

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Cheshire County

1. Historic Name (s) CAPT. RICHARD STRONG HOUSE/FRUIT HILL FARM Original Owner Capt. Richard Strong Present Name GOWING FARM			22. Map & Lot No. 7 - 56		
3. Owner's Name Arthur L. & Beverly A. Plante			23. Original Range/Lot V - 5 - 1		
4. Owner's Address PO Box, Dublin, NH 03444			24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75') Monadnock		
5. Location Peterborough Road (Rte. 101East)			25. UTM Reference 1 8 7 4 2 5 2 0 4 7 5 4 2 2 5 Zone Easting Northing		
6. Open to Public Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		26. Zoning: Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Local Contact/Organization Dublin Conservation Commission			27. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional <input type="checkbox"/>			28. Significance Evaluation		
11. Architect			29. Theme Primary Architecture Secondary Town Life Other Agriculture		
12. Builder			30. Endangered Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
13. Date c. 1821			31. Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/>		
14. Style Federal			32. Major Alterations & Date		
15. Original Use Farmhouse			33. Owner Questionnaire Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
16. Present Use Residence					
17. Condition Interior Exterior fair					

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

18. Description

See continuation sheet

19. History

See continuation sheet

20. Significance

The first brick-end house in Dublin, handsome example with unusual floor plan, and characteristic of the Federal style in the region. Built by the Strongs, the family of Dublin's first permanent settler and owned by the Gowing family, who played a prominent role in local agriculture and public service for over a century.

PHOTO  
over



21. Source of Information

History of Dublin, pp.775-6 Deeds  
Dublin Tax Records Peterborough Transcript  
Boston Herald, 3/11/1951  
Keene Sentinel, 6/26/1968, 10/10/1968

34. Prepared by:

WM/LS/WLB/EB

35. Organization

36. Date 2/10/79 & 11/10/80

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

37. PHOTO L. SHONIT, 6/81

Roll No. 38

Picture No. 7

Direction <sup>FACING</sup> NORTHEAST

I verify that the appearance of this structure  
has not changed since the photo was taken.

*W.L. Baulau 4/83*

FRONT ELEVATION  
SHOWING  
BRICK END  
FACADE, ON  
SOUTH SIDE

PHOTO:

B. HARRIS  
4/83

AY 26

FACING SOUTHEAST

BACK VIEW  
HOUSE  
+  
BARN

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY  
Continuation sheet

18. Description

2-story, hipped-roof, Federal-style house with frame 4-bay facade, brick-end walls, 2 end chimneys and rambling additions. The main transomed doorway is in the brick-end wall and leads into a large stairhall. Frame 2-story and 1-story ells to the east, the first constructed about 1882, and the further ell about 1910, and behind them two short projecting wings on north, both one-story, one a gambrel-roof, boarded, small barn, and the other a shedroofed wing. The original small paned have been replaced by 2/2 sash, except on the back where the house retains small paned (mostly 9/6) sash, plus 2 modern vertical casements. The interior contains original mantels, chair rails, raised-panel doors, and unusual floor plan with entrance hall on side rather than in center. Single story porch with railing extends along south side of the 2-story frame ell. House is set at an angle to the new road, and only a few yards from it, on an open rise of land, which gives it views to the southeast. Adjacent are low stone walls, lilac hedges, and large old maples and apple trees. To northeast is small open rough boarded shed with low gable.

