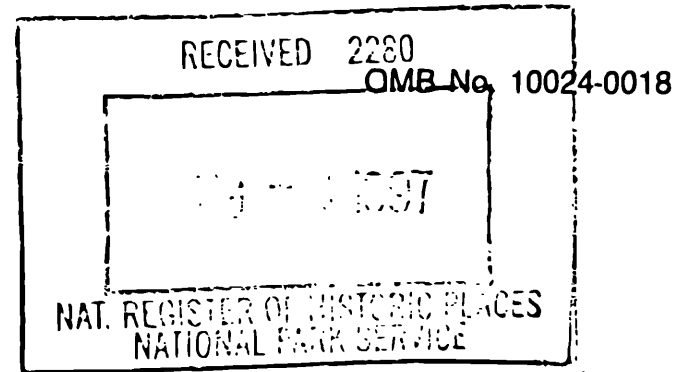


MAY 16 1997

NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1102

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 Washington Mooney House

other names/site number The Conkling Building

2. Location

street & number Route 104 (at intersection with I-93) NA not for publication

city or town New Hampton NA vicinity

state New Hampshire code NH county Belknap code 001 zip code 03256

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Nancy E. Miller 7/31/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NEW HAMPSHIRE
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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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

Edson H. Beall 9/4/97
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Washington Mooney House
Name of Property

Belknap County, NH
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		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

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood: Weatherboard

roof Wood: Shake

other Wood, Brick

Narrative Description

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

Washington Mooney House
Name of Property

Belknap County, NH
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1800

Significant Dates

c. 1800

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Washington Mooney House
Name of Property

Belknap County, NH
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.35 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 9	2 8 6 8 5 0	4 8 3 2 2 3 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 David Ruell

organization _____ date April 25, 1997

street & number 16 Hill Street telephone (603) 968-7716

city or town Ashland state NH zip code 03217

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 John Casper Conkling, Trustee for John C. Conkling Trust

street & number Route 104, P.O. Box 489 telephone (603) 744-2233

city or town New Hampton state NH zip code 03256-0489

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

The Washington Mooney House is a vernacular Federal style house (now used as an office building) that stands on its original location in a 5.35 acre lot on the northwest side of Route 104 in New Hampton, New Hampshire. The wooden building consists of two main elements. The two and a half story, gable roofed, central chimney main block faces southeast towards the road. Attached to the rear of the main block and set perpendicular to it is the one story, gable roofed ell. The ell has been enlarged on the southwest side by a narrow addition covered by an extension of the ell's roof. (Originally, the southwest wall of the ell was continuous with the southwest gable end of the main block. But, the ell addition now projects beyond the main block wall.) The ell also has an open wooden deck on its northwest and northeast sides. Both sections of the building have clapboards sheathing the walls and cedar shakes covering the roofs. The main block has a brick foundation, while the ell has a concrete and brick foundation. Both the main block and the ell have post and beam frames. The main block is notable for its good exterior design with a fine central entry, and for its well preserved interior details. Exterior changes have been largely limited to a new foundation and added rear windows. The interior has seen more change, but that change has been concentrated in its lesser rooms, previously unfinished or service spaces. The more important rooms in the front of the house retain most of their original features. The ell, once a shed, has been substantially rebuilt. The Washington Mooney House still retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The main block's brick foundation is interrupted by plain wooden framed three pane basement windows, two apiece on the northeast and southwest gable ends. The clapboarded walls are trimmed by cornerboards. Box cornices with mouldings and friezes top the lateral (southeast and northwest) walls. The gables are trimmed by close verges with returns of the lateral cornices. Rising from the center of the shake covered gable roof is the massive but

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

plain brick chimney. [1]

The five bay main southeast facade is symmetrical, but the openings are not evenly spaced. In the center is the main entry in the first story and a window in the second story. The windows in the other four bays are grouped in adjacent pairs. All of the main facade windows, like virtually all of the main block windows, have 9/6 sash, and plain frames. (Save for the basement windows, the main block windows all have exterior metal storm windows.) The frames of the upper level windows butt up against the frieze of the cornice. The most notable feature of the main facade is the central entry, which is reached by a wide granite step with iron footscrapers at each end. The six panel door is covered by an outer board door with strap hinges. The door is flanked on each side by a five pane, two-thirds sidelight above a small area of clapboarding. The door and sidelights are framed by four pilasters with simply moulded bases, entasis, and more elaborately moulded capitals. The pilasters support a projecting cornice with mouldings and deep frieze.

The southwest gable end features the side entry, set towards the rear corner and reached by three brick steps. The six panel door shares its plain frame with a three pane transom window. Mounted on the wall to the south of the door is a small wooden sign and a Colonial Revival light fixture. Plain frames also surround the windows, the two 9/6 sash windows in both the first and second stories, and the two 6/6 sash windows in the gable. One first story window is set between the side door and the rear corner.

1. The wood shakes of the main block roof are now deteriorating, particularly on the rear northwest slope. The owner therefore plans to replace the shakes with asphalt shingles on at least part of the roof in the near future.

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH**Description:**

The two bay northeast gable end has a more symmetrical arrangement but the same types of windows, two 9/6 sash windows in the first and second stories and two 6/6 sash windows in the gable, all with plain frames. Towards the rear corner of the first story is a metal kitchen vent. Plain frames again trim the rear (northwestern) windows. In the first story of the rear wall is found a group of three windows. The central window, a large horizontal window with 35 fixed panes, is flanked on each side by a 9/6 sash window. The second story has two 9/6 sash windows, whose frames butt up against the frieze of the cornice.

The ell is set perpendicular to the main block's rear wall at the westerly end of the wall. It now has a narrow addition covering over two-thirds of its southwest lateral side. The ell's poured concrete and concrete block foundation is covered by a brick veneer only on the southwest side to the north of the addition. The ell's basement level is only fully exposed on the northwest gable end, and even there it is hidden under the wooden deck. The only basement opening is a modern overhead wooden garage door with four built-in windows and a plain frame in the northwest end. The clapboarded walls of the ell and its addition are trimmed by cornerboards, close eaves on the southwest and northeast lateral sides, close verges on the addition, and a simple box cornice on the northwest gable. On the southwest slope of the gable roof is mounted a large wooden sign which partly hides a round metal chimney. At the southeast end of the roof ridge is found a plain brick chimney which interrupts the main block's rear cornice. The addition has but two windows, both small single pane casement windows with simply moulded frames, one in each narrow end of the addition. A light fixture is mounted on the addition's southwest wall. The northwest gable end of the ell's main level is largely filled with glass. The first story has a single wood framed glass door, and double sliding glass doors, both with simply moulded trim. In the gable is a large double plate glass window with a plain frame and a peaked top echoing the slants of the roof. Another light fixture is

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

mounted at the west corner of the wall, next to the single door. The northeast wall of the ell has a large three pane casement window to the south and two double sliding glass doors to the north, all with simply moulded trim. Above the doors is a simple wooden trellis.

The ell's northwestern and northeastern doors open onto a wooden deck, set on wooden posts. The open deck is set at a 60 degree angle to the ell, so that it encompasses the north corner and covers the whole northwest gable end and half of the northeast side. The deck has a simple wooden rail and two sets of plain wooden steps, near the ell's north corner and next to the ell's northeast wall. (The land falls away to the north under the deck.)

