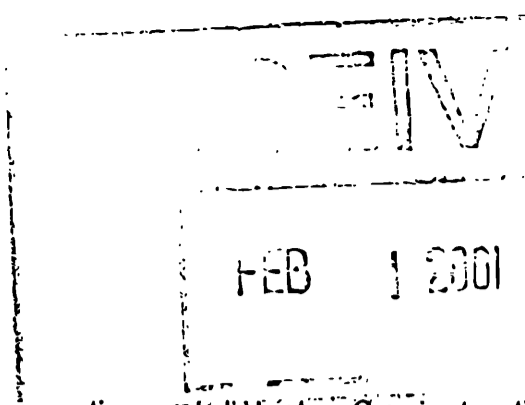


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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.



206

DEC 2 2000

1. Name of Property

historic name Jenness Farm

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 626 Pickering Road NA  not for publication

city or town Rochester and Dover NA  vicinity

state New Hampshire code NH county Strafford code 017 zip code 03867

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Nancy C. Dutton January 25, 2001  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NEW HAMPSHIRE  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
  - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
  - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
  - See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper  
Edson H. Beall Date of Action  
3/2/01

Jenness Farm  
Name of Property

Strafford County, NH  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
4	0	total

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Agriculture: animal facility

Agriculture: outbuilding

Agriculture: field

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Agriculture: field

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: granite

walls Synthetics: vinyl

Wood: weatherboard

roof Stone: slate, Asphalt

other Chimneys: brick

**Narrative Description**

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**  
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

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

Property is:

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

**Narrative Statement of Significance**  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
- 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

**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Agriculture
- Architecture
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1837 - 1950

**Significant Dates**

1935

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown/Unknown

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Name of Repository**

\_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Jeness Farm  
Name of Property

Stafford County, NH  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 190+/- acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	9	3	4	2	8	5	5	4	7	9	0	3	0	0
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
2	1	9	3	4	3	1	0	2	4	7	9	0	0	2	2

3	1	9	3	4	2	1	2	5	4	7	8	9	8	7	5
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
4	1	9	3	4	3	2	0	5	4	7	8	9	8	4	7

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Lynne Emerson Monroe, Kari Ann Laprey

organization Preservation Company date October 2000

street & number 5 Hobbs Road telephone 603/ 778-1799

city or town Kensington state NH zip code 03833

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Edith Holley Revocable Trust

street & number 626 Pickering Road telephone 603/ 332-5476

city or town Rochester state NH zip code 03867=

**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 amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 Jenness Farm  
Rochester and Dover  
Strafford County, NH

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**Narrative Description**

The Jenness Farm is located on the northeast side of Pickering Road in Rochester, just northwest of the Dover city line. The 190<sup>+</sup>/-acre property includes expanses of open fields and wooded land east of the house and on the southwest side of Pickering Road. A large portion of this land falls within the city limits of Dover. The residence, built c.1935, is a good example of the Colonial Revival style. It mimics historic architecture in its 2½-story, 5 X 2 bay center hall form. The house was built on the foundation of an older structure that burned in 1934. The latter dated from c.1891 and according to family tradition, the new house was built according to the plan of an earlier house that had pre-dated it. A one story ell projects from the northeast corner of the house and connects to a 2½-story gambrel roof barn also built in 1935. There are also two detached historic outbuildings on the property, a garage and a wagon shed.

1. House, 1935 – contributing building:

The balloon frame house is supported by a predominantly granite foundation reused from the preexisting house. Brick foundation is visible on the south side of the house. The walls are sheathed in vinyl siding added in 1996 and trimmed with narrow cornerboards. The side-gable roof is sheathed with slate and the eaves are closely cropped on the gables and boxed on the facade. Twin brick chimneys pierce the roof ridge at the east and west ends of the roof. Throughout the house, fenestration consists of wood frame, double-hung sash 6/6 windows. Two aluminum frame, single-hung sash windows with plastic muntins were added to the first and second floors of the east elevation in 1996. The majority of the windows are flanked by vinyl shutters that were also added in 1996. The center entry features a wood-paneled door flanked by sidelights with four panes each. The Colonial Revival entry porch has a gable roof, with slight returns, supported by two square columns.

The floor plan of the main block is typical of the Colonial Revival style, with the central hall and staircase flanked by a large parlor on one side and dining room and kitchen on the other, and four bedrooms located on the second floor. Original interior finishes remain intact throughout the house, including fireplaces, hardwood floors, flat door trim and baseboards, single-panel doors with glass knobs, stair treatment, a built-in china cabinet in the dining room, and paneled wood cabinets in the kitchen. The original kitchen sink and stove are also extant.

