

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received JUL 6 1982

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic The Upper Village

and/or common East Derry Historic District (preferred)

2. Location

Roughly bounded by Hampstead Lane, Cem. and Cem. Rd.

street & number From the corner of Hampstead & Cemetery Rds. along Hampstead to the East Derry firehouse. Right along Lane Rd. to the corner of Hugh Jones property. not for publication

city, town East Derry vicinity of _____ congressional district First

state New Hampshire code 33 county Rockingham code 015

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: library

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership (See Continuation Sheet #1)

street & number _____

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rockingham County Registry of Deeds
Rockingham County Courthouse

street & number Hampton Road

city, town Exeter state New Hampshire 03833

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NONE has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local _____

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Upper Village Historic District is comprised of 22 buildings of architectural or historical significance, the cemetery belonging to the First Church, the Pearson field, and the Shepard fields which contain the Shepard carriage house, the foundation of the Thom Tavern, and the muster parade grounds. The District's houses were all constructed between 1810 and the early 1900s, with the majority built in the early-to-mid 1800s. No houses have been built in the Village since 1929. The greatest number of homes within the District are in the Federal style, but the District does display a wide variety of well integrated architectural styles. Few of the buildings have undergone major alterations, and all are in good condition. There is only one small non-contributing site, a storage building and playground located behind the First Church. The Upper Village is located on Hampstead Road at the top of the hill. The District begins at the corner of Hampstead and Cemetery Roads and runs along Hampstead to the Betton house. It turns right at the intersection of Hampstead and Lane and proceeds along Lane Road to the Hugh Jones house.

Buildings and sites contributing to the character of the District:

1. The First Church (Hampstead Road) 1769. Sketch Map #1

The First Church is a 2 story, 4 bay wide rectangle with a 4-stage tower, square in plan. Originally constructed in 1769, the church was enlarged in 1824 by cutting the building in half and inserting 24 feet into the middle. The tower, which was also added in 1824 by Nehemiah Choate, a Deacon of the Church and builder of several of the homes within the District, is surmounted by an open square belfrey with corner pilasters supporting a Doric entablature. Above the belfrey is an octagonal lantern with louvered, arched openings. Finally, an octagonal drum surmounted by a finial and a weathervane completes the steeple. The main building of the Church has a gable roof with cornice returns, a full classical cornice and slate roof, and a coursed granite block foundation. The roof timbers are hand-hewn, 15 x 18 inches in size. The building was divided into two stories in 1845, at which time the present window treatment was introduced.

2. Forest Hill Cemetery (Cemetery Road). Sketch Map #2

The Forest Hill Cemetery contains fine examples of late 18th Century grave carving. The Reverend James MacGregor, first pastor of the Church, is buried there, as are quite a few other first settlers. The stone carvings exhibit a number of the popular styles such as the soul effigy, death's head, hourglass, and vines. Notable are the Rev. David MacGregor gravestone, which bears his portrait; the Gregg family stones with their well executed soul effigies covered by "Umbrella" shaped carvings; and the James (1781) and Agnes (1742) Ewins stone which has one of the more ornate soul effigy carvings. The effigy is surrounded by a temple with Greek style pillars and a triangular pediment. Over the effigy is an hourglass turned on its side. The cemetery has a number of double gravestones, such as the Robert and Rebecca Montgomery stone (1775 and 1769 respectively) and the James and Sarah Adams stone (1781 and 1778), each of which has a soul effigy above the husband's grave and a portrait over the wife's.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry (linen)	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates N/A **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Upper Village's twenty-two buildings provide an unusually cohesive study of 19th Century architectural styles from about 1810 to the beginning of the 20th Century. While the majority of the structures are in the Federal style, the District includes fine examples of buildings and modifications to Federal structures in a variety of styles including Italianate, Neo-Classical, Greek Revival, Colonial Revival and Queen Anne. The District is fortunate that there is only one small non-contributing structure located behind the Church so that the area offers an unspoiled look at 19th Century architectural styles.

The builders and owners of the Upper Village's houses were intimately connected with the religious, commercial, and educational activities of the area. It is the Upper Village settlers who were responsible for the establishment of the Presbyterian faith within New England. The First Church, located at the beginning of the District on Hampstead Road, is the founding church of the faith, and several of the homes have direct connections to the church as they served as the residencies for the First Church's pastors and deacons.

The main street of the District, Hampstead Road, featuring a superb mixture of early to late 19th Century styles, is dominated by the First Church with its beautifully ornate bell tower added in 1824 by local builder and Church deacon, Nehemiah Choate. At this end of the street, the District's public activities were and are centered. Next to the Church is the brick, Neo-Classical Taylor Library. Across the street, the Parker Store, though altered, still presents a characteristic commercial store front with its central entrance and flanking display windows. Next to the store is the Town Hall, a 2 story Italianate style building constructed in 1875.

In addition to the Town Hall, several other District structures feature Italianate styling including the 1810 Reverend Edward Parker house, a Federal with an Italianate front porch, the Reverend Wellman house with a Italianate verandah, and the Deacon Humphrey house.