The layout of the main block's first floor is fairly typical of traditional central chimney New England houses. The main entry opens into a small front hall. To the rear (northwest) of the front hall is the semicircular front stairs to the second story. Behind the stairs in the center of the house is the large chimney area. To the northeast of the front hall, stairs and chimney, in the east corner of the first story, is a formal room we will call the east room. To the southwest of the front hall, stairs and chimney is another, in the south corner, is another formal room we will call the south room. To the rear of the east room, chimney, and part of the south room is the kitchen, the largest first story room, which stretches four-fifths of the length of the house. To the southwest of the kitchen are three smaller spaces. The bathroom is found in the west corner of the first story. To the front (southeast) of the bathroom is the small sidehall at the side entry. Between the sidehall and the south room are two enclosed stairways, the stairs down from the kitchen to the basement, and directly above, the stairs up from the sidehall to the second story.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

The small front hall has a board floor, a plaster ceiling, wooden walls on three sides, and a plaster wall with moulded baseboards on the northwest (rear) side. The southeast wall is almost entirely taken up by the six panel front door and its flanking five pane sidelights. The door and sidelights have no special frames, being set simply into a board wall. The narrow northeast and southwest walls are made of vertical boards. In the southwest wall is a six panel door with simple panels, and a simply moulded frame, that opens into the south room. In the northeast wall is a six panel door with raised moulded panels and a simply moulded frame, that opens into the east room. Towards the easterly end of the northwest wall is the opening to the front stairs, trimmed by round corner mouldings. On the easterly side of the opening, a square post with square moulded cap is attached to the wall.

The front stairs are set in a shallow semicircular space, with a curved plaster rear wall. The steep stairs wind up from the east to the west. The ten pie shaped steps have board treads and risers, ornamented only by mouldings under the nosings of the treads. The stairway shares a plaster ceiling with the small second story hall.

The board floor of the east room is now covered by carpeting, although the fireplace's brick hearth is still exposed. The outer southeast and northeast walls and most of the rear northwest wall are plastered with wainscoting. The wainscoting is trimmed by moulded baseboards and a top moulding that also serves as the sill for the windows. The southwest fireplace wall and a section of the northwest wall are sheathed with boards and wooden panels. The room has a plaster ceiling. Baseboard heating is now found on the outer walls.

The east room is lit by three 9/6 sash windows of the same design, two in the southeast front wall and one in approximately the center of the northeast wall. The window's moulded frames rest on the top moulding of the wainscoting. The windows can also

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

boast Indian shutters. Each window has two separate sliding interior single paneled shutters. Each shutter corresponds in size to the sash that it covers. At the west end of the southeast wall is a vertical board stretching the full height of the room which presumably covers a post. In the east corner of the room is a tapered post, larger at the top, which is boxed in by boards. Towards the west end of the rear northwest wall is a four panel door in a moulded frame. To the east of the door (and above the door), the wall is covered by plaster and wainscoting. (A modern bulletin board is now mounted on the wall.) The small section of the wall to the west of the door is sheathed with wood, notably by two vertical panels with moulded frames, the upper panel being taller.

The southwest fireplace wall is covered entirely with wood. The southerly section of the wall is sheathed with boards, interrupted only by the six panel door with simply moulded frame to the front hall. The rest of the wall is paneled. Between the door and the fireplace are two built-in cabinets, one above the other, and each served by a single paneled door. (The simple interiors of the cabinets have plain board shelves, walls and ceiling.) The upper cabinet is taller than the lower cabinet. The two cabinet doors share a framing moulding that does not completely surround the doors. The moulding runs up the south side of the doors, above the upper door and down the north side of the doors to end at the mantelshelf. The brick fireplace has angled side walls and a wide brick hearth. Its plain brick surround has a moulded wooden frame. Above the fireplace opening is a mantelshelf with elaborately moulded edge and an ornate frieze. The lower edge of the frieze is enlivened by alternating semicircular upward cutouts and downward projections. Above the mantelshelf are two horizontal moulded panels. North of the fireplace are two vertical panels, the upper panel being taller than the lower panel.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

In its basic design, the south room is a mirror image of the east room, although it differs in many details. The board floor (a replacement) is interrupted only by the fireplace's brick hearth. Again, the outer (southeast and southwest) walls and most of the rear (northwest) wall are plaster walls with wainscoting and modern baseboard heating. Wood, boards and panels, sheathes the rest of the rear wall and the fireplace (northeast) wall. The plaster ceiling has apparently been removed to expose the large handhewn beams, girts and joists supporting the second story's board floor. (Nailholes can still be seen on the underside of the beams.) Three older large joists span the ceiling from the front wall to the rear wall. They have been supplemented at the westerly end by two smaller more recent joists set between the older joists, and supported by cross timbers between the older joists.

The wainscoting in the south room is similar to the east room wainscoting, with moulded baseboard and a top moulding that also serves as the sill for the windows. (Different mouldings were however employed.) The three windows, two in the southeast wall and one in the southwest wall, also echo those in the east room, with 9/6 sash, moulded frames set on the wainscoting, and Indian shutters. The shutters are also single paneled shutters, of the same size as the sash, that slide into the walls. (The frames and shutters do have different mouldings than their counterparts in the east room.) A vertical board is found at the east end of the front southeast wall. And again, a boxed tapered post appears in the outer (south) corner of the room. The rear northwest wall is plastered with wainscoting, save for the section east of the door, which is sheathed by two vertical moulded panels, a tall panel above a short panel. The four panel door to the kitchen has a plain frame.

The wooden northeast wall is topped by a simple moulding, apparently added to cover the gap left by the removal of the plaster ceiling. The southern section of the wall is made of wide

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

boards and features the untrimmed six panel door to the front hall. Between the door and the fireplace is a tall built-in cabinet with an untrimmed two panel door. The upper door panel is taller than the lower panel. The cabinet has wooden interior walls and board shelves. The fireplace has a board brick hearth and angled side walls. The fireplace opening's plain brick surround is trimmed by a simple wooden moulding. Above the fireplace opening are two large horizontal panels. Across the lower panel is mounted a mantelshelf ornamented only by mouldings on the edge, which appears to be an early addition. North of the fireplace, the wall is paneled, with two lower panels of the same height. The upper level of the paneling is a little more complex with a single vertical panel to the south and two panels to the north. The uppermost northern panel is actually a small door which serves a small built-in cabinet with two shelves and a wooden interior.

The floor of the large kitchen is now carpeted save for the brick hearth. Three walls are sheathed with wood, while the rear northwest wall is plastered above a wainscoting. Modern baseboard heating is found along the two outer walls. The ceiling features exposed heavy handhewn beams, including seven joists that divide the ceiling into eight sections. Nailholes on the underside of the beams suggest that they were once covered by a plaster ceiling. The ceiling has recently been plastered between the beams. Four modern lighting fixtures hang from plastered sections of the ceiling.

The front southeast fireplace wall of the kitchen is sheathed with wide vertical boards from the east corner to the fireplace, save for a horizontal board above the untrimmed four panel door to the east room. In the east corner of the room is an exposed tapered handhewn post. The brick fireplace has a firebox with angled sidewalls and swinging iron crane. To the west of the firebox are two small openings in the brick fireplace. The lower opening, with a granite lintel, was used for wood storage. The

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

upper opening, with granite sill and iron lintel, serves a beehive oven. In front of the fireplace is a wide brick hearth. The exposed brick of the fireplace is surrounded by a moulded frame and topped by an elaborately moulded mantelshelf. Two older vertical boards flank the fireplace and rise to the exposed girt. Between these vertical boards above the fireplace are three newer panels, a wide central horizontal panel and smaller flanking vertical panels. The wall west of the fireplace is sheathed with vertical boards between the fireplace and the untrimmed four panel door to the south room, and with horizontal boards above the door and to its west.