The one-story ell projects from the rear of the main block. Historically, the ell contained a carpentry shop, carriage room, and an outhouse. A loft extended across the length of the ell; a portion of the loft and the outhouse are extant. Currently, the ell houses studio space for the property owner. The ell is supported by a concrete foundation. The walls are sheathed in vinyl siding, and the roof is covered in composition shingles with a modern skylight on the east slope. A brick chimney pierces the ridge. There is a single paneled door near the junction of the main block and the ell; this door is topped by a gabled hood. Another paneled door and a 6/6 window are located in the center of the ell. Three modern French doors have been installed in a former carriage door opening.

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2. Barn, c.1935, contributing building:

The ell connects the main block to the gambrel-roof barn, which formerly served as a dairy and cattle barn. It was also constructed in 1935. The 2½-story, rectangular frame structure is supported by a concrete foundation. The exterior walls are sheathed in clapboards, and the gambrel roof is sheathed in composition shingles. There are two galvanized steel ventilators on the ridge, and exposed rafter tails under the projecting eaves. The north and south end elevations of the barn feature paired, rolling, wood doors with small fixed windows with six lights. There are wood frame, double-hung, 6/6 sash windows at the second floor and attic levels. The windows on the façade are flanked by historic wood shutters with a cut-out pine tree motif. There are nine small, fixed, wood frame windows with six lights on the east elevation and two single sliding, wood doors leading to the barnyard, which is surrounded by a granite wall. The pipe stanchions that separated the cows and feeding troughs are still intact.

3. Milkhouse, c.1935, contributing building:

A small milkhouse on a concrete foundation projects from the front corner of the barn. It has a front-gable roof and is sheathed in clapboards. It has one small fixed wood frame window flanked by wood shutters. There is a low granite wall just east of the barn, and rubble stone gateposts supporting a metal gate to the northeast.

4. Wagon Shed, 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing building:

There is a one-story wagon shed structure on the northwest side of the property. This shed is associated with the farmhouse and outbuildings erected on the property by Daniel Fremont Jenness in 1891, as it is visible in historic photographs. The wood frame building has a side-gable roof and the exterior walls are covered in corrugated sheet metal. Four open bays are evident on its front elevation. This type of structure is distinguished by the long gable roof and row of opening on the eave side of the building<sup>1</sup>. Historically, it housed various implements and it presently stores farm machinery.

5. Garage, c.1930, contributing building:

A two-car garage, c.1930, is located to the south of the main building. This small building is evident in historic photographs of the farm, prior to the fire of 1934. The frame structure is supported by a concrete foundation. It has a front-gable roof covered with composition shingles, and the exterior walls are clad in novelty siding trimmed with corner boards. There are rafter tails under the overhanging eaves and the front elevation features a metal rolling door.

The chicken coops and hen houses that stood to the rear of the barn were taken down in the 1970's.

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<sup>1</sup> Visser, Thomas Durant, *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings* (Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1997), pp. 149-150

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From Pickering Road, the dirt driveway curves up to the c.1930 garage and follows the east side of the house to the barn. The yard immediately surrounding the house and farm buildings features numerous large pine trees. A stone wall extends from the driveway along the west property line. To the east and north, the Jenness Farm is surrounded by open fields, with wooded land beyond. Open fields associated with the farm are also located south of Pickering Road.

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 1 Jenness Farm  
Rochester and Dover  
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## Narrative Statement of Significance

The Jenness Farm is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its significance in agriculture within the city of Rochester, New Hampshire. Although the existing farm buildings date from 1935, the 192 acres of land illustrate patterns of agricultural activity for the entire history of the farm and its occupation by the Jenness family from its establishment in 1837 through the present. The Jenness Farm is one of only ten farms in Rochester surviving intact with land and buildings, although historically agriculture was second only to industry as the basis of the city's economy; and it is one of only two farms with buildings that reflect the significant progressive farm trend of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is also significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century farm complex incorporating modern building technology with the Colonial Revival style while respectfully maintaining the continuity from earlier generations of Jenness family buildings on the same site. While the Colonial Revival style was immensely popular for many of the residences built in neighborhoods during this period of the city's expansion, it was one of only two farms.

