, four-light wood windows on the north and south elevations; the bottom level and the second level have 3, fixed, four-light wood windows and the west elevation has 5, 6/6 wood sash. Each wagon shed is capped with a polygonal-shaped, wood dovecote with 6 round arched louvered openings above that support a dome roof and the main barn has a larger size version of the same styled cupola on the ridge. The barn has the original wall-mounted, weight-drive, tower clock manufactured (#1770) by the Thomas Clock Company of Thomaston, Connecticut. The barn also has the original center-mounted hay carrier, the 'OK UNLOADER" with an automatic grapple fork, manufactured by the F. E. Myers & Brothers Company of Ashland, Ohio. The cupola supports a Morgan horse weathervane.

### 4h. Morgan Horse Barn, 1897, contributing.

The frame, 2 ½ story, front gable roof, 3x14 bay barn (36' x 128') with elements of the Shingle Style sits on a brick foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has 3 hinged entry doors with 4 light transoms (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> bays), a pair of 6/6 wood sash and 9 pairs of fixed, four-light wood sash on the first level; and 2 symmetrical, hay doors flanked with 4/4 wood sash and 3 modern 1/1 aluminum windows on the second level; and 2 symmetrical, steep-pitch gable, dormers with flared ends and arched top windows. The ridge is capped with a large, octagonal cupola surrounded with wood windows (four 6 light fixed and two 9/9 sash) and topped with a conical roof. The north elevation (front) and the south elevation have a single wagon door centered on the first floor with 4 light transoms, and a hay door on the second floor, with four pairs of 4 light windows and a 6/6 wood sash in the gable ends. The west elevation has two additions; a horse-washing room and a chicken house with grain bins and feeders.

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The horse-washing room addition consists of two parts: a shed roof part attached to the horse barn and a hip roof part attached to the west elevation of the shed roof part. Both these parts have 6/6 wood sash windows and there is a brick chimney in the northwest corner. The chicken house addition is a 1 ½ story, gable roof barn with vertical siding and a barn door on the west elevation and a small wood, gable roof cupola on the ridge. The interior of the horse barn has straight stalls (18) and box stalls (4) with wall-mounted hay feeders. The second floor is used for storage where hay can be dropped through openings in the floor to the hay feeders below. There is also a large, square, wood, floor-to-roof ventilator for allowing fresh air to circulate in the barn.

### 4i. Creamery, 1913, contributing.

This brick and concrete, 2 story, 5 x 3 bay, hip roof, Colonial Revival style building (46' x 72') sits on a concrete foundation with brick walls and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation features 3 symmetrical, inset, keystone arches; the center one has an entry door with full entablature, pilasters and fanlight window; and the flanking arches have 6/6 wood sash framed by wood trellis and flower boxes on the first floor. The center door is flanked with 6/6 wood sash, set in round arches, with solid wood shutters. On the east elevation five 3/3 wood sash are set above a concrete belt course on the second level. The west elevation is also symmetrical; a centered, open porch (5 'x 18') with a shed roof and pediment supported on four Doric square wood columns, double entry doors on the porch, four 6/6 wood sash and one enlarged window opening, filled with a solid glass window, on the right side. The north elevation has 2 symmetrical, inset, keystone arches; with double entry doors with full entablature, full sidelights and fanlight window; similar fenestration; a modern kitchen exhaust fan and a spiral steel staircase to the second level. The south elevation has an addition (13' x 16') with double, garage-style doors that accommodates a concrete ramp leading into the basement; and similar fenestration. The roof has two brick chimneys and a tall, square paneled, wood louvered bell tower with round arched louvered openings with keystone and flanked by pilasters above 2 light fixed windows, with bell-cast, copper dome roof with finials. On the interior the first floor and the basement have concrete floors and the third floor had 10 (now 9) employee bedrooms. The hallway has the original ice box (no manufacturer's plate). A room on the first floor has the original wood-fired boiler (no manufacturers plate), steam engine (no manufacturers plate), castiron cook stove (Fuller & Warren Co., Troy, NY) and a safe (Victor Safe & Lock Co., Cincinnati, Ohio) on wheels with 'L. A. Darling' in gold letters on the door. The basement has a wood furnace (The Wise Furnace Co, Akron, Ohio) in the former

### 4j. Historic Marker, 1998, non-contributing.

This Vermont Division for Historic Preservation historic roadside marker was erected in 1998 to commemorate the historic 'Mountain View Farm'. The cast aluminum marker has a state seal, is painted green with gold lettering and sits on an

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aluminum-clad concrete post. The sign reads: Established in 1883 by Elmer A. Darling (1848-1931) native of East Burke. He became owner/manager of the world famous Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City. After the hotel closed in 1908, Mr. Darling retired to the life of a gentleman farmer, raised prize-winning Morgan horses and Jersey cattle. The farm also produced the choice 'Darling' brand of cheeses and butter. At its zenith, his prosperous Mountain View Farm included Burke Mountain and extended over 7,000 acres. The farm's monumental barns and distinctive colonial yellow and white-trimmed farmhouses line Darling Hill Road. Elmer Darling studied architecture at M. I. T., and with the assistance of Jardine, Kent and Jardine, architects, designed his magnificent neo-Georgian residence, Burklyn Hall, built in 1905-1908 on knoll astride the Burke/Lyndon town line. Mr. Darling was a public-spirited citizen whose philanthropic generosity includes the Colonial Revival style Burke Mountain Club, built in East Burke in 1919.

4k. Carriage Barn, 3340 Darling Hill Road, c. 1905, non-contributing.

This 2 story, hip-roof Colonial Revival style Carriage Barn has a west elevation facing the road. The 3x3 bay, frame building (32' x 59') sits on a poured concrete foundation with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The west elevation has a non-original gable over an open, entrance porch supported on 2 simple wood posts. The north and south elevations have 1x1 bay, gable roof additions on the first floor and a wood deck with balustrade on the second floor. The east elevation has a two story pedimented addition (17' x 24') with an elevated wood deck. Trim includes modern corner boards, modern windows, molded cornice, molded belt course between 1st and 2nd stories, molded water table, fixed louvers centered on ridge of main block and flanked bay, two corbelled brick chimneys, original hip roofed cupola with weathervane and paired 6/6 aluminum sash windows on all elevations. In 1987 the building was remodeled into two apartments and is non-contributing due to alterations.

5. Lucius A. Darling House, 3265 Darling Hill Road, 1892, contributing (site of L. Walter on the 1858 map and L. Jenkins on the 1875 map).

This 3 acre property has a house, a carriage house and open fields. This 1 1/2 story, side-gable, vernacular style house has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (33' x 27') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation (front) has a two-story, hip roof extension with two 2/2 windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> story. The attached gable-roof, entry porch has Colonial Revival style cornice returns. The front porch is supported on round, wood Tuscan columns in triplicate at the two front corners of the porch's tympanum with a segmental arched opening. The porch has an entry door, balustrade, two built-in wood benches, and there is a wood handicap ramp. The south elevation has a single-story, hip roof addition (4' x 14'). The west elevation has a 1 1/2 story, hip roof ell (22' x 32') with a shed roof open porch, supported on square wood columns, and hip dormer on both the north and south elevations. There are two brick chimneys on both the house and the ell. The windows are 1/1 wood sash on the first floor and 2/2 on the second floor. Trim

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includes a wide frieze board, corner boards, returns in the gable ends and drip molds over the windows. The windows are 1/1 or 2/1 wood frame sash. The front yard features an original MVF sign.

### 5a. Carriage House, 1892, contributing.

The 2 story, hip roof, vernacular style Carriage House (20' x 22') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. The first and second floors have large hinged doors and the windows are fixed. Trim includes a wide frieze board and a rectangular Queen Anne style wood cupola (louvers removed and closed in with solid boards).

6. William D. Goss Farmhouse, 2559 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 1890, contributing (J. Howland and E. Underwood on the 1858 map and H. Hunt on the 1875 map).

The 391.84 acre property has a house, a barn and open fields and pastures marked with stone walls. The 1 ½ story, front gable, Greek Revival style house with side hall plan, has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (25' x 28') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a bay window (not original) with three 2/2 windows above a paneled base; the first and second floors have 2/2 wood sash windows. The south elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ story gable roof wing (16' x 25') with a steep gable with Italianate style window wall dormer over an open hip roof porch supported on square wood columns on the east elevation and a hip roof addition (6' x 16') on the south elevation. The west elevation has an addition (irregular, 17' x 33') on the house with a wood deck and an addition (11' x 25') on the wing; along with another addition (irregular 12' x 18') on the west elevation. The porch shelters four 4 light windows. There is a central brick chimney in the house. Trim includes returns in the gable ends, molded cornice with entablature, narrow corner boards and molded lintels. The house has 2/2 wood frame sash and the additions have an assortment of modern 2/2 and fixed single-light windows. The yard has an original MVF sign. An enclosed breezeway (6' x 26') leads to a modern 3 bay gable roof garage (27' x 38') with an open porch (4' x 27') with shed roof supported on square wood columns along the entire east elevation. The roof of the garage has a rectangular cupola and two gabled dormers with returns and round arched windows on the east and west elevations. The north elevation has a solid double door and the west elevation has an entry door.

### 6a. Barn, c. 1890, contributing

The frame, 1 ½ story, Gable Front Bank Barn (31' x 32') sits on a concrete foundation with vertical board siding and a sheet metal roof. The east elevation has an entry door and hay door flanked with a fixed six-light wood window and topped with a fixed eightlight wood window. The west and south elevations have a 2 story, wrap-around porch with a shed roof supported on square wood columns and 3 stable windows.

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7. <u>Alonzo O. &. Joshua Bemis Farmhouse</u>, 2059 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1840, contributing (A. Bemis on the 1858 map and A. O. & I. Bemis on the 1875 map)

The 566.1 acre property has a farmhouse, historic schoolhouse, barns (5), several newer structures and open fields and pastures marked with stone walls. The property is currently a country inn, restaurant, conference center and resort. The 2 1/2 story, side-gable, Greek-Revival style house has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (30' x 40') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has an open hip roof porch supported on 6 wood posts with Ionic capitols set in triplicate at the front corners which support a full entablature and a detailed entrance with full side lights and narrow paneled pilasters. The south elevation has an original appearance with Greek Revival details. The north elevation of the house has a 1 ½ story wing (24' x 38') with a gable wall dormer with paired 6/6 windows over an entrance door flanked by 6/6 windows. There are a pair of 6/6 windows at the right end of the wing. There are two 6/6 windows on both stories of the gable end. The west elevation of the house has a modern addition (8' x 26') with window walls. The wing has an addition (approximately 20' x 32') on the west elevation. Both of the additions on the west elevation of the house are connected with an open wood deck (approximately (20' x 30'). The main house has a brick chimney and there is a brick chimney and two restaurant ventilators on the wing. Trim includes classic Greek Revival details with a full entablature, paneled at the corners, corner returns, pilasters and 6/6 wood frame sash windows with molded lintels and wood shutters. The front yard has a post and board fence.

7a. <u>Schoolhouse</u>, c. 1840, contributing (School on the 1858 map and not indicated on the 1875 map).

The single story, 3/2 bay, front-gable, Greek Revival style building has an east elevation facing the road. The frame building (18' x 24') sits on a pier foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has an entrance door with molded lintel flanked by 6/6 windows. The west elevation has a modern wood deck (8' x 16'). The north and south elevations have two 6/6 windows. Trim includes plain corner and fascia boards, molded cornice and returns in the gable ends. The windows are 6/6 wood frame sash with molded wood lintels. There is an exterior brick chimney at the northwest corner. The building is now used as a cottage.

### 7b. Implement Shed, c. 1900, contributing.

The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, vernacular Implement Shed has an east elevation facing the road. The original, four open bays are now filled in and two bays have entrance doors. The frame building (25' x 45') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. Trim includes thin corner boards. The west elevation has a shed roof dormer and with an asphalt shingle roof. The west, north and south elevations have several sizes of modern windows.

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7c. Carriage Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 1 ½ story, side-gable, U-shaped, Colonial Revival style Carriage Barn has a west elevation, around a semi-circular driveway, facing the road. The frame building has a 4 bay center section (80' x 20') and two 2 bay wings (40' x 20'). The building sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding, vertical board on the gable ends and arch infill; and an asphalt roof. Each of the original 8 segmented arched entry bays springs from an Ionic post and is now filled in with an entry door and a modern 3-part, 2-light window. Each of the bays has a skylight in the roof on the west elevation. The east elevation, on the first floor has modern entrance doors and on the second floor there are 6 open wood decks built into the exterior wall. Trim includes plain window and door surrounds and corner boards as well as molded cornice on the gable ends.

### 7d. Blacksmith Shop, c. 1900, non-contributing.

The single story, side-gable, vernacular Blacksmith Shop has an east elevation facing the road. The original frame blacksmith shop has been enlarged ( $20' \times 58'$ ) and the south elevation has an addition ( $20' \times 59'$ ). The building has clapboard siding and asphalt roof. The south elevation of the building and the east elevation of the addition have gable-roof entrance porches. The west elevation of the addition has two open porches with wood columns supporting a hip roof. The northwest and southwest corners of the addition have open porches set diagonally into the corners of the building. Trim includes corner boards, clapboard siding and modern aluminum windows. The original shop has extensive modifications and an extensive addition with guest rooms that make the original ( $20' \times 20'$ ) building non-contributing.

#### 7e. Garage, c. 1940, non-contributing.

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, Colonial Revival style Garage has a west elevation facing the road. The six-bay, frame building (24' x 76') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story addition (24' x 36') that has a 2 story, semi-circular room on the south elevation. The west elevation has plain framing around the six bays and a gable wall dormer with modern tall fanlight window centered above the  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  bays. The windows are a variety of modern sizes and shapes. The building was relocated from near the road to its present location c. 1995, the bays filled, an addition added to the east elevation and the building is now used for meetings. The six original garage bays have been in filled and contain single or paired new windows. A modern entry with transom and sidelights is centered between the  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  bays. The original garage has extensive modifications and an extensive addition that make the original garage non-contributing.

#### 7f. Horse Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

This 3 ½ story, frame, gambrel roof Horse Barn faces the road. The frame building (36' X 38') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding, plain corner boards, molded cornice and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a barn

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door on the first floor and hay door on the second floor, each flanked by fixed 4 light sash windows, and a louvered ocular gable vent. The north elevation has 3 pairs of fixed. 4-light wood windows. The west elevation has 3 fixed six-light wood windows. The south elevation has 5 Dutch type doors flanked by 4 light fixed sash. Trim includes drip molds above doors and windows. There is a round concrete Silo (c. 1940, 11' diameter) near the northwest corner.

### 7g. Horse Barn, c. 1900, contributing,

This 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gambrel roof Horse Barn faces the road. The frame building (24' x 60') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and metal roof. The east and west elevations have a barn door on the first and second floors. The north elevation has a barn door and four sets of fixed, four light windows. The south elevation has a 2 story, shed roof addition (10') with 3 six-light wood frame sash windows. Trim includes thin corner boards. There is an asphalt shingle roof, 3 circular roof vents and a metal ventilator on the roof.

#### 7h. Hay Barn, c. 1900, contributing

This long, single story, side-gable, vernacular Hay Barn sits parallel to the road. The frame building (24' x 60') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and metal roof. The gable ends have large wagon doors with original 4 light windows on the south elevation flanked by paired windows and a ribbon of 3 above. There are modern doors on the north elevation and there is a pedestrian door on the far right of the south elevation. The building has four-pane, fixed windows on all elevations, single entry doors on three elevations and a small cupola on the ridge of the roof. In 1991 the interior of the barn was remodeled into the Vermont Children's Theatre.

### 7i. Garden House, c. 1996, non-contributing.

The single story, front-gable, clapboarded, Greek revival style, side hall form, building (20' X 20'), with a grape arbor on the north elevation, is used as a garden house. It has an asphalt shingle roof with molded cornice and returns. This modern building was built 65 years after the period of significance and is non-contributing.

### 7j. Field Barn, c. 1965, non-contributing

The single story, pole- frame, front-gable vernacular Field Barn (20'  $\times$  24') has no siding on the east, north and south elevations. The west elevation has vertical boards and there is a sheet metal roof.

#### 7k. Gazebo, 2004, non-contributing

This frame, octagonal Gazebo (15' x 15') sits in an open field west of the barns. This modern building was built after the period of significance and is non-contributing.

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8. <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farmhouse</u>, 1623 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1840, contributing (W. Bemis on the 1858 map and W. Bemis & Sons on the 1875 map)

This 25 acre property has a house, a modern barn and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, Greek Revival style house built with a late Cape Cod form, has an east elevation facing Darling Hill Road. The frame house (30' x 40') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vinyl-over-clapboard exterior and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a center entry door, with surround that has pilasters, transom and  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sidelights. The four front wall windows are 6/6 wood sash windows. The south elevation of the house has a two-part wing (21' x 23') and (29' x 23'). The right part of the wing has an open porch supported on wood posts and an addition on the west elevation (12' x 18'); the left part of the wing has two in filled carriage bays with canted corners and modern overhead garage doors and a brick chimney. Trim includes narrow corner boards, and returns in the gable ends. The windows are 6/6 wood frame sash on all elevations and there is a raking window on the south elevation overlooking the wing.

#### 8a. Barn, c. 2007, non-contributing

The single story, gable roof, vernacular barn has an east elevation facing the Darling Hill Road. The timber frame building (16' x 26') rests on poles with no siding and a sheet metal roof. It is non-contributing due to age.

9. Eber Howland Farmhouse, 2486 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1810, contributing (E. Howland' on the 1858 map and 'A. Howland' on the 1875 map).

The 58.95 acre property has a house, a garage and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 x 2 bay Cape Cod house with offset entrance has a west elevation facing the road. The frame house (24' x 24') sits on a brick foundation with clapboard siding, steeply pitched, asphalt shingle roof, central brick chimney and an exterior modern brick chimney on the east end wall. The front (south) elevation has a boarded entrance door with a 5 light transom offset to the right and flanked by 9/6 windows. On the west elevation there are two 6/4 windows on the first floor and one in the gable peak. The east end of the house has a long, gable roof, clapboard, 3 bay wing (21' x 49'). The left bay is filled with a large, multi-pane window and door opening and two bays with arched carriage openings with keystones and 9 light fixed windows above along the south elevation. Above each opening is a 9 light window. A shed-roof addition, now used as a woodshed, at the end of the wing has a smaller arched opening (12' x 20').

#### 9a. Garage, c. 1920, contributing.

This frame single-bay, gable roof building (12' x 22') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and sheet metal roof. There is a hinged double garage entrance door on the west elevation and a 2/2 window on the south elevation.

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10. John Howland & Son Farmhouse, 2732 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1830, contributing (not on the 1858 map and 'J. Howland & Son' on the 1875 map).

This 4.2 acre property has a house, barns (3), a modern garage and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, eaves front late Cape Cod form house with plain trim and gable returns has a west elevation facing Darling Hill Road. The frame 3x3 bay house (29' x 34') sits on a granite block foundation with clapboard siding and standing-seam metal roof. There is a center brick chimney on the house and an exterior brick chimney on the east elevation of the ell. The center entry has  $\frac{3}{4}$  sidelights. Front windows are 1/1s. The porch has a shallow hip roof supported on wood posts with a balustrade between the posts. The side (east) elevation has an ell (26' 30') with a matching porch and 2 dormers on the roof. There is a French door on the east elevation; and a full-length shed dormer on the north elevation. Windows are an assortment of modern single-light and 1/1 wood frame sash. There are 2 small fixed sash in the gable end eaves. The yard has an original MVF sign frame.

### 10a. Garage, 1996, non-contributing.

The frame, 3 bay, Garage (30' x 36') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. Windows are an assortment of modern 6/6 and fixed six-light wood sash. It is non-contributing due to age.

### 10b. Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, 2x13 bay gable front vernacular Barn (25' x 50') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical board siding and a metal roof. The east elevation has a shed roof addition (14' x 21'). There are four doors on the north elevation. The fixed stable windows are 4, 6 and 12 lights. There is a sliding barn door and a pedestrian door on the east (front) elevation with an open window in the gable peak. There is a hip roof ventilator capped with a ball finial on a square base with paired rectangular louvered openings on all sides.

### 10c. Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gable front Bank Barn (45' x 64') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical board siding and a metal roof. The east (front) elevation has a sliding barn door and an entry door near each corner with a single fixed six pane wood sable window next to each door. In the gable peak is a 12 light window. The west elevation has a gable roof addition (13' x 20') with a sliding barn door and entry door on the south elevation. The barn has a random pattern of fixed 4. 6 and 12 light windows on the south, west and north elevations.

### 10d. Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gable front vernacular Barn (25' x 70') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical board siding, a metal roof. There is a square. louvered cupola

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on the ridge of the roof. The west elevation has a shed roof addition (18' x 23'). There is a wagon door and an entry door on the east wall. The barn has fixed windows with 4, 6 and 9 lights on the south, west and north elevations, including a 9 light window in the front gable peak.

# 11. John M. Eggleston Farmhouse, 237 Pinkham Road, Burke c. 1840, contributing (J. Eggleston on the 1858 map and J. M. Eggleston on the 1875 map)

This 36 acre property has a farmhouse, dairy barn, carriage barn and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, eaves front frame Greek Revival style, Classic Cottage (26' x 26') sits on a fieldstone foundation with an asphalt shingle roof. The original house has several additions, but the main block is intact. The south (front) elevation faces Pinkham Road. Trim includes corner pilasters and returns in the gable ends. There is a brick chimney in the main house block and a brick chimney in the main addition. The east elevation has a central paneled entrance door with full surround, pilasters, entablature and full length sidelights. Windows are 6/6. In front of the door is a wood deck (19' x 19'). To the end is an L-shaped addition (16' x 27'). The west elevation has two additions (28' x 29' and 27' x 34'). The north elevation has a kitchen addition (31' x 18'), two sheds and an open porch.

### 11a. Dairy Barn, c. 1905, contributing

The 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  story covered high drive, bank Dairy Barn faces the road. The asphaltshingled gambrel roof, frame building (44' x 75') sits on a fieldstone foundation. The south (front) elevation is reached by a gable-roof, covered high drive with stone ramp and wooden bridge. The main wall has hinged barn door with 15 light transom above. The south elevation also has a barn door and an entrance door on the lower floor. The east, north and west elevations have fixed 3/1 and 6/6 wood frame windows. There is a 6/6 window in the front gambrel peak. The east wall has a canted corner double hinged door in the left half of the ground level, two stable windows to the right and four stable windows on the main floor.

### 11b. Carriage Barn, c. 1905, non-contributing

The 2 ½ story, gable roof, frame Carriage Barn (14' x 30') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical siding, steel roof and brick chimney. The south (front) elevation has 2 modern steel entrance doors, 3 modern steel windows and 3 pairs of fixed single pane windows near the roof line. The east elevation has a handicap ramp and the north elevation has second story porches. The barn has been converted into a duplex apartment building and is non-contributing due to alterations.

12. <u>East Burke Dam</u>, East Branch Passumpsic River, Village of East Burke, Burke, 1931, contributing, (Mills on 1858 and 1875 maps). (State ID 37.01 in the State of Vermont Dam Inventory).

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The East Burke Dam is located just west of State Route 114 and immediately north of the Burke Hollow Bridge, near the center of the Village of East Burke. The Dam represents the latest generation of a series of dams which date back to 1825 and the early settlement of East Burke. The main channel of the famous 1927 flood breached the dam by going behind the east abutment. The present dam was built in 1931 and is a concrete gravity-type spillway structure with an approximately one-foot wide flat crest and a vertical downstream face.

This concrete gravity dam rests on a bedrock ledge and is 150' (includes an 80' spillway) east-west across the river and has a maximum height of 13'. The dam impounds over 500,000 cubic feet with a surface area of 2 acres at normal crest level. The non-spillway portion of the crest of the dam appears to have been altered since its construction by the addition of a concrete cap. Two sluiceways (4' x 8') installed in the face within the spillway section of the dam were once fitted with manually operated wooden gates specifically designed for the discharge of floodwaters. Concrete retaining provided along the crest.

Although in poor condition (partially breached at east abutment), the dam retains much of its original design, workmanship and materials, and as such possesses historic integrity. The wood-lined sluice/flood gates remain much of their original integrity. There are remains of a concrete gate, at the east end of the dam, that once held a penstock that supplied river water to turbines in the saw mill, wood finishing mill, grist mill and hydroelectric plant, as well as water to the pump house.

The penstock and all of these earlier industrial buildings are no longer standing. Further research may determine if the remains of stone walls and concrete foundations along the east bank of the river are original to the earlier industrial buildings. If these structures are historic, they may be included in a subsequent nomination with the historic residential and commercial buildings in the Village of East Burke.

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#### Summary

The Darling Estate Historic District includes historically significant properties that were owned from 1883-1931 by Elmer A. Darling (1848-1931), a 'gentleman farmer' of Burke and Lyndon, in what is known as the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Darling's progressive model farm was named Mountain View Farm (#4) and he owned companion farms and industrial sites that became known collectively as the Darling Estate. The District also includes Darling's mansion known as Burklyn Hall (#1) that was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Elmer Darling was a member of the social and economic class of wealthy Victorians that became gentleman farmers chiefly for pleasure rather than income. The District holds significance under National Register Criteria A because the resources are associated with events that made a significant contribution to the development of Burke and Lyndon, and these resources are examples of an extensive gentleman farm. The District also holds significance under Criteria C because the resources represent architectural styles popular in the 19th and early 20th century in northeastern Vermont. The district is a composite of domestic architectural styles that include early Vermont house forms and popular architectural styles such as Cape Cod, Greek Revival, and Colonial Revival, as well as agricultural building types. Several architect-designed buildings are interesting and unusual in this predominately agricultural area. The period of significance for the historic district is c1810-c1940 and the district is significant in the areas of agriculture and architecture. The district is significant in the Vermont State Historic Preservation Office defined agricultural contexts of stock breeding, dairying and agricultural processing. The District contains 12 discontiguous properties, some were separated geographically, but were united historically and functioned collectively in the development and successful operation of Darling's estate. There are 41 contributing and 10 non-contributing resources in the district. Today the individual properties in the District look much as they did during the period of significance: the rural historic landscape is largely intact with agricultural, residential and commercial properties along the Darling Hill Road, a tree-lined, gravel and asphalt road. The historic pattern of land uses in fields, pastures and woodland are still visible; the views from the road are expansive to the distant mountains to the west and the east. This historic vernacular landscape evolved from a two-century old agricultural tradition that was conserved and improved through the social and cultural values of Elmer A. Darling. The John M. Eggleston Farm (#11) and the East Burke Dam (#12) in East Burke are separated physically from the farms along Darling Hill Road, but these resources were not separated from the historic context and operation of the Darling Estate.

#### Homesteading in Burke

Post Revolutionary War settlement in the Town of Burke began on the high ridge of land that came to be known as Humphrey Hill and later Darling Hill. James Whitelaw (1748-1829), Vermont's second surveyor general, published a large wall-map of the

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state in 1796 and this pioneer road is clearly indicated as the first road cut in the area.<sup>1</sup> This road, running south to north along the highest ridge of land, was the location for the earliest homesteaders in this part of Burke and Lyndon. The primary social and economic unit of life for these pioneers was the traditional, small-scale, diversified New England farmstead with its acreage, buildings and fields. In the Census of August 1800, there were only 108 residents of Burke living in 22 families.

In the summer of 1792, Lemuel Walter (1742-1844) began Burke's first homestead on this road and brought his family in 1794. In 1796 the organization of the Town of Burke was held at Walter's house and at the first town meeting (1797) Walter was elected Town Clerk. Benjamin F. and Sarah Jenkins purchased this 130 acre farm in 1873 and sold it to Elmer Darling in 1886. A house on this property burned about 1890. Darling financed construction of the current house and carriage house about 1892 on the same site (Lucius A. Darling House (#5).<sup>2</sup>

Ozias Humphrey, Sr. (1752-1826) was one of the 65 original proprietors of the Town of Burke. Ozias and his wife Mary Parsons had twelve children and their oldest son Abel was the first in the family to homestead here in 1800. Ozias and Sylvester Hall operated a Saw Mill in Burke Hollow and constructed five houses before 1807. Ozias's last son of twelve children was Erastus (1796-1891) who built a two-story Greek Revival style farmhouse (c.1840) that was raised (c.1957) and only the stone foundation remains. Erastus and Hannah Humphrey had five children and their second son Julius (1830-1907) lived here until his death. The 245 acre Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm [#2] was purchased from the family after Julius's death by Elmer Darling and the present Side Hall style House (#2) and gable-front, bank style Dairy Barn (#2a) were built about 1908 for farm employees to manage another milking herd.<sup>3</sup>

Sylvester Hall (1774-1854) of Wallingford, Connecticut, settled on the road in 1800, just south of the Belden place (#3). Sylvester and Lucy Hurlbert had thirteen children and their son Harley M. Hall (1818-1878) married Rosalie S. Denison in 1846. Harley built the Greek Revival style <u>Harley M. Hall Farmhouse (#4)</u> about 1855. After her husband's death Rosalie sold the 300 acre farm to Elmer Darling in 1883.

Asahel Burrington, Esq. (1791-1882) wrote an early account of Burke and his letter was published in Abby Hemenway's first <u>Vermont Historical Gazetteer</u> in 1867. In Hemenway's publication S. N. Welch wrote that every summer beginning in 1791, the proprietors of the Town of Burke sent the surveyor Benjamin Belden (1756-1820) from Farmington, Connecticut, to act as their agent in land sales. Belden, Sr. became a permanent resident in 1805 at what became the <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farm (#3)</u>. The Cape Cod style Benjamin F. Belden, Jr. (1791-1866) Farmhouse (#3) and Belden Barn (#3a) were built about 1825. The 120 acre farmstead passed to Benjamin F. Belden's son William Belden (1834-1911). William and his wife Mary V. sold the property to Elmer Darling in 1887.

Joseph Eggleston (1744-?) came from Torrington, Connecticut to Burke about 1806 and his son William Eggleston (1787-1875), settled in District #3, east of the Village of East Burke in 1812. William's son John M. (1815-1879) settled in District

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#10 on the old road leading up Burke Mountain and constructed the Greek Revival style <u>John M. Eggleston Farm (#11)</u> about 1840. John M. Eggleston and Harriet Allen had seven children and their son Ezra Sheldon Eggleston (1852-1927) continued the family farm on 140 acres in 1887 and also the family trade of house construction and bridge building.<sup>4</sup> Ezra and his wife Algia sold the farm to Elmer Darling in 1904 and Darling financed construction of the current Covered High Drive style Dairy Barn (#11a) and Carriage Barn (#11b) about 1905.

#### Homesteading in Lyndon

The Town of Lyndon was granted in 1780 to Jonathan Arnold of Providence, Rhode Island. Daniel Cahoon, Jr. of Providence settled in Lyndon in 1788 and by 1791 there were 59 residents of Lyndon.<sup>5</sup> The Honorable George C. Cahoon wrote a local history letter that was published in Abby Hemenway's first Vermont Historical Gazetteer in 1867.<sup>6</sup>

In 1796 Captain Elias Bemis (1773-?) and his cousin Wait Bemis (1772-1847) came from Spencer, Massachusetts and settled on the Bemis Hill. The Humphrey Road, extending south of the Burke town line into the Town of Lyndon, was known as Bemis Hill Road, after the first families that settled here (later named Darling Hill Road in both towns). Captain Elias married Content Jenks and they had seven children, including Elias Jr. (1799-1843). On this Bemis land there are two farmhouses indicated on the 1858 map; 'W. Bemis' and 'A. Bemis' (named for Elias's two sons Welcome (1797-1877) and Amasa (1801-1869) immediately north of the District No. 11 Schoolhouse (#7a). also indicated on the 1858 map. The present farm is indicated as the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> (named for two sons of Amasa; Alonzo O. and Joshua (1834-1922)) on the 1875 map. In 1887 this farm had 14 thoroughbred Shorthorn Durham cows, 22 full blood Shorthorn cattle, 35 full blood Southdown sheep, 1 Henry Clay brood mare, 9 Chester White swine and 1,000 maple sugar trees on 550 acres of land.<sup>7</sup>

Wait Bemis married Relief Ayers and they had eight children. On this Bemis land there is "W. Bemis', indicated on the 1858 map. The <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis</u> <u>Farmhouse (#8)</u> (named for grandsons of Elias Bemis; Alfred (1823-1902) and Welcome A. (1828-1910)), is indicated as 'W. Bemis & Sons' on the 1875 map. In 1875 this was a stock farm for breeding Alderney cattle and in 1887 this farm supported 41 thoroughbred Jersey cows, 31 Cotswold sheep, Chester White swine, 1 Morgan and Star brood mare and 1,500 maple sugar trees on 442 acres of land.<sup>8</sup> These two large Bemis families farmed this land for over a century and the place became known as Bemis Hill.

Eber Howland (1805-1894) also settled on this road, north of the Bemis farms and south of the Burke town line. The Cape Cod style <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> was built about 1825 and is indicated as 'E. Howland' on the 1858 map. On the Howland homestead there were two farmhouses, 'J. Howland and Son' and 'A. Howland', indicated on the 1875 map. The Abner Howland Farmhouse is indicated on the 1875 map just south of the John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10). John Howland (1792-1880) married Eunice Eggleston in 1815 and they had three sons, Eber D. (1820-?),

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Abner F. (1830-1910) and John A. (1835-1869). The Cape Cod form John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10) was built about 1830. The Howland land had a 12 acre farm owned by Eber Howland, Jr. and a 385 acre farm owned by Abner F. Howland. In 1887 the Abner F. Howland Farm (#9) had 26 grade Devon and Durham cattle and 3,500 maple sugar trees on 385 acres.<sup>9</sup>

In 1875 William D. Goss acquired the Henry Hunt Farm (indicated as 'H. Hunt' on the 1858 map) on Bemis Hill where "the farm and buildings were in run-down condition, with no house upon the farm". In 1890 Goss paid off the mortgage, "built a new house, repaired all out-buildings and much improved the farm in general" and named the place 'Grand View Farm'. In 1887 Goss raised 15 grade Devon cattle and 30 Cotswold and Merino sheep on 160 acres at the <u>William D. Goss Farm (#6)</u>.<sup>10</sup>

The legacy of the homesteaders in Burke and Lyndon is present in the district. The historic district is significant in the area of agriculture (the process and technology of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock and plants) because the Vermont farming traditions of these homesteaders was continued by subsequent generations. The district is also significant in the area of architecture (the practical art of designing and constructing buildings and structures to serve human needs) because examples of the historic styles and forms (Cape Cod, Classic Cottage and Greek Revival) are still present in the district.

#### Architectural Styles in the District

The historic district has examples of two early Vermont house types, the Cape Cod and Classic Cottage, and also the Greek Revival style of architecture. The <u>Eber</u> <u>Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> was built about 1810 and is the oldest structure in the district located in Lyndon; a rare survivor of the earliest Cape Cod form houses in this region. The <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse (#3)</u> and the Belden Barn (#3a) were built about 1825 and are the oldest structures in the historic district located in Burke. The Belden Farmhouse is an example of the Cape Cod form constructed near the end of it's popularity. According to oral tradition, the first burial ground in Burke is located on this historic Belden Farm. The John Howland & Son Farmhouse (#10) is a c. 1830 example of a late Cape Cod form house in Lyndon. Good examples of domestic architecture in the District (#s 9, 3 and 10) exhibit simple interpretations of the single story Cape Cod form with gable roofs, narrow eaves, door surrounds (#s 3 and 10), transoms (#9), sidelights (#s 3 and 10), symmetrical double hung sash windows (#s 3 and 10) and center brick chimneys.

School District No. 1 served all the farm families along the road in the Town of Burke and School District No. 11 served all the families along the road in the Town of Lyndon. The first schoolhouse in District No. 1 has not survived, however the schoolhouse in District No. 11, built about 1840 on Bemis Hill in Lyndon, remains. District No. 11 Schoolhouse (#7a) is a single story, frame, one-room Greek Revival style building representative of the most popular 19<sup>th</sup> century architectural style in Vermont. Residential examples of the Greek Revival style are the c. 1840 <u>A. O. & J. Bemis</u>

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<u>Farmhouse (#7)</u>, the Classic Cottage form c. 1840 <u>J. Eggleston Farmhouse (#11)</u>, the c. 1855 <u>Mountain View Farmhouse (#4)</u> in Burke; the c. 1840 <u>A. & W. A. Bemis</u> <u>Farmhouse (#8)</u> and the 1890 <u>W. D. Goss Farmhouse (#6)</u> in Lyndon. In the late 1800s local builders were still using old forms popular in the Greek Revival period and later added stylistic details from more current styles. The 1897 Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) with its wall dormers and conical roofed, octagonal cupola at Mountain View Farm is a good example of the Shingle style of architecture.

The Colonial Revival style was introduced to the district by Elmer Darling in his architect-designed mansion <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and in the mansion's Carriage Barn (#1a). Morgan Horse Barn (#1c) and Wagon Barn (#1d), all constructed between 1904-1908. Darling also introduced the Colonial Revival style in the design of the 1912 Clock Barn (#4g) and the 1913 brick Creamery (#4i) at Mountain View Farm; as well as the Darling-financed Burke Mountain Club (1919) in the Village of East Burke. Good examples of the Colonial Revival style of architecture in the District (#s 1, 1a, 1c, 4g, and 4i) exhibit interpretations of formality and symmetry; full entablature under the eave (#1); accentuated front doors (#1a and 1c) with sidelights, transom and colonnaded portico (#1) or fanlight window (#4i), belt course (#4i) and pilaster corner boards (#1), as well as cupolas and weathervanes (#1a, 1c, 4g and 4i). <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> is an outstanding residential example of the style and one of the high-style Colonial Revival houses in Vermont. The Creamery (#4i) is a high style example of the style in Vermont designed for an agricultural processing purpose.

#### Village of East Burke

The settlement that became the Village of East Burke began at John Walter's Saw Mill (c. 1805) on the south bank of Dishmill Brook and a house was built near here in 1810 by William Godding (1776-1850). Rufus Godding sold land to Joseph Woods to encourage him to build the first timber frame East Burke Dam (#12) to supply waterpower for his saw mill that was in operation by 1825. Two roads were opened on the west side of a covered bridge over the East Branch of the Passumpsic River; one parallel to the river leading north to Burke Hollow and one (now called East Darling Hill Road) leading up to the earliest farms in Burke along the ridge. In 1826 Woods built a grist mill on the east bank of the river and in 1827 the first frame house and blacksmith shop were built by C. C. Newell. About 1830 Willard Spencer purchased the mill lot and constructed a dwelling house, shop and new grist mill to serve the growing Village. In 1852 Spencer sold the mill to Dudley P. Hall and following the freshet of 1853, Hall repaired the East Burke Dam (#12) and grist mill and constructed a new saw mill (later demolished). The Hall Saw Mill was purchased in 1886 by Elmer Darling to supply lumber and millwork for all the construction projects at the farms he acquired.11 This water power privilege facilitated the only dam that led to the building of factories and stores and the formation of a small Vermont village. (For a discussion of these industries, see sub section below). The only industrial structure still standing in the Village is the historic East Burke Dam (#12).

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Darling Family in Burke

Ebenezer Darling (1787-1858), a son of Joshua Darling of Hopkinton, Massachusetts, settled in Burke immediately after the War of 1812 and cleared land between the farms of Elder Peleg Hicks and Abner Coe north of Burke Green. The first justice of the peace Benjamin Belden married Ebenezer and Abigail Fisher, a sister of Timothy Fisher who was also a newcomer to Burke. Ebenezer and Abigail farmed the land, had eight children and Ebenezer served in the Vermont Legislature in 1828.<sup>12</sup>

Ebenezer and Abigail's third son, Alfred Burbank Darling (1821-1896) lived his childhood with his mother's family until he was 21. Alfred traveled to Boston and was employed at the Revere House by Paran Stevens where he "developed a fine capacity for management both in the financial and domestic departments" of this large hotel. Alfred traveled with Paran Stevens and opened the "famous old" Battle House in Mobile, Alabama. Just before the Civil War they returned north, Stevens purchased the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City and reopened it with Alfred Darling as his partner.<sup>13</sup>

The prestigious Fifth Avenue Hotel was built in 1859 on Madison Square, at the busy intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue, in Manhattan for Amos Eno. The sixstory hotel boasted 1,000 guest rooms, gas lighting, and an elevator. Upon the death of Stevens, Hiram A. Hitchcock (1832-1900), of Hanover, New Hampshire, became Alfred B. Darling's partner. In 1872, Alfred's nephew Elmer A. Darling went to work at the hotel at the age of 24 and became his uncle's private secretary before becoming a partner in 1890. Uncle Alfred established a gentleman horse farm named *Darlington* in Ramsey, New Jersey, in 1872. Upon Uncle Alfred's death in 1896, Elmer continued as one of the proprietors with Charles N. Vilas (1853-1931), of Alsted, New Hampshire until the famous New York City hotel was demolished in 1908 to make way for a modern office building in Manhattan.<sup>14</sup>

Alfred B. Darling's younger brother, Henry George Darling (1816-1902) married Mehitabel Whitcomb (1820-1906) and they had four children (Elmer (1848-1931), Scott (1851-1885), Louise A. (1854-1925) and Lucius A. (1857-1937). Alfred B. Darling and Elmer A. Darling would become the most prominent benefactors in the history of Burke and Lyndon by leaving a legacy of historic preservation, philanthropy and stewardship. Both Elmer Darling and his younger sister Louise A. were never married. Elmer's younger brother Lucius married Margaret Macdonald (1873-1952) and they had two children Pearl M. (1892-1901) and Henry G. Darling, II (1898-1986).<sup>15</sup>

#### Gentleman Farms

In the Gilded Age prominent and wealthy New Yorkers established gentleman farms in Vermont. Writing in 1903 William Frederick Dix, the editor of <u>Town and</u> <u>Country</u> magazine, called the "establishing of country homes by people who live, for the most part of the year in the city", as the "most significant and important social change" in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Dix witnessed that "many of these city trained sons of country families would retain their love for and pride in the old home" and the "boundless energy of the American business man is not yet exhausted when he has won

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his fortune. He seeks larger interests that his business, his city home, his club and his politics". These wealthy men created country estates where they developed an "interest in landscape gardening and gentleman farming, stock raising, the preservation of the forests and trout streams, the breeding of blooded dogs and cattle, fine poultry, and the application of modern science and enlightenment to the art and pursuit of agriculture."<sup>16</sup> In the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century outstanding country estates were established in Vermont by the Webb, Billings, Vail and Darling families. These men were continuing a practice that emerged in New England in the 18<sup>th</sup> century when Boston's merchants built country seats to go along with their town houses, hoping to partake of the power and prestige of the British landed classes by imitating their way of life.

Dr. William Seward Webb (1851-1926) and Lila Vanderbilt Webb founded Shelburne Farms in Shelburne, Vermont in 1886 as a 'model farm' and "retained something of the older spirit of experimental agriculture, but the scale and nature of their operations, the centerpiece of which was a chateau-like barn occupying almost two acres, partook far more aristocratic display than republican philanthropy". Webb's land assemblage included thirty small farms and he retained the services of Frederick Law Olmstead, the landscape architect whose Natural Style was favored by estate builders of the Victorian era. Webb had a "passion for horses" that culminated in construction of the Breeding Barn (1891), the largest in America, and it stabled over three hundred animals. The hub of the agricultural operations was a five-story Farm Barn (1890) and by 1900 Shelburne Farms encompassed 3800 acres.<sup>17</sup>

Frederick Billings (1823-1890) attorney, railroad magnate and philanthropist purchased the Charles Marsh (1765-1849) estate in Woodstock, Vermont in 1869. Billings developed "a 'model farm' to breed horses, to demonstrate that there could be an alliance between commercial and conservation, between town and country". The Billings estate showcased a dairy farm with prize-winning Jersey cows, a creamery (c. 1890) and a large forestry operation that by 1900 included over 2,000 acres.<sup>18</sup>

Theodore Newton Vail (1845-1920) acquired the Calvin Bigelow Farm in Lyndon Center, Vermont (1883) and enlarged it into a mansion that he named Speedwell Farms (1891). Vail was the first president of American Telephone and Telegraph Company (1909), founded the Vail School of Agriculture (1910) and was a prominent local philanthropist. Vail acquired nearly twenty farms and the estate totaled over 2500 acres. His 'model farm' raised Welsh ponies and Percherons, Polled Angus and Brown Swiss cattle and Shropshire sheep. His Jersey herd supplied milk for the Lyndonville Creamery. Vail joined Iphus Hall, W. I. Powers and Elmer Darling in establishing the Lyndonville Creamery in 1890. The Vail School of Agriculture became part of the Lyndon Institute (1920) and the mansion became the Lyndon Teacher's College (1951). Vail was a friend and social peer of Elmer Darling and Vail's estate was only five miles south of Darling's <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>.<sup>19</sup>

Webb, Billings, Vail and Darling were representative of an economic and social class of 'gentlemen farmers' that created 'model farms' in Vermont and applied business

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principles to agriculture. Vermont landscape historian William C. Lipke wrote that these American agricultural estates were "entirely modern". Modernity in this context specifically meant a "scientific" management of agriculture, approaches and techniques applied to farming which were the outgrowths of the recently established colleges of agriculture by federal legislation. Webb, Billings, Vail and Darling were able to develop a scale of agricultural pursuit in Vermont that made use of the latest advances in farming techniques and practices, the newest inventions and improvements which were well within their financial reach. There was "an overwhelming sense of stewardship associated with the management of these large farm and woodland properties". These 'model farms' contained a variety of enterprises, from forestry to livestock to orchards to field crops.<sup>20</sup> Agricultural historian Tamara Plakins Thornton wrote "It is notable that these new gentleman farmers, unlike their predecessors, settled in remote areas of New England where agricultural decline and rural depopulation and old farmland cheap and readily available and where railroad lines from New York fast and convenient."21 In addition to Webb, Billings, Vail and Darling, other gentleman farmers in Vermont include Willard S. Martin of Greatwood Farms in Plainfield (now Goddard College, listed on the National Register in 1996), Joseph Battell's Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge (listed on the National Register in 1973) and H. C. R. Watson's Forest Park Farm in Brandon.22

The legacy of these iconic gentleman farmers is preserved in Vermont. The former Webb estate is now Shelburne Farms (1972) that was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1980) and as a National Historic Landmark (2001). The former Billings estate is a National Historic Landmark (1967) and is now part of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park (1992). The Vail mansion and farm buildings were torn down (1974), the property became Lyndon State College and a state historic roadside marker commemorates Vail's contributions to national, state and local history. Elmer Darling's Mountain View Farm (#4) functions as a privately-owned inn, restaurant and animal sanctuary. Darling's mansion, Burklyn Hall (#1) is privately owned and the historic barns west of the road are still used as a horse farm.