Much of the kitchen's northeast wall is taken up by a modern built-in kitchen unit. But, to the south of the kitchen unit, the wall is sheathed with vertical boards. Here also is found a 9/6 sash window with an original moulded frame. The kitchen unit is wooden with plain board doors and trim. The southern part of the unit features a mosaic tiled countertop with a built-in range unit. Above the rangetop is a hood with vent, while cabinets are located above and below the countertop. Mosaic tiles cover the small exposed sections of the walls above the countertop. To the north of the countertop is a built-in oven with cabinets above and below it, and a narrow cabinet between the oven and northwest wall. Set parallel to the kitchen unit is an island counter, with board sides, a built-in sink with mosaic tile surround at the northwest end, and a wooden countertop over a built-in dishwasher and drawers at the southeast end.

The rear northwest kitchen wall is plastered above a wainscoting with a top moulding that also serves as the sills for the three windows. The three windows are grouped together and trimmed by similar moulded frames. The wide central window has 35 fixed small panes. The two flanking windows have 9/6 sash. West of the windows, a handhewn post has been added against the wall to support one of the ceiling joists. Near the west end of the wall is the plain framed four panel door to the ell. The southwest

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

kitchen wall is sheathed with vertical boards save for horizontal boards above the three untrimmed four panel doors. The wall projects slightly at the southerly end, where a door serves the stairs to the basement. To the north are the doors to the sidehall and the bathroom.

The bathroom now has a linoleum floor. The painted wooden walls have (save on the southeast) a "wainscoting" made of a "pebbly" tile. In the north corner of the room is a large shower with fiberglass interior and double sliding glass doors that is boxed in with boards above and west of the doors. This leaves an L-shaped space around the shower. West of the shower is the modern toilet. In the south corner of the room is a built-in cabinet with folding louvered and paneled doors. Built against the southeast wall next to the cabinet is a counter with a formica top and a built-in sink, which is supported at the east end by a wooden cabinet under the counter. A large glass mirror is mounted on the wall above the sink. A moulded frame trims the northeastern door to the kitchen. The southwestern 9/6 sash window has folding interior louvered shutters, and a moulded frame with moulded sill.

The small, narrow sidehall has a carpeted floor, and a plaster ceiling with a hanging light fixture. The northeast and northwest walls are plastered with simple baseboards. Plain frames surround the northeastern four panel door to the kitchen and the outer door that almost fills the southwestern wall. The outer door is sheathed on the inside with horizontal beaded boarding and is topped by a three pane transom window. The southeastern wall is made of vertical boards trimmed by a simple baseboard. At the west end of the wall, a single simple wooden step serves a plain framed stairway door made of two wide vertical boards.

The side stairs occupy a two story space. The stairs, with plain board treads and risers, ascend from a board floored landing at the southwest end to a doorless opening to the second story at

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

the northeast end. The walls are sheathed with boards in the first story and with plaster in the second story. The beams of the second story floor are exposed on the southeast and southwest. In the south corner, the first story's tapered post is boxed in, but the second story handhewn post is exposed. The lower door to the sidehall is untrimmed, but the opening to the second story has a plain frame. In the plaster ceiling is the plain framed plywood door for the folding ladder to the attic.

The plan of the main block's second floor is quite similar to the plan of its first floor. In the center is the chimney mass. Southeast of the chimney is the front stairs and a small upper hall just above the front hall of the first floor. Flanking the chimney, stairs and hall are two bedrooms, corresponding to the two formal rooms of the first story. Stretching along the back of the building is a long rear room, directly above the kitchen below. At the southwestern end, a long narrow closet has been built in the rear room. In the west corner, directly above the sidehall and bathroom in the first story, is another bathroom. To the southeast of the bathroom is the side stairs.

The small upper hall has a board floor and plaster walls with moulded baseboards. The hall shares a plaster ceiling with hanging light fixture with the front stairs. The opening into the stairway is protected on the easterly side by a railing with round balusters, simply moulded rail, and square end posts with square moulded caps. Another post of the same design is found at the west corner of the opening, flanking the top step of the stairs. Above the posts at the corners of the stairway opening are found round corner mouldings. The southwest and northeast walls each contain a four panel door with moulded frame, serving the south and east bedrooms respectively. In the center of southeast roadside wall is a 9/6 sash window with moulded frame and sill. In the east corner of the room is a post boxed in with boards. Modern baseboard heating has been installed on the outer southeast wall.

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Continuation Sheet**

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

The east bedroom has a board floor and plaster walls with simply moulded baseboards. Baseboard heating units run along the southeast and northeast outer walls. In three corners are found handhewn posts. The south and north posts are only slightly exposed, while the tapered post in the east corner projects more obviously into the room. The ceiling now has exposed handhewn beams, the joists and plates of the attic floor level. (The beams were once hidden by a lower ceiling.) Between the joists, the ceiling is now plastered. The room is lit by three 9/6 sash windows with moulded frames, two in the southeast wall and one in the northeast wall. Moulded frames trim the three doors, a four panel door to the upper hall at the south end of the southwest wall, a two panel door to a small closet near the north end of the same wall, and a four panel door to the rear room at the west end of the rear northwest wall. (The small closet has a board floor, plaster walls with baseboards, a plaster ceiling, a moulded door frame, a built-in shelf, and wooden bars for hanging clothes.)

The south bedroom has a board floor save for the fireplace's brick hearth. The plaster walls are trimmed by simply moulded baseboards and a moulded chairrail. The chairrail also serves as the sills for the moulded frames of the 9/6 sash windows, two in the southeast wall and one in the southwest wall. Boxed posts appear in the south and east corners, the former being a tapered post. Baseboard heating units are found along the outer walls. The ceiling is plastered. Moulded frames surround the two four panel doors, one at the south end of the northeast wall to the upper hall, the other near the east end of the northwest wall to the rear room. The northern half of the northeast wall is indented about one foot. The southern wall of the indentation is not perpendicular to the adjoining walls, being set at a 45 degree angle instead. In the indented wall is a small fireplace with brick hearth and surround, and angled side walls. The fireplace opening is flanked by two pilasters with simple bases

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 13Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH**Description:**

and more elaborate capitals that support a deep mantelshelf/cornice with mouldings, frieze and architrave. North of the fireplace is a built-in cabinet with two vertical single paneled doors sharing a moulded frame. The upper door is shorter than the lower door. The cabinet interior has simple shelves and board walls.

