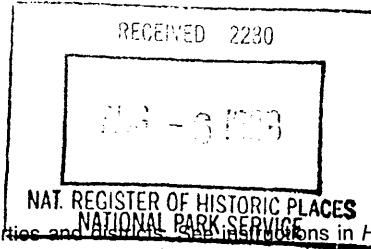


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 an 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 Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
other names/site number Marshland Farm, The Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm

2. Location

street & number 64 Dewey's Mill Road  not for publication  
city or town Hartford  vicinity  
state Vermont code VT county Windsor code 027 zip code 05059

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.)  
Elsa Dilbertson National Register Specialist July 31, 1998  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Vermont State Historic Preservation Office  
State of 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 commenting 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.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
Edson H. Beall 9.3.98

Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Name of Property

Windsor County, VT  
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)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
4		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(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**

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

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

DOMESTIC/hotel  
OTHER/storage

**7. Description**

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

No Style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete  
walls weatherboard  
roof asphalt  
other tin  
wood

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Agriculture
- Social History
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1793 - 1948

**Significant Dates**

1793  
c.1815  
c.1880

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**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 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm files, Hartford

Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Name of Property

Windsor County, VT  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 5.41

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

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 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 Deborah Doyle-Schechtman  
organization ALA date May 30, 1996/1997  
street & number 11 Waterman Hill telephone (802) 296-7345  
city or town Quechee state VT zip code 05059

**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 Rodger Perry  
street & number 64 Dewey's Mill Road telephone (802) 295-3133  
city or town Quechee state VT zip code 05059

**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 to amend existing 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 Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Windsor Co., VT

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### Description:

The Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House, a working farm complex until 1968, is situated on a gentle rise on the north side of Dewey's Mill Road, opposite the point where the Ottauquechee River meets Dewey's Mill Pond, and about a quarter of a mile from U.S. Route 4. The property consists of a 1793 Georgian plan farmhouse (#1), a c. 1870 cow barn (#2), a c. 1880 wagon shed and hen house (#3), a c. 1880 board and batten corn barn (#4), and a c. 1880 horse barn, featuring a square cupola with arched formed louvers (#5). The 5.41 acre farmstead is surrounded by forest and pasture divided by wooden fences to the east and a natural embankment to the west. The landscaped lawn includes specimen trees and informal gardens. The property retains largely in tact its integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The farmhouse (#1), referred to by the locals in numerous historic accounts as the *Baronial Mansion*, was built by Colonel Joseph Marsh, Vermont's first Lieutenant Governor, in 1793. This south-facing building is flanked on the west by woodlands, on the north by outbuildings, on the east by open pasture, and on the south by a lawn dotted with a variety of trees. The 2 1/2 story, gable roofed, 5 x 2 bay, post and beam framed (with brick nogging) clapboard main block is of Georgian plan. Connected to the northern end of the main block are two clapboard blocks. One is a 2 bay, 2 1/2 story gable roofed kitchen ell noted for the second story recessed porch incorporated into the western facade. The other, a former woodshed, is two stories with a gable roof. A 2 1/2 story, 7 x 2 bay, clapboard, gable roofed addition, designed by Boston architect Angelo Petrozelli, was attached to the eastern facade of the former woodshed in 1979.

A partial screen of deciduous and coniferous trees follows the contours of both the road and the southern most boundary of the property, and a bank of both deciduous and coniferous trees grace the western property line. Haying fields lie beyond the outbuildings to the north, and a spring laden pasture defines the eastern edge of the property.

The house itself is set back from Dewey's Mill Road approximately 90 feet. The main block is oriented parallel to the road, and the connected series of two lesser blocks, plus an addition, extends respectively northward and eastward from the rear.

The building is surrounded by a circular driveway, the eastern portion being original to the house. The western section of the driveway cuts through the old dooryard, connecting in an arch to the original northern portion near the hen house/wagon shed (#3). Both the western and northern parcels are wide enough to provide parking for inn guests and staff.

A short distance across the top of the driveway arch, behind the farmhouse, is the cow barn (#2) with attached horse barn (#5) extending off its northeastern end. Directly across the extended driveway from the cow barn is the hen house/wagon shed (#3), and just north of it the corn barn (#4).

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Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Windsor Co., VT

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The grounds of the property are informally landscaped with a variety of trees and shrubs, including lilac bushes planted by Marion Marsh during the second decade of the nineteenth century. Mature apple trees stand just below the southeast and southwest corners of the main block. The covered well for the property lies slightly north of the main block's southwest corner.

In 1960, all of the buildings belonging to this farmstead were either moved out of the flood plain and within the historic parcel, or buried in place. Such measures were undertaken in order to save the house and its significant outbuildings from being completely destroyed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hartland Dam Project. W.B. Hill of Tilton NH, the company responsible for relocating the S.S. Ticonderoga and various other historic edifices to the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, VT, was in charge of the venture. A 1960 photograph in the Hartford Historical Society files clearly depicts the moving process. Wooden cribs were used to elevate jacks, and to support the long planks on which they sat. The house was then moved along those planks to its new foundation.

The house (#1), now sits nine feet higher than it once did, and lies fifteen feet north, and eighty-four feet west of its original location. The cow barn (#2) was moved only a few feet to the west, and also elevated to keep it out of the flood plain. The ell to this cow barn, attached to the north end at ground level, was buried where it stood. The hen house/wagon shed (#3), occupies its original location on the western side of the property, northwest of the house, and opposite the cow barn. Directly behind the cow barn, to the north, is the old corn barn (#4). The horse barn (#5) was attached to the cow barn (#2) at this time.