The District includes a sizeable number of fine quality Federal houses which have undergone few alterations including the Elizabeth MacGregor, William Oram, James Thom, Alanson Tucker, Nehemiah Choate, Susan Harper, and Hugh Jones homes, as well as the brick Derry Bank with its full length recessed window arches.

The two newest homes within the District, the 1913 Emerson house and the 1921 Shepard house, exhibit sympathetic architectural integration into the neighborhood. The Emerson house is notable for its mixture of styles which provides a kind of compact "evolution" of the different styles found within the neighborhood.

The Thornton Betton house is one of the more formal and ornate homes with a Palladian window, ornate cornice frieze, and lovely Queen Anne style porch. It contrasts nicely with the architectural simplicity and informality of the James Thom Store and the MacGregor Creamery.

(See Continuation Sheet #9)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheet #14)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 72

Quadrangle name DERRY, NH

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	D	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
E	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>	F	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u>
G	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>5</u>	H	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Continuation Sheet #14)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Claire S. Larrabee</u>		
organization	<u>East Derry Improvement Society</u>	date	<u>5/15/81</u>
street & number	<u>Post Office Box #93</u>	telephone	<u>432-9859</u>
city or town	<u>East Derry,</u>	state	<u>New Hampshire 03041</u>

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]
 Commissioner, Dept. of Resources & Economic Development
 title NH State Historic Preservation Officer date June 28, 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

William H. Braslow date 8.10.82

Keeper of the National Register

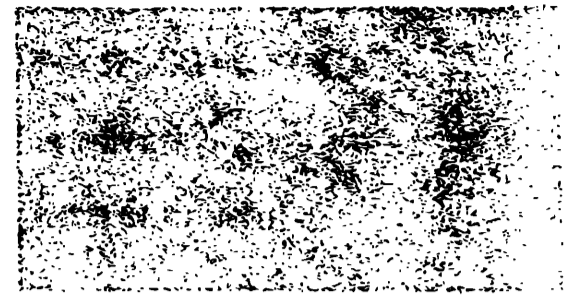
Attest: Patrick W. Andrews date 8/9/82

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet #1 - OWNER OF PROPERTY

Item number 4

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This listing of property owners within the District is accurate and complete as of June 30, 1981; it is based on the Town of Derry tax rolls.
(Updated April 20, 1982)

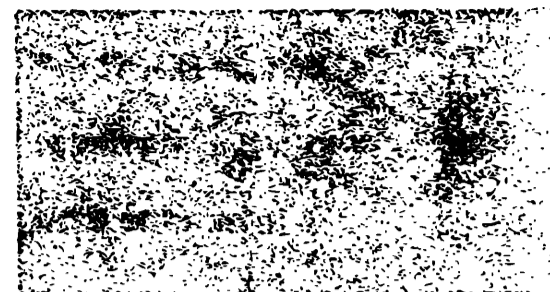
	<u>SKETCH MAP NUMBER</u>	<u>PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER</u>
<u>First Church (1769)</u> Board of Directors c/o Rev. Diana Augspurger Box #114 East Derry, N.H. 03041	1	1, 2, 4
<u>Forest Hill Cemetery</u> Board of Selectmen Town of Derry Derry, N.H. 03038	2	
<u>Edward T. Parker Store (c. 1850)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Roger Stork East Derry General Store Hampstead Road East Derry, N.H. 03041	3	3, 5
<u>The Taylor Library (1929)</u> Board of Selectmen Town of Derry Derry, N.H. 03038	4	4
<u>Town Hall (1875)</u> Board of Selectmen Town of Derry Derry, N.H. 03038	5	3, 5
<u>Edward L. Parker House (1810)</u> Mr. & Mrs. George Gahan General Delivery East Derry, N.H. 03041	6	4
<u>Pearson Field</u> S.T. Smith & Heirs RFD #2 English Range Road Derry, N.H. 03038	7	
<u>Reverend James Wellman House (c. 1853)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Garvey Box #27 East Derry, N.H. 03041	8	4

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

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Continuation sheet #2 - OWNER OF PROPERTY

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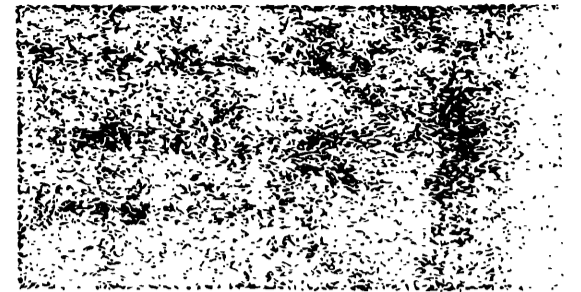
	<u>SKETCH MAP NUMBER</u>	<u>PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER</u>
<u>Elizabeth MacGregor House (c. 1825)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Edward Larrabee Box #93 East Derry, N.H. 03041	9	3, 5
<u>William H. Oram House (c. 1830)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Parry Box #2 East Derry, N.H. 03041	10	5, 6
<u>James Thom Store (1823)</u> Board of Directors c/o Rev. Diana Augspurger Box #114 East Derry, N.H. 03041	11	6, 9
<u>Shepard Fields</u> Klaudia S. Shepard 34 Spooner Road Chestnut Hill, MA 02167	12	
<u>Derry Bank (1829)</u> Klaudia S. Shepard 34 Spooner Road Chestnut Hill, MA 02167	13	9
<u>Alan B. Shepard House (1921)</u> Mrs. Renza E. Shepard Box #112 East Derry, N.H. 03041	14	7, 10
<u>James Thom House (1815)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Dunn Hampstead Road East Derry, N.H. 03041	15	7, 10
<u>Deacon John Humphrey House (c. 1870)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fleeson Box #163 East Derry, N.H. 03041	16	7
<u>Thornton Betton House (c. 1830)</u> Helen Noyes Heirs PO Box #55 East Derry, N.H. 03041	17	8

