NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



OMB No. 1024-0018

964

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 BUCKMINSTER-KINGSBURY FA	ARM
other names/site number BUCKMINSTER FARI	M, KINGSBURY FARM, BURROUGHS SUBDIVISION
2. Location	
street & number 80 HOUGHTON LEDGE RD.	not for publication
city or town ROXBURY	vicinity N/A
state NEW HAMPSHIRE Code NH	county CHESHIRE code005_ zip code _03431
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
ationally □ statewide Flocally. (□ See continuation Signature of dertifying official) Title New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, State State or Federal agency and bureau	Historic Preservation Officer
In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the Signature of certifying official/Title	e National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.) Date
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	
	Signature of the Keeper H. Beall 12-30-1

BUCKMINSTER-KINGSBURY FARM

Name of Property

ROXBURY, CHESHIRE COUNTY, NH

County and State

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) (Check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)			
X building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing			
_ district			building		
_ site			sites		
			structures		
_ object			objects		
	8	6	Tota		
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register			
	NONE				
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC: Single dwelling		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC: Single dwelling			
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)			
		foundation Stone: Granite			
EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal					
	other				
	X building(s) _ district _ site _ structure _ object operty listing a multiple property listing.)	(Check only one box) X building(s) _ district _ site _ structure _ object Current Function (Enter categories from foundationstowallsBrickwood Materials (Enter categories from foundationstowallsBrickwood Mistrict _ 2 _ 4 _ 4 _ 4 _ 2 _ 0 _ 8 Number of con in the National	(Check only one box) X building(s)district site structure object Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC: Single dwelling Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundationStone: Granite wallsBrick		

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

(Please refer to continuation sheets)

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SECTION 7: DESCRIPTION

The Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm is an early 19th century farmstead in a rural setting. The 13.1-acre partially wooded parcel is located at the north end of a local road that connects to NH Rte. 9 (Franklin Pierce Highway) approximately one quarter mile to the south. The property is surrounded by forests and low hills. A modern house set into the woods on the opposite (east) side of Houghton Ledge Rd. is the closest neighbor.

The farmhouse and related outbuildings are clustered in a cleared area at the east end of the parcel closest to the roadway. The land slopes gently toward the southwest with the lowest part being the open lawn in front of the south elevation of the farmhouse. The landscape includes low stone boundary walls that run partially along the south, west and north lot lines. A row of seven mature "sentinel" maple trees stands between the east gable end of the house and the driveway loop from the road. A large boulder on the south lawn is a remnant of the recent (c. 2003) excavation for a septic system. A small apple orchard is located on a slight rise northwest of the farmhouse.

Contributing Resources

The farmstead includes a cluster of eight contributing and six non-contributing buildings, sites and structures. The contributing elements are:

- A. Farmhouse (c. 1825) and two continuous attached ells (A1 & A2, c. 1820)
- B. Barn/Garage (c. 1890)
- C. Well head (c. 1890)
- D. Boundary walls (c. 1850)
- E. Old well location #1 (c. 1850)
- F. Old well location #2 (c. 1820)
- G. Old house foundation (c. 1820)
- H. Old barn foundation (c. 1820)

(See Fig. D: Sketch map and photo key)

The Farmhouse (A, c. 1825, Photos #0001-0005) is located on a small knoll west of the wide curve at the upper end of Houghton Ledge Road. The two-story house is constructed on a rectangular plan with a low granite foundation, orange-red brick walls, a broad-gabled single-ridge roofline and two center chimneys offset to the north and south of the center ridge. The primary elevation (east gable end) faces the road and is separated from it by a row of mature maple trees and a grassy lawn.

On the east end facing the road, the broad gable shelters a five-bay configuration on the first floor with three granite steps leading to the wide center entrance. The entry consists of a six-panel single-leaf

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door flanked by three-pane half sidelights and surmounted by an eight-light rectangular transom set below a wooden lintel. The brick immediately surrounding the entry is painted white and a triangular flashing scar above the entry marks the outline of a former portico. Flanking the center entry are partially exposed basement windows and pairs of 6/6 double hung wood sash at the first floor level.

The second floor of the east gable end maintains a rhythmic arrangement of three 6/6 double-hung wood sash aligned with the openings below and placed to accommodate the rake of the roof. A single 6/6 double-hung window is located in the attic below the gable peak. The window openings are trimmed with granite lintels and wood sills. The first floor windows are fitted with exterior storm windows.

On the south elevation, the brick house is arranged in five bays with low granite steps leading to the center entrance. The entry is set with a five-panel single-leaf door under a fixed four-light rectangular transom. Flanking the center entry are partially exposed basement windows, pairs of 6/6 double hung wood sash at the first floor level and pairs of six-light single sash at the second floor, symmetrically arranged. The window openings are trimmed with granite lintels and wood sills. The first floor windows are fitted with exterior storm windows. The south slope of the roof is covered with standing seam metal roofing (c. 2005) and is supported by a continuous boxed eave with a ventilated soffit. A tall brick center chimney extends through the roofline just south of the ridge.

On the north elevation, the brick house is arranged in five bays with three granite steps leading to the center entrance. The entry is set with a four-panel single-leaf door under a fixed four-light rectangular transom. Flanking the center entry are partially-exposed basement windows, pairs of 6/6 double hung wood sash at the first floor level, and two single six-light sash at the second floor, symmetrically arranged to align with the windows flanking the center entry. The window openings are trimmed with granite lintels and wood sills. The first floor windows are fitted with exterior storm windows. The north slope of the roof is covered with standing seam metal roofing (c. 2005) and is supported by a continuous boxed eave with a ventilated soffit. A tall brick center chimney extends through the roofline just north of the ridge.

On the west end, the brick house is directly attached to two continuous wood-frame one-story additions (A1 & A2) that may have originally been built as freestanding structures on the site. The north walls of both ells are directly aligned with the north wall plane of the brick house. The south walls are set back about five feet from the south wall of the brick house. The ridgeline of the additions intersects the west wall of the brick house at the second floor ceiling level.

On the west elevation, the gable end of the brick house is partially exposed around the smaller outline of the attached additions. A single 6/6 double-hung window is located at the attic level below the peak of the gable. Another 6/6 double-hung window is located at the first floor level near the southwest corner. A metal basement bulkhead set on a granite base is exposed directly below the first-floor window.

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The first addition (A1, c. 1820, Photos #0003-0005) forms the center section of the three-part farmhouse. The one-story wood-frame rectangular building is set on a low granite foundation and covered with clapboard siding painted white. The five-bay south elevation features two concrete steps leading to a center entry fitted with a multi-light wood door and an aluminum storm door. Two 6/6 double-hung wood windows are located west of the center entrance. A single 6/6 double-hung window and a half-height 3/3 double-hung window are located north of the entry. The windows are trimmed with flat wood surrounds and fitted with exterior aluminum storm windows. The south slope of the metal roof features a cinder block chimney and two low-profile skylights.

On the north elevation, the five-bay arrangement of the first addition (A1) is expressed in an array of four 6/6 double-hung windows with flat wood trim and triple-track aluminum storms. The north entrance is located at the extreme west bay and consists of two granite steps leading to a modern single-leaf door with an aluminum storm door. Two low-profile skylights are set into the north slope of the metal roof.