It is more modest and refined in its use of stylistic embellishment than the other farm which is nearly Queen Anne in its abundant use of ornament. Contributing resources include the main house, with ell and attached barn and milk house, garage and wagon shed, and the associated 190± acres of agricultural land. The farm includes open fields and pasture east and north of the house and on the opposite (south) side of the road, as well as woodland on the northern and eastern edges. The Jenness Farm retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

## Agricultural Statement of Significance

The Jenness Farm is significant as one of the two farms in the city of Rochester, New Hampshire with buildings that illustrate progressive farm technology from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The farm has additional significance as it is one of only ten farms surviving in a community that had 135 farms in 1935. While the buildings date from 1935, the land associated with the farm illustrates the history of agricultural use of the property from the time it was established by Cyrus Jenness in 1837.

The wagon shed, garage, farm roads, cleared fields and mature forests, and the siting of the house, barn and barnyard pre-date 1935. The land that now comprises the farm was purchased and put into agricultural use by Cyrus Jenness beginning in 1837. Cyrus Jenness developed one of the more valuable farms in Rochester. It contained forty acres of improved land, sixty acres of meadow and pasture and twenty of woodland. The focus of the farm was dairying, with five cows milked, and butter produced. Other livestock on hand near the end of



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his life were two oxen, several young cattle, eleven sheep, two swine and eight hens. Annual crops included twenty tons of hay, and ten cords of wood, as well as potatoes. An apple orchard contained a hundred trees<sup>1</sup>.

Cyrus' son, Daniel Fremont Jenness, took over the farm in the 1880's and constructed a new house and barn in 1891, raising stock, dairying and lumbering. He kept the best milkers and sold the heifers, milking up to twenty-five cows at a time. He also kept a small flock of sheep until about 1900, and his wife Ida Jenness maintained a flock of chickens. They used oxen as draft animals and later horses. Jenness established a registered herd of Shorthorn cattle, which became the focus of the farm after 1900. Shorthorns served as both milk and beef cattle. During the early 1900's, fresh milk was shipped to Boston from the nearby Pickering railroad station. Ida May and her daughters made cheese. Hay was used on the farm and sold to nearby livery stables and townspeople<sup>2</sup>. Other crops were potatoes and sweet corn that were grown on the "clay flats" east of the house. Corn was used for silage and at one time sweet corn was sold to a cannery in South Berwick. The Jenness family developed a profitable truck farming business, selling produce in the summer to local markets. Crops of cabbage, tomatoes, beets, carrots, turnips, peas, and beans were grown on the land close to the house and barn<sup>3</sup>. There were fruit trees around the house, as well as strawberry beds, the product of which was primarily for home consumption and canning.

The primary period of significance began in 1935, when the existing house and barn were built following a fire. The property conveys information about farming practices and agricultural trends in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and reflects the local prominence of its owner, D.F. Jenness. His dedication to farming the property is evidenced by his rebuilding of the house and barn after the 1934 fire, the second set of buildings he had erected on the property.

The Jenness Farm typified farming practices of the period, and was average in size and production compared to other farms in the city. As of 1935, it was one of about 130 farms in Rochester. The Jenness Farm, with almost 200 acres, was larger than most; the average number of acres per farm was ninety-eight. All farmers produced dairy products. Cattle totaled 1,143, of which 698 were milk cows. Jenness and Teague milked about a dozen cows, an average sized herd for the period. As of 1940, there were slightly fewer milk cows in Rochester – 597 on 122 farms. Of these, sixty-nine made butter and fifty-seven sold whole milk. The sale of fresh milk from the Jenness farm decreased as regulations became more prohibitive. Instead, the milk was separated, and the skim milk fed to calves and pigs, while the cream was churned into butter. Butter and produce were peddled in Dover. Jenness made one or two trips a week, driving a wagon in summer and a pung in winter. The Teagues

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<sup>1</sup>*Agricultural Census* (Bureau of the Census, 1880), microfilm collection of the New Hampshire State Library, Concord, NH

<sup>2</sup> Jenness, Robert, Rachel Miller, David R. Jenness and Trix Jenness, *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Francis Jenness (1634-1716)*, unpublished typescript, Collection of Edith Holley, 1995), p. 184

<sup>3</sup> Jenness, Robert, *Daniel Fremont Jenness (1856-1949)*, unpublished manuscript, collection of Edith Holley, 1987), p. 22

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established a large poultry business beginning in the 1920's. Over one hundred farms in Rochester had chickens as of 1935, with a total of 13,155 birds. Truck farming continued on the Jenness Farm. Throughout Rochester, vegetables were grown on most farms, while 105 farms raised beans, twenty-four cabbages, ninety-eight sweet corn, and six tomatoes<sup>4</sup>. Other crops on the farm were hay and corn. A total of 2,436 tons of hay was cut in Rochester in 1935. Corn, mostly for silage, was grown on only twenty-two farms<sup>5</sup>. As motorized vehicles became common, Jenness purchased two tractors, but left the driving of them to others. At the end of his life, Jenness' livestock included two heifers, two bulls, four calves, twelve cows, two horses<sup>6</sup>.