As noted in the description of the second floor layout, a closet takes up part of the space that might be allocated to the rear room, giving the room a small rectangular projection at its south corner. The rear room has a board floor. Vertical moulded boarding covers the southeast (front) wall and the southwest (closet) wall. The northeast and northwest outer walls are plastered with baseboard heating and moulded chair rails. The chair rail again serves as the sill for the moulded frames of the 9/6 sash windows, one in the northeast wall and two in the rear northwest wall. The handhewn posts of the building frame are exposed in the north and east corners of the room, the former being a tapered post. The ceiling features the exposed handhewn beams of the frame, the plates and joists of the attic floor level. Two large handhewn posts were added against the northwest wall to support two of the seven fully exposed joists. Three large modern light fixtures are mounted on the joists. The ceiling is now plastered between the beams. Plain frames surround the two four panel doors in the southeast wall to the east and south bedrooms. The southwest wall to the south of the closet is sheathed with boarding but is largely filled with plain framed openings, a four panel door to the bathroom and the doorless opening to the side stairs. At the southeast end of the closet is its vertical board door with simply moulded frame, set in a board wall. (The long, narrow closet has a board floor, plaster walls with simple baseboards and a plaster ceiling. Plain wooden shelves are built into its northwest end.)

The bathroom has a board floor, plaster walls with baseboards, and a plaster ceiling with modern light fixture. Baseboard

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Belknap County, NH**Description:**

heating units are found against the northwest and southwest walls. A boxed tapered post can be seen in the west corner. Plain frames surround the northeastern door to the rear room and the southwestern 9/6 sash window. In the north corner is a large built-in cabinet with two board doors on its southwest side. South of the cabinet, against the northeast wall, is a modern bathtub. The walls are sheathed with tiles above the bathtub on its northwest and northeast sides. A modern toilet is found in the west corner. In the south corner is a built-in counter with board sides, formica top, and built-in sink. A mirror is mounted on the southwest wall above the sink.

The attic of the main block is one large unfinished space. The board floor is interrupted only by the trapdoor for the folding ladder to the second story, the large brick chimney, and the queenposts of the exposed roof trusses. The framework of the roof, the trusses, with queenposts and collarbeams, the rafters, and the purlins, is visible, save for the tiebeams of the trusses, which are underneath the floor. This framework supports the slanting board ceilings on the southeast and northwest. The unfinished walls at the northeast and southwest ends also have exposed framing, posts, beams and studs, supporting the board sheathing. The two 6/6 sash windows in each end wall are untrimmed.

A full height cellar is found only under the southwestern quarter of the main block, to the south west of the chimney mass. the rest of the basement is only a dirt floored crawlspace. The door in the kitchen opens onto a stairway, with plain board treads and risers, that descends to the southwest into the basement, underneath the side stairs. The upper level of the stairway has board walls on the northwest and southeast. The cellar proper has a concrete floor, and stone walls on all four sides. The stone walls are topped on the building's outer walls by the brick foundation. On the northeast side of the cellar can be seen the base of the central chimney. Two large barrel vaults are built

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

into the chimney base. The vaulted spaces now share the concrete floor with the cellar. The cellar is lit by two three pane windows in the southwest foundation. Two more three pane windows can be seen in the distance at the northeast end of the crawlspace, which opens into the cellar on both sides of the chimney base. The ceiling is the exposed board floor of the first story, with its supporting framework of heavy sills and joists. At the northwest end of the cellar is the building's furnace.

The ell and its recent addition both have relatively new interiors. The southeastern fifth of the ell contains a small mailroom, with a small restroom in the addition to its southwest. The rest of the ell and the addition are devoted to one large room, now an office.

The mailroom has a carpeted floor, and roughly sawn board walls and ceiling. Plain frames surround the southeastern door to the kitchen in the main block and the six panel southwestern door to the restroom in the addition. The kitchen door has four panels on the kitchen side, but is sheathed with boards on the ell side. The large triple window in the northeast wall and the board door covering an electrical panel in the southwest wall also have plain frames. Much of the southeast wall is covered by a built-in cabinet with rough board sides, seven board doors and an open shelf area. At the easterly end of the northwest wall is the doorless opening into the office.

The restroom has a carpeted floor and vertical roughsawn board walls. The board ceiling is slanted on the southwestern side because of the slope of the roof. Plain frames trim the northeastern door to the mailroom and the southeastern single pane casement window. The room contains a toilet and a counter with a built-in sink.

The office has two levels, the larger space in the ell being two steps higher than the smaller space in the addition on the

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Belknap County, NH**Description:**

southwest. The office has carpeted floors, vertical board walls, plain window and door frames, and board ceilings. The ceiling in the ell proper is a cathedral style ceiling open to the roof, with slanted sides, and two exposed trusses of rafters and tiebeams. A fan and two light fixtures hang from the ceiling. The metal flue from a woodstove rises to the southwest slope of the ceiling. The ceiling in the addition is flat on the inner northeastern side and slanted on its outer southwestern side. At the easterly end of the southeast wall is the doorless opening to the mailroom. West of the opening on the southeast wall is an L-shaped counter with vertical board sides and doors, a formica top and a built-in sink. West of the counter, the southeast wall is covered by open shelves. Above the counter and shelves are six cabinets with board sides and doors. In the upper level of the southeast wall, double board doors serve a storage space over the mailroom. Four shelves are mounted near the south end of the northeast wall. Two double sliding glass doors at the north end of the northeast wall open onto the wooden deck. So do another double sliding glass door and a single wood framed glass door in the northwest gable end. In the upper level of the northwest wall is a double plate glass window with pointed top. A simple wooden railing closes most of the opening into the lower level in the addition. The lower level is lit by a small single pane casement window at the northwest end. At the southeast end, a large plain framed opening serves a small storage area. The plywood floor of the storage area is partly carpeted. The storage area's walls and ceilings are sheathed with plasterboard. The walls are trimmed with plain baseboards. The southwestern side of the ceiling is slanted.

The basement of the ell is entered only through the overhead garage door in the northwest gable end. The basement is one large room with concrete floor, poured concrete and concrete block walls. The ceiling is the exposed floor of the main level, but insulation hides almost everything save for the joists. Two oil tanks are set against the southwest wall.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

The 5.35 acre lot has an irregular shape, with a large block of land to the south and a long narrow strip of land stretching north along the Interstate 93 right of way. The building stands near the south corner of the property. It is set quite close to Route 132, behind a small front lawn. The building and the front lawn are raised a few feet above the roadway. Near the east corner of the front lawn is a large tree, while a shrub marks the south corner. From the driveway-parking lot to the southwest of the front lawn, three brick steps (flanked by a granite post) lead up to a brick walk that runs to the building's front entry steps. The lawn continues a short distance to the northeast of the main block's northeast gable end. A short fieldstone terrace wall marks the northeast and northwest edges of this northeast side lawn. Trees grow along the terrace wall and another large tree stands to the rear of the house.

Southwest of the main block and the ell and extending to the rear of the ell is a large graveled parking lot, reached by a short graveled driveway from the street. A narrow grassed strip separates the main block from the parking lot to the south of the side entry steps. A utility pole with a large light fixture stands near the south corner of the main block. On the narrow grass strip separating the parking lot from the street is a large sign, a wooden post with two braced horizontal bars from which hang two large painted wooden signs.

The ground generally slopes downward to the northeast and northwest of the building. Behind the building is a large lawn, that can best be described as roughly L-shaped with a large area of lawn to the northwest of the building and a narrower strip of lawn to the northeast along Route 132. The large lawn is interrupted occasionally by a tree or clump of trees. The northeastern section of the lawn is separated from Route 132 by a low stone wall and a row of trees. Another row of trees grows along the wire fence that marks the Interstate right of way on

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

the southwest side of the property. Low bushes grow on the bank between the parking lot and the lawn. To the north of the ell, part of the lawn was terraced to accommodate the paddleball courts, which were later removed. At the northwest end of the lawn is a dog pen enclosed by a chainlink fence.