On the west gable end, the first addition (A1) is partially obscured by the second addition (A2) which aligns with the north wall, but with a lower roofline. The exposed portion of the west wall of the first addition (A1) reveals a basement vent at ground level, a 2/2 double hung window near the southwest corner of the first floor and a 6/6 double-hung window at the second floor level.

The second addition (A2, c. 1820, Photo #0003-0005) is a rectangular one-story wood-frame building on a granite foundation with white clapboard walls and a single-ridge metal roof. The north wall aligns with that of the adjacent sections, but the south wall and the gabled roofline are set back from those of the first addition (A1). On the south elevation, the second addition presents a three-bay façade with a two concrete steps leading to a solid plank door flanked by 6/6 double-hung windows. On the north elevation, the clapboard walls are set with two 6/6 double-hung windows. On the west gable end, the second addition has a wood slab door at the center approached by two wooden steps. The entry is flanked by shallow crawl-space vents at ground level and by 2/2 double-hung windows at the main floor level. A fixed six-light sash is set between the top of the entrance and the peak of the gable. Window and door openings are trimmed with flat stock wood.

The interior of the Farmhouse (A) features a central corridor on the main floor running west from the main entry in the east gable end. A single-run staircase with a turned newel post and slender square-profile spindles runs up the south wall of the corridor to the second floor. Wide pine flooring, four-panel doors and plaster or wallboard walls and ceilings distinguish each of the rooms in the main brick portion of the house.

On the main floor, the two south rooms are the Parlor (SE) and Sitting Room (SW), joined by the shallow vestibule of the south entry and the south chimney structure. The two north rooms are the Dining Room (NE) and Kitchen (NW), sharing the common north chimney stack.

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The Parlor (SE) features a brick hearth and fireplace in the west wall. The fireplace is enclosed by a carved wooden mantel with a small cupboard in the fireplace wall. The Sitting Room (SW) features a simple wooden mantel framing a bricked-in fireplace and a brick bake oven with a brick hearth surrounded by a new wood parquet floor. The windows in the sitting room are fitted with new wooden interior shutters. The Kitchen (NW) features a large brick fireplace in the east wall with a bake oven set into the wall just north of the hearth. The fireplace is faced with a wooden mantel with a small parsons cupboard above. The Dining Room (NE) features old pine floors and a fireplace in the west wall with a simple wooden mantel and a cupboard. The vestibules at the north and south entries to the first floor each incorporate a small cupboard set into the recess adjacent to the chimney structures.

On the upper floor, the central provides access to four chambers or bedrooms (two on the north side and two on the south). A small modern bathroom is located at the west end of the hall. Four-panel doors are hung in most of the doorways. A flat wooden fireplace surround is installed in the west wall of the northeast chamber

The brick and fieldstone foundations of the house are visible in the basement. The brick chimney base on the north side incorporates a smoke chamber under the kitchen. Split lath is visible along the basement staircase at the first floor where portions of the plaster have fallen away. The attic of the house reveals rough-hewn rafters set into a continuous five-sided ridgepole. The brick end walls include brick reinforcement around the window openings in the attic.

The two west additions (A1 & A2) are each configured as a single large room with plank flooring and painted sheetrock walls. Portions of the post and beam framing and simple 19th century woodwork are visible in certain locations.

The Barn/Garage (B, c. 1890, Photos #0002, 0005, 0006) is a one-story wood-frame building located northeast of the farmhouse. The rectangular building is set on a concrete foundation and has vertical plank siding and an asphalt-shingled gable roof. The south elevation facing the driveway features a single passage door and two vehicle bays hung with double doors. The west elevation has two fixed windows with a hay door above. The north elevation is covered with horizontal plank siding and features exposed rafter ends. The east elevation facing the road has two fixed-light windows with a single window above. Granite fieldstones set into the ground define a path from the southwest corner of the barn/garage to the north door of the farmhouse.

The Wellhead (C, c. 1890) located northwest of the farmhouse has a fieldstone base with a wooden superstructure and a gabled roof covered with wood shingles. It replaced an earlier well (resource E, now filled in) located on the north side of the frame ell.

The Boundary Walls (D, c. 1850) are low fieldstone single walls that conform to the wooded north and

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south lot lines of the 13-acre parcel and the east lot line adjacent to the road. The walls contain no dressed stones and are partially collapsed in several locations, especially at the extreme west ends.

The Old Well Location #1 (E, c. 1850) is a former well location adjacent to the north side of the frame ell of the farmhouse. The well has been filled and graded to conform to the surrounding lawn.

The Old Well Location #2 (F, c. 1820) is located on a wooded rise north of the farmhouse adjacent to the Old House Foundation (G). It consists of a loose surface pile of stones with a spring-fed water source.

The Old House Foundation (G, c. 1820) located on a wooded rise north of the farmhouse, is a loose surface pile of stone and brick that includes evidence of a chimney base and portions of a perimeter foundation. Local tradition maintains that the wood-frame ell of the farmhouse was moved from this location in the 19th century.

The Old Barn Foundation (H, c. 1820) located on a wooded rise west of the farmhouse, is a loose surface pile of stone. The building that may have occupied the site is presumed to have been a barn, but no supportive documentation has been discovered.

Non-contributing Resources

The non-contributing resources are recent improvements to the property by the current owner, all erected since 1991:

- Sugaring house
- 2. Tool shed
- 3. Grape arbor
- 4. Hen house
- 5. Livestock shelter
- 6. Pool house

(See Fig. D: Sketch map and photo key)

The Sugaring House (#1, c. 1991, Photo #0001) is a one-story wood frame structure located southeast of the farmhouse. The rectangular building has vertically-latticed wooden sides and a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The building is partially open on the east and west sides and holds an evaporator and wood supply for maple sugaring.

The Tool Shed (#2, c. 1991, Photo #0004) is a one-story wood frame structure located southwest of the farmhouse. The rectangular structure is set on a pressure-treated wood base and has clapboard siding on the walls and asphalt shingle son the single-ridge gabled roof. Doors are located on the north and west

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sides with a single six-light window on the east side.

The Grape Arbor (#3, c. 1991) located northwest of the farmhouse consists of wood posts set on concrete footings with a wooden lattice across the top of the posts. The arbor supports the grapevines planted around the base.

The Henhouse (#4, c. 1991) located northwest of the farmhouse is a one-story rectangular wooden building on a cinder block base. The walls are formed of battened vertical planks with small windows set into the south and east elevations.

The Livestock Shelter (#5, c. 1991) located northwest of the farmhouse is a one-story rectangular log structure with a simple roofline. It is open on the south side as a run-in for sheep.

The Pool House (#6, c. 1991, Photo #0002) located north of the farmhouse is a one-story wood frame structure on footings. It has plank walls and screened sides with a metal gable roof and an attached wooden deck. The deck on the north side abuts an above ground pool.

Archaeological Potential

Surface features suggest two potential historic archaeological sites in close proximity to the main farmhouse. On the wooded hill north of the main house are stone foundation remnants (G) that may mark an earlier house location; a spring and old wellhead (F) are located nearby. A similar exposed foundation pile (H) is located on the wooded hill west of the house and may represent a former barn location.