Twenty-two to twenty-five thousand yards of fill were brought down from the upper meadow to cover three acres with an additional nine feet of earth. Beneath it lie the remnants of the ice house, the creamery, the granary, the shop, the sheep barn and the hog house. All were buried in their original locations. Future research may attach archeological importance to the site, as the buildings which were buried bear witness to pertinent agricultural practices of the nineteenth and twentieth century.

The orientation, setting and general environment of the current farmstead are comparable to those of its historic location, and compatible with the property's significance. The property retains largely in tact its integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Windsor Co., VT

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**1. Colonel Joseph Marsh House; 1793, c. 1815, c. 1850, 1960, 1979, 1984, contributing.**

**Exterior:**

The house built by Colonel Joseph Marsh in 1793 has a 2 1/2 story, 5 x 2 bay clapboard, gable roofed main block of Georgian plan and vernacular Federal style. The house originally sat on fieldstone (with each stone set in an upright position), but due to the move in 1960, is currently atop a brick-faced poured concrete foundation. The frame of the house is of post and beam construction with brick nogging infill. The base of the exterior walls are sheathed with a wide, flat watertable which is capped by a protruding two inch wide wooden strip. This marks the transition between the watertable and the clapboards, sealing out water at this seam. The clapboards rise up the walls to the eaves. The sides of the gable ends meet the northern and southern facades of this block in seven-eighths inch thick vertical cornerboards molded with a bold 270° bead. These clapboards extend from the watertable upwards to the wide trim boards. The roof joins the long walls with an overhanging boxed eave which is embellished by a flat, wide trimboard surmounted by a shallow-molded, unadorned cornice. The southerly eaves of the gable walls end in a return. The northern eaves continue as an extension of the ell's overhang eaves. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Two interior chimneys of rectangular cross-section are situated between the first and second, and fourth and fifth bays. Originally, these chimneys had been made of fieldstone and packed with clay. They were replaced with brick during the 1960 move.

The recessed entrance, located on the southern facade, incorporates a six-panel door flanked on either side by two, three paned sidelights of equal dimensions. These are stacked over a same sized wooden panel at the bottom. The interior walls of the recess (to the left and right of the sidelights) are sheathed in identically proportioned wooden panels, as is the recess ceiling. All of these panels are painted, and appear to always have been so. The casing between the door and the sidelights, and the sidelights and the juxtaposed right angle paneling, are defined by narrow three inch pilasters molded in a double bead and flute profile. The exterior of the entrance is a decorative crown supported by a flat pediment and wide casings. Three-tier granite steps provide the approach to the entrance. An identical entry is asymmetrically located in the back section of the east gable end. Door, lights, paneling, molding, pediments, and steps are the same.

A photograph of the Porter family standing on the east lawn, which was taken sometime prior to Judge Porter's death in 1886 (the exact date is unknown), shows a less than full height entry porch with square fluted columns and pilasters supporting a flat roof over both formal entrances. Cornices with medallions and brackets were also evident. These porches seemed to be of Italianate style, and were probably constructed during the renovations ascribed to the Honorable John Porter and his wife Jane, who owned the property from 1846 to 1900. The porches were removed during the 1960 move.

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Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Windsor Co., VT

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Historic documents indicate that the original doors, frames, and windows of the house were imported from Windsor, Connecticut. They were transported to the area by raft, up the Connecticut River, a journey which took fifteen days to complete. The central front door is paneled, and capped by a decorative pediment supported by pilasters.

The windows on the first, second and attic stories of the main block (as well as the ell and former woodshed) are 6/6 double hung sash with one-and-one quarter inch muntins. There is an entablature with a simple frieze at the top of each window. The narrow molded casings flanking the exterior of the sash hold old hardware for hanging shutters. The windows on the first and second stories have contemporary aluminum combination storm sash installed on the exterior. Reproduction (plastic) shutters are mounted to the clapboards, just outside the window casing. Storm sash, and shutters are absent on all attic windows.

Extending northward from the main block is the 2 1/2 story, 2 x 2, clapboard, gable roofed kitchen ell. The windows, trim, clapboard, eave overhang, and cornice details on the eastern facade are identical to the main block. Evidence in the attic of both the main block and the ell suggest that the ell was added after the main block was built. The ell is ascribed to Daniel Marsh, Esq., the sixth of the Colonel's twelve children, and the individual who inherited the property after Joseph Marsh's death in 1811.

The western side of the first floor has a large 21 paned center window flanked by two 6/6 double hung sash with one and one quarter inch muntins.

The second floor of the ell contains an area of enclosed living spaces below the east side of the roof ridge. Along the western side of the second floor is an open porch supported by square columns. This was added in 1984. Marion Marsh, Daniel's wife, had used the glassed-in porch which originally occupied this space to raise silkworms during the early decades of the nineteenth century. The original was removed during the 1960 relocation.

A brick chimney centers on the ridge line of the ell, accommodating the two original cooking hearths.

Running north-south beyond the kitchen ell is the 2 story, 2 x 1 bay gable roofed attached former woodshed. Its architectural features, including siding, trim, windows, and roofing material are identical to the ell and main block. A 1 1/2 story gable standing seam roofed, clapboard addition dominates the western facade. Built in 1984, with its ridge line running from east to west, it incorporates a modern entry, foyer, and inn lobby. The gable end contains a door and a large, 21 paned picture window on the first floor, topped by a 6/6 window in the center of the second story.

