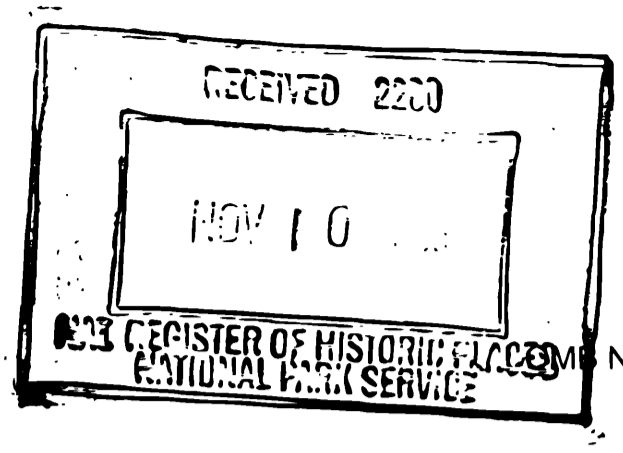


1444



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

No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Graham, Charles, House

other names/site number Bridges, H. Styles, House (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 21 Mountain Road NA not for publication

city or town Concord NA vicinity

state New Hampshire code NH county Merrimack code 013 zip code 03301

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.)

Signature of certifying official James McConaha Date 10/31/05

NEW HAMPSHIRE State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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):

Signature of Keeper

Edson W. Beall

Date of Action

12-22-09

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	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY/Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite

roof Asphalt

walls Brick

other Metal

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

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1

Description

The Bridges House is a two-and-a-half story brick dwelling located a short distance off Mountain Road in East Concord. The house stands on an eleven-acre lot at the edge of a bluff that drops sharply to the west. The building offers views of the flood plain of the Merrimack River, now occupied in part by interstate highway 93, and of Rattlesnake Hill in West Concord, two miles away. The front of the house faces south toward the city of Concord, also some two miles distant. The land surrounding the house is flat and is planted with a variety of ornamental trees and shrubs; predominant among the former are maples and canoe birches.

Built about 1835, the house is gable-roofed dwelling measuring forty by twenty-three feet. The house has a symmetrical five-bay facade with a central doorway. The eight-panel front door is flanked by slender pilasters and sidelights, and is surmounted by a horizontal, rectangular panel. The moulded frame of the panel has applied square blocks at each of its corners; the panel itself has a raised field with corners indented by quarter-round cuts. With one exception, noted below, all window sashes on both stories of the house have nine-over-six sashes. The staff mouldings at the juncture of window frames and brick openings are simple three-quarter-round dowels.

The eaves cornices on both the front and rear have ogee crown mouldings and heavy bed mouldings with a heavy, quirked Grecian ovolo above a cavetto; the profile of the bed mouldings on the front (south) of the house is elaborated by additional grooves and beads to create more complex shadow lines.

The east and west end walls each have a brick chimney that rises against the inside of the wall and passes through the ridge. Each chimney has a simple brick cap.

The eastern end elevation, facing the public highway, has two windows on each story, flanking the chimney; the northern first-story window occupies a former door opening which has been reduced in size. This elevation has a triangular recess about four inches deep in the brick gable, suggesting the tympanum of a Greek temple. This end of the house has a raking cornice composed of a heavy ogee crown moulding that matches the crown moulding on the front and rear horizontal cornices; the raking cornice has short returns at the eaves.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 2

Description

The western end elevation, not visible from any public vantage point, has a doorway near its southwestern corner, opening from the first-floor parlor onto an adjoining porch, and a window near the northwestern corner, lighting the parlor. A single bedchamber window is placed above the door. This end of the building lacks the recess that articulates the eastern elevation, and has simple, flat rake boards instead of the crown moulding seen on the opposite end. Attached to the western end of the dwelling is a one-story, flat-roofed sun porch with glazed windows.

The northern or rear elevation of the house is intersected at the northwest corner of the first story by a one-story, gable-roofed kitchen wing. The wing extends north twenty feet, where it connects to a barn. Connected to the east side of the kitchen wing, and extending about fourteen feet across much of the remaining width of the north wall of the house, is a one-story, hip-roofed extension that was added to lengthen the dining room within. This addition has a large three-part window in its northern wall. On the second story, the rear elevation has four windows. Three of these are of standard size, with nine-over-six sashes; the third, above the ridge of the roof of the kitchen wing, is a smaller opening with four-over-two sashes. In the center of the northern slope of the building's roof is a gable-roofed dormer which provides the only light and ventilation in the attic of the house. The dormer has a glazed upper sash and a louvered shutter in place of a lower sash.

The Bridges House is one of a small group of brick dwellings that were built in the Concord area during the 1830s. Like some others in the group, the Bridges House has walls laid in a variation of the American bond. Most of the face bricks of the house are stretchers. In every tenth or eleventh course, however, stretchers alternate with headers, which provide ties to the backing bricks of the walls. The face bricks are well-moulded and evenly burned, but are not re-pressed. Mortar joints are relatively thin.