BUCKMINSTER-KINGSBURY FARM

Name of Property

ROXBURY, CHESHIRE COUNTY, NH

County and State

8. S	tatement of Significance	
(Mark	licable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property ational Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) AGRICULTURE
<u>x</u> A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE
_B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
<u>x</u> 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 & distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance 1820-1960
_ D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
	eria Considerations ("x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
_A _B _D _E _F	owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes. removed from its original location. a birthplace or grave. a cemetery. a reconstructed building, object, or structure. a commemorative property. less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A Cultural Affiliation N/A Architect/Builder
	rative Statement of Significance lain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheet	s) – See continuation sheets
9. M	lajor Bibliographical References	
(Cite	the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on o	one or more continuation sheets.) - See continuation sheets
Pre	vious documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) 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 #

- x NH Division of Historical Resources/SHPO
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- _ Local government
- University
- x Other

Name of repository: Historical Society of Cheshire County, Keene, NH

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Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm is an early 19th century farmstead in a well-preserved rural context. Occupied and used continuously since the 1820s, the farmstead retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The farmhouse and related structures are eligible for National Register listing under Criteria A (History) & C (Architecture) at the local level, as previously determined by the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (Inv. # ROX003, August 2009).

The Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm meets National Register Criterion A at the local level in the category of Architecture as one of the earliest extant farmsteads in a rural section of Roxbury township. With a well-preserved visual context, the farm illuminates local settlement patterns and the availability of local building materials (lumber, brick, stone) prior to the advent of the railroad.

The resource also meets Criterion A at the local level in the category of Agriculture as an intact example of an upland farmstead with the house and outbuildings forming a central cluster surrounded by fields and wood lots. Throughout the 19th century, the farm maintained a mixed agricultural base with orchards, cultivated fields, hayfields, pastureland, and livestock. Pertinent features are still evident in the visual character of the rural context.

The Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm meets National Register Criterion C at the local level in the category of Architecture as a well-preserved example of a particular vernacular expression of the Federal and Greek Revival style that evolved in New Hampshire and southern Maine in the 1820s and '30s. The style is characterized by a very broad gable end with a center entrance and symmetrical window placement and may incorporate exterior architectural details in the Federal, Greek Revival or Gothic Revival style.

The Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the request of the property owner to highlight the significance of the resource, encourage its preservation and mitigate the effects of a nearby cell tower. The nomination is prepared under a Memorandum of Agreement as a mitigation measure related to the construction of a wireless telecommunications (cell) tower on the adjacent property.

Roxbury History

Roxbury, situated just northeast of Keene, NH is the smallest town in Cheshire County in both area and population. Like most towns in southwest New Hampshire, Roxbury's economy in the 19th century relied primarily on granite quarrying and subsistence farming with a small number of water-powered mills and a brief experiment with raising Merino sheep in the 1820s and '30s.

The location of Roxbury was originally part of Monadnock Number 5 (later Marlborough), one of the

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18th-century settlements reserved for veterans of the French & Indian war. Citing the long distance to the nearest meetinghouses, early settlers petitioned for incorporation of a new town in 1796. The initial petition failed, but a second petition in 1812 successfully resulted in the formation of the Town of Roxbury (Dec. 9, 1812) from portions of Nelson, Marlborough & Keene.

At the first town meeting in Roxbury (January 1, 1813), Solomon Buckminster was elected as one of three Selectmen and Solomon Kingsbury was elected as Town Clerk. Buckminster was also elected as the first state representative (March 8, 1814). Both the Buckminster and Kingsbury families would play a key role in the development of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm in Roxbury.

A Congregational church was organized in Roxbury in August 1816 and by the decennial federal census in 1820 the town's population had reached 366 people. The original meetinghouse was replaced by a larger building (capacity 250) in 1849. At that time Roxbury had three operating granite quarries, two taverns, one hotel and a stop on the stagecoach line.

Despite the demand for granite for building construction, Roxbury's population began to decline. By 1860, the town numbered 212 people. The post office in Roxbury was eliminated that same year and in 1868 the town petitioned unsuccessfully to be annexed to the growing community of Keene.

By 1870, the town population of 174 people included 162 native-born and 12 foreign-born residents. The town had only one African American resident – John Evans who was employed as a farmhand at the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm.

In 1878, the Manchester-Keene railroad line completed a connection to the local Cheshire line. The hope was that the new railroad connection would facilitate the transport of Roxbury granite to the Boston market. In fact, granite from Roxbury quarries was selected for the construction of the New York State Capitol in Albany (under construction 1867-1899). In the 1880s, the town's population of 126 people supported three district schools and included 32 full members of the local Congregational church.

Reinforced concrete, introduced as a building material in 1849, may have contributed to the decline of Roxbury and the granite industry. In 1912, the City of Keene purchased the former Cass granite quarry in Roxbury and the surrounding land for a public water supply. Roxbury's population declined to only 56 people in 1920. When the Great Depression further restricted the demand for local granite, Roxbury became a virtual ghost town.

In 1958, the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a flood control dam and created Otter Brook Lake in Roxbury as a recreational area. Although the buildings in the town center had fallen into decay or been torn down, the old farmhouses and isolated building lots throughout Roxbury attracted new residents.

By the late 20th century, Roxbury had taken on the character of a rural suburb of Keene. The population

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Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm
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crept steadily upward from 161 in 1970 to 229 in the census of 2010. The town today (2011) has no distinct village center and survives mainly as a scattering of farms, summer cabins, home businesses and suburban residences.

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm

William Stoddard Buckminster (1778-1859) was the son of Solomon Buckminster, one of Roxbury's first Selectmen (1813) and the town's first state representative (1814). William Stoddard Buckminster was born in Rutland, Massachusetts, but moved to Roxbury as a young man and married Hannah Grimes in 1806.

W. Stoddard Buckminster, "Yeoman," acquired two 50-acre parcels of land in Roxbury and Packersfield (Sullivan and Nelson) from his father in 1820 and began to build his holdings. The land was located about two miles north of the village of Roxbury and became the core of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm. The wood-frame cottage (A1, Photos #0003-0005) that forms the ell of the current brick house may have been the first house erected on the farm at the site of the old well (F) and house foundation (G) before the brick house was completed.

The late-Federal design of the main brick house (A, Photos #0001-0005) suggests a date of about 1825. By the early 1830s, the farm was well established and W. Stoddard Buckminster was listed in town tax records as the owner of four horses, four oxen, five cows and eight "neat stock" (cattle). In addition to the farmhouse and related buildings, he held a half-acre orchard, two acres of tilled land, ten tons of hay, twenty acres of pastureland and 250 acres of unimproved land and woodlots. William Buckminster was included in the town voting list (1832-1849) and served at least one term as selectman (1836).

David W. Buckminster (1807-1874) was born in Roxbury, the son of William Stoddard Buckminster and Hannah Grimes Buckminster. David Buckminster married Mary Ann Whitney about 1840 and lived in the brick house in Roxbury that his father had built. David and Mary Ann Buckminster had seven children over the next thirteen years (Sarah E., Martha A., Joseph, Josiah Whitney, Maria and twins Milton and Millard). The seven children may have been the motivation for planting the seven sentinel maple trees along the stone wall at the east end of the brick house.