Poultry farming and stock raising continued after the 1949 death of D.F. Jenness. Edith and Charles Teague developed a large poultry operation erecting additional outbuildings. The flock of Rhode Island Reds reached over one thousand. The Teagues also continued to raise truck crops and hay and maintained a herd of cattle<sup>7</sup>. They did not produce a substantial amount of dairy products because of the prohibitive cost of regulations<sup>8</sup>. The chickens were sold off in the 1960's. The Teagues continued to hay the fields and maintained a few cattle into the 1970's. The property remains in the Jenness family and the land continues in agricultural use as hayfields, sugar orchard and tree farm.

#### Architectural Statement of Significance

The 1935 farm buildings are significant of their type utilizing the state of the art construction for a prosperous farm. The choice of the Colonial Revival style reflects the family's interest in the history of the property and their desire to create an older image of the farm. This expresses the tenets of the Colonial Revival movement. The house retains its original kitchen and buttery, which played an integral role in farm life.

The 1935 barn reflects the building form, construction methods, and scientific agricultural trends of the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Publications of the period promoted the construction of spacious, well-ventilated, well-lit, and economical barns<sup>9</sup>. Rather than the traditional post and beam method, the barn was built using the lightweight balloon frame construction method. This construction method was easier to employ, required fewer laborers, and less lumber. The gambrel roof enclosed a greater volume, for more hay storage<sup>10</sup>. Trusses did not require cross beams which would interfere with the movement and storage of hay. Interestingly, Jenness' barn combined the gambrel roof form with the older barn plan with central drive floor flanked by cow tie ups and

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<sup>4</sup> *Agricultural Census Report*, (State of New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, 1935)

<sup>5</sup> *Agricultural Census Report*, (State of New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, 1940)

<sup>6</sup> Probate for Daniel F. Jenness - #A5097 (Stafford County Registry, Dover, 1949)

<sup>7</sup> Jenness et. al., pp. 184, 208

<sup>8</sup> Holley 2000

<sup>9</sup> Rawson, Richard, *Old Barn Plans* (Clinton, NJ: Main Street Press 1979), p.136

<sup>10</sup> Visser, Thomas Durant, *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings* (Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1997), p. 100

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haymow. This varied from the newer plan of stables occupying the whole ground level, with hay loft above. Additionally, windows became important elements of the barn's design as they provided interior light, which also helped reduce bacterial growth<sup>11</sup>. The area used for milking and stabling of milk cows was required to be separate from where other animals were kept by a tight partition. The steel pipe stanchions used were easier to clean, and the walls were painted white to aid in sanitation. The Jenness barn, with windows all along the east elevation, met requirements of not less than two square feet of window glass per cow. Doors opened directly into the barnyard, sheltered on the southeast side of the building. Also typical of the period are the steel ventilators, which came into use beginning in the 1920's to draw foul air out of the stables through enclosed wooden flues, while protecting the flues from the elements, kept out birds and prevented back-drafts<sup>12</sup>.

The Jenness barn is one of few early 20<sup>th</sup> century barns in Rochester. Most farmers of the period utilized older structures. The 1934 fire gave D.F. Jenness the opportunity to update his farm with the latest building technology. The only other intact early 20<sup>th</sup> century farm and barn is "Broadview Farm" on Ten Rod Road. This property retain a very large gambrel barn, two stories with basement, stable, as well as silo, wagon sheds, field and pasture, main house and tenant house. This property is much larger than the Jenness Farm and developed as a model farm, making it not directly comparable. Elsewhere in Rochester, there are several early 20<sup>th</sup> century houses with gambrel-roofed barns, but without agricultural integrity.

Milk houses like that on the Jenness Farm were the result of 20<sup>th</sup> century regulations mandating that milk be stored separately from the cows to prevent the transmittal of diseases<sup>13</sup>. Kitchens were no longer acceptable for milk processing. A milk house was needed for handling and storage of milk, and for washing of milk apparatus and utensils. It needed to be well lit, ventilated and screened, and could not open directly into the stable or house<sup>14</sup>.