To the east of the former woodshed is a modern 2 1/2 story, 7 x 2 bay gable roofed wing built in the style and proportion of the main block. Constructed in 1979, its clapboards, trim, windows, roof-pitch, cornice, and other detailing were chosen to match the main block. The



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Windsor Co., VT

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second floor of the east gable end contains a Palladian window. This section has an asphalt shingled roof, is on a poured concrete foundation, and is of balloon construction. A brick chimney protrudes through the center of the ridge line. There is a patio with a seasonal awning on its southern facade, facing the river and the mill pond. The first floor contains a public dining room, a commercial kitchen, a meeting room, and two guests rooms. The second floor houses five guest rooms and a hallway.

### INTERIOR:

The interior of the main block conforms to the typical Georgian style floor plan. The first and second floors each have two rooms on either side of the original central staircase (complete with cupboard beneath the treads). The walls are plaster and lath.

The hand-hewn rafters (containing butterfly headed iron nails), wide plank floor boards (anchored with square and oval iron nails), and the vestiges of roofing visible in the attic over the front portion of the main block all suggest that this area was the original portion of the house, and the only section built by Colonel Joseph Marsh.

Early hand-wrought hardware can be found on many of the interior doors. Period molding surrounds most of the original windows and the four original fireplaces in this block.

Remnants of quality stencil work in the original parlors and hallways have been identified by stencil expert Jessica Bond, of Dorset, VT. She attributes the detailing to an itinerant stenciler known simply as "The Borderman." His earliest work has been dated 1814, so it is likely that the adornments were commissioned by Marion Marsh, the wife of Daniel Marsh, Esq. "The Borderman's" work is known to exist in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont, and a sample of it can be found in the collection of the Shelburne Museum, in Shelburne, VT.

The three first floor rooms of the kitchen ell were originally accessible from the western exterior, and through individual doorways which gave each chamber direct entry to another. The sitting room opened to the kitchen/dining room, which in turn opened on to the second kitchen. These doors were located on the northwestern end of each room. They were removed, presumably during the 1960 move. The area they once occupied is currently a narrow passageway connecting the main block with the inn foyer, and with the former woodshed. (Initially, there was no hallway on the first floor of the ell, as each room opened directly to the dooryard, or on to the next.) The space under the second floor porch was filled in to incorporate office space in 1984.

The second floor of the kitchen ell does possess a narrow hallway running through its center, with access to the porch on the western side and to three guest rooms on the eastern side. This

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too connects the main block with the former woodshed. The second floor of the ell can be accessed by using the original staircase in the main block, or from the stairway in the former woodshed. A staircase, which was reachable from an exterior door on the eastern side of the southern most portion of the kitchen ell, has been removed.

Only one of the two original fireplaces in the ell is in working order, and that is a large brick cooking fireplace in what is now Room 2. A beehive fireplace/oven was removed from what is now Room 1 during the 1979 renovations.

The woodshed, which is mentioned in the will of Daniel Marsh, Esq., is c. 1815. The lower level originally had space for 18-20 cords of wood, an open carriage bay in its northwestern corner, an ash pit, storage space, and most likely a privy. This area is now the common room of the inn. Its original beams are exposed, and the treads of the staircase leading to the second floor contain the spike marks of the loggers who lived upstairs during the early 1900's.

The second floor of the woodshed contained a large open room, a good sized finished room, and a privy. The big room could easily have held beds for the farm laborers, and the completed room would have offered more private quarters for the farm foreman. The dimensions of the two guest rooms which currently occupy the second floor are much the same as those of the original rooms.

### **2. The Cow Barn; c. 1870, 1960, contributing.**

#### **Exterior:**

The gable-front dairy barn, built c. 1870, had been constructed in the bank barn in style according to early photographs, and is approximately 100' x 50' in size. It is located across the driveway and parking area to the north of the farmhouse, facing south, and is currently painted red with white trim. The barn had originally been situated a short distance to the east, but was moved to its present location in 1960. The building took on many of the characteristics of a ground stable barn after its relocation and a change in the typography. A sign reading "Marshland" (the exact date of which is unknown) sits above the transom on the front gable end. The sign does appear in photos from 1959 and 1960. It may date back as far as John Bacon's ownership from 1903-1910, as he was a gentleman farmer, and the individual who gave Marshland Farm its name.

The 2 1/2 story post and beam cow barn is 5 x 7 bays and rests on a concrete foundation poured in 1960. The framing system in the 1 1/2 story hay loft under the roof reveals circular sawn timbers fitted together with traditional mortise and tenon joinery. The exterior walls were constructed by nailing vertical 8" x 12" wide boards to the frame as underlayment, then covering it with clapboard. The trim on the barn exterior is very simple, as are the

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Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House  
Windsor Co., VT

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cornerboards, window trim, and frieze. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. A long wooden louvered monitor is centered on the roof ridge, and is a quarter of the building length. The southern gable end possesses two 6/6 double hung sash in the peak, which resemble the windows in the farmhouse. A long, fixed 10/10 transom illuminates a loading door which opens on to the floor of the second story hay loft. Below, on the first floor, three windows and a door divide the facade into quarters. Each of the three windows consist of a pair of side by side 12 light sashes which are hinged at the bottom, open inward, and are separated by a wide flat mullion. The two paired sashes on the far sides of the eastern and western facade have aluminum combination storms attached. On both of the long walls, square 6/6 light sashes, which are hinged from the bottom and open inward, illuminate each of the bays of the former first floor milking parlor. There are seven such windows on the west side, and five on the east. In addition, there are three small square hinged doors on the west side, just under the eaves, at the height of the hayloft knee walls: two in a pair at the rear of the barn, and one at the front. The front one looks like the clapboard and sheathing were cut out to form a square opening, and the removed wood was simply hinged in place; whereas, the two rear hatches are made of vertical boards, and properly framed in flat stock. The east side of the barn also has two hooded fans exiting the second floor knee wall.