During David Buckminster's ownership, the farm continued to flourish. The 1857 tax assessment noted "improved and unimproved land and buildings" as well as horses, oxen, cows and "other neat stock." The 1858 Smith & Morley map of Cheshire County, New Hampshire shows the farm on the ridge north of the Ashuelot River as the property of W.S. & D.W. Buckminster. The 1870 census noted David Buckminster's ownership of \$3,300 in real estate and \$1,600 in personal estate. The 1880 census showed an increase in value – \$4,000 in real estate and \$2,000 in personal estate.

¹ Cheshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 60 p. 251 and Book 83, p. 224.

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David Buckminster also carried on the family tradition of public service to Roxbury. "Mr. [David] Buckminster was esteemed as one of its most valued citizens and was entrusted with as many local offices as he was willing to undertake. His public service covered a period of about forty years." Buckminster served at various times as a town Selectman (1858), the town Fence Viewer and the contractor responsible for building a new road eighteen feet wide (May 29, 1858).

In the last years of his life, David Buckminster lived in Keene, but continued to own and manage the farm in Roxbury. The farm was subsequently held by Albert H. Kingman (1835-1938), a Civil War veteran who married Persis R. Rice in 1865. Kingman may have encountered financial difficulties, since the farm was taken back by the Buckminster estate and offered for sale again.³

The 1876 advertisement for the property described it as

One brick house built in the best manner. The buildings are very pleasantly situated on 150 acres with a large apple orchard and Sugar Place which is handy and very early. Three barns connected with Piggery, Carriage House, Shop and Cart shed at one end and two long sheds at the other. 4

Elbridge Kingsbury (1839-1919) purchased the former Buckminster Farm in 1878 and managed it in conjunction with the nearby Kingsbury farm that had been in his family for generations. He belonged to an old Roxbury family and was the son of Seth Kingsbury and Rachel Woodbury, and the grandson of Solomon Kingsbury (one of Roxbury's founders). Elbridge Kingsbury married Ada Harriet Fairbanks (b. 1849) in April 1886 and had two children – Gertrude L. (b. 1887) and Elbridge L. (b. 1890).

Like the previous owners of the Buckminster farm, Elbridge Kingsbury was actively involved in civic life in Roxbury. He and his brother George S. Kingsbury (1838-93) were both drafted in the Civil War. George served in the 18th Vermont Regiment, but Elbridge chose to stay in Roxbury and pay \$300 for a substitute. Elbridge Kingsbury was a Roxbury selectman for sixteen years and town clerk for eight years. He served as a state representative in 1877-78. He was a superintendent of the Sunday School at Roxbury's First Congregational Church and also served as secretary of the Cheshire County Agricultural Society.⁵

Under Elbridge Kingsbury's management, the farm supported sheep, cattle and fruit trees and included a maple sugarbush of 800 taps. Kingsbury's entertainments were noted in the local Sentinel newspaper. A

⁵ Child, Gazetteer of Cheshire County, NH (1885).

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² Stearns (ed.), Genealogical and Family History of the State of New Hampshire, Vol. 2 (1908).

³ Hayward & Wilber (ed.), Historical Notes with a Keyed Map of Keene and Roxbury, NH (1932).

⁴ Quoted in Smith, <u>Historic Homes of Cheshire County</u>, NH – Vol. III, p. 93-94 (1979).

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Section number 8 Page 5 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

husking bee at the Buckminster-Kingsbury farm in 1881 involved thirty neighbors, 140 bushels of corn and elaborate supper. A Christmas party in 1884 brought 150 friends with sixty teams of horses to a house "trimmed with evergreens and two large Christmas trees." Live music and seasonal greetings were conveyed from the farm to Keene and other locations by telephone. Forty people at a time were seated for supper and Santa Claus arrived at midnight.⁶

Two remarkable photographs in the collection of the Cheshire County Historical Society preserve images of the "Annual Picnic at E. Kingsbury's Grove, Roxbury, Aug. 7, 1884." The photos were both taken by local Keene photographer J.A. French. The first shows a group of about 120 men, women, children and East Sullivan Brass Band members arrayed under the seven sentinel trees in front of the east elevation of the brick house on the Buckminster-Kingsbury farm (Fig. C). The photo shows a square portico sheltering the center door of the house with a banner above inscribed "GREETING." Visible just north of the house are a two-story shed-roofed building (no longer extant) and the gable projection of a barn (no longer extant). The second photo shows a smaller group of twenty-five men, women, children and band members clustered around a large boulder on the side of a hill. No buildings are visible and the specific individuals in the picture have not been identified.

By 1897, Kingsbury had moved into Keene, but still owned the farm in Roxbury. After his death in 1919, Kingsbury's widow (Ada H. Kingsbury) and son (Elbridge L. Kingsbury) conveyed their interests in the 175-acre Buckminster-Kingsbury farm to their daughter and sister (respectively), Gertrude L. Kingsbury who was working as a teacher in Keene.⁷

During the 1920s and '30s, Gertrude Kingsbury rented the Buckminster-Kingsbury farm to a group of teachers from New York City who ran the Ashuelot Camp and summer school at the farm. In 1946, Gertrude Kingsbury Pierce (now a widow) sold the farm to Harry A. and Mary Pierce, who in turn sold it to the Platts Box Company for logging and timber. The Platts Box Company sold the land the next year, but reserved the right to cut and haul timber for two more years. It is likely that most of the forests located close to the road have grown up again within the last 60 years.

Criterion A: Architectural History and Agricultural History

The Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm is an isolated farmstead in a rural upland section of Roxbury, New Hampshire. It is one of the earliest extent farmsteads in Roxbury and represents the early 19th century pattern of dispersed settlement in the area and the evolution of local agriculture during the course of the century.

⁶ Smith, Historic Homes of Cheshire County - Vol. III, p. 93-94 (1979).

⁷ Cheshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 395, page 70 (April 9, 1920).

⁸ Cheshire County Deeds, Book 520, page 307 and Book 524, p. 110 (June 1946).

⁹ Cheshire County Deeds, Book 533, page 331 (June 25, 1947).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

Solomon Buckminster, one of the original founders of Roxbury, began to convey to his son William Stoddard Buckminster, land in Packersfield (the Nelson/Sullivan border of Roxbury) in 1811 and in the northern part of Roxbury in1813. The deeds for the two fifty acre parcels were not filed immediately, so W. Stoddard Buckminster probably did not begin to build on the site until after the Roxbury deed was finalized and filed in 1820.

In the 19th century, the central village of Roxbury was located two miles south of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm. In selecting a more remote site on Houghton Ledge Road for his brick house, Buckminster took advantage of the varied topography and the generally southward slope of the land toward Otter Brook. The site offered good drainage, fresh water springs, and forested land that could be cleared for cultivation and grazing. Buckminster may have also hoped to take advantage of the path or roadway along Houghton Ledge that connected Roxbury to the south with Sullivan to the north.

The earliest house on the site may have been a wood-frame structure erected by W. Stoddard Buckminster about 1820 and later reused as an ell to the larger brick house. The main house, probably erected about 1825-30 was a substantial brick structure that expressed both permanence and style. Small brickyards and granite quarries were scattered throughout southwestern New Hampshire in the early 19th century and probably provided the material for the new house. The timber may also have been harvested locally and sawn in one of the local sawmills on the Ashuelot River.