The brick walls of the house stand on a foundation of split granite which provides a full cellar. Above grade level, the foundation is composed of large underpinning slabs of granite that were split with flat wedges and hammered to a true face. All granite used in the construction of the house was probably quarried on Rattlesnake Hill, two miles west of the building; here, convicts at the state prison had been employed in splitting and hammering stone since the second decade of the nineteenth century.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 3

Description

All openings on the first story of the house, together with the second-floor windows on the eastern end, are spanned by hammered granite lintels; all windows have wooden sills rather than granite. The window sashes now in place were installed in the twentieth century.

The framing of the house is composed of regularly-spaced floor joists that rest in pockets of the brick walls. The roof is framed with a series of common rafters, a framing method that supplanted the older rafter-and-purlin technique in central New Hampshire during the 1830s. Placed about thirty inches on centers, the rafters were sawn in a reciprocating water-powered mill and measure about 2½ inches in thickness; they taper in width from about 5¾ inches at the timber wall plates to about 4½ inches at the ridge, where they are nailed together without a ridge board. The rafters have no collar ties or other intermediate supports. Roof boards are sawn in a reciprocating sawmill and are laid horizontally across the rafters. A single steel tie rod extends through the attic from gable end to gable end, just below the floor level.

On the interior, the house has a central entry or stairhall with a principal front room on each side of the hall on each floor. Smaller secondary chambers are arranged across the rear (north) portion of the house.

A single-run staircase rises along the western wall of the entry. The balustrade has a delicate pine handrail, maple newel and angle posts that take the form of elongated colonnettes, and round balusters.

Doors leading from the entry into the flanking rooms are transitional in type between the federal and Greek Revival styles. Like typical federal-style doors, they have six flat panels with the smallest pair of panels at the top of the doors. Each panel is bordered by applied flat Grecian ogee mouldings in a manner typical of the Greek Revival style. Door casings in the stairhall are simple flat boards with applied Grecian ogee backband mouldings.

The parlor of the house extends the full depth of the main building on the western end. Its chief ornamental feature is a large mantelpiece on the western wall. The mantelshelf is supported by two heavy, engaged half columns with pronounced entasis. Above each column, in the area of

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 4

Description

the frieze, is a small, symmetrically moulded wooden panel. The mantelshelf is ornamented with crown and bed mouldings, the most prominent of which are very flat Grecian ogees. The door casings of the room have backband mouldings of a similar profile, and applied corner blocks with recessed circular bosses. Doors in this room and elsewhere around the house are fitted with Norfolk-type thumb latches having foliated back plates.

The small study to the right (east) of the stairhall is fitted with modern built-in bookshelves and finished with pine raised panels in the Georgian style, added by the Spanish-born cabinetmaker Alejandro de la Cruz (1924-1990). A refugee after World War II, de la Cruz moved to nearby Canterbury, New Hampshire, in 1949 and remained there as a noted cabinetmaker until retiring and returning to Spain in 1986.

Behind the study, filling most of the northeastern corner of the house, is a dining room. As noted above, this room was increased in depth by the addition of a six-foot-deep wooden extension beyond the original brick rear wall of the building. Woodwork in the dining room is partly original to the house and partly modern.

The two front rooms on the second floor have simple woodwork which is characteristic of the Greek Revival style. Doors, windows, and mantelpieces are all flanked by wide flat side casings and surmounted by wide frieze boards. Door and window friezes have ovolo-edged caps, while mantelpieces have heavy, square-edged shelves. The rooms to the rear (north) of the second story have been converted to bathrooms and utilitarian areas; the hallway chamber at the head of the stairs has had its original door sealed and is now a bathroom entered from the master bedroom on the west. The second story retains its original pine floor boards, while rooms on the first story have hardwood flooring.

Attached to the northern end of the kitchen wing is a wood-framed barn. While the barn retains its original exterior form, it has been remodeled several times over the years, first into a two car garage and then, in 1978, into a small conference center. During the latter remodeling, a large central chimney, built of mortared glacially-rounded granite fieldstones, was added within the structure.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 5

Description

A loft fills the western half of the barn, behind the chimney. The area under this loft is subdivided as a small apartment for security personnel, with kitchen, bathroom, and sleeping room. This apartment was added during the early 1980s.

Attached to the northern wall of the barn is a covered porch that shelters a ramped entrance. An open deck projects beyond the porch at its northwest corner.

Original appearance: Photographic evidence indicates that the brick portion of Bridges House retains the general appearance it had during the nineteenth century. Early photographs show that the house originally had six-over-six window sashes. Around 1908, when the house was sold by a family that had owned it for fifty-eight years to another family, these were replaced by one-over-one sashes. These early twentieth-century sashes, in turn, have been replaced by nine-over-six sashes.

Porches with gabled roofs and turned columns were added over the front and eastern doors around 1908. The front porch has been removed, returning the main entrance to its original appearance. The side porch and its doorway have both been removed, and the doorway opening has been reduced in size to hold a window.

An early set of sheds once extended easterly from the northeast corner of the house, but were removed, apparently in the 1940s.