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

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Continuation sheet #3 - OWNER OF PROPERTY

Item number 4

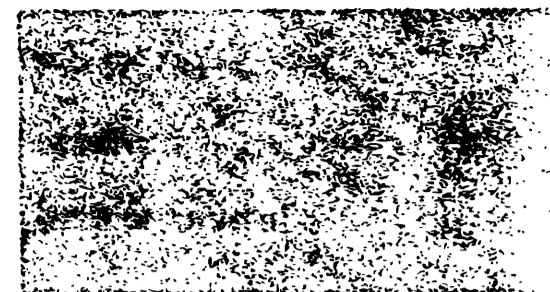
Page 3

	<u>SKETCH MAP NUMBER</u>	<u>PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER</u>
<u>Charles S. Emerson House (1913)</u> Irving E. Heirs & Mrs. Maguerite Shemeld Box #84 East Derry, N.H. 03041	18	
<u>Alanson Tucker House (1816)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Richard Malone Box #4 East Derry, N.H. 03041	19	10
<u>Edward MacGregor Creamery (1880)</u> Mr. & Mrs. James Reinhardt Lane Road East Derry, N.H. 03041	20	
<u>Nehemiah Choate House (1810)</u> Mrs. Judith Scruggs Lane Road East Derry, N.H. 03041	21	11
<u>Mary Ela House (c. 1840)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Boutin General Delivery East Derry, N.H. 03041	22	
<u>Adams Female Academy (c. 1830)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Richard Varney Box #121 East Derry, N.H. 03041	23	
<u>Susan Harper House (c. 1830)</u> Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Miller Box #73 East Derry, N.H. 03041	24	
<u>Hugh Jones House (c. 1820)</u> Mrs. Jesse Deale RFD #2 Lane Road East Derry, N.H. 03041	25	12

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Continuation sheet #4 - DESCRIPTION

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The Montgomery effigy is further decorated with a winged hourglass and a bird, probable a dove, on top of the hourglass. There are also an interesting variety of death's heads, and a large number of stones decorated simply with rosettes, diamond, heart, and caskets shapes, as well as small shovels, skulls and crossbones, and flowering vines. Dr. Philip Godfrid Kust's stone, with an elaborate carving including a compass, square, and hand holding a trowel suggests the man's affiliation with the Masonic order.

3. Edward T. Parker Store (Hampstead Road), circa 1850. Sketch Map #3

The Parker store is a 2½ story frame structure with gable roof and corner pilasters, and extensions to the side of the main building. The original configuration of the front entrance, though altered, is still clearly visible. The central entry has two projecting display windows on either side of a former double entrance. An overhanging porch roof is supported on crossed trusses suggestive of the stick style. The extension to the right of the front massing is now used as the entrance to the store and has been recently re-shingled and painted.

4. Taylor Library (Hampstead Road), 1929. Neo-Classical Revival. Sketch Map #4

The "T"-plan, Neo-Classical Revival, 5 bay, 1 story village library is a brick building with interior end chimneys and a central rear ell. It features Flemish Bond brick and a gable slate roof with dentils. The library has a projecting center entry pavillion with a broken triangular pediment. The wooden sheathing of the pavilion is rusticated. Both the segmentally arched windowheads and the 8-panel door with transom light feature the keystone motif. The foundation has a moulded brick watertable.

5. Town Hall (Hampstead Road), 1875. Italianate. Sketch Map #5

A simple example of the Italianate style, the Town Hall is a 2 story, 3 bay frame structure with hip roof. Its roof cornice has a dentil molding and carved, drop pendant brackets. The modified central front door with transom is framed by Italianate pilasters with chamfered cornices. The paired, elongated windows have cornices supported by paired brackets. The building's rear ell is supported on a raised brick foundation that has basement windows with rectangular lintels and sills.