The north gable end of the barn has a traditional sliding barn door made of vertical tongue and groove planks hung from a track, and is the width of the building's center bay. There are two 6/6 double hung sash near the peak of this gable end.

### **Interior:**

The first floor of the barn consists of a poured concrete floor configured to take four rows of dairy cows in stanchions for a herd of 80 to 100 head. State of the art for the 1960's, the floor plan allowed two rows of 20 to 25 cows to face each other on the far right and left of the building, on either side of a central walkway. The paired rows were spaced to allow distribution of feed and hay, and to ease milking. A depressed manure trough was situated at the cows' rears, and ran the length of the barn. A double-wide center bay was designed to accommodate a tractor or other machinery.

Three horse stalls were added to the first floor of the eastern bay in 1972.

The cow barn is currently used for storage.

### **3. Wagon Shed / Hen House; c. 1880, contributing.**

This ten-bay wagon shed and hen house, with a symmetrical 1 1/2 story gable roof runs in a south to north direction. It is the only outbuilding in its initial location, and sits to the west of the cow barn, about 160 feet north of the house. The foundation consists of posts sunk into

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the ground, or resting on rocks. The south gable end and the east wall of the first bay are sheathed with clapboard, and the other bays are open.

The southernmost bay has a single door flanked on each side by a single 6 pane windows, which are identical to one of the 6/6 sashes from the main house. This first floor room held the hen house. At the second floor level there are four square openings with protruding flat curved ledge roosts. This bay is the only one with a ceiling dividing the space into two stories. There is a 6/6 sash in the center of the upper portion of the gable end. The roof members are sheathed with random width pine boards, and covered with standing seam galvanized metal. Six of the remaining 9 bays are open for storage use and have a square cut header over each entrance. The last three bays had been converted to a garage area at some point, and are more or less enclosed. The entrances to bays 7 and 9 have been boarded up using plywood sheets. Bay 8 is open. Its opening had been outfitted for an overhead door, but it is no longer in evidence.

#### **4. Corn Barn; c. 1880, contributing.**

Corn was always grown at the farm, so the barn may have replaced an earlier crib, or the Porters may have simply built this structure during their ownership. This building was moved to its current location, northwest of the cow barn, in 1960.

The corn barn is one story, with a gable roof. It is sheathed in softwood which is nailed in a vertical board and batten configuration, and painted red on the eastern and southern facade. The northern and western facades are unpainted and weathered. The building was constructed as a pole barn, and as such is supported by posts which are sunk into the earth and are situated around the perimeter. These form both the foundation and the frame of this structure.

The gable roof is covered with crimped galvanized steel. The southern gable end has one entrance with a rectangular wooden, two panel door, arch-topped panels, two fixed windows, and a 2 x 2 sash installed horizontally. The eastern facade has one wooden four panel door at its center, with two fixed 2 x 2 sash to the left of the door, and one 2 x 2 sash to its right.

The inside of the corn barn has wide plank floors with square nail heads, and exposed beams. The building is currently occupied by Wilderness Trails, an enterprise which offers outdoor recreational activities to inn guests.

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### **5. Horse Barn; c.1880, 1960, 1981, non-contributing.**

The 6 x 5 bay 2 1/2 story horse barn, measuring approximately 40' x 36', is of post and beam construction, and rests on a concrete foundation which was poured in 1960. The building, painted red with white trim, originally sat approximately eight feet from the northern end of the woodshed. It was attached to the northeastern end of the cow barn in 1960. The clapboard barn has an asphalt shingled gable roof with large boxed overhanging eaves and a prominent square cupola. The latter features four arch-framed ventilating louvers on the long sides, and three arch-framed louvers on the gable sides, with the feel of an Italianate belvedere.

The structure was extensively remodeled in 1981 as the innkeeper's residence. The reconstruction included south-facing skylights, a south wall full of windows for passive solar gain, and an entire reorganization of the interior. It is non-contributing due to these alterations.

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### Statement of Significance