The Buckminster-Kinsgbury Farm was continuously cultivated throughout the 19th century. W. Stoddard Buckminster (1778-1859), David W. Buckminster (1807-1874) and Elbridge Kingsbury (1839-1919) owned the farm in succession and adapted their use of the land to meet family needs and market conditions.

By the early 1830s, the farm was already well established under W. Stoddard Buckminster and included a half-acre orchard, two acres of tilled land, ten tons of hay, twenty acres of pastureland and 250 acres of unimproved land and woodlots. The farm also included four horses, four oxen, five cows and eight "neat stock" (cattle) and seems to have been geared to providing annual family needs with some marketable surplus.

David W. Buckminster, the son of W. Stoddard Buckminster, continued to improve the farm in the mid19th century. When the farm was advertised for sale by his executors in the 1870s, it was described as
"very pleasantly situated on 150 acres with a large apple orchard and Sugar Place which is handy and
very early. Three barns connected with Piggery, Carriage House, Shop and Cart shed." The prominence
of the apple orchard and the maple sugaring operation in the advertisement suggest a greater focus on the
demands of the market. With nearby Keene recently incorporated as a city (1874) and new railroad

¹⁰ Cheshire County Deeds, Book 60, p. 251 (1811) and Book 83, page 224 (1813).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm
Section number 8 Page 7 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

connections providing improved transportation for local products, upland farmers could look beyond basic subsistence.

When Elbridge Kingsbury purchased the farm from the Buckminster estate in the late 1870s, he combined it with his own adjacent acreage to create a gentleman's farm. Although Kingsbury maintained an active agricultural operation with sheep, cattle, fruit trees and a large maple sugarbush of 800 taps, he also held municipal office (Selectman, Town Clerk) and was not solely dependent on the farm for his livelihood.

Large-scale farming ceased after Kingsbury's death in 1919. Like many other properties in rural New Hampshire, the farmstead functioned as a summer camp for the New York crowd. The forests were harvested for commercial purposes and then the field and wood lots were allowed to revert to brush and second-growth forests.

Criterion C: Architectural Design & Tradition

The two-story brick house that is the central feature of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm represents a vernacular architectural tradition found in southern New Hampshire and southern Maine in the first half of the 19th century. Although a builder for the Buckminster-Kingsbury brick house has not been identified, the overall massing and architectural treatment suggest an artisanal tradition that extended well beyond Roxbury.

The dominant features of the particular vernacular style are the broad gable end with a roofline that extends to the midpoint of the second floor and the wide entry bay at the center of the first floor. At the Buckingham-Kingsbury house, the east gable end facing the road has a wide, slightly recessed entrance surrounded by sidelights and a rectangular transom in the Federal/Greek Revival style. The 6/6 windows on each floor are vertically aligned and consistently sized, but stacked in a pyramidal formation (four on the first floor, three on the second floor, one in the gable end).

The Buckminster-Kingsbury house has a somewhat formal Federal-style appearance on the primary (east) elevation and a suggestion of the Greek Revival style in the "eyebrow" half-windows under the north and south eaves. Other vernacular houses with the same basic geometry could be ornamented with more Greek Revival or Gothic Revival elements to suit the taste of the owner.

The origins and distribution of this distinctive architectural tradition have not yet been studied in detail, but its regional popularity is confirmed by visual reconnaissance in New Hampshire and Maine.

Since 1960

With the completion of Interstate 91 along the Connecticut River Valley and the improvement of major arteries east and west, the rural areas around Keene became the focus of suburban development.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm
Section number 8 Page 8 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

Roxbury's relative isolation, steep topography and lack of municipal amenities discouraged large-scale residential or commercial development, but a new generation of farmers and homesteaders fostered appreciation for Roxbury's natural resources and history.

The 200-acre Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm was acquired by Robert and Cheryl Burroughs in 1984 and subsequently subdivided. The current 13.1-acre parcel that contains the old farmstead (designated Lot #3) was sold to the current owner in 1991. Despite the reduced size, the farm still supports chickens, sheep, apple orchards and maple sugaring. These and other products from local farms are marketed in Keene through the Hannah Grimes Marketplace, a retail outlet established by the current owner of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm and named after the first woman to live at the farmstead.

The nomination of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm to the National Register of Historic Places will recognize the historical and architectural significance of the property to the town of Roxbury and encourage continued maintenance and preservation of the farmhouse and related buildings.

¹¹ Cheshire County Deeds, Book 1060, page 194 (April 27, 1984) and Plans – Cab. 11, Drawer 6-647 (June 20, 1991).

¹² Cheshire County Deeds, Book 1379, page 0408 (August 16, 1991).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm
Section number 9 Page 1 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm
Section number 9 Page 2 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

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BUCKMINSTER-KINGSBURY FARM

Name of Property

ROXBURY, CHESHIRE COUNTY, NH

County and State

Acreage of Property 13.1					
Acreage of Property 13.1	_				
UTM References See continuation sheet. (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)					
1. Zone 18 Easting 727415 Northing 4761870		3. Zone 18	Easting 727510	Northing 4761720	
2. Zone 18 Easting 727550 Northing 4761850		4. Zone 18	Easting 727370	Northing 4761760	
_ See continuation sheet					
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)		see continuation sheets			
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)					
11. Form Prepared By					
name/title Gregory Farmer, Heritage Preservation Cons	ultant				
organization Agricola Corporation	date Se	ptember 2011			
street & number PO Box 861	tele	phone 413-592-3	3875		
city or town Chicopee state MA		1014-0861			
Additional Documentation					
Submit the following items with the completed form	:				
Continuation Sheets					
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the A sketch map for historic districts and properties has			erous resources.		
Photographs - Representative black and white photographs	graphs of	the property.			
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any addition	al items)				
Property Owner					
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)					
name Mary Ann Kristiansen					
street & number 80 Houghton Ledge Rd.		telephone 603-2	09-0720		
	tate NH				

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.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Boundary Description

Beginning at a point on the west side of Houghton Hill Rd., running northwest approx. 1201.47 ft., then running northeast approximately 457 ft., then running southeast approximately 937.7 feet to Houghton Hill Rd., then running southwest along the west side of Houghton Hill Rd. approximately 519 ft. to the point of beginning, enclosing an area of 13.1 acres with the buildings thereon.