#### Mountain View Farm in Burke

The historic district is also significant in the area of agriculture because Mr. Darling constructed and operated a successful 'gentleman farm' for nearly 50 years at Mountain View Farm that served as a model of progressive farming in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Elmer Darling shared the same vision as many of his wealthy, urban Victorian contemporaries, a country estate. His vision of a 'gentlemen' or 'model farm' was both a status symbol for successful entrepreneurs and an expression of class identity in the Gilded Age. The farms that Darling acquired in Burke and Lyndon were not abandoned or marginal because each had withstood generations of out-migration so common on Vermont hill farms in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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In 1883 Darling, at age 35, acquired his first farm with the purchase of the Harley M. Hall Farm (#4) in Burke. The farmhouse became an occasional residence for Elmer, as well as a residence for his parents, his brother and his sister.<sup>23</sup> In 1875, Harley M. Hall (1818-1878) was a dealer and breeder of Devon Cattle and Cotswold Sheep. Hall's widow, Rosalie S. Hall (1850-1927) sold the 300 acre farm to Elmer Darling. Elmer's only sister Louise was the bookkeeper for the expanding farm operations. Elmer's only brother Lucius was attending Bryant & Stratton Business College in Boston, Massachusetts in 1883 when Elmer retained his 26 year old brother to manage the farm. Lucius supervised workers in the construction and maintenance of buildings, buying and selling livestock and overseeing all the seasonal activities on the various farms along the road. Lucius lived in the big farmhouse until his marriage in 1892, served as a town selectman (12 years) and represented Burke for the Republican Party in the Vermont House of Representatives (1900-1902 sessions). Lucius later served as State Senator for Caledonia County (1912-1913) and following his brother's death became a director of the Lyndonville Savings Bank and Trust (1931-1937).<sup>24</sup>

Elmer Darling renamed the former Hall farm, the Mountain View Farm (MVF) for its commanding view of Burke Mountain (elevation 3267) to the east. <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> is located on the high ridge of land that runs through the Towns of Lyndon and Burke. In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century this land was known as Humphrey Hill in Burke and Bemis Hill in Lyndon and, after Darling's numerous land acquisitions, the ridge became known as Darling Hill.

On the Hall Farm there was already a two-story Greek Revival style Farmhouse (#4) constructed about 1855 and at least one barn. Lucius managed this farm which in 1887 had 42 thoroughbred Jersey dairy cows, 51 registered Devon cattle, 32 grade Cotswold sheep, Chester White swine, 2 Morgan brood mares, as well as 700 maple trees for producing maple sugar. Darling financed the remodeling of the Farmhouse for his relatives and before 1890 there was a two-story addition, with additional kitchen space and bedrooms for hired farm workers, to the southwest corner of the Farmhouse.<sup>25</sup>

The Scale Barn (#4a) received three, very large dairy barn additions. About 1885 the 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, square (46') Scale Barn was constructed specifically for the installation of a Fairbanks Wagon and Stock Scale that was accessible from a high drive with a bridge on the west elevation. The scale has a wood platform (8' x 16') and can weigh a load up to 3,000 pounds. About 1890 the field stone foundation of the Hall barn (c.1855) was used to build a four-story dairy barn (46' x 181') connected on the east elevation and another three-story dairy barn (46' x 125') was constructed on the south elevation. This massive barn would later receive a comparable addition (46' x 171') to the north elevation in 1906 and the historic four-section barn is still intact. All three additions to the Scale Barn and Dairy Barns (#4a) were built by a construction crew managed by Curtis Mooney of Lyndon. Each of the roof lines of these four connected barns feature a weathervane; a life-size, Jersey cow on the Scale Barn, a scroll with a letter 'D' and two eagles on the Dairy Barn additions.

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About 1890 Darling financed construction of a 1 ½ story, frame Creamery that featured a "10 horse-power automatic engine with 13 horse-power boiler for power and heat". The engine ran the cream separator, pump and Appleton grain mill. A rotary grinding mill, with a capacity of 12 bushels per hour, was replaced in 1896 with a larger Appleton grain mill of the same pattern. At first the Creamery made only butter and after 1896 cheese was also produced here. At the turn of the century Darling's creamery was well positioned to capitalize on the idea of a centralized factory for cheese production and the technology was available.<sup>26</sup>

By 1896 Lucius as farm manager employed an average of 12 men, some of whom lived in the "company-owned cottages and farmhouses". In 1905 the Creamery workers produced a record fifty pounds of butter in a day and 9,000 pounds of cheese were made from June till October. In August 1905 the Creamery shipped a ton and a half to Darling's hotel in New York. Frank McDonald (1865-1929) was manager of cheese production that completed 70 pounds per day in 8, 30 and 50 pound cheeses. This cheese, packed in round wood boxes, was ripened 30-45 days before transport by railroad to New York City. The Repair Shop (Tool House (#4d) was "the gathering place of the men employed on the farm" with carpenter and plumbing tools, along with 8 lockable, tool closets for each repairman.<sup>27</sup>

About 1890 Darling also added a Carriage House, Bull Barn, Piggery, Tool House (#4d), Icehouse (#4e) and Pump House (#4b) west of the Creamery. Behind the enormous Scale Barn and Dairy Barns (#4a) there was also a two story Threshing Barn (#4f) built for 'The Champion'', a thresher manufactured by the Ellis Keystone Agricultural Works of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, that was distributed through the Brackett Shaw & Lunt Company of Summersworth, NH and Boston, MA. Large agricultural machinery that included two sulky plows, a corn planter, grain seeder, ball-bearing mowing machine, harvester, Osborn horse rake, harrows, rollers and other plows were stored on the bottom floor (now removed) of the original Threshing Barn. Walters reported that "all these stables and houses are kept sweet and clean, with fresh sawdust in the stables, all litter from the hay and straw swept out and even the

In 1897 a 2 ½ story Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) was added to begin an extensive horse breeding operation. In 1912 Darling employed the New York architectural firm of Jardine, Kent and Jardine to design a barn to house the work horses; it was ornamented with a large, wall-mounted, weight-driven tower clock at the peak of the gable and was known as the Clock Barn (#4g). The current Piggery (#4c) was built about 1905 and has original slaughter room equipment. This deliberate grouping of agricultural buildings at MVF (#4) have integrity of location, design, materials and craftsmanship representative of a gentleman farm in Northeast Vermont at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A state historic marker, 'Mountain View Farm' was placed along the road in 1998.

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#### Darling farms in Burke

In addition to MVF, several companion farms in Burke and Lyndon are also significant in the area of agriculture. After purchasing the former Hall Farm in 1883, Elmer Darling continued to expand his agricultural estate by acquiring old farmsteads and these companion farms were associated for nearly 50 years with the principal <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> until Darling's death in 1931.

In 1886 Elmer Darling acquired the former Lemuel Walter Farm then owned by Benjamin F. and Sarah A. Jenkins, of about 130 acres. Jenkins had acquired the farmstead from Lemuel and Chandler C. Walter in 1873.<sup>29</sup> Elmer financed construction of the <u>Lucius A. Darling House (#5)</u> for the marriage of his brother to Margaret Macdonald on land immediately south of the Hall Farm. The Lucius A. Darling House (#5) and Carriage House (#5a)\_were built in 1892 in a vernacular style in place of Walter's homestead, the 'Hill Top Farm', which burned about 1890. Lucius, with his wife and two children, moved back to the Mountain View Farmhouse in 1908 when Elmer and Louise moved into <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>.

In 1887 Darling purchased 200 acres at the <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farm (#3)</u> immediately north of the former Hall Farm. This was the original Belden farmstead that passed to his son Benjamin Franklin Belden (1793-1866) and then his grandson William Belden (1834-1911).<sup>30</sup> The farm still has a Cape Cod style farmhouse and an English style Barn (#3a) that were built about 1825. This farm was the site of the first private cemetery in Burke and in 1990 a small granite footstone was placed in the front yard of the Belden House by the Burke Historical Society to mark the earliest graves. In 1892 Darling purchased the 66 acre Christopher C. Amidon Farm, which Amidon had acquired from Lemuel Walter in 1855, immediately south of the Walter Farm.<sup>31</sup>

Burke historian Mabel A. Walter reported in The St. Johnsbury Republican that Mountain View Farms contained 816 acres in 1896. By 1910, Mountain View Farm and the companion farms along the road in Burke had extended a distance of nearly 1.5 miles from the West Branch to the East Branch of the Passumpsic River; north .75 of a mile to the Humphrey Farm and south .25 of a mile to the Lyndon town line. In addition to financing the construction of his 'model farm' Darling changed this rural landscape by improving all the agricultural properties, the historic houses were "thoroughly repaired and painted, fences built, fields and pastures enlarged by taking down useless fences, roadways widened, graded and drained, and shade trees planted". Historically all of the farm buildings were painted yellow with white trim. Walter described the view looking north from the Hall Farmhouse (#4) at Mountain View Farm "where the red farm house (Belden Farmhouse (#3) hidden by shrubbery and nestled under the hill, reminds one of an English landscape". Today, from the front porch of the former Hall Farmhouse, there are still great views of Burke, Kirby and Umpire Mountains to the east.32 Darling planted a row of silver maple trees, linearly on both sides of the Darling Hill Road in Burke and Lyndon, to form an allee or tree canopy as a distinct element of landscape architecture for his estate. This designed landscape feature (between #1 and looking south to #8) is symbolic of his vision of a gentleman farmer and stands in

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contrast to the surrounding vernacular rural landscape of open fields and woodlands. Most of these centuries-old trees have survived and are character-defining features of his vision along the ridge.

In 1904 Darling purchased the John M. Eggleston Farm (#11) east of the Village of East Burke on the old road leading up to Burke Mountain.<sup>33</sup> Darling acquired the c. 1840 Farmhouse (#11) and financed construction of a Carriage Barn (#11b) and the large Gable Front Bank Dairy Barn (#11a) east of the house near the road. This farm was separated geographically from operations along Darling Hill Road; however this farm was equal in size and scale of operations to Darling's other companion farms.

In 1907 Darling acquired the <u>Erastus Humphrey Farm (#2)</u> about a .5 mile north of the Mountain View Farm along the road, from Julius's widow Annie B. Humphrey with about 245 acres. This was the homestead of the only original proprietor, Ozias Humphrey, of the town that settled in Burke. Only the stone foundation of the c. 1840 house, built by Ozias's son Erastus (1796-1891) for his son Julius A. (1831-1907) remains. The present Side Hall style Farmhouse (#2) and Gable Front Dairy Barn (#2a) were built for Elmer Darling about 1910.<sup>34</sup>

#### Darling farms in Lyndon

Beginning in 1900 Darling began to acquire farms along the road in Lyndon, just south of the Burke town line. In 1900 Elmer Darling acquired 13 acres of the Howland land just south of the town line. In 1902 Darling acquired the Abner F. Howland Farm of 111.5 acres and in 1906 he acquired an additional 29 acres. In 1909 Darling acquired the <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> with 1.9 acres. In 1910 Darling received the balance of the original Howland land from Charles W. Ball that included the <u>J. Howland & Son Farm (#10)</u>.<sup>35</sup>

In 1906 Darling acquired the 160 acre <u>William D. Goss Farm (#6)</u>, that William (1853-?) and his wife Martha Hurdy (1853-) had acquired from Henry Hunt in 1878.<sup>36</sup> In 1906 Darling also acquired the 300 acre <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u>, which was also known as the 'Amasa Bemis Farm'.<sup>37</sup> In 1910 Darling acquired 275 acre <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8)</u> from Welcome's estate.<sup>38</sup>

By 1910 Darling had acquired five farms just south of the Lyndon Town line, two Howland Farms, two Bemis Farms, and the W. D. Goss Farm. In these acquisitions Darling continued to acquire meadows, woodland and sugar orchards between the East and West Branches of the Passumpsic River in Lyndon.

#### Darling's Agricultural Estate

Vermont historian William Jeffery in his book Successful Vermonters (1904) called Mountain View Farm "one of the best examples of modern farming conducted along intelligent lines in Vermont".<sup>39</sup> Late 19<sup>th</sup> century gentleman farms were prompted by a genuine desire to promote agricultural progress. Darling's farms were also a successful business venture. Wagon loads of produce, dairy products and maple syrup were delivered to the railroad station in Lyndonville and transported to Darling's Fifth

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Avenue Hotel in New York City where Vermont products were the daily feature at the city's most important hotel.

Elmer Darling owned one of the great agricultural estates of Vermont in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His estate consisted of productive farms, fertile agricultural land, timber land and industrial properties in Burke and Lyndon. Free-standing iron and wood signs were installed at Darling-owned farms. Five have survived: Belden Farm (#3), L. Darling House (#5), Goss Farm (#6), Bemis Farm (#8) and the J. Howland & Son Farm (#10). These hand-crafted signs announced that these properties were all part of a privately-owned estate. Darling preserved an old rural Vermont tradition of keeping the historic farm family names, such as 'Belden Place' and 'Goss Place', etc. on each sign. Farm buildings also had a consistent color scheme; houses were painted yellow with white trim and barns and outbuildings were painted red. Silver maple trees planted along the road in this rural landscape are reminders of Darling's interest in creating a sense of place with an allee or tree canopy as an element of landscape architecture.

Darling was a modern progressive farmer who practiced diversity of enterprises. Darling's real estate investments in New York City provided working capital to acquire farm land, houses and buildings, as well as equipment, livestock and labor to construct his agricultural estate. Labor-saving farm machinery was an investment for increased efficiency. In 1906 the <u>St. Johnsbury Republican</u> reported that Mountain View Farm "has all the modern farm machinery and every kind of tools that could be required".<sup>40</sup> His Yankee genealogy, trustworthy character and proven ability made dealing with property owners, banks and equipment retailers a straightforward business transaction. Darling knew his hometown, the 'lay of the land', the risks of farming and its potential for realizing his vision of a 'gentleman farmer'. He employed close family members to oversee the operations when he was in New York; his brother Lucius elevated farm management to a business and his sister Louise kept records and accounts of each farm enterprise. <u>Mountain View Farm (MVF) (#4)</u>, along with the companion farms and associated industries in the Village, were the economic foundations of East Burke in the first three decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Vermont farmer is referred to as a 'summer farmer, winter woodsman' and the farm year is an endless cycle of long-hour, seasonal activities. Darling's farm employees were naturalists, mechanics, and laborers. Feeding and managing the large dairy herd to produce butter and cheese in Darling's Creamery was a very skilled activity. There were also year-round activities in the Tool House (#4d) where these 'jack of all trades' made and repaired a wide-variety of hand tools and farm implements. Some men were skilled in carpentry, others in coopering, blacksmithing and harness repair. To keep this extensive agricultural estate productive required the traditional agricultural, craft and industrial skills of many employees. Each Darling-owned farm was a home for the farm families where the care of poultry, a vegetable garden and fruit crops were typically the domestic economy of a housewife and children that made a substantial contribution to their financial success.

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Burke historian Phyllis Burbank published the memories of Murray B. Davis (1911-1995), who began working at Mountain View Farm in 1927 at the age of 16. Davis remembered that "Most of the men in East Burke worked on the Darling Farm. Normally we worked six days a week, nine hours a day; 7 A. M. to 5 P. M. except during haying season we worked from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. It was a good place to work. I was paid \$65 a month plus room and board, which was a very good wage at the time".<sup>41</sup> Single male farm hands received a wage, meals, room and washing facilities on the second floor of the two story addition to the Mountain View Farmhouse (#4), on the second floor of the Creamery (#4i) in Burke and at the Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis House (#8) in Lyndon.

In the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont the farm year began in December with logging. Darling owned extensive wood lots in the forested mountains, his loggers supplied a variety of hardwoods to the Saw Mill in East Burke and firewood for stoves throughout the estate. Ice was harvested at a pond half way up Darling Hill from the Village and transported by sled to the Ice House (#4e) at MVF where blocks were packed in sawdust and used to cool meat, milk, vegetables and cream in the butter making process. Logging, chopping firewood and ice harvesting continued into January and throughout the winter months.

The primary late winter activity of sugaring began with tapping the maples for sap in March and continued into April. In 1896 there were two maple orchards at MVF, containing 1900 trees, and each had a vernacular, wood-frame sugarhouse. A majority of the sap was reduced to maple syrup and 100 gallons were shipped each spring to Darling's Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York. Spreading manure on the fields began in March and continued into April while the ground was still frozen. During the period of significance maple groves, sugarhouses and apple orchards were prominent on this landscape.

After the ground began to thaw in late April, farm lanes and fences of fieldstone, wood and wire were built and repaired. In April, May and June the men prepared the soil by plowing, seeding, harrowing and cultivating oats, corn and potatoes. The fields had fertile loamy soil, excellent for growing timothy. The first cutting of hay with horse-drawn mowers and rakes began in June and the second cutting was in August. Hay was hand-loaded onto wagons and pulled by horse teams up the high drive to the Fairbanks Wagon and Stock Scale at the Scale Barn (#4a) where each load was weighed. Then the wagons were driven into the Dairy Barn additions and hand-pitched into lofts for feeding the prize-winning, Jersey herd later in the long, cold, snow-bound Vermont winters.<sup>42</sup> In August and September the men harvested oats with a reaper and processed them with a thresher; the oats were fed to the horses and the straw used for bedding. Apples from two orchards on the farm were harvested each October.

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century dairy farming had become the largest segment of the Vermont agricultural economy and was the principal enterprise at the <u>Mountain View</u> Farm (#4). Dairying not only reinforced Vermont's importance as an agricultural state, but it also expanded the role of agriculture in the political arena at home, and brought

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Vermont to the forefront in terms of progressive agricultural legislation, education and organization in New England. Darling created a stock farm where Jersey cattle were bred for sale and show through selective breeding and herd management. In 1890 the Scale Barn (#4a) was enlarged with three Dairy Barns to accommodate a large milking herd, as well as hay and grain storage. The American Jersey Cattle Club (AJCC), the first organization of its kind, was organized (1868) to improve and promote the breed. Darling joined (1892), became a director and was the organization's 10th president (1894-1915). The Association held its annual meeting at Darling's Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City (1885-1907). Speaking at the Club's annual meeting at his Manhattan hotel in 1895, President Darling said "A good Jersey cow will give 20 quarts of milk a day, against an average of 12-14 quarts for an ordinary cow. The best of the Jersey's will give one pound of butter to each six quarts of milk, whereas an ordinary cow must give 8 or 9 quarts to make an equal quantity of butter". In 1911 President Darling purchased two building lots in Manhattan and donated them as a site for the construction of a modern AJCC office. Billings, Vail and Darling represented Vermont 'gentleman farmers' on the Board of Directors of this Cattle Club.43

Darling's first, wood-frame Creamery (1890) burned and was immediately replaced in 1913 by the current, 2 ½ story Colonial Revival style brick Creamery (#4i) to produce the 'Darling' brand of cheese and butter. Original artifacts that have survived from the operation of the Creamery are still in the building; a coal-fired boiler to produce steam, a steam engine to drive an overhead pulley to power a Simplex drum type butter churn (now stored in the Dairy Barn) and a large ice box. Large vats, sinks and presses were used on the first floor for processing milk into cheese. Cheese was aged in the cool basement, packaged in boxes for shipment and loaded on wagons that traveled up the ramp at the south end of the building. Lucius Darling's brother-in-law, Frank E. McDonald (1865-1929), was employed for many years as a cheese and butter maker at the Creamery, which was in full production each year from June to the end of September, when the herd was grazing. Darling joined local businessmen T. N. Vail, I. Hall, and W. I. Powers to establish the Lyndonville Creamery in 1890 at the same time that Darling was building his first Creamery at Mountain View Farm.<sup>44</sup>

"Darling became a premier breeder of excellent Morgan stock as he acquired Billy Roberts 4550" (foaled in 1889) and his model horse farm issued its first Morgan Horse Catalog in 1907. Vermont's Morgan Horse Club was founded at the Vermont State Fair at White River Junction in 1909 when Darling presented his second catalog. The farm's third catalog (1912) offered the services of studs Rex, Bob B., Lyndon and Little Justin and high-quality brood mares. In 1915 Darling resigned the Presidency of the Jersey Club and succeeded Henry Steele Wardner (1867-1935) as second President of the state's prestigious Morgan Horse Club. Morgan horses, the first American breed of light horse, were prized for their beauty, spirit and strength. Middlebury, Vermont resident Joseph Battell (1839-1915) published the first volume of the <u>American Morgan Horse Register</u> in 1894 and owners were required to prove their horse's descent from Figure, Justin Morgan's (1747-1798) famous stud horse. Darling had the same

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architects as his mansion, design the 2 story, Colonial Revival style Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) and it was constructed in 1897. A promotional poster, printed c. 1905, has a photograph of the famous Morgan stud *Rex* and photographs of Morgan horses at his farm. Fred S. C. H. Davis, son of Dr. Charles B. Davis (1834-?) sold his livery stable at West Burke and began as manager of horse breeding and training at MVF in 1899 for Mr. Darling. "Old time" Morgan horses from the MVF were well-known, prize winners at the annual Vermont State Fair. Wardner gave Darling two of the thirteen famous *Green Mountain* 42 weathervanes cast at the John L. Mott Ironworks in New York City, and one is still on top of the cupola at the Clock Barn (#4g). Darling had blue ribbon winners at Madison Square Garden in New York City in *Bob B* and *Carrie* in 1910 and 1911. At the turn of the century as the automobile relegated the horse back to the farm the "Morgan Horse Club survived because its members were either wealthy men, who delighted in the possession of fine Morgans, or farm-breeders who derived stud fees from the sale of their stock". <sup>45</sup>

The Clock Barn (#4g) was built in the Gambrel roof style of architecture in 1912 with 12 open bays in a U-shape for easy access to horses, feed, water and wagons. The original clock mechanism and bell, manufactured by the Thomas Clock Company of Thomaston, Connecticut, is still working in this barn. Darling had a large collection of horse drawn vehicles that included wagons, carriages and sleighs. One of his vehicles, a trap sleigh was acquired at auction in 1960 by the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, Vermont. This four-passenger sleigh was manufactured about 1890 by the McLaughlin Carriage Company of Oshawa, Ontario. Darling's Trap Sleigh is on permanent display in the Horseshoe Barn at this museum.<sup>46</sup>

MVF was known for breeding Chester White swine that were named for Chester County, Pennsylvania. Chester Whites are a moderately sized, lard-type pig known primarily for its meat. This breed was developed about 1815 and the Chester White Record Association was founded in 1884. The Piggery (#4c) was constructed about 1890 in a modest Colonial Revival style of architecture. The slaughter room has an original large wood hoist wheel (4' diameter) for lifting two carcasses and many original pens for pigs, sows and hogs. In 1906 there were over a hundred thoroughbred Chester White's. An addition on the west elevation of the Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) was a Chicken House with over three hundred fowls; "Minorcas, Wyandottes, Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds". Darling also raised thoroughbred dogs that included "coach dogs, Scotch collies and one imported Great Dane that attracts general attention".<sup>47</sup>

The historic district is also significant in the area of agriculture because Mr. Darling operated a successful agricultural estate with a stock horse farm, a large dairy operation, a creamery and a piggery, as well as logging and maple sugaring operations.

#### Darling's Industrial Properties in the Village of East Burke

Creating Darling's Estate began with an aggressive building campaign that required the resources of water and grain, lumber and finished millwork, as well as the

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new technology of electricity. Beginning in 1896 Darling acquired industrial properties, all powered by the <u>East Burke Dam (#12)</u>, concentrated along the east bank of the East Branch of the Passumpsic River in the Village of East Burke, only one mile east and downhill of the farms he acquired along Darling Hill Road.

The original <u>East Burke Dam (#12)</u> was constructed about 1825 when the mill lot was improved by Joseph Wood's Saw Mill (1825) on the west bank and his Grist Mill (1826) on the east bank of the river. About 1830 Willard Spencer acquired Wood's mill lot and constructed a new grist mill, dwelling and shop. The mill lot was acquired by Dudley P. Hall (1820-1885) in 1852 and a freshet in the spring of 1853 carried away the covered bridge below the dam, the grist mill, saw mill, mill house and sheds. About 1853 Hall repaired the Dam and Grist Mill and constructed a new Saw Mill. Darling purchased the Hall and Chase Sawmill in 1886 from Hall's estate. The first Darling Saw Mill burned in 1892 and was rebuilt along with a new 2 ½ story, Wood Finishing Mill between the single-story Saw Mill and the 2 ½ story Grist Mill.<sup>48</sup> Logs were delivered, by wagon or floated down the river, to a log yard on the east bank of the river above the Saw Mill; logs were then pulled up an incline above the dam directly into the Saw Mill.

In 1899 Darling purchased the village Grist Mill that had been constructed by Willard Spencer about 1830, and extensively repaired by Dudley P. Hall when he rebuilt the adjacent Sawmill in 1853. In 1900 the Saw Mill was powered by both water and a steam engine under the ownership of Lang & Farnham.<sup>49</sup>

In September 1899 the Vermont Union Journal reported that "Darling is about to put in a new dam, new flume and will put in a dynamo to run water to the Mountain View Farm". About 1900 Darling financed improvements to the East Burke Dam (#12) that enlarged the Darling Mill Pond. About 1900 Darling financed construction of a Hydroelectric Station (demolished in the 1927 flood) to supply electricity for the industrial buildings and street lights, as well as domestic and commercial buildings in the Village. Electric lines were later set on poles leading a mile up the hill to Burklyn Hall (#1) and Mountain View Farm (#4). River water ran into a long box flume directly from the Dam, under the Finishing Mill, under the Grist Mill, under the road east of the Covered Bridge and into the Hydroelectric Station. River water was pumped a mile from the Hydroelectric Station (also known as the Pumping House) up to Burklyn Hall (#1) and MVF (#4) on Darling Hill, through a series of 2" (inside diameter) wooden pump logs, to a concrete reservoir with a 7,000 gallon capacity that was constructed about 1897. This stored water was available for fire protection and the extensive dairy and creamery operations at Mountain View Farm (#4). An additional series of wooden pump logs were also extended to a reservoir at the Humphrey Farm (#2).50

Hydroelectric power plants were first introduced in America in 1882 and the 1902 federal census of electric light and power stations listed only eight privately-owned plants started before 1890 in Vermont; however, based on the newspaper research of Vermont electric power historian Robert G. Tucker the number of plants was 12. In the Passumpsic River Basin the Town of St. Johnsbury began a public-owned combination hydro and steam engine backup installation in 1887 and The Town of Lyndon began a

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hydro only installation in 1896. The 1890s was the decade of widespread private and public hydroelectric power generation throughout Vermont. Darling began his first hydroelectric power plant in East Burke about 1900. About 1910, Darling constructed a second Hydroelectric Station downriver, only one mile south of East Burke and 4 miles north of Lyndonville. This installation was known as the Mount Hunger Development and this second plant operated until it was destroyed in the famous Vermont Flood of 1927. Neither of these plants was rebuilt and the transmission lines were later acquired by the Lyndonville Electric Company.<sup>51</sup> Darling was also responsible for financing the construction of the first concrete sidewalks, water lines (under Main Street heading east) and sewerage system in the Village of East Burke.<sup>52</sup>

By 1906 Darling had created a "veritable business center. It consists of a saw mill, wood dressing mill, grist mill, electric light station, blacksmith shop, harness shop, dry house and a large lumber yard and storehouse". To designate that these industrial buildings were owned by a single business entity, they were all painted a "light slate color with white trimmings". A wagon scale was positioned in the road to weigh raw grain, then the grain was processed in the Grist Mill and stored in a separate Feed Storage Building south of the road next to the Hydroelectric Station. About 1900, Frank E. McDonald formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Lucius A. Darling, and under the firm name of Darling and McDonald conducted the Grist Mill and grain business in East Burke doing a yearly business of \$40,000.<sup>53</sup> About 1920, a second rotary pump was added to the Hydroelectric Station (Pumping House) and a 3" water pipe laid .5 miles up the hill to a second concrete reservoir. Each reservoir was 15' deep inside a gable-roof frame structure (30' x 30').<sup>54</sup>

During the famous state-wide flood of November 1927, there was extensive damage to the Dam and the Saw Mill was entirely rebuilt; however, the covered bridge survived the flood and the other buildings had only minor damage. In 1931, Darling financed reconstruction of the present concrete, gravity type <u>East Burke Dam (#12)</u> with two flood gates to control future flooding of the mills and the Village. Only seven months after Darling's death in 1931, his Estate sold the East Burke Hydroelectric Station, electric transmission lines and one-half interest in the poles (including lines from the second hydroelectric station) to the Village of Lyndonville to expand the village-owned electric company.<sup>55</sup> In 1934, after the 'Darling era', his brother Lucius and his only son Henry G. Darling II, sold the Saw Mill, Grist Mill and Blacksmith Shop (not the Pumping House or Dam) to C. H. Davis, President of the Vermont Tap and Die Corporation in Lyndonville.<sup>56</sup>

The former Darling mill complex along the river burned in 1958 and the <u>East</u> <u>Burke Dam (#12)</u> was abandoned. The concrete gravity Dam, that created a mill pond and supplied water for the Hydroelectric Station and the extensive water works for the Village, is still visible stretching (150' long, 13 ' high) across the river just above the steel-beam and concrete-deck bridge that was constructed to replace the historic covered bridge.<sup>57</sup>

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The dam site dates to 1825. It provided the impetus for the settlement of the Village and was central to the development of a set of rural industries that sustained the Village and surrounding farms. The inclusion of the <u>East Burke Dam (#12)</u>, an interesting small-scale, privately-owned example of a dam type, in the historic district is important to understanding the extent of the larger Darling Estate and its impact on the development of his farms. As a concrete gravity dam, a dam type highly resistant to change, it is the sole surviving historic structure and possesses a reasonable degree of historical integrity.<sup>58</sup>

#### Burklyn Hall

The historic district is also significant in the area of architecture because Mr. Darling designed his mansion and several agricultural buildings in the popular Colonial Revival style and all of these structures are still in the district. Mr. Darling's properties exhibited a formal order at selected sites on this historic rural vernacular landscape. The properties also had consistent signage, a color scheme and were always well maintained.

The most outstanding residential building in the northeastern three counties of Vermont, known as the Northeast Kingdom, and one of the most outstanding in Vermont, is Mr. Darling's mansion, constructed between 1904 and 1908, on the highest ground along the ridge, on the east side of the road. Darling named his mansion <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>, because the building is located in both the Towns of Burke and Lyndon. In 1908, Elmer Darling and his partners sold the historic Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, the Burklyn mansion was completed and he returned from New York to live here until his death in 1931. Until the building of the mansion, Darling would stay at the farmhouse at MVF when in Vermont and at his hotel when in New York City. <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. In addition to the architectural significance it is also the setting, on top of a hill with 360 degree views, that is a character-defining feature of the mansion.

Elmer Darling was a member of the Class of 1871 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and studied architecture for two years without earning a degree. Architecture was a life-long passion and he commissioned the well-known architectural firm of Jardine, Kent and Jardine of New York City (some of the original architectural drawings are stored in the vault at the mansion) to prepare architectural drawings of his vision for a Colonial Revival style mansion.

The Jardine, Kent and Jardine firm traces its roots to the establishment of the company by two Scottish immigrants, David Jardine and John Jardine in 1865. About 1887 another brother, George Jardine, joined David and John, and it became one of the more prominent, prolific and versatile architectural firms active in New York City. After David Jardine's death in 1892, the two remaining Jardine brothers joined with architect William W. Kent, forming the firm of Jardine, Kent and Jardine. The firm designed a wide variety of buildings, including residential, commercial and religious structures, using many different styles, including Italianate, Victorian Gothic, Queen Anne and

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Beaux Arts, and applying a variety of materials, including brick, stone and cast iron. In 1890 the firm designed stores and factories for Alfred B. Darling in Manhattan.<sup>59</sup>

The Colonial Revival style of architecture was a dominant style for residential building throughout the country during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In an article for <u>Architects' and Builders' Magazine</u> in 1910, Jardine, Kent and Jardine characterized the mansion as "a fine example of American country-house architecture" based upon "a careful interpretation of the Georgian period of American colonial architecture" and the "equipment for service is as convenient and well-thought out as that of a hotel". The article featured eleven interior and two exterior photos, along with two detailed architectural drawings.<sup>60</sup>

The mansion was constructed by James N. Foye of St. Johnsbury; the heating, plumbing and roofing contractor was C. H. Goss of St. Johnsbury; the elaborate interior decoration was completed by Hoggson Brothers of New York City, and the outside pilasters and wood columns came from Hartmann Brothers of Mr. Vernon, New York. The construction used "an estimated 300,000 feet of lumber", mostly from Mr. Darling's own timber lots processed at Darling's Saw Mill; and much of the finish and moldings were made in Darling's Wood Finishing Mill in the Village of East Burke. The elaborate interior wood finish of the first floor of the mansion was made by the Heydon Company of Rochester, New York. The foundation for the mansion and the cellar was started in 1904 with on-site limestone rock and granite quarried from nearby Kirby Mountain by the Burke Granite Company. 61 The interior of this enormous, engineered mansion featured modern early 20th century amenities, about 30 rooms and a lookout with a magnificent 360 degree vista of the surrounding countryside and mountains. The mansion featured an art collection and the exterior was painted Darling's choice of colonial yellow with white trim and green doors; the windows featured green and white striped awnings.

The landscaped grounds surrounding Burklyn Hall included lawns, terraced paths and select plantings of silver maple trees to create a tree canopy along the road. A semi-circular driveway led through the porte-cochere on the west elevation to the road. Each end of the driveway had two cast-iron pole lamps (made at the J. L. Nott Ironworks, NY), for spherical glass globes with electric lights, set on granite bases. The large, octagonal, two-story greenhouse (now removed) at the south end of the mansion provided flowers, fruits and vegetables. A deer park was built west of the road for the entertainment of tourists, visitors, and children. Legendary Christmas parties were held for the children of East Burke, sometimes at Burklyn Hall and occasionally in new buildings such as the Creamery (#4i) and the Morgan Horse Barn (#4h). Shortly after the completion of the mansion in 1908, a magnificent greenhouse was constructed on the south elevation about 1910.

Mr. Darling and his sister moved into the completed mansion on November 1, 1908. Elmer and Louise (until her death in 1925) managed the estate and entertained visitors and house guests. This property also contained four barns across the road to the west; the Carriage Barn (#1a) for the large collection of winter and summer vehicles,

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the Morgan Horse Barn (#1c) for the prize-winning stock and the Wagon Barn (#1d) for agricultural vehicles. These three structures were designed in the fashionable Colonial Revival style by Jardine, Kent and Jardine.<sup>62</sup> The only addition to this architectdesigned collection of buildings on the west side of the road is the Arena (#1b), constructed about 1940 for Earle Brown (1870-1963) who purchased <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and the three barns across the road from the Darling estate in 1936 (140 acres in Burke and 960 acres in Lyndon). Brown, of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Peacham, managed the estate for 12 years and was engaged in the business of breeding Belgian and Morgan horses. In 1948 the property was sold to C. H. Davis, President of the Vermont Tap and Die Corporation in Lyndonville and acquired in 1957 by the American Saw and Tool Company of Louisville, Kentucky.<sup>63</sup> <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> was deeded to the State of Vermont in 1957 and is now privately owned.

#### Mountain View Farm in 1931

Elmer Darling's 'Probate Inventory of Personal Property', taken shortly after his death in April 1931, reveals a detailed account of the extensive agricultural operations at the <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> and four companion farms.<sup>64</sup> These probate records constitute the 'Darling Estate' at the end of the period of significance. The inventory began with a list of horses (39) that included studs *Jennybob*. Sir Ethan, Lancelot, Lynbob and Burklyn Boy (valued at \$4,300). There was also a large assortment of harnesses, robes, blankets, suits and saddles (valued at \$1,184). The cows, calves and heifers (207), as well as bulls (7) and steers (13) were listed (valued at \$6,562.50). Also listed were swine (101 pigs and 80 hogs valued at \$1,481), poultry (75 hens valued at \$60) and sheep (50 valued at \$1,849) along with a shearing machine and bags of wool (160 pounds).

On the 'home place' (Mountain View Farm (#4) there were 25 tons of oat straw for bedding and 30 tons of hay for feed in storage in the big barn; as well as 16 tons of straw and 25 tons of hay stored in barns at four other farms, all valued at \$857.50. Farm products included oats, potatoes (50 bushels), fresh meat, meat products, hides, and firewood; as well as processed cheese (13,033 pounds valued at \$1824.62). There were two, very large maple orchards on the estate and the sugaring operation included sap spouts, sap gathering buckets (1451 galvanized tin with covers), gathering tubs (3), a sap-gathering tank (500 pail capacity), syrup cans (2) and arch with evaporators (4) (all valued at \$920); as well as granulated sugar (701 pounds), maple sugar and syrup (valued at \$649.05).

An extensive inventory of small tools (valued at \$191) and miscellaneous items (valued at \$470.55) included box stoves (2), veterinary medicines and ice harvesting tools. There was also a blacksmith's forge and an anvil listed for repairing metal tools and implements. Small agricultural machinery included an assortment of plows (6), harrows (10), seeders (3), and cultivators (2), as well as hay mowing machines (6), horse-drawn hay rakes (4) and a side delivery hay rake, the most current implement available for haying. Larger agricultural machinery included a DeLaval cream separator,

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a Deering reaper, a McCormick reaper, an ensilage cutter, a grain thresher (separator), and an International Harvester tractor valued at \$200. To feed the dairy herds and other livestock, Darling had acquired the most modern agricultural machinery for hay,

Supplies for maintaining the various structures on the several farms included paint, white lead, turpentine, glass, shingles (wood and asbestos), and clapboards (valued at \$551.11). Logs, lumber and boards, available for sale, construction and repair projects, included spruce, fir, hemlock, basswood, brown and white ash, birch, elm, maple, pine, and black cherry (207,158 total board feet valued at \$6,071.67).

A lengthy inventory of wagons and sleds included lumber wagons (11), carts (7), buckboards (2), buggies (5), and sulkies (2), as well as a pung sleighs (11), and sleds (18) for winter travel, transport and recreation. Also at the <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> were three Packard automobiles owned by Elmer Darling and all of his personal property at this farm was valued at \$32,760. Interestingly the inventory did not include the Fairbanks Wagon and Stock Scale in the Scale Barn (#4a), equipment in the Creamery (#4i), nor machinery at the industrial properties in the Village.

## Darling's Four Companion Farms

During the period of significance from 1883 to 1931, in addition to the principal farm, the <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> in Burke, the agricultural estate was focused on four large <u>companion</u> farms owned by Elmer Darling: the <u>Erastus & Julius Humphrey</u> <u>Farm (#2)</u> in Burke, the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> and the <u>Alfred and</u> <u>Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8)</u> in Lyndon; and the <u>John M. Eggleston Farm (#11)</u>, east of the Village of East Burke. Only these four large farms were featured in Elmer A. Darling's probate inventory that enumerated land, agricultural tools and other equipment. This detailed inventory provides a vignette of the operations at the end of the period of significance. In 1931, these companion farms were comparable in size, scale, operations and value of personal property.

At the <u>Erastus Humphrey Farm (#2)</u> there was an assortment of livestock that included a pair of work horses, bulls (2), cows (35), steers (2) and hogs (4) all valued at \$1920. There was a large maple sugar operation with sap spouts (1500), gathering buckets (1500), storage tank (2), settling cans (2) and a steel arch with sugaring-off pan and a steel arch with an evaporator (all valued at \$345). There was an assortment of tools and equipment that included a DeLaval separator, a corn planter, a McCormick mower, a hay tedder, and a Sulky plow, as well as wagons, sleds and a pung all valued at \$508.75. The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$2,773.75.

At the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> there was an assortment of maple sugar operation only included buckets (450), a storage tank and settling cans. There was an assortment of tools and equipment that included mowers (2), tedders (2), and a shovel plow, as well as wagons, sleds and a pung (all valued at \$846.50). The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$3,794.50

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At the <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8)</u> there was an assortment of livestock that included a pair of work horses, horses (2), cows and a bull (all valued at \$2,110). There was a large maple sugar operation with sap spouts (2000), gathering buckets (1900), tanks (5), a sap sled and a steel arch and evaporator (all valued at \$383.50). There was an assortment of tools and equipment that included a manure spreader, an American seeder, a '76' plow, harrows (3) as well as wagons, sleds and a pung. The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$3,052.75.

At the Ezra S. Eggleston Farm (#11) there was an assortment of livestock that included a pair of work horses, a bull, cows (32), pigs and chickens (all valued at \$1523.60). There was also a large maple sugar operation with sap spouts (2500), gathering buckets (2610), gathering pails and tanks (2), a settling can and a steel arch, evaporator and heater (all valued at \$634.25). An assortment of tools and equipment included a DeLaval separator, a McCormick mower, a Bullard hay tedder and a '76' plow, as well as wagons, sleds and a sleigh (all valued at \$341.25). The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$2,499.10.

Personal property at these four, large companion farms was approximately equal in livestock, machinery, sugaring equipment and total value. These companion farms expanded Darling's vision of a 'gentleman farm' in Burke and Lyndon and the probate inventory provides a nearly comprehensive look at the scale of these agricultural operations at the end of the period of significance.

#### Elmer Darling's Legacy

Elmer A. Darling was a prominent gentleman farmer, community planner, conservationist and philanthropist who left a legacy of leadership and benevolence in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont that is still remembered and revered by residents today. Burke historian Phyllis Burbank referred to this period of local history as "the Darling era".<sup>66</sup> Elmer continued the local philanthropic work of his uncle Alfred B. Darling who died in 1896 and left many legacies in his will.<sup>67</sup> It has been estimated that in addition to these large, productive farms, land acquisitions for industrial sites and numerous residences in the Village of East Burke, forested land for logging (Burke, East Haven, Victory, Kirby, Westmore and Lyndon) and recreational land on Lake Willoughby in Westmore totaled over 8,000 acres. In 1931 the court valued this Vermont real estate at \$190,675 and the New York real estate was not part of the probate inventory.<sup>68</sup>

Darling was a delegate from Vermont to the Republican Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1924 that nominated fellow Vermonter, Calvin Coolidge (1872-1933) for President of the United States. In 1929 Vermont historian Arthur F. Stone wrote, "Outstanding among well-known figures of Vermont is Elmer A. Darling, whose career has been of singular variety and interest, who now (1928) resides in a palatial residence called Burklyn Hall near East Burke, pays taxes in eight towns, is a moving spirit in all projects directed toward the advancement of several communities, and who belongs to one of the oldest families in the United States".<sup>69</sup>

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The early settlers of Burke, primarily from Litchfield, Connecticut, were Congregationalist and they organized here in 1807. The present Congregational Church in the Village of East Burke was constructed in 1845 by the Baptists and the Congregationalists rented it occasionally. In 1865, Alfred B. Darling purchased the Baptist Church and leased it to the Congregationalist Society. Upon Alfred's death he willed the property to the Society and an endowment of \$10,000 to support the church. Both Elmer and his brother Lucius continued their uncle's interest in the church and contributed to the decoration of the building in 1900 and 1924. Darling purchased a cottage in the Village and "fitted it with up-to-date improvements for a Congregational parsonage". Upon his death Elmer Darling left an endowment of \$15,000.<sup>70</sup>

In 1895 Alfred B. Darling (president), Mary V. Belden (secretary and descendent of the <u>Belden Farm (#2)</u> and Mabel H. Walter (treasurer and descendent of the <u>Walter</u> <u>Farm (#5)</u> and others formed the Society for the Study of the History of Burke (later renamed the Burke Historical Society). A stated purpose for organizing was an historic preservation project; to save and relocate the White School, a frame one-room schoolhouse originally constructed in 1817 that closed in 1894, in District No. 3 in Burke. After Alfred's death in 1896, Elmer Darling provided leadership for the new organization and the historic schoolhouse was relocated in 1923 next to the Burke Mountain Club (1919) in the Village. Today the schoolhouse is maintained as a museum of local history.<sup>71</sup>

Beginning in 1903 and again in 1918 and 1919, Elmer Darling deeded three parcels of land in the East Burke for expansion of the Woodmont Cemetery (the cemetery dated from 1842 and the cemetery association dated from 1902). Darling transformed a small burial ground into a beautiful cemetery with landscaping and stone fencing. He financed the construction of "a fine tomb (1902), a tool house, set out trees, bought a house for its sexton and gardener and surrounded the cemetery by a handsome iron fence". Darling left an endowment of \$15,000 in his will and many members of the Darling family are buried there; including Elmer, his brother and nephew.<sup>72</sup>

Beginning in 1904 Elmer Darling acquired forested land on nearby Burke Mountain to supply his Saw Mill in the Village. Burke historian Mabel Hall Walker wrote that when it seemed a lumber company might "begin to ravage the slopes of the mountain and destroy its forests". . . . "Elmer bought over 1,000 acres of land there to preserve the beauty of the mountain".<sup>73</sup> Darling financed the construction of a carriage road (1912) to the summit, a fire tower (1912) and a caretakers' residence (1913). Lucius A. and Henry G. Darling gifted 1,662 acres to the Vermont Forest and Parks Division, the state purchased an additional 43 acres and the Darling State Forest Park was created in 1934. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) improved the Darling Forest from June 1933 to September 1935 and from April 1936 to September 1938.<sup>74</sup> A 2 ½ story Toll House (1941) was constructed by the CCC, in the Adirondack Rustic style of architecture developed by the National Park Service, and it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. The Darling State Park now covers 1,726 acres.

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In 1918 Darling designed and funded construction of the Burke Mountain Club, on the site of a former hotel across the road from his industrial properties, in the Village. Dedicated in 1920 this 1 ½ story Colonial Revival style building, with carriage shed and bandstand, was built as a library, community meeting space and caretaker's apartment. In 1922, Darling purchased a large bronze plaque to memorialize Burke veterans killed in the Civil War (94), the Spanish American War (2) and World War I (22) that was installed inside the Club. In his will Darling set up a \$30,000 endowment to maintain the building and grounds.<sup>75</sup> The Club is still a vital resource in this small community with its public library and meeting space.

