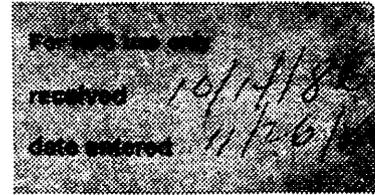


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FOX - COOK FARM (#3, A, B, C, D, E, F)

Section 7. Description

Situated on sloping terrain at the west margin of the Otter Creek Valley, this modest farmstead holds a less favorable position for agriculture than those along the valley bottom. The house and several outbuildings are scattered along a narrow strip of land between the south side of Cook Road and the ravine of a brook that descends from the forested hillside behind the farm. The early 19th century vernacular house occupies a central position in the farm complex; the multi-section barn and milkhouse are sited downslope to the east of the house while four other outbuildings have slightly higher sites to the west.

During the 1790s, William Fox moved from Tinmouth and bought two parcels of land along the road between the present Route 7 and the vicinity of the farmstead. After Fox's death a house and other farm buildings belonging to him were sold (in the late 1820s) to Lincoln Andrews. Andrews definitely owned the house on the present site in 1854. The Cook family acquired the property in 1913, and operated a small dairy farm until the late 1940s. In 1955 the family sold the property to the then owner of the Israel Munson Farm (#1-9), a common ownership that lasted until 1972.

3. Fox - Cook House; c.1800

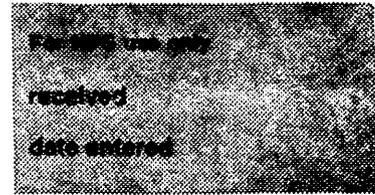
Overlooking the valley to the east, the 1 1/2 story, wood-framed and clapboarded house rises from a rubble foundation to a slate-shingled gable roof that is oriented perpendicular to the road and does not have a ridge pole. A modified entablature of angular profile follows both the horizontal and raking eaves. Both the main (east) and secondary (west) eaves facades possess sidelighted central entrances, the latter being closer to the driveway that encircles the house.

The five-bay east facade is distinguished by unique replacement slender room-height window openings fitted with 4/4 sash and by entrance sidelights each corresponding to a vertical half of one window. The entrance is sheltered by a one-bay, flat-roofed porch with chamfered posts. In contrast, the unsheltered west entrance retains earlier half-length sidelights of smaller dimensions, and a single flanking window opening (to the left) contains a 1/1 sash of conventional size.

Facing the road, the north gable elevation is lighted by two bays of the oversized windows that were installed probably in the late

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19th century. The opposite (south) elevation incorporates three bays of varied fenestration.

A one-bay kitchen ell projects from the main block's west facade to the right of the entrance. Attached to the ell and the southwest corner of the main block, a 1 1/2 story south wing carries an asphalt-shingled gable roof of greatly reduced height compared with that of the main block.

A two-bay entrance porch shelters the interior corner between the main block's south elevation and the wing's east eaves elevation. A shed wall dormer was added to the latter during the 1972 conversion of the former shed to residential quarters; a sliding door and small pass door remains in place on the west elevation.

A. Barn; c.1850

The complex plan of this building comprises a main block, an offset ell block, and lesser additions. The English-type, (possibly from the early 19th century) wood-framed main block is sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically; the asphalt-shingled gable roof has closely cropped eaves. Large double sliding doors are centered on the north eaves elevation. A 1 story, horizontally boarded, shed-roofed wing rises to the eaves of the opposite (south) elevation.

A higher shed-roofed wing with a north entrance extends from the main block's east gable elevation, linking the main block to the similar south ell block. The latter formerly served as the dairy barn; rebuilt in concrete, the exposed basement story of the south gable elevation contains the entrance to the stable. A 1 story, shed-roofed wing extends from the east eaves elevation of the same block.

B. Milkhouse; c.1920

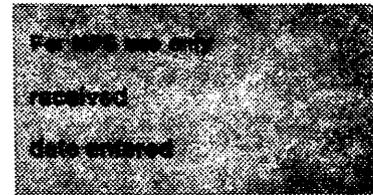
Standing west of the barn, the small 1 story, wood-framed and mostly clapboarded former milkhouse has an asphalt-shingled gable roof. A side entrance marks the north gable front.