Marshland Farm, with its main house, barns and shed, is one Hartford's significant early farm complexes. It has been the home of many locally prominent families, including Joseph Marsh (one of Hartford, Vermont's early settlers, and the state's first Lieutenant Governor) and the Honorable John Porter (an important figure in state and local politics and in the economic development of the area). The property is also significant because it demonstrates the broad historical patterns of diversified agricultural practices as they evolved from 1793-1947. Comprised of house (#1, 1793), cow barn (#2, c.1870) with attached horse barn (#5, c.1880), hen house/wagon shed (#3, c.1880), and corn barn (#4, c.1870), this 5.41 acres farmstead is located on Dewey's Mill Road, about a quarter of a mile from the center of the Village of Quechee, Town of Hartford, and across said road from the Ottauquechee River. In 1960, after the Army Corps of Engineers claimed the land for a dam project, the house and some of the outbuildings were moved back from the road to save them from condemnation. Those structures which did not survive the reclamation are buried on site under twenty-five thousand yards of fill. Despite these changes, the property retains its integrity of the design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The farmstead buildings and landscape clearly portray the evolution of Vermont agriculture over the past two hundred years, and relate directly to the agricultural theme outlined in the Vermont State Historic Preservation Plan. The farmhouse (#1, 1793), originally a classic Georgian plan, had an ell and woodshed added on to it (c.1815), two Italianate porticos attached to its formal entries (c. 1850) which were later removed, some slight alterations made to the second floor of the ell to accommodate elderly parents (1950), a new location by the fall of 1960, and was outfitted for an inn (1975, 1981, and 1984). The bank style barn (#2, c. 1870) was also moved in 1960, and took on the characteristics of a ground stable barn at that time, following the tradition of remodeling or combining barns over the years to suite changing needs and tastes. The hen house/wagon shed (#3, c. 1880) originally housed wagons, and eventually was utilized for heavier farm equipment (c. 1930). The corn barn (#4, c. 1880) surely replaced an earlier structure, as documents clearly indicate that corn had been raised on the property since 1793.

The history of the complex reflects the development of an influential farm in the Upper Connecticut River Valley from the period of settlement following the Revolutionary War. The Town of Hartford was chartered in 1761, and Quechee, one of its five remaining villages, in 1768. The Marsh family was among the first to be granted land here. What is now called the Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm was built in 1793 by the man who had been Vermont's first Lieutenant Governor (1778-1779; 1787-1790), Colonel Joseph Marsh.

A Town Proprietor, Marsh held numerous civic and state posts. In 1776, he received the commission of Colonel, a position which placed him in command of the Northern or Upper Regiment of Cumberland County. The following year he was a delegate to the convention in

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which the New Hampshire Land Grants west of the Connecticut River severed their ties with the Crown, and established themselves as an independent republic.

Marsh was a member of the 1777 convention which reviewed and adopted Vermont's Constitution in Windsor, VT. This document was the first of its kind to prohibit slavery and to grant universal manhood suffrage. In 1778, Marsh was appointed Vermont's first Lieutenant-Governor, serving under Governor Thomas Chittenden. He held the post the following year, when the Vermont motto, "Freedom and Unity," was assumed, and again from 1787- 1790. The Colonel's political offices also included: Hartford Representative to the General Assembly, Chief Judge of Windsor County Court, Chairman for the Committee on Safety, Chairman of the Court of Confiscation for Eastern Vermont, and Council Censor.

In 1793, at the age of sixty-seven, Marsh built a home "...opposite where the Quechee River breaks into little islands." Once completed, the Georgian plan house was referred to by the locals as the "Baronial Mansion." There were, at this time, approximately 500 acres associated with the property.

The farm he operated was, at the very least, self sufficient. He grew wheat in his fields, and corn on the river islands. The Colonel also used the timber on the farm for lumber and potash. The latter, a granular substance produced from wood ash and used in making soap, was in great commercial demand. Vermonter Samuel Hopkins developed the manufacturing process, and was awarded the first American patent, signed by George Washington, in 1790. Marsh, a man with a keen business sense, included an area for potash production when he built the farm complex.

His wife, Dorothy Mason Marsh, was a descendent of Charlemagne, Alfred the Great, Henry VIII, and approximately seven other sovereigns of Europe. Dorothy was said to have been a premiere hostess, as well as a woman of great physical beauty. Apparently, the latter was not a trait she passed on to her offspring, whom Chancellor Walworth of New York referred to rather curtly as "...not at all handsome..."

Happily, comeliness was not a criteria used in measuring the lifetime accomplishments of the Marshs' twelve children. Two sons, Charles and William, are of particular interest because of their contributions to the formation of both the republic and of the nation.

Charles studied law after graduating from Dartmouth College in 1786. Considered to be one of the best legal minds in the state, he was appointed District Attorney of Vermont in 1797 by President George Washington. Charles was also a member of the US Congress, a Trustee of Dartmouth College, and the founder and the president of both the Vermont Bible Society and the American Education Society. Perhaps his greatest and most far-reaching achievement, however, was the influence he had over his son, George Perkins Marsh, "the father of the American ecological movement." Charles Marsh lived with his family in Woodstock, Vermont. The house they occupied is part and parcel of the current Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller

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mansion, which was designated a National Historic Landmark on June 11, 1967. The house and attached property comprise the site of Vermont's first National Park, the legislation for which was passed on August 26, 1992.

William Marsh, the Colonel's youngest son, resided in Pawlet, Vermont. He had neither a long list of credentials after his name, nor any offspring to immortalize him. What he did possess was the inherent sense of justice demonstrated by his father and brother. This attribute manifested itself when William became one of the pioneers in the anti-slavery movement. During his lifetime, he donated a reported \$25,000 to further the cause, and wrote many articles advocating Abolition.

Daniel Marsh, Esq. acquired the farm around the time of Joseph's death in 1811. He was a well respected farmer, and his methods were regarded as exemplary. Sheep raising became both popular and lucrative in Vermont with the arrival of the first Merinos in 1811, and Marsh had a flock of considerable size during his tenure at the farm. He also had an expansive apple orchard, and grew wheat, rye, and corn in his fields.