Except on the east side of the first floor, where remodelings during the 1940s or 1950s created a small library or study and enlarged the dining room, the interior of the house has been little altered. Changes on the second story are confined largely to the rear rooms, where two small bedchambers have been converted into bathrooms.

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 significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a 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

Politics/government

Period of Significance

c1835

1946-1955

Significant Dates

c1835

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Bridges, Henry Styles

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Graham, Charles

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: _____

Name of Property Bridges, H. Styles, House

County and State Merrimack, NH

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>19</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	3	<u>19</u>	<u> </u>
2	<u>19</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u>19</u>	<u> </u>

X 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 James L. Garvin, Architectural Historian

organization New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources date July 2005

street & number 19 Pillsbury Street telephone 603-271-6436

city or town Concord state NH zip code 03301-3570

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name State of New Hampshire, Office of the Governor

street & number 107 North Main Street telephone 603-271-2121

city or town Concord state NH zip code 03301

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 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.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 1

Significance

The Bridges House is significant under National Register Criterion B as the home of Henry Styles Bridges (1898-1961), a New Hampshire governor and long-time United States Senator. Because the house is strongly associated with Styles Bridges and is officially known as "Bridges House," this name is preferred for National Register designation over the historical name of Charles Graham, the joiner who built the house circa 1835.

The house is also significant under National Register Criterion C as an early local example of the Greek Revival style and as a representative example of brick domestic architecture dating from a period when brick houses were first appearing in some numbers in central New Hampshire.

Under Criterion B, the period of significance extends from 1946, the year that H. Styles Bridges bought the property, to 1955, the arbitrary fifty-year cut-off date for National Register listings. Under Criterion C, the period of significance is c1835. The Bridges House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association for both periods of significance.

Under National Register Criterion B, the property is significant as the home of Henry Styles Bridges, one of the most influential United States senators of the New Deal and post-World War II eras, and as the building most closely associated with Bridges' life.¹ Bridges lived at 21 Mountain Road in Concord from 1946 until his death in 1961. This period of fifteen years was the longest known residency by Bridges in any single dwelling except, presumably, his birthplace in Maine, and coincided with the period of his greatest influence in the United States Senate. Prior to purchasing the house at 21 Mountain Road in 1946, Bridges and his first wife and sons had lived in an adjoining property, now bearing the address 35 Mountain Road.

¹ Senator Styles Bridges lived at 21 Mountain Road (previous addresses: 303 and 233 Eastman Street) in East Concord from 1946 until his death in 1961. Previously, Bridges had lived in a modest house on an abutting property (with varying addresses: 323 East Penacook Street, 323 Eastman Street, now 35 Mountain Road) from 1933 to 1946. See the *Concord City Directory* for a record of Bridges' residences and their changing street addresses. Besides being the residence where Bridges lived for the longest period, the house at 21 Mountain Road is associated with the most prominent and influential period of Bridges' political career.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 2

Significance

Henry Styles Bridges (September 9, 1898-November 26, 1961) served continuously as United States senator from New Hampshire from 1936 until his death. As Bridges gained seniority, he also gained influence in the Senate, especially during the Eisenhower administrations from 1952 to 1960. During these years, he served as chairman of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee, establishing a reputation as a committed enemy of Communism and of Soviet expansion during the Cold War.

Bridges always emphasized his working-class origins and his attainment of success through unrelenting hard work. Prior to his entry into electoral politics, Bridges had become widely known in New Hampshire through his competent and conscientious management of several positions, some of them humble but all of them conducive to his widespread recognition and popularity in his adopted state.

Styles Bridges was born in West Pembroke, Maine, the son of a farmer who died when Bridges was a boy of nine. Assuming some of the duties of breadwinner in his family, Bridges nevertheless succeeded in graduating from the University of Maine in Orono in 1918 with a degree in agriculture. Immediately after graduating, he emulated his mother, a schoolteacher, by working for a year as instructor at Sanderson Academy in Ashfield, Massachusetts. Bridges briefly obtained a position in 1921 with the agricultural extension staff of the University of New Hampshire in Durham, thus beginning his long association with New Hampshire. He served as secretary of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation from 1922 to 1923, thereby becoming better known to the state's farming community. From 1924 to 1926, Bridges edited *The Granite Monthly* magazine, which enjoyed wide readership and had defined the character of the Granite State since 1877. He served as director and secretary of the New Hampshire Investment Company from 1924 until the stock market failure of 1929, and as a member of the influential New Hampshire Public Service Commission from 1930 to 1934.

Bridges first manifested an interest in politics in 1923, when he began a thirteen-year tenure as secretary and business manager to former governor Robert P. Bass, and in 1924, when he worked on John G. Winant's successful first gubernatorial campaign. Bridges ran for governor of New Hampshire in 1934, defeating a Republican rival in the primary election and his Democratic opponent in the general election. As a Depression governor, Bridges maintained relief programs

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3

Significance

that Governor Winant had instituted during a second term. At the same time, Bridges advocated a thorough study of governmental efficiency and recommended smaller appropriations for state agencies when possible.