Alfred A. Darling was a major contributor to the repair of the Union Meeting House in Burke Hollow for the church's 100 anniversary celebration in 1896 of the Town of Burke.<sup>76</sup> His nephew Lucius Darling was the last surviving trustee of the Society. In his will Elmer Darling set up a \$6,000 endowment for the maintenance of this church and cemetery in Burke Hollow that is still owned by the Town of Burke. The Union Meeting House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2008.<sup>77</sup> Darling's will also set up a \$10,000 endowment for the Needy and Poor in the Town of Burke.

In 1920 Elmer Darling succeeded his friend Theodore N. Vail as president of the Board of Trustees of the Lyndon Institute at Lyndon Center. Vail had served (1894-1903 and 1913-1920) and Darling continued to serve as president until 1931.<sup>78</sup> Darling was a trustee of the St. Johnsbury Academy from 1920 until his death in 1931 and his will left \$10,000 to the school. In 1924 when a fire leveled the historic Hotel Lyndon, Darling chaired a building committee and donated land to construct a new Colonial Revival style hotel in the center of town. Because of his leadership the new hotel, the 'Darling Inn: A Gem in the Green' was named for him. The Darling Inn in Lyndonville opened in 1928 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1980). Today the building operates as the Darling Inn Apartments, a 27-unit facility for senior citizens.

Darling owned a summer cottage named *Cragmere* on the south end of Willoughby Lake in Westmore, only 12 miles north of East Burke. In 1910, Darling acquired a specially-built, 35' motor launch, *The Burklyn*, for day cruises. In 1914, Darling "turned over" his second cottage, Sunset View, to the Lyndonville Village Improvement Society (LVIS), "rent free" to be used as a Tea Room to raise funds for maintenance of several public parks in Lyndonville. In 1921 Darling built The Boulders dance casino which he also "turned over" to the LVIS "rent free for fund raising". The casino opened August 3, 1921 with "475 people attending". In 1930 at Cragmere Cottage and The Boulders there was personal property owned by Darling, including furniture and kitchen appliances, valued at \$299. Upon Darling's death in 1931, the LVIS involvement at Willoughby Lake ended and in 1934 the property became a summer attraction on the lake.<sup>79</sup>

Darling may have sensed his impending death and prepared his last will on January, 24 1931; the will and administrative papers have survived at the Caledonia

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County Courthouse in St. Johnsbury.<sup>80</sup> Elmer never married and his death was "not unexpected". He "passed on" at his mansion on April 11, 1931 just short of his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday. His obituary reported his death "came with a deep sense of personal loss to every one who knew him and had come to recognize his fine traits of character and his true, philanthropic interest and real personal concern in the well being of the community and state". The obituary noted that the community "has many eloquent monuments to his memory, both in lasting brick and stone and in the hearts and lives of the people with whom he came in contact". The funeral was held at Burklyn Hall, with the Reverend Lawrence Larrowe of East Burke conducting the services, and all business was suspended in East Burke and Lyndonville and shades in St. Johnsbury stores were drawn during the services. Darling was buried in the family lot at Woodmont Cemetery in East Burke.<sup>81</sup>

At his death, the regional newspaper reported that Elmer Darling's estate totaled over 8,000 acres. Darling was a director of the Lyndonville Savings Bank and Trust Company, the Darling Inn in Lyndonville, the Lyndonville Realty Company, the Community Building Company and well as several Vermont railroad corporations. He had extended his business and social network by becoming a member of the Union League Club of New York, of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and of the New England Society of New York City.82 On Friday following his funeral Darling's philanthropy was headline news in the regional newspaper, the Caledonian Record; "Darling Left \$211,000 Public Bequests" His will listed the recipients of his philanthropy left in trusts to: Burke Mountain Club, \$30,000; Congregational Society of East Burke, \$15,000; Woodmont Cemetery, East Burke, \$15,000; Lyndon Institute, \$100,000; St. Johnsbury Academy, \$10,000; University of Vermont, \$5,000; Middlebury College, \$5,000; Bennington College for Girls, \$5,000; Town of Burke for Needy Account, \$10,000; Union Meeting House and Cemetery at Burke Hollow, \$6,000; Brightlook Hospital, \$10,000. There was no public announcement of the extent of the Darling fortune or the many private and personal benefactors under the will. 83

The executors of the Darling Estate were his brother Lucius, his nephew Henry and the Lyndonville Savings Bank and Trust Company where Elmer had been a director. The will contained eight pages (single space, legal size paper) of references to land deeds in the Northeast Kingdom and the newspaper reported his "magnificent estate of over 8,000 acres". Darling owned Vermont real estate in Burke, Lyndon, East Haven (466 acres), Victory (800 acres), Kirby (340 acres), and Westmore (391 acres, as well as the Casino and Cottage properties). The Tentative Summary of his estate, as of his death in April 1931, consisted of cash, bonds, stocks, mortgages, notes, life insurance, personal property and Vermont real estate totaling \$1.195,105.79 (the value of real estate in New York was not included). Rents on Manhattan real estate in New York totaled over \$20,000 per month. At the time of his death Darling held three checking accounts and five savings accounts. The balance of the Decree of Distribution, dated June 9, 1932, was \$691,435.09.<sup>84</sup>

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From the time of Elmer's death in 1931 until 1937, Lucius and his son Henry G. Darling continued to manage the extensive agricultural, industrial and logging properties, as well as the mansion. In 1936, Lucius, with his wife Margaret and son Henry G. Darling, sold <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> with the three barns across the road and 960 acres in Lyndon and 140 acres in Burke, to Earle Brown of Peacham, Vermont.<sup>85</sup> Elmer's nephew Henry G. Darling had lived at the Farmhouse at Mountain View Farm as a child and after attending Bryant and Stratton College in Boston returned to Burke and was associated with his uncle in real estate and banking, especially with the valuable Manhattan properties in New York City. After the death of his father Lucius in 1937, Henry became a director of the bank and represented Caledonia County for the Republican Party in the State House of Representatives (1939-1940). In 1941 Henry G. married Kathleen Chafee; they had no children and lived in Lyndonville after his retirement in 1943.<sup>86</sup>

The Darling Estate Historic District is important because Mr. Darling was a steward of these privately-owned resources in his lifetime and then provided funds in his will for the preservation and maintenance of the community-owned resources after his death. Without Elmer Darling's vision, leadership and personality the 'Darling era' in Burke and Lyndon came to an end after his death in 1931. However, the Darling legacy has survived in the configuration of the landscape, historic buildings, productive farms and commercial operations in the Northeast Kingdom.

<sup>3</sup> Hemenway; Humphrey to Darling, Admin. Deed, Book 15, Page 397, 1907.

<sup>8</sup> Child, Business Directory, p. 64 and Gazetteer, p. 235; Beers, Business Notices on 1875 Map.

9 Child, p. 73.

<sup>10</sup> Jeffery, pp. 278-279; Child, p. 70.

<sup>11</sup> Burbank, p. 10; Scharoun, Stephen R. "An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Architectural Assessment of the East Burke Dam, East Burke, Caledonia County, Vermont, Table 1.

<sup>12</sup> Walters, Mabel H. "Burke!", <u>The St. Johnsbury Republican</u>, July 1, 1896, p. 14-15.

13 Walters, pp. 14-15.

15 "Darling Family Burials".

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	Zone	Easting	Northing
1.	19	264335	4943270
2.	19	265505	4943095
3.	19	271645	4941690
4	19	263765	4938620
5.	19	263150	4941200

#### Boundary Description

The boundary of the Darling Estate Historic District is delineated on the map accompanying this registration form. The property lines on the map are derived from the Official Tax Maps of the Towns of Burke and Lyndon, Vermont. The map was created and printed with these boundary lines by Tracy McIntyre, Northeastern Vermont Development Association, St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

#### Tax Lot Numbers

1. 10010001.000 2. 060300005.000 3. 060300020.001 4. 06030002.001 5. 06030026.000 6. 06-0901 7. 06-0971 8. 06-0761 9. 06-1691 10. 06-1721 11. 08030003.001 12. 07040072.000

#### Boundary Justification

The Darling Estate Historic District is comprised of properties associated with the Darling Estate listed in the Probate Inventory (1931). Intervening land now includes scattered new residential development that was created from agricultural fields and forests that were subdivided. The current boundaries of the historic properties are included on the map. The East Burke Dam (#12) is the only surviving structure of the Darling-owned industrial properties along the river in the Village of East Burke.

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Map #	Historic Name of Property	Address: DHR = Darling Hill Road	Date Built	Architectural Style or type	Contributing Or Non- contributing
1	Burklyn Hall a. Carriage Barn b. Arena c. Morgan Horse Barn d. Wagon Barn e. Field Barn	2864 DHR, Burke	1908 c.1908 c.1940 c.1905 c.1906 c.1906	Col. Revival Col. Revival	C C NC C C
2	E. & J. Humphrey Farm a. Barn	4235 DHR, Burke	c.1908	Queen Anne	c c
3	B. Belden Farmhouse	3585 DHR,	c.1908 c.1825	Bank Barn Federal	C
1.1	a. Barn	Burke	c.1825	English	C C
	Mountain View Farmhouse a. Scale & Dairy Barn b. Pump House c. Piggery d. Tool House e. Ice House f. Threshing Barn g. Clock Barn h. Morgan Horse Barn i. Creamery j. Historic Marker k. Carriage Barn L. A. Darling House	3383 DHR, Burke 3337 DHR n/a 3340 DHR	c.1855 c.1890 c.1890 c.1905 c.1890 c.1890 c.1830 1912 1897 1913 1998 c.1905	Greek Revival Bank Barn Col. Revival Col. Revival Vernacular Vernacular English Col. Revival Queen Anne Col. Revival none Col. Revival	C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
C	a. Carriage House	3265 DHR, Burke	1892 1892	Queen Anne	C
5	W. D. Goss Farmhouse a. Barn	2559 DHR, Lyndon	1892 1890 1890	Queen Anne Greek Revival	c c
	A. O. & J. Bemis Farmhouse a. Schoolhouse b. Implement Shed c. Carriage Barn d. Blacksmith Shop e. Garage f. Horse Barn	2059 DHR, Lyndon	c.1840 c.1840 c.1900 c.1900 c.1900 c.1900 c.1940 c.1900	Bank Barn Greek Revival Greek Revival Vernacular Col. Revival none Col. Revival Col. Revival	C C C C C NC NC C

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	g. Horse Barn h. Hay Barn i. Garden House j. Field Barn k. Gazebo		c. 1900 c. 1900 c. 1996 c. 1940 2004	Vernacular Greek Revival	NC
8	A. & W. A. Bemis Farmhouse a. Barn	1623 DHR, Lyndon	c. 1840 2007	Greek Revival	C NC
9	E. Howland Farmhouse a. Garage	2486 DHR, Lyndon	c 1810 c 1920	Federal Vernacular	C C
10	J. Howland & Son Farmhouse a. Garage b. Barn c. Barn d. Barn	2732 DHR, Lyndon	c 1830 1996 c 1900 c 1900 c 1900 c 1900	Federal none Vernacular Bank Barn Vernacular	C C NC C C
11	J. Eggleston Farmhouse a. Dairy Barn b. Carriage Barn	237 Pinkham Road, Burke	c. 1840 c. 1905 c. 1905	Greek Revival Bank Barn Vernacular	C C C
12	East Burke Dam	East Branch Passumpsic River, East Burke	1931	Concrete Gravity	NC C
	Contributing Resources				123
	Non-Contributing Resources				40
	Total Resources	1			11 51

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Section number Photograph Labels Page 1

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

The following is the same for all photographs: Darling Estate Historic District Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont A CD with digital images is on file at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

Photos #1-51: Photo Credit: Steve Legge, November 2007 and May 2008 Photos printed with Hewlett Packard 84/85 dye-based inkset and Premium Plus High Gloss Photo Paper

Photos #52-57: Photo Credit: Nancy E. Boone, July 2010 Photos printed with Epson Photo 2200 archival inks and Premium Glossy Photo Paper

Photograph # 1 Landscape Property 4, facing north

Photograph # 2 Property 1, facing south

Photograph # 3 Property 1, facing west

Photograph # 4 Property 1, facing northeast

Photograph # 5 Property 1, facing northwest

Photograph # 6 Property 1a, facing southwest

Photograph # 7 Property 1b, facing southwest

Photograph # 8 Property 1c, facing southwest

Photograph # 9 Property 1d, facing northwest

Photograph # 10 Property 1e, facing northwest

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photograph Labels Page 2 Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

Photograph # 11 Property 2, facing southwest

Photograph # 12 Property 2a, facing southwest

Photograph # 13 Property 3, facing northwest

Photograph # 14 Property 3a, facing southwest

Photograph # 15 Property 4, facing northwest

Photograph # 16 Property 4a, facing west

Photograph # 17 Property 4a, facing northeast

Photograph # 18 Property 4b, facing northeast

Photograph # 19 Property 4c, facing northwest

Photograph # 20 Property 4d, facing northeast

Photograph # 21 Property 4e, facing southwest

Photograph # 22 Property 4f, facing northwest

Photograph # 23 Property 4g, facing west

Photograph # 24

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>Photograph Labels</u> Page <u>3</u> Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

Property 4g, facing northwest

Photograph # 25 Property 4h, facing northwest

Photograph # 26 Property 4h, facing east

Photograph # 27 Property 4i, facing northwest

Photograph # 28 Property 4k, facing northwest

Photograph # 29 Property 5, facing northwest

Photograph # 30 Property 5a, facing northwest

Photograph # 31 Property 6, facing west

Photograph # 32 Property 6a, facing northwest

Photograph # 33 Property 7, facing southwest

Photograph # 34 Property 7a, facing southwest

Photograph # 35 Property 7b, facing southwest

Photograph # 36 Property 7c, facing northeast

Photograph # 37 Property 7e, facing northeast

Photograph # 38

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>Photograph Labels</u> Page <u>4</u> Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

Property 7f, facing northwest

Photograph # 39 Property 7g, facing southwest

Photograph # 40 Property 7h, facing northeast

Photograph # 41 Property 7i, facing southwest

Photograph # 42 Property 8, facing northwest

Photograph # 43 Property 9, facing northeast

Photograph # 44 Property 9a, facing northeast

Photograph # 45 Property 10, facing northeast

Photograph # 46 Property 10b, facing northwest

Photograph # 47 Property 10c, facing northwest

Photograph # 48 Property 10d, facing northwest

Photograph # 49 Property 11, facing north

Photograph # 50 Property 11a, facing northwest

Photograph # 51 Property 12, facing north

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>Photograph Labels</u> Page 5 Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

Photograph #52 Overall view of District, Property #1 at left, Property #4 at right, facing west.

Photograph #53 Overall view of Property #4, Property #5 visible at far left, facing west.

Photograph #54 View along Darling Hill Road toward Property #1 on hill, Property #4k on left, facing southwest.

Photograph #55 Property #4, facing northwest.

Photograph #56 View along Darling Hill Road, Property #10 on left, #10d and #10b on right, facing south.

Photograph #57 View along Darling Hill Road, Property #7h on right, facing southwest.

#### <u>Property Owners</u> in the proposed Darling Estate Historic District

Note: (tax lot #'s)

Burke

Priscilla Aldrich, Burke Town Clerk, 212 School St., West Burke, VT 05871

- Anthony & Linda Donn, 136 E. 79<sup>th</sup> St. 11A, New York, NY 10075 (10010001.000)
- 2. Brian Kelly, PO Box 64, East Burke, VT 05832 (060300005.000)
- James and Linda McDonald, PO Box 4, East Burke, VT 05832 (060300020.001)
- 4. Five Meadows, PO Box 355, East Burke, VT 05832 (06030002.001)
- Robert & Colleen Michaud, 3265 Darling Hill Road, Lyndonville, VT 05851 (06030026.000)
- 11. Burke 2000 LLC, PO Box 247, East Burke, VT 05832 (08030003.001)

12. Passumpsic Valley Land Trust, PO Box 624, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 (07040072.000)

#### Lyndon

Lisa J. Barrett, Lyndon Town Clerk, 119 Park Avenue, Lyndonville, VT 05851

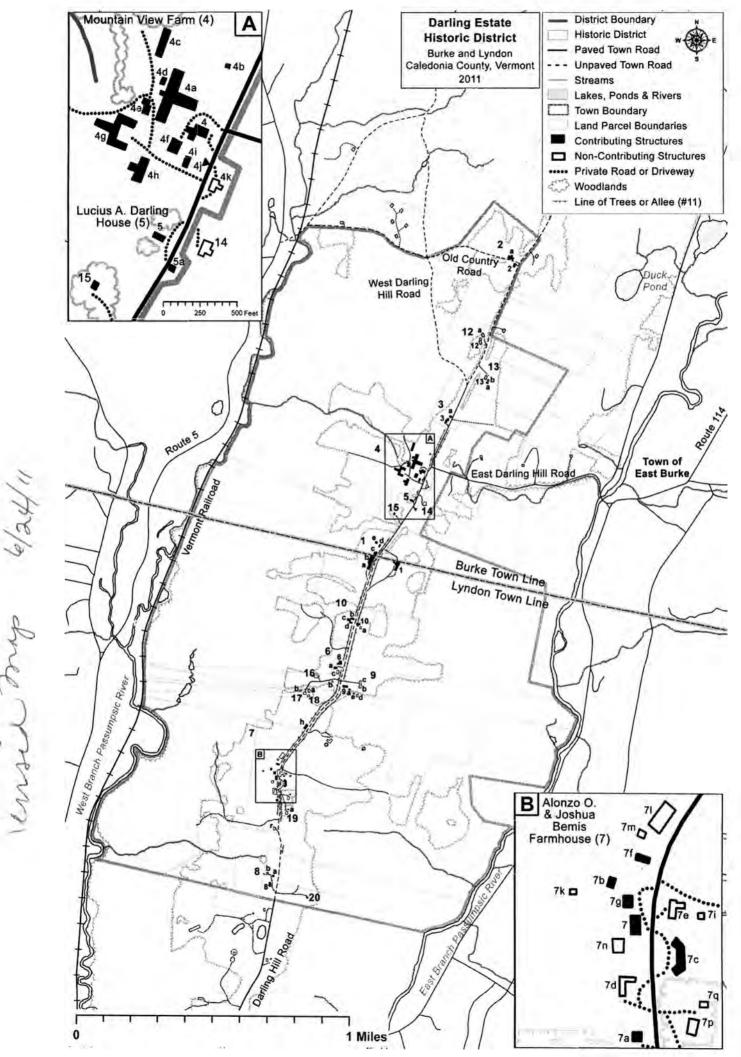
6. Gary Burrington, 2559 Darling Hill Road, Lyndonville, VT 05851 (06-0901)

7. DOR Associates, 2059 Darling Hill Road, Lyndonville, VT 05851 (06-0971)

8. Barbara Irwin, 1623 Darling Hill Road, Lyndonville, VT 05851 (06-0761)

9. David Dolloff, 2516 Darling Hill Road, Lyndonville, VT, 05851 (06-1691)

10. Brian Devereau, 2732 Darling Hill Road, Lyndonville, VT 05851 (06-1721)



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Darling Estate Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VERMONT, Caledonia

DATE RECEIVED: 10/01/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/26/10 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/10/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/15/10 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000911

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATAPROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESSTHAN 50 YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLRDRAFT:NNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

Lee Considering

\_ACCEPT \_\_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_I

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

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RECOM. /CRITERIA	
REVIEWER (1.4. the Commence	DISCIPLINE for the
TELEPHONE	DATE 1/ 5/1.

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

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



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places

### Comments Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name:	Darling Estate Historic District
<b>Property Location:</b>	Caledonia County, VT
Reference Number:	10000911
Date of Return:	November 30, 2010

### **Reasons for Return**

The Darling Estate Historic District nomination is being returned for technical corrections and additional information needs as described below.

The district nomination was submitted as a discontiguous historic district under Criteria A and C, with areas of significance in Architecture and Agriculture. The nomination was submitted at the state level of significance with a period of significance from c. 1810 - c. 1940. The current boundaries gerrymander along Darling Hill Road but also include properties farther east of this area including the East Burke Dam. This discontiguous format is unacceptable since the intervening development does not interrupt the strong agricultural setting and rural feeling. The boundaries, at least along Darling Hill Road, should be expanded to create one contiguous rural district.

The district nomination also does not fully demonstrate agricultural significance throughout the stated period of significance. The nomination contains properties owned by "gentleman farmer" Elmer A. Darling from 1883 – 1931, in what is known as the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Properties include Darling's progressive model farm, "Mountain View Farm," companion farms, and industrial sites that create a discontiguous district based on Darling's 1931 Probate Inventory. Unfortunately, the submitted maps do not adequately document agricultural land use throughout the broader period of significance nor does the nomination provide a context on gentleman farming and Darling's contributions. This documentation provides only part of the

picture, showing Darling's landholdings towards the end of the gentleman farming era. For this theme to be fully understood, additional contextual information is needed on Vermont's gentleman farming, how Darling fits within this framework--his acquisition of land, developing stock/model farms, what these model farms demonstrated, and the eventual selling of farms and farm land. Maps would illustrate these phases.

Since at this point, further development of the gentleman farming context is not viable, an option is to nominate these historic resources using the existing Agricultural Resources of Vermont MPS. Separate nominations forms and maps would need to be prepared and the current information revised and edited to illustrate how these properties relate to the context, property types, and registration requirements for stock breeding, dairying, and agricultural processing. Historical information about a specific farm and Darling's involvement with that farm would be part of demonstrating this agricultural and architectural significance. General historical information about Darling can be added under the "Developmental History" section on the National Register form, and if appropriate, easily repeated on these separate nominations. While this may not be the most ideal option, especially since so much of this research focuses on Elmer Darling, it is a solution to moving these nominations forward.

The East Burke Dam may be best handled in a separate individual nomination documenting its agricultural processing and industrial significance. Further information is needed on what was the extent of this operation and evaluation of its archeological potential. Refer to the National Register Bulletin *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*, pg. 15 – 24 for additional guidance on documenting landscape characteristics and archeology. For National Register listing, this property will also need owner consent. Additional comments from our staff archeologist, Erika Martin Seibert, will be forthcoming.

Please call me at 202-354-2239, or e-mail at <lisa deline@nps.gov> if you have any questions.

Lisa Deline, Historian National Register of Historic Places

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Darling Estate Historic District	Caledonia County, Vermont
	No. 10024-0018 RECEIVED 2280
(Rev. 10-90)	RECEIVED EAST
United States Department of the Interior	JUL - 8 2011
National Park Service	JOE - CON
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	NAT. REGISTER CT HISTOPIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
This form is for use in comjusting or requesting de	eterminations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to

Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property							
historic name _ Darling Estate Historic Distri	ct					_	
other names/site number						2	
2. Location							
street & number Darling Hill Road in Burk	e and Lyndor	n		_			
not for publication <u>N/A</u> city or town Burke and Lyndon		1.00		vicinity	N/A		005
state Vermont zip code 05832 in Burke 05851 in Lyndon	code	VT	county	Caledonia		code	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification							
does not meet the National Register Crite nationally_x_statewide locally. (	eria. I recomr See contin ty SHPO	nuation	sheet for ad June 30, 20	ditional comn	nents.)	ant	
Signature of certifying official/Title	ly SHFO	~ *	Date	//r	S		
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation							
State or Federal agency and bureau					_		
In my opinion, the property meets comments.)	does not mee	t the Na	tional Regis	ster criteria. (	See con	tinuation	sheet for additional
Signature of commenting or other official/Tit	tle	D	ate				
State or Federal agency and bureau							

### Darling Estate Historic District

### Caledonia County, Vermont

I hereby certify that this proper	rty is:		
entered in the National	l Register.		
See continuation			
determined eligible for	r the		
National Register.			
See continuatio			
determined not eligible	e for the		
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		Martine	8/23/
	1	Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
			4
5. Classification			
Ownership of Property (Check	( as many boxes as apply)	)	
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public-local public-State			
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Category of Property (Check of	only one box)		
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x       district         site       site         object       object         Number of Resources within F         Contributing         40	Noncontributing 31	sites	

Number of contributing resources previously listed in 6 the National Register

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) n/a Darling Estate Historic District

### 6. Function or Use

-

Historic	: Functions (Enter categories from instr	uctions)	
Cat:	DOMESTIC	Sub:	Single dwelling
		_	Multiple dwelling
	-	4 4	Secondary structure
	AGRICULTURE	- 14 A	Processing
		5 6	Agricultural field
			Animal facility
		4 4	Horticultural facility
			Agricultural outbuilding
Current	Functions (Enter categories from instr	uctions)	
	DOMESTIC	Sub:	Single dwelling
			Multiple dwelling
	AGRICULTURE		Agricultural field
		51 8	Animal facility
		3 - 2	Agricultural outbuilding
7. Dece			or the second
7. Desc	ription		
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	Colonial Revival		
	A A LONG TO THE TOTAL OF THE		
Materia	als (Enter categories from instructions)		
	foundation granite		
	roof asphalt		
	steel		
	walls weatherboard		
	other		
	and the second		
Narrati	ve Description (Describe the historic a	nd current	condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
-			
8. State	ement of Significance		
Anthe		e" in one c	or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register
Applica listing)		x in one c	or more boxes for the efficit a quantying the property for reational register
	A Property is associated v	with events	s that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
	B Property is associated	with the liv	ves of persons significant in our past.
	x C Property embodies the	distinctive	characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of
	a master, or possesses individual distinction.	high artisti	c values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lach
	mary loudi distriction.		

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Darling Estate Historic District Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Caledonia County, Vermont

Property is:

 A	owned by a	religious	institution	or used	for religious	purposes.
	1996 (1997) - 1996 (1997) - 1997 (1997) - 19					• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

 В	removed	from	its	original	location
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a birthplace or a grave. C

D a cemetery.

a reconstructed building, object, or structure. E

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Er	ter categories from instructions)	
	Agriculture Architecture	
	Architecture	
_		
hand the second		e
Period of Significance	c. 1810-1960	e
Significant Dates	1883	
Significant Dutes	1908	
Significant Person (Comp	plete if Criterion B is marked above	)
		52 C
Cultural Affiliation	n/a	
Architect/Builder	Jardine, Kent & Jardine	
Arenneed Bunder	Jardine, Kent & Jardine	Construction of the second se second second sec
Narrative Statement of Si	ignificance (Explain the significanc	e 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)	
	rmination of individual listing (36 C	FR 67) has been requested.
	in the National Register	
	mined eligible by the National Registered Ulisteric Londonal	ster
	ional Historic Landmark oric American Buildings Survey	#
	oric American Engineering Record	#

x       State Historic         Other State ag       Federal agenc         x       Local governm         University       Other         Name of repository:       State Historic	y nent	fice			onia County, Verm	ont
10. Geographical Data	1					
Acreage of Property	Burke (aj	pprox. 780 acres pprox. 1,260 acr	s); Lyndon			
UTM References (Pla	ce additional UT	M references o	n a continuatio	on sheet)		
Zone 1	Easting	Northing	Zone 3	Easting	Northing	
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11. Form Prepared By name/titleJohn Jol	hnson					
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Darling Estate Historic District Property Owner		Caledonia County, Vermont
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) name 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 the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-85)

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

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

#### Summary

Located along the ridge of Darling Hill in the adjacent towns of Burke and Lyndon, the linear Darling Estate Historic District is a well-preserved gentleman farm estate developed by Elmer Darling in an 1800s rural agricultural area. The District includes Darling's home, Burklyn Hall (#1), a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and noted as one of the most outstanding Colonial Revival style properties in Vermont. Other historic resources in the District include: Cape Cod, Greek Revival and Colonial Revival style houses; vernacular and Colonial Revival style agricultural buildings and outbuildings, including barns and carriage houses; open agrarian fields, meadows and pastures; stone walls; woodlots; and an allée of mature maples running along either side of Darling Hill Road (#11). The historic properties included in the District were inventoried in great detail by the probate inventory taken at Elmer Darling's death in 1931 and collectively constitute a visible reminder of the impact of Darling's estate on the formation and development of the landscape. The District includes 76 cultural resources, 41 of which contribute to its historic character. In general the newer, non-contributing resources, including 16 residences and 16 small outbuildings, have been integrated into the landscape through the use of deeper setbacks and screens of trees, and consequently have minimal impact on the overall historic agricultural appearance and feeling of the District. The individual historic properties, and the District itself, look much as they did during the period of significance. The historic patterns of land use in fields, pastures and woodlands are still visible and the views are expansive to the distant mountains to the east and west. This historic vernacular landscape evolved from a two-centuries-old agricultural tradition conserved and improved through the social and cultural work and values of Elmer A. Darling. The District retains integrity of association, design, feeling, workmanship, materials, location and setting.

Perched on a ridge reaching over 1,200 feet high and standing between 250 and 400 feet above the ravines on either side of it, Darling Hill boasts some of the Northeast Kingdom's most stunning views. Together, the dramatic natural topography and careful road placement optimize the vistas from Darling Hill Road. In today's Historic District, the gradual reforestation of over half a century has impacted some of the views once available from Darling Hill. For example, the village of East Burke is difficult to spot from the hilltop due to the woodlands covering the lower east side of Darling Hill. The open character of the hay fields and stark prominence of Burklyn Hall (#1), photographed from Darling Hill Road in the early 20th century (see photos), is substantially reduced. Views southeast to the mansion from the road are now primarily obscured by tree growth. On the whole, the surrounding hills today are marked by woods, rather than open fields. Still, many historic vistas have survived thanks to the continued use of the landscape for agricultural purposes. The properties contained within the Darling Estate Historic District are currently zoned as Agricultural Residential (in Burke) and Rural Residential (in Lyndon), and many of them continue to utilize the surrounding fields for having or pasturing horses.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-88)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

The buildings of the historic farmsteads in the District are generally arranged in clusters close to Darling Hill Road, with all except properties #9 and #10 on the west side of the road. Short, dirt driveways lead up to building clusters containing anywhere from two to eleven buildings generally grouped around a central farmhouse but not conforming to any standardized layout. The main house usually stands closest to Darling Hill Road, while outbuildings such as garages, carriage houses and barns are located to the rear or either side. Most of the main house entrances are oriented towards the road. Exceptions to this rule include the early 20<sup>th</sup> century <u>Burklyn Hall</u> (#1), which faces north to maximize views, and two of the earliest homes: the <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> and the John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10). For either early heating or aesthetic purposes, the two earliest buildings were oriented according to the sun rather than the road. Facing south ensured the capture of maximum heat from the sun's rays during the long, cold Vermont winters.

The great majority of the farmstead outbuildings in the District are freestanding, with some including sections built at different times in a series of additions (such as Mountain View Farm's Scale and Dairy Barn, #4a). An exception to this rule are the connected Carriage Barn (#1a) and Arena (#1b) at Burklyn Hall (#1).

Today, the best and most level fields, or the ones closest to historic farmhouses, continue to be mowed for hay or grazed by livestock. Beginning around the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, some of the reforested areas of the Darling Estate were subdivided into smaller lots for the construction of modern homes. Reflecting the shift in land use over time, most of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century homes in the District consist of one or two buildings surrounded by successional woods, rather than agricultural fields. The non-contributing properties adjacent to the southeast and northeast corners of <u>Mountain</u> <u>View Farm (#4)</u> demonstrate this trend. Despite other recent development on adjoining properties, the continued agricultural use of much of Darling Hill within the District has helped to preserve the unique landscape character of Darling's historic estate.

A careful comparison of a 2009 aerial with a 1962 aerial (see photos) taken immediately following the end of the historic period of significance reveals a number of landscape changes that have taken place over the past fifty years. In the early 1960s and throughout the period of significance, the ridge of Darling Hill was almost entirely unobstructed by trees. Except for the silver maple allée marking the road edges, it was a landscape largely open to the sky and the surrounding views. Much of this open ridge land has remained clear and under agricultural use. However, successional growth now reaches up to the road in a number of places. Along the east side of Darling Hill Road north of <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>, a view illustrated in a historic photograph (see photos) was still clear in 1962; today it is blocked by a band of deciduous woodlands growing along the road.

The particular pattern made by the remaining agricultural fields as they lie in rectangles down the slopes of the hill and perpendicular to Darling Hill Road has remained almost unchanged since the historic period of significance and retains a high level of integrity. The amount of wooded land has increased in the steeper areas of the

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

parcels along Darling Hill Road, or in the sections furthest from the road and closest to the East and West Branches of the Passumpsic River. In several places this growth has been significant. For example, successional forest has spread across most of the acres west of the <u>William D. Goss Farmhouse (#6)</u>, through several areas that used to be pastures along the west edge of <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>, and into the open fields in the east section of <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>. The unchanged size and shape of the deciduous forest in the north section of <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> suggests that this area may historically have been one of Darling's woodlots or maple orchards. The size and shape of the farm fields in this area, including a distinctive oval shape and several rectangles divided north to south by lines of trees, retain a high degree of integrity to the historic period of significance.

The materials most commonly used in the historic Darling Estate buildings include original wood, brick and stone. Roofs are standing seam metal or asphalt shingle, and foundations are either fieldstone or concrete. The only structure built of brick is the brick and concrete Mountain View Farm Creamery (#4i), while <u>Burklyn Hall</u> (#1) is the only District structure with a limestone and granite foundation.

One of the unifying features throughout the Darling Estate both during the historic period of significance and today are the old farm signs. Standing in the front yards of five of the historic properties along Darling Hill Road, the distinctive wooden post and original, decorative iron frames of these signs continue to illustrate the scope of Elmer Darling's estate. The District is also drawn together by the continuity of its agrarian, hilltop character and the distinctive allée of historic silver maples (*Acer saccharinum*) along Darling Hill Road. These elements help to preserve the same feeling and setting that existed here during the historic period of significance. The vernacular landscape and ongoing agricultural activities at each historic farm continue to illustrate Elmer Darling's impact on this area. By acquiring these family farms along the ridge and operating them together as a gentleman's estate, Darling perpetuated traditional practices and stimulated the local economy for almost fifty years. To a large degree unaltered, the surviving Darling Hill properties of the Darling Estate Historic District speak to this legacy and to an iconic period in Vermont history. The District therefore retains a high level of integrity to the historic period of significance.

The fundamental basis for the District consists of the ten historic farms that once formed the core of the Darling Estate along Darling Hill Road. The surviving historic buildings, associated outbuildings, agricultural fields, stone walls, and woodlots of each of these historic properties convey a strong sense of the area as it appeared before and just after the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Each farmstead typically includes a small cluster of agricultural structures anchored by a central farmhouse with sweeping views that encompass the open vistas of the surrounding fields and distant mountains. The fields themselves are still bounded by stone walls and fencelines, both wooden post and rail and barbed wire, that preserve the historic layout of this agrarian landscape still used for the pasture of animals, haying and grain harvesting.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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A crucial and central feature in the Darling Estate landscape is Darling Hill Road, which acts as both a center point and a connective element for the entire District. A partially unpaved route that follows a roughly north-south orientation along the entire length of the District, this road highlights the beauty of the surrounding landscape, showcasing its most remarkable views and linking each of the estate's historic farm properties. As the principal access to Darling Hill since the initial development of this area, Darling Hill Road still follows roughly the same path and alignment that it had during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This fact is illustrated by not only the location of farmsteads in relationship to the road, but also the scenic allée of historic silver maples that continues to flank much of its length in the District.

Several small roads break away from Darling Hill Road and lie through, adjacent to or out of the Historic District. Branching off from Darling Hill Road to head east just opposite <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>, the paved East Darling Hill Road leads down the hill into the village of East Burke and links Elmer Darling's industrial operations in East Burke with his agricultural properties on Darling Hill. Early maps also illustrate what are known today as West Darling Hill Road and Old Country Road, near the north edge of the Historic District. Roughly the current alignment of both roads can be seen in one map from 1858 that also shows the old school house (School District No. 1) that once stood along West Darling Hill Road and served the families along Darling Hill Road in Burke.

In addition, some of the dirt roads in the District, and particularly those along the edges of farm fields branching off from Darling Hill Road, probably date from the historic period of significance or before. One example is the road leading west through the field west of Darling Hill Road by the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse (#7)</u>. Clearly visible at the end of the historic period of significance (see 1962 aerial photo), this road is still evident and in use today (see 2009 aerial photo). A second historic farm road running parallel to this one in 1962 is today marked by a line of trees. As features that support the use of this landscape for agricultural purposes over time, these roads are important indicators of the District's historic character.

Several more recent roads are also present in the Historic District. These include the unpaved Willoughby Way and the unpaved driveways of modern properties in the District, including those leading to resource #'s 12 through 20.

Darling Hill Road follows the ridgeline of Darling Hill as it extends north from Lyndon into Burke. Historically, the Darling Estate encompassed much of the land on either side of this ridge, descending down to the West Branch of the Passumpsic River on the west side, and the East Branch of the Passumpsic River on the east side. Although only a portion of the Passumpsic West Branch is included in this Historic District, both rivers played a crucial role in the historic landscape by collecting runoff from the farmland up on the hill. Seasonal streams along either side of the ridge still channel water into these rivers, as they have for centuries.

Although reforestation has reduced some of the views that were present in the District historically, the remarkable vistas along Darling Hill Road continue to represent

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an open, agrarian landscape that has been lost in many other places throughout the state and the country. For many visitors, the experience is like stepping back in time. The southern half of the District affords frequent views looking northwest from Darling Hill at the neighboring hills and forest on the other side of U.S. Route 5. In the distance to the north, the dramatic silhouette of Mount Pisgah can be seen standing opposite Mount Hor in Willoughby State Forest. Looking southeast from most points along Darling Hill Road are beautiful views of Darling State Park's Burke and Kirby Mountains. Also clearly visible to the east throughout much of the District is the modern Burke Mountain Ski Resort.

The survival of many of these views is owed to the continued agricultural activities and relatively sparse vegetation on much of Darling Hill. The majority of District properties retain the open fields and vernacular setting of an agrarian landscape. This includes historic farmsteads (#'s 1 through 10) but also many of the more recently developed properties, and reflects the overall character of the District. Most of the District landscape was cleared of its original forest during initial settlement of this area in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The removal of large stones from the fields to make way for tilling and mowing helped to provide a supply of materials for the stone walls that separated and contained the agricultural landscape. Other areas were used for pasturing livestock including cattle, horses, sheep and pigs. On almost every Darling Hill property, open pastures and meadows were edged in places by woodlands or orchards of sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) used by Elmer Darling for maple syrup. Those retained parcels of forested land not used for sugaring were managed as woodlots for fuel and fencing materials.

Elmer Darling's development and maintenance of this agrarian landscape directly contributed to its survival. Beginning with his purchase of the Hall Farm, or Mountain View Farm (#4), in 1883, Darling not only maintained each of his acquisitions as agricultural properties, but he expanded them. In 1887 Mountain View Farm (#4) supported herds of cow, cattle, sheep and pigs in addition to horses and a maple In the succeeding decades it continued to support growing numbers of orchard. livestock, horses, thoroughbred dogs and poultry, in addition to producing oats, hay, corn and potatoes. Together with the structures built by Darling to support his operations, these developments gradually changed the landscape of Darling Hill. Particularly at Mountain View Farm (#4), the amount of open meadow and pasture land for the grazing of livestock grew over time. Contained by straight lines of wire fences, hedge rows or narrow stone walls built of field stones, these fields were divided into trapezoidal shapes, some of which are still evident in today's landscape. For example, Darling enclosed the field directly across the road from Burklyn Hall (#1), now used to pasture horses, with a tall wire fence to keep white-tailed deer during the 1920s. On a more general scale, with many of the flattest sections of land being used to cultivate hay, oats and other crops, the pasture areas and woodlots of the estate were probably characterized by less even ground and steeper grades.

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The same pattern of landscape change took place on other properties of the District, as well. For example, the agricultural activities of both Bemis Farms (#'s 7 and 8) grew under Darling ownership. Over the course of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, these farms supported increasing numbers of livestock while also being used for sugaring and hay production. Darling's burgeoning agricultural operations thus prompted a more agrarian landscape character, with larger pastures for horses and cattle and open hay fields.

With the decline of agriculture on Darling Hill during the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, this largely open landscape gradually assumed the more forested aspect of today. Over the past fifty years the open, agrarian fields typical of the historic landscape have gradually shrunk, as land use patterns changed and the areas of mixed forest grew. Still, the remaining open fields of today have been consistently maintained as agricultural land since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The stone walls and fence rows dividing these fields and pastures into geometric shapes reflect historic patterns consistent with Elmer Darling's use of the landscape.

Although a small portion of the woodlands framing these fields are older growth forest maintained as woodlots during the historic period of significance, most of the woods comprise second-growth or successional forest populated by a mix of deciduous and coniferous plant species. The typical northern shrubs and hardwoods are represented, including but not limited to maple (*Acer saccharum, Acer rubrum* and *Acer saccharinum*), birch (*Betula alleghaniensis, Betula populifolia* and *Betula papyrifera*), beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), hobblebush (*Viburnum lantanoides*), aspen (*Populus tremuloides* and *Populus grandidentata*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), red spruce (*Picea rubens*), balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) and white pine (*Pinus strobus*). Due to Elmer Darling's historic use of the estate for sugaring, the sugar maple is particularly well represented.

As previously mentioned, one prominent feature in the landscape is the allée of silver maples (*Acer saccharinum*) along Darling Hill Road. Originally planted by Elmer Darling, these two lines of trees distinguish much of the road within the Historic District and contribute to its historic character. Some 100 years old, these trees range from 40 to 60 feet in height. Fairly uniformly spaced about 10 to 20 feet apart, they stand roughly 3 feet from the edge of the road on either side. Evergreen species periodically replace silver maples along certain sections of this allée, in some cases serving to shield home sites from the road.

#### Properties

The name identified for the original owner of each property has been selected from deeds, newspapers, maps, local histories or property records for the Towns of Burke and Lyndon. The historic map references indicate maps by H. F. Walling (1858) and F. W. Beers (1875).

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1. <u>Burklyn Hall</u>, 2864 Darling Hill Road, Burke and Lyndon, 1908, contributing. This property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

This 86-acre property is located in both Burke and Lyndon, and includes a house east of the road and 5 barns west of the road. The Colonial Revival style mansion, built between 1904 and 1908, sits on a ridge with a magnificent 360-degree vista of the surrounding countryside and mountains. The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, hip roof, 3x3 bay, house has a formal entrance on the north elevation, a porte-cochere on the west elevation and landscaped gardens on the east elevation. The house, designed with two connected blocks (north block 48' x 56' and south block 42' x 44'), sits on a limestone and granite foundation, with painted clapboards and asphalt shingle roof. Similar to its Georgian style prototype, the principal areas of elaboration are the entrances, cornices and windows. The house is painted the original colors with colonial yellow and white trim.

The south elevation of the house has a shed-roof, conservatory  $(8' \times 42')$ ; that leads to a greenhouse  $(22' \times 36')$  (glass removed) that rests on granite block walls; that leads to a wood-columned, porte-cochere  $(19' \times 19')$ ; that leads to a long terrace  $(19' \times 36')$  and an octagonal terrace (originally the base of a 2 story greenhouse) with a single bay, automobile garage underneath, constructed of granite blocks.

The north or front elevation features a full-height portico supported on 2 lonic, fluted round wood columns and 2 lonic, fluted square wood columns. The gabled portico has a fanlight window in the gable end and a curved veranda with balustrade.

The west elevation has a classical entrance with a porte-cochere  $(14' \times 24')$ , supported on wood columns, that extends to a separate building  $(22' \times 32')$  known as the 'billiard room'. The paneled billiard room is a tall, single story, building with fulllength, keystone windows on all elevations and a brick chimney on the west elevation. This building has granite block foundation, a hip roof with round dormers and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a classical entrance with single-story portico supported on wood columns, topped with a veranda and balustrade.

These three elevations have doorways with elaborate, decorative surrounds, a denticulated cornice with wide frieze band, flat and corner pilasters and rectangular windows with double hung wood sash. The first floor windows have unbroken pediments on the first floor and there is a full Palladian window overlooking the veranda on the east elevation facing Burke Mountain. These three elevations also have a low balustrade around a platform porch.

The north block has two brick chimneys on the north side of the hip roof, 3 pedimented gable dormers on the north elevation, 2 pedimented, gable dormers with a centered fanlight window on the east and west elevations, and the flat roof has a lookout with balustrade. The south block has three gable dormers and three eyebrow dormers on the east elevation, a pedimented gable dormer on the south elevation and three pedimented gable dormers and one eyebrow dormer on the west elevation.

The interior of the house has a total of 31 rooms, with 10 bathrooms and 12 bedrooms, for a total of about 24,000 square feet. On the first floor of the north block

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(48' x 56') the main hall (14' wide) connects the east and west entrances with a short hall that leads to the north entrance portico. The main hallway is paneled in white painted woodwork, with pilasters of mahogany. The fireplace has an over mantel with the Darling family coat of arms ('Dei Donum' means Gift of God). Surrounding the main hall are four large rooms (each 16' x 23'): drawing room, library, sitting room and dining room. This floor has an interior vault (5' x 7') currently used for the storage of original wallpaper samples and architectural drawings. An elaborate stairway on the east end of the main hall leads to the second floor. On the second floor the main hall is repeated and surrounded by four large bedrooms (each 16' x 23') with accompanying bathrooms. The third floor has sleeping quarters for servants, bathrooms and storerooms.

The south block (42' x 44') contains the kitchen, butler's pantry, storerooms, a breakfast room, a servant's dining room, a servant's sitting room and laundry. A long corridor leads to the conservatory. There are eleven rooms on the second floor and 12 rooms on the third floor that were originally sleeping quarters for servants.

Each of the 10 fireplaces in the house has an ornate, carved-wood mantel and a surround of different marble. The mansion features modern early 20<sup>th</sup> century amenities such as electric lights, a central vacuum system, trunk elevator, refrigeration and gas light fixtures (now converted to electric). The house had three river-water storage tanks, for the fire suppression system, in the attic (only one remains). A door in the attic leads to the lookout on the roof.

The landscaped grounds surrounding Burklyn Hall include lawns, terraced paths and select plantings of shade trees. A semi-circular access road leads through the porte-cochere to Darling Hill Road. The four original cast-iron pole lamps, with spherical glass globes, are set on granite bases (carved with a 'D') and still mark the entrances to the circular driveway on this property. Most of the 86 acres is open fields marked with stone walls.