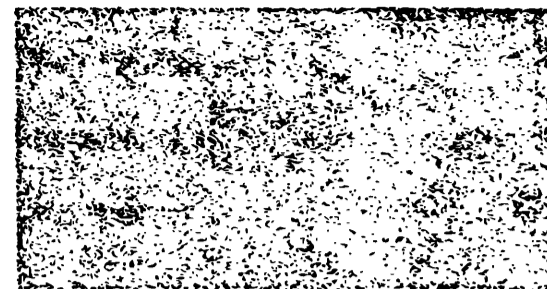
6. Edward L. Parker House (Hampstead Road), 1810. Federal. Sketch Map #6

The Reverend Edward Parker House shows an interesting and effective blending of the Federal style with late 19th Century modifications. The 2 story, clapboard Federal dwelling with hip roof has a front porch and door in the Italianate style and upper level 6/6 Greek Revival windows. The front porch's square posts with chamfered corners rest on wooden pedestals. The top half of the front door, which has 2 rectangular transom sash, is dominated by a panel of Queen Anne sash. There is an Italianate bay window in the rear ell. The rear porch is Colonial Revival with rounded pilasters and another Queen Anne sash door. Beyond the rear ell are an attached shed and a separate garage.

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7. Pearson Field (Hampstead Road) Sketch Map #7

Located between the Town Hall and the Elizabeth MacGregor house, the Pearson field is currently hayed. The field, combined with the Shepard fields, and the sizeable house lots, adds to the District's quiet, rural atmosphere. It is a reminder of the farming once conducted on much of the District's still open land.

8. Reverend James Wellman House (Hampstead Road), circa 1853. Sketch Map #8

The Wellman House is one of the homes within the District which demonstrates the successful integration of a later architectural style the District's predominantly Federal style. The 3 story, clapboard structure has a pronounced roof cornice with paired brackets. An Italianate porch has square posts with chamfered corners and a balustrade with chamfered balusters. The porch cornice also has sawn wooden brackets similar to those on the roof cornice. The top half of the double leaf front door has Queen Anne sash with colored glass. The single story section attached to the 2 story main structure replaces a two-story section burned circa 1920.

9. Elizabeth MacGregor House (Hampstead Road), circa 1825. Federal. Sketch Map #9

The Elizabeth MacGregor House, a 2 story, hip-roofed Federal dwelling is one of five homes within the District built by Nehemiah Choate. The left side of the house is one room deep, while the right side extends two rooms deep, with an attached ell. The front double leaf doors, with a Greek Doric rectangular transom sash, is flanked by pilasters which support a full entablature. The paired windows are 6/6 with architrave trim and louvered shutters. The main block has interior chimneys behind the ridge. A bay window on the right side is a later addition. A skylight and two new windows in the rear have recently been added to the ell.

10. William H. Oram House (Hampstead Road), circa 1830. Federal. Sketch Map #10

The Oram House, which was the site of the first library in town, is a simple, 2 story, 5 bay frame structure with a glass sunroom to the left of the main structure and an extension and barn behind. The front door pediment features a dentil molding.

11. James Thom Store (Hampstead Road), 1823. Sketch Map #11

Stylistically one of the simplest houses in the District, the 2 story, 3 bay, frame James Thom store presents a "farmhouse" massing with a hip roof. The massing is an "I" house with extension and sheds beyond. The 1 bay entry porch is a late 19th Century addition with round, turned posts supporting a peaked roof. The front door features side lights running the full length of the front door. The store was the meeting place of the Masonic Lodge from the Lodge's inception in 1826.

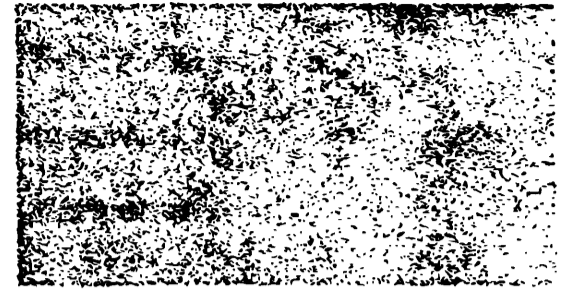
12. Shepard Fields (Hampstead Road). Sketch Map #12

The Shepard Fields are on both sides of Hampstead Road. One section of the field is located behind the Oram, Thom, and Derry Bank structures. There is another small section between the Bank and the Tucker house. On the other side of the road, the field runs between the Elizabeth MacGregor and Shepard houses. This last field is

(See Continuation Sheet #6)

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12. Shepard Fields (continued)

the site of the Thom Tavern/Shepard family home foundation. The Thom Tavern was built circa 1800 and was used as a tavern and post office. It was moved in 1896 and enlarged to become the Frederick Shepard family home. The house was demolished in 1944. The Shepard carriage house, with circa 1920 doors, still stands. The woods in back of the foundation were a parade where musters were held, and granite posts are still visible.

13. Derry Bank (Hampstead Road), 1829. Federal. Sketch Map #13

The Derry Bank is a 3 bay, brick Federal with a projecting central entry. The entry is framed by square pilasters, a triangular pediment and sidelights. The windows feature splayed granite lintels and are set in recessed brick arches running the full height of the building.

14. Alan B. Shepard House (Hampstead Road), 1921. Sketch Map #14

A 2 story, 3 bay structure, the Shepard House has a central projecting pavilion featuring a broken pediment. The first story has paired 8/8 windows and a flat roofed sun porch with corner pilasters. There is a wooden fanlight in the attic and a 20th Century garage to the right rear of the house.