Boundary justification

The rectangular boundary is the same as the property line for the single 13.1-acre parcel known as Lot 3 of the Burroughs subdivision, according to the plan prepared by Connecticut Valley Land Services, Inc. and filed at the Cheshire (NH) County Registry of Deeds, July 31, 1991.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Property Owners Page 1 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

Owner:

Mary Ann Kristiansen 80 Houghton Ledge Rd. Roxbury, NH 03431 Tel. 603-209-0720

(end of Property Owner list)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Page 1 Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

Photographer: Gregory Farmer

Date: November 2010

Digital Files: Agricola Corporation, Chicopee, MA

Photo

- Photo 0001: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking west from Houghton Ledge Rd., showing the east elevation of the Farmhouse (A), the sentinel maples in the foreground, the Sugarhouse (D) at left and the Tool Shed (2) in the center background.
- 2. Photo 0002: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking northwest, showing the south and east elevations of the Farmhouse (A), the Pool House (6) at center, and the Barn/Garage (B) at right.
- 3. Photo 0003: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking southwest, showing the east and north elevations of the Farmhouse (A) and attached ells (A1 & A2).
- Photo 0004: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking southeast, showing the north and west elevations of the Farmhouse (A) and attached ells (A1 & A2), and the Tool Shed (2) at right.
- Photo 0005: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking northwest, showing the south and east elevations of the Farmhouse (A) and attached ells (A1 & A2), with the Barn/Garage (B) in the background at right.
- 6. Photo 0006: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking northeast from behind the house, showing the west and south elevations of the Barn/Garage (B).

Figures

- A. United State Geological Survey, Monadnock Quadrangle 1936 (detail northwest corner) showing the location of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, 80 Houghton Ledge Rd., Roxbury, NH
- B. Subdivision Plat prepared for Robert & Cheryl Burroughs (1991) showing the location of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, 80 Houghton Ledge Rd., Roxbury, NH
- C. Annual Picnic at E. Kingsbury's Grove, Roxbury, Aug. 7, 1884. Photo by J.A. French from the collection of the Cheshire County Historical Society, Keene, NH.
- D. Sketch Plan and Key to Photographs, based on the 1991 land survey with annotations (2011).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

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Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH



Photo 0001: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking west from Houghton Ledge Rd., showing the east elevation of the Farmhouse (A), the sentinel maples in the foreground, the Sugarhouse (D) at left and the Tool Shed (2) in the center background.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Page 3

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

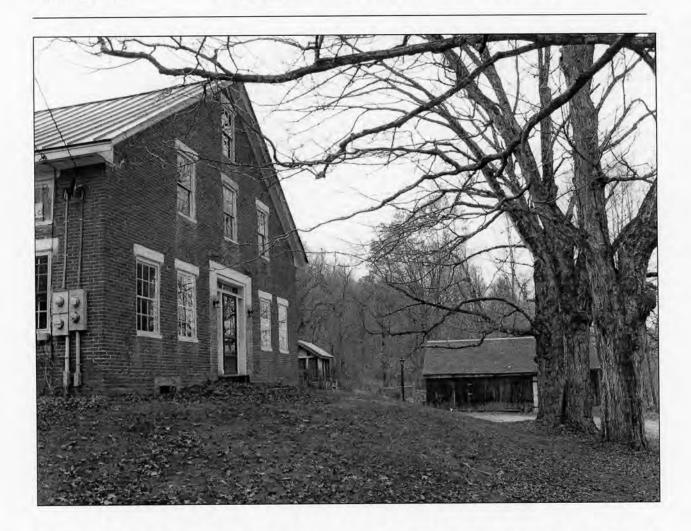


Photo 0002: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking northwest, showing the south and east elevations of the Farmhouse (A), the Pool House (6) at center, and the Barn/Garage (B) at right.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Page_4_

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH



Photo 0003: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking southwest, showing the east and north elevations of the Farmhouse (A) and attached ells (A1 & A2).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Page_5_

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH



Photo 0004: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking southeast, showing the north and west elevations of the Farmhouse (A) and attached ells (A1 & A2), and the Tool Shed (2) at right.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Page 6

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH



Photo 0005: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking northwest, showing the south and east elevations of the Farmhouse (A) and attached ells (A1 & A2), with the Barn/Garage (B) in the background at right.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Page 7

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

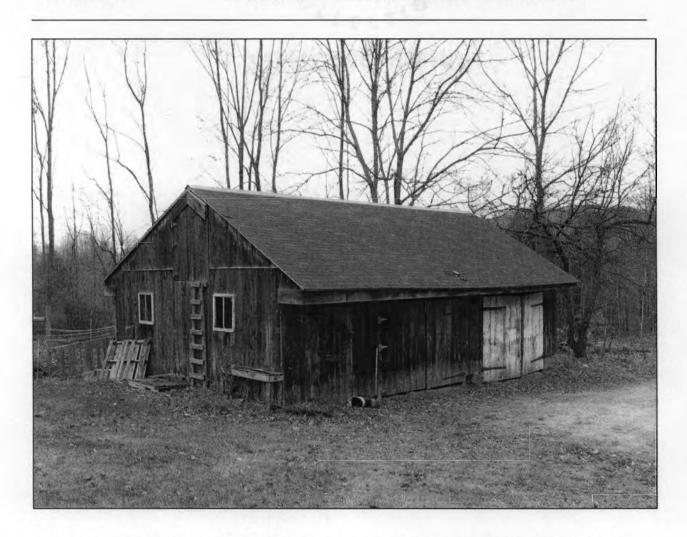


Photo 0006: View of the Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, looking northeast from behind the house, showing the west and south elevations of the Barn/Garage (B).

New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources - Photo Submission Form

National Register nomination:

Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm

80 Houghton Ledge Rd.

Roxbury, Cheshire County, NH

About the digital files:

Camera Used (make, model): CANON PowerShot A570IS (7.1 megapixels)

Resolution of original image capture (camera setting including resolution and file format):

JPEG image, 3072 x 2304 pixels, fine resolution, 2.2-3.1 MB

Date of Photos: November 2010

File names:

NH_Roxbury_CheshireCty_Buckminster_001.jpg NH_Roxbury_CheshireCty_Buckminster_002.jpg NH_Roxbury_CheshireCty_Buckminster_003.jpg NH_Roxbury_CheshireCty_Buckminster_004.jpg NH_Roxbury_CheshireCty_Buckminster_005.jpg NH_Roxbury_CheshireCty_Buckminster_006.jpg Exterior view, east elevations
Exterior view, south & east elevations
Exterior view, east & north elevations
Exterior view, north & west elevations
Exterior view, south & east elevations
Exterior view, barn (west & south sides)

About the prints:

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Paper brand & type: EPSON Ultra-Premium Photo Paper (glossy)