The rear of the property to the north of the large lawn is now forested, with a thick growth of sizable trees. An old dirt road can still be seen, although it is no longer passable for vehicles, running from the northwest end of the lawn through the entire length of the long narrow wooded northern strip of land.

The date of the construction of the Washington Mooney house is not known. But the building is probably around two centuries old. Despite its age, and the numerous repairs and renovations made over its lifetime, the building retains many of its original features.

The exterior of the main block has probably seen the least change. The brick foundation is believed to have been installed by the Foggs, brick masons who owned the house from 1922 to 1944. [2] New first story windows were installed on the rear by the Barrons, who owned the house from 1962 to 1965 [3]. Soon after the present owners, John and Nancy Conkling, acquired the property, the windows were smashed by vandals. So, new window sash, employing the same numbers of panes, were installed c.1966.

2. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997 (information obtained by Conkling from Howard Stevenson); Deeds, Book 166, Page 192; Book 269, Page 271 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)
3. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997; Deeds, Book 428, Page 189; Book 455, Page 168 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)

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**Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH**

Description:

Metal storm windows were added c.1969. The Conklings also replaced the clapboards and the roof shakes in 1972. Other recent changes have been limited to the entries. The granite step was placed at the front entry c.1970. A new outer door was installed c.1980 to protect the original front door. The brick steps at the side entry were built in 1965 or 1966. The side door itself was replaced in the mid 1980's.[4] These repairs and renovations have had little effect on the architectural integrity of the main block exterior.

The ell, originally an unfinished shed, has been more significantly altered. The brick chimney was added by the Barrons when they installed a new furnace in the cellar in the mid 1960's. In 1972-73, the ell was rebuilt to serve as the clubhouse for public paddleball courts that were then being built behind the house. Architect August Schaefer designed the renovations. The cellar and foundation were rebuilt with concrete walls and an overhead garage door in the northeast end. The ell was enlarged by the narrow addition on its southwest side. The exterior walls were resheathed with vertical boards, and new eaves trim. Shakes covered the roof, which also acquired a large wooden sign. All of the present doors and windows were installed, as was the trellis over the northeastern doors. And the deck was built to connect the ell with the courts. The paddleball courts were removed in 1981. And the clubhouse became office space. In the late 1980's, a door in the southwest wall of the addition was removed and the whole ell was resheathed with clapboards and cornerboards.[5] The ell, although it has lost its original exterior details, is nevertheless a sympathetic addition to the better preserved main block.

4. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997
5. Ibid.

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**Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH**

Description:

The interior of the main block has also seen significant change, but the degree of change varies from room to room. The front rooms on both floors are the least changed, while the less significant rear rooms are the most changed. One change that affected many rooms was the installation of a new heating system by the Barrons in the mid 1960's, a project that saw the addition of baseboard heating units in most of the rooms. [6]

The front rooms of the first story are still very much as they were originally. The east room saw the installation of carpeting in the early 1970's, and a bulletin board in the late 1970's. The plaster ceiling in the south room was removed sometime before 1965. In 1965, the south room's board floor was replaced and a moulding was added above the woodwork on the northeast and northwest walls to cover the gap left by the removal of the original ceiling. [7] With the notable exception of the one lost ceiling, the front hall, stairhall, east room, and south room, must appear today virtually as they did when the house was first completed, with their fine woodwork still intact.

The kitchen and bathroom in the rear of the first story have seen more change as they were adapted to modern uses. It appears that the kitchen's plaster ceiling was removed sometime before 1965. [8] The Barrons installed new windows in the rear wall, during their 1962-65 ownership. They also added a modern kitchen at one end of the room, with a wall unit and an island

6. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997; Deeds, Book 428, Page 189; Book 455, Page 168 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds)
7. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997
8. Ibid.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

counter.[9] (Cabinet doors were added to the wall unit by the present owner c.1966.) The mid 1960's also saw significant changes to the walls. The rear northwestern wall was given a wainscoting that echoed the original wainscoting's used in the front rooms. Vertical boarding was placed on the northeast wall, the southeast wall east of the fireplace, and the southwest wall west of the basement stairway door. The paneling above the fireplace had been removed before 1965, so the Conklings had the present overmantel panels installed soon after they acquired the building in that year. At the same time, a post was added against the rear wall to support a ceiling joist. The ceiling was also plastered between the exposed beams c.1965. Carpeting was installed in the kitchen (and the sidehall) c.1966.[10] The bathroom has also been modernized. In the mid 1960's, the Barrons installed the corner cabinet and the adjoining counter with the built-in sink, the toilet, the shutters on the windows, and the tile "wainscoting".[11] In the early 1980's, the Conklings installed the shower and the present linoleum floor.[12]

The two front bedrooms in the second story have seen little change. At one time, the east bedroom did have a plaster ceiling that hid the now exposed beams. The plaster between those beams was added c.1965. The present owners also had to replace the

9. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997; Deeds, Book 428, Page 189; Book 455, Page 168 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds)
10. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997
11. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997; Deeds, Book 428, Page 189; Book 455, Page 168 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds)
12. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

brick hearth in the south bedroom.[13] But, basically, the appearance of the two bedrooms is unchanged.

The rear room and the bathroom on the second story have been significantly altered. In 1965, when the Conklings purchased the house, the rear room was an unfinished storage space.[14] It would seem that the original builders left this space unfinished, probably with the intention of building rooms in it at some future date. The closet was installed at some unknown time. But, the need to finish the rear room did not arise until 1965, when the Conklings needed more usable space for a rental apartment. They installed a new floor and plastered between the exposed beams of the ceiling. Two walls were sheathed with vertical boarding and two walls were plastered. The windows were trimmed with moulded frames and chairrails placed on the outer walls. Two handhewn posts were added against the rear wall to support ceiling joists. Since the 1965 renovation, the only important change in the rear room was the mounting of modern light fixtures on the ceiling joists in 1996. The bathroom was also modernized in 1965. The cabinet in the north corner, the bathtub, the tiles surrounding the tub, the toilet, and the counter with built-in sink, were all installed in that year.[15]

The only changes to the attic were the installation of the folding steps and a new floor in 1965.[16] The cellar acquired its concrete floor and present stairs when the Barrons installed the furnace there in the mid 1960's.[17] The ell, originally an

13. Ibid.

14. Ibid.

15. Ibid.

16. Ibid.

17. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997; Deeds, Book 428, Page 189; Book 455, Page 168 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds)

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

unfinished shed, was completely renovated on the interior when it was converted to a clubhouse in 1972-73. The oil tank for the furnace was moved into a new cellar under the ell. The main level rooms acquired new interior walls and ceilings, built-in cabinets and shelves, window and door frames, even the exposed trusses of the office ceiling. The only important interior changes since 1973 have been the installation of the carpeting in 1979 and the replacement of a southwestern exterior door with a board wall in the late 1980's. [18]

In summary, the exterior of the main block and the front rooms on both its first and second stories are very little changed. The kitchen, the second story rear room, and the two bathrooms have been significantly changed. But, save perhaps in the kitchen, it does not appear that these changes have cost the building any important architectural features. The ell has been completely altered on both the exterior and the interior. But, as the ell was originally a structure of little architectural significance, these alterations do not reduce the architectural value of the building.