Bridges successfully ran for the United States Senate in 1936. As a Republican candidate for President in 1940, Bridges was vehement in his opposition to most New Deal programs. Bridges' influence reached its apex after World War II, when he served as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee (Eightieth and Eighty-third Congresses), as chairman of the Joint Committee on Foreign Economic Cooperation (Eightieth Congress), as head of the Republican Party Policy Committee (Eighty-fourth through Eighty-seventh Congresses), and as chairman *pro tempore* of the Senate from 1953 to 1955 (Eighty-third Congress). During his tenure in the Senate, Bridges also served as a member of a myriad of other committees. He received many honorary degrees, awards, citations, tributes, and commendations. At the time of his death in 1961, Bridges was the senior Republican senator in years of service, and a leader of the conservative wing of the Republican Party.

Bridges married three times. He and his first wife had a son, Styles Bridges, Jr. In 1928, Bridges married Sally Clement (1903-1938) of Concord, New Hampshire; they had two sons. In 1944, Bridges married Doloris Thauwald (1916-1969). Doloris Thauwald Bridges received full title to the Bridges House upon her husband's death in 1961. At her own death eight years later, she honored Styles Bridges' earlier wish, expressed in his will, that the house should be offered to the State of New Hampshire as the residence of future governors. Governor Walter Peterson and the executive council accepted title to the property for this use in April 1969.

Under National Register Criterion C, the house is significant under "Architecture" as an early local example of the Greek Revival style and as a brick dwelling dating from the period when brick houses were first appearing in rural New Hampshire. The house is also significant as the home of a prosperous local joiner, Charles Graham, who may be presumed to have designed and finished his own dwelling.

As an example of the Greek Revival style, the Bridges House is significant in displaying a conservative expression of the new mouldings and details that were superseding federal-style

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

Significance

features during the 1830s. In overall form, the house reflects the new style only in the recessed tympanum in its eastern gable and in the flat panel over its front door; comparable houses built a few years earlier in the region had retained the semielliptical arch and fanlight (or louvered fan) that had characterized the federal style since the early 1800s.

In interior detailing, however, the house retains almost nothing of the older federal style. Rather, it displays very flat Grecian mouldings throughout. Such mouldings had been unknown in the region until about 1830, and were seldom employed throughout a building until after that year. As a comparison, the brick Bailey Parker House in North Pembroke, about six miles distant from the Bridges House, dates from 1830 and displays classic federal-style mouldings in the rooms on one side of its central stairhall. Other rooms suggest the arriving Greek Revival style by the use of flat fillets instead of mouldings, but the house contains no true Grecian mouldings. Another comparable rural brick house is the Jesse Garvin House in Chichester, built about 1835 some six miles from the Bridges House. The Garvin House contains mouldings of true Grecian profile. Interior features of the Garvin House are so similar to those of the Bridges House that they certainly reflect the same sources of inspiration if not the hand of the same craftsman.

The Bridges House has additional significance in that it was built by and for a prosperous joiner, and its woodwork may be presumed to be the work of its first owner. The builder of the house was Charles Graham (1809-1880). Graham may have based his moulding profiles and the design of features like door and window casings and mantelpieces on plates in the most popular sourcebook for the early Greek Revival style in New England, Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter* (Boston, 1830). In its own right and in combination with corresponding woodwork in neighboring rural houses like the Bailey Parker and Jesse Garvin Houses, Graham's joinery offers an important benchmark in the advent and diffusion of the Greek Revival style in the region around New Hampshire's capital during the 1830s.

The brick fabric of the Bridges House is likewise significant as a benchmark in the introduction of brick construction into rural New Hampshire. Brick buildings were extremely rare in New Hampshire until after 1800. Only with the partial burning of the wood-built coastal town of Portsmouth in 1802 did a substantial number of brick buildings appear within the state. Other Portsmouth fires in 1806 and 1813 increased the number of brick structures in the port town, but

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 5

Significance

elsewhere in New Hampshire only a handful of brick structures had appeared by 1820, and most of these were business blocks, not private houses.

The transition from wooden to masonry buildings occurred first in the larger New England ports because of fear of fires like those that had devastated Portsmouth. The fireproof nature of masonry turned a long-standing New England prejudice against brick into a favorable view of masonry as a safer and more substantial medium of construction. But a growing regard for the fire-resistant quality of brick buildings was soon matched by an appreciation for brick as an attractive building material. Leading New England architects like Charles Bulfinch and Asher Benjamin of Boston developed a high regard for the aesthetic quality, and the appearance of strength and permanence, of brick buildings.

Prospering New Hampshire villages often saw the construction of a few brick buildings during the 1820s. Often, brick structures in inland New Hampshire in the 1820s were public buildings like banks or hotels, built by investors as symbols of the growing importance of the community. Brick dwellings remained rare. In rural locales or small villages like East Concord, brick houses were seldom seen during the 1820s.