His wife, Marion Harper Marsh, cultivated silk worms in "the gallery" on the second floor of the ell. It is not known whether she undertook this endeavor to satisfy the demands of a hungry textile market, or to collect the bounty Vermont offered for such production, or to enhance the cloth she made for family garments. The latter, however, is suspected to be true, because Marion continued nurturing the cocoons and spinning the silk long after her counterparts had given up the practice.

Daniel and Marion Marsh raised their eight children here. James, their second son, was an author and educator, and is credited with having introduced Transcendental thought to America. He completed his translation of Bellerman's *Geography of the Scriptures* at the farm in December of 1822. He married Lucia Wheelock, the grand-daughter of Eleazar Wheelock, founder of Dartmouth College, in 1824. Two years after his wedding, James Marsh became the fifth President of the University of Vermont.

Leonard Marsh was born five years after his famous brother. He followed in James' footsteps, graduating from Dartmouth College in 1827. He too was an author and scholar, penning several pieces which challenged the institution of slavery. Leonard was also a physician, and sat on the faculty of the University of Vermont from 1855 to 1870.

Daniel Marsh, Esq. was, as his father before him, not only a very religious man, but a community minded one as well. In 1807, he preached the Election Sermon before the General Assembly in Montpelier. He was appointed the Town Clerk of Hartford in 1808, and in 1812, Town Treasurer.

Daniel Jr. obtained the farm upon his father, Daniel Esq.'s, death in 1829, and Marion was awarded the islands in the river. The structure, not atypical in those days, became a house



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divided. Portions of it, along with one-half of the well and one-third of the woodshed, were deeded to daughters Percy and Emily, "...so long as they may each remain unmarried." Marion was also allotted certain rooms, privileges and possessions. Daniel Jr. received half of his father's books, one bed and appropriate linens, the use of two-thirds of the apple orchard during his mother's lifetime, and that part of the house not deeded to either his mother or to his sisters.

A decade after his father's death, Daniel Jr. mortgaged the property, less twenty-three acres previously sold, to John Porter of Hartford. Their agreement stipulated that the \$3,000 mortgage would be repaid within five years of the signing. If not, Porter was at liberty to foreclose.

The conditions of the promissory note were never met, and the ownership of the farm transferred to Porter in or around 1845.

The Porters took possession of the property, complete with Widow Marsh in residence, in 1846. Percy had died two years before, and Emily had married. Marion remained in the house, with the new owners, until her death in 1851.

John Porter was born in Hartford, Vermont, in 1798. Well educated, he became a school teacher at the age of eighteen. In May of 1831, he married Jane Frances Foster. They had six children, two of whom died in infancy.

Porter's credentials are nothing short of impressive. He was one of the original stockholders of the Bank of Woodstock, President of the Ottauquechee Savings Bank, Director of the Vermont/Canada Railroad, member of the State Legislature and member of the State Senate. His list of public offices also include: Director of the Vermont State Prison, Commissioner (along with George Perkins Marsh and Norman Williams) to prepare and erect the state capitol in Montpelier, Superintendent of the state capitol's construction, and Probate Court Judge. The latter position he held for thirty-six years. Farming, however, had become his chief occupation, and he was very good at it.

When Porter acquired the Marsh family property, it consisted of approximately five hundred acres. He continued to grow corn and wheat on the premises, but eventually made a drastic change in his choice of livestock. This transition was due to the fact that in the 1840's, the Vermont wool market began to decline, due in part to the lowering of the Protective Tariff, and to the competition from the West which the railroads fostered. The farm, flanked as it was by two thriving woolen mills, may have prospered with sheep during the first portion of Porter's tenure, but by the mid-1800's a change of focus was in order if it was to survive.

The exact date of Porter's shift from sheep farmer to a breeder of cattle is unknown, but it is believed to have been sometime around 1870, when the cow barn was built. The Judge, with the help of farm manager, Charles F. Wood, son-in-law of hand-cuff inventor Joseph S. Bean,

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was raising strictly young cattle by 1880. According to the town's Individual List, there was not a sheep to be found at the farm that year.

Any changes made to the inside of the house between 1846 and the beginning of the twentieth century, however, are assumed to have been purely cosmetic. The basis for such a presumption is found in the following letter written by Jane Porter to Rev. Dwight W. Marsh in 1893.

Quechee, Vermont  
February 13, 1893

Mr. Marsh -

*Dear Sir:* Your letter to our town clerk, Ex.-Gov. Pingree of Hartford, Vt., is before me. He thought perhaps I might know something of the history of the Marsh family you mention. One volume of the town records of Hartford is lost, probably burned in some house where it had been borrowed, as was the habit in years past.

The reason Gov. Pingree referred to me for information is, that I live in the old Gov. Marsh place. He built the house which is a hundred years old this year. The rooms he lived in, have never been changed, even the cupboard where he had his rum ( a very temperate man too,) is just as it was a hundred years ago. This is a fine old place now, on the banks of the Quechee, surrounded by meadows, and the upland crowned with forest "Primeval." Not an axe has been laid at the foot of a tree except those that have outlived their generation, or a pine that was not growing *better*, with time, and towering fifty feet above its *fellows*. Mr. Porter my husband, bought the Gov. Marsh place in 1846.

I have been looking over the Marsh "Deeds," and as I took up one after the other of these timeworn documents what Longfellow thought, and expressed, came to me.

"We have no title deeds to house our lands;  
Owners and occupants of early date,  
From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands,  
And hold in mortmain *still*, their old estates."