C. Carriage Shed; c.1890

Paralleling the south wing of the house on a site across the driveway to the west, this 1 1/2 story, wood-framed shed is sheathed with unpainted boards and battens; its low gable roof has asphalt shingles. The first story of the north gable front lacks an enclosure while the corresponding south wall is enclosed only by vertical slats to provide ventilation for a former corn

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crib.

A 1 story, clapboarded, shed-roofed wing is attached to the shed's west eaves elevation. It was added in c.1910. Chicken boxes remain on the interior.

D. Garage; c.1920 Sited northwest of the carriage shed, a 1 story, wood-framed and clapboarded, gable-roofed (with asphalt shingles) garage has two stalls with segmented overhead doors on its east eaves front.

E. Icehouse; c.1870

Westernmost of the Fox-Cook Farm outbuildings on the north side of the brook, the 1 story, wood-framed (and double-walled) former icehouse is sheathed with horizontal boards. Aluminum sheathing has been recently applied to its gable roof. A central doorway enters the east gable front.

During the 19th century, ice was cut at Fox Pond (now Elfin Lake) less than one mile directly north and stored in this shed. The constant moisture present during that usage undoubtedly contributed to the building's currently deteriorated condition.

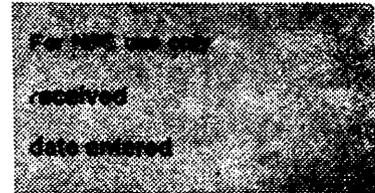
F. Slaughterhouse; c.1850

Situated across the brook to the southwest of the other buildings, this 1 1/2 story, wood-framed shed with an asphalt-shingled gable roof is sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. A hoist projection from the north gable peak served a loft door on the same elevation. The various window openings now lack glazing.

The building has been used during part of its existence for slaughtering livestock raised on the farm and is presently in deteriorated condition.

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Fox - Cook Farm (#3)

Section 8. Statement of Significance

The Fox-Cook Farm is earlier than many of the structures in the MRA. Its Cape style massing is shared by only the Hager House (#4), a gambrel version. Like other houses of its vintage and style in Wallingford and the surrounding towns, it has a hillside location rather than a valley bottom site. The outstanding number of out buildings remaining in the complex illustrate a range of outbuilding types that were typical on a small 19th century Vermont farm. Barns, a carriage shed, ice house, slaughterhouse and milkhouse complete the variety.

Fox - Cook Farm (#3)

Section 10. Geographic Data

Acreage: approximately 5 acres

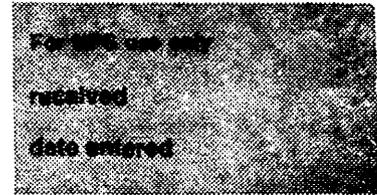
Quadrangle name: Wallingford 15 minute series, scale - 1:62500

UTM Reference: 18/6625525/4813250

Verbal boundary description: The boundary begins at Point A, the northeast corner of the present Fox-Cook Farm property. It thence proceeds in a southerly direction along the east property line of said property to Point B, the intersection of said property line and the north bank of a small stream. The boundary thence proceeds in a westerly direction along said bank to Point C, the intersection of said bank and the northern extension of a line 20' east of and parallel to the east wall of the slaughterhouse (#3F). It thence proceeds in a southerly direction along said extension, crossing said stream and continuing along said line, and a southerly extension of said line to Point D, the intersection of said extension and the eastern extension of a line 20' south of and parallel to the south wall of the slaughterhouse (#3F). It thence proceeds in a westerly direction along said extension, said line, and a westerly extension of said line to Point E, the intersection of said extension and the southern extension of a line 20' west of and parallel to the west wall of the slaughterhouse (#3F). The boundary thence proceeds in a northerly direction along said extension, said line and a northerly extension of said line crossing a small stream and continuing to Point F, the intersection of said extension and the north bank of said stream. It thence proceeds in a westerly direction along said bank to Point G, the intersection of said bank and the north property

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line of the present Fox-Cook Farm property. The boundary thence proceeds in a northerly and easterly direction along said property line to Point A, the point of beginning.

Boundary justification: The boundary includes the farmhouse and outbuildings associated with the Fox-Cook Farm. A trailer is excluded to the north, while a wooded hillside rises to the west and open fields lay to the south and east.