19. History

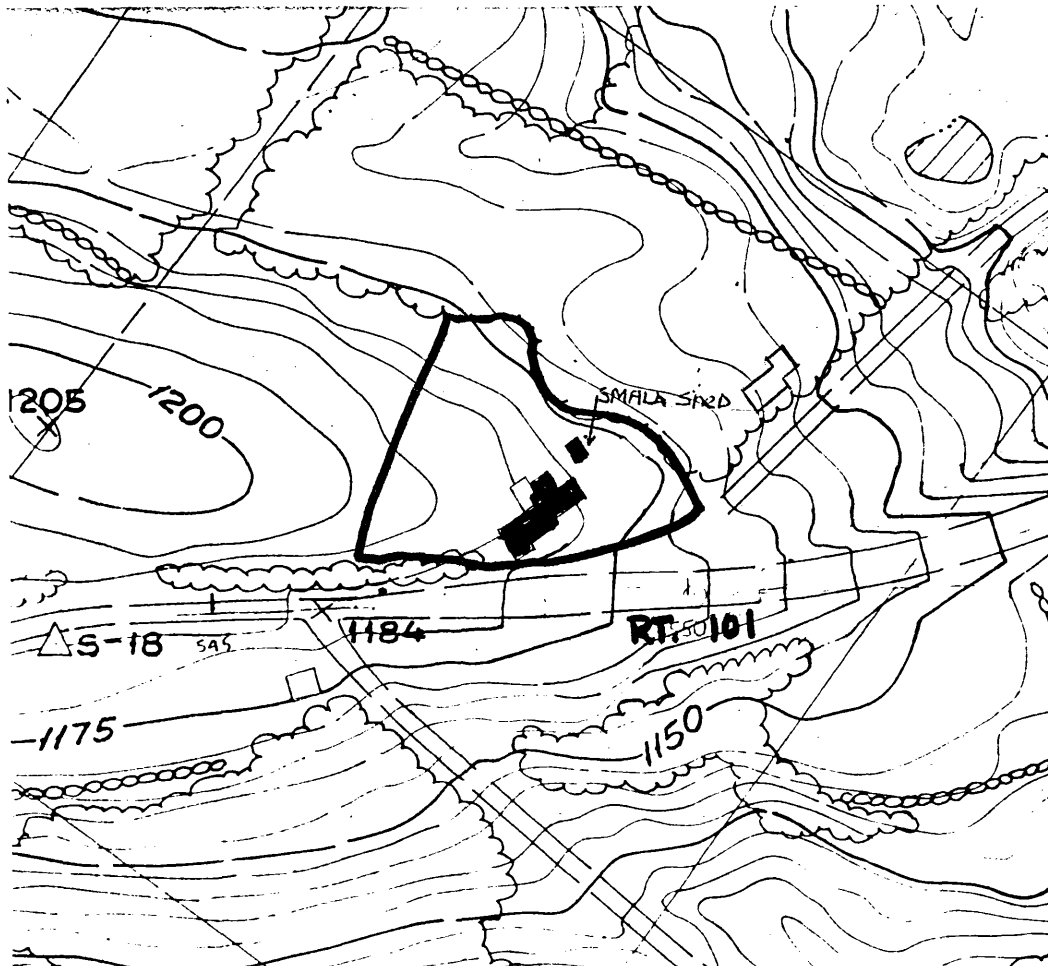
Built in 1821 by Capt. Richard Strong Jr. (1780-1857) grandson of Henry Strongman, Dublin's 1st permanent settler, whose house is a few hundred feet to the west. (Strong shortened the family surname.) It was the first brick structure in Dublin, built by Strong to accomodate his large family and as a sign of his prosperity. He was a selectman, Rep. to the General Court, Justice of the Peace and Capt. of the Grenadier Co. Strong also owned and built (c.1805) the small "cape" cottage on the same property (moved 1980).

Though he later transferred the property to his son Joseph (who died 1845) he continued to live here until 1847 when he sold it to Charles Wellman Gowing. It remained in the Gowing family for 3 generations and over a century.

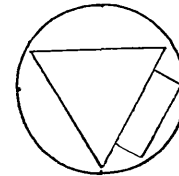
Gowing (1819-1909), who developed the land into a prosperous farm, "one of the best in town", served as Rep. to the General Court and Selectman, as did his son Fred C. Gowing (b. 1855), the next owner. "Fruit Hill Farm", as it was then known, passed in turn to his son Henry N. Gowing (1886-1968) also a good farmer, a graduate of New Hampshire Agricultural College (now U.N.H.), and president of the Cheshire County Farm Bureau. His wife Belle Fairbanks Gowing continued the family tradition of public service as Rep. to the General Court, and a founder of the Dublin Women's Club. She and her husband were descended from Henry Strongman. Although there are no Gowings in Dublin today, the name is memorialized by the Gowing Room at the Dublin Public Library.

## HISTORIC NAME:

R. Strong House



PROPERTY OWNER: Arthur L. and Beverly A. Plante  
 SITE NUMBER: 22  
 PROPERTY NAME: Gowing Farm  
 ADDRESS: Peterborough Road (Route 101 east)



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Scale: 1"=200'  
 Bounded on east by edge of trees, on north by arbitrary line approximately 200 feet north of the building, on west by row of trees and stone wall along road, and on the south by a concrete wall. 1.5 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

Page 7 of 7

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