I loved many younger members of the Marsh family, but the grave has closed over them, and I am walking the same floors, and looking on the same landscape. The name Elisha Marsh occurs often in the old deeds, and I think he and Abel sleep in our little cemetery. When warm weather comes I will go there, and look over the old headstones. I will try and find out more about those brothers. There is one man in town that is older than myself. I will see him. You probably never received so long a letter from an old woman. (82)

Respectfully Yours,  
Jane F. Porter

A 1909 *Landmark* advertisement describes the property as having nineteen rooms, which would support Jane Porter's assertion that she made no significant interior alterations during her tenure. In fact, one could argue that the house, ell, and woodshed remained basically intact until the early 1950's when Logan Dickie obtained the farm. According to Dickie, the only modifications he and his wife Kay made to the house prior to moving it involved refurbishing

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the ell's second story. That area was converted by the Dickies Jr. into an apartment for the Dickies Sr.

The Porters celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at the homestead on June 2, 1881. *The Standard*, the Woodstock, Vermont, newspaper, deemed it an interesting event, particularly because of the Porter's community standing. This article reports that, "Several hundred invitations were extended to friends in all parts of New England, embracing many of the most noted families and most distinguished men..." Judges, former Governors, and Senators arrived, quite literally, by the train load. The Porter's children were also in attendance, including son Charles, who served as Vermont's Secretary of State from 1885-1890.

As the Honorable John Porter died in 1886 intestate, the property was put up for auction. E.H. Carleton, acting as the agent for the Porter estate, sold the farm to Lyman and Caroline Leighton on July 2, 1901. The Leighton's, from Clinton, Massachusetts, purchased the property for \$14,000. They in turn, sold it two years later to Albert E. Leighton, also from Clinton, Massachusetts. The relationship between these Leightons is unknown.

The Leightons operated a sawmill on the property for approximately three years. The mill, located by the Stage Road which once divided the eastern pasture, was driven by a steam engine. All the lumber processed here came from trees on the property.

Turn of the century photographs suggest that this was a large operation, employing as many as seventeen men. Spiked boot marks imbedded in an old staircase at the back of the original ell indicate that the work crew was housed in the upper levels of the ell and woodshed .

On December 20, 1903, John Lement Bacon, a resident of White River Junction, Vermont, purchased the "Porter Farm" from the Leightons. He bought the property for a summer home, seeking a refuge from the demands of a banker's life in the nostalgic countryside, like so many of his generation. One writer summarized not only Mr. Bacon's intentions, but their impact on the state's perceptions by saying, "Only recently his inclination and love of rural economy led him to purchase, as a side issue, one of Hartford's best known estates to the development of which he has engaged in with all his wonted energy and zest. The estate is designed as a summer home and under his direction Vermont will likely find it in time a valued object lesson in all that pertains to the states agriculture."

Bacon's actions, and the rationale for them, illustrate how the context of "Seasonal Residents," identified in the "Tourism" theme of the Vermont Preservation Plan is linked with the "Farmstead" property type and the "Agriculture" theme in that plan. Not all of the owners to follow Bacon would be considered "Gentleman Farmers," but he was not alone in his approach. He is, however, the only seasonal person to have traveled six miles between his two residences.

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"Honest John Bacon," as the campaign speakers called him, was born in Chelsea, Vermont, on June 18, 1862. He began his banking career in 1881, immediately after graduating from St. Johnsbury Academy. Bacon came to White River Junction in 1886 to help organize the National Bank, and became its cashier once the financial institution was operational. In 1904, National Bank of White River Junction was the third largest establishment of its kind in the state.

Bacon was a Trustee of St. Johnsbury Academy, Treasurer of Orange County from 1884-1885, Treasurer of the Town of Hartford in 1889, and the Treasurer of the State of Vermont from 1898-1904. He was also a member of many civic organizations, including the Masons and the Oddfellows, and is credited with christening the farm "Marshland" in honor of Colonel Joseph Marsh.

In 1909, William Russell, agent for Bacon's estate, listed the property in a White River Junction newspaper called *The Landmark*. The house was described as having nineteen rooms and six fireplaces. The compendium of outbuildings, the "ample and never failing supply of spring water," the five hundred acres of land, and the eleven miles of American Wire Fence all gave credence to the ad's claim that Marshland was indeed an "ideal farm."

The attractive notice caught the eye of New Jersey resident Malcom W. Niven. He purchased the splendid property, minus a few acres, in May of 1910, for \$12,500. The Ottauquechee Savings Bank foreclosed on the farm five years later.

Hartford residents, Claude L. Alden and his wife Fanny, purchased the house and four hundred acres from the bank in June of 1915. They sold it to Nelson and Eliza Devins, of Lebanon, New Hampshire, in 1922. The Devins sold it three years later to a couple from Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, Stewart and Flora George.

In 1925, when the Georges moved in with their four children, Marshland had no electricity, indoor plumbing, or central heating. The situation was quickly remedied, however, with the installation of a bathroom, a kitchen sink, and two wood-burning furnaces in the basement.

George ran a dairy farm, and worked a herd of almost 100 Jerseys. He delivered fresh milk throughout Quechee and the village of Dewey's Mills by truck. Surplus went to the Buttrick Creamery in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

While the Georges were busy farming, fate was playing its hand in Buffalo, New York. Charles Dempster Marsh, the great-great-grandson of Colonel Joseph Marsh, was browsing through the public library one afternoon, when he happened across a book which immediately piqued his curiosity. The volume was entitled *John Marsh of Hartford*, and it contained, not surprisingly, the history of the Marsh family.