### 1a. Carriage Barn, c. 1908, contributing.

The frame, 3 ½ story, hip-on-gable, Colonial Revival style carriage barn (48' x 60') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof with molded cornices. The barn also has corner pilasters, a molded water table and round arched windows in the dormers. The east elevation has a tall, double barn door and center pediment supported on large brackets, flanked with 3 sets of fixed, four-light wood windows on both sides of the first and second floors; and two gabled dormers. The south elevation has double barn doors on the bottom floor, flanked with 2 sets of fixed, four-light wood windows on both sides of all three floors; and a pediment supported on 2 square wood columns and a gabled dormer. The roof features an eight sided cupola with round headed louvers and topped by a directional weathervane. The first floor of the barn has 15 horse stalls and an interior ramp leads up the second floor that is used to store carriages and has a small tack room. The third floor is a hay loft.

1b. Arena, 2911 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1940, contributing.

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Buildings 1a and 1b are connected by a frame, single story, gable roof, building with a solid wood entry door and two 6/6 wood sash windows on the east elevation. The Carriage Barn and the Show Barn are joined by this connector that has an interior observation room overlooking the riding ring. The frame, single story, 8 bay, arch roof, Colonial Revival style Arena ( $76' \times 180'$ ) sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and roll roofing with molded cornices. The arched roof is supported on 8 steel roof trusses. The east elevation has 2 symmetrical, cross-gables (in bays 2 and 7, with round arched windows) and seven fixed, three-part, single pane, wood sash windows. The north elevation has an entry door in the first bay and similar windows. The roof features 2 square and 1 rectangular, wood-louvered cupolas

### 1c. Morgan Horse Barn, c. 1905, contributing.

The frame, 2 1/2 story, hip-on gable, 5x3 bay, Colonial Revival style barn (32' x 72') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. The barn has corner pilasters, molded cornices on all roof lines and a molded water table. The east elevation has a centered French style door with full sidelights (not original), twenty-light transom and a pediment supported on large wood brackets; flanked with two (first floor) and three (second floor) sets of fixed, 2/2 wood sash; 2 hay doors (second floor) near the ends of the barn; and two gabled dormers with round arched windows and molded trim with keystone. The north elevation has 3 pairs of tall fixed, twelve-light wood windows, a door on the first floor and a gable dormer. The roof features an octagonal cupola with round-headed louvers with molded trim and keystone. The louvered openings are separated by pilasters. The north elevation of the basement level has a centered barn door flanked with fixed four pane wood windows. The first floor of the barn has rough wood stalls and a chicken coop in the addition; the second floor has box stalls (2), standing stalls (5) and original sliding barn-type doors; the third floor is a hay loft. The barn has an original 'Kasper's Self-Acting Oats Cleaner' that cleaned the oats before they were fed to the horses. The west elevation has a 2 story, gable roof addition with four, fixed four pane wood windows on the north, west and south elevations and a brick chimney. The second floor of the addition is a horsewashing room.

### 1d. Wagon Barn, c. 1906, contributing.

The wood-frame, single story, hip roof, Colonial Revival style wagon barn (18' x 32') sits on a brick foundation with a molded water table, clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof with molded cornice. The east elevation has 5 open bays separated by molded, keystone, round arches supported on Ionic square wood columns.

### 1e. Field Barn, c. 1906, contributing.

The wood-frame, single story, side-gable, Field barn (22' x 26') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and sheet metal roofing. Constructed in

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the Colonial Revival style, the south elevation of this building has a centered double barn door and an open pedestrian entry near the southwest corner.

2. <u>Erastus and Julius Humphrey Farm</u>, 4235 Darling Hill Road, Burke, c. 1908, contributing (E. Humphrey on the 1858 map and E. & J. A. Humphrey on the 1875 map. This earlier house burned about 1950).

This 44.2-acre property includes a farmhouse, a barn and open fields and pasture marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, front-gable, vernacular, side hall house was constructed around 1908 with a south elevation facing the Darling Hill Road. The frame house (18' x 26') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof with wide overhang. There is a brick chimney in both the house and the wing. The east elevation (front) has a covered, hip roof porch that wraps around in semicircular fashion to the wing; the porch is supported on simple wood posts and has no balustrade. The south elevation has a single story wing. The north elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story wing with a large, 2-bay, shed roof dormer with paired 1/1 windows and an attached 2 bay garage with molded, keystone round arches supported on Ionic bases. The west elevation has an open covered porch and two double dormers. Trim includes drip molds over the windows, wide corner boards and fascia. There are two brick chimneys. A majority of the windows are original 2/2 wood frame sash with wooden lintels. The front yard has a post and rail fence.

Today, the property contains the stone foundation of the c. 1840 house built by Ozias Humphrey's son Erastus.

#### 2a. Barn, c. 1908, contributing.

This 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, Gable Front Bank Barn (46' x 110') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and sheet metal roof with wide overhang. The east elevation has a high drive with bridge that leads to a large door, topped with a transom, on the second floor. The north elevation has an attached single-story, gable roof, frame implement shed (24' x 35') with 3 open bays and a sheet metal roof, which was constructed about 1980. The west elevation has fixed windows on all three floors. The north elevation has two doors on the first floor and a small two story addition that projects from the first and second floors.

3. <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse</u>, 3585 Darling Hill Road, Burke, c. 1825, contributing (B. F. Belden on the 1858 map and W. Belden on the 1875 map).

This 76.56-acre property includes a farmhouse, barn and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, 5x2 bay, Cape Cod style house has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (38' x 28') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation features half-length, 4 pane sidelights around the door and 12/12 frame windows. The west elevation has two, single story additions (14' x 16' and 9' x 14'). The south elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story two bay garage (24' x 40') and entry door on the east elevation and a

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2/2 window in the gable. There is a central brick chimney and a brick chimney on the garage. Trim includes simple corner boards and a miscellaneous selection of windows. The front yard features the empty, iron frame of the original Darling Estate Farm sign, set on a free-standing wooden post.

#### 3a. Barn, c. 1825, contributing,

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, timber frame, English Barn (20' x 40') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and sheet metal roof. There is a central double hinged door on the north elevation and a double hinged hay door on the south elevation. The barn has only one, fixed 2 light window on the east elevation.

4. <u>Mountain View Farm</u>, 3383 Darling Hill Road, Burke, c. 1855, contributing (H. B. & H. M. Hall on the 1858 map and H. M. Hall on the 1875 map).

This 442.4-acre property includes a farmhouse, barns (5), a creamery, outbuildings (4), an historic marker and open fields and pastures marked with stone walls. The property is currently a seasonal restaurant and inn, as well as an event center and farm animal sanctuary.

This 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side gable, Greek Revival style farmhouse has an east elevation facing the road. The 3x3 bay, historic farmhouse now has 4 apartments. The frame house (31' x 41') sits on a granite block foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a c. 1885 Queen Anne style open porch (10' x 51') with a shed roof with molded cornice, supported on 8 turned wood columns (toped with brackets supporting a decorative band of dentils), and wood steps, a turned balustrade and lattice skirt. The porch wraps around to the first bay on the side elevations. The entry door has a full decorative surround with wide pilasters supporting a full entablature and three-quarter length side lights; the windows are 12/12 on the first floor and 6/6 on the second floor with molded lintels.

Projecting from the west elevation is a 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, gable roof, ell (32' x 22') with a second, two story gable roof addition (26' x 45') at the southwest corner. This second addition also has a two-story, hip roof addition (32' x 25') on its south elevation. The south elevation of the house has a bay window and an open porch (7' x 10') with a shed roof supported on 2 square wood columns with a balustrade. The north elevation of the ell has an open porch with a hip roof supported on 2 square wood columns with a balustrade. The north elevation of the first addition has an open porch with a shed roof supported on 3 square wood columns with balustrade. The wood columns with balustrade. The north elevation of the first addition has an open porch with a shed roof supported on 3 square wood columns with balustrade. The west elevation of the second edition also has an open porch with a shed roof supported on a square wood column with balustrade. There are brick chimneys on the house, ell, first addition and second addition. There is a decorative cupola with a square base, bell, and pyramidal cap on the second addition. Trim includes wide corner pilasters supporting a full entablature and a paired bracketed molded cornice with returns on the house. The windows are 12/12 on the first floor and 6/6 on the second floor of the house; and 6/6 throughout the ell and both additions. The farmhouse has been remodeled into four apartments.

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The front yard has a wood post and board fence painted white with two granite posts, carved with the initial 'D', set at the entrance to the farm.

4a. Scale and Dairy Barn, c. 1885, 1890, 1906, contributing.

The Scale Barn (with covered high-drive) has three later Dairy Barn additions. The first section constructed is the Scale Barn (c. 1885); a square,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, gable roof barn (46' x 46'), with a covered high drive and bridge (12' wide clearance) on the west elevation. The door of the high drive is capped with an 8-light transom. The high drive leads to a standard Fairbanks Hay Wagon and Stock Scale inside the barn. This scale, manufactured by the Fairbanks-Morse Company of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, has the original weight cabinet attached to the wall and a platform (8' x 16') built into the wood floor. At this location, wagons of loose hay were brought into the massive barn, weighed and driven into the East, South or North Additions.

The East Addition (c. 1890) is a 4 story, 8 bay, timber frame Gable Front Barn (46' x 124') set on a fieldstone foundation (c. 1855) with vertical weatherboard siding and a sheet metal roof. There are 3/3 fixed windows throughout and 6/6 wood frame sash only in the gable end on the east elevation. The east elevation of the East Addition is the front of the barn facing the road. It has three 3/3 and four 6/6 wood frame sash and a pedestrian door centered on the first floor. The date 1855 is painted in the gable end; this is the date of the fieldstone foundation for the original barn on this site that was substantially rebuilt c. 1890. The southeast corner of the first floor was converted into a concrete-floor milking parlor (c. 1960) and was later remodeled into a workshop with three fixed pane windows on the east elevation and eleven fixed pane windows on the south elevation is a shed roof addition that has an elevated, interior wooden ramp used to let the dairy cows in and out of the barn. The south elevation also has 3/3 wood frame sash windows and a pedestrian door, with bracketed door hood, on the right side. The north elevation has 3/3 wood frame sash windows and a sliding barn door on the first level.

The South Addition (1890) is a 3 story, 8 bay, timber frame Gable Front Barn (46' x 116') set on a granite block foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and a sheet metal roof. There are 3/3 fixed windows throughout and 6/6 wood frame sash only in the gable end on the south elevation. This addition has 2 sets of sliding barn doors on the east elevation of the bottom level and a single set in the south elevation; each sheltered by a narrow shed roof. The east elevation also has a pedestrian door in the first bay at the top of a stone and dirt ramp. The South Addition has a milk room and a bull room, as well as a small oat thresher (Ellis Keystone Agricultural Works, Pottstown, PA, #16662), a Simplex drum butter churn (D. H. Burrell & Co, Little Falls, NY, patent applied for Nov. 1, 1899), and a large, round-shaped cheese press C. J. Lundstrom, Patent No. 528001, 1894 for D. H. Burrell & Co).

The North Addition (1906) is a 3 story, 8 bay, timber frame Gable Front Barn (46' x 116') set on a granite block foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and a sheet metal roof. There are 3/3 fixed windows throughout and 6/6 wood frame sash

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only in the gable end on the north elevation. This addition has 2 sets of sliding barn doors on east elevation of the bottom level and a single set in the north elevation; each sheltered by a narrow shed roof. The interior of all three additions has a top floor for unloading the hay, a lower level for hay storage, another lower level with dairy cow sanctions and a bottom level for manure collection. The east elevation also has a pedestrian door in the first bay at the top of a stone and dirt ramp. The interior has numerous trap doors throughout the building for dropping hay or manure. The three additions were built to match and give the massive barn its T shape. All three additions have large, wood louvered cupolas toped with weathervanes; a life-size, bronze Jersey on the Scale Barn, eagles on the south and north additions and a scroll with letter 'D' on the east addition.

#### 4b. Pump House, c. 1890, contributing.

The frame, single story, gable roof, Colonial Revival style building (14' x 16') sits on a concrete foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and asphalt shingle roof with wide overhang, molded cornice and fascia. The north and south elevations have two fixed 4 pane wood windows and the south elevation has a hinged, four panel entry door. The windows have flat trim with a narrow drip mold. There is a square, wood louvered cupola, with a gable roof, on the ridge of the building.

### 4c. Piggery, c. 1905, contributing.

The frame, single-story, cross gable, Colonial Revival style building  $(35' \times 151')$  sits on a concrete foundation with vertical board siding and asphalt shingle roof. The east and west elevations have fixed, four light windows (14) set high on the wall and 'pig' doors (7) set low on the wall. The south elevation has a bracketed gable roofed door hood (not original) over an entry door, flanked by 6/6 wood frame sash and a fixed six-light window in the gable end. The north elevation has a solid entry door, flanked by fixed, four-light wood frame sash and a 6/6 wood frame sash window in the gable end. The north elevation has a solid entry door, flanked by fixed, four-light wood frame sash and a 6/6 wood frame sash window in the gable end. The 6 northern most pig doors are paired the southern most one is single and to its left is a pedestrian door. There is a modern brick chimney near the south end and a square, wood louvered cupola, with hip roof and directional weathervane, centered on the ridge of the building. Where the cross gable intersects there is a 6/6 wood frame sash window in the gable peak with a hay door below. The interior has the original slaughter room with a hand-cranked, hoisting pulley (4' diameter) that raised two hogs at a time. The interior has several original pens with a center aisle. There is a directional weathervane at the center of the cross gable.

### 4d. Tool House, c. 1890, contributing.

The frame, single story, shed-roof, 3-bay, vernacular building  $(22' \times 38')$  sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding (only south elevation is horizontal) and sheet metal roof. The north elevation has a double barn door and the west elevation

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has three 3/3 wood frame sash. The building has a long steel shaft with wooden drive

### 4e. Ice House, c. 1890, contributing.

pulley and four grindstones.

The frame, single story, front gable, vernacular building (24' X 36') sits on a concrete foundation with board and batten wood siding with plain trim and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a tall, solid, wood entry door topped with a closed in hay door; and the north and south elevations have one fixed six light wood window. Windows and doors have flat trim with drip molds. An ice room, with original ice storage compartment and rails for hanging meat, is behind a solid wood door.

#### 4f. Threshing Barn, c. 1890, reconstructed c. 1990, contributing.

The frame, single story, side-gable English Barn (32' x 46') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and a standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a single entry door next to a large sliding barn door topped with a 14-light transom. The building was disassembled and reassembled, with new siding and roofing, about 1990. The barn still has a large threshing machine, 'The Champion'', manufactured by the Ellis Keystone Agricultural Works of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, that was distributed through the Brackett Shaw & Lunt Company of Summersworth, NH and Boston, MA.

#### 4g. Clock Barn, 1912, contributing.

The frame, 3 ½ story, gambrel roof, Gambrel Front Bank Barn (40' x 96') sits on a fieldstone and concrete foundation with vertical board siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a barn door, flanked by a pair of fixed six-light wood windows on the first floor; a hay door flanked by a 6/6 wood windows on the second floor and there is a wood-faced clock in the gable end. The north and south elevations have 2 story, L-shaped, gable-roof, wagon sheds that form a U shape facing east. Each wagon shed has 6 segmental arched, open bays (some with wood gates) and sliding barn doors on the north elevation. The west elevation of the main barn has a single story, manure storage room addition on the bottom level. The gable end has a large barn door, 2 fixed four-light wood windows and monitor roof. The first level of the barn has a brick chimney for an interior woodstove, breeding stalls (2), horse stalls (12) and 7 pairs of fixed, four-light wood windows on the north and south elevations; the bottom level and the second level have 3, fixed, four-light wood windows and the west elevation has 5, 6/6 wood sash. Each wagon shed is capped with a polygonal-shaped, wood dovecote with 6 round arched louvered openings above that support a dome roof and the main barn has a larger size version of the same styled cupola on the ridge. The barn has the original wall-mounted, weight-drive, tower clock manufactured (#1770) by the Thomas Clock Company of Thomaston, Connecticut. The barn also has the original center-mounted hay carrier, the 'OK UNLOADER" with an automatic grapple fork, manufactured by the F. E. Myers & Brothers Company of Ashland, Ohio. The cupola

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supports a Morgan horse weathervane given to Darling by Henry Steele Wardner. It is one of the thirteen famous *Green Mountain 42* weathervanes cast at the John L. Mott Ironworks in New York City.

#### 4h. Morgan Horse Barn, 1897, contributing.

This frame, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, front gable roof, 3x14 bay barn (36' x 128') with elements of the Shingle style sits on a brick foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has 3 hinged entry doors with 4 light transoms (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> bays), a pair of 6/6 wood sash and 9 pairs of fixed, four-light wood sash on the first level; and 2 symmetrical, hay doors flanked with 4/4 wood sash and 3 modern 1/1 aluminum windows on the second level; and 2 symmetrical, steep-pitch gable, dormers with flared ends and arched top windows. The ridge is capped with a large, octagonal cupola surrounded with wood windows (four 6 light fixed and two 9/9 sash) and topped with a conical roof. The north elevation (front) and the south elevation have a single wagon door centered on the first floor with 4 light transoms, and a hay door on the second floor, with four pairs of 4 light windows and a 6/6 wood sash in the gable ends. The west elevation has two additions; a horse-washing room and a chicken house with grain bins and feeders.

The horse-washing room addition consists of two parts; a shed roof part attached to the horse barn and a hip roof part attached to the west elevation of the shed roof part. Both these parts have 6/6 wood sash windows and there is a brick chimney in the northwest corner. The chicken house addition is a 1 ½ story, gable roof barn with vertical siding and a barn door on the west elevation and a small wood, gable roof cupola on the ridge. The interior of the horse barn has straight stalls (18) and box stalls (4) with wall-mounted hay feeders. The second floor is used for storage where hay can be dropped through openings in the floor to the hay feeders below. There is also a large, square, wood, floor-to-roof ventilator for allowing fresh air to circulate in the barn.

#### 4i. Creamery, 3337 Darling Hill Road, c. 1890, contributing.

This brick and concrete, 2 story, 5 x 3 bay, hip roof, Colonial Revival style building (46' x 72') sits on a concrete foundation with brick walls and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation features 3 symmetrical, inset, keystone arches; the center one has an entry door with full entablature, pilasters and fanlight window; and the flanking arches have 6/6 wood sash framed by wood trellis and flower boxes on the first floor. The center door is flanked with 6/6 wood sash, set in round arches, with solid wood shutters. On the east elevation five 3/3 wood sash are set above a concrete belt course on the second level. The west elevation is also symmetrical; a centered, open porch (5 'x 18') with a shed roof and pediment supported on four Doric square wood columns, double entry doors on the porch, four 6/6 wood sash and one enlarged window opening, filled with a solid glass window, on the right side. The north elevation has 2 symmetrical, inset, keystone arches; with double entry doors with full entablature, full sidelights and fanlight window; similar fenestration; a modern kitchen exhaust fan

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and a spiral steel staircase to the second level. The south elevation has an addition (13' x 16') with double, garage-style doors that accommodates a concrete ramp leading into the basement; and similar fenestration. The roof has two brick chimneys and a tall, square paneled, wood louvered bell tower with round arched louvered openings with keystone and flanked by pilasters above 2 light fixed windows, with bell-cast, copper dome roof with finials. On the interior, the first floor and the basement have concrete floors and the third floor had 10 (now 9) employee bedrooms. The hallway has the original ice box (no manufacturer's plate). A room on the first floor has the original wood-fired boiler (no manufacturers plate), steam engine (no manufacturers plate), cast-iron cook stove (Fuller & Warren Co., Troy, NY) and a safe (Victor Safe & Lock Co., Cincinnati, Ohio) on wheels with 'L. A. Darling' in gold letters on the door. The basement has a wood furnace (The Wise Furnace Co, Akron, Ohio) in the former employee's dressing room.

### 4j. Historic Marker, 1998, non-contributing.

This Vermont Division for Historic Preservation historic roadside marker was erected in 1998 to commemorate the historic 'Mountain View Farm'. The cast aluminum marker has a state seal, is painted green with gold lettering and sits on an aluminum-clad concrete post. The sign reads: Established in 1883 by Elmer A. Darling (1848-1931) native of East Burke. He became owner/manager of the world famous Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City. After the hotel closed in 1908, Mr. Darling retired to the life of a gentleman farmer, raised prize-winning Morgan horses and Jersey cattle. The farm also produced the choice 'Darling' brand of cheeses and butter. At its zenith, his prosperous Mountain View Farm included Burke Mountain and extended over 7,000 acres. The farm's monumental barns and distinctive colonial yellow and white-trimmed farmhouses line Darling Hill Road. Elmer Darling studied architecture at M. I. T., and with the assistance of Jardine, Kent and Jardine, architects, designed his magnificent neo-Georgian residence, Burklyn Hall, built in 1905-1908 on knoll astride the Burke/Lyndon town line. Mr. Darling was a public-spirited citizen whose philanthropic generosity includes the Colonial Revival style Burke Mountain Club, built in East Burke in 1919. The marker was erected after the historic period of significance and is a noncontributing object.

#### 4k. Carriage Barn, 3340 Darling Hill Road, c. 1905, non-contributing.

This 2 story, hip-roof Colonial Revival style Carriage Barn has a west elevation facing the road. The 3x3 bay, frame building (32' x 59') sits on a poured concrete foundation with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The west elevation has a non-original gable over an open, entrance porch supported on 2 simple wood posts. The north and south elevations have 1x1 bay, gable roof additions on the first floor and a wood deck with balustrade on the second floor. The east elevation has a two story pedimented addition (17' x 24') with an elevated wood deck. Trim includes modern corner boards, modern windows, molded cornice, molded belt course between  $1^{st}$  and

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 $2^{nd}$  stories, molded water table, fixed louvers centered on ridge of main block and flanked bay, two corbelled brick chimneys, original hip roofed cupola with weathervane and paired 6/6 aluminum sash windows on all elevations. In 1987 the building was remodeled into two apartments and is non-contributing due to alterations.

5. <u>Lucius A. Darling House</u>, 3265 Darling Hill Road, 1892, contributing (site of L. Walter on the 1858 map and L. Jenkins on the 1875 map).

This 3-acre property includes a house, carriage house and open fields. This 1 1/2 story, side-gable, vernacular style house has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (33' x 27') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation (front) has a two-story, hip roof extension with two 2/2 windows on the 2nd story. The attached gable-roof, entry porch has Colonial Revival style cornice returns. The front porch is supported on round, wood Tuscan columns in triplicate at the two front corners of the porch's tympanum with a segmental arched opening. The porch has an entry door, balustrade, two built-in wood benches, and there is a wood handicap ramp. The south elevation has a single-story, hip roof addition (4' x 14'). The west elevation has a 1 1/2 story, hip roof ell (22' x 32') with a shed roof open porch, supported on square wood columns, and hip dormer on both the north and south elevations. There are two brick chimneys on both the house and the ell. The windows are 1/1 wood sash on the first floor and 2/2 on the second floor. Trim includes a wide frieze board, corner boards, returns in the gable ends and drip molds over the windows. The windows are 1/1 or 2/1 wood frame sash. The front yard features the original, iron and wood Darling Estate Farm sign. Set on a wooden post in its original iron frame, the painted yellow wood sign reads: "Mountain View Farm, 1792, Walter Place, Michaud".

5a. Carriage House, 1892, contributing.

The 2 story, hip roof, vernacular style Carriage House (20' x 22') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical weatherboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. The first and second floors have large hinged doors and the windows are fixed. Trim includes a wide frieze board and a rectangular Queen Anne style wood cupola (louvers removed and closed in with solid boards).

6. <u>William D. Goss Farmhouse</u>, 2559 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 1890, contributing (J. Howland and E. Underwood on the 1858 map and H. Hunt on the 1875 map).

The 391.84-acre property includes a house, a barn and open fields and pastures marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, front gable, Greek Revival style house with side hall plan, has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (25' x 28') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a bay window (not original) with three 2/2 windows above a paneled base; the first and second floors have 2/2 wood sash windows. The south elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story gable roof wing (16' x 25') with a steep gable with Italianate style window wall

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dormer over an open hip roof porch supported on square wood columns on the east elevation and a hip roof addition ( $6' \times 16'$ ) on the south elevation. The west elevation has an addition (irregular, 17' x 33') on the house with a wood deck and an addition (11' x 25') on the wing; along with another addition (irregular 12' x 18') on the west elevation. The porch shelters four 4 light windows. There is a central brick chimney in the house. Trim includes returns in the gable ends, molded cornice with entablature, narrow corner boards and molded lintels. The house has 2/2 wood frame sash and the additions have an assortment of modern 2/2 and fixed single-light windows. An enclosed breezeway (6' x 26') leads to a modern 3 bay gable roof garage (27' x 38') with an open porch (4' x 27') with shed roof supported on square wood columns along the entire east elevation. The roof of the garage has a rectangular cupola and two gabled dormers with returns and round arched windows on the east and west elevations. The north elevation has a solid double door and the west elevation has an entry door. The original, iron and wood Darling Estate Farm Sign still stands in the front yard.

#### 6a. Barn, 1890, contributing.

The frame, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, Gable Front Bank Barn (31' x 32') sits on a concrete foundation with vertical board siding and a sheet metal roof. The east elevation has an entry door and hay door flanked with a fixed six-light wood window and topped with a fixed eight-light wood window. The west and south elevations have a 2 story, wraparound porch with a shed roof supported on square wood columns and 3 stable windows.

#### 6b. Shed, c. 1890, contributing.

This Shed appears to date from roughly the same period as the William D. Goss Farmhouse (6) and Barn (6a). It was associated with the historic farm and is clearly visible in a 1962 aerial of the property (see photos). Located on the south side of Willoughby Way, the windowless Shed has vertical board siding and a shingle roof. It is painted red with white trim. The entrance is on the east elevation and is fixed with a wooden door.

#### 6c. Modern Barn, 2010, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story clapboard bank barn with multipane windows, a standing seam metal roof and central cupola stands to the southeast of the Barn (6a). It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

7. <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse</u>, 2059 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1840, contributing (A. Bemis on the 1858 map and A. O. & I. Bemis on the 1875 map).

The 566.1-acre property includes a farmhouse, historic schoolhouse, barns (5), several newer structures and open fields and pastures marked with stone walls. The property is currently a country inn, restaurant, conference center and resort.

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The 2 1/2 story, side-gable, Greek Revival style house has an east elevation facing the road. The frame house (30' x 40') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has an open hip roof porch supported on 6 wood posts with Ionic capitols set in triplicate at the front corners which support a full entablature and a detailed entrance with full side lights and narrow paneled pilasters. The south elevation has an original appearance with Greek Revival details. The north elevation of the house has a 1 ½ story wing (24' x 38') with a gable wall dormer and paired 6/6 windows over an entrance door flanked by 6/6 windows. There are a pair of 6/6 windows at the right end of the wing. There are two 6/6windows on both stories of the gable end. The west elevation of the house has a modern addition (8' x 26') with window walls. The wing has an addition (approximately  $20' \times 32'$ ) on the west elevation. Both of the additions on the west elevation of the house are connected with an open wood deck (approximately (20' x 30'). The main house has a brick chimney and there is a brick chimney and two restaurant ventilators on the wing. Trim includes classic Greek Revival details with a full entablature, paneled at the corners, corner returns, pilasters and 6/6 wood frame sash windows with molded lintels and wood shutters. The front yard has a post and board fence, and features the original, iron and wood Darling Estate Farm sign frame with a new sign. The white, wooden sign reads: "Burklyn Farm, NO-5, 2059 Darling Hill Road". In 2011, the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse was operating as the Wildflower Inn.

7a. <u>Schoolhouse</u>, 1869 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1840, contributing (School on the 1858 map and not indicated on the 1875 map).

The single story, 3/2 bay, front-gable, Greek Revival style building has an east elevation facing the road. The frame building (18' x 24') sits on a pier foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has an entrance door with molded lintel flanked by 6/6 windows. The west elevation has a modern wood deck (8' x 16'). The north and south elevations have two 6/6 windows. Trim includes plain corner and fascia boards, molded cornice and returns in the gable ends. The windows are 6/6 wood frame sash with molded wood lintels. There is an exterior brick chimney at the northwest corner. In 2011, the building was being used as a cottage.

#### 7b. Implement Shed, c. 1900, contributing.

The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, vernacular Implement Shed has an east elevation facing the road. The original, four open bays are now filled in and two bays have entrance doors. The frame building (25' x 45') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. Trim includes thin corner boards. The west elevation has a shed roof dormer and with an asphalt shingle roof. The west, north and south elevations have several sizes of modern windows.

7c. Carriage Barn, 2052 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1900, contributing.

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The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, U-shaped, Colonial Revival style Carriage Barn has a west elevation, around a semi-circular driveway, facing the road. The frame building has a 4 bay center section (80' x 20') and two 2 bay wings (40' x 20'). The building sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding, vertical board on the gable ends and arch infill; and an asphalt roof. Each of the original 8 segmented arched entry bays springs from an Ionic post and is now filled in with an entry door and a modern 3-part, 2-light window. Each of the bays has a skylight in the roof on the west elevation. The east elevation, on the first floor has modern entrance doors and on the second floor there are 6 open wood decks built into the exterior wall. Trim includes plain window and door surrounds and corner boards as well as molded cornice on the gable ends.

7d. Blacksmith Shop, 1973 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1900, non-contributing.

The single story, side-gable, vernacular Blacksmith Shop has an east elevation facing the road. The original frame blacksmith shop has been enlarged (20' x 58') and the south elevation has an addition (20' x 59'). The building has clapboard siding and asphalt roof. The south elevation of the building and the east elevation of the addition have gable-roof entrance porches. The west elevation of the addition has two open porches with wood columns supporting a hip roof. The northwest and southwest corners of the addition have open porches set diagonally into the corners of the building. Trim includes corner boards, clapboard siding and modern aluminum windows. The original shop has extensive modifications and an extensive addition with guest rooms that make the original (20' x 20') building non-contributing. In 2011, this building was operating as Juniper's Restaurant.

7e. Garage, 2074 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1940, non-contributing.

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, side-gable, Colonial Revival style Garage has a west elevation facing the road. The six-bay, frame building (24' x 76') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. The east elevation has a 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story addition (24' x 36') that has a 2 story, semi-circular room on the south elevation. The west elevation has plain framing around the six bays and a gable wall dormer with modern tall fanlight window centered above the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> bays. The windows are a variety of modern sizes and shapes. The building was relocated from near the road to its present location c. 1995, the bays filled, an addition added to the east elevation and the building is now used for meetings. The six original garage bays have been in filled and contain single or paired new windows. A modern entry with transom and sidelights is centered between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> bays. The original garage has extensive modifications and an extensive addition that make the original garage non-contributing.

#### 7f. Horse Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

This 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gambrel roof Horse Barn faces the road. The frame building (36' X 38') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding, plain corner boards, molded cornice and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a barn

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door on the first floor and hay door on the second floor, each flanked by fixed 4 light sash windows, and a louvered ocular gable vent. The north elevation has 3 pairs of fixed, 4-light wood windows. The west elevation has 3 fixed six-light wood windows. The south elevation has 5 Dutch-type doors flanked by 4 light fixed sash. Trim includes drip molds above doors and windows. A round concrete Silo (c. 1940, 11' diameter) stands near the northwest corner.

### 7g. Horse Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

This 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gambrel roof Horse Barn faces the road. The frame building (24' x 60') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and metal roof. The east and west elevations have a barn door on the first and second floors. The north elevation has a barn door and four sets of fixed, four light windows. The south elevation has a 2 story, shed roof addition (10') with 3 six-light wood frame sash windows. Trim includes thin corner boards. There is an asphalt shingle roof, 3 circular roof vents and a metal ventilator on the roof.

7h. Hay Barn, 2283 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1900, contributing.

This long, single story, side-gable, vernacular Hay Barn sits parallel to the road. The frame building (24' x 60') sits on a fieldstone foundation with clapboard siding and metal roof. The gable ends have large wagon doors with original 4 light windows on the south elevation flanked by paired windows and a ribbon of 3 above. There are modern doors on the north elevation and there is a pedestrian door on the far right of the south elevation. The building has four-pane, fixed windows on all elevations, single entry doors on three elevations and a small cupola on the ridge of the roof. In 1991 the interior of the barn was remodeled into a 200-seat theater and today it operates as the Vermont Children's Theatre.

### 7i. Garden House, c. 1996, non-contributing.

The single story, front-gable, clapboarded, Greek Revival style, side hall form, building (20' X 20'), with a grape arbor on the north elevation, is used as a garden house. It has an asphalt shingle roof with molded cornice and returns. This modern building was built 65 years after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

### 7j. Field Barn, c. 1965, non-contributing.

The single story, pole- frame, front-gable vernacular Field Barn (20' x 24') has no siding on the east, north and south elevations. The west elevation has vertical boards and there is a sheet metal roof.

7k. Gazebo, 2004, non-contributing.

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The frame, octagonal Gazebo  $(15' \times 15')$  sits in an open field west of the barns. This modern building was built after the historic period of significance and is noncontributing.

#### 71. Tennis Court, 1980, non-contributing.

The hard court Tennis Court was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

#### 7m. Wagon Shed, 2010, non-contributing.

The single story, windowless wooden Shed was built after the historic period of significance and is a non-contributing structure.

### 7n. Swimming Pool, c. 1988, non-contributing.

The in-ground Swimming Pool, located to the southwest of the farmhouse, was built after the historic period of significance and is a non-contributing structure.

70. Modern House, 2266 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 1998, non-contributing.

This modern, yellow 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> story, 3-bay gable house with attached garage stands on the hill east of Darling Hill Road opposite the Hay Barn (7h). It has a central chimney, a rear ell and an enclosed porch. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

7p. Modern House, 2008 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1969, non-contributing.

This modern, one-story white manufactured home stands on the east side of Darling Hill Road opposite the Schoolhouse (7a). It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

7g. Maintenance Shed, 1999, non-contributing.

This gabled garage with overhead loft door is associated with the white Modern House (70). It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

7r. Modern House, 1869 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1974, non-contributing.

This modern, one-story red manufactured home with attached porch stands on the west side of Darling Hill Road near the southern perimeter of the <u>Alonzo O. and</u> <u>Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u>. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

8. <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farmhouse</u>, 1623 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1840, contributing (W. Bemis on the 1858 map and W. Bemis & Sons on the 1875 map).

This 25-acre property includes a house, a modern barn and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, Greek Revival style house was built with a late Cape Cod form and has an east elevation facing Darling Hill Road. The frame house (30' x 40')

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sits on a fieldstone foundation with vinyl-over-clapboard exterior and asphalt shingle roof. The east elevation has a center entry door, with a surround that has pilasters, a transom and  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sidelights. The four front wall windows are  $\frac{6}{6}$  wood sash windows. The south elevation of the house has a two-part wing (21' x 23') and (29' x 23'). The right part of the wing has an open porch supported on wood posts and an addition on the west elevation (12' x 18'); the left part of the wing has two in filled carriage bays with canted corners and modern overhead garage doors and a brick chimney. Trim includes narrow corner boards, and returns in the gable ends. The windows are  $\frac{6}{6}$  wood frame sash on all elevations and there is a raking window on the south elevation overlooking the wing.

#### 8a. Barn, c. 2007, non-contributing.

The single story, gable roof, vernacular barn has an east elevation facing the Darling Hill Road. The timber frame building (16' x 26') rests on poles with no siding and a sheet metal roof. It is non-contributing due to age.

#### 8b. Shed, 2000, non-contributing.

This small wooden shed stands to the east of the Barn (8a). It has a metal roof with gable front and gambrel rear. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

9. Eber Howland Farmhouse, 2486 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1810, contributing (E. Howland' on the 1858 map and 'A. Howland' on the 1875 map).

The 58.95-acre property includes the historic house and garage, a modern house, cottage and treehouse, and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 x 2 bay historic Cape Cod style house with offset entrance has a west elevation facing the road. The frame house (24' x 24') sits on a brick foundation with clapboard siding, steeply pitched, asphalt shingle roof, central brick chimney and an exterior modern brick chimney on the east end wall. The front (south) elevation has a boarded entrance door with a 5-light transom offset to the right and is flanked by 9/6 windows. On the west elevation are two 6/4 windows on the first floor and one in the gable peak. The east end of the house has a long, gable roof, clapboard, 3 bay wing (21' x 49'). The left bay is filled with a large, multi-pane window and door opening and two bays with arched carriage openings with keystones and 9 light fixed windows above along the south elevation. Above each opening is a 9 light window. A shed-roof addition, now used as a woodshed, at the end of the wing has a smaller arched opening (12' x 20'). Trim includes thin corner boards.

### 9a. Garage, c. 1920, contributing.

This frame single-bay, gable roof building (12' x 22') sits on a fieldstone foundation with vertical board siding and sheet metal roof. There is a hinged double garage entrance door on the west elevation and a 2/2 window on the south elevation.

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9b. Modern House, 2516 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 1973, non-contributing.

This 2 ½ story, gable-roofed building with dormers and an exterior chimney stands behind a screen of trees to the east of the historic <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u>. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

#### 9c. Modern Garage, c.1975, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story Modern Garage with gable roof and board and batten wood siding stands directly north of the house at 2516 Darling Hill Road, at the end of a short driveway. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

#### 9d. Cottage, 1984, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story, gable-roofed building stands to the southeast of the historic <u>Eber</u> <u>Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u>, behind a screen of trees. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

#### 9e. Treehouse, 1990, non-contributing.

This single-story, elevated building with gable roof stands in the trees to the southeast of the historic <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u>. It has a small porch and a cupola at one end. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

10. John Howland and Son Farmhouse, 2732 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1830, contributing (not on the 1858 map and 'J. Howland & Son' on the 1875 map).

This 4.2-acre property includes a house, barns (3), a modern garage and open fields marked with stone walls. The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, eaves front late Cape Cod style house with plain trim and gable returns has a west elevation facing Darling Hill Road. The frame 3x3 bay house (29' x 34') sits on a granite block foundation with clapboard siding and standing seam metal roof. There is a central brick chimney on the house and an exterior brick chimney on the east elevation of the ell. The center entry has  $\frac{3}{4}$ sidelights. Front windows are 1/1s. The porch has a shallow hip roof supported on wood posts with a balustrade between the posts. The side (east) elevation has an ell (26' 30') with a matching porch and 2 dormers on the roof. There is a French door on the east elevation; and a full-length shed dormer on the north elevation. Windows are an assortment of modern single-light and 1/1 wood frame sash. There are 2 small fixed sash in the gable end eaves. In the front yard stands the empty, iron frame of the original Darling Estate Farm sign, set on a free-standing wooden post.

#### 10a. Garage, 1996, non-contributing.

The frame, 3 bay, Garage (30' x 36') sits on a concrete foundation with clapboard siding and asphalt shingle roof. Windows are an assortment of modern 6/6 and fixed six-light wood sash. It is non-contributing due to age.

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10b. Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, 2x13 bay gable-front vernacular Barn (25' x 50') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical board siding and a metal roof. The east elevation has a shed roof addition (14' x 21'). There are four doors on the north elevation. The fixed stable windows are 4, 6 and 12 lights. There is a sliding barn door and a pedestrian door on the east (front) elevation with an open window in the gable peak. There are ten 3/3 windows on the south elevation and a pedestrian door in the 9<sup>th</sup> bay. There is a hip roof ventilator capped with a ball finial on a square base with paired rectangular louvered openings on all sides.

#### 10c. Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gable-front bank Barn (45' x 64') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical board siding and a metal roof. The east (front) elevation has a sliding barn door and an entry door near each corner with a single fixed six pane wood sable window next to each door. In the gable peak is a 12 light window. The west elevation has a gable roof addition (13' x 20') with a sliding barn door and entry door on the south elevation. The barn has a random pattern of fixed 4, 6 and 12 light windows on the south, west and north elevations.

#### 10d. Barn, c. 1900, contributing.

The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, frame, gable-front vernacular Barn (25' x 70') sits on a fieldstone foundation, with vertical board siding, a metal roof. There is a square, louvered cupola on the ridge of the roof. The west elevation has a shed roof addition (18' x 23'). There is a wagon door and an entry door on the east wall. The barn has fixed windows with 4, 6 and 9 lights on the south, west and north elevations, including a 9 light window in the front gable peak.

#### 11. Darling Hill Road Allée, c. 1900-1910, contributing.

This scenic, designed landscape feature symbolizes Elmer Darling's vision of the gentleman farmer and stands in contrast to the surrounding vernacular landscape of open agricultural fields and woodlands. Most of the centuries-old silver maple trees of the allée have survived and continue to mark sections of the road within the Historic District, thus constituting an historic site. The trees range from 40 to 60 feet in height and stand fairly uniformly spaced about 10 to 20 feet apart, roughly 3 feet from the edge of the road on either side. Along certain sections of the road, such as the east side of the road in front of <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>, towering evergreens line the route instead, shielding the historic home from the road. From north to south, Darling's silver maple allée retains a high level of integrity to the historic period of significance primarily in two sections: from the <u>Benjamin Belden Farmhouse (#3)</u> past <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> to the south of the <u>Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse (#5)</u>; and from <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> south past the John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10), the <u>William D. Goss Farmhouse (#6)</u>,

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the Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9), and the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse (#7) (see map).

12. 3923 Darling Hill Road, Burke, 1984, non-contributing.

This 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, gable-roofed home with clapboards is located on 17 acres adjacent to the northeast edge of <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> on the west side of Darling Hill Road. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

### 12a. Garage, 1984, non-contributing.

This gable-roofed two bay garage stands to the north of the house at 3923 Darling Hill Road, at the end of a short driveway. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

13. 3832 Darling Hill Road, Burke, 1984, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story brick house with clapboard gables, attached garage and a portico with Ionic columns is located on 76.56 acres on the east side of Darling Hill Road, at the end of a short driveway lined with single-globe lamps with black posts. The driveway entrance is marked with two brick and granite pillars, and a relocated Darling Estate farm sign stands in the front yard. This building was constructed after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

#### 13a. Pool House, c.1985, non-contributing.

The single story, gable-roofed Bath House with porch extension stands to the east of the house at 3832 Darling Hill Road. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

13b. Swimming Pool, c.1985, non-contributing.

The in-ground Swimming Pool north of the Pool House was built after the historic period of significance and is a non-contributing structure.

14. 3298 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 1998, non-contributing.

This large, 1 ½ story gable-roofed home with 3-part step down massing and attached salt box roof garage stands on 11.3 acres on the east side of Darling Hill Road opposite <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

15. 3159 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, c. 1960, contributing.

This 1 ½ story, gable-roofed 3 bay house with tripartite picture windows, clapboard siding and a large off-center chimney and attached garage wing stands on 6.5 acres adjacent to the southeastern corner of <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>. Visible in an aerial from 1962, it was built near the end of the historic period of significance.

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16. 84 Willoughby Way, Lyndon, 1984, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story reproduction Cape style house with clapboard siding and attached two bay garage stands on 10.1 acres and is located on the north side of Willoughby Way. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

17. 155 Willoughby Way, Lyndon, 1986, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story, gable-roofed reproduction Cape style house with clapboard siding, an off-center chimney and a rear continuous shed dormer stands on 28.49 acres and is located at the west end of Willoughby Way. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

17a. Garage, Lyndon, 2006, non-contributing.

This red garage with three arched bays and a hip roof is associated with #155 Willoughby Way. It was built after the historic period of significance and is noncontributing.

17b. Barn, Lyndon, 1986, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story barn with loft door is associated with #155 Willoughby Way. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

18. 157 Willoughby Way, Lyndon, 1986, non-contributing.

This 1 ½ story, gable-roofed cottage with clapboard siding is located immediately east of #155 Willoughby Way. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

19. 2006 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 2000, non-contributing.

This white, gable-roofed two story house with wrap-around two story porch stands on 1.3 acres and is located on the north side of Willoughby Way. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

19a. Garage, Lyndon, 1987, non-contributing.

This one bay, gable-roofed garage with an overhead garage door is associated with #2006 Darling Hill Road. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

20. 1620 Darling Hill Road, Lyndon, 1981, non-contributing.

This modern, gable-roofed two-story home stands on 73.1 acres and is located on a rise to the east of Darling Hill Road, opposite the <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis</u> <u>Farmhouse (#8)</u>. It has multiple windows and extensions of the side walls on the south side. It was built after the historic period of significance and is non-contributing.

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#### Summary

The Darling Estate Historic District is significant as a very well-preserved rural historic landscape that incorporates a series of early 19th century hill farms that were consolidated and expanded by Elmer A. Darling into a model gentleman farm in the early 20th century. Darling's progressive model farm was named Mountain View Farm, and included a number of companion farms along Darling Hill Road that are today collectively known as the Darling Estate. The District also includes Darling's mansion, known as Burklyn Hall (#1), a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Elmer Darling was a member of the social and economic class of wealthy Victorians that became gentleman farmers chiefly for pleasure rather than income. The District holds significance under National Register Criterion A because the resources are associated with events and patterns that made an important contribution to the agricultural development of Burke and Lyndon, first in the Vermont historic context of small-scale diversified agriculture, and later as an example of an extensive gentleman farm associated with the Vermont contexts of stock breeding, dairying, and agricultural processing. The District also holds architectural significance under Criterion C because the resources represent good examples of architectural styles popular in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20th centuries in Vermont. The District is a composite of domestic architectural styles that include early Vermont house forms and popular architectural styles such as Cape Cod, Greek Revival and Colonial Revival, as well as agricultural building types. Several architect-designed buildings are interesting and unusual in this predominately agricultural area. The period of significance is c. 1810 to 1960, beginning with the construction date for the oldest surviving agricultural homestead in the District (#9) and ending with the Darling family's sale of the estate's central property, Mountain View Farm (#4). This period extends from the area's early 19th century agricultural development as individual subsistence farms to their early 20th century consolidation and development into Elmer Darling's gentleman farm, capturing 150 years of continuous, traditional agricultural activity in this landscape. The District contains 10 historic properties that functioned collectively in the development and successful operation of Darling's hilltop estate, which was one of only a handful of gentleman farms in Vermont. Today, the District looks much as it did during the period of significance, and modern residential development has generally been integrated into the landscape in a manner sensitive to its historic character. Early 20th century patterns of agricultural land use are still evident in the historic farmsteads and surrounding landscape of fields, pastures and woodlands, as well as the maple tree allée along Dramatic hilltop views from the road extend to the distant Darling Hill Road. mountains to the east and west, just as they have for centuries. The agricultural traditions that created this cultural landscape are two centuries old, and were conserved and improved through the social and cultural efforts of Elmer A. Darling. The District is being nominated at the state level of significance.