Historical Background

The c.1935 house and barn on the Jenness Farm is the third set of buildings constructed on the property during its history of occupancy by the Jenness family. The first structures were built in the mid-1800's by Cyrus Jenness, the initial Jenness to occupy this farm. Cyrus' son, Daniel Fremont Jenness, erected a new house and barn in 1891. Following a fire in 1934, D.F. Jenness constructed the third residence and connected farm buildings, which were completed in 1936, on the foundations of the former c.1891 structures.

The Jenness family's settlement in Rochester and occupancy of land on Pickering Road dates from the 1730's, when Mark Jenness, a blacksmith, moved there from Rye, New Hampshire. He acquired several parcels of land

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<sup>11</sup> Visser, p. 98

<sup>12</sup> Visser, p. 47

<sup>13</sup> Visser, pp. 115-117

<sup>14</sup> Wooley, John C., *Farm Buildings* (New York: McGraw Hill Book Company 1941)

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on both sides of the present-day Pickering Road and established a farm, which consisted of approximately one hundred acres<sup>15</sup>. Following Mark's death in 1762, his son Daniel inherited half of the land and building on the farm<sup>16</sup>. Daniel Jenness' son and namesake, Daniel (born 1772) remained on the homestead. About 1815, he joined his wife Keziah in the Quaker Society of Friends, of which Jenness descendants are members to this day. In the late 1820's, Daniel Jenness (2) built a new Greek Revival style house on the property, extant today to the northwest on Pickering Road, and known in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as "Great Elm Farm." (The property passed out of family ownership c.1925 and is now owned by Turnkey Landfill.) In 1837, Daniel Jenness (2) deeded this original Jenness homestead to his son Stephen, living there with him until his death in 1847. At the same time, his younger son Cyrus Jenness began to assemble the farm that would become his homestead<sup>17 18</sup>.

Cyrus Jenness (born 1805) lived on the original family farm with his father and brother until he was well into his thirties. Reportedly after brother Stephen Jenness became the owner of the property, Cyrus was charged for his room and board<sup>19</sup>. His first purchase of land, in 1837, was twenty-four acres of rather swampy land near the Dover town line. This land was ditched and bedded to make it cultivatable. Over the next five years, Cyrus acquired additional surrounding land, and at some point erected a house on the site of the existing (1935) farmhouse. In June of 1843, he married Mercy McDuffee, also an active Quaker. They had six children, four or whom lived to adulthood; the two oldest girls died in 1847. The fifth child, Daniel Fremont Jenness, was born in 1856, and was named in tribute to John Charles Fremont, the first Republican presidential candidate<sup>20</sup>.

Cyrus Jenness died in 1881 and his son, Daniel Fremont Jenness, known as "Fremont," inherited the farm, with the widow Mercy retaining her right of dower to occupy a portion of it. Prior to taking over the farm, Fremont taught mathematics at the secondary school in Rochester, and he retained his excellence as a mathematician throughout his life<sup>21</sup>. In 1884, he married twenty-five-year-old schoolteacher, Ida May Wiggin, a fellow Quaker. In the course of their marriage, they had eleven children, between 1885 and 1903.

In 1891, Fremont constructed a new "up-to-date" farm complex on the land; apparently demolishing the original house that had been built by his father<sup>22 23 24</sup>. According to historic photographs, this set of buildings consisted of 2½-story Queen Anne style house connected by an ell to a large New England barn, with a number of

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<sup>15</sup> Jenness et. al., p. 178

<sup>16</sup> Jenness et. al., p. 178

<sup>17</sup> Jenness et. al. , pp. 180-181

<sup>18</sup> Jenness, p. 17

<sup>19</sup> Jenness et. al., p. 181

<sup>20</sup> Jenness et al, p. 181

<sup>21</sup> Holley 2000

<sup>22</sup> Jenness et al, p. 183

<sup>23</sup> Jenness, p. 20

<sup>24</sup> *Town and City Atlas of the City of Rochester* (1892), collection of the New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH

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associated outbuildings surrounding the main structures. Fremont Jenness expanded his land holdings with various parcels, totaling approximately one hundred acres of cropland and one hundred twenty acres of pasture and woodland<sup>25</sup>. Jenness was considered a “successful farmer and stock raiser” in Strafford County<sup>26</sup>.

A major focus of Fremont Jenness’ business was lumbering, in which he engaged with his brother, Cyrus, a hardware merchant in Dover. Jenness cut off all the white pine on his own land, then began to purchase parcels of wooded property throughout the region. The lumber was felled and then sawed by operators of portable sawmills, to be sold as finished boards. Jenness purchased some land outright, adding it to his holdings or selling it after lumber was cut, and also bought logging rights to cut over others’ land<sup>27</sup>. Fremont was considered a “tough businessman” in the lumber trade<sup>28</sup>.