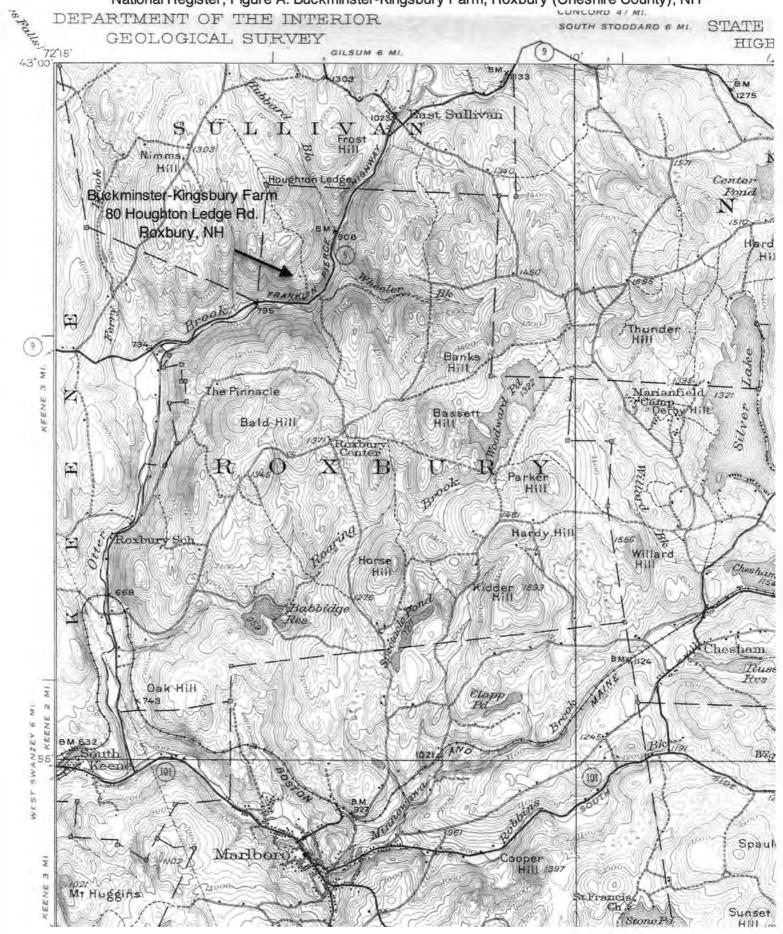
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Signature: (Sign below to confirm that the information provided here is true and accurate.)

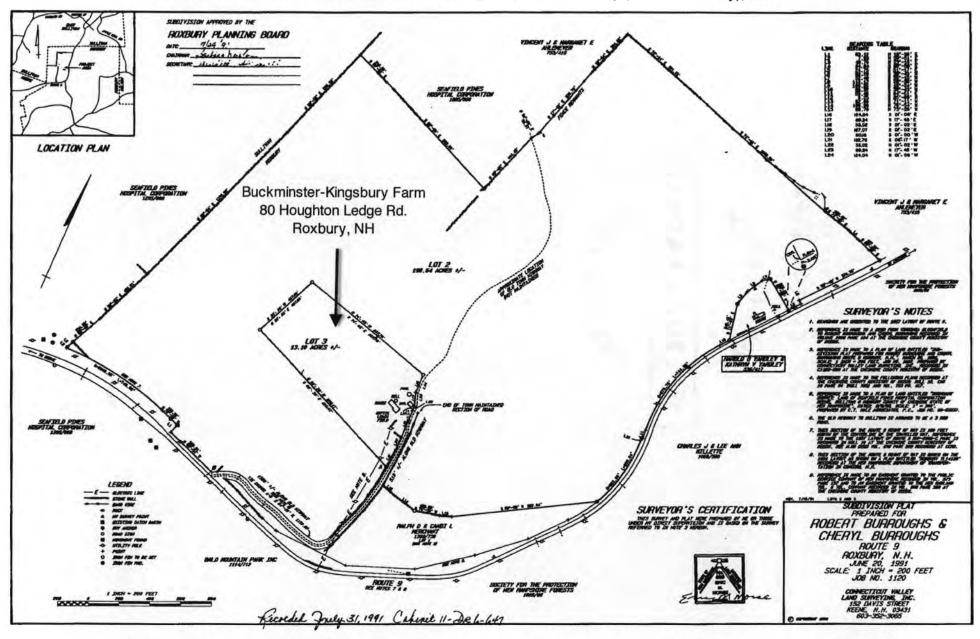
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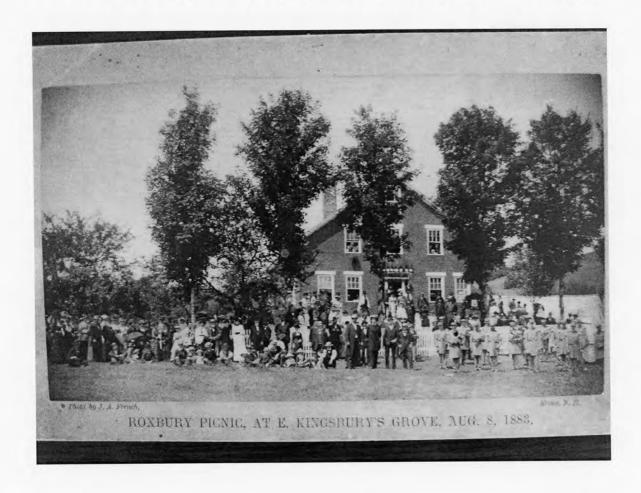
National Register, Figure A: Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, Roxbury (Cheshire County), NH