This began to change around 1830. As seen in the Parker and Garvin houses mentioned earlier, the region around Concord began to see rural dwellings of brick in varying styles and sizes during that decade.

The facades or other principal walls of most brick buildings in New Hampshire were laid in Flemish bond until about 1830. More complex than common or American bond, Flemish bond employs alternating headers and stretchers in every course. In these earlier buildings the common bond, if employed at all, was used on the less visible side or rear walls.

By 1830 or so, at the very time when the fashion for brick architecture spread from urban centers to country villages or rural locales, common bond supplanted Flemish bond even for the principal walls of new buildings. Buildings constructed during the transition period of the early 1830s often display the kind of bond seen in the walls of the Bridges House. Instead of having a header course every five or six courses, as is common in later examples of the bond, these early

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 6

Significance

experiments often have ten or twelve stretcher courses between header courses. In some structures of the period, as in the Bridges House, the header courses employ alternating headers and stretchers rather than all headers. This variation on the American bond, as seen in the Bridges House, is repeated in the contemporaneous Garvin House in nearby Chichester.

The effect of this early American bond is to emphasize the stretchers in the wall. Headers appear very infrequently, and serve merely as widely-spaced ties between face bricks and backing bricks. The aesthetic effect is akin to that of running or plumb bond, in which all face bricks are stretchers that are tied to the backing bricks by invisible anchors such as iron straps. A few buildings in the area, including the Trustees' Building (1830) at nearby Canterbury Shaker Village, the Bailey Parker House (1830) in North Pembroke, and the Upham Walker House (1831) in Concord are laid with their principal walls in running or plumb bond, and enhance the evenness of this all-stretcher bond by employing precisely-moulded re-pressed face bricks. While the Bridges House neither employs an all-stretcher plumb bond nor re-pressed face bricks, the house exemplifies the emerging admiration for a very regular style of bricklaying as a replacement for the complex Flemish bond that had been standard in the region until the 1820s.

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1

Major Bibliographical References

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Dupuy, William Atherton. "Bridges Has Everything," *Yankee* 6 (July 1940): 27-29.

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Geographical Data

UTM References

- A Zone 19, 4790260 N, 293970 E
- B Zone 19, 4790260 N, 293916 E
- C Zone 19, 4790454 N, 293891 E
- D Zone19, 4790449 N, 293662 E
- E Zone 19, 4790225 N, 293747 E
- F Zone 19, 4790222 N, 293972 E

Verbal Boundary Description

Merrimack County Deeds, Vol. 632, pages 49-50 (the last deed on record for this property), conveyed the property from John H. Bath and Edith Bath to H. Styles Bridges and Doloris T. Bridges on October 11, 1946. The boundary description in this deed essentially repeats that of Merrimack County Deeds, Vol. 384, page 540, which conveyed the property from George McC. Sanborn to Alfred J. Bath on October 5, 1908.

The deed of 1908 describes the boundaries of the nominated parcel as follows:

“A certain tract of land with the buildings thereon, situated in said Concord [New Hampshire], bounded and described as follows: easterly by the highway leading from East Concord to Canterbury, southerly by land of Cyrus R. Robinson, westerly by the Concord and Montreal Railroad, northerly by land of Joseph Fernald and Thomas Smith. Said premises to be the late homestead of Heman Sanborn diseased [*sic*] and willed by the late John B. Sanborn to George McC. Sanborn”

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The deed of 1946 describes the boundaries of the nominated parcel as follows:

“A certain tract or parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situate in said Concord [New Hampshire], and bounded and described as follows: Easterly, by Eastman Street, so-called; southerly, by land formerly of Cyrus R. Robinson, now of Clarence I. Tibbetts and Robert A. Averill; westerly, by land of the Boston and Maine Railroad; and northerly, by land formerly of Josiah Fernald and Thomas Smith, now of H. Styles Bridges, Nellie J. Stephenson and John and Bertha Smith, containing fourteen (14) acres more or less. Being the premises conveyed by George McC. Sanborn to Alfred J. Bath by deed dated September 30, 1908 and recorded in Merrimack County Records Book 384, Page 540.”

These boundaries are indicated on the accompanying sketch map.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the nominated parcel are those that were associated with the property when it was owned in the nineteenth century by the Sanborn family; when the property was conveyed by the Bath Family in 1908; and when it was conveyed by the Bath family to H. Styles and Doloris T. Bridges in 1946. The present boundaries remain unchanged from those associated with H. Styles and Doloris T. Bridges.