In addition to his agricultural and lumbering endeavors, Fremont was a civic leader. He was a prominent member of the Society of Friends, of which he was treasurer for over fifty years. He served one term as a Selectman for Rochester around 1889, and a term in the New Hampshire General Court in the 1920’s. When the court was in session, he took the train from Pickering station on Sunday afternoons and spent the following week in Concord<sup>29 30</sup>. Following Ida’s death in 1925, Fremont was assisted on the farm by his daughter Edith and her husband, Charles Teague. Fremont Jenness purchased the neighboring farm across the road for his son Myron (now Parsell’s).

In 1934, the house and connected structures burned. Consequently, from 1935 to 1936, Fremont rebuilt his home and barn on the foundations of the former structures using contemporary building methods.

Jenness was active on the farm until his last days. When he died in 1949 of acute bronchitis, he was Rochester’s oldest living male resident<sup>31</sup>.

Jenness willed his livestock and tools to Charles Teague and the homestead to daughter Edith. Other lots of land, some adjoining the homestead, were willed to various siblings<sup>32</sup>. Edith and Charles Teague occupied the farm throughout their lives. They developed a large poultry farm, raised truck crops and shorthorn cattle.

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<sup>25</sup> Jenness et al, p. 183

<sup>26</sup> Scales, John S., ed., *History of Strafford County, New Hampshire and Representatives* (Dover, NH: Foster’s Daily Democrat 1914), p. 799

<sup>27</sup> Jenness et. al., p. 184

<sup>28</sup> Holley 2000

<sup>29</sup> Jenness et. al., p. 183

<sup>30</sup> Jenness, p. 16

<sup>31</sup> Obituary for Daniel F. Jenness, *Rochester Courier* (1949), microfilm collection of the New Hampshire State Library, Concord, NH

<sup>32</sup> Probate for Daniel F. Jenness - #A5097 (Stafford County Registry, Dover, 1949)

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After both Edith and Charles died in the 1980's, Gertrude Jenness Rinden, Edith's younger sister, who had cared for them in their later years, took over the farm<sup>33</sup>. Around 1990, her daughter Edith Rinden Holley became the owner of the property; she presently occupies the farm with her husband, Irwin Greenberg. In 1998, they established a tree farm on their wooded property. Currently, their fields are hayed by Randy Parsell of the farm across the road, and their maple trees are tapped for syrup<sup>34</sup>.

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<sup>33</sup> Jenness et. al., p. 213

<sup>34</sup> Holley 2000

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**Maps**

Anonymous

1871 Atlas of Stafford County. Collection of New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, N.H.

1892 Town and City Atlas of the City of Rochester. Collection of New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, N.H.

Chace, J., Jr.

1856 Stafford County Map. Collection of New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, N.H.

**Probate – Strafford County Courthouse, Dover**

1881 Cyrus Jenness - #5337.

1949 Daniel F. Jenness - #A5097.

**Interview**

Edith Holley, property owner, 2000.



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UTM References (continued)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
5	19	343415	4789515

	Zone	Easting	Northing
6	19	342793	4788928

	Zone	Easting	Northing
7	19	342685	4789023

	Zone	Easting	Northing
8	19	342285	47888645

	Zone	Easting	Northing
9	19	342172	4788920

	Zone	Easting	Northing
10	19	342287	4789095

	Zone	Easting	Northing
11	19	342262	4789182

	Zone	Easting	Northing
12	19	342465	4789520

	Zone	Easting	Northing
13	19	342870	4790205

Verbal Boundary Description

The Jenness Farm is located on Pickering Road in the southern corner of Rochester, spanning the southwestern city line into Dover. According to a 1986 survey, the property contains 192 acres, while tax records indicate a total of 190 acres. The property consists of five parcels as defined by Rochester and Dover tax records. The house and associated outbuildings are located on the northeast side of Pickering Road in Rochester, Map 265/Lot 7 (37 acres). This rectangular parcel of primarily open land extends northeast nearly to the Spaulding Turnpike. The remaining small piece of wooded land (2 acres) between Clark's Brook and the Turnpike is defined as Map 264/Lot 44. South of Pickering Road, opposite the house, is open land identified as Rochester Map 265/Lot 8 (22 acres). The continuation of Pickering Road in Dover is known as Sixth Street. In Dover, on the north side of the road, acreage associated with the farm is located on Map A-1/Lot 27 (109 acres); the southwest portion of this area is open, while the remainder is wooded. South of the road is Map B/Lot 9 (20 acres).