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Charles Dempster Marsh was intrigued by the story. So much so in fact, that he and his wife Rita began making weekend treks to Vermont to try and find the old homestead.

On April 4, 1942, after years of travel and months of negotiation, Charles and Rita Marsh purchased Marshland from the Georges.

Marsh, then vice-president of McCreery's Department Store in New York City, divided his time between his Tarrytown, New York, home, his job, and the farm. Merle and Gladys Alderich kept things at Marshland going with the aid of three hired hands. They followed in the George's footsteps, continuing the dairy operation, but eliminating the milk route. Marshland contributed to the WW II war effort by raising thirty head of Herefords, and a very large victory garden.

Shortly after the war, Marsh decided to go into the retail business for himself, and thus purchased a department store in Detroit called Demery's. Ultimately, this move required that he sell the family homestead and related properties.

Marshland was purchased by Clifton and Kathleen Goodwin of Lebanon, New Hampshire, in November of 1948. The Goodwins divorced not long after. The titles were transferred to Kathleen on July 13, 1953. In the fall of 1954, she married Logan Dickie. The Dickies, like John Porter, were basically breeders, and raised nearly 100 head of Jerseys on the property.

In 1959, the Army Corps of Engineers condemned those properties along the Ottauquechee River which they felt would be negatively impacted by the impending Hartland Dam Project. Marshland was on the Corps' acquisition list, and purchased by the government.

The landowners whose properties had been confiscated were given the option of buying back their homes at a very nominal fee, if they chose to move the structures to higher ground.

The Dickies reclaimed not only the facilities, but the property itself, vowing to move the buildings out of the flood plain. To do this, they had to elevate the house, and any out-buildings they intended to use, above the mandated high water mark. W.B. Hill of Tilton, New Hampshire, the company responsible for relocating the S.S. Ticonderoga and various edifices to the Shelburne Museum, in Shelburne, Vermont, was put in charge of the project.

Twenty-two to twenty-five thousand yards of fill were brought down from the upper meadow to cover three acres with an additional nine feet of earth. The main house and ell were moved in two parts, using cut timbers to form the cribs which accommodated the jacks. The house (#1) was transported eighty-four feet west of its original location, and fifteen feet north of it, placing it squarely in the old dooryard.

The one-story ell on the cow barn was demolished and buried. The horse barn (#5, and now the innkeepers living quarters) was carried from its primary position and attached to the main

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section of the cow barn. The ice-house, erroneously rumored to have been a station on the Underground Railroad, was destroyed, as was the granary at the end of the horse barn.

One bulldozer and a pan were used to carry out the scheme, which took the entire summer of 1960 to complete. When the dust settled, the house and remaining outbuildings were four and one half feet above the high water mark, one and one half feet more than the government required.

The Delaware based Quechee Lakes Corporation represented by John L. Davidson, purchased the farm, consisting of approximately four hundred acres, from the Dickies in October of 1968. The house became the first of many Q.L.C. office locations throughout the village.

By 1975, the demand for overnight accommodations in Quechee had drastically increased. To met the need, the Corporation converted the farmhouse into a seventeen room inn which served a continental breakfast. The Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm opened with a gala celebration on March 31, 1975. Over 200 guests attended the reception, including Mrs. Frank Osmer, of Tenafly, New Jersey, the great-great-great granddaughter of Colonel Joseph Marsh.

The Quechee Lakes Corporation sold the Inn on March 31, 1978 to Barbara and Michael Yaroschuk. The property consisted of approximately five and a half acres, and contained five buildings at that time.

Baron Properties Two Limited Partnership obtained the Inn from the Yaroschuks in 1985, and sold it three years later to Baron Capital Corporation. Baron, a privately held company, owned and operated a number of inns throughout New England.

Rodger Perry, of Simsbury, Connecticut, purchased the property through Perry Hospitality, Inc. in January of 1995.

The Inn itself is in excellent physical condition. Attention is paid to the original detail in all repair and maintenance. Work on conserving and restoring the outbuildings has begun, and will continue as funding allows.

Marshland embodies not only the history of farming in the Ottauquechee River Valley, but it also mirrors the predominant industry of the state at almost any given time. It was a self-supporting entity in 1793, and a flourishing sheep farm in the early decades of the nineteenth century. It became a breeding farm in the 1870's, and a lumber yard and sawmill at the beginning of the twentieth century. In 1903 it became a summer residence run by a gentleman farmer, and later it was known throughout the region as a successful dairy farm, a distinction it carried for over forty years. Since 1975, Marshland has been part of the hospitality industry, providing tourists with a good meal, and a warm bed, within a historic context.

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### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the Marsh, Joseph and Daniel, House is shown on the accompanying map entitled "Tax Map of Hartford, Vermont," which was reviewed in June of 1996. Marshland encompasses lot 30, Tax Map 12 B. The boundary is further described in the current deed as registered in Book 219, page 1, January 27, 1997, located in the Hartford Town Clerk's Office, White River Junction, Vermont.

### **Boundary Justification**

The 5.41 acres included in this nomination have been historically associated with the property since 1793. They encompass both the current and original site of the main house and all outbuildings, including those which were demolished in 1960 and buried in place. They also incorporate pasture land to the east of the house. The boundaries are sufficient to convey the original context of the property.

MARSHLAND FARM, Windsor County, Vermont  
Tax Map of the Town of Hartford, Vermont, #12B, June 1996