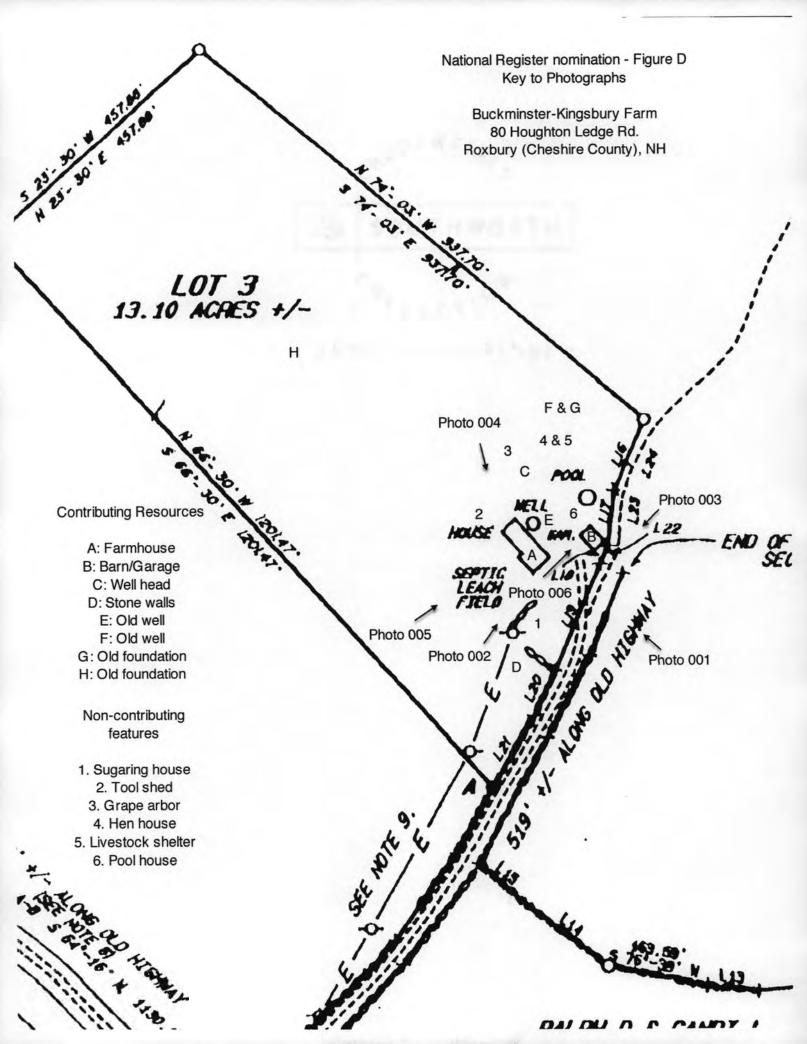


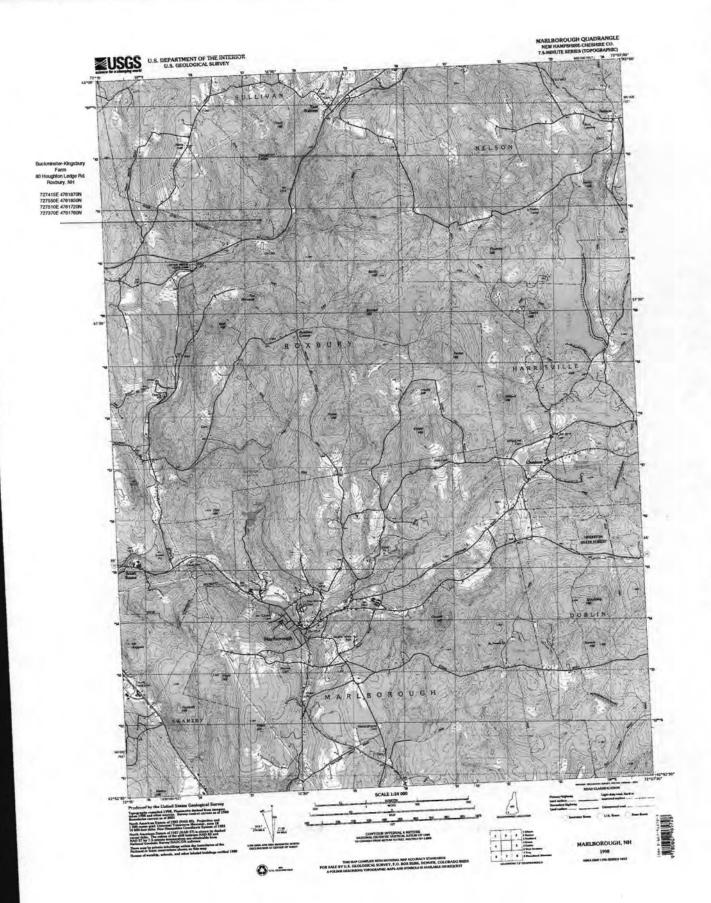
National Register nomination, Figure B: Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, Roxbury (Cheshire County), NH



National Register nomination: Figure C Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, 80 Houghton Ledge Rd., Roxbury (Cheshire County), NH







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION	
PROPERTY BuckminsterKingsbu NAME:	ıry Farm
MULTIPLE NAME:	
STATE & COUNTY: NEW HAMPSHIRE,	Cheshire
DATE RECEIVED: 11/18/11 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/27/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/12/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/03/12
REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000964	MAN
REASONS FOR REVIEW:	
OTHER: N PDIL: N PE	ANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N ERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N LR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N	
RETURNRE	EJECT 12-30-11 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:	
Т	Entered in The National Register of Historic Places
RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER_	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comm	ments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N
If a nomination is returned to nomination is no longer under of	



Buckminster-Kingebury Farm, Roxbury, NH - Photo 0001



Buckminster-Kingsbury Farm, Roxbury, NH . photo 0002





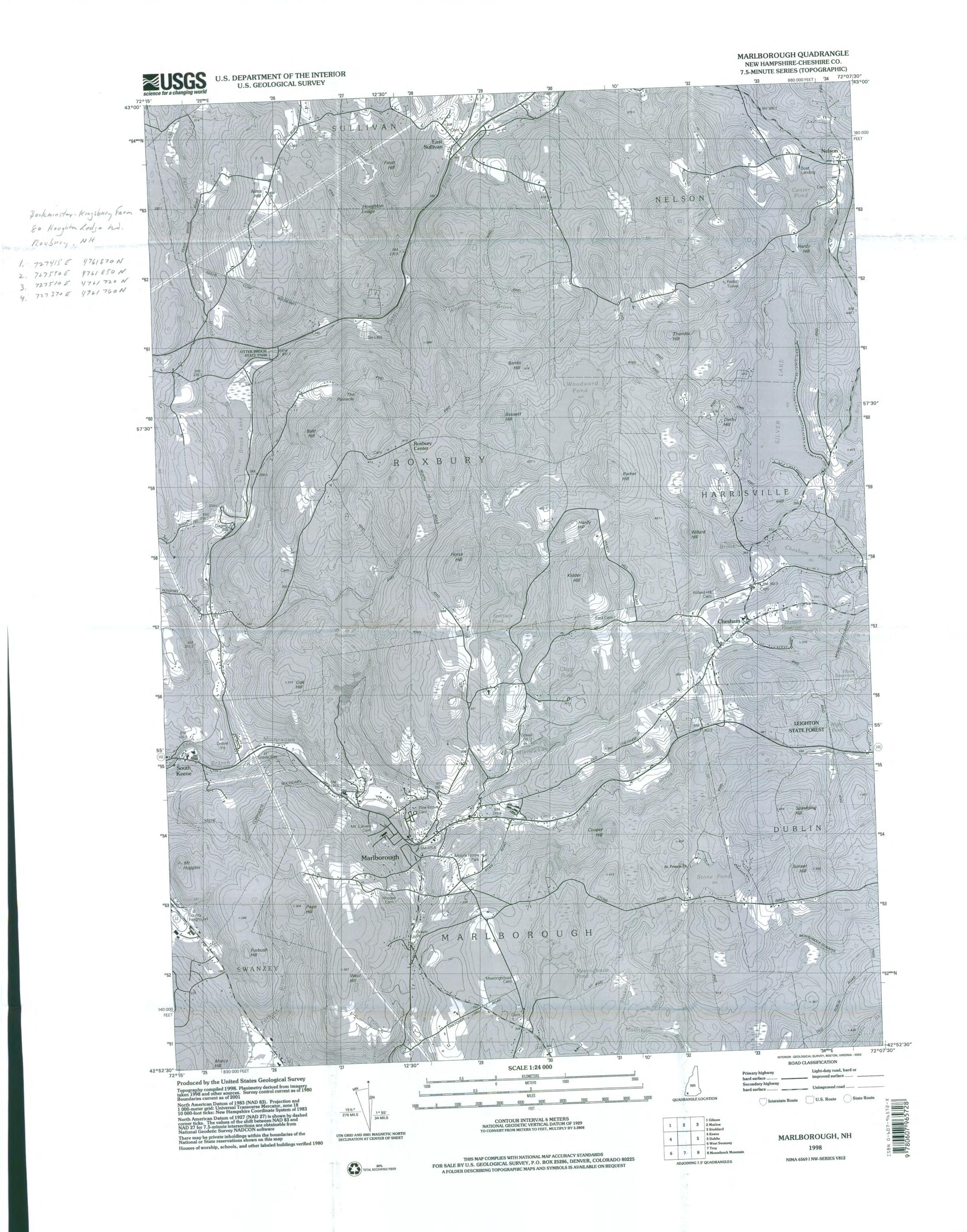
Buckminster - Kingsbury Varm, Koxbury, N4 . photo 0004



Buckminster - Kingsbury Farm, Roxbury, NH . Photo 0005



Buckminster - Kingsbury Farm, Roxbury, NH. Photo 0006



North = 16,724, South = 16,758, Fast = 22,786, West = 22,785, D1 = 28,274, D2 = 28,274