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Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

Early Settlement and Diversified Agriculture on Darling Hill

Settlers of European ancestry first came to Darling Hill in the decades after the Revolutionary War. In order to survive in the harsh, remote and demanding environment of northern Vermont, early homesteaders practiced a diversified form of agriculture that helped cushion them against starvation. While farmers to the south and along the coast were already launching into specialized agriculture by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the future Northeast Kingdom and many other parts of New England lagged behind. "Vermont's inland location and rugged terrain made access to major markets both difficult and expensive. In addition to problems of transportation and market access, competition with the West proved a significant barrier to agricultural specialization".<sup>1</sup>

The 1989 Vermont Historic Preservation Plan, entitled *Our Cultural Heritage*, aptly summarizes this situation: "The main concern of Vermont's pioneer settlers was basic survival, and the early years of settlement were spent clearing land and ensuring that the family was provided with the basics of shelter, food and clothing. As land clearance took several years, the initial crops of corn and wheat were often planted around the stumps of felled trees. Eventually the stumps were removed to the edges of fields and placed in a tight line to form fencing. This served the dual purpose of keeping the livestock from wandering and marking the farm's boundaries. In addition to the raising of foodstuffs, another primary concern of the early settler was the provision of shelter, for both family and livestock. A family's first house was typically a crude cabin built of logs. It was not until a community grew large enough to support a sawmill that sawn lumber was available for building and the early log structures were replaced with more permanent houses and barns".<sup>2</sup>

The massive scale of these clearing operations is evidenced by the fact that until the early years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Vermont's primary cash crop was potash, or processed tree ashes. The ashes were stored in small masonry structures, or ash houses, and used to make soap, gunpowder and bleach. By 1800, the clearing of land and associated mass tree burnings had slowed. The newly-improved fields were used for a variety of crops, and wheat gradually took the lead as Vermont's new cash crop. Other crops raised during this period included "flax for clothing, hay, oats, barley, rye and buckwheat. Small kitchen gardens were planted next to the farmhouse to raise foodstuffs such as peas, cabbage, beans, turnips, beets, pumpkins, carrots and potatoes, all of which were typically stored in the house cellar, or separate root cellar. Apple trees, ranging from a single planting to whole orchards, were a common feature on the early farms. Other fruits such as berries, pears, grapes and plums were raised on some farms, though with less success as apples not only thrived in Vermont's climate but they were also the easiest fruit to ship long distances".<sup>3</sup>

Many of the farms along Darling Hill Road were established during this period, in the final decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Some of the District's initial farmsteads and many of the associated landscapes included elements such as log structures,

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outbuildings, kitchen gardens and orchards as well as agricultural fields whose size grew over time.

#### Homesteading in Burke

Post Revolutionary War settlement in the Town of Burke began on the high ridge of land that came to be known as Humphrey Hill, Bemis Hill and later Darling Hill. James Whitelaw (1748-1829), Vermont's second surveyor general, published a large, wall-sized map of the state in 1796 that clearly shows a road running along this ridge. Eventually known as Darling Hill Road (or Bemis Road in Lyndon), this represents the first road cut in the area.<sup>4</sup> Running south to north along the highest ridge of land, Darling Hill Road was the location for the earliest homesteaders in this area. The primary social and economic unit of life for these pioneers was the traditional, smallscale, diversified New England farmstead with its acreage, buildings and fields. In the Census of August 1800, 22 families comprising a total of 108 residents were listed for the small settlement of Burke.

In the summer of 1792, Lemuel Walter (1742-1844) began Burke's first homestead on Darling Hill Road, and brought his family there in 1794. In 1796 the Town of Burke was organized at Walter's house, and Walter himself was elected Town Clerk at the first town meeting in 1797. Benjamin F. and Sarah Jenkins purchased the 130-acre farm from Lemuel and Chandler C. Walter in 1873, and subsequently sold it to Elmer Darling in 1886. The original Walter family farmhouse on the property burned down around 1890. Darling financed construction of the current house and associated carriage house on the same site in 1892 (Lucius A. Darling House, #5).<sup>5</sup>

Ozias Humphrey, Sr. (1752-1826) was one of the 65 original proprietors of the Town of Burke. Ozias and his wife Mary Parsons had twelve children and their oldest son Abel was the first in the family to homestead here in 1800. Ozias and Sylvester Hall operated a Saw Mill in Burke Hollow and constructed five houses before 1807. Ozias' last son of twelve children was Erastus (1796-1891), who built a 2 story Greek Revival style farmhouse (c. 1840). Erastus and Hannah Humphrey had five children and their second son, Julius (1830-1907), lived in this house until his death. The building was razed around 1957 and only the stone foundation remains today. Following Julius' death, the 245-acre Erastus and Julius Humphrey Farm (#2) was purchased from the family by Elmer Darling. The present Side Hall style House (#2) and gable-front, bank style Dairy Barn (#2a) were built around 1908 for farm employees to manage a new herd of dairy cows.<sup>6</sup>

Sylvester Hall (1774-1854) of Wallingford, Connecticut, settled on Darling Hill Road just south of the Belden place (#3) in 1800. Sylvester and Lucy Hurlbert had thirteen children and one of their sons, Harley M. Hall (1818-1878), married Rosalie S. Denison in 1846. Harley built the Greek Revival style Harley M. Hall Farmhouse (later known as the <u>Mountain View Farmhouse</u>, #4) around 1855. Following her husband's death Rosalie sold the 300-acre farm to Elmer Darling in 1883.

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Asahel Burrington, Esq. (1791-1882) wrote an early account of Burke and his letter was published in Abby Hemenway's first <u>Vermont Historical Gazetteer</u> in 1867. In Hemenway's publication S. N. Welch wrote that every summer beginning in 1791, the proprietors of the Town of Burke sent the surveyor Benjamin Belden (1756-1820) from Farmington, Connecticut, to act as their agent in land sales. Belden, Sr. became a permanent resident in 1805 at what became the <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farm (#3)</u>. The Cape Cod style Benjamin F. Belden, Jr. (1791-1866) Farmhouse (#3) and Belden Barn (#3a) were built around 1825. The 120-acre farmstead passed to Benjamin F. Belden's son William Belden (1834-1911). William and his wife Mary V. sold the property to Elmer Darling in 1887.

#### Homesteading in Lyndon

In 1780, the Town of Lyndon was granted to Jonathan Arnold of Providence, Rhode Island. Daniel Cahoon, Jr. of Providence settled in Lyndon in 1788 and by 1791 the town had 59 residents.<sup>7</sup> A local history letter written by the Honorable George C. Cahoon was published in Abby Hemenway's first *Vermont Historical Gazetteer* in 1867.<sup>8</sup>

In 1796 Captain Elias Bemis (1773-?) and his cousin, Wait Bemis (1772-1847), moved from Spencer, Massachusetts to settle on Bemis Hill (later known as Darling Hill) in Lyndon. Humphrey Road, extending south of the Burke town line into the Town of Lyndon, was named after these first families to settle here and known as Bemis Hill Road (this road later came to be known as Darling Hill Road in both towns). Captain Elias married Content Jenks and they had seven children, including Elias Jr. (1799-1843). Two farmhouses are illustrated on this Bemis land by the 1858 map: W. Bemis' and 'A. Bemis' (named for Elias's two sons Welcome (1797-1877) and Amasa (1801-1869). Both buildings are located immediately north of the District No. 11 Schoolhouse (#7a), which is also indicated on the 1858 map. Today's farm is indicated as the <u>Alonzo</u> <u>O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> (named for two sons of Amasa; Alonzo O. and Joshua (1834-1922)) on the 1875 map, and was built around 1840. In 1887 this farm supported 14 thoroughbred Shorthorn Durham cows, 22 full blood Shorthorn cattle, 35 full blood Southdown sheep, 1 Henry Clay brood mare, 9 Chester White swine and 1,000 sugar maple trees on 550 acres of land.<sup>9</sup>

Wait Bemis married Relief Ayers and they had eight children. On this portion of the Bemis land, "W. Bemis' is indicated on the 1858 map. The <u>Alfred and Welcome A.</u> <u>Bemis Farmhouse (#8)</u> (named for grandsons of Elias Bemis, Alfred (1823-1902) and Welcome A. (1828-1910)) was built around 1840 and is indicated as 'W. Bemis & Sons' on the 1875 map. In 1875 it was a stock farm for breeding Alderney cattle, and in 1887 it supported 41 thoroughbred Jersey cows, 31 Cotswold sheep, Chester White swine, 1 Morgan and Star brood mare and 1,500 sugar maple trees on 442 acres of land.<sup>10</sup> Together, these two large Bemis families farmed land on Darling Hill in Lyndon for over a century, giving this portion of the District the historic name of Bemis Hill. Elmer Darling purchased the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> from the family in 1906, and the Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8) in 1910.<sup>11</sup>

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Another of the early settlements on Darling Hill Road was that of Eber Howland (1805-1894), who acquired property to the north of the Bemis farms and south of the Burke town line. The Cape Cod style home eventually known as the <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> was built around 1810 and is indicated as 'E. Howland' on the 1858 map. Two farmhouses are illustrated on the Howland homestead on the 1875 map, 'J. Howland and Son' and 'A. Howland'. The Abner Howland Farmhouse is indicated on the 1875 map as standing just south of the John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10]. John Howland (1792-1880) married Eunice Eggleston in 1815 and they had three sons, Eber D. (1820-?), Abner F. (1830-1910) and John A. (1835-1869). The Cape Cod style John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10] was built around 1830. The Howland land included a 12-acre farm owned by Eber Howland, Jr. and a 385-acre farm owned by Abner F. Howland. In 1887 the Abner F. Howland Farm (later known as the <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse, #9</u>) supported 26 grade Devon and Durham cattle and 3,500 sugar maple trees on 385 acres.<sup>12</sup> Between 1902 and 1910 Elmer Darling purchased both the John Howland and Son Farm (#10) and the Eber Howland Farm (#9).<sup>13</sup>

In 1875 William D. Goss acquired the Henry Hunt Farm from William Hurdy (1853-?) and his wife Martha (1853-?), who had bought the farm from Henry Hunt in 1878.<sup>14</sup> This property is indicated as 'H. Hunt' on the 1858 map and is located on Bemis Hill. At the time Goss acquired it, "the farm and buildings were in run-down condition, with no house upon the farm". <sup>15</sup> In 1887 the <u>William D. Goss Farm (#6)</u> supported 15 grade Devon cattle and 30 Cotswold and Merino sheep on 160 acres. Three years later, Goss paid off the mortgage and "built a new house, repaired all outbuildings and much improved the farm in general". He also gave it the new name, 'Grand View Farm'. <sup>16</sup> Elmer Darling purchased the <u>William D. Goss Farm (#6)</u> in 1906.<sup>17</sup>

The legacy of the early Burke and Lyndon homesteaders lives on in the historic character of today's Darling Estate Historic District. The District is significant in the area of agriculture (the process and technology of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock and plants) because the Vermont farming traditions of these homesteaders was continued by subsequent generations. The District is also significant in the area of architecture (the practical art of designing and constructing buildings and structures to serve human needs) because examples of the historic styles (Cape Cod, Classic Cottage and Greek Revival) are still present.

#### Village of East Burke

The settlement that became the Village of East Burke began with John Walter's Saw Mill (c. 1805) on the south bank of Dishmill Brook. A house was built near here in 1810 by William Godding (1776-1850). Rufus Godding sold land to Joseph Woods to encourage him to build the first timber frame East Burke Dam to supply waterpower for his saw mill that was in operation by 1825. Two roads were opened on the west side of a covered bridge over the East Branch of the Passumpsic River; one parallel to the river leading north to Burke Hollow and one (now called East Darling Hill Road) leading up to

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the earliest farms in Burke along the ridge. In 1826 Woods built a grist mill on the east bank of the river. The first frame house and blacksmith shop were built in 1827 by C. C. Newell. Around 1830 Willard Spencer purchased the mill lot and constructed a dwelling house, shop and new grist mill to serve the growing village. In 1852 Spencer sold the mill to Dudley P. Hall. Following the freshet of 1853, Hall repaired the East Burke Dam and grist mill and constructed a new saw mill (later demolished). The Hall Saw Mill was purchased in 1886 by Elmer Darling to supply lumber and millwork for all the construction projects at the farms he acquired.<sup>18</sup> Thus, the location of the dam and the processing facilities it soon powered gave rise to the formation of the small Vermont village of East Burke. (For a discussion of these industries, see section on Darling's Industrial Properties, below). The only industrial structure still standing in the village is the historic East Burke Dam. Although not included in this Historic District nomination, the East Burke Dam has local significance as a surviving industrial structure that drove the growth and development of the Village of East Burke in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Another important resource that came to the Lyndon area in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was the railroad. Originally chartered in1835, the Connecticut and Passumpsic Railroad was formally named and organized under the leadership of Erastus Fairbanks in 1846. The first stretch of the road was opened in 1847 and ran from White River Junction to Bradford, Vermont. The railroad is shown running north through Lyndon and Burke on a historic map from 1858 (see Walling map), and was completed to Barton, Vermont in 1859. The road passed through the western edge of the future Darling Estate, from north to south along the West Branch of the Passumpsic River. It reached the Canadian border in 1863, a total of 110 miles from White River Junction. Through a series of loan transactions it was subsequently leased to the Boston and Maine Railroad, and became the Passumpsic Division of that railway in 1887.<sup>19</sup>

The Connecticut and Passumpsic River Railroad was headquartered for a time in Lyndonville and served as an important north-south transportation route throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. As described by one 1906 account: "The Boston and Maine Road, Passumpsic Division, winding its way up the Connecticut and Passumpsic River Valleys from White River Junction...not only affords connection with Montreal and Sherbrooke, its northern terminus in Canada, but it is also the outlet of the Barton, Salem, and Newport granite". Thus, this railway was both a passenger and a freight line at the height of Elmer Darling's time on Darling Hill. With the inceasing use of automobiles in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the railroad transitioned entirely to freight and continues to operate in this capacity today as part of the Vermont Railroad.<sup>20</sup>

#### The Darling Family in Burke

The Darling family first came to the Burke and Lyndon area of Vermont in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Ebenezer Darling (1787-1858), son of Joshua Darling of Hopkinton, Massachusetts, settled in Burke immediately after the War of 1812 and cleared land

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between the farms of Elder Peleg Hicks and Abner Coe north of Burke Green. The first justice of the peace Benjamin Belden married Ebenezer and Abigail Fisher, a sister of Timothy Fisher who was also a newcomer to Burke. Ebenezer and Abigail farmed the land, had eight children and Ebenezer served in the Vermont Legislature in 1828.<sup>21</sup>

Ebenezer and Abigail's third son, Alfred Burbank Darling (1821-1896), lived with his mother's family until he was 21. Alfred traveled to Boston and was employed at the Revere House by Paran Stevens where he "developed a fine capacity for management both in the financial and domestic departments". Alfred did some traveling with Paran Stevens and opened the "famous old" Battle House in Mobile, Alabama. Just before the Civil War they returned north and Stevens purchased the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, which he reopened with Alfred Darling as his partner.<sup>22</sup>

The prestigious Fifth Avenue Hotel was built for Amos Eno in 1859 on Madison Square, at the busy intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue in Manhattan. The sixstory hotel boasted 1,000 guest rooms, gas lighting, and an elevator. Upon the death of Stevens, Hiram A. Hitchcock (1832-1900), of Hanover, New Hampshire, became Alfred B. Darling's partner. In 1872, at the age of 24, Alfred's nephew Elmer A. Darling went to work at the hotel, where he became his uncle's private secretary. Elmer was eventually named a partner in the hotel in 1890. Meanwhile, Uncle Alfred established a gentleman horse farm named *Darlington* in Ramsey, New Jersey, in 1872. Upon Uncle Alfred's death in 1896, Elmer continued to work as one of the hotel proprietors with Charles N. Vilas (1853-1931), of Alsted, New Hampshire until 1908, when the famous New York City hotel was demolished to make way for a modern office building in Manhattan.<sup>23</sup>

Alfred B. Darling's younger brother, Henry George Darling (1816-1902), married Mehitabel Whitcomb (1820-1906) and they had four children: (Elmer (1848-1931), Scott (1851-1885), Louise A. (1854-1925) and Lucius A. (1857-1937). Together, Alfred B. Darling and Elmer A. Darling left a legacy of historic preservation, philanthropy and stewardship that made them the most prominent benefactors in the history of Burke and Lyndon. Neither Elmer Darling nor his younger sister Louise A. ever married. Elmer's younger brother Lucius married Margaret Macdonald (1873-1952) and they had two children Pearl M. (1892-1901) and Henry G. Darling, II (1898-1986).<sup>24</sup>

#### Gentleman Farms

In the Gilded Age, prominent and wealthy New Yorkers established gentleman farms in Vermont. Writing in 1903 William Frederick Dix, the editor of <u>Town and</u> <u>Country</u> magazine, called the "establishing of country homes by people who live, for the most part of the year in the city", as the "most significant and important social change" in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Dix noted how "many of these city trained sons of country families would retain their love for and pride in the old home" and the "boundless energy of the American business man is not yet exhausted when he has won his fortune. He seeks larger interests than his business, his city home, his club and his politics". These wealthy men created country estates where they developed an "interest

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in landscape gardening and gentleman farming, stock raising, the preservation of the forests and trout streams, the breeding of blooded dogs and cattle, fine poultry, and the application of modern science and enlightenment to the art and pursuit of agriculture." <sup>25</sup> The practice of setting up country estates carried on an already established New England tradition. Hoping to partake of the power and prestige of the British landed classes by imitating their way of life, Boston's merchants started building country seats to go along with their town houses in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This practice came to Vermont in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when a series of outstanding country estates were established by not only the Darling family but the Webb, Billings and Vail families.

In 1886, Dr. William Seward Webb (1851-1926) and Lila Vanderbilt Webb founded Shelburne Farms in Shelburne, Vermont as a 'model farm' (today the farm is a National Historic Landmark first listed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 11, 1980). Their estate "retained something of the older spirit of experimental agriculture, but the scale and nature of their operations, the centerpiece of which was a chateau-like barn occupying almost two acres, partook far more aristocratic display than republican philanthropy". Webb's land assemblage included thirty small farms. He also retained the services of Frederick Law Olmsted, a famous landscape architect whose Natural Style was favored by estate builders of the Victorian era. Webb had a "passion for horses" that culminated in construction of the Breeding Barn (1891). This building was the largest of its kind in America, and stabled over three hundred animals. The hub of the agricultural operations was a five-story Farm Barn (1890). By 1900, Shelburne Farms encompassed 3,800 acres.<sup>26</sup>

Frederick Billings (1823-1890) attorney, railroad magnate and philanthropist purchased the Charles Marsh (1765-1849) estate in Woodstock, Vermont in 1869 (his farm became a National Historic Landmark on June 11, 1967). Billings developed "a 'model farm' to breed horses, to demonstrate that there could be an alliance between commercial and conservation, between town and country". The Billings estate showcased a dairy farm with prize-winning Jersey cows, a creamery (c. 1890) and a large forestry operation that by 1900 included over 2,000 acres.<sup>27</sup>

Theodore Newton Vail (1845-1920) acquired the Calvin Bigelow Farm in Lyndon Center, Vermont (1883) and enlarged it into a mansion that he named Speedwell Farms (1891). Vail was the first president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (1909), founded the Vail School of Agriculture (1910) and was a prominent local philanthropist. Vail acquired nearly twenty farms and the estate totaled over 2,500 acres. His 'model farm' raised Welsh ponies and Percherons, Polled Angus and Brown Swiss cattle and Shropshire sheep. His Jersey herd supplied milk for the Lyndonville Creamery. Vail joined Iphus Hall, W. I. Powers and Elmer Darling in establishing the Lyndonville Creamery in 1890. The Vail School of Agriculture became part of the Lyndon Institute (1920) and the mansion became the Lyndon Teacher's College (1951). Vail was a friend and social peer of Elmer Darling, and his estate was located only five miles south of Darling's Burklyn Hall (#1).<sup>28</sup>

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Like Darling, Webb, Billings and Vail represent an economic and social class of 'gentlemen farmers' that created turn of the century 'model farms' in Vermont and applied business principles to agriculture. Vermont landscape historian William C. Lipke wrote that these American agricultural estates were "entirely modern". Modernity in this context specifically meant the "scientific" management of agriculture, or the application of certain approaches and techniques to farming that were the outgrowth of the colleges of agriculture recently established by federal legislation. Thanks to this new methodology Darling, along with Webb, Billings and Vail, was able to develop a scale of agricultural pursuit in Vermont that utilized the latest advances in farming techniques, practices, new inventions and improvements, all of which were well within their financial reach. There was "an overwhelming sense of stewardship associated with the management of these large farm and woodland properties". These 'model farms' contained a variety of enterprises, from forestry to livestock to orchards to field crops.29 Agricultural historian Tamara Plakins Thornton wrote: "It is notable that these new gentleman farmers, unlike their predecessors, settled in remote areas of New England where agricultural decline and rural depopulation and old farmland cheap and readily available and where railroad lines from New York fast and convenient."30 In addition to Webb, Billings, Vail and Darling, other gentleman farmers in Vermont include Willard S. Martin of Greatwood Farms in Plainfield (now Goddard College, listed on the National Register on March 7, 1996), Joseph Battell's Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge (listed on the National Register on April 11, 1973) and H. C. R. Watson's Forest Park Farm in Brandon.31

The legacy of these iconic gentleman farmers is well preserved in Vermont. The former Webb estate is now Shelburne Farms (1972), listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and identified as a National Historic Landmark in 2001. The former Billings estate is a National Historic Landmark (1967) and is now part of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park (1992). The Vail mansion and farm buildings were torn down in 1974, while the property became a part of Lyndon State College. A roadside state historic marker commemorates Vail's contributions to national, state and local history. Elmer Darling's <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> functions as a privately-owned inn, restaurant and animal sanctuary. Darling's mansion, <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>, is privately owned and the associated historic barns west of the road are still used as a horse farm.

Establishment of the Elmer Darling Estate: Mountain View Farm in Burke

The Historic District is significant in the area of agriculture because Mr. Darling constructed and operated Mountain View Farm, a successful 'gentleman farm,' for nearly 50 years. This property served as a model of progressive farming throughout the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Elmer Darling shared the same vision as many of his wealthy, urban Victorian contemporaries: a country estate. His vision of a 'gentleman' or 'model farm' was both a status symbol for successful entrepreneurs and an expression of class identity in the

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Gilded Age. The farms that Darling acquired in Burke and Lyndon had not been abandoned or marginalized because each of them had withstood the generations of outmigration so common among other Vermont hill farms in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1883, at age 35, Darling acquired his first farm with the purchase of the Harley M. Hall Farm (#4) in Burke. The farmhouse became an occasional residence for Elmer, as well as a residence for his parents, his brother and his sister.32 In 1875, Harley M. Hall (1818-1878) was a dealer and breeder of Devon Cattle and Cotswold Sheep. Hall's widow, Rosalie S. Hall (1850-1927) sold the 300-acre farm to Elmer Elmer's only sister Louise was the bookkeeper for the expanding farm Darling. operations. Elmer's only brother, 26-year-old Lucius, was attending Bryant & Stratton Business College in Boston, Massachusetts in 1883 when Elmer decided to retain him to manage the farm. Lucius supervised workers in the construction and maintenance of buildings, buying and selling livestock and overseeing all seasonal activities on the various farms along Darling Hill Road. Lucius lived in the big farmhouse until his marriage in 1892, served as a town selectman (12 years) and represented Burke for the Republican Party in the Vermont House of Representatives (1900-1902 sessions). Lucius later served as State Senator for Caledonia County (1912-1913) and following his brother's death became a director of the Lyndonville Savings Bank and Trust (1931-1937).33

Elmer Darling renamed the former Hall Farm Mountain View Farm (MVF) for its commanding view of Burke Mountain (elevation 3,267') to the east. <u>Mountain View</u> <u>Farm (#4)</u> is located on the high ridge of land that runs through the Towns of Lyndon and Burke. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century this land (Darling Hill) was known as Humphrey Hill in Burke and Bemis Hill in Lyndon. Following Darling's numerous land acquisitions in subsequent years, the ridge became known as Darling Hill.

At the time of its acquisition by Darling in 1883, the Hall Farm included a 2 story Greek Revival style Farmhouse (#4), constructed around 1855, and at least one barn. Managed by Lucius Darling, by 1887 this farm had 42 thoroughbred Jersey dairy cows, 51 registered Devon cattle, 32 grade Cotswold sheep, Chester White swine, 2 Morgan brood mares, and 700 maple trees for producing maple sugar. Darling financed the remodeling of the Farmhouse for his relatives, and by 1890 the building had a 2 story addition on its southwest corner with extra kitchen space and bedrooms for hired farm workers.<sup>34</sup>

The farm continued to grow in the years that followed. Around 1885 the 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  story, square (46') Scale Barn (#4a) was constructed specifically for the installation of a Fairbanks Wagon and Stock Scale that was accessible from a high drive with a bridge on the west elevation. The scale has a wood platform (8' x 16') and can weigh a load up to 3,000 pounds. As Darling's dairy ambitions grew, the Scale Barn soon received three very large dairy barn additions. Around 1890 the field stone foundation of the Hall barn (c. 1855) was used to build a four-story dairy barn (46' x 181') that was connected on its east elevation to the Scale Barn. Another three-story dairy barn (46' x 125') was constructed on the Scale Barn's south elevation. In 1906, this massive barn received a

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comparable addition (46' x 171') on the north elevation. The historic four-section barn is still intact. All three additions to the Scale and Dairy Barn (#4a) were built by a construction crew managed by Curtis Mooney of Lyndon. Each of the roof lines of these four connected barns feature a weathervane. On the Scale Barn is a life-size Jersey cow vane, while on each of the Dairy Barn additions is a scroll with a letter 'D' and two eagles.

Around 1890, Darling financed construction of a 1 ½ story frame Creamery (#4i) that featured a "10 horse-power automatic engine with 13 horse-power boiler for power and heat". The engine ran the cream separator, pump and an Appleton grain mill. The old rotary grinding mill with a capacity of 12 bushels per hour was replaced in 1896 by a larger Appleton grain mill of the same pattern. At first only butter was made at the Creamery, but after 1896 cheese was also produced here. At the turn of the century Darling's Creamery was well positioned to capitalize on the available technology and the concept of a centralized factory for cheese production.<sup>35</sup>

By 1896, farm manager Lucius Darling employed an average of 12 men, some of whom lived in the "company-owned cottages and farmhouses", to work a farm measuring 816 acres, according to Burke historian Mabel H. Walters in <u>The St.</u> <u>Johnsbury Republican</u>.<sup>36</sup> In 1905 the Creamery workers produced a record fifty pounds of butter in a day and 9,000 pounds of cheese were made from June till October. In August of 1905 the Creamery shipped a ton and a half to Darling's hotel in New York. Frank McDonald (1865-1929) was manager of cheese production, and oversaw the completion of 70 pounds per day in 8-pound, 30-pound and 50-pound cheeses. Packed in round wood boxes, this cheese was ripened for 30 to 45 days before transport by railroad to New York City. The Repair Shop (Tool House, #4d) was "the gathering place of the men employed on the farm" with carpenter and plumbing tools, along with 8 lockable tool closets for each repairman.<sup>37</sup>

Meanwhile, around 1890 Darling also added a carriage house, bull barn, piggery, Tool House (#4d), Ice House (#4e) and Pump House (#4b) to the west of the Creamery. In addition, behind the enormous Scale Barn and Dairy Barns (#4a) stood a 2 story Threshing Barn (#4f) built for 'The Champion'', a thresher manufactured by the Ellis Keystone Agricultural Works of Pottstown, Pennsylvania and distributed through the Brackett Shaw & Lunt Company of Summersworth, NH and Boston, MA. Large agricultural machinery including two sulky plows, a corn planter, grain seeder, ballbearing mowing machine, harvester, Osborn horse rake, harrows, rollers and other plows were stored on the bottom floor (now removed) of the original Threshing Barn. Walters reported that "all these stables and houses are kept sweet and clean, with fresh sawdust in the stables, all litter from the hay and straw swept out and even the cobwebs chased away".<sup>38</sup>

In 1897 a 2 ½ story Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) was added to begin an extensive horse breeding operation. In 1912 Darling employed the New York architectural firm of Jardine, Kent and Jardine to design a barn to house the work horses. It was ornamented with a large, wall-mounted, weight-driven tower clock at the peak of the

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gable and was known as the Clock Barn (#4g). The current Piggery (#4c) was built around 1905 and has original slaughter room equipment. This deliberate grouping of agricultural buildings at <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> illustrates integrity of location, design, materials and craftsmanship representative of a gentleman farm in Northeast Vermont at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A state historic marker, 'Mountain View Farm' was placed along the road in 1998.

The agricultural activities and processing that took place at Mountain View Farm (#4) helped support the nearby farms also owned by Darling, including the properties in the current Historic District. At the height of his estate's prosperity, Elmer owned 34 houses both along Darling Hill Road and elsewhere in Lyndon and Burke. He rented these homes to families, many of whom worked at Mountain View Farm, and continued to use the land for agricultural purposes. Although known today as the Darling Estate, Darling's property on Darling Hill was more frequently referred to simply as the Mountain View Farm, since most processing operations were headquartered there (#4). Both land and labor were spread out across his estate and all 10 of today's surviving farms. For example, 25 of the men who worked at the Creamery and with the Darling herd of Jersey cattle lived in the "boardinghouse", or what is today known as the Alonzo O, and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse (#7) and run as the Wildflower Inn.<sup>39</sup> As a result of Darling's agricultural efforts and the vast extent of his holdings, the working Darling Estate maintained the agrarian character of much of the landscape along Darling Hill Road in Lyndon and Burke well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### Other Darling Farms in Burke

In addition to <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>, several companion Darling farms in Burke and Lyndon make the Historic District significant in the area of agriculture. After purchasing the former Hall Farm in 1883, Elmer Darling continued to expand his agricultural estate by acquiring old farmsteads. These companion farms were associated with the principal Mountain View Farm (#4) for nearly 50 years, until the gradual dispersal of the Darling Estate following Elmer Darling's death in 1931.

In 1886, Elmer Darling acquired the former Lemuel Walter Farm, then owned by Benjamin F. and Sarah A. Jenkins and measuring about 130 acres.<sup>40</sup> Elmer financed construction of the <u>Lucius A. Darling House (#5)</u> for his brother and sister-in-law Margaret Macdonald, on land immediately south of the Hall Farm. The Lucius A. Darling House (#5) and Carriage House (#5a), both vernacular buildings, were built in 1892 in place of Walter's homestead, the 'Hill Top Farm', which burned around 1890. Together with his wife and two children, Lucius Darling moved back to the Mountain View Farmhouse in 1908 at the same time that Elmer and Louise moved into <u>Burklyn</u> Hall (#1).

In 1887, Darling purchased 200 acres of the <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farm (#3)</u>, immediately north of the former Hall Farm, from Benjamin's grandson William Belden (1834-1911).<sup>41</sup> This land contained the original Cape Cod style Belden farmhouse (#3) and English Barn (#3a), built by Benjamin Franklin Belden around 1825 and still

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standing today. This farm was the site of the first private cemetery in Burke, and the first five people to die in Burke are buried here at a spot "a few rods south" of the Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse. The burials were recorded by Mrs. William Belden in 1895, and included two sons of Ira Walter and one or two of the children of Godfrey Jones. Mrs. Belden provided no information as to these individuals' ages, cause or date of death.<sup>42</sup> In 1990 a small granite footstone was placed in the front yard of the Belden House by the Burke Historical Society to mark the earliest graves.

Darling's estate continued to grow with the purchase in 1892 of the 66-acre Christopher C. Amidon Farm, formerly acquired by Amidon from Lemuel Walter in 1855 and located immediately south of the Walter Farm.<sup>43</sup> By 1910, Mountain View Farm and its companion farms along Darling Hill Road in Burke extended a distance of nearly 1.5 miles from the West Branch to the East Branch of the Passumpsic River, north .75 of a mile to the Humphrey Farm and south .25 of a mile to the Lyndon town line.

In addition to financing the construction of his 'model farm' Darling shaped the development of this rural landscape by improving the agricultural properties within it. The historic houses were "thoroughly repaired and painted, fences built, fields and pastures enlarged by taking down useless fences, roadways widened, graded and drained, and shade trees planted". Historically, all of the farm buildings were painted yellow with white trim. Historian Mabel H. Walters described the view looking north from the Hall Farmhouse (#4) at Mountain View Farm in 1896, "where the red farm house [Belden Farmhouse, #3] hidden by shrubbery and nestled under the hill, reminds one of an English landscape".<sup>44</sup> Looking out from the front porch of the former Hall Farmhouse today, there are still great views of Burke, Kirby and the Umpire Mountains to the east.<sup>45</sup>

Darling planted a row of silver maple trees, linearly on both sides of the Darling Hill Road in Burke and Lyndon, forming an allée or tree canopy that became one of the character-defining elements of his estate. Still evident along much of Darling Hill Road in the Historic District, this designed landscape feature (#11) symbolizes Darling's vision of a gentleman farmer and stands in contrast to the surrounding vernacular, rural landscape of open fields and woodlands. Most of these centuries-old trees along the ridge have survived and retain a high level of integrity to the historic period of significance.

By 1896 Darling owned 953 acres in Burke, accounting for most of the farm land on Darling Hill. With each new purchase, he remodeled the central farmsteads and built new fences. In many cases, he added buildings to help support his growing agricultural activities. He also widened the road running along the ridge (Darling Hill Road) in order to provide for the increase in traffic. Even as Darling continued expanding his holdings in other parts of Burke, including the John M. Eggleston Farm east of the Village of East Burke, he maintained a focus on the heart of his agricultural lands and operations along Darling Hill Road. In 1907 he acquired the <u>Erastus</u> <u>Humphrey Farm (#2)</u>, located about .5 miles north of the Mountain View Farm along Darling Hill Road. Bought from Julius Humphrey's widow, Annie B. Humphrey, this

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new property encompassed around 245 acres that once formed the homestead of Ozias Humphrey, one of the original proprietors of the town of Burke. The c. 1840 house built by Ozias's son Erastus (1796-1891) for his son Julius A. (1831-1907) is now gone, its location marked by a stone foundation. The present Side Hall style Farmhouse (#2) and Gable Front Dairy Barn (#2a) on the Erastus and Julius Humphrey Farm were built for Elmer Darling around 1908.<sup>46</sup>

#### Other Darling Farms in Lyndon

Driven to continue expanding his estate, Darling began acquiring additional agricultural holdings along Darling Hill Road in Lyndon in 1900. That year he acquired 13 acres of the Howland land just south of the Burke-Lyndon town line. In 1902 he purchased the Abner F. Howland Farm of 111.5 acres, and in 1906 he acquired an additional 29 acres in this area. In 1909 Darling acquired the <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> with 1.9 acres. In 1910 Darling received the balance of the original Howland land from Charles W. Ball, including the <u>J. Howland and Son Farm (#10)</u>.<sup>47</sup>

In 1906 Darling acquired the 160-acre <u>William D. Goss Farm (#6)</u> from William Hurdy and his wife Martha.<sup>48</sup> That same year, Darling also acquired the 300-acre <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u>, also sometimes known as the 'Amasa Bemis Farm'.<sup>49</sup> In 1910 Darling acquired the 275-acre <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8)</u> from Welcome's estate, bringing his total tally of farms south of the Lyndon Town line to five.<sup>50</sup> The two Howland Farms, two Bemis Farms and the W. D. Goss Farm extended Darling's estate south between the East and West Branches of the Passumpsic River in Lyndon and included meadows, woodlands and sugar orchards.

#### Agriculture on the Darling Estate

In his book Successful Vermonters (1904), Vermont historian William Jeffery calls Mountain View Farm "one of the best examples of modern farming conducted along intelligent lines in Vermont".<sup>51</sup> Late 19<sup>th</sup> century gentleman farms were prompted by a genuine desire to promote agricultural progress. Darling's farms were also a successful business venture. Wagon loads of produce, dairy products and maple syrup were delivered to the railroad station in Lyndonville and transported to Darling's Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, where Vermont products were a daily feature at the city's most prestigious hotel.

In the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Elmer Darling ran one of the great agricultural estates of Vermont. His Burke and Lyndon holdings consisted of productive farms, fertile agricultural land, timber land and industrial properties. To provide a degree of continuity between the properties, Darling installed free-standing iron and wood Farm Signs at each of his farms during the historic period of significance. Five of these features have survived, at the Belden Farm (#3), the Lucius Darling House (#5), the Goss Farm (#6), the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7) and the J. Howland and Son Farm (#10). Each handcrafted sign announced that these properties were part of a privately-owned estate. Darling preserved an old rural Vermont tradition NPS Form 10-900-a (6-86)

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of keeping the historic farm family names, such as 'Belden Place' and 'Goss Place', etc. on each sign. Farm buildings also had a consistent color scheme; houses were painted yellow with white trim and barns and outbuildings were painted red. Darling's additional interest in creating a sense of place through the use of landscape architecture in this rural setting is evident in his plantings of silver maple along either side of Darling Hill Road, creating a scenic allée (#11).

Darling was a modern progressive farmer who practiced a diversity of enterprises. His real estate investments in New York City provided working capital to acquire farm land, houses and buildings, as well as equipment, livestock and labor to construct his agricultural estate. Labor-saving farm machinery was an investment for increased efficiency. In 1906 the St. Johnsbury Republican reported that Mountain View Farm "has all the modern farm machinery and every kind of tools that could be required". 52 His Yankee genealogy, trustworthy character and proven ability made business dealings with property owners, banks and equipment retailers in Vermont a straightforward process. Darling knew his hometown, the 'lay of the land', the risks of farming and its potential for realizing his vision of a 'gentleman farmer'. He employed close family members to oversee the operations when he was in New York; his brother Lucius elevated farm management to a business and his sister Louise kept records and accounts of each farm enterprise. Darling's properties along Darling Hill Road and East Burke, including Mountain View Farm (#4) and the companion farms and associated industries in the village, formed the economic foundations of East Burke in the first three decades of the 20th century.

Both the original driving force and heart of this growth were Darling's agricultural holdings on Darling Hill, successfully owned and managed by Darling and his brother for half a century. The Vermont farmer has been referred to as a 'summer farmer, winter woodsman,' and the Vermont farm year is an endless cycle of seasonal activities with long hours. Running a sizeable estate in this environment requires a devoted work force, and many of Darling's farm employees were naturalists and mechanics as well as laborers. Feeding and managing the large dairy herd, in addition to producing butter and cheese in Darling's Creamery, was a highly skilled activity. A number of year-round activities also took place in the Tool House (#4d), where 'jack of all trades' men created and repaired a wide-variety of hand tools and farm implements. Some men were skilled in carpentry, others in coopering, blacksmithing or harness repair. Keeping this extensive agricultural estate productive required the traditional agricultural, craft and industrial skills of many employees. Each Darling-owned farm was a home for farm families that typically maintained poultry, a vegetable garden and fruit or orchard crops. The ongoing economies of housewife and children thus made a substantial contribution to the farm's financial success.

Burke historian Phyllis Burbank published the memories of Murray B. Davis (1911-1995), who began working at Mountain View Farm in 1927 at the age of 16. Davis remembered that "most of the men in East Burke worked on the Darling Farm. Normally we worked six days a week, nine hours a day; 7 A. M. to 5 P. M. except during

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haying season we worked from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. It was a good place to work. I was paid \$65 a month plus room and board, which was a very good wage at the time".<sup>53</sup> Single male farm hands received a wage, meals, room and washing facilities on the second floor of the two story addition to the <u>Mountain View Farmhouse (#4)</u>, on the second floor of the Creamery (#4i) in Burke and at the <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis</u> <u>House (#8)</u> in Lyndon. At the height of summer haying season in the 1920s, Darling retained as many as 100 hired hands to run the operations on his estate.<sup>54</sup>

In the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, the farm year began in December with logging. Darling owned extensive wood lots in the forested mountains, his loggers supplied a variety of hardwoods to the Saw Mill in East Burke and firewood for stoves throughout the estate. Ice was harvested at a pond half way up Darling Hill from the village and transported by sled to the Ice House (#4e) at Mountain View Farm, where blocks were packed in sawdust and used to cool meat, milk, vegetables and cream in the butter making process. Logging, chopping firewood and ice harvesting continued into January and throughout the winter months.

The primary late winter activity of sugaring began with tapping the maples for sap in March and continued into April. In 1896 Mountain View Farm had two maple orchards containing 1,900 trees. Each of these had a vernacular, wood-frame sugarhouse. A majority of the sap was reduced to maple syrup, 100 gallons of which were shipped to Darling's Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York every spring. Spreading manure on the fields began in March and continued into April while the ground was still frozen. During the period of significance maple groves, sugarhouses and apple orchards were thus prominent features of the District landscape. Orchards and sugarhouses were typically located close to the main farm building cluster, while maple groves edged the open fields nearby.

Throughout the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, after the ground began to thaw in late April, farm lanes and fences of fieldstone, wood and wire were built or repaired. In April, May and June the men prepared the soil by plowing, seeding, harrowing and cultivating oats, corn and potatoes. The fields had fertile loamy soil that was excellent for growing timothy. A variety of crops were grown throughout the estate, including hay on the slopes northeast of <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>, as illustrated by a historic photograph.<sup>55</sup> The first cutting of hay with horse-drawn mowers and rakes began in June, and the second cutting was in August. Hay was hand-loaded onto wagons and pulled by horse teams up the high drive to the Fairbanks Wagon and Stock Scale at the Scale Barn (#4a) where each load was weighed. Then the wagons were driven into the Dairy Barn additions and hand-pitched into lofts for feeding the prize-winning, Jersey herd later in the long, cold, snow-bound Vermont winters.<sup>56</sup> In August and September the men harvested oats with a reaper and processed them with a thresher; the oats were fed to the horses and the straw used for bedding. Apples from two orchards on the farm were harvested each October.

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Livestock on the Darling Estate

By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century dairy farming had become the largest segment of the Vermont agricultural economy, and represented the principal enterprise of Mountain View Farm (#4). Dairying not only reinforced Vermont's importance as an agricultural state, but it also expanded the role of agriculture in the local political arena, and brought Vermont to the forefront in terms of progressive agricultural legislation, education and organization in New England. On Darling Hill Road, Darling created a stock farm where Jersey cattle were bred for sale and show through selective breeding and herd management. In 1890 three Dairy Barn additions were made to the Scale Barn (#4a) in order to accommodate a large milking herd as well as hay and grain storage. The American Jersey Cattle Club (AJCC), the first organization of its kind, was established in 1868 to improve and promote the breed. Elmer Darling joined in 1892, became a director and served as the organization's 10th president from 1894 to 1915. The Club held its annual meeting at Darling's Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City from 1885 to 1907. Speaking at this gathering in 1895, President Darling said: "A good Jersey cow will give 20 quarts of milk a day, against an average of 12-14 quarts for an ordinary cow. The best of the Jersey's will give one pound of butter to each six quarts of milk, whereas an ordinary cow must give 8 or 9 quarts to make an equal quantity of butter". In 1911, Darling purchased two building lots in Manhattan and donated them to the Club as a site for the construction of a new, modern AJCC office. Billings, Vail and Darling represented Vermont 'gentleman farmers' on the Board of Directors of this Cattle Club.57

In 1894 Darling was keeping 92 head of cattle at Mountain View Farm. Yet despite his success he still encountered obstacles along the way. The bovine tuberculosis epidemic hitting Vermont at the time had a severe effect on his herd, and following testing only 15 head were not slaughtered and buried. Many of Darling's swine were also effected by the epidemic and had to be killed. In the years that followed, Elmer Darling worked hard to re-establish his herd of dairy cows and pigs.<sup>58</sup>

From the earliest decades of his time on Darling Hill, Elmer Darling worked to build the dairying operations of his estate. At the same time that he was building his first Mountain View Farm Creamery in 1890, he joined local businessmen T. N. Vail, I. Hall, and W. I. Powers to establish the nearby Lyndonville Creamery.<sup>59</sup> When his original wood-frame creamery subsequently burned down, Darling immediately replaced it with the current, 2 ½ story Colonial Revival style brick Creamery (#4i) in 1913. This new building produced the 'Darling' brand of cheese and butter. Original artifacts that have survived from the operation of the Creamery still remain in the building, including: a coal-fired boiler to produce steam, a steam engine to drive an overhead pulley to power a Simplex drum type butter churn (now stored in the Dairy Barn) and a large ice box. Large vats, sinks and presses were used on the first floor for processing milk into cheese. Cheese was aged in the cool basement, packaged in boxes for shipment and loaded on wagons that traveled up the ramp at the south end of the building. Lucius Darling's brother-in-law, Frank E. McDonald (1865-1929), was employed for many

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years as a cheese and butter maker at the Creamery, which was in full production each year while the herd was grazing from June to the end of September.