The grounds have obviously changed since the house was built. The large farm once owned by Washington Mooney has been reduced to a much smaller parcel. Any outbuildings that once existed are now gone. The rear portions of the property have reverted to forest. But, the area around the house has probably not changed greatly.

In 1966, the brick walk to the main entry was installed and the roadside sign erected. In 1972-73, part of the rear lawn was leveled for the paddleball courts. The parking lot was also enlarged at that time. In 1981, the paddleball courts were removed, leaving little trace beyond the terrace on which they once set. A dogpen was installed by a tenant in 1995, but it is

18. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Description:

slated to be removed in 1997.[19] Basically, the grounds now form a pleasant setting for the building, with attractive lawns and trees and no structures to rival the building.

Despite some changes, the Washington Mooney House and its grounds retain their basic integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

19. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10, March 3, and April 22, 1997

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Statement of Significance:

The Washington Mooney House is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a fine, well preserved example of the vernacular Federal style. In many aspects of its design, in its materials, form, composition, treatment of windows and eaves, it is typical of the other early, central chimney, two story houses of New Hampton. But, the Washington Mooney House is distinguished from comparable houses in the town by its fine main entryway, which is more elaborate and more sophisticated than those of its contemporaries. It must be ranked among the best houses of its type in New Hampton.

The origins and early history of the building are unfortunately obscure. It is not known when the building was erected or who built it. There is no local tradition on these questions. The New Hampton Historical Society does not have any information on the origins of the house. [1] There is a tradition associating the building with Washington Mooney. [2] His name appears on the property on the 1860 Belknap County map, the earliest map to show New Hampton buildings with their owner's names. [3] And deed research by the present owner has traced the property back to Washington Mooney, showing that he owned the property at the time of his death in 1875. [4] A later deed calls the property "the

1. Owner John Conkling has contacted the New Hampton Historical Society and other local historians to ask about the origins of the building, but his efforts have met with no success.
2. Information supplied to John Conkling by Pauline S. Merrill, local historian. Interview of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10, 1997
3. E.M. Woodford "Map of Belknap County, New Hampshire" (Philadelphia, Smith & Peavey, 1860)
4. Deed, Book 61, Page 129, from Robinson C. Rollins, administrator of estate of Washington Mooney to Ovid D. Mooney (manuscript, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Statement of Significance:

homestead farm of the late Washington Mooney". [5] But, the deed research could not trace the property to any earlier owner, as Mooney was involved in many land transactions, none of which could be positively identified as including the house. [6] It appears unlikely that Washington Mooney built the house himself. He was born in either 1795 [7] or 1797 [8] and did not marry until 1831. [9] He probably acquired the house from an earlier, now unknown owner.

The farm, 160 acres in 1876, remained in the Mooney family until 1894 [10], and then passed through a long series of fourteen owners over the next seven decades. [11] By 1895, the property containing the house was reduced to 20 acres [12]. It was further reduced to its present 5.35 acres in the mid 20th century by sales of land to the State of New Hampshire for a highway

5. Deed, Book 68, Page 298 (manuscript, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)
6. Interview of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10, 1997
7. The family tombstone in the New Hampton Village Cemetery gives Washington Mooney's dates as "1795-1875".
8. John C. Gowan, Pauline Swain Merrill and others "Genealogy of the Town of New Hampton, New Hampshire" vol.3, p.2 of the Mooney section (manuscript, Gordon-Nash Library, New Hampton, N.H., compiled in 1940's)
9. Ibid.
10. Deeds, Book 61, Page 129; Book 68, Page 298; Book 92, Page 208 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)
11. Deeds, Book 92, Page 208; Book 93, Pages 344 and 358; Book 94, Page 504; Book 97, Page 473; Book 132, Page 356; Book 155, Page 84; Book 166, Pages 43 and 192; Book 269, Page 271; Book 287, Page 35; Book 409, Page 515; Book 422, Page 399; Book 428, Page 189 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)
12. Deed, Book 94, Page 504 (manuscript, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)

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Washington Mooney House
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Statement of Significance:

maintenance facility and Interstate 93. [13] The house seems to have changed little over these years, the only notable improvement being the brick foundation added by the Foggs. Beginning in the 1960's, there were more changes, as the building was somewhat modernized and converted to new uses. The last two owners, the Barrons and the Conklings, remodeled some of the interiors of the main block for bathrooms, a modern kitchen, and more living space, but made no significant changes to the main block's exterior. The property was primarily a residence until acquired by the Conklings in 1965. They opened a real estate office in the first floor in 1966, while renting the rest of the main block as a residence. This combined use of the main block continued until the mid 1970's, when the entire main block was converted to offices. The ell was extensively rebuilt in 1972-73 to serve as the clubhouse for tennis courts erected behind the house. [14] These changes have however had little effect on the architectural integrity and significance of the main block, which still retains a number of interiors and its fine exterior virtually intact.

The architecture of the Washington Mooney suggests a late 18th century (or very early 19th century) construction date, as its design is typical of other buildings erected at the end of the 18th century in New Hampton. The territory that is now the town of New Hampton was first granted in 1765 [15]. But, the first settlers did not arrive until 1775 [16]. Early development in the town was primarily agricultural, with gristmills and sawmills

13. Deeds, Book 351, Page 287; Book 362, Page 563 (manuscript, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.); interview of John Conkling by David Ruell, April 25, 1997
14. Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10 and March 3, 1997
15. Pauline Swain Merrill, John C. Gowan and others, A SMALL GORE OF LAND, A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE (New Hampton, N.H., New Hampton Bicentennial Committee, 1976-77) p.17
16. Ibid., p.33

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Statement of Significance:

being the only significant early industries.[17] Most of the surviving early houses in New Hampton are the one and a half story capes so typical of the New Hampshire farms of the period. But, there also survive some eleven two and a half story houses with central chimneys, including the Washington Mooney House.[18] Most of these buildings are vernacular in style, although some have embellishments that can be classified as Federal or Greek Revival, such as the Federal style main entry of the Washington Mooney House.

The materials used for these buildings are typical of rural New England construction of the period. All eleven structures are wooden frame buildings. With one exception, they are sheathed with clapboards. And that exception, the Drake House, appears to still retain its clapboards under its present asbestos shingle siding. The buildings all have central brick chimneys, but almost half of the chimneys have been reduced in size. The Washington

17. Ibid., p.70-72

18. There is no comprehensive historic buildings inventory of New Hampton, although a selective survey of the more important historic buildings was done by the Lakes Region Planning Commission in 1984. (The selective survey does include the Washington Mooney House.) The list of surviving early two and a half story houses was developed by owner John Conkling, based on his experience in New Hampton real estate sales and appraisals over thirty years, and supplemented by a review of the windshield survey done in preparation for the 1984 selective survey. The buildings include, besides the Washington Mooney House, the Drake House (Drake Road), the Kelley Tavern (Pinnacle Hill Road and Drake Road), Kelley Hill (Pinnacle Hill Road), the Smith House (Dana Hill Road), the Noah Robinson House (Straits Road), Butternut Farm (Straits Road), the Clendenin Place (Town House Road), the Old Stagecoach Tavern (Route 132 and Shingle Camp Hill Road), the Josiah Magoon House (Magoon Road), and Whitebridge Farm (Straits Road).

