

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Cheshire County

1. Historic Name (s) TOWNSEND FARM/BRUSH FARM Original Owner Capt. Abel Wilder		22. Map & Lot No. 7 - 39	
Present Name BRUSH FARM		23. Original Range/Lot VII - 5 - #1	
3. Owner's Name Thea Brush Cabot		24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75') Monadnock	
4. Owner's Address Brush Farm, Dublin, N.H. 03444		25. UTM Reference 18 741700 4755720 Zone Easting Northing	
5. Location East Harrisville Road		26. Zoning: Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Open to Public Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional <input type="checkbox"/>	27. Prehistoric Site Historic Site Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. Local Contact/Organization Dublin Conservation Commission		28. Significance Evaluation National	
SEE CONTINUATION SHEET		11. Architect	29. Theme Primary American Art Secondary Art colony Other Architecture
		12. Builder Abel Wilder	30. Endangered Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
		13. Date c.1780/c.1850	31. Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/>
		14. Style "Cape Colonial" & Greek Revival	32. Major Alterations & Date Large addition c.1850
		15. Original Use Farmhouse	33. Owner Questionnaire Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16. Present Use Residence			
17. Condition Interior good Exterior good			

18. Description
White-painted frame building in two principal sections with smaller shed additions at back. The oldest 1-1/2-story central portion is typical 5-bay, low-eaved "cape" cottage with 6/6 windows. The main front section of 2-1/2 stories (with 2/2 fenestration) is Greek Revival in plan, configuration, and decorative treatment. Overlooks pasture to south. At the rear of the house is a large barn, and nearby stood the wagon-shed, converted to his principal studio by George DeForest Brush and destroyed by fire in 1938. (The 8/8 dormer and circular window in gable end of the oldest section of house were added by Brush when he created a large studio-living room in this section in early 1900's.)

19. History
See continuation sheet

20. Significance
The home and studio of noted Renaissance-Revival American portraitist and Indian painter George De Forest Brush (1855-1941), a leader of the Dublin art colony from c.1890 until his death. (Brush's work represented in all major U.S. museum collections).
Focal point and gathering place of Dublin art colony.

PHOTO
over
→

21. Source of Information
See continuation sheet

24. Prepared by:
WM/WLB

25. Organization

26. Date 12/20/78

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

37. PHOTO

D.P.W 6-'81

Verify that there have been no alterations to this structure since the photos were taken. W.D. Banham. 4/83

Roll No.

91637

Picture No.

8

Direction

Side view facing north east

HOUSE AND BARN.
HOUSE and BARN, side view

PHOTO
L. SHONK 8/79
X-21
FACING N.W.

MAIN HOUSE & WING - SIDE VIEW

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

CONTINUATION SHEET

19. History

The 1 1/2-story cottage section was probably built by Capt. Abel Wilder (owner 1780-1806), and the main section by Jonathan Townsend (b. 1786-d. 1860) whose family owned the farm for nearly a century. Acquired 1901 by George de Forest Brush (1855-1941), renowned portraitist and American Indian painter, who had first come to Dublin c.1890 through friendship with his fellow painter, Abbott H. Thayer, and for several years occupied small summer cottages near Dublin Lake. From 1901, Brush lived and worked here until his death. After buying the place, he removed partitions and ceiling of the cottage section to create a single large studio living-room. Brush and his family attracted many artists and notable visitors including Isabella Stewart Gardner and the American "Georgian" poet Alan Seegar (1888-1916)--"I have a Rendezvous with Death"--who lived here while tutoring the Brush children. Presently owned by Brush's youngest daughter, Thea Cabot, the wife of designer-builder T. Handasyd Cabot, who was a subject (like others of the family) of many Brush paintings, including The Young Violinist, painted here in 1916.

Note: History of Dublin gives Joseph Drury as original settler on this lot (1778), but as he remained here less than 2 years it appears likely Wilder built the house.

21. Source of Information

History of Dublin, pp.651, 918, 941, 588.