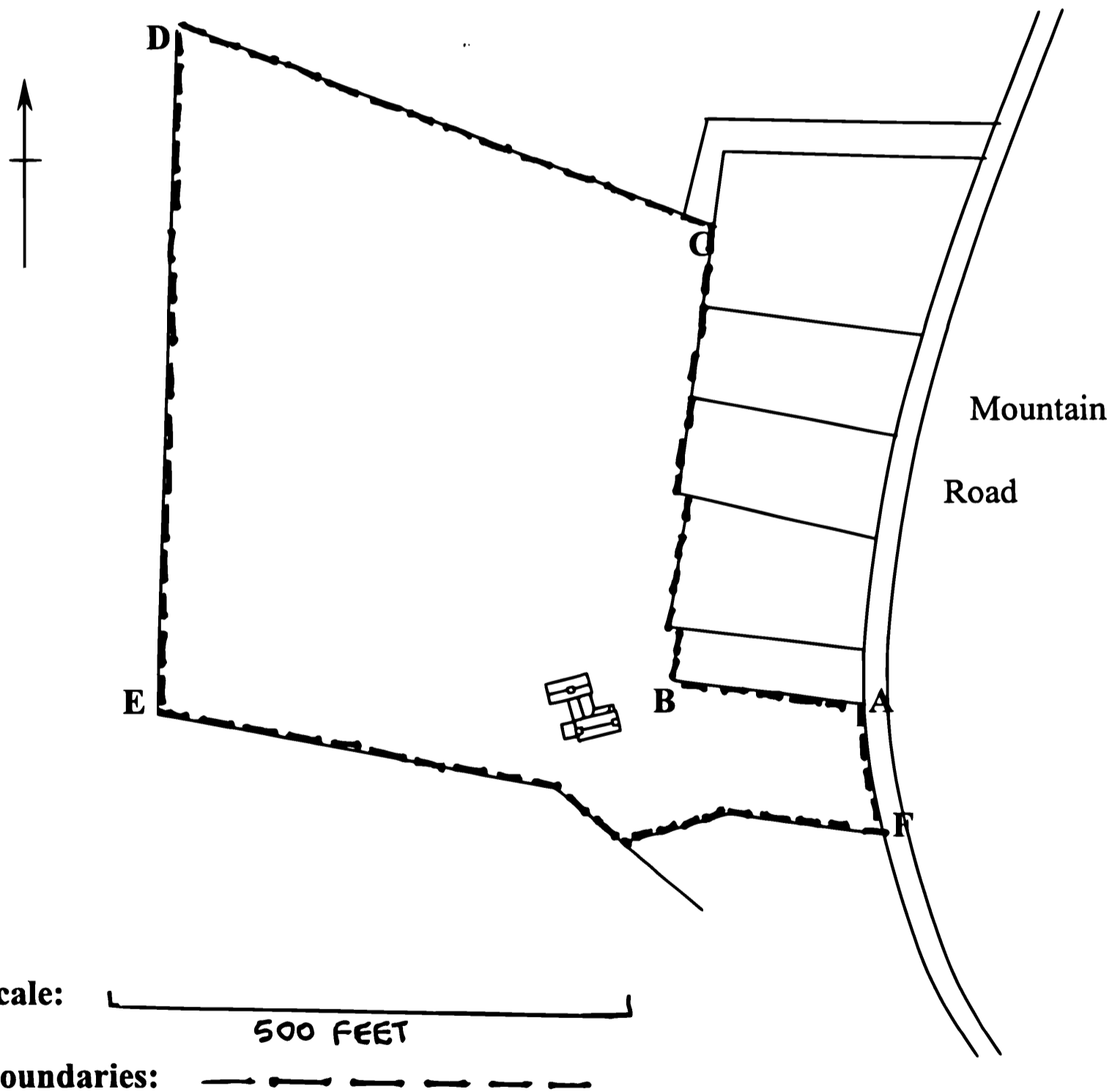
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Bridges, H. Styles, House, Concord, N. H.