In addition to dairying, Elmer Darling invested in other types of livestock as well. "Darling became a premier breeder of excellent Morgan stock as he acquired Billy Roberts 4550" (foaled in 1889) and his model horse farm issued its first Morgan Horse Catalog in 1907.60 Vermont's Morgan Horse Club was founded at the Vermont State Fair at White River Junction in 1909, the same year that Darling presented his second catalog. The farm's third catalog (1912) advertised the services of studs Rex, Bob B., Lyndon and Little Justin in addition to high-quality brood mares. In 1915 Darling resigned the Presidency of the Jersey Club and succeeded Henry Steele Wardner (1867-1935) as second President of the state's prestigious Morgan Horse Club. Morgan horses, the first American breed of light horse, were prized for their beauty, spirit and strength. Middlebury, Vermont resident Joseph Battell (1839-1915) published the first volume of the American Morgan Horse Register in 1894. Owners were required to prove their horse's descent from Figure, Justin Morgan's (1747-1798) famous stud horse. Darling had the same architects that had worked on his mansion design the 2 story, Colonial Revival style Morgan Horse Barn (#4h), constructed in 1897. A promotional poster, printed c. 1905, has a photograph of the famous Morgan stud Rex and photographs of Morgan horses at his farm. Fred S. C. H. Davis, son of Dr. Charles B. Davis (1834-?), sold his livery stable at West Burke and became manager of horse breeding and training at Mountain View Farm in 1899. "Old time" Morgan horses from Mountain View Farm were well-known prize winners at the annual Vermont State Fair. Wardner gave Darling two of the thirteen famous Green Mountain 42 weathervanes cast at the John L. Mott Ironworks in New York City. One of these still stands atop the cupola of the Clock Barn (#4g). Darling's Bob B (1910) and Carrie (1911) were blue ribbon winners at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Thus at the turn of the century, as the automobile relegated horses to the farm, the "Morgan Horse Club survived because its members were either wealthy men, who delighted in the possession of fine Morgans, or farm-breeders who derived stud fees from the sale of their stock".61

The Clock Barn (#4g) was built in the Gambrel roof style of architecture in 1912. It has 12 open bays in a U-shape to provide easy access to horses, feed, water and wagons. The original clock mechanism and bell, manufactured by the Thomas Clock Company of Thomaston, Connecticut, is still working. Darling had a large collection of horse drawn vehicles that included wagons, carriages and sleighs. One of his vehicles, a trap sleigh was acquired at auction in 1960 by the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, Vermont. This four-passenger sleigh was manufactured about 1890 by the McLaughlin Carriage Company of Oshawa, Ontario. Darling's Trap Sleigh is on permanent display in the Horseshoe Barn at the Shelburne Museum.<sup>62</sup>

Mountain View Farm was also known for breeding the Chester White swine named for Chester County, Pennsylvania. Chester Whites are a moderately sized, lardtype pig known primarily for its meat. This breed was developed around 1815, and the Chester White Record Association was founded in 1884. The Piggery (#4c) was

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constructed about 1890 in the modest Colonial Revival style of architecture. The slaughter room has an original large wood hoist wheel (4' diameter) for lifting two carcasses and many original pens for pigs, sows and hogs. In 1906, Darling had over 100 thoroughbred Chester Whites. An addition, on the west elevation of the Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) stood a Chicken House with over 300 fowls, including "Minorcas, Wyandottes, Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds". Darling also raised thoroughbred dogs including "coach dogs, Scotch collies and one imported Great Dane that attracts general attention". In keeping with a popular Victorian trend, Darling kept a deer herd as well. Enclosed by a straight, high wire fence in one of the fields directly across Darling Hill Road from Burklyn Hall, Darling's herd of white-tailed deer "leaped about" and served as "a curiosity for motorists" during the 1920s.<sup>63</sup>

The Historic District is therefore significant in the area of agriculture because Mr. Darling operated a successful agricultural estate with a stock horse farm, a large dairy, a creamery and a piggery, in addition to logging and maple sugaring operations.

#### The Village of East Burke and Darling's Industrial Properties

The creation of Darling's Estate began with an aggressive building campaign reliant upon the resources of water and grain, lumber and finished millwork, as well as the new technology of electricity. In order to furnish these necessary resources for growth, Darling acquired a number of industrial properties beginning in 1896. These properties were powered by the East Burke Dam and concentrated along the east bank of the East Branch of the Passumpsic River, only a mile east and downhill from his agricultural holdings on Darling Hill Road.

Originally built around 1825, the East Burke Dam powered a number of grist and saw mills on the east side of the river throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Dwellings, shops and associated outbuildings grew up around the dam, and Darling acquired the recently-repaired dam and associated saw mill from Dudley P. Hall in 1886. He subsequently maintained these operations in addition to a log yard, Wood Finishing Mill and a Grist Mill. Logs were delivered by wagon or floated down the river to a log yard on the east bank of the river above the Saw Mill, then pulled up an incline above the dam directly into the Saw Mill. Thus, wood from the local area including the woodlots on Darling's farms up the hill was processed here.<sup>64</sup>

In September 1899 the Vermont Union Journal reported that "Darling is about to put in a new dam, new flume and will put in a dynamo to run water to the Mountain View Farm". In the following year, Darling financed improvements to the East Burke Dam that enlarged Darling Mill Pond. He also funded construction of a Hydroelectric Station (demolished in the 1927 flood) in 1900 to supply electricity for the industrial buildings, street lights and domestic and commercial buildings in East Burke. Electric lines were later set on poles leading a mile up the hill to <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>. Water from the river was also supplied to these hilltop farms. River water ran into a long box flume directly from the Dam, under the Finishing Mill, under the Grist Mill, under the road east of the Covered Bridge and into the

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Hydroelectric Station, where it was pumped a mile uphill to <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>. It was transported through a series of 2"-diameter wooden pump logs to a 7,000-gallon concrete reservoir constructed around 1897. This stored water was available for fire emergencies along Darling Hill ridge as well as the extensive dairy and creamery operations at <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>. An additional series of wooden pump logs were extended to a reservoir at the <u>Humphrey Farm (#2)</u>.<sup>65</sup>

As hydroelectric power plants grew in popularity, Darling built a second Hydroelectric Station downriver from the one in East Burke around 1910. Later known as the Mount Hunger Development, this second plant operated until it was destroyed in the famous Vermont Flood of 1927.<sup>66</sup> Darling was also responsible for financing construction of the first concrete sidewalks, water lines (under Main Street heading east) and sewerage system in the Village of East Burke.<sup>67</sup>

By 1906 Darling had created a "veritable business center" in East Burke, consisting of "a saw mill, wood dressing mill, grist mill, electric light station, blacksmith shop, harness shop, dry house and a large lumber yard and storehouse", all painted a "light slate color with white trimmings". A wagon scale positioned in the road was used to weigh raw grain before the grain was processed in the Grist Mill and stored in a separate Feed Storage Building south of the main road, next to the Hydroelectric Station.<sup>68</sup> Around 1920, a second rotary pump was added to the Hydroelectric Station and a 3" water pipe was laid .5 miles up Darling Hill to a second concrete reservoir. Each reservoir was 15' deep and stood inside a gable-roof frame structure (30' x 30').<sup>69</sup>

Much of this industrial complex sustained heavy damages during the famous state-wide flood of November 1927, and in 1931 Darling financed reconstruction of the present concrete, gravity type East Burke Dam. The East Burke Hydroelectric Station was sold only seven months after Darling's death in 1931, along with the associated electric transmission lines and one-half interest in the poles to the Village of Lyndonville.<sup>70</sup> Lucius Darling and his son, Henry G. Darling II, sold the Saw Mill, Grist Mill and Blacksmith Shop to C. H. Davis, President of the Vermont Tap and Die Corporation in Lyndonville, in 1934. The Dam remained under Darling ownership.<sup>71</sup> The former Darling mill complex along the river burned in 1958, and the East Burke Dam was abandoned. It is still visible stretching across the river just above the steel-beam and concrete-deck bridge on East Darling Hill Road.<sup>72</sup>

Although not included in this Historic District, the East Burke Dam site dates to 1825 and played a central role in sustaining the Darling Estate on Darling Hill. It also provided the impetus for the settlement of East Burke, whose industries helped support agricultural properties throughout the surrounding area. The ongoing historic integrity of this dam and the surviving foundations of the associated mill buildings is important to understanding the history and development of the Darling Estate and its impact on local agriculture.<sup>73</sup>

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#### Architecture of the Darling Estate

The Historic District is significant in the area of architecture because Elmer Darling designed his mansion and several agricultural buildings of his estate in the popular Colonial Revival style, and all of these structures are still extant. Darling's properties exhibit a formal order at selected sites within this historic rural and vernacular landscape. The properties have also been uniformly well-maintained and were developed to have consistent signage and a distinct color scheme.

Elmer Darling's mansion, <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> is the most outstanding residential building in the three northeastern counties of Vermont (also known as the Northeast Kingdom) and one of the most remarkable structures of its kind in Vermont. It was built between 1904 and 1908 on the highest ground along the ridge of Darling Hill, on the east side of Darling Hill Road. Darling named it Burklyn Hall because the building itself is located in both Burke and Lyndon. Until the mansion's construction, Darling stayed at the farmhouse on Mountain View Farm when he came to Vermont and at his hotel when in New York City. The subsequent completion of Burklyn Hall coincided perfectly with the sale of the historic Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York by Darling and his partners, and so in 1908 he returned from New York to live here until his death in 1931. <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. In addition to its architectural significance, its setting on top of a hill with 360-degree views is a character-defining feature of both the mansion and the Darling Estate.

Elmer Darling was a member of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Class of 1871 and studied architecture for two of his four years there. Architecture was one of his life-long passions, and he commissioned the well-known architectural firm Jardine, Kent and Jardine of New York City (some of the original architectural drawings are stored in the vault at the mansion) to prepare architectural drawings of his new Colonial Revival style mansion.

The Jardine, Kent and Jardine firm traces its roots to the establishment of the company by two Scottish immigrants, David Jardine and John Jardine in 1865. Around 1887 another brother, George Jardine, joined David and John, and it became one of the more prominent, prolific and versatile architectural firms in New York City. After David Jardine's death in 1892, the two remaining Jardine brothers joined with architect William W. Kent, forming the firm of Jardine, Kent and Jardine. The firm designed a wide variety of buildings including residential, commercial and religious structures in a range of different styles, including Italianate, Victorian Gothic, Queen Anne and Beaux Arts, with various materials including brick, stone and cast iron. In 1890 the firm designed stores and factories for Alfred B. Darling in Manhattan.<sup>74</sup>

The Colonial Revival style of architecture was a dominant style for residential building throughout the country during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In an article for <u>Architects' and Builders' Magazine</u> in 1910, Jardine, Kent and Jardine characterized the mansion as "a fine example of American country-house architecture" based upon "a careful interpretation of the Georgian period of American colonial architecture" and the "equipment for service is as convenient and well-thought out as that of a hotel". The

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article featured eleven interior and two exterior photos, along with two detailed architectural drawings.<sup>75</sup>

The mansion was constructed by James N. Foye of St. Johnsbury; the heating, plumbing and roofing contractor was C. H. Goss of St. Johnsbury; the elaborate interior decoration was completed by Hoggson Brothers of New York City; and the outside pilasters and wood columns came from Hartmann Brothers of Mr. Vernon, New York. The construction used "an estimated 300,000 feet of lumber", mostly taken from Mr. Darling's own woodlots and processed at his East Burke Saw Mill. Much of the finish and moldings were also made in Darling's Wood Finishing Mill in the Village of East The elaborate interior wood finish of the first floor of the mansion was Burke. completed by the Heydon Company of Rochester, New York. The foundation for the mansion and the cellar was started in 1904 with on-site limestone rock and granite quarried from nearby Kirby Mountain by the Burke Granite Company.76 The interior of this enormous, engineered mansion featured modern, early 20th century amenities, about 30 rooms and a lookout with a magnificent 360-degree vista of the surrounding countryside and mountains. The mansion also featured an art collection. Carefully picked out by Darling, the exterior colors were colonial yellow with white trim and green doors. The windows featured green and white striped awnings.

The landscaped grounds surrounding Burklyn Hall included lawns, terraced paths and select plantings of silver maple trees to create a tree canopy along the road. A semi-circular driveway led through the porte-cochere on the west elevation to the road. Each end of the driveway had two cast-iron pole lamps (made at the J. L. Nott Ironworks, NY), for spherical glass globes with electric lights set on granite bases. The large, octagonal, 2 story greenhouse (now removed) at the south end of the mansion provided flowers, fruits and vegetables. A deer park was built west of the road for the entertainment of tourists, visitors, and children. Legendary Christmas parties were held for the children of East Burke, sometimes at Burklyn Hall and occasionally in new buildings such as the Creamery (#4i) and the Morgan Horse Barn (#4h). Shortly after the completion of the mansion in 1908, a magnificent greenhouse was constructed on the south elevation around 1910.

Mr. Darling and his sister moved into the completed mansion on November 1, 1908. Elmer and Louise (until her death in 1925) managed the estate and entertained visitors and house guests. This property also included four barns across Darling Hill Road to the west: the Carriage Barn (#1a) for the Darling's large collection of winter and summer vehicles; the Morgan Horse Barn (#1c) for their prize-winning stock; the Wagon Barn (#1d) for agricultural vehicles; and the Field Barn (#1e). The first three of these structures (#'s 1a, 1c and 1d) were designed in the fashionable Colonial Revival style by Jardine, Kent and Jardine.<sup>77</sup> The only additions to this architect-designed collection of buildings on the west side of the road are the Field Barn (#1e), built in a vernacular style around 1906, and the Arena (#1b) The latter building was constructed around 1940 for Earle Brown (1870-1963), who purchased Burklyn Hall (#1) and the four barns across the road from the Darling estate in 1936 (including 140 acres in Burke and 960

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acres in Lyndon). Brown, of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Peacham, Vermont managed the estate for 12 years. He was engaged in the business of breeding Belgian and Morgan horses, and he added a new garage and arena (#1b) to the collection of Burklyn Hall buildings. In 1948 the property was sold to C. H. Davis, President of the Vermont Tap & Die Corporation in Lyndonville. In 1957 it was acquired by the American Saw and Tool Company of Louisville, Kentucky.78 Burklyn Hall (#1) was deeded to the State of Vermont in 1957 and briefly used as a men's dormitory for Lyndon State College, located in nearby Lyndon Center, until additional dormitories could be built on campus. Following the construction of more campus housing, the college moved forward with plans to sell Burklyn Manor, as they called it, in the late 1960s. Under the leadership of Elizabeth (Shahler) Brouha, the recently-established Friends of Burklyn Hall briefly postponed this decision and used the hall for public events and activities for several years. Largely due to the Friends' efforts and research, the property was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Still, despite their initiative to commit Burklyn Hall exclusively to public, educational and non-profit use, Lyndon State College soon sold the property to private owner David Drew.79

Most of the other buildings within the Darling Estate Historic District were built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. They represent a fairly limited range of building styles, contributing to the overall feeling and cohesion of this landscape. By a slim margin, Greek Revival is the most common style in the District. The other two primary architectural styles represented are Colonial Revival and Cape Cod. Most of the outbuildings associated with <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and some of those associated with <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> and the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> are in the Colonial Revival style. Examples of the English barn type include the Benjamin Belden Farm's Barn (#3a) and Mountain View Farm's Theshing Barn (#4f). The Morgan Horse Barn (#4h) is an example of the Shingle style, while the Queen Anne style can be seen in the open porch of the <u>Mountain View Farmhouse (#4)</u> and the Lucius A. Darling Barn (#5a). Most of the barns associated with District properties are gambrel-front, gablefront or gable-front bank barns.

Built around 1810, the <u>Eber Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> is the oldest structure in the Lyndon portion of the District. It represents a rare example of one of the earliest Cape Cod style houses in this region. The <u>Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse (#3)</u> and the Belden Barn (#3a) were built around 1825 and are the oldest structures in the Burke portion of the Historic District. The Belden Farmhouse is an example of a building in the Cape Cod style constructed near the end of the style's popularity. According to oral tradition, the first burial ground in Burke is located on this historic farm. The John <u>Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10)</u> is a c. 1830 example of a late Cape Cod style house in Lyndon. Good examples of domestic architecture in the District (#'s 9, 3 and 10) exhibit simple interpretations of the single-story Cape Cod style with gable roofs, narrow eaves, door surrounds (#'s 3 and 10), transoms (#9), sidelights (#'s 3 and 10), symmetrical double hung sash windows (#'s 3 and 10) and center brick chimneys.

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School District No. 1 served all the farm families along Darling Hill Road in the Town of Burke, while School District No. 11 served all the families along the same road in the Town of Lyndon. The first schoolhouse in District No. 1 did not survive; however the schoolhouse in District No. 11, built around 1840 on Bemis Hill in Lyndon, remains. District No. 11 Schoolhouse (#7a) is a single story, frame, one-room Greek Revival style building representative of the most popular 19<sup>th</sup> century architectural style in Vermont. Residential examples of the Greek Revival style are evident in both Burke and Lyndon properties, including the c. 1840 <u>A. O. and J. Bemis Farmhouse (#7)</u>, the c. 1855 <u>Mountain View Farmhouse (#4)</u>, the c. 1840 <u>A. and W. A. Bemis Farmhouse (#8)</u> and the 1890 <u>W. D. Goss Farmhouse (#6)</u>. In the late 1800s local builders were still using older forms popular during the Greek Revival period. Only later were stylistic details from more current styles added. A good example of the Shingle style of architecture is the 1897 Morgan Horse Barn (#4h), with its wall dormers and conical roofed, octagonal cupola.

The Colonial Revival style was introduced to the Historic District by Elmer Darling in his architect-designed mansion, Burklyn Hall (#1), and in the associated Carriage Barn (#1a), Morgan Horse Barn (#1c) and Wagon Barn (#1d), all constructed between 1904 and 1908. The Colonial Revival style was used in the design of the 1912 Clock Barn (#4g) and the circa 1890 brick Creamery (#4i) at Mountain View Farm. Some of the best examples of the Colonial Revival style of architecture in the District (#'s 1, 1a, 1c, 4g, and 4i) exhibit a variety of forms, including: various interpretations of formality and symmetry; full entablature under the eave (#1); accentuated front doors (#1a and #1c) with sidelights, transom and colonnaded portico (#1) or fanlight window (#4i), belt course (#4i) and pilaster corner boards (#1); and cupolas with weathervanes (#'s 1a, 1c, 4g and 4i). Burklyn Hall (#1) is an outstanding residential example of this style, and represents one of Vermont's high-style Colonial Revival homes. The Creamery (#4i) is another high style example of a Colonial Revival building purposed for agricultural processing. As a result, the Darling Estate Historic District is significant in the area of architecture.

#### Height of the Elmer Darling Estate: Mountain View Farm in 1931

Elmer Darling's 'Probate Inventory of Personal Property', taken shortly after his death in April 1931, reveals a detailed account of the extensive agricultural operations at <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> and four companion farms.<sup>80</sup> These probate records constitute the 'Darling Estate' near the height of its operations, at the time of Elmer Darling's death. The inventory begins with a list of 39 horses including studs *Jennybob*, *Sir Ethan, Lancelot, Lynbob and Burklyn Boy* (valued at \$4,300). Also listed is a large assortment of harnesses, robes, blankets, suits and saddles (valued at \$1,184); 207 cows, calves and heifers, 7 bulls and 13 steers (valued at \$6,562.50); swine (101 pigs and 80 hogs valued at \$1,481); 75 hens (valued at \$60); 50 sheep (valued at \$1,849); and a shearing machine with 160 pounds of bagged wool.

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On the 'home place' (Mountain View Farm, #4) the big barn contained 25 tons of oat straw for bedding and 30 tons of hay for feed, while the barns at the four other farms contained 16 tons of straw and 25 tons of hay, all valued at \$857.50. Farm products included oats, 50 bushels of potatoes, fresh meat, meat products, hides, and firewood; as well as processed cheese (13,033 pounds valued at \$1824.62). The two large maple orchards on the estate and associated sugaring operation included sap spouts, sap gathering buckets (1451 galvanized tin with covers), 3 gathering tubs, a sap-gathering tank (500 pail capacity), 2 syrup cans and arch with 4 evaporators (all valued at \$920), in addition to granulated sugar (701 pounds), maple sugar and syrup (valued at \$649.05).

An extensive inventory of small tools (valued at \$191) and miscellaneous items (valued at \$470.55) included 2 box stoves, veterinary medicines and ice harvesting tools. A blacksmith's forge and anvil for repairing metal tools and implements were also listed. Small agricultural machinery included an assortment of 6 plows, 10 harrows, 3 seeders, 2 cultivators, 6 hay mowing machines, 4 horse-drawn hay rakes and a side delivery hay rake, the most current implement available for haying. Larger agricultural machinery included a DeLaval cream separator, a Deering reaper, a McCormick reaper, an ensilage cutter, a grain thresher (separator), and an International Harvester tractor (valued at \$200). As evidenced by these records, Darling had acquired the most modern agricultural machinery for hay, corn and grain production in order to feed his dairy herds and other livestock.<sup>81</sup>

Supplies for maintaining the various structures on Darling's farms included paint, white lead, turpentine, glass, shingles (wood and asbestos), and clapboards (valued at \$551.11). Logs, lumber and boards available for sale, construction and repair projects included spruce, fir, hemlock, basswood, brown and white ash, birch, elm, maple, pine, and black cherry (207,158 total board feet valued at \$6,071.67).

A lengthy inventory of wagons and sleds included 11 lumber wagons, 7 carts, 2 buckboards, 5 buggies, 2 sulkies, 11 pung sleighs and 18 sleds for winter travel, transport and recreation. Also at the <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> were three Packard automobiles owned by Elmer Darling and his personal property (valued at \$32,760). The inventory did not include the Fairbanks Wagon and Stock Scale in the Scale Barn (#4a), equipment in the Creamery (#4i), or the machinery at the industrial properties in the Village of East Burke.

#### Darling's Four Companion Farms

During the period of significance, from 1883 to 1960, <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u> in Burke functioned as the principal farm of Darling's Estate. Since historically Darling referred to a collection of properties as the Mountain View Farm, the probate inventory assessment of this property encompassed the current <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u>, <u>Benjamin</u> <u>Belden Farm (#3)</u>, <u>Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse (#5)</u>, <u>William D. Goss Farm (#6)</u>, <u>Eber</u> <u>Howland Farmhouse (#9)</u> and <u>John Howland & Son Farmhouse (#10)</u>.

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However, Darling's operations also focused upon four large companion farms nearby: the <u>Erastus and Julius Humphrey Farm (#2)</u> in Burke, the <u>Alonzo O. and</u> <u>Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> and the <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8)</u> in Lyndon; and the John M. Eggleston Farm (not included in this District) east of the Village of East Burke. Only these four large farms are listed in Elmer A. Darling's probate inventory enumerating land, agricultural tools and other equipment at the time of his death. This detailed inventory provides a summary of Darling Estate operations near their height of production. In 1931, these companion farms were comparable in size, scale, operations and value of personal property.

Listed for the <u>Erastus Humphrey Farm (#2)</u> was an assortment of livestock including a pair of work horses, 2 bulls, 35 cows, 2 steers and 4 hogs (all valued at \$1,920). Also listed was a large maple sugar operation with 1,500 sap spouts, 1,500 gathering buckets, 2 storage tanks, 2 settling cans, a steel arch with sugaring-off pan and a steel arch with an evaporator (all valued at \$345). An assortment of tools and equipment including a DeLaval separator, corn planter, McCormick mower, hay tedder, and a Sulky plow were also present, as well as wagons, sleds and a pung sleigh (all valued at \$508.75). The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$2.773.75.

At the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7)</u> was an assortment of livestock including 2 pairs of work horses, 9 other horses, cows, and 2 bulls. The maple sugar operation included 450 buckets, a storage tank and settling cans. Also listed was an assortment of tools and equipment including 2 mowers, 2 hay tedders and a shovel plow, in addition to wagons, sleds and a pung sleigh (all valued at \$846.50). The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$3,794.50

At the <u>Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8)</u> was an assortment of livestock including a pair of work horses, 2 other horses, cows and a bull (all valued at \$2,110). A large maple sugar operation included with 2,000 sap spouts, 1,900 gathering buckets, 5 tanks, a sap sled and a steel arch and evaporator (all valued at \$383.50). An assortment of tools and equipment included a manure spreader, American seeder, '76' plow, 3 harrows and wagons, sleds and a pung sleigh. The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$3,052.75.

Like its three companion farms, the Ezra S. Eggleston Farm also included: horses, cows, a bull, pigs and chickens; a maple sugar operation with 2,500 sap spouts, 2,610 gathering buckets and the associated processing equipment; a DeLaval separator, McCormick mower, Bullard hay tedder and a '76' plow; and wagons, sleds and a sleigh. The personal property on this farm had a combined value of \$3,794.50.

These four, roughly equal-sized companion farms helped Darling realize his vision of a 'gentleman farm' in Burke and Lyndon. Carefully inventoried by Darling's probate, their contents document the kinds of activities that were taking place on the Darling Estate at the time of his death. Like the other historic properties included in this Historic District, these farms formed a mostly contiguous, agrarian landscape that

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remained consistent throughout a broad stretch of Darling Hill and across town boundaries.

#### The Legacy of Elmer Darling

Elmer A. Darling was a prominent gentleman farmer, community planner, conservationist and philanthropist whose leadership and benevolence in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont left a legacy still remembered and revered by residents today. Burke historian Phyllis Burbank referred to this period of local history as "the Darling era".<sup>82</sup> Elmer continued the local philanthropic work of his uncle Alfred B. Darling, who died in 1896.<sup>83</sup> It has been estimated that in addition to the large, productive Darling farms, the Darling land acquisitions for industrial sites and numerous residences in the Village of East Burke, forested land for logging (in Burke, East Haven, Victory, Kirby, Westmore and Lyndon) and recreational land on Lake Willoughby in Westmore totaled over 8,000 acres. In 1931 the court valued this Vermont real estate at \$190,675. The New York real estate was not part of the probate inventory.<sup>84</sup>

Darling used this success as a businessman to benefit those of his community and become involved in politics. He was a Vermont delegate to the 1924 Republican Convention in Cleveland, Ohio that nominated fellow Vermonter, Calvin Coolidge (1872-1933), for President of the United States. In 1929 Vermont historian Arthur F. Stone wrote: "Outstanding among well-known figures of Vermont is Elmer A. Darling, whose career has been of singular variety and interest, who now (1928) resides in a palatial residence called Burklyn Hall near East Burke, pays taxes in eight towns, is a moving spirit in all projects directed toward the advancement of several communities, and who belongs to one of the oldest families in the United States".<sup>85</sup>

On a broader scale, the Darling family in general maintained a long tradition of philanthropy in this area of Vermont. The Congregational Church of East Burke is an excellent example. The early settlers of Burke were Congregationalists that came primarily from Litchfield, Connecticut and organized here in 1807. The present Congregational Church in the Village of East Burke was constructed in 1845 by Baptists, and the Congregationalists rented it occasionally. In 1865, Alfred B. Darling purchased the Baptist Church and leased it to the Congregationalist Society. Upon Alfred's death he willed the property to the Society with an endowment of \$10,000 to Both Elmer and his brother Lucius continued their uncle's support the church. interest in the church and contributed to the decoration of the building in 1900 and Darling purchased a cottage in the village and "fitted it with up-to-date 1924. improvements for a Congregational parsonage". Upon his death Elmer Darling left an endowment of \$15,000.86

In 1895 Alfred B. Darling (president), Mary V. Belden (secretary and descendent of the <u>Belden Farm, #2</u>), Mabel Hall Walter (treasurer and descendent of the <u>Walter</u> <u>Farm, #5</u>) and others formed the Society for the Study of the History of Burke (later renamed the Burke Historical Society). One of the motivations for the society's establishment was a project to save and relocate the White School, a frame one-room

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schoolhouse originally constructed in 1817 that closed in 1894 and was situated in District No. 3 in Burke. After Alfred's death in 1896, Elmer Darling provided leadership for the new organization and the historic schoolhouse was relocated in 1923 to a site next to the Burke Mountain Club (built in 1919) in East Burke. Today the schoolhouse is maintained as a museum of local history.<sup>87</sup>

Beginning in 1903 and again in 1918 and 1919, Elmer Darling deeded three parcels of land in East Burke for expansion of the Woodmont Cemetery (begun in 1842 with a cemetery association dating to 1902). Darling transformed a small burial ground into a beautiful cemetery with landscaping and stone fencing. He financed the construction of "a fine tomb (1902), a tool house, set out trees, bought a house for its sexton and gardener and surrounded the cemetery by a handsome iron fence". Darling left an endowment of \$15,000 in his will and many members of the Darling family are buried there including Elmer, his brother and his nephew.<sup>88</sup>

Meanwhile, in 1904 Elmer Darling began acquiring forested land on nearby Burke Mountain to supply his Saw Mill in the Village of East Burke. Burke historian Mabel H. Walters wrote that when it seemed a lumber company might "begin to ravage the slopes of the mountain and destroy its forests". . . . "Elmer bought over 1,000 acres of land there to preserve the beauty of the mountain". 89 Darling financed the construction of a carriage road (1912) to the summit, a fire tower (1912) and a caretakers' residence (1913). Lucius A. and Henry G. Darling gifted 1,662 acres to the Vermont Forest and Parks Division. The state subsequently purchased an additional 43 acres, and the Darling State Forest Park was created in 1934. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) improved the Darling Forest from June 1933 to September 1935 and from April 1936 to September 1938.90 A 2 1/2 story Toll House (1941) was constructed by the CCC, in the Adirondack Rustic style of architecture developed by the National Park Service, and it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. Visible from much of the District looking east at Burke Mountain, Darling State Park now covers 1,726 acres.

In 1918 Darling designed and funded construction of the Burke Mountain Club, on the site of a former hotel across the road from his industrial properties in East Burke. Dedicated in 1920, this 1 ½ story Colonial Revival style building with associated carriage shed and bandstand was built as a library, community meeting space and caretaker's apartment. In 1922, Darling purchased a large bronze plaque to memorialize Burke's veterans. Installed inside the Club, this plaque recognizes Burke's 94 veterans killed in the Civil War, 2 in the Spanish American War and 22 in World War I. In his will Darling set up a \$30,000 endowment to maintain the building and grounds.<sup>91</sup> The Club is still a vital resource in this small community with its public library and meeting space.

Alfred A. Darling was a major financial contributor to repairs made to the Union Meeting House in Burke Hollow for its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1896.<sup>92</sup> His nephew, Lucius Darling, was the last surviving trustee of the Union Meeting House Society. In his will, Elmer Darling set up a \$6,000 endowment for the maintenance of this Burke Hollow

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church and cemetery, still owned today by the Town of Burke. The Union Meeting House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2008.<sup>93</sup> Darling's will also set up a \$10,000 endowment for the Needy and Poor in the Town of Burke.

In 1920 Elmer Darling succeeded his friend Theodore N. Vail as president of the Board of Trustees of the Lyndon Institute at Lyndon Center. Vail had served as president from 1894 to 1903 and again from 1913 to 1920, and Darling continued to serve as president until 1931.<sup>94</sup> Darling was also a trustee of the St. Johnsbury Academy from 1920 until his death in 1931, and his will left \$10,000 to the school. When a fire leveled the historic Hotel Lyndon in 1924, Darling chaired a building committee and donated land to construct a new Colonial Revival style hotel in the center of town. Because of his leadership the new hotel, the 'Darling Inn: A Gem in the Green' was named for him. The Darling Inn in Lyndonville opened in 1928. It has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1980. Today the building operates as the Darling Inn Apartments, a 27-unit facility for senior citizens.

Darling owned a summer cottage named Cragmere on the south end of Willoughby Lake in Westmore, only 12 miles north of East Burke. In 1910, he acquired a specially-built, 35' motor launch, *The Burklyn*, for day cruises. In 1914, Darling "turned over" his second cottage, Sunset View, to the Lyndonville Village Improvement Society (LVIS) "rent free", to be used as a Tea Room to raise funds for the maintenance of several public parks in Lyndonville. In 1921 Darling built The Boulders dance casino, which he also "turned over" to the LVIS "rent free for fund raising". The casino opened August 3, 1921 with "475 people attending". Both Cragmere Cottage and The Boulders contained Darling's personal property in 1930, including furniture and kitchen appliances valued at \$299. Upon Darling's death in 1931, the LVIS involvement at Willoughby Lake ended, and in 1934 the property became a summer attraction on the lake. <sup>95</sup>

Darling may have sensed his impending death, and he prepared his last will on January, 24 1931. The will and administrative papers are today stored at the Caledonia County Courthouse in St. Johnsbury.<sup>96</sup> Elmer never married and his death was "not unexpected". He "passed on" at his mansion on April 11, 1931, just short of his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday. His obituary reported his death "came with a deep sense of personal loss to every one who knew him and had come to recognize his fine traits of character and his true, philanthropic interest and real personal concern in the well being of the community and state". The obituary noted that the community "has many eloquent monuments to his memory, both in lasting brick and stone and in the hearts and lives of the people with whom he came in contact". The funeral was held at Burklyn Hall, with the Reverend Lawrence Larrowe of East Burke conducting the services. During the services all business was suspended in East Burke and Lyndonville, and shades were drawn in St. Johnsbury stores. Darling was buried in the family lot at Woodmont Cemetery in East Burke.<sup>97</sup>

At his death, the regional newspaper reported that Elmer Darling's estate totaled over 8,000 acres. Darling was a director of the Lyndonville Savings Bank and Trust

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Company, the Darling Inn in Lyndonville, the Lyndonville Realty Company, the Community Building Company as well as several Vermont railroad corporations. He had extended his business and social network by becoming a member of the Union League Club of New York, the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the New England Society of New York City.<sup>98</sup> On the Friday following his funeral, Darling's philanthropy was headline news in the regional newspaper, the <u>Caledonian Record</u>, <u>under the title</u>: *"Darling Left \$211,000 Public Bequests"*. His will listed the recipients of his philanthropy, left in trusts to: Burke Mountain Club, \$30,000; Congregational Society of East Burke, \$15,000; Woodmont Cemetery, East Burke, \$15,000; Lyndon Institute, \$100,000; St. Johnsbury Academy, \$10,000; University of Vermont, \$5,000; Middlebury College, \$5,000; Bennington College for Girls, \$5,000; Town of Burke for Needy Account, \$10,000; Union Meeting House and Cemetery at Burke Hollow, \$6,000; Brightlook Hospital, \$10,000. There was no public announcement of the extent of the Darling fortune or his will's many private and personal benefactors.<sup>99</sup>

The executors of the Darling Estate were his brother Lucius, his nephew Henry and the Lyndonville Savings Bank and Trust Company, where Elmer had served as a director. The will contained eight single-spaced pages of references to land deeds in the Northeast Kingdom and the newspaper reported his "magnificent estate of over 8,000 acres". Darling owned Vermont real estate in Burke, Lyndon, East Haven (466 acres), Victory (800 acres), Kirby (340 acres), and Westmore (391 acres, in addition to the The Boulders casino and Cragmere Cottage properties). The Tentative Summary of his estate, as of his death in April 1931, consisted of cash, bonds, stocks, mortgages, notes, life insurance, personal property and Vermont real estate totaling \$1,195,105.79 (the value of real estate in New York was not included). Rents on Manhattan real estate in New York totaled over \$20,000 per month. At the time of his death Darling held three checking accounts and five savings accounts. The balance of the Decree of Distribution, dated June 9, 1932, was \$691,435.09.<sup>100</sup>

#### The End of the Darling Era

From the time of Elmer's death in 1931 until 1937, Lucius and his son Henry G. Darling continued to manage the family's extensive agricultural, industrial and logging properties, as well as the mansion. In 1936, Lucius Darling, along with his wife Margaret and son Henry G. Darling, sold <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and the four associated barns across Darling Hill Road, plus 960 acres in Lyndon and 140 acres in Burke, to Earle Brown of Peacham, Vermont.<sup>101</sup>

Elmer's nephew Henry G. Darling had lived at the Farmhouse at Mountain View Farm as a child. After attending Bryant and Stratton College in Boston he returned to Burke and was associated with his uncle in real estate and banking, especially with a number of valuable Manhattan properties in New York City. After the death of his father in 1937, Henry became a director of the bank and represented Caledonia County for the Republican Party in the State House of Representatives from 1939 to 1940. In

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1941 he married Kathleen Chafee. They had no children and moved to a home in Lyndonville following his retirement in 1943.<sup>102</sup>

The local pursuit of farming continued to flourish from 1940 to about 1960, as the market for farmers was good, roads improved and farm machinery simplified much of the traditional labor involved in agriculture. Land was relatively cheap, and farmers prospered particularly in prime agricultural areas like Darling Hill. Jane Howe Cameron, a niece of Henry Darling, recalls weekly trips to the farm with her uncle in the 1950s. By that point Henry and his wife were no longer living on the farm but continued to keep Morgan horses and Jersey cows. In a 2008 foreword Cameron recounts how "the barns were as they had been left, as if someone had just closed the doors". The farm, farmhouse and associated barns and outbuildings were being maintained by a caretaker at the time of her visits.<sup>103</sup>

In 1960, Henry Darling sold the 914-acre Mountain View Farm (#4) to Nelson Pendleton, including the first farm purchased by Elmer Darling in 1883. Already owners of Lochlyndon Farm in Lyndonville, Nelson and his wife bought Mountain View Farm with the intention of starting a new herd of cattle. The farm had been operating continuously since Elmer Darling's death, though the main house had been maintained but unoccupied for many years. Since then, much of the land along Darling Hill Road in Burke and Lyndon has been divided into smaller parcels and sold. All of the farms in the Historic District that formerly belonged to the Darling Estate are now privately owned.

Mountain View Farm (#4) ceased operations as a large-scale cattle farm in 1970, when it was purchased by Richard and Marion Yerkes and turned into the Darion Inn. The farm's now 370 acres, formerly used as a cow farm, became a popular spot for cross-country skiing and other activities including hiking, horseback riding, hunting, badminton, bowling on the green, croquet and tennis.<sup>104</sup> In the 1980s, plans to turn the barns at Mountain View Farm into condominium units were seriously considered but eventually rejected. The farm's present owners, Dr. John and Marilyn Pastore, renamed the property Inn at Mountain View Farm and converted the Creamery into a restaurant for fine dining and special events. Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking and biking are popular pastimes at the inn. Just down the road, the old boardinghouse at the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse (#7) has been converted into the 21-room Wildflower Inn, while the old Blacksmith Shop (#7d) nearby now houses Juniper's Restaurant. This property also features hiking, biking and sleighrides that take advantage of the District's unique and scenic historic landscape.<sup>105</sup>

Another popular activity in the Historic District during the winter months is cross-country skiing. Kingdom Trails, a conservation organization, grooms and maintains 20 kilometers of trails on the west side of Darling Hill Road, on the grounds of the <u>Mountain View Farm (#4)</u>, <u>Burklyn Hall (#1)</u> and the <u>Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis</u> Farmhouse (#7).

The Darling Estate Historic District encompasses a remarkably intact agricultural landscape that assimilated early 19th century subsistence farms into a

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highly developed scientific agricultural enterprise under the early 20th century stewardship of Elmer Darling. It remains an excellent example of an extensive Vermont gentleman's farm whose integrity has remained largely intact over the passage of almost a century. Elmer Darling and his productive estate made substantial contributions to the development of the towns of Burke and Lyndon. Most of the buildings in the District continue to represent the architectural styles typical of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and in some cases exhibit architectural styles unusual for this vernacular landscape. Elmer Darling's personal vision, leadership and stewardship created a lasting legacy embodied in this rural agricultural landscape, which incorporates a full range of agricultural resources from vernacular to high style. Since the dispersal of his estate among private owners, Darling's legacy has survived in the configuration of the landscape, historic buildings and farmsteads on Darling Hill.

<sup>4</sup> Whitelaw, James. "A Correct Map of the State of Vermont, 1796"; Burbank, Phyllis. Burke: More Than Just a Mountain p. 28; see also the Beers 1858 map and the Walling 1875 map of Burke and Lyndon.

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11 Lyndon Land Records, Book Y, Page 256.

12 Child, p. 73.

<sup>13</sup> Lyndon Land Records, Book W, Pages 76, 240, 433, 526; Book Z, Pages 300 and 379.

14 Lyndon Land Records, Book W, Page 532.

15 Jeffery, p. 278-279; Child, p. 70.

16 Jeffery, p. 278-279; Child, p. 70.

<sup>19</sup> Perkins, p. 71; Poor, p. 28-29; Tucker, p. 159-61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Diversified and Specialty Agriculture, 1760-1940", Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Our Agricultural Heritage, Vermont Historic Preservation Plan, Part One. 1989.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Diversified and Specialty Agriculture, 1760-1940", Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Our Agricultural Heritage, Vermont Historic Preservation Plan, Part One. 1989. <sup>3</sup> "Diversified and Specialty Agriculture, 1760-1940", Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Our

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Lyndon Land Records, Book W, Page 532.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Burbank, p. 10; Scharoun, Stephen R. "An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Architectural Assessment of the East Burke Dam, East Burke, Caledonia County, Vermont, Table 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Perkins, p. 71; Tucker, p. 159-61; Nowell, accessed February 22, 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Walters, Mabel H. "Burke!", The St. Johnsbury Republican, July 1, 1896, p. 14-15.

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<sup>22</sup> Walters, p. 14-15.

<sup>23</sup> Walters, p. 14-15; Fisher, Harriet F. "The Fabulous Fifth Avenue Hotel", <u>The Lyndon Independent</u>, September 6, 1995, p. 9; "Elmer A. Darling's Mountain View Farm" <u>St. Johnsbury Republican</u>, May 2, 1906; Fisher, *The Darlings*, p. 35.

24 "Darling Family Burials".

<sup>25</sup> Dix, William F. "The American Country Estate", The Independent, August 6, 1903, p. 1858-1865.

<sup>26</sup> Tamara Plakins Thornton, "Gentleman Farmers" in <u>The Encyclopedia of New England</u>, p. 42; Sherman, Joe. *The House at Shelburne Farms*, p. 16-23, 87.

27 Winks, Robin W. Frederick Billings: A Life, p. 181, 297-303.

<sup>28</sup> Paine, Albert T. In One Man's Life: Being Chapter from the Personal and Business Career of Theodore

N. Vail, p. 199-200; Shores, Venila L. Lyndon: Gem in the Green, p. 303-311; 'Speedwell Farms' in "Lyndonville: The Hustling Railroad Village", Lyndonville Journal, July 1, 1896; "The Lyndon Educational Plan", The Vermonter, Vol. 20, No. 7, 1916; Jeffery, p. 245-260.

<sup>29</sup> Lipke, William C. "Introduction" and Sheafe Satterthwaite, "The American Agricultural Estate". Shelburne Farms: The History of An Agricultural Estate, p. 8, 11.

<sup>30</sup> Thornton, Tamara P. "Gentleman Farmers" in Encyclopedia of New England, p. 42.

<sup>31</sup> "Stock Breeding, 1793-1940", Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Our Agricultural Heritage, Vermont Historic Preservation Plan, Part One. 1989.

<sup>32</sup> Burke Land Records, Hall Estate to Darling, Warranty Deed, Book 12, Page 62, October 23, 1883.

<sup>33</sup> "Elmer A. Darling" in Arthur F. Stone, <u>The Vermont of Today</u>, p. 184-185; "Lucius A. Darling" in Prentiss C. Dodge, <u>Encyclopedia Vermont Biography</u>, p. 164; "Lucius Albrow Darling", *Vermont* 

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<sup>35</sup> Meeks, Harold A. Time and Change in Vermont: A Human Geography, p. 167.

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37 Walters, p. 15.

<sup>38</sup> Walters, p. 15.

<sup>39</sup> Fisher, p. 47.

<sup>40</sup> Burke Land Records, Jenkins to Darling, Warranty Deed, Book 13, Page 5, July 19, 1896; Walter to Darling, Warranty Deed, Book 13, Page 6, July 19, 1896.

<sup>41</sup> Burke Land Records, Belden to Darling, Warranty Deed, Book 13, Page 67, July 21, 1887.

42 Burbank, p. 119.

<sup>43</sup> Burke Land Records, Amidon to Darling, Warranty Deed, Book 13, Page 522, February 24, 1892.

44 Walters, p. 15.

45 Walters, p. 15.

<sup>46</sup> Burke Land Records, Humphrey to Darling, Admin. Deed, Book 15, Page 397, September 2, 1907; Burbank, p. 49.

<sup>47</sup> Lyndon Land Records, Book W, Pages 76, 240, 433, 526; Book Z, Pages 300 and 379.

48 Lyndon Land Records, Book W, Page 532.

<sup>49</sup> Lyndon Land Records, Book Z, Page 45.

<sup>50</sup> Lyndon Land Records, Book Y, Page 256.

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<sup>55</sup> Filename LS14030 000, East Burke Club - George Hayes, University of Vermont Landscape Change Program, http://www.uvm.edu/landscape, accessed January 25, 2011.

<sup>56</sup> Yale, Allen R. Jr. While the Sun Shines: Making Hay in Vermont, 1789-1990, p. 16-30.

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<sup>59</sup> Paine, Albert B. In One Man's Life: Being Chapters from the Personal and Business Career of Theodore N. Vail, p. 200.

<sup>60</sup> Mountain View Farm. "Catalog of Registered Morgans Owned at Mountain View Farm, East Burke, Vermont", 1912; Fisher, Harriet F., "Morgan Horses at the Darling Farms" in The Darlings of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, p. 83-86; Jeffery, p. 167-168.

<sup>61</sup> Mountain View Farm. "Catalog of Registered Morgans Owned at Mountain View Farm, East Burke, Vermont", 1912; Fisher, Harriet F., "Morgan Horses at the Darling Farms" in The Darlings of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, p. 83-86; Jeffery, p. 167-168.

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<sup>64</sup> Walters, p. 11-12; Burke Land Records, Hall Estate to Darling, Administrators Deed, Book 13, Page 261, February 2, 1898; Scharoun, Stephen R. An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Architectural

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<sup>70</sup> Burke Land Deeds, Darling Estate to Village of Lyndonville, Book 19A, Pages 176-178, October 23, 1931. The other half interest in the poles was owned by the New England Telephone Company for joint use of the poles.

<sup>71</sup> Burke Land Records, Book 20, Page 502, December 20, 1934; Scharoun, Table 1.

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<sup>73</sup> Scharoun, Stephen R. An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Architectural Assessment of the East Burke Dam, East Burke, Caledonia County, Vermont, p. 27-31.

<sup>74</sup> Real Estate Record Association, A History of Real Estate, Building, and Architecture in New York City During the Last Quarter of a Century, , p. 685-689; Francis, Dennis S., Architects in Practice, New York City, 1840-1900, p.44.

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<sup>80</sup> Probate Inventory of Personal Property, "Mountain View Farms", May 12, 1931, Probate Court Records.

<sup>81</sup> Yale, Allen, Jr. While the Sun Shines: Making Hay in Vermont, 1789-1990, p. vii-ix.

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<sup>86</sup> Burbank, p. 71-72; St. Johnsbury Republican, May 2, 1906.

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<sup>88</sup> Burke Land Records, Book 14, Page 285; Book 18, Page 294; Book 19, Page 167; Book 15, Page 453; Burbank, p. 121; St. Johnsbury Republican, May 2, 1906; "Darling Family Burials".

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<sup>97</sup> "Elmer Darling Passed On Late Saturday Afternoon At His Home, Burklyn Hall" Caledonian Record,
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 <sup>98</sup> "Elmer Darling Passed On Late Saturday Afternoon At His Home, Burklyn Hall" Caledonian Record,
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99 "Darling Left \$211,000 Public Bequests", Caledonian Record, April 16, 1961, p. 1, 7.

<sup>100</sup> "Elmer Darling Passed On Late Saturday Afternoon At His Home, Burklyn Hall" *Caledonian Record*, April 13, 1931, p. 1, 4; Will of Elmer A. Darling (File #2877) and Decree of Distribution (Vol. 101, P. 55), Probate Court Records, Caledonia County Courthouse, St. Johnsbury.