15. James Thom House (Hampstead Road), 1815. Federal. Sketch Map #15

Nehemiah Choate also built this 2 story, 5 bay Federal dwelling. Like most of the other Choate houses, the central massing has an ell behind. The six panel front door is framed by fluted pilasters supporting a partial entablature. The door is surmounted by a round headed transom sash. Attached to the ell is a large barn. There is a 20th Century garage to the right rear of the house.

16. Deacon John Humphrey House (Hampstead Road), circa 1870. Italianate. Sketch Map #16

The Italianate, 2 story, clapboard Humphrey house has a three-bay facade and lower front windows with wooden tracery. The front porch is supported by columns and the front door is framed by an oblong light and sidelights. An attached barn has a small, decorative cupola.

17. Thornton Betton House (Hampstead Road), circa 1830. Sketch Map #17

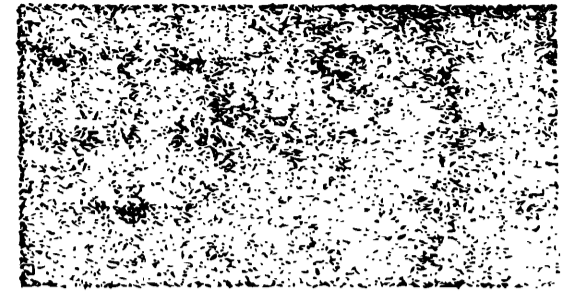
The Thornton Betton House is one of the largest and most elaborate in the District. A 5 bay, 2 story structure, the house features a solid wooden fanlight above the front door, which is flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a Palladian window in the center of the second story. The roof features an ornamental frieze of diamond and cube shaped carvings. There is a bay window on the left side of the house, as well as another bay, and a Queen Anne style porch on the right. The porch has an ornate valance with turned members and balustrade with turned balusters. Attached to the east side of the house is a two-story wing and a barn.

(See Continuation Sheet #7)

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18. Charles S. Emerson House (Lane Road), 1913. Sketch Map #18

The 2 story, clapboard Emerson house presents an interesting mixture of architectural styles. It has a pyramidal hip roof and cornice with paired brackets, and hip dormer windows with panes embedded in tracery. The front door is surmounted by a rectangular transom sash and framed by sidelights. There is a second floor shallow relief bow window and a side window with wooden fanlight.

19. Alanson Tucker House (Lane Road), 1816. Federal. Sketch Map #19

The Alanson Tucker House is Nememiah Choate's largest home within the District. A massive, square, hip-roofed Federal with a front extension, the house has an ell extending from the left rear and a large barn attached to the left front. The foundation of a porch remains at the base of the house's right front. A semi-elliptical fanlight and side lights frame the six panel front door. The house has corner pilasters and a cornice which features mutules similar to those on the Church's bell tower. The left front one-story extension has flush boarding and curved brackets. The central hall runs the entire length of house, and the rear door, leading out to a porch, has a matching semi-elliptical fanlight. A huge, double stairway leads to the second floor.

20. Edward MacGregor Creamery (Lane Road), circa 1880. Sketch Map #20

A 2 story, clapboard structure with a projecting central pavilion, a gable roof, and an ell to the left of the main building, the Creamery was once attached to the Alanson Tucker barn. It is a simple house, suggesting its more utilitarian purpose at one time, and presents an interesting contrast to its more formal neighbors, the Tucker home next door, and the Choate home across the street.

21. Nemiah Choate House (Lane Road), circa 1810. Federal. Sketch Map #21

Consistent with the other Choate homes within the District, the builder's own house is a 5 bay, 2 story, hip-roofed Federal dwelling. It has a rear ell with attached sheds and large barn. A semi-elliptical fanlight surmounts the six panel front door, while side lights resting on panels frame it. The cornice above the door has a dentil moulding.

22. Mary Ela House (Lane Road), circa 1840. Sketch Map #22

A 2 story structure with a gambrel roof, the Ela House has a Colonial Revival portico with a triangular pediment and rounded columns. The front door is flanked by sidelights.

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23. Adams Female Academy (Lane Road), circa 1830. Sketch Map #23

The 2 story, clapboard Academy was the site of one of the first schools in the United States to prescribe a regular course of studies for women. A simple building, the Academy at one time had an ornate cupola on its main roof. The cupola's balustrade remains. The four-panel front door, the only one in the District, has a transom sash. The front porch has a central peak and a shingle roof and round, turned posts with ornate brackets at the roof line.

24. Susan Harper House (Lane Road), circa 1830. Federal. Sketch Map #24

A very simply styled Federal dwelling, the Harper house is a 2 story, 5 bay frame house with rectangular transom sash above the front door. The door is flanked by wide pilasters. There is a rear ell attached to the main structure.

25. Hugh Jones House (Lane Road), circa 1820. Federal. Sketch Map #25

The Hugh Jones House is another Nehemiah Choate structure. Its massing is similar to all of the other Choate houses, being a 5 bay, 2 story Federal dwelling with rear ell. The Jones house, like the MacGregor house, has interior chimneys behind the ridge. The house features Choate's most elaborate front door detail with rectangular transom sash over the door. The door is flanked by paired fluted pilasters, and has a full entablature. The architrave has decorative molding and tiny curved brackets. On the right side of the building is an attached grape arbor. A large barn is to the left rear of the property.