Property Sketch Map



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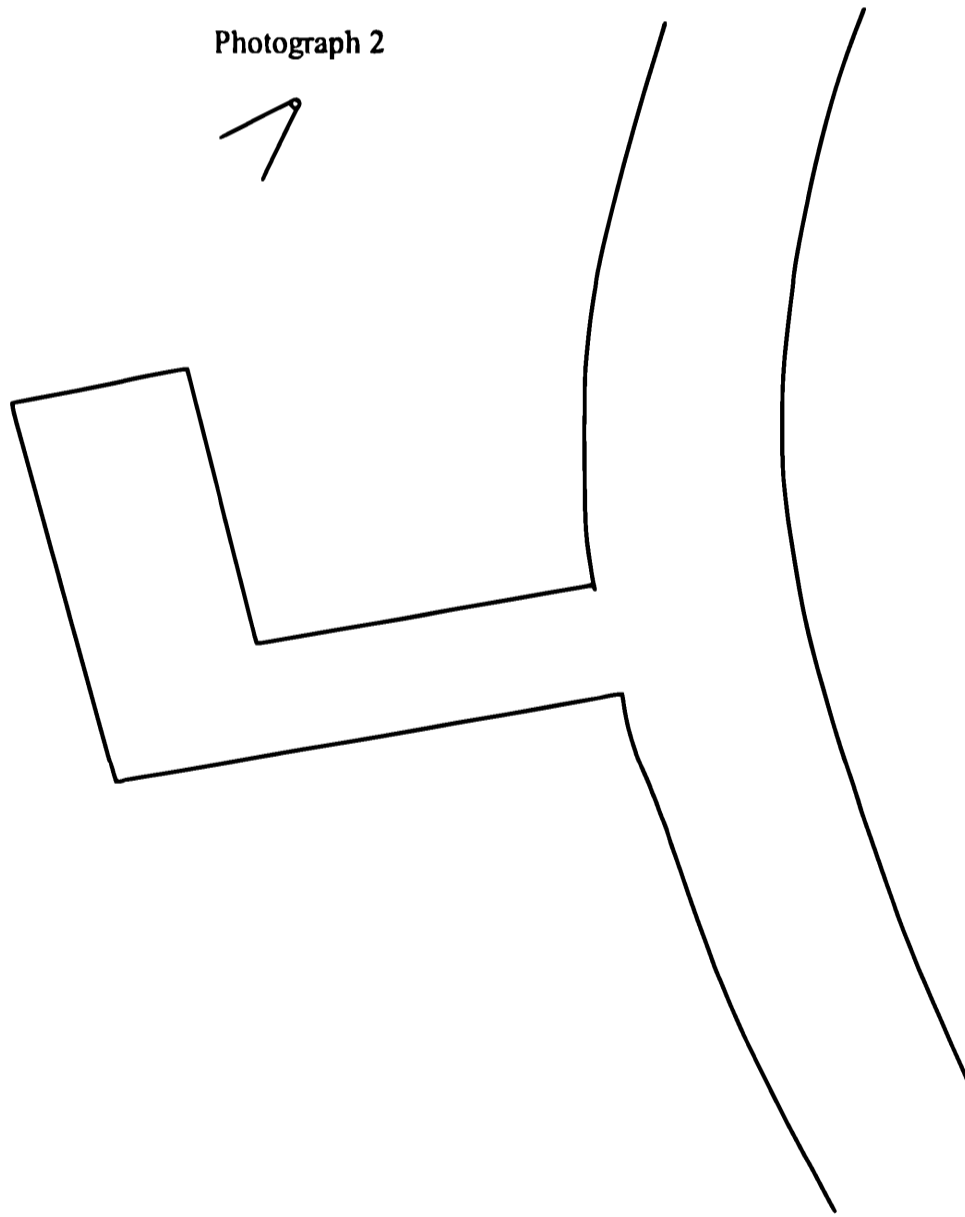
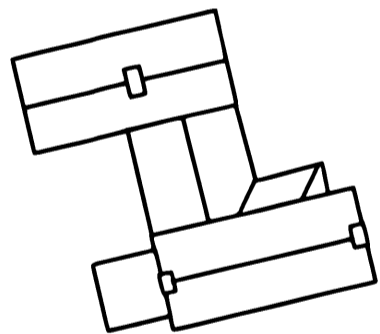
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Bridges, H. Styles, House