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<sup>101</sup> Burke Land Records, Darling to Brown, Warranty Deed, Book 22, Pages 357-358. 102 "Henry G. Darling", Caledonian Record, July 7, 1986.

<sup>103</sup> Fisher, p. 7.
 <sup>104</sup> Fisher, p. 124-5.
 <sup>105</sup> Burbank, p. 56, 98.

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Year Event Event Name		Associated Property		
1792	Built	Lemuel Walter builds the first farmstead (later destroyed) on the future Darling Hill Road.	Lucius A. Darling Farm	
1796	Built	Captain Elias Bemis settles on future Darling Hill Road (his original farmstead home and structures do not survive).	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm	
1796	Built	Wait Bemis settles on future Darling Hill Road (his original farmstead home and structures do not survive).	Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farm	
1800	Built	Sylvester Hall settles on future Darling Hill Road south of future Belden place (house remnants from this original farmstead do not survive).	Mountain View Farm	
1805	Built	Benjamin Belden moves into a house (no longer surviving) on the future Darling Hill Road.	Benjamin F. Belden Farm	
c. 1810	Built	Eber Howland builds the Cape Cod style Eber Howland Farmhouse (9) on the future Darling Hill Road (this house was associated with a 385-acre farm).	Eber Howland Farm (9)	
1825	Built	By this date, the original East Burke Dam is built (later replaced).		
1825	Built	Joseph Wood builds a Saw Mill on the west bank of the East Branch of the Passumpsic River, associated with the original East Burke Dam.		
c. 1825	Built	Benjamin F. Belden builds the Cape Cod style Belden Farmhouse (3) and Barn (3a).	Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse (3)	
1826	Built	Joseph Wood builds a Grist Mill on the east bank of the East Branch of the Passumpsic River, associated with the original East Burke Dam.		
c. 1830	Built	Willard Spencer acquires Joseph Wood's two mills and builds a new Grist Mill. Some time between now and 1853, a covered bridge is built below the dam.		
c. 1830	Built	John Howland builds the John Howland & Son Farmhouse (10) (this house was associated with a 12-acre farm).	John Howland & Son Farm <b>(10)</b>	
c. 1840	Built	Erastus Humphrey builds a two-story Greek Revival style farmhouse (razed c. 1957).	Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm <b>(2)</b>	
c. 1840	Built	The Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farmhouse (7) and Schoolhouse (7a) are built.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(2)</b>	
c. 1840	Built	The Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farmhouse (8) is built.	Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farm (8)	

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1852	Purchased	Dudley P. Hall acquires the East Burke mill complex and dam.	
1853	Destroyed	A freshet destroys the original East Burke Dam in addition to the Saw Mill, mill house, associated sheds and the covered bridge below the dam. The Grist Mill is seriously damaged.	
c. 1853	Built	Dudley P. Hall builds a new East Burke Dam and Saw Mill to replace the buildings lost in the 1853 flood. He also repairs the surviving, original 1830s Grist Mill. The new complex is known as the Hall and Chase Sawmill. The covered bridge below the dam was probably replaced around this time as well.	
1855	Built	Harley M. Hall builds the Greek Revivial style Harley M. Hall Farmhouse (4).	Mountain View Farm (4)
1855	Purchased	Christopher C. Amidon acquires 66 acres of the Walter Farm from Lemuel Walter.	Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse <b>(5)</b>
1873	Purchased	Benjamin and Sarah Jenkins buy the 130-acre Lemuel Walter farm.	Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse <b>(5)</b>
1875	Purchased	William D. Goss acquires the Henry Hunt Farm on the future Darling Hill Road (at time of acquisition, farm includes no house and only a few rundown buildings).	W.D. Goss Farm <b>(6)</b>
1883	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the Harley M. Hall Farmhouse and associated 300-acre farm from Rosalie Hall, renaming it Mountain View Farm.	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1885	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Mountain View Scale Barn ( <b>4a</b> ).	Mountain View Farm (4)
1886	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the 130-acre Lemuel Walter farm from the Jenkins.	Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse <b>(5)</b>
1886	Built	Elmer Darling buys the Hall and Chase Sawmill in East Burke, and builds the first Darling Saw Mill shortly afterwards.	
1887	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the 200-acre Belden Farm from William and Mary Belden.	Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse (3)
1890	Built	William D. Goss builds a new house (6) and barn (6a) on the 160-acre Goss Farm.	William D. Goss Farm (6)
1890	Altered	By this date Elmer Darling has remodeled and made additions to the Harley M. Hall Farmhouse (4).	Mountain View Farm (4)

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c. 1890	Built	William D. Goss builds a shed ( <b>6c</b> ) on the Goss Farm.	William D. Goss Farm (6)
c. 1890	Destroyed	The Walter farmstead house burns down.	Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse <b>(5)</b>
c. 1890	Altered	Elmer Darling uses the fieldstone foundation of the old Hall Barn to build the Mountain View Dairy Barn on to the old Scale Barn east elevation, and a second Dairy Barn extension on the Scale Barn south elevation ( <b>4a</b> ).	Mountain View Farm <b>(4)</b>
c. 1890	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Mountain View Creamery ( <b>4i</b> ).	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1890	Built	Elmer Darling constructs a Carriage House, Bull Barn, and Piggery built at Mountain View Farm (none of these buildings still exist).	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1890	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Tool House (4d), Ice House (4e), Pump House (4b) and Threshing Barn (4f) at today's Mountain View Farm.	Mountain View Farm (4)
1892	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse (5) and Carriage House (5a) for his newly married brother, Lucius, on roughly the same site as the former Walter farmstead.	Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse <b>(5)</b>
1892	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the 66-acre Christopher C. Amidon Farm from Amidon.	Lucius A. Darling Farmhouse <b>(5)</b>
1892	Destroyed	The first Darling Saw Mill, in East Burke, burns down.	
c. 1892	Built	Elmer Darling has a new Darling Saw Mill built to replace the old one, in addition to a Wood Finishing Mill.	
1896	Planted By this year there are two maple orchards at Mountain View Farm, containing 1900 trees and associated with two wood-frame sugarhouses.		Mountain View Farm <b>(4)</b>
1897	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Morgan Horse Barn ( <b>4h</b> ) at Mountain View Farm.	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1897	Built	Elmer Darling has a 7,000 gallon concrete reservoir built to store water at the top of Darling Hill and furnish water to Mountain View Farm (4). Wooden pump logs connect the reservoir to the Pumping House in East Burke. A second reservoir is built around the same time at the Humphrey Farm (2) for the same purpose, connecting to the first reservoir via more wooden pump logs.	Mountain View Farm (4), Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm (2)

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1899	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the East Burke Village Grist Mill (originally built by Spencer in 1830 and repaired by Hall in 1853).	
1900	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys 13 acres of Howland land Lyndon.	Eber Howland Farm (9)
c. 1900	Altered	Elmer Darling finances improvements to the East Burke Dam, enlarging Darling Mill Pond.	
c. 1900	Built	Elmer Darling finances construction of a Hydroelectric Station (or Pumping House) to supply energy to East Burke Village. In subsequent years, electric lines are set on poles leading a mile up Darling Hill to Burklyn Hall (1) and Mountain View Farm (4).	
c. 1900	Built	The Implement Shed (7b), Carriage Barn (7c), Blacksmith Shop (7d), two Horse Barns (7f and 7g) and Hay Barn (7h) are built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
c. 1900	Built	Three Barns ( <b>10b</b> , <b>10c</b> and <b>10d</b> ) are built on the John Howland & Son Farm.	John Howland & Son Farm <b>(10)</b>
c. 1900- 1910	Planted	Elmer Darling plants rows of silver maple trees along either side of Darling Hill Road.	Darling Hill Road Allée (11)
1902	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the 111.5-acre Abner F. Howland Farm.	Eber Howland Farm (9)
1904	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys the 140-acre Eggleston Farm, located to the east of the village of East Burke, from Ezra and Algia Eggleston.	
1904- 1908	Built	Elmer Darling builds Burklyn Hall.	Burklyn Hall (1)
c. 1905	Built	Elmer Darling constructs a new Piggery ( <b>4c</b> ) and Carriage Barn ( <b>4k</b> ) at Mountain View Farm.	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1905	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Morgan Horse Barn (1c) at Burklyn Hall.	Burklyn Hall (1)
c. 1905	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Eggleston Farm Dairy Barn and Carriage Barn.	
1906	Altered	Elmer Darling adds another Dairy Barn extension to the Scale Barn ( <b>4a</b> ), north elevation.	Mountain View Farm (4)
1906	Purchased	Elmer Darling acquires the 160-acre William D. Goss Farm.	William D. Goss Farm (6)
1906	Purchased	Elmer Darling acquires the 300-acre Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm (7).	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>

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1906	Built	By this date Darling has financed construction of a Blacksmith Shop, Harness Shop, Dry House and Feed Storage Building in East Burke.	
c. 1906	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Wagon Barn (1d) and Field Barn (1e) at Burklyn Hall.	Burklyn Hall <b>(1)</b>
c. 1907	Purchased	Elmer Darling buys 245-acre Humphrey Farm following the death of Julius Humphrey.	Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm <b>(2)</b>
c. 1908	Built	Elmer Darling builds the Humphrey Farm House (2) and Dairy Barn (2a).	Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm <b>(2)</b>
c. 1908	Built	Elmer Darling builds the Burklyn Hall Carriage Barn (1a).	Burklyn Hall <b>(1)</b>
1909	Purchased	Elmer Darling acquires the Eber Howland Farmhouse ( <b>9</b> ), along with 1.9 acres of surrounding land.	Eber Howland Farm (9)
1910	Purchased	Elmer Darling acquires the remaining Howland land, including the John Howland & Son Farm, from Charles W. Ball.	John Howland & Son Farmhouse <b>(10)</b>
1910	Purchased	Elmer Darling acquires the 275-acre Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farm ( <b>8</b> ).	Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farm <b>(8)</b>
1912	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Clock Barn ( <b>4g</b> ) at Mountain View Farm.	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1920	Built	Darling installs a second rotary pump in the East Burke Hydroelectric Station, and lays a 3" water pipe half a mile up Darling Hill to a second concrete reservoir.	
c. 1920	Built	Elmer Darling constructs the Garage ( <b>9a</b> ) at the Eber Howland Farm.	Eber Howland Farm (9)
1927	Destroyed	The state-wide flood of this year heavily damages the East Burke Dam and destroys the existing Saw Mill.	
1931	Altered	Elmer Darling reconstructs the East Burke Dam, bringing it up to its current state (concrete, gravity type with flood gates).	
1931	Deceased	Elmer Darling dies.	
1931	Purchased	The Village of Lyndonville acquires the East Burke Hydroelectric Station, electric transmission lines and a half-interest in electric poles.	
1934	Purchased	C.H. Davis acquires the Saw Mill, Grist Mill and Blacksmith Shop in East Burke.	

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1936	Purchased	Earle Brown buys Burklyn Hall (1) and the associated four barns across the street (1a, 1c, 1d and 1e), along with 960 acres in Lyndon and 140 acres in Burke, from the Darlings.	Burklyn Hall (1)
1937	Deceased	Lucius Darling dies.	
c. 1940	Built	The Garage (7e) is added to the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
c. 1940	Built	The Arena (1b) at Burklyn Farm is built.	Burklyn Hall (1)
1948	Purchased	C.H. Davis purchases Burklyn Hall and the associated estate from Earle Brown.	Burklyn Hall <b>(1)</b>
c. 1955	Built	The house at #3159 Darling Hill Road is built.	#3159 Darling Hill Road (15)
1957	Purchased	The American Saw and Tool Company purchases the estate associated with Burklyn Hall. The Hall itself is deeded to the State of Vermont, and used as a men's dormitory by Lyndon State College until the 1960s.	Burklyn Hall <b>(1)</b>
c. 1957	Destroyed	The original two-story house built by Erastus Humphrey around 1840 is razed. Only the foundation remains.	Erastus & Julius Humphrey Farm <b>(2)</b>
1958	Destroyed	The former Darling mill complex in East Burke burns down. The associated East Burke Dam is abandoned.	
1960	Purchased	Nelson Pendleton purchases the 914-acre Mountain View Farm from Henry Darling.	Mountain View Farm (4)
c. 1960	Altered	Concrete flooring is installed on the first floor of the East Addition of the Scale and Dairy Barn (4a).	Mountain View Farm (4)
1965	Built	The Field Barn (7j) is added to the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
c. 1969	Built	The Modern House ( <b>7p</b> ) is built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm (7)
1970	Purchased	Richard and Marion Yerkes purchase the now 370-acre Mountain View Farm and turn it into the Darion Inn.	Mountain View Farm <b>(4)</b>
1970	Altered	Elizabeth Brouha and the Friends of Burklyn Hall begin use of Burklyn Hall as a center for community arts and education.	Burklyn Hall <b>(1)</b>
1973	Preserved	Burklyn Hall is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.	Burklyn Hall (1)
c. 1974	Built	The Modern House (7r) is built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm (7)

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1986	Deceased	Henry G. Darling dies.	
c. 1988	Built	The Swimming Pool ( <b>7n</b> ) is built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
1990	Built	The Burke Historical Society places a small granite footstone is placed in front yard of Belden House to commemorate the earliest private cemetery in Burke.	Benjamin F. Belden Farmhouse <b>(3)</b>
1993	Built	The Tennis Court (71) is built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
1996	Built	The Garden House (7i) is added to the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
1996	Built	The Garage ( <b>10a</b> ) is added to the John Howland & Son Farm.	John Howland & Son Farm <b>(10)</b>
1998	Built	A state historic marker that reads "Mountain View Farm" is placed along Darling Hill Road ( <b>4j</b> ).	Mountain View Farm (4)
1999	Built	The Maintenance Shed (7q) is built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
2004	Built	The Gazebo (7k) is added to the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
2007	Built	The Barn ( <b>8a</b> ) is built at the Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farm.	Alfred & Welcome A. Bemis Farm (8)
2010	Built	The Wagon Shed (7m) is built at the Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm.	Alonzo O. & Joshua Bemis Farm <b>(7)</b>
2010- 2011	Built	A new barn ( <b>6c</b> ) is built on the William D. Goss Farm.	William D. Goss Farm (6)
2011	Altered	By this date, the old wooden covered bridge below the East Burke Dam has been replaced by a steel beam and concrete deck bridge.	

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 7

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

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### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

#### UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1.	19	264380	4943430
2.	19	266180	4942760
3.	19	265790	4939820
4	19	265410	4938490
5.	19	262715	4939210

#### **Boundary Description**

The boundary of the Darling Estate Historic District is delineated on the map accompanying this registration form. The Historic District is bounded to the north by the northern edge of the Erastus and Julius Humphrey Farm (#2); to the south by the southern edge of the Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8); to the east by eastern edge of the properties on the east side of Darling Hill Road, including the eastern boundaries of historic Burklyn Hall (#1), the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7), the Eber Howland Farm (#9), and the John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10); and to the west by the western edge of the properties on the west side of the road, including the western boundaries of historic Burklyn Hall (#1), the Erastus and Julius Humphrey Farm (#2), Mountain View Farm (#4), the Alfred and Welcome A. Bemis Farm (#8), the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7), and the John Howland and Son Farmhouse (#10). Along the western edge of the Historic District, the boundary follows the West Branch of the Passumpsic River and the east side of the historic Vermont Railroad Although the estate boundary historically followed the West Branch of the tracks. Passumpsic River exactly, the exclusion of the railroad tracks from the Historic District is due to the fact that the area of land between the railroad tracks and the river is almost entirely covered by the Vermont Railroad right-of-way. This is also consistent with the modern day property lines, which follow the east side of the railroad tracks.

The property lines on the map are derived from the Official Tax Maps of the Towns of Burke and Lyndon, Vermont. The map was created by Emily Donaldson for the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, Montpelier, Vermont using maps and data from the Town Clerks of Burke and Lyndon and the Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI) website (www.vcgi.org).

#### Tax Lot Numbers

1. 10010001.000 2. 060300005.000 3. 060300020.001 4. 06030002.001

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

4k. 06030017.000 5.06030026.000 6.06-0901 7.06-0971 8.06-0761 9.06-1691 10.06-1721 12.06030011.000 13.06030018.000 14.06030020.001 15.06030028.000 16.06030025.000 17.06-1741 18.06-1741 19.06-0981 20.06-0771

#### **Boundary Justification**

The Darling Estate Historic District is comprised of properties associated with the Darling Estate along Darling Hill Road in Burke and Lyndon. It includes some new residential development resulting from the subdivision of agricultural fields and forests. The map illustrates the current Historic District boundary, along with the boundaries for all the properties it includes. Due to changes in the landscape and particularly the growth of successional forest over time, the current Historic District boundary does not adhere exactly to the boundaries of Elmer Darling's estate on Darling Hill. However, in large part it covers the extent of Darling's historic acreage on Darling Hill, which ranged from the West Branch to the East Branch of the Passumpsic River. Most importantly, today's Historic District is based around the historic route of Darling Hill Road and the associated and contiguous properties that continue to retain most of the same views, historic resources and patterns of landscape use that existed during the historic period of significance. Modern residential development is concentrated to the north of the Benjamin Belden Farmhouse (#3), around Willoughby Way to the south of the William D. Goss Farmhouse (#6) and in the vicinity of the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farmhouse (#7). Along Darling Hill Road to the north and south of the Historic District and along East Darling Hill Road to the east of the District, a clear transition of character occurs due to higher density of modern residential development and a more closed, thickly wooded and less agrarian landscape. As a result, the District boundary reflects the scope and surviving historic character of not only a unique gentleman's farm, but an iconic era in Vermont and American history.

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photograph Labels Page 1 Darling Estate Historic District

Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

The following is the same for all photographs: Darling Estate Historic District Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont A CD with digital images is on file at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

Photos #1-32, 34-49: Photo Credit: Steve Legge, November 2007 and May 2008 Photos printed with Hewlett Packard 84/85 dye-based inkset and Premium Plus High Gloss Photo Paper

Photos #53-57, 59-62: Photo Credit: Nancy E. Boone, July 2010 Photos #50-52, 57-58, 63-68: Photo Credit: Emily C. Donaldson, February 2011 Photos printed with Epson Photo 2200 archival inks and Premium Glossy Photo Paper

Photograph # 1 Landscape Property 4, facing north

Photograph # 2 Property 1, facing south

Photograph # 3 Property 1, facing west

Photograph # 4 Property 1, facing northeast

Photograph # 5 Property 1, facing northwest

Photograph # 6 Property 1a, facing southwest

Photograph # 7 Property 1b, facing southwest

Photograph # 8 Property 1c, facing southwest

Photograph # 9 Property 1d, facing northwest

Photograph # 10

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number\_Photograph Labels Page 2\_ Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

Property 1e, facing northwest

Photograph # 11 Property 2, facing southwest

Photograph # 12 Property 2a, facing southwest

Photograph # 13 Property 3, facing northwest

Photograph # 14 Property 3a, facing southwest

Photograph # 15 Property 4, facing northwest

Photograph # 16 Property 4a, facing west

Photograph # 17 Property 4a, facing northeast

Photograph # 18 Property 4b, facing northeast

Photograph # 19 Property 4c, facing northwest

Photograph # 20 Property 4d, facing northeast

Photograph # 21 Property 4e, facing southwest

Photograph # 22 Property 4f, facing northwest

Photograph # 23 Property 4g, facing west

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Vermont	Section number	Photograph Labels Page	3	Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont
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Photograph # 24 Property 4g, facing northwest

Photograph # 25 Property 4h, facing northwest

Photograph # 26 Property 4h, facing east

Photograph # 27 Property 4i, facing northwest

Photograph # 28 Property 4k, facing northwest

Photograph # 29 Property 5, facing northwest

Photograph # 30 Property 5a, facing northwest

Photograph # 31 Property 6, facing west

Photograph # 32 Property 6a, facing northwest

Photograph # 33 Property 6b looking down Willoughby Road with Properties 17 and 18 in distance, facing west

Photograph # 34 Property 7, facing southwest

Photograph # 35 Property 7a, facing southwest

Photograph # 36 Property 7b, facing southwest

Photograph # 37 Property 7c, facing northeast

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number\_Photograph Labels Page 4\_ Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

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Photograph # 38 Property 7e, facing northeast

Photograph # 39 Property 7f, facing northwest

Photograph # 40 Property 7g, facing southwest

Photograph # 41 Property 7h, facing northeast

Photograph # 42 Property 7i, facing southwest

Photograph # 43 Property 8, facing northwest

Photograph # 44 Property 9, facing northeast

Photograph # 45 Property 9a, facing northeast

Photograph # 46 Property 10, facing northeast

Photograph # 47 Property 10b, facing northwest

Photograph # 48 Property 10c, facing northwest

Photograph # 49 Property 10d, facing northwest

Photograph # 50 Property 15, facing west

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number_	Photograph Labels Page	5	Darling Estate Historic District Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont
			vermont

Photograph # 51 Properties 17 (right), 17a (left) and 18 (center) behind characteristic screen of trees, facing south

Photograph # 52 Properties 19 (right) and 7p (left) with silver maple allée in foreground, looking southeast

Photograph # 53 View of Darling Estate Historic District, Property 1 at left, Property 4 at right, facing west

Photograph # 54 View of Property 4, Property 5 at far left, facing west

Photograph # 55 View along Darling Hill Road toward Property 1 on hill, Property 4k on left, facing southwest

Photograph # 56 View of Property 4, facing northwest

Photograph # 57 View showing open landscape east of Darling Hill Road, Property 2a at right, facing northwest toward Willoughby Lake

Photograph # 58 View showing open landscape east of Darling Hill Road, Property 13 at left, facing northeast toward Burke Mountain

Photograph # 59 View showing open landscape east of Darling Hill Road, south of Property 13 facing southeast toward Burke Mountain

Photograph # 60 View along Darling Hill Road with silver maple allée, Property 10 on left, 10d and 10b on right, facing south

Photograph # 61 View along Darling Hill Road with silver maple allée, Property 7h on right, facing southwest

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Photograph Labels Page	6	Darling Estate Historic District
1999 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 -		1	Burke & Lyndon, Caledonia County,

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Photograph # 62

View of historic silver maple allée, along road east of the Alonzo O. and Joshua Bemis Farm (#7), facing north

Photograph # 63 The historic Darling Estate farm sign in front of the Lucius A. Darling House (#5), facing west

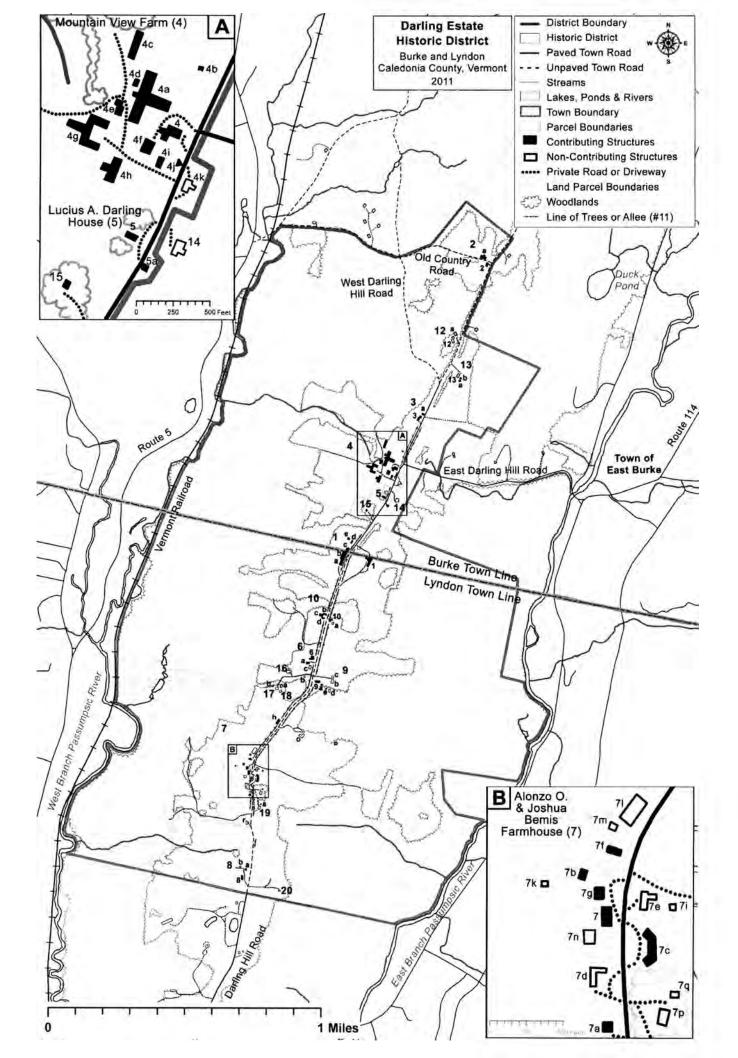
Photograph # 64 Historic view of Burklyn Hall from Darling Hill Road facing southeast, early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Fisher 2008:79)

Photograph # 65 Historic view of Mountain View Farm facing northwest from the north slopes of Burklyn Hall, 1904 (Fisher 2008:46)

Photograph # 66 Historic aerial photograph of Darling Estate, 1962 and 1963, stitched and annotated (Vermont Department of Transportation, Project VT-62-H)

Photograph # 67 Aerial photograph of Darling Estate, 2009, annotated with historic properties (Northeastern Vermont Development Association)

Photograph # 68 (Historic Map) H.F. Walling historic map of Darling Estate from 1858



#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Darling Estate Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VERMONT, Caledonia

DATE RECEIVED: 7/08/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/23/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000911

DETAILED EVALUATION:

✓ ACCEPT RETURN

REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Aquicultural district of State level of Significance

RECOM. /CRITERIA A.C.	1,
REVIEWER USA Die	DISCIPLINE to Str
TELEPHONE	DATE 8/23/1.

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



MOUNTAIN VIEW FARM, #4 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO #1 VIEW LOOKING NORTH

Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



BURKLYN HALL, #1 DARLING ESTATE Historic District CHOTO #2 VIEW LOOKING SOUTH Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT



BURKLYN HALL, #1 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO #3 VIEW LOOKING WEST

Burke and Lyndon Caledonic Co., VT





BURKAYN HAAL, #1 BARNING ESTATE Historic District PHOTO #4 VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST Bucke and Lyndon

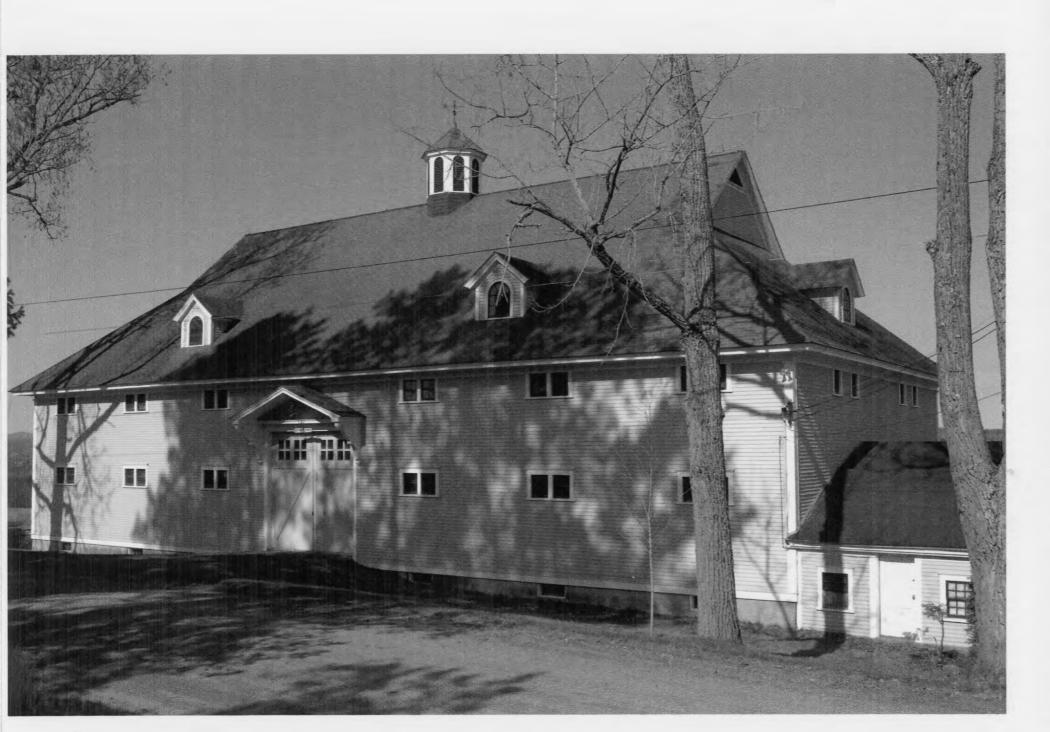
Caledonia Co., NT



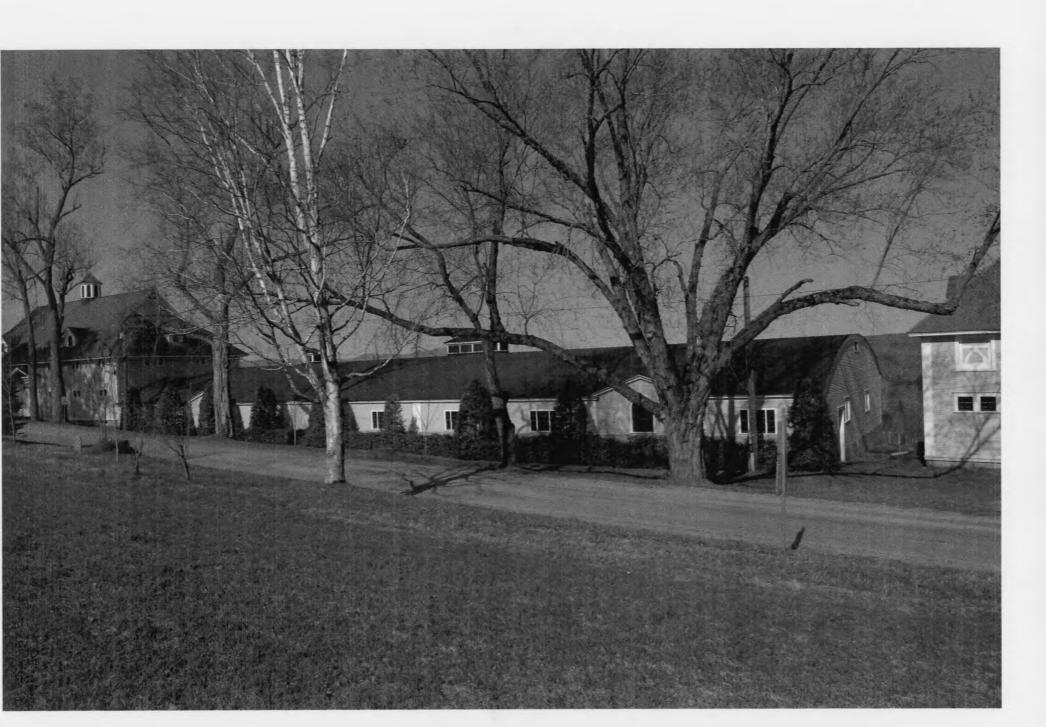
TBURKLYN HALL, #1 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO #5 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., UT



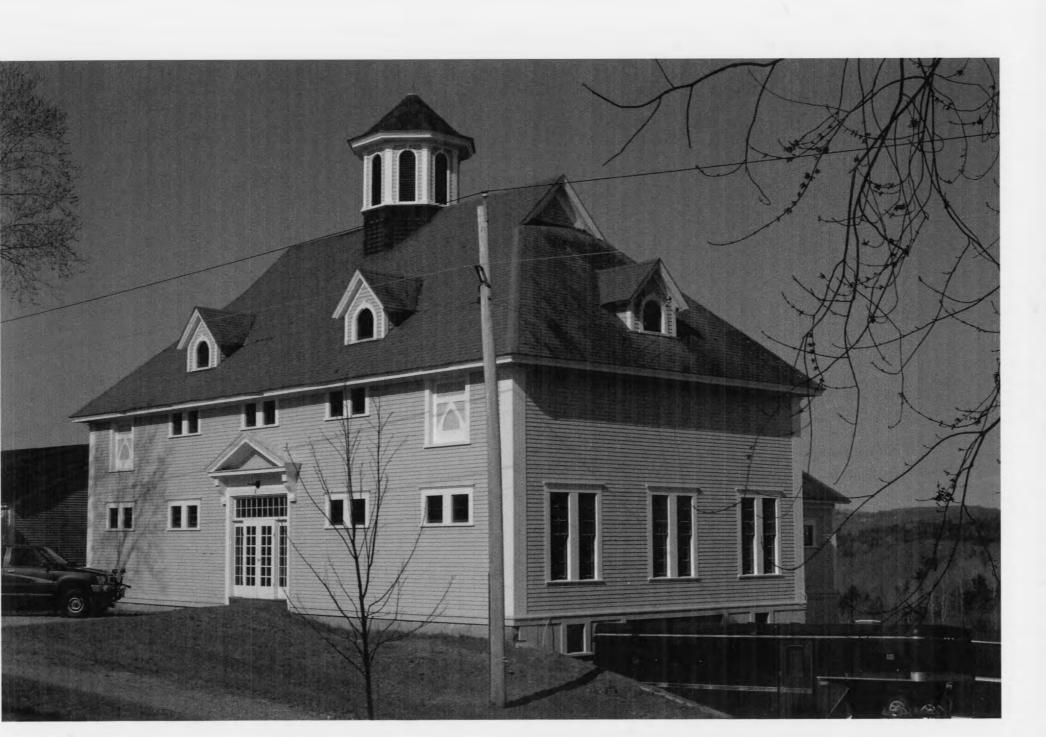
PROPERTY #12 DARNING ESTATE ASTORIZ DISTRICT PHOTO #6 VIEW NOOKING SOUTHWEST



LEOPERTY # 16 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT PAOTO # 7 VIEW LOOKTHE SOUTHWERT Buike and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT

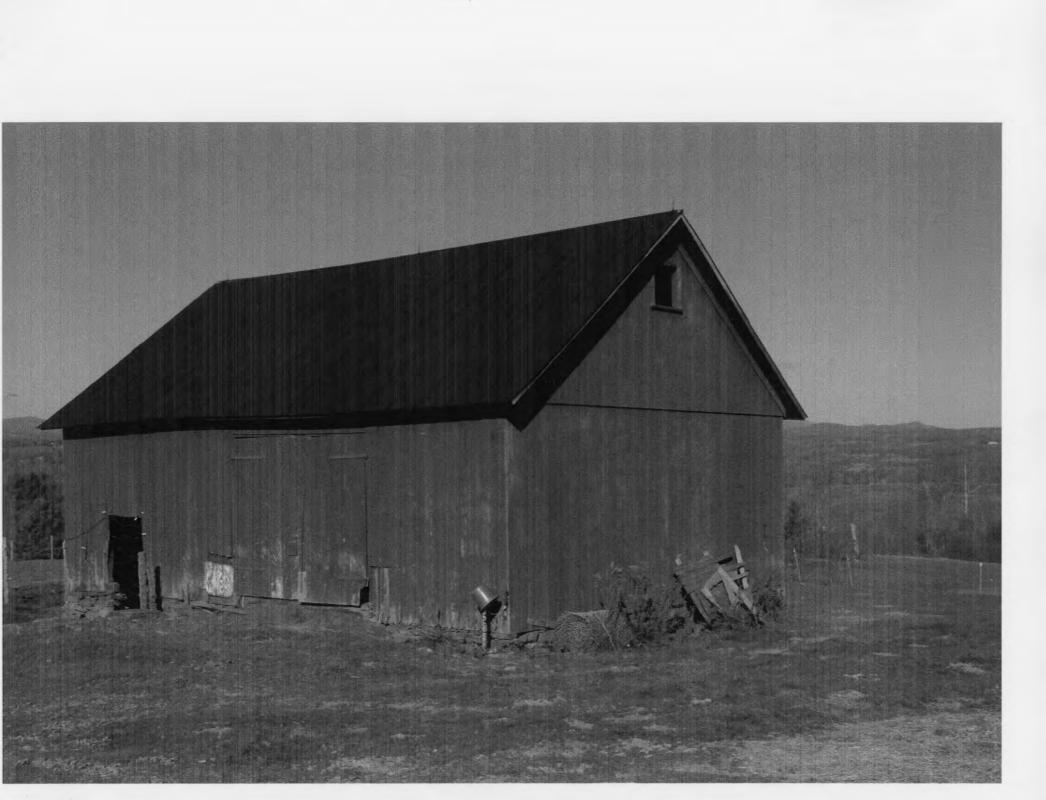




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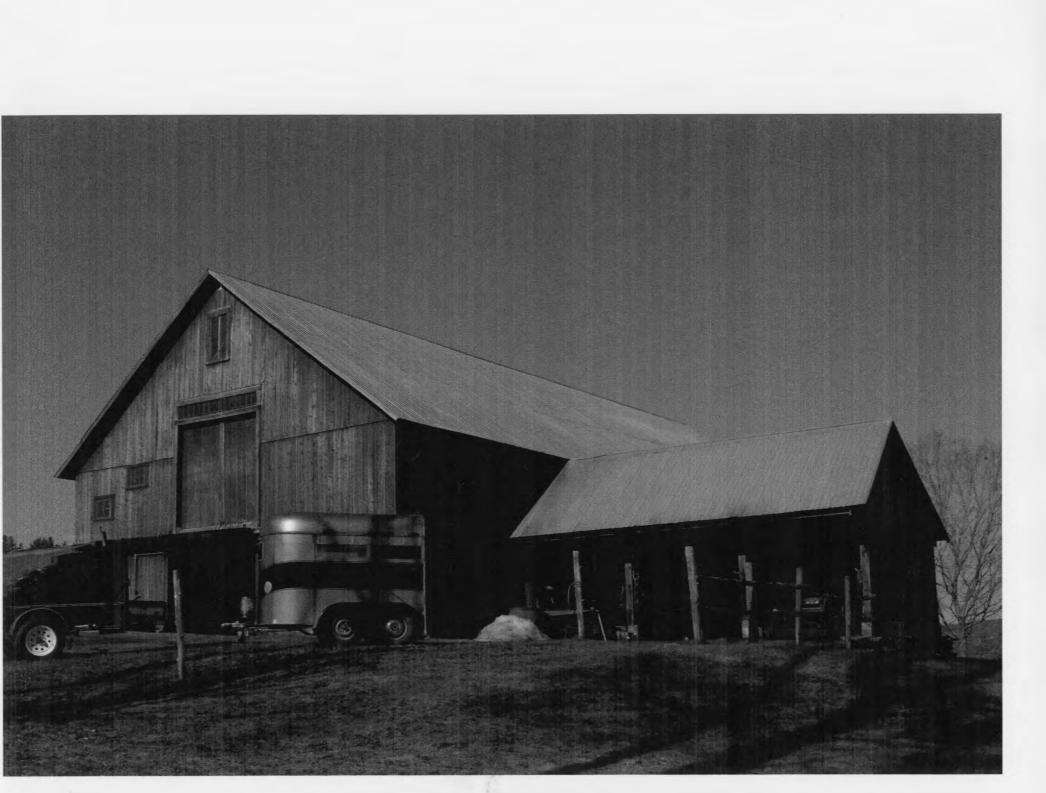
PROPERTY #12 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 9 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



APOPERTY # 1e DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT EHOTO # 10 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



PROPERTY #2 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 11 VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST



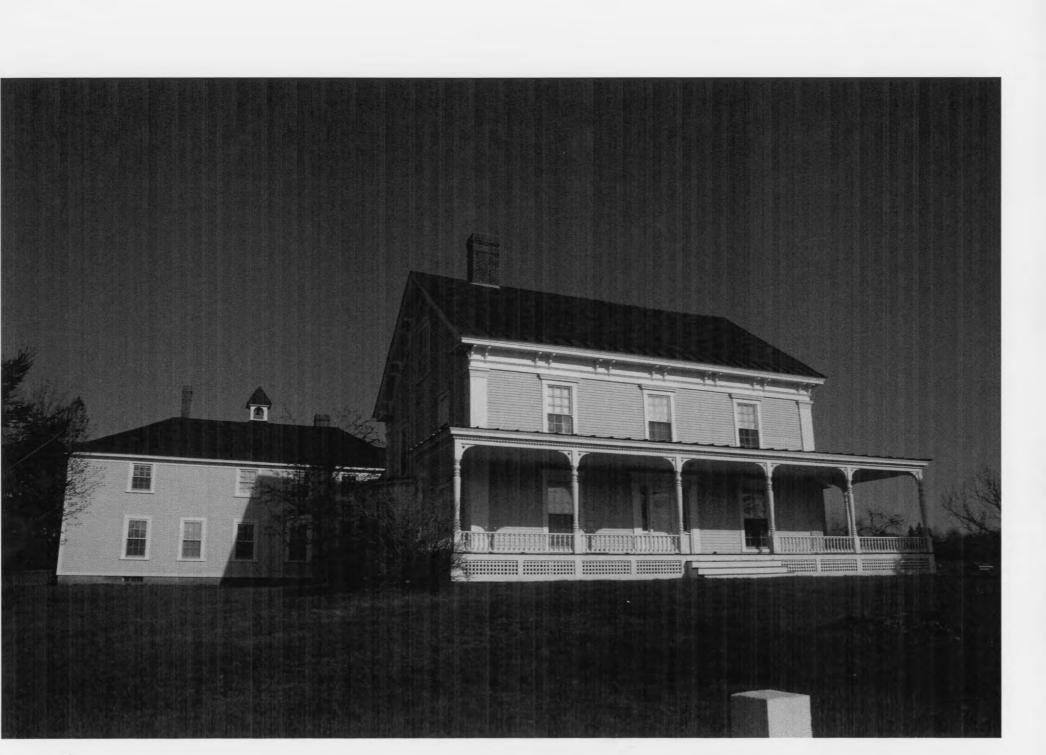
PROPERTY # 22 NARNTNE ESTATE ASTORIC DISTRICT UHOTO #12 VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST Burke and Lyndon Caledonic Co., VT



PROPARTA # 3 DARNING ESTATE ASTORIC DISTRICT lHoto #13 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWERS



PROPERTY #32 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT CHOTO # 14 VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST Burke and Lyndon Coledonia Co., VT



PROPERTY #4 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 15 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



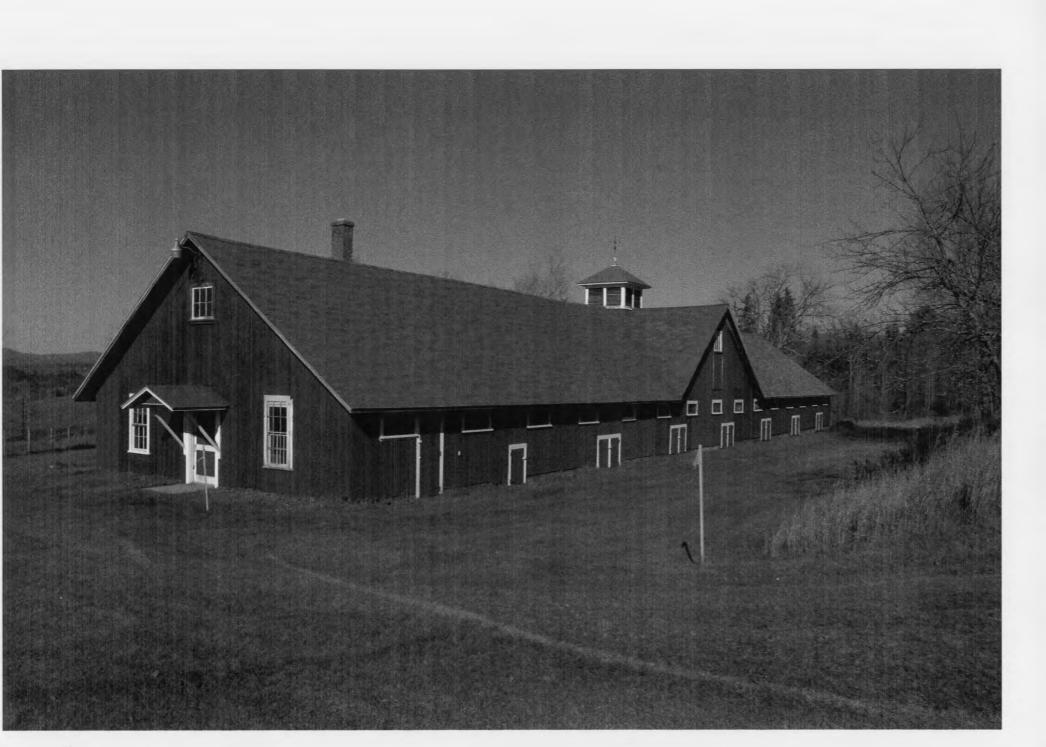
PROPERTY # 42 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT loto # 16 VIEW LOOKING WEST



PROPAREN # 42 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 17 VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



PROPERTY #46 NARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO # 18 VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



PROPERTY #40 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 19 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT