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Statement of Significance:

Mooney House, the Kelley Tavern, the Noah Robinson House, Butternut Farm, the Clendenin Place, and Whitebridge Farm still retain the large massive chimney stack characteristic of early New England houses. Most of the roofs are, however, now covered with modern roofing materials, asphalt shingles or, in the case of the Josiah Magoon House, metal roofing. Only the Washington Mooney House and the Kelley Tavern now have the more traditional wooden shake roofs.

The Washington Mooney House is, in its basic form, typical of the majority of these surviving two and a half story buildings. All have gable roofed main blocks, with the exception of the Josiah Magoon House, whose main block roof is gabled on one end and hipped on the other. Three of the houses, the Josiah Magoon House, the Clendenin Place, and Butternut Farm, have main blocks that are only one room deep. But the majority, like the Washington Mooney House, are two rooms deep.

The main blocks of the eleven buildings are all five bays wide, with one exception, the nine bay long Old Stagecoach Tavern, whose original five bay main block was extended to the east with four additional, albeit irregular, bays. [19] The composition of the main block facades is practically the same for all of the buildings, a symmetrical design with the main entry and a second story window in the center, and a window in each story of the other four bays. The windows in the four side bays are grouped in adjacent pairs, an arrangement typical of New England vernacular architecture, although not usually found in the high style Federal buildings of the period. The only deviation from this basic facade design is one "missing" second story window in the Clendenin Place. Even the Old Stagecoach Tavern retains this facade composition in its five western bays.

19. Interview of Robert Thompson, New Hampton Historical Society, by David Ruell, April 26, 1997

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH**Statement of Significance:**

Ornament is limited on all eleven buildings. All have plain window frames. (With the exception of the Drake House and the Smith House, they all have multipane sash windows.) The most common eaves treatment, found on the Washington Mooney House, the Drake House, the Kelley Tavern, the Noah Robinson House, the Clendenin Place, and the Old Stagecoach Tavern, is box cornices with mouldings and friezes on the lateral sides and close verges with returns (of either the lateral cornices or the verges) on the gables. The Josiah Magoon House has plainer lateral cornices and close verges on its one gable. Kelley Hill, the Smith House, and Whitebridge Farm have full box cornices, on the lateral sides and also, with returns, on the gables. Butternut Farm has close lateral eaves and box cornices on the gables.

It is in the treatment of the main entry that the Washington Mooney House stands out from the other houses. The Drake House and Butternut Farm now have modern prefabricated entries, replacing their original entries. The main entries of the Kelley Tavern, the Smith House, and the Old Stagecoach Tavern just have plain frames. The plain frame of the Whitebridge Farm entry is topped by a simple cornice. The other five houses have more ornate entries with pilasters and entablatures. The main doors of the Noah Robinson House and the Clendenin Place are each topped by a transom window, and flanked by two pilasters supporting an entablature. The entries of the Josiah Magoon House and Kelley Hill both have sidelights and two outer paneled pilasters supporting an entablature. Only the Washington Mooney House main entry has sidelights and four pilasters supporting an entablature. The four pilasters are further distinguished by their entasis, a feature only seen elsewhere on the Clendenin Place pilasters. The pilasters of the other main entries are simply straight sided. The main entry of the Washington Mooney House is therefore both more elaborate and architecturally more sophisticated than any seen on the ten other New Hampton buildings. The well designed main entry is the building's most notable exterior element.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Statement of Significance:

Most of the architectural features of the Washington Mooney House; its construction materials of wooden post and beam frame, clapboard sheathing, wooden shake roofing, and large brick chimney; its form with gable roof, two room depth, and massive proportions; the composition of its main facade with five symmetrical bays and paired windows; and much of its ornament, plain window frames and gable eaves, but more elaborate lateral cornices; are typical of the late 18th century vernacular tradition of New Hampton and rural New Hampshire. In its main entry, with sidelights, entablature, and four pilasters with entasis, the building pays homage to the more fashionable Federal style. The result is an attractive, well designed building, one of the best works of architecture of its time and place.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Bibliography:

John Conkling, letter to Christine Fonda, with photo survey of comparable New Hampton houses, dated April 30, 1996 (manuscript, N.H. Division of Historical Resources, Concord N.H.)

Deeds, Book 61, Page 129; Book 68, Page 298; Book 92, Page 208; Book 93, Pages 344 and 358; Book 94, Page 504; Book 97, Page 473; Book 132, Page 356; Book 155, Page 84; Book 166, Pages 43 and 192; Book 269, Page 271; Book 287, Page 35; Book 351, Page 287; Book 362, Page 563; Book 409, Page 515; Book 422, Page 399; Book 428, Page 189; Book 455, Page 168; Book 1388, Page 346 (manuscripts, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.)

John C. Gowan, Pauline Swain Merrill and others, "Genealogy of the Town of New Hampton New Hampshire" (manuscript, Gordon-Nash Library, New Hampton, N.H.)

Pauline Swain Merrill, John C. Gowan and others, A SMALL GORE OF LAND, A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE (New Hampton, N.H., New Hampton Bicentennial Committee, 1976-77)

Mooney family tombstone, New Hampton Village Cemetery, New Hampton, N.H.

"New Hampton Historic Resource Inventory" (manuscript, Lakes Region Planning Commission, Meredith, N.H., 1984)

Probate file #3006, Estate of Washington Mooney (manuscript, Belknap County Registry of Probate, Laconia, N.H.)

E.M. Woodford, "Map of Belknap County, New Hampshire" (Philadelphia, Smith & Peavey, 1860)

Interviews of John Conkling by David Ruell, February 10, March 3, April 22 and 25, 1997

Interview of Robert Thompson by David Ruell, April 26, 1997

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is a 5.35 acre parcel on the northwest side of Route 104 in the town of New Hampton. The boundary begins at the south corner of the property at the intersection of the right of way of Route 104 and the right of way of Interstate 93, then proceeds 501 feet northeast on the northwest side of Route 104 to land of the State of New Hampshire, then 298 feet northwest and 352 feet west along the State's property, then proceeds north roughly following an old road in four sections of line with slightly different bearings along the State's property, the four sections being respectively 179 feet, 121 feet, 133 feet, and 151 feet in length, then proceeds 140 feet southwest on the State's property boundary to the right of way of Interstate 93, then proceeds southerly 1034 feet along the easterly side of the Interstate 93 right of way to the point of beginning. The property boundary is shown on the accompanying map of the nominated property. The nominated property appears as Property 4 on New Hampton Property Map R-11, and is described in the deed of John and Nancy Conkling to the John C. Conkling Trust (Book 1388, Page 346, Belknap County Registry of Deeds, Laconia, N.H.).