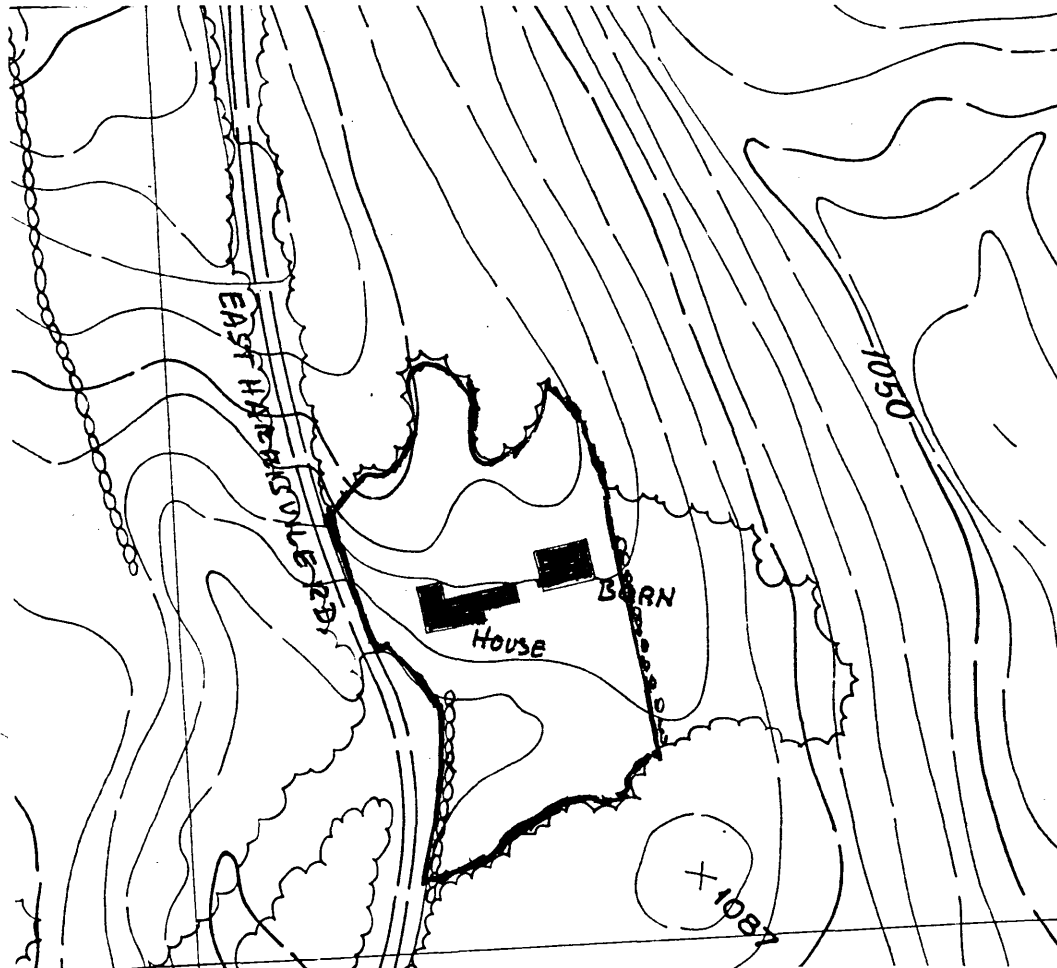
Bowditch, Nancy D., George de Forest Brush, A Joyous Painter, Peterborough, N.H., 1970.

Barry Faulkner, Sketches from an Artist's Life, Dublin, N.H., 1973.

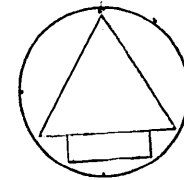
White, Nelson C. Abbott H. Thayer, Painter & Naturalist, Hartford, Conn., 1957

HISTORIC NAME:

Townsend Farm



PROPERTY OWNER: Thea Brush Cabot
 SITE NUMBER: 19
 PROPERTY NAME: Brush Farm
 ADDRESS: East Harrisville Road



GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Scale: 1"=200'

Bounded on the south by edge of trees, on the east by a stone wall, on the north by the edge of trees and on the west by a stone wall and wooden rail fence. 2.4 acres.

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF DUBLIN, N.H.

JUSTIFICATION:

Immediate visual surroundings incorporating the features contributing to the property's architectural and historical significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 11/3/83
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Dublin Multiple Resource Area
State Cheshire County, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

61. Strong, Capt. Richard,
House

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/18/83

Attest

62. Strongman, Henry, House

Entered in the
National Register *for* Keeper

Melores Byers 12/15/83

Attest

63. Strongman, William, House

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/15/83

Attest

64. Townsend Farm

Entered in the
National Register *for* Keeper

Melores Byers 12/15/83

Attest

65. Wales, Mary Anne, House

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/18/83

Attest

66. Weldwood

Entered in the
National Register *for* Keeper

Melores Byers 12/15/83

Attest

50 67. Windmill Hill

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/18/83

Attest

68. Wood House

Entered in the
National Register *for* Keeper

Melores Byers 12/15/83

Attest

69. Morse, Eli, Sawmill
Foundations

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/18/83

Attest

Keeper

Attest