Non-Contributing Structures

Storage Shed and Playground. Sketch Map 1A

The storage shed and playground are behind the First Church, and so are not visible from Hampstead Road. The storage shed is a low, one-story green cement block structure. The playground consists of a swing set and jungle gym.

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Introducing different architectural elements into the District are the Mary Ela house with a Colonial Revival portico, gambrel roof, and roof dormers as well as the Adams Female Academy which has a porch with a central peak and columns with ornate brackets at the roof line, and the only 4-panel front door in the District.

While the Upper Village structures present a well integrated mixture of styles, First Church Deacon Nehemiah Choate provides the focal point for the architectural coherence of the District. Choate was responsible for building six of the village's homes, five of which are still standing, as well as the Church spire. (The Choate house on Lane Road remained in the family until 1932. It is said that the communion bread for the Church was baked at this house.)

Other existing houses built by Choate are the Hugh Jones house two doors down from the Choate home on Lane Road; the Alanson Tucker house--Choate's most ambitious effort with a unique double stairway--the James Thom house across from the Tucker house; and the Elizabeth MacGregor house next to the Town Hall. Another Choate house, which stood where the Emerson house now stands, burned in the mid-1800s.

The Choate homes were built between approximately 1810 and 1825 and all, while individually characterized, are marked by distinct similarities both inside and out. Federal in style, all of the Choate houses are 5 bay, 2 story structures with transom sashes over the central front doors. The Choate and Tucker houses have semi elliptical fanlights, while the James Thom house has a round-headed sash, and the Jones and MacGregor houses feature Greek Revival rectangular lights. Both the Tucker and the Choate houses have sidelights flanking their front doors. The Jones house pilasters are coupled fluted columns, and the door has a beautiful, ornate entablature with tiny curved brackets.

Behind the First Church is the District's cemetery, now called Forest Hill, but originally known as the Old Burying Ground. The cemetery contains many of the early settlers' graves. It was the principal yard for the interment of the dead within the territory embraced in the charter granted by King George to the settlers in 1722. A number of the family monuments display the unusual feature of recording not only the name of the dead, but also accounts of descendants and marriages and the localities where branches of the family settled.¹ The Reverend James Macgregor, first Pastor of the Church, and descendants of his family, as well as early settlers Allen Anderson, Samuel Allison, James Gregg, and John Barnett, are all buried in the Forest Hill Cemetery.

The cemetery also exhibits some fine examples of late 18th Century graveyard stone carvings. James MacGregor's son, David, has a gravestone which bears his portrait. There are quite a few well executed soul effigies such as those on the Gregg family stones. With two exceptions, all of the Gregg soul effigies have "Umbrella" shaped carvings over the effigies. James (1781) and Agnes (1742) Ewins have one of the more ornate soul effigy carvings. The effigy is surrounded by a temple with Greek style pillars and a triangular pediment. Over the effigy is an hourglass turned on its side and the rather eclectic lines, "My glass is run. Redeem your hours. And so must yours."

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Several of the double gravestones such as the Robert and Rebecca Montgomery stone (1775 and 1769 respectively) and the James and Sarah Adams stone (1781 and 1778), have a soul effigy above the husband's grave and a portrait over the wife's. The Montgomery effigy is further decorated with a winged hourglass and a bird, probably a dove, on top of the hourglass.

The cemetery displays an interesting variety of death's heads. The David and Maryany Morrison (1751) stone has an absolutely round death's head with equally round eyes, a triangular shaped nose and simple teeth, while Robert Montgomery's son, Robert (1746), has a winged death's head on his stone. There are also a good number of stones decorated simply with rosettes, diamond, heart, and casket shapes, as well as small shovels, skulls and crossbones, and flowering vines.

Perhaps the most ornate stone is that belonging to Dr. Philip Godfrid Kust, who died sometime in the 1700's. (The carver, unfortunately, did not finish the date--the stone is quite unblemished.) Kust's stone is dominated by a scene with the moon, sun, and stars at the top. (Both the moon and sun have faces.) Beneath is a table on which sit three candles, an open book, and two implements resembling a compass and a square. The table's legs rest on a 3-tier step and beneath the step are a shoe, a tombstone, a coffin, and a hand holding a trowel. The elaborate carving is accompanied by an equally elaborate epitaph as follows:

"He was a Gentleman of extensive acquaintance and his benevolence was no less Confined. His hospitality was without Ostentation -- In a word he was a benefactor (sic) to mankind. In his last Sickness his pain was extream (sic) which he endured with a truly philosophick (sic) Spirit without the Least repining almost beyond Example. He has left an inconsolable widow and five Small Children. Joined by the Multitude to Lament the Loss of a tender Husband, indulgent parent and Valuable friend."