Key to Exterior Photographs



Photograph 2



Photograph 1

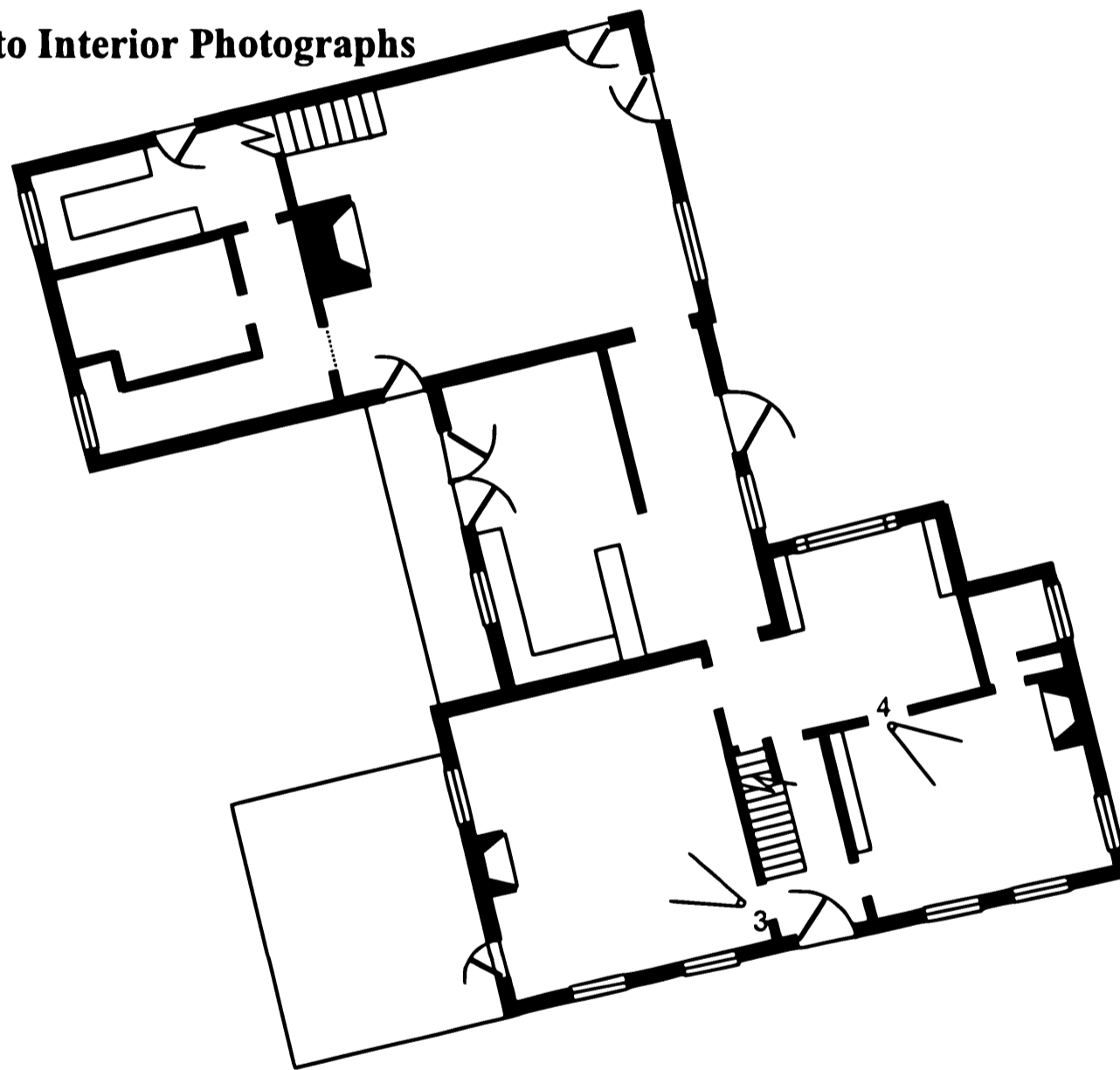
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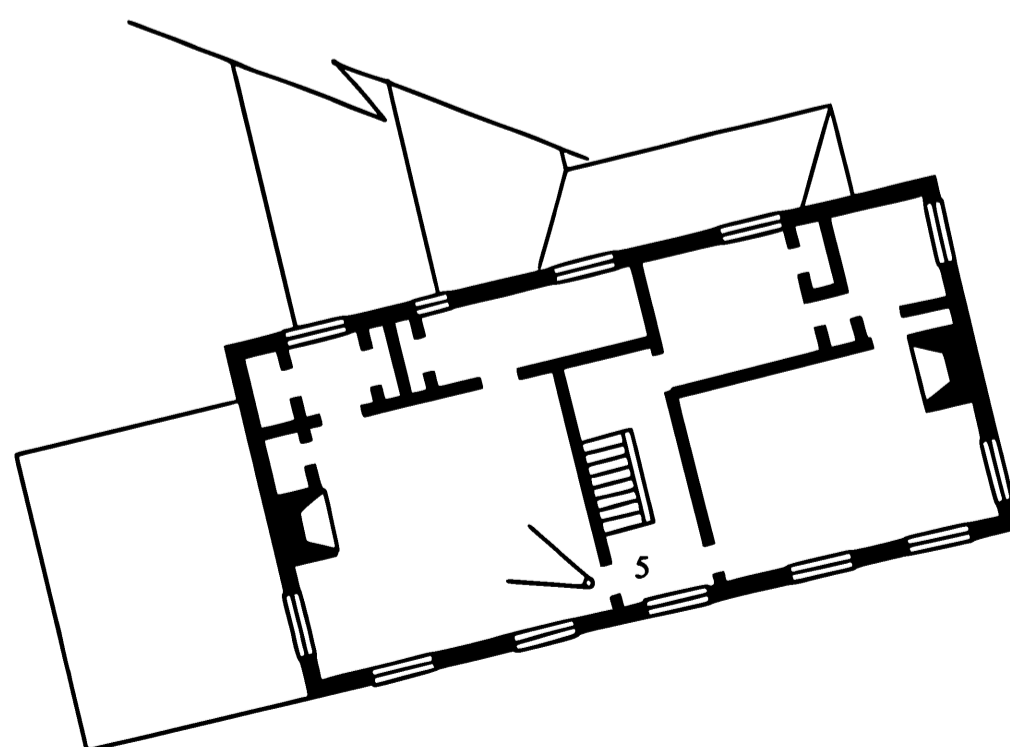
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Key to Interior Photographs



First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan

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Bridges, H. Styles, House

Photograph Labels

The following pertains to all views:

- 1.) Bridges, H. Styles House, 21 Mountain Road
- 2.) Concord, N. H.; Merrimack County
- 3.) Photographer: James L. Garvin
- 4.) Photographs taken July 2005
- 5.) Negatives at: New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, Concord, N. H.

Photo #1: Façade of house, camera facing north.

Photo #2: Rear (north) and east side elevations of house, kitchen wing, and barn (conference room), camera facing southwest.

Photo #3: Western parlor of house, first floor, camera facing northwest from door to stairhall.

Photo #4: Paneled library in southeast corner, first floor, camera facing southeast from door to rear dining room.

Photo #5: Western (master) bedchamber, second floor, camera facing northwest from door to stairhall.