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These five parcels, totaling 190± acres, form the National Register eligible property; the boundaries are defined by the legally recorded outer lot lines. The boundary is shown on an attached map.

### **Boundary Justification**

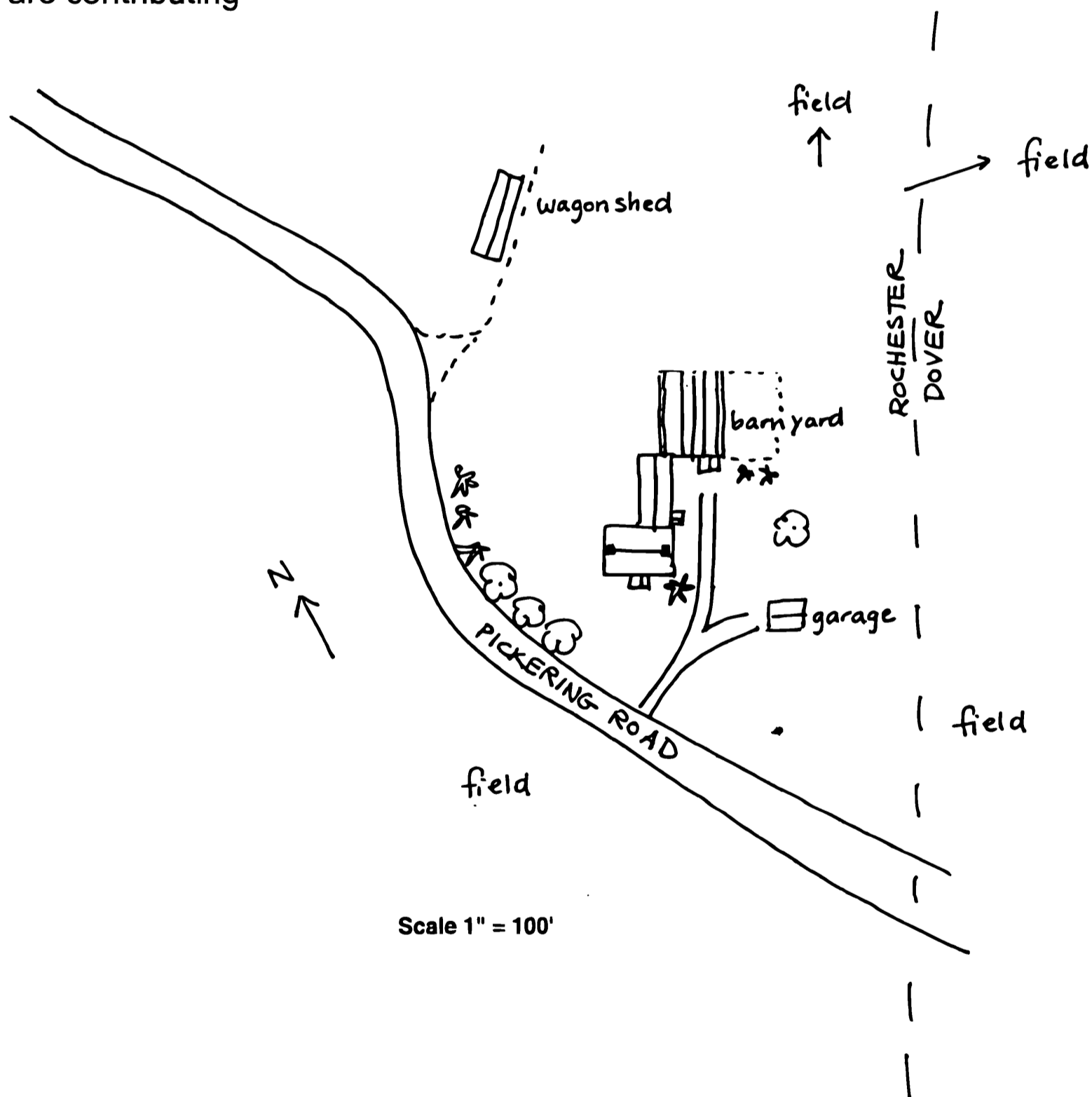
The boundary of the National Register eligible property is defined by the legally-recorded lot lines of the parcels which make up the historic farm. Although defined as five separate parcels by tax records, and located in two separate municipalities, the Jenness Farm is a unified parcel of land. The five parcels encompass those elements that contribute to the historical and architectural significance of the property. They include all contributing historic structures, as well as the associated farm yards and the agricultural land that convey the historic associations of the property and provide an appropriate historic setting for the architecture. The existing property (approximately one hundred ninety acres) was the "homestead" assembled by Cyrus and Daniel Fremont Jenness during their lifetimes (1805-1881 and 1856-1949). It does not include other lots of land purchased at various times and willed to other children on D.F. Jenness' death. The boundaries of the farm property have not changed since the period of significance.