While architecturally valuable, the Upper Village has also played an important part in the history of Southern New Hampshire. The 16 Scotch Dissenter families, who arrived in the Upper Village in 1719, the their fellow settlers and descendants, were largely responsible for the settlement of the Southern New Hampshire area now encompassing Derry and East Derry, Londonderry, Windham, and Chester. Upper Village settlers and descendants also settled the New Hampshire communities of Peterborough, Bedford, Merrimack and Derryfield, and were instrumental in the estabishment of Antrim, Henniker, Deering, Acworth, Amherst, and Hudson.²

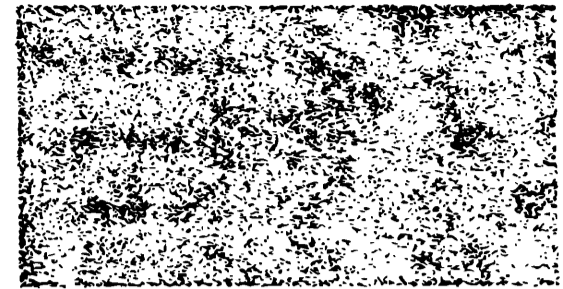
These settlers introduced the culture of the potato into New England, and brought the first spinning wheel turned by foot. The thread and linen produced by the residents of the Upper Village became so well known for its superior quality that the villagers faced the problem of imitation linen being falsely sold as products of their manufacture.³ Upper Village linen may still be seen at Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, where shirts worn by George Washington and Jefferson bear the Village's linen stamp.⁴

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The group of Scotch Dissenters who established and settled the Upper Village colony and surrounding areas were also responsible for the establishment of the Presbyterian faith in southern New Hampshire. From the First Church, as it was then and is now called, the faith spread south and west. In 1739, approximately 40 families petitioned the First Church to establish the West Parish of Londonderry. In 1741, Windham, to the south of the Upper Village, was set off from the mother church (and became a separate, incorporated town in 1742.) In 1797, a group of parishioners withdrew and formed a Congregational church and society called the Third Parish of Londonderry. The Third Society re-united with the First Church in 1809, and the re-united congregation established a parish with an essentially Congregationalist form of worship. In 1837, 40 East Parish members established the First Congregational Church in Derry Village.

The Upper Village settlers had left Ireland to escape religious persecution. One of the four pastors who led the group from Ireland to the Upper Village was the Reverend James MacGregor, who was the owner of the land now occupied by the Church, cemetery and common, and the first pastor of the Church. Even in their new home, the settlers encountered religious prejudice. Soon after the colony was established, a party of about a dozen men came up from Haverhill, Massachusetts to fight because they did not like the Scotch Dissenters. The Haverhill gang threatened to drive the Scotch from the area. When they arrived, MacGregor was holding a public religious service, and the Scotch told the Haverhill men they would fight after the service was over. The assailants agreed, and retired to watch the service. The assailants, "struck with the firm, resolute and undaunted appearance of the people ... relinquished their hostile design ..." The leader of the gang, Herriman, remarked "It is vain to attempt to disturb these people; we shall not succeed, for God is evidently among them."

Despite the prejudice they encountered, and the wilderness nature of the area they had chosen to settle, the Upper Village thrived. It grew from 16 families in April of 1719 to 70 families by September. In 1722, the colonists received a charter from King George of England, which confirmed their title to the land. Fifteen years after the establishment of the Church, nearly 700 communicants were present at a Church sacrament.

During the 1800's, the community functioned as a self-contained unit with its own Post Office (the first in the area), bank, tailor shop, schools, stores, creamery, library, church, and parsonage, interspersed with a number of homes used only for residential purposes. Properties in the District related to the Church are the Reverend Edward L. Parker house, the Wellman house next door which was built by the Church for the Reverend James Wellman, and the James Thoms store, purchased by the Church in 1873 as the parsonage and still used in that capacity today.

Education, for both the early Upper Village settlers and their 19th Century descendants, was an important part of the community. A schoolroom, the first in the area, was built in 1723, only one year after the completion of the first meeting house. In 1793 a classical high school was established on the land just behind the current Taylor Library. In 1814, Upper Village resident John Pinkerton donated \$13,000 to establish Pinkerton Academy, Derry's current high school. Pinkerton's brother James also contributed to the building fund. Other Upper Village residents who were members of the first Pinkerton Board of Trustees were the Reverend Edward Parker, pastor of the First Church for 40 years, Isaac Thom, physician, justice of the peace, and owner of the Thom Tavern, and the wealthy Alanson Tucker, who established the Derry Bank.

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The Upper Village is the site of another early educational center, the Adams Female Academy. Its first home, in 1824, was next to the Church where the classical high school had stood. About 1830, the school moved to the building on Lane Road now known as the Adams Female Academy. The Academy was the first incorporated academy in New Hampshire for women, and one of the first in the country to prescribe a regular course of studies for women. It became one of the chief education centers of New England and one of the two first head-mistresses, Miss Mary Lyon, went on to found Mt. Holyoke Seminary.

¹Willey, George F. Willey's Book of Nutfield, George F. Willey, Derry Depot: 1895, p. 336.

²Parker, Rev. Edward L. History of Londonderry, Perkins & Whipple, Boston: 1851, p. 97.

³Ibid., p. 49.