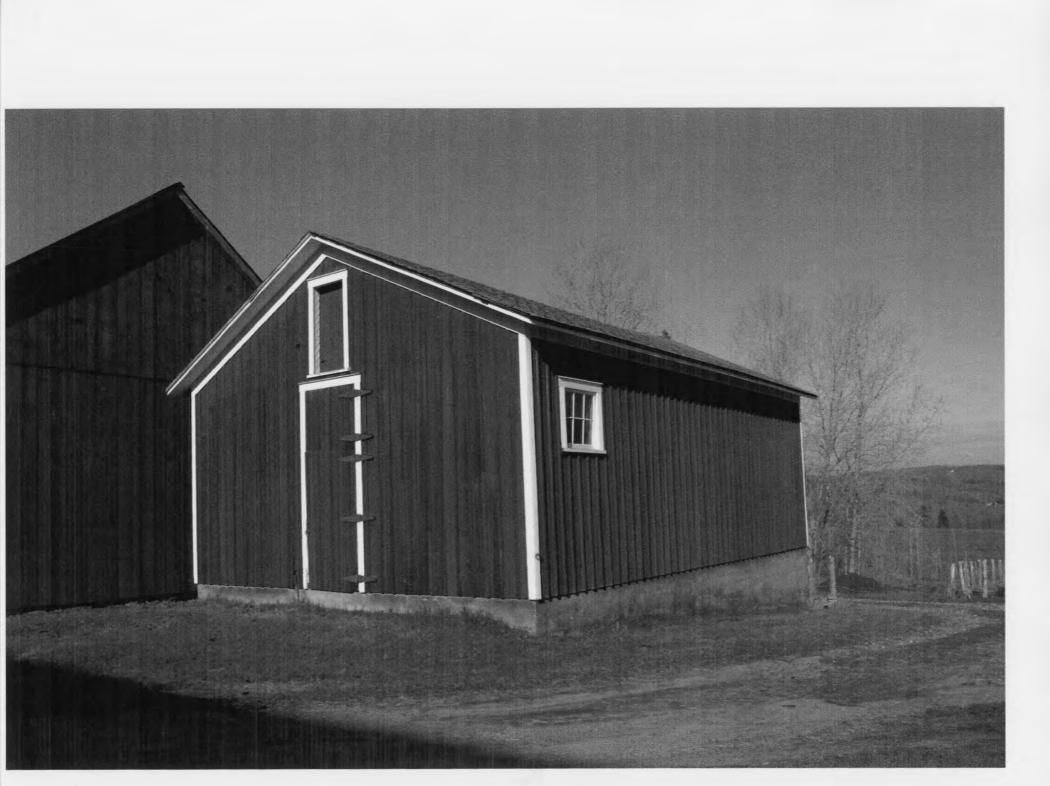


PROPERTY #40 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO #20 VIEW NOOKING NORTHEAST VIEW NOOKING NORTHEAST

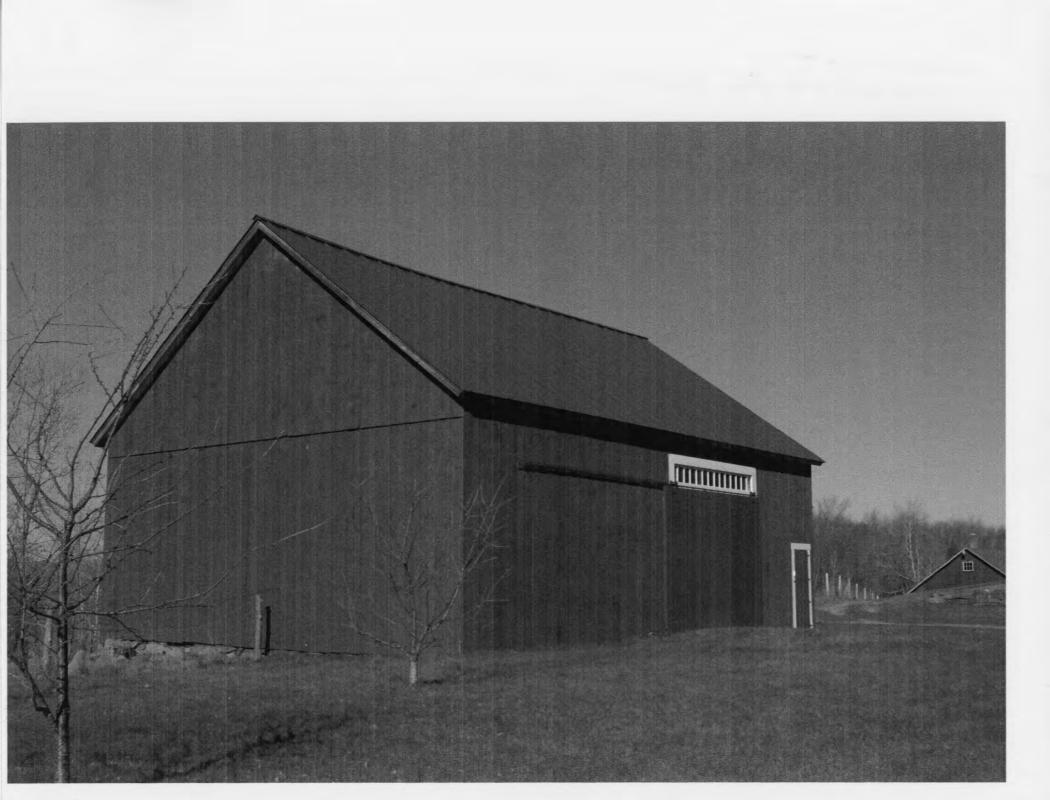
Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



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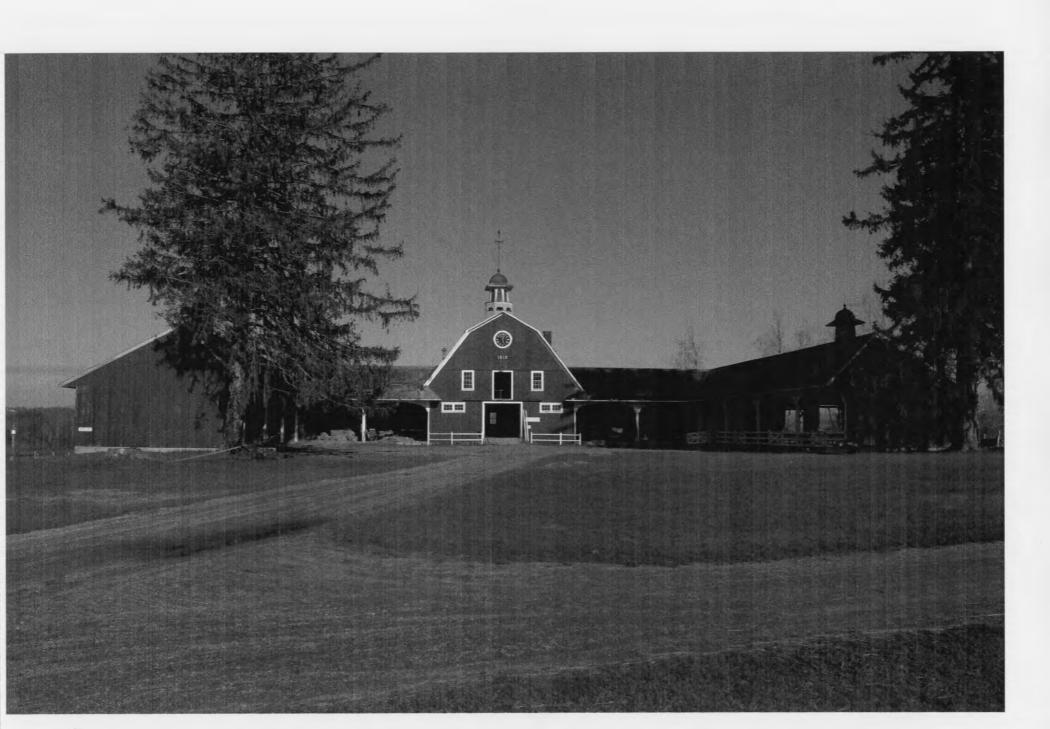


PROPARTY #40 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO # 21 VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



PROPERT #4F SARLING ESTATE HISTORIZ DISTRICT UHOTO # 22 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST Durke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT



PROPERTY #49 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 23 VIEW LOOKING WEST



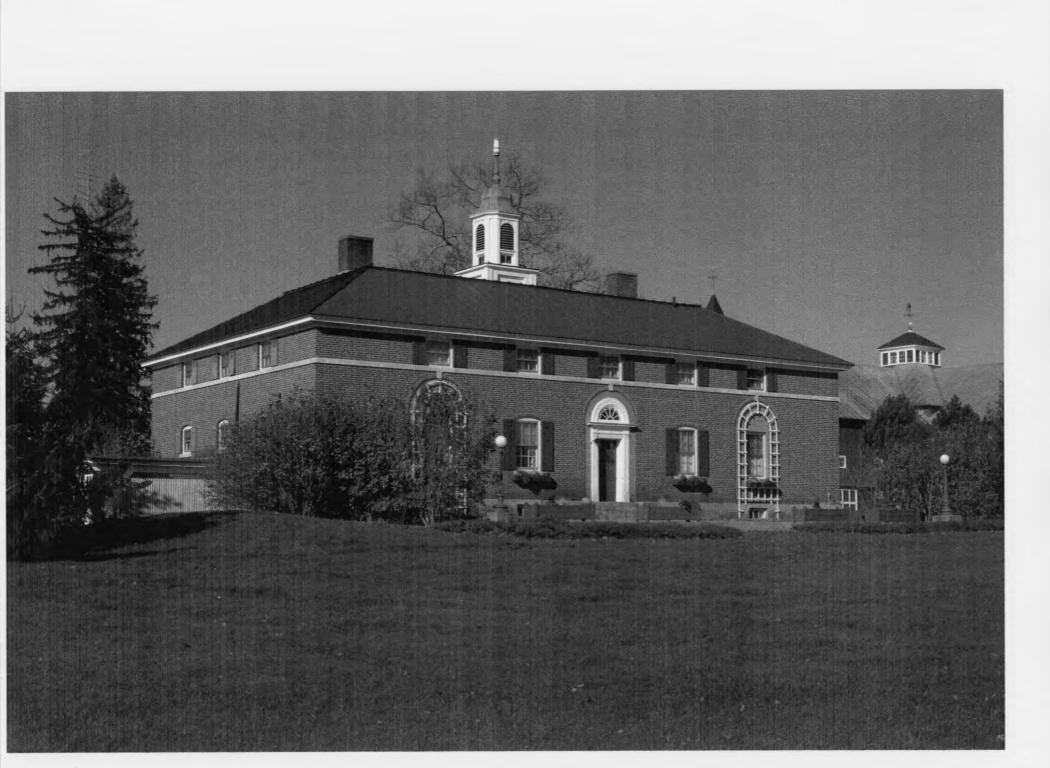
ARAING ESTATE HSTORIC DISTRICT DARAING ESTATE HSTORIC DISTRICT CHOTO # 24 VIEW NOOKING NORTHEAST



PROPARTN #44 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT PHOTO #25 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



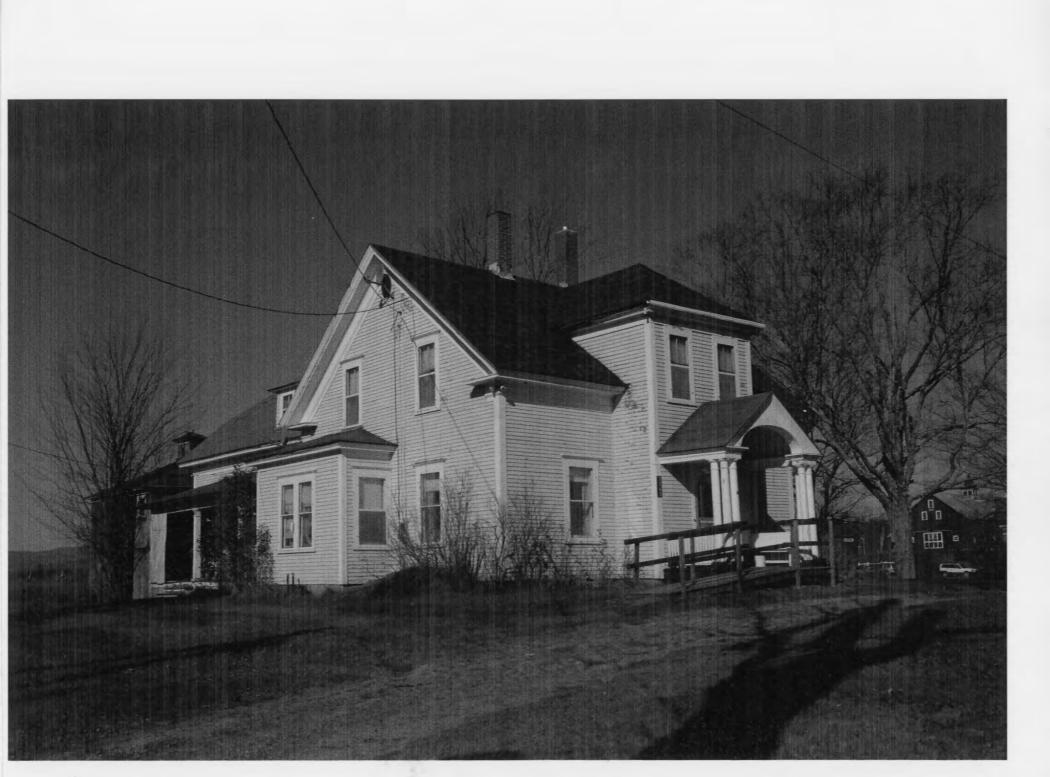
PROPERTY # 44 DARNINE ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT CHOTO # 26 VIEW LOOKING EAST 



CROPERTO #4: DARNING ESTATE ASTORIC DISTRICT PH070#27 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



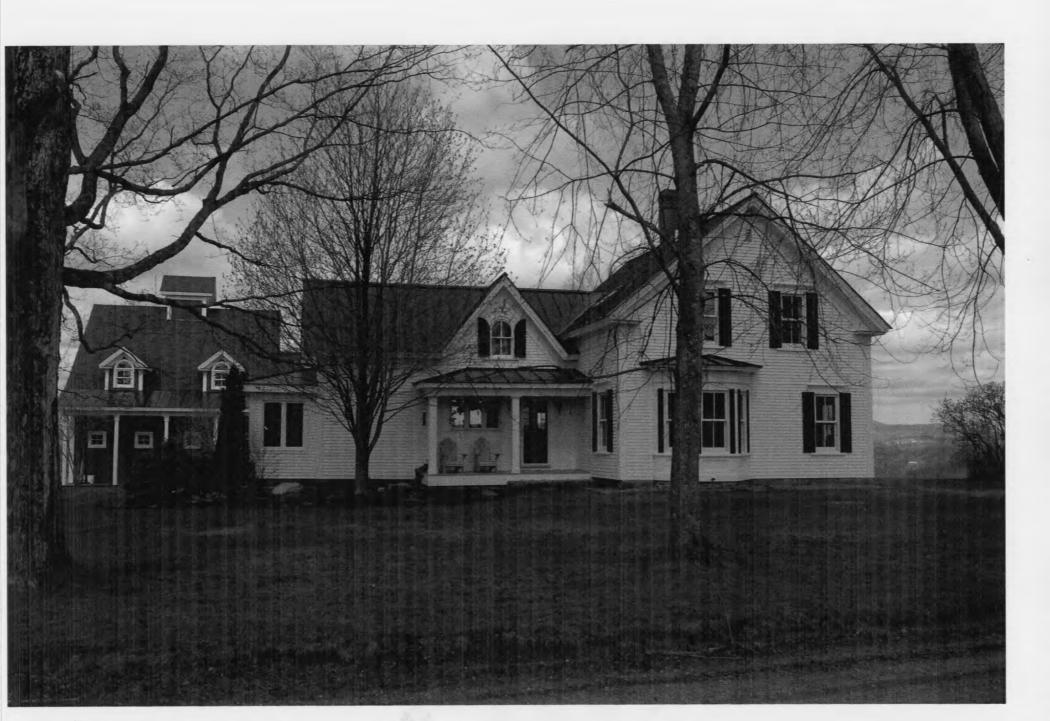
PROPERTY #4K DARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT lato # 28 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



#### PROPERTY #5 DARKING ESTATE AJTORIE DISTRICT DARKING ESTATE AJTORIE DISTRICT (#DTD # 29 VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



PROPERTO #52 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO # 30 VIEW LOORING NORTHWEST

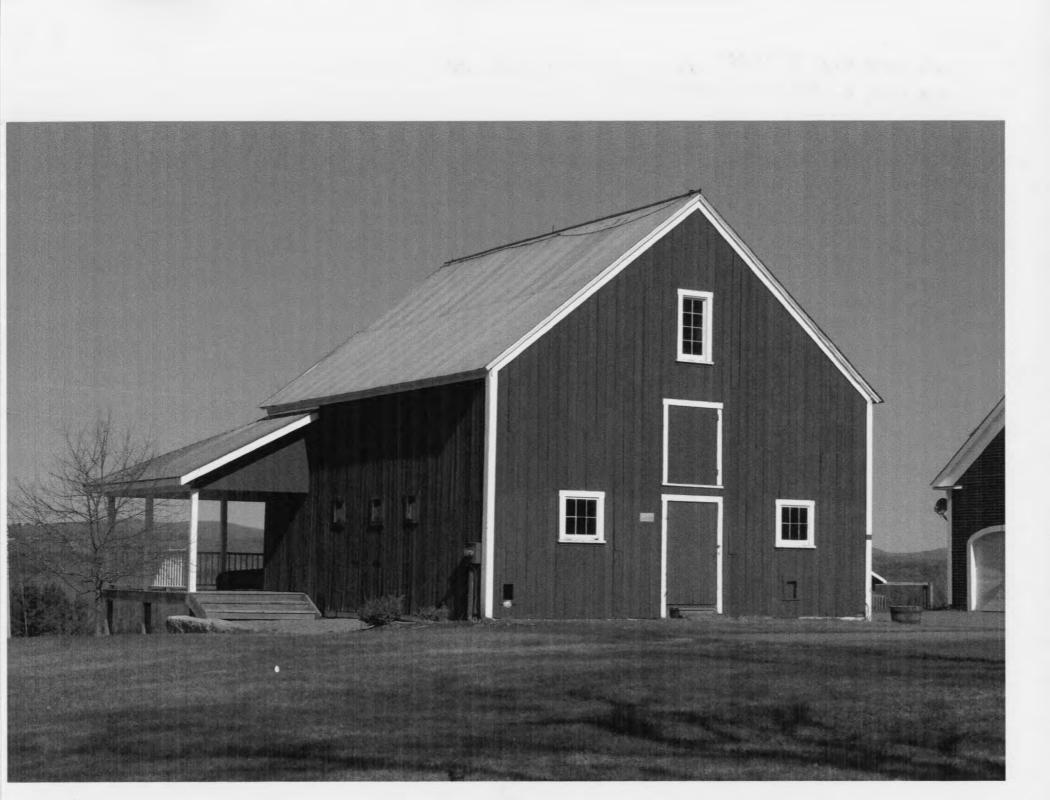


PROPERTY #6 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT CHOTO # 31 VIEW LOOKING WEST

Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT





PROPERTY #62 DARING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT OHOTO # 32 VIEW NOOKING NORTHWESS



Property #66 Darling Estate Historic District Photo # 33 View Looking West Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



PROPERTY #7 DARNING ESTATE ASTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO # 34 VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST

Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT



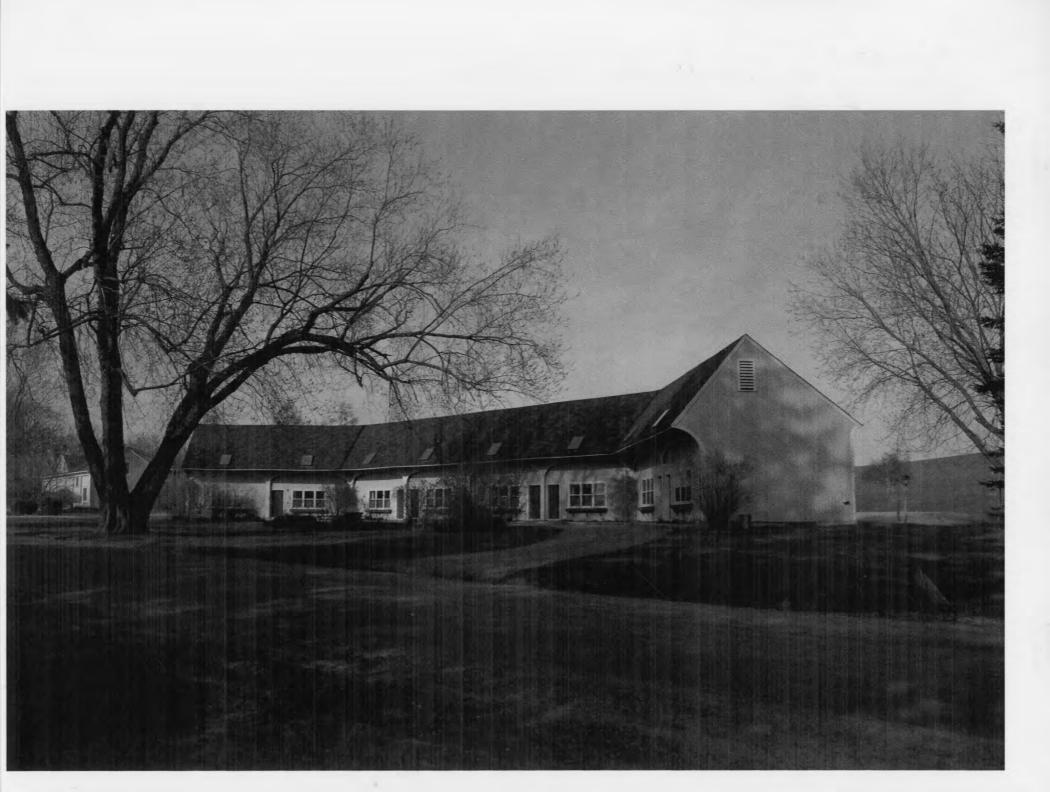
PROPERTATE HOTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO # 35. VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST

Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT.



PROPERT # 76 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO # 36 VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST



PROPERTY #70 DARLING ESTATE HISTORZ DISTRICT PHOTO #37 VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



PROPERTY #70 DARWING ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT PHOTO #38 VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



PROPERTY #7 F DARNING ESTATE CHITORIE DISTRICT DARNING ESTATE CHITORIE DISTRICT DHOTO # 39 VIEW LOORING NORTHWESS



PROPERTN # 79 DARNING ESTATE INSTORIZ DISTRIG PHOTO # 40 VIEW NOOKING SOUTHWEST

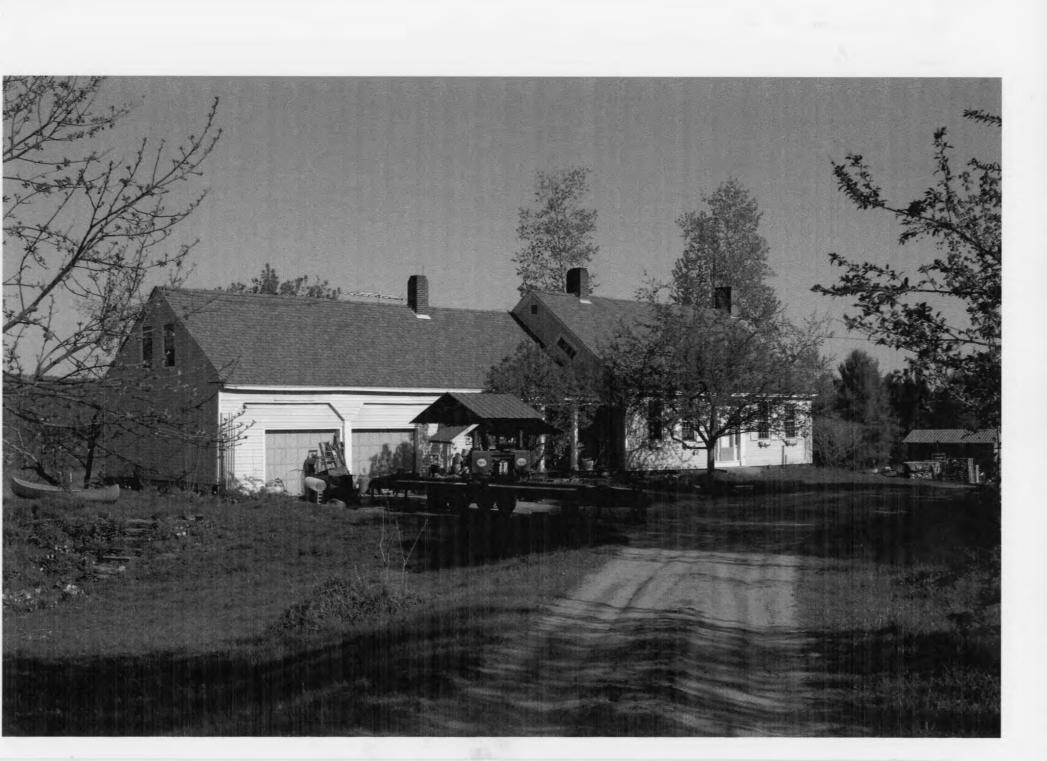


DARNINGESTATE ASTORIC DISKIG DARNINGESTATE ASTORIC DISKIG PHOTO #41 VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



PROPARTY # 71 DARNING ESTITE HISTORIC DISKRIG DARNING ESTITE HISTORIC DISKRIG PHOTO # 42 VIEW NOOKING SOUTHWEST Burke and Lyndon

Caledonie Co., UT



PROPERTY # 8 DARNING ESTATE H'STORIC DISTRICT DIARNING ESTATE H'STORIC DISTRICT DIARNING # 43 VIEW MODILING NORTHWEST ULEW MODILING NORTHWEST Burks and Lyndon

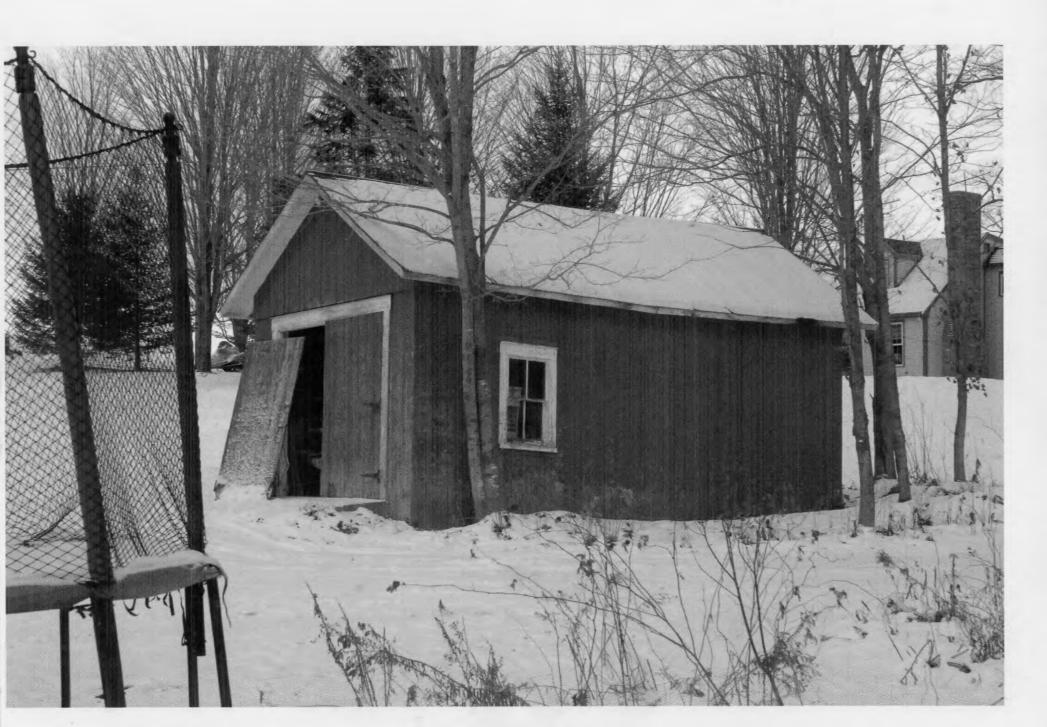
Caledonia Co., VT





PRUPERET #9 DARLING ESTATE HISTORIE DISNETOT PHOTO # 44 VIEW NOORING NORTHEAST

Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



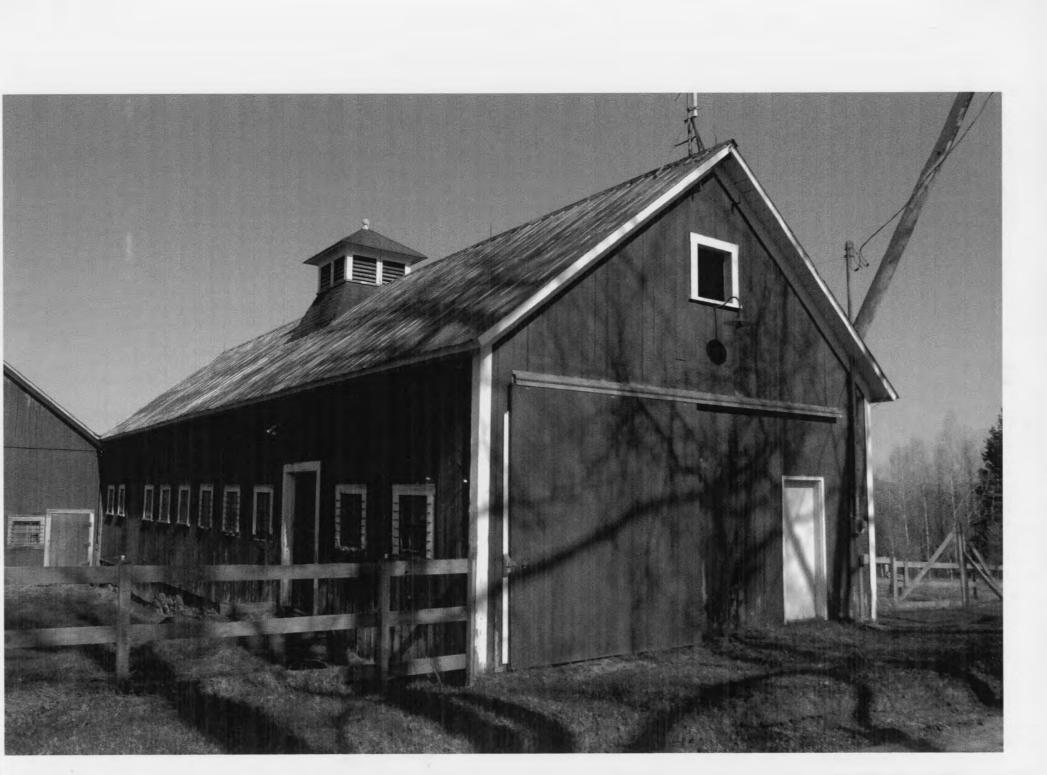
PROPERTY #92 PROPERTY #92 DARNING ESTAGE HISTORZ DISTRICT DARNING ESTAGE HISTORZ DISTRICT DARNING # 45 PHOTO # 45 VIEW NOOKING NORTHEAST VIEW NOOKING NORTHEAST

> Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



PROPERTY #10 DARNING ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO #46 VIEW LOORING NORTHEAST VIEW LOORING NORTHEAST

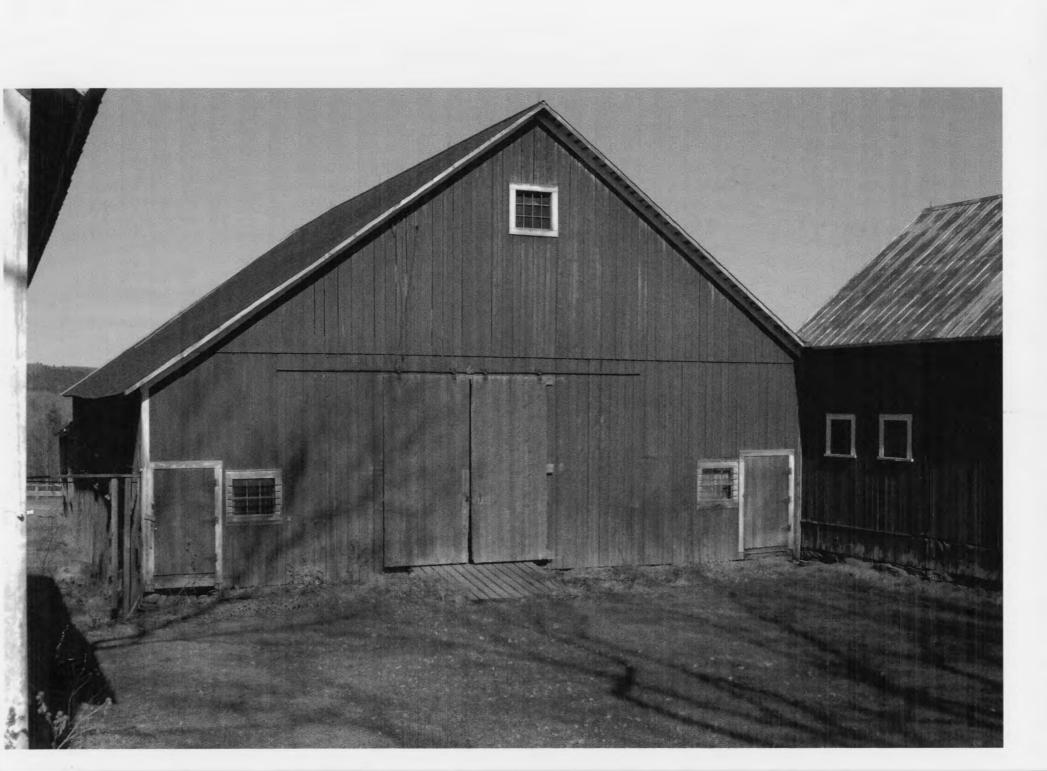
Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., UT



PROPARTA # 10 b DARNING ESTAE HISTORIZ DISTRIC PHOTO # 47 VIEW NOOKING NORTHWEST VIEW NOOKING NORTHWEST Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., VT





PROPARTA # 10 d DARNING ESTATE HOSTORZ DISTRICT PHOTO # 48 VIEW NORTHWEST VIEW NORTHWEST

Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., UT



PROPAREM #10d DARNING ESTATE HISTORIE DISTRICT PHOTO #49 VIEW MOOKING NORTHWERS

Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



Property #15 Darling Estate Historic District Photo # 50 View looking west Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



Property # 17 and 18 Darkling Estate Historic District Photo #51 View looking south Burla and Lyndon Caledonia Co., UT



Property # 19 and 7 Darling Estate Historic District Photo # 52 View looking southeast Burke and Lyndan Caledonia Co., VT



Photograph # 53 Overall view of District Property #1 at left, Property # 4 at right, facing west

Darling Estate Historic District Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermout



Photograph #54

Overall view of Property #4, Property #5 visible at for left, facing west Darling Estate Historic District

Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia Comty, Vermont



Photograph #55

View along Darling Hill Road toward Property #1 on hill, Property #44k on left, facing southwest

Darling Estate Historic District

Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia Comty, Vermont



Photograph #56 Property #44, facing northwest Darling Estate Historic District Backe and Lyndon, Caledonia Comty, Vermont



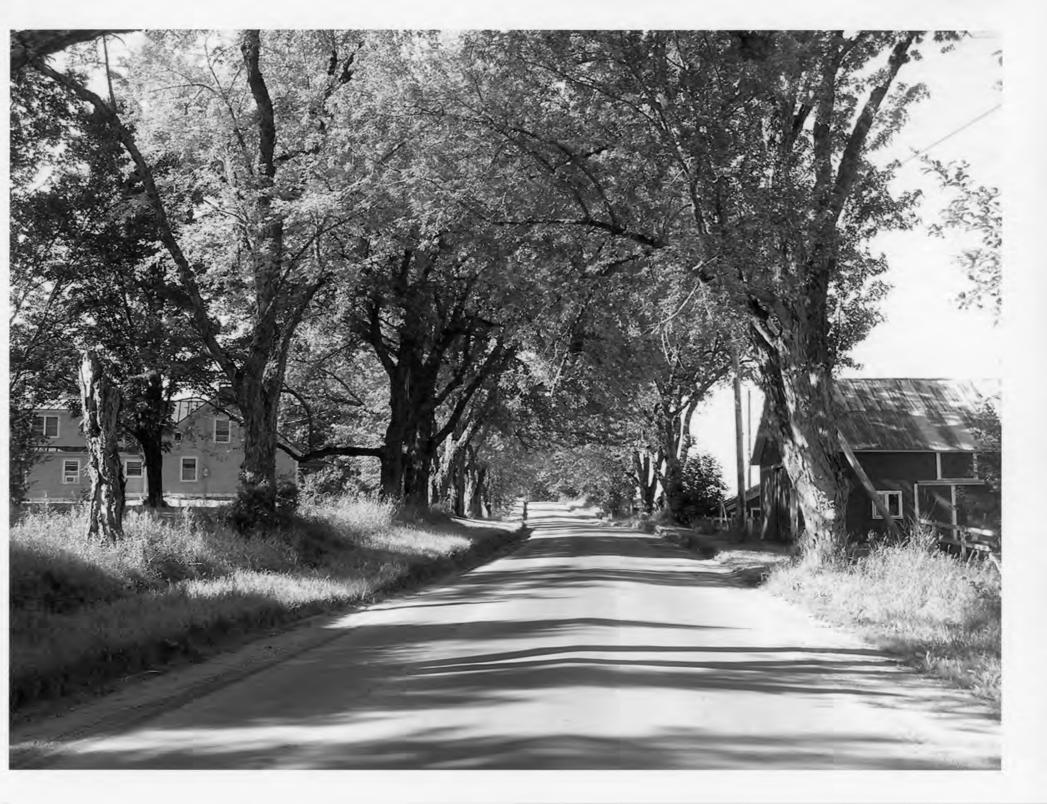
Property #2A Darling Estate Historic District Photo # 57 View looking northwest Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Go, VT



Overall View, Ropedy #13 Darling Estate Historic District Photo #58 View Looby northeast Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co. VT



Overall view, south of #B Darling Estate Histaric District Photo #59 View Lookup east Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., UT



Photograph # 60 View along Darling Hill Road, Property # 10 on left, # 10d and # 10b on right, facing south

Darling Estate Historic District Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont



Photograph # 601 View along Darling Hill Road, Property # 74 on right, focing southwest Darling Estate Historic District Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont



Property # 11, Allee Darling Estate Historic District Photosroph # 62 View looking north Burke and Lyndon

Caledonia Co., UT



Property #5 Darling Estate Historic District Photograph # 63 View looking west Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Goi, UT



Historic View of Burklyn Hell from Dorling Hill Rd, early zoth c. Darling Estate Historic District Photo # 64 Burke and Cyndon Caledonia Co., VT



Historic view of Mountain View Fam, 1904 Darling Estate Historic District Photo # 65 Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



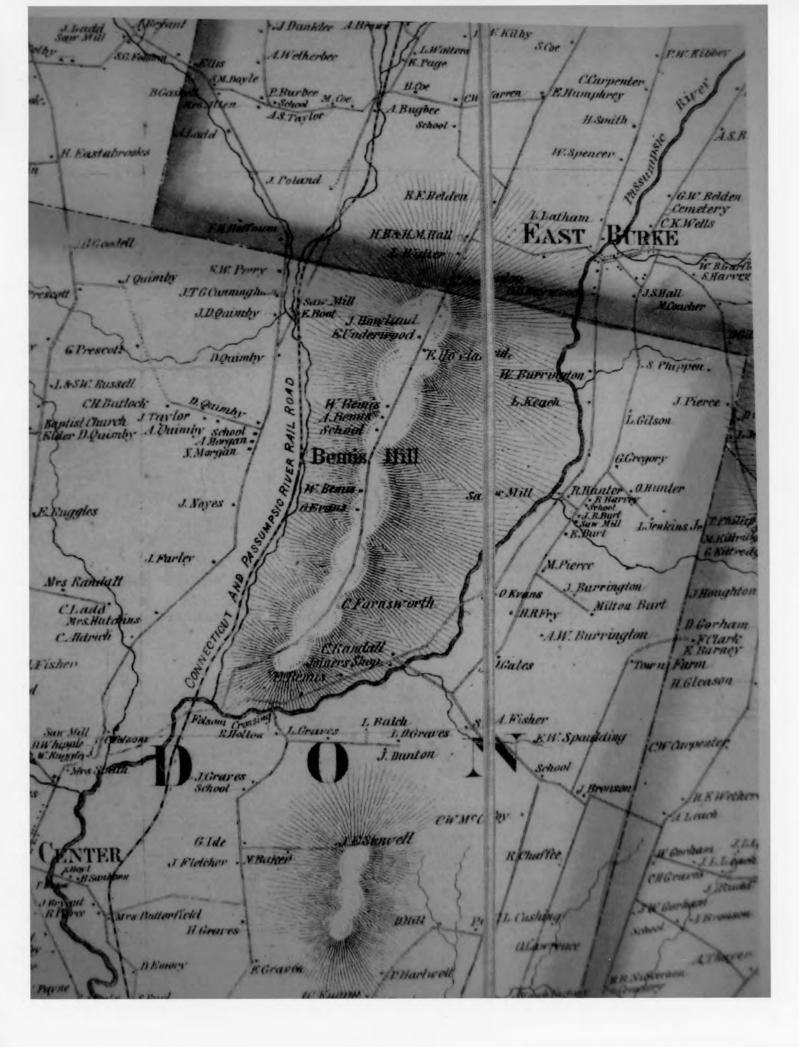
Historic aerial photo & Darly Estate, 1962 and 1963 "Darly Estate Historic Distoict

Photo #66 Burke and Cyndon

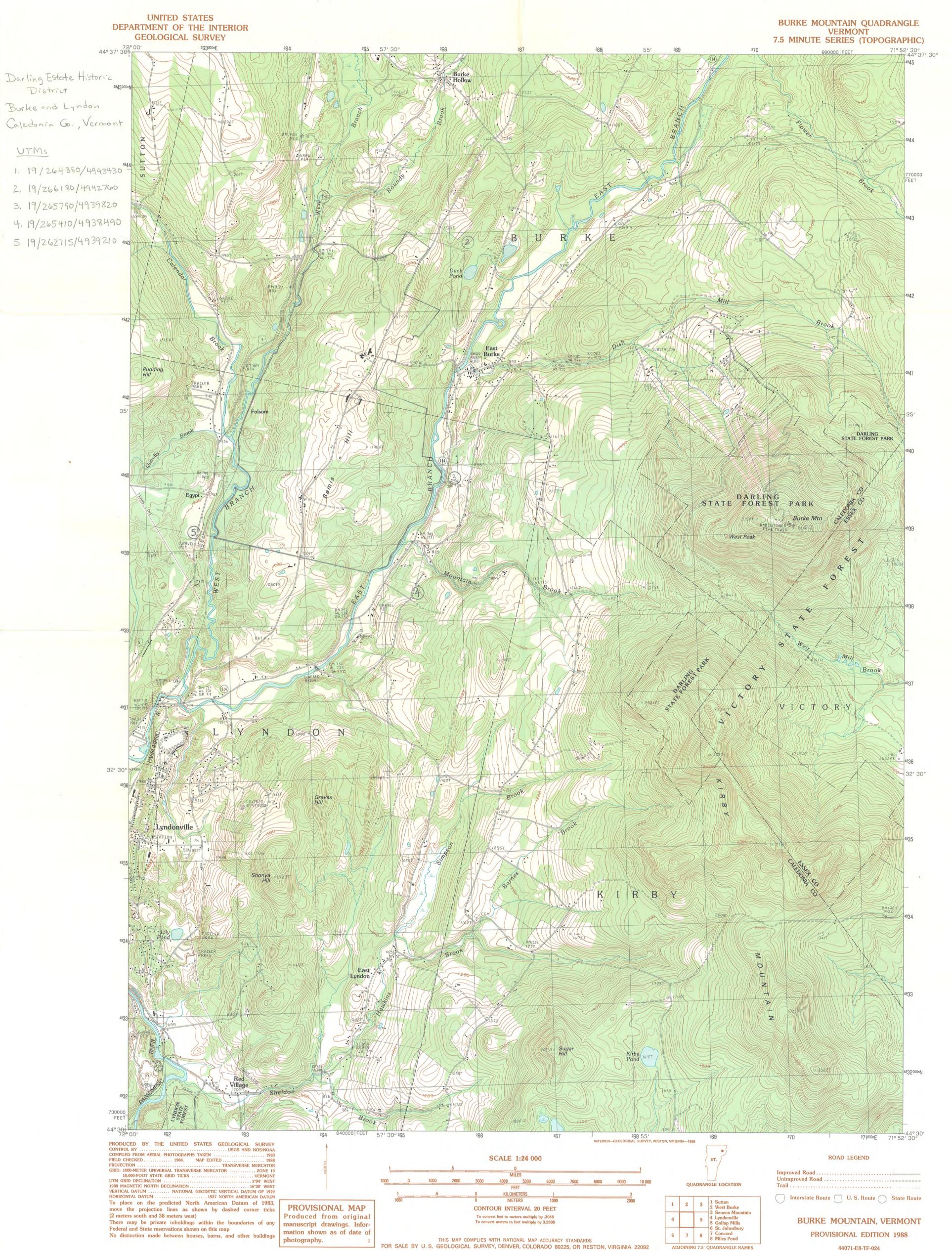
Gledonia 6, VT



Acrial photo of Darly Estate, 2009 Darly Estate Historic District Photo #67 Burke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



H.F. Wally historic Map, 1858 Darlig Estate Historic District Photo # 68 Borke and Lyndon Caledonia Co., VT



E-TEBA3212683318



State of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation One National Life Drive, Floor 6 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501 www.HistoricVermont.org

[phone] 802-828-3211 [division fax] 802-828-3206

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September 28, 2010

J. Paul Loether National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> floor Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the National Register nomination for the following property:

## Darling Estate Historic District, Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

This property is being submitted under the Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980, for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

One letter of objection was received, and a copy is enclosed. I have determined that far less than a majority of property owners in the district have objected and request that the district be listed at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions concerning the nomination please do not hesitate to contact me at (802) 828-3045 or <u>nancy.boone@state.vt.us</u>.

Sincerely,

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Nancy E. Boone State Architectural Historian/ Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure





State of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation One National Life Drive, Floor 2 Montpelier, VT 05620-1201 www.HistoricVermont.org

[phone] [Division fax]

802-828-3211 802-828-3206 Agency of Commerce and Community Development



June 30, 2011

J. Paul Loether National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> floor Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the National Register nomination for the following property:

## Darling Estate Historic District, Burke and Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vermont

This property is being submitted under the Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980, for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. It was originally submitted on September 28, 2010. NPS returned it on November 30, 2010 with requests for changes. We discussed the needed revisions extensively with Lisa Deline and hired a landscape historian to reconfigure the District from a discontiguous district to a contiguous one. The results are enclosed. We believe it is a much better nomination for the changes.

If you have any questions concerning the nomination please do not hesitate to contact me at (802) 828-3045 or <u>nancy.boone@state.vt.us</u>, or, after June 30, you may contact Judith Ehrlich at (802) 828-3049 or judith.ehrlich@state.vt.us.

Sincerely, DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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Nancy E. Boone State Architectural Historian / Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer





State of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation One National Life Drive, Floor 2 Montpelier, VT 05620-1201 www.HistoricVermont.org

[phone] [Division fax]

802-828-3211 802-828-3206 Agency of Commerce and Community Development



June 30, 2011

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