Boundary Justification:

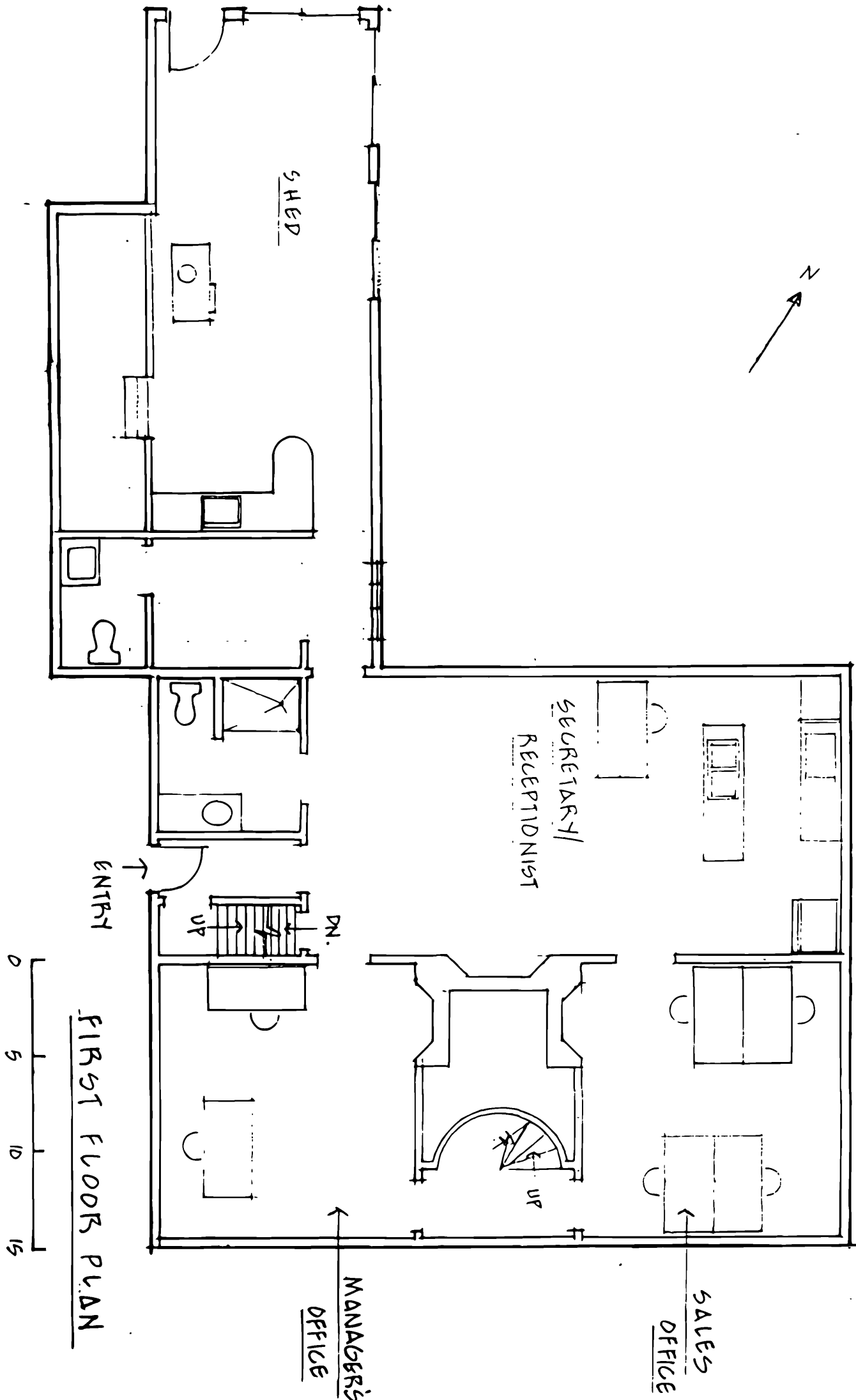
The nominated property includes the Washington Mooney House and land historically associated with the building since at least the mid 19th century and believed to have been associated with the building since its construction.

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Washington Mooney House
Belknap County, NH

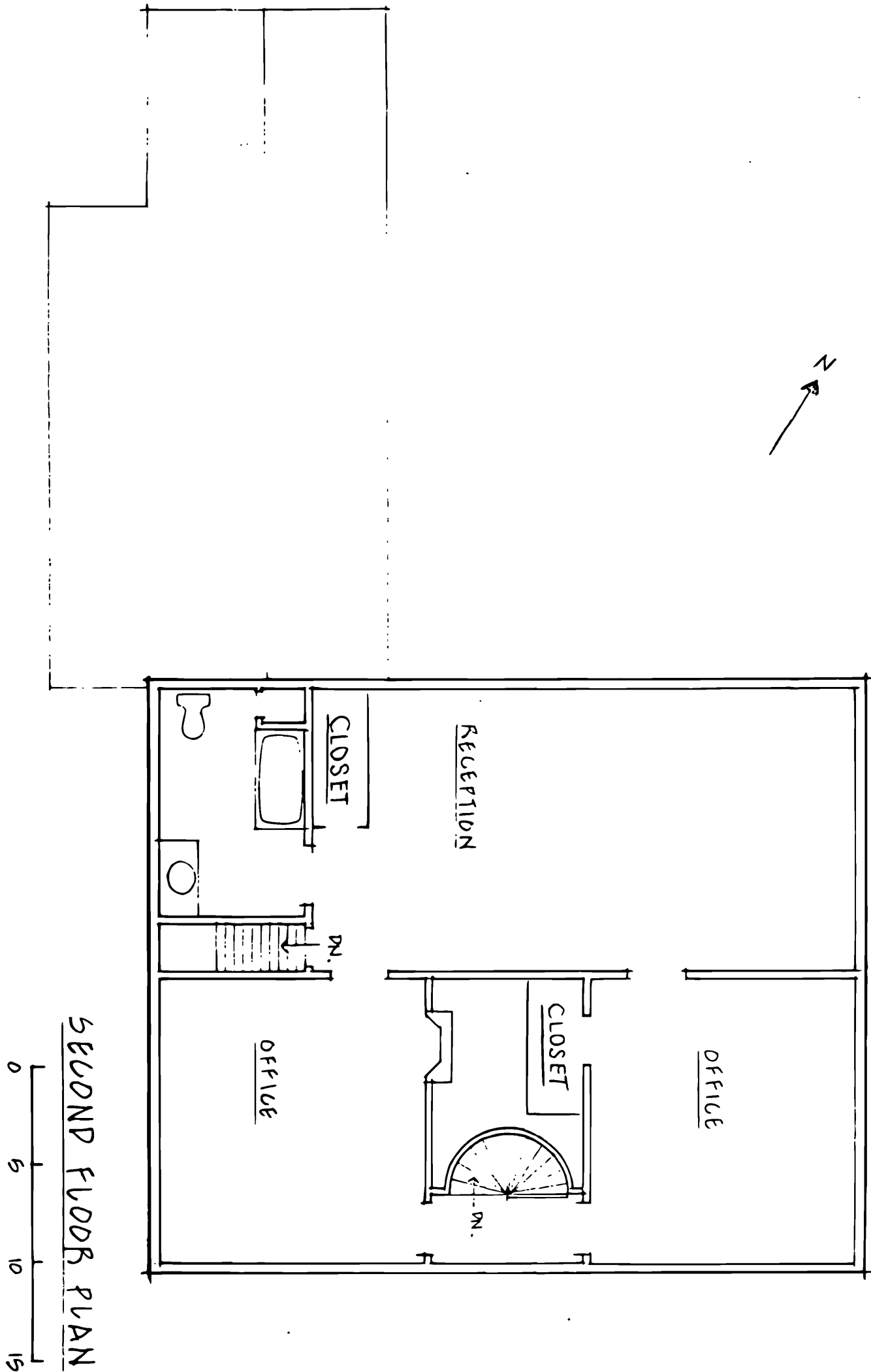


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Washington Mooney House
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