⁴Town of Derry, Glimpses of Derry, N.H. 1719 - 1969, Ed Hatch, Printer, Derry: 1969, p. 14.

⁵Willey, George F. Willey's Book of Nutfield, George F. Willey, Derry Depot: 1895, p. 144.

⁶Ibid., p. 32.

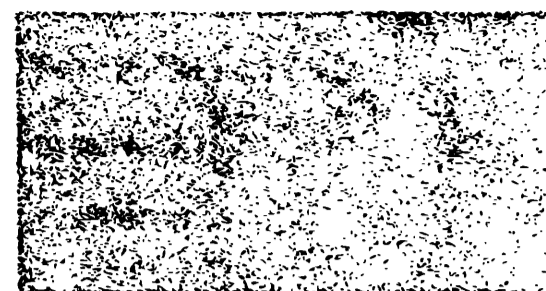
⁷Parker, Rev. Edward L. History of Londonderry, Perkins & Whipple, Boston: 1851, p. 55.

⁸Parker, Rev. Edward L. History of Londonderry, Perkins & Whipple, Boston: 1851, p. 229.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL

Continuation sheet #13 - REFERENCES

Item number 9

Page 1

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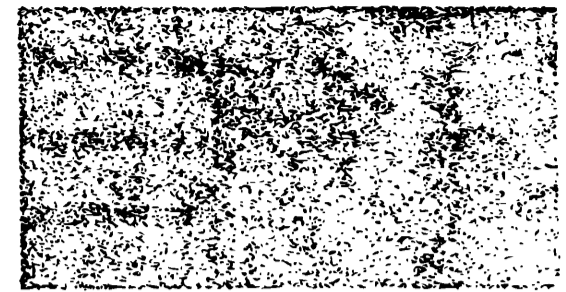
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Continuation sheet #14 - AND JUSTIFICATION Item number 10

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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries for the Upper Village District include those structures and land which have significant connection with the social, commercial, religious, and architectural aspects of the community. The buildings have been well preserved, and the appearance of the area has been maintained largely as it was in the 1800's. No house has been built in the District since the Library in 1929. Nowhere else within Derry is there such a closely grouped section of early and mid-19th Century homes. The main street, Hampstead Road, was lined with elms and sycamores donated in 1833 by two of the town's residents, Alanson Tucker and Elizabeth MacGregor. Although decimated by disease, a number of these elms and sycamores still stand, helping to maintain the area's ambience. The District is framed by the Shepard fields which contribute to the rural 19th Century character of the community.

Beyond the designated boundaries are a large variety of old and new structures of mixed quality, and the District lies in a rapidly growing area of Southern New Hampshire. The Upper Village commands a unique position in the Southern New Hampshire area for its architectural and historic significance. Its well-preserved buildings, offering fine examples of early to mid-19th Century architecture in a setting little disturbed by the 20th Century, as well as its role as founder of a religion and a community, constitute a valuable architectural and historic resource.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

	<u>Tax Map #</u>	<u>Lot #</u>
First Church (Sketch map #1)	39	53
Edward T. Parker Store (Sketch map #3)	39	33
The Taylor Library (Sketch map #4)	39	52
Town Hall (Sketch map #5)	39	34
Edward L. Parker House (Sketch map #6)	39	51
Pearson Field (Sketch map #7)	39	35
Reverend James Wellman House (Sketch map #8)	39	50
Elizabeth MacGregor House (Sketch map #9)	39	36
William H. Oram House (Sketch map #10)	39	49
James Thom Store (Sketch map #11)	39	48
Derry Bank (Sketch map #13)	39	47
Alan B. Shepard House (Sketch map #14)	39	38
James Thom House (Sketch map #15)	39	39
Deacon John Humphrey House (Sketch map #16)	9	111
Thornton Betton House (Sketch map #17)	9	118
Charles S. Emerson House (Sketch map #18)	9	108
Alanson Tucker House (Sketch map #19)	39	46
Edward MacGregor Creamery (Sketch map #20)	39	45
Nehemiah Choate House (Sketch map #21)	9	109
Mary Ela House (Sketch map #21)	39	44
Adams Female Academy (Sketch map #23)	39	43
Susan Harper House (Sketch map #24)	9	110
Hugh Jones House (Sketch map #25)	9	8A
Forest Hill Cemetery (Sketch map #2)	39	53-1
Shepard Fields (Sketch map #12)	39	37

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ACCOMPANYING

Continuation sheet #15 - DOCUMENTATION

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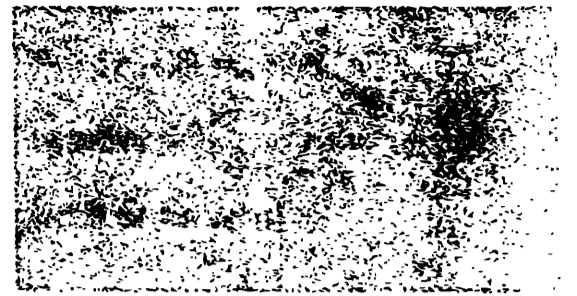
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Continuation sheet East Derry Historic District Item number Sketch Map Page 1