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Sketch Map  
All buildings are contributing



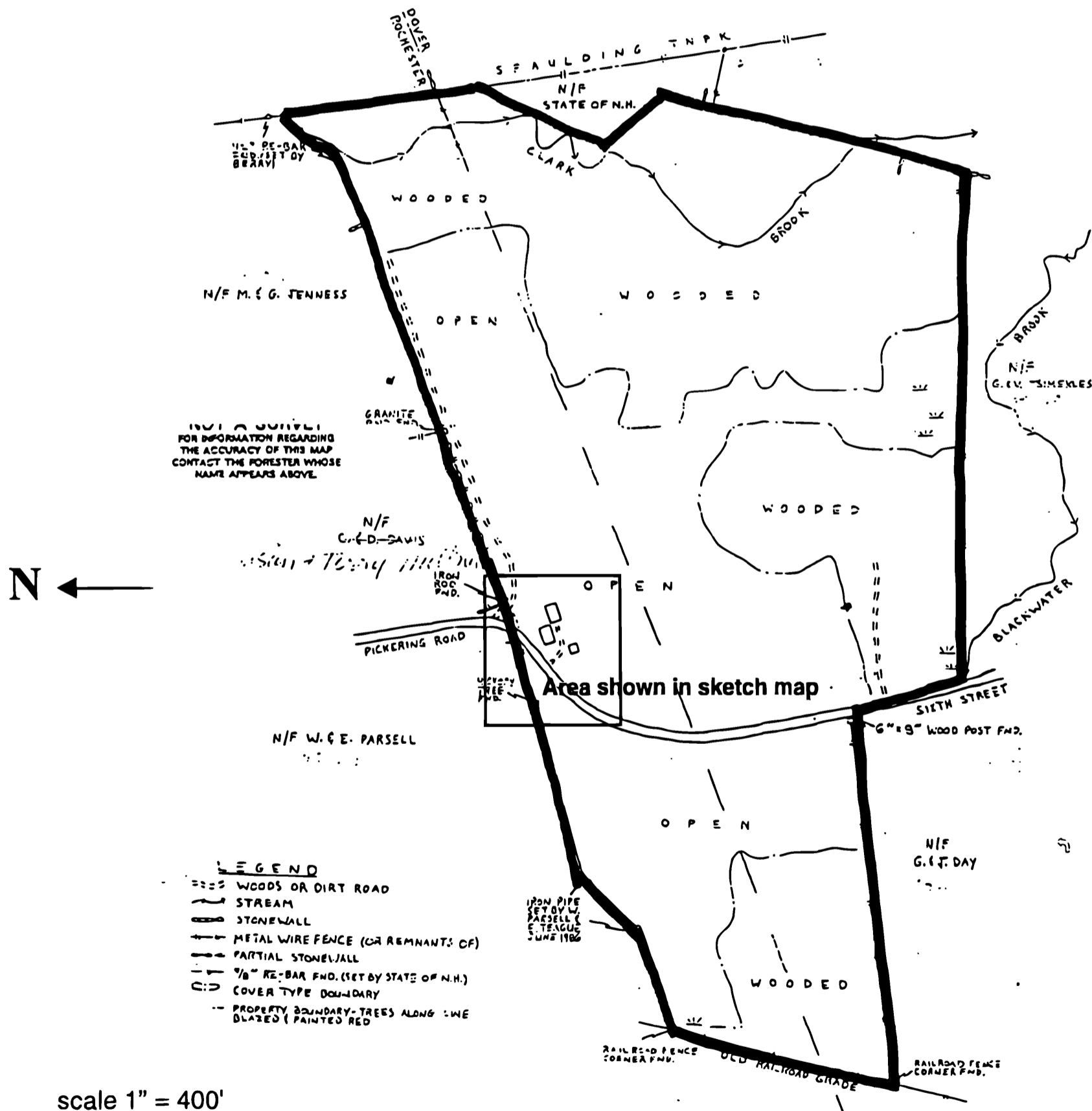
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Sketch Map  
Showing boundaries



———— National Register Boundary



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Photo Key

