

4. Historic Resources

Introduction—*A Rural Community of Small Villages*

Nottingham was historically a rural community of small villages, agricultural areas, and forest stands. Nottingham's first land grant was awarded in 1722 to 132 "proprietors" who established by charter a town known as Nottingham. In 1766 and 1773, respectively, the communities known as Deerfield and Northwood became separate municipalities leaving Nottingham with its current boundaries. The first recorded settlement in Nottingham was established in 1724 with drawing of lots in the area now known as Nottingham Square. One of the major features of this process was the dedication of lots not only for landowners but also for a church, school and meeting house. In 1726 a large garrison was constructed as the meeting house and "community center." The garrison style was used for protection from the indigenous Native Americans.

Over the next two centuries small family farms mostly devoted to livestock began to take root along with lumbering and its associated activities including the manufacture of charcoal and the construction of saw mills. Many of these mills were constructed along streams to take advantage of water power.

Homesteading, Agriculture, and Lumbering

In the early 1730s there was a survey for the laying out of the remaining undivided lots in town. Often two lots were assigned a proprietor—a home lot on the Square and a second out-lying 100-acre lot several miles away. Much of the land was too rocky or steep for planting of row crops and livestock was raised in many areas. Once a landowner received a lot, enough land was cleared so that most of the family's provisions could be grown or raised as well as enough put away for winter food for the livestock.

Many of these families also engaged in lumbering for building materials and the production of charcoal that was used in furnaces for making iron and for heating and cooking in city fireplaces such as in Portsmouth and Dover. Saw mills for processing raw timber began to spring up around town. With many settlers selling lumber for both local uses and for export to Boston and elsewhere around the world, the British enacted a decree to control much of the forest. Since the British were engaged in much naval warfare, it needed a good supply of timber and decreed that all trees over 24 inches in diameter were to be reserved for the King. As the farms became more self-sufficient, many established small home industries such as shoe making and barrel production (cooperage).

Primary Historic Areas

There are four (4) significant historic areas in Nottingham where there are concentrations of historic buildings and sites—Nottingham Square, Nottingham Center, Freeman Hall and West Nottingham. Each of the buildings described in this section has a number which relates to the accompanying maps, **Map 12, Historic Areas and Sites** and **Map 13, Historic Homes**.

Most of the descriptions of the buildings have been taken from the publication, 1722-1997, *Nottingham's Old Homes, A look at some of our historic structures with a Brief History of the town, A commemorative publication on the occasion of the 275th anniversary of the town, compiled by the Nottingham Historical Society.*

Nottingham Square

This area represents the greatest concentration of historic resources in Nottingham. It is the site of the first settlement in Nottingham in the early 1720s as well as the first garrison built in 1726. It is also the site of twelve (12) historical homes dating from 1750 to 1850. There are also three (3) historical cemeteries as well as several monuments—Minuteman, Massacre and 1775 March (Bunker Hill). At one time or other there were five (5) taverns, some of which are historic homesteads.

Historic Homesteads and Structures include:

Durgin Homestead

Built in approximately 1700.

Bartlett Homestead (93)

This large wood frame structure was built in 1866 by the tax collector, Thomas Bartlett. It is characterized by several gable ends and a large side porch.



Bartlett Homestead (93)

Bartlett Homestead (79)

This federal style two-story house was originally built as an inn and was a wedding present from General Thomas Bartlett for his son in 1801. There is a secret room under the attic floor boards used as a hiding place during the Indian incursions and possibly for runaway slaves during the days of the “underground railroad”. At one time it was also a tavern.

Brainard Scales Homestead (124)

This two-story Colonial style house was built in about 1850 with a connecting ell to the barn. Possible Greek revival influence.

Bartlett Homestead (80)

This New Englander style home, built about 1801, is a 1 ½ story structure and has a large barn that is connected to the house by a long ell. There was once a store on the premises.

Cilley Homestead / Fernald Farm (44)

Built in the early 1800s this two-chimney, two-story colonial house has a fireplace in every room. The main barn was built at the same time although the other out-buildings were built during the 1900's. The farm has been in the Fernald family for many generations and was at one time a tavern. The Cilley-Bartlett cemetery is a short distance down Deerfield Road.

Simpson Homestead (42)

This two-story colonial was constructed in 1777 from wood that was salvaged from Revolutionary Warships and transported from Portsmouth by oxen. It was built around an earlier cabin, remnants of which still exist in the basement.

The Butler Inn/Homestead (38)

This house exemplifies the “big house-little house-back house –barn” layout of colonial times and has a wood frame on granite foundation with Indian shutters. General Butler, a revolutionary war hero, built the house in 1756 and he and his wife ran it as the Bird-in-Hand Inn (and tavern) for many years.



Cilley Homestead (163)

Originally built in the 1700s, a new main house was constructed about 1800 and the original house became the ell. **Butler Inn/Homestead (38)** It was a 2 ½ story wood frame structure with front porch. Both burned in 1926 but the current structure, closely resembling the original, was built in 1930.

Joyce Place (157)

This two-story New Englander was built in about 1850 and includes a main house, connecting ell and a two-story barn. It was once used as a tavern and temporary schoolhouse.

Dearborn Homestead (48)

Built in 1756 by James Morrison, it was eventually sold to Dr. Henry Dearborn in 1772—a famous military and government figure in the Revolutionary War. The house features wide pine floors, wooden ceiling beam, “pulpit stairway” and two fireplaces.

Schoolhouse (158)

The original schoolhouse was built in the 1770s and the present structure was built in the 1850s. In the 1880s the building housed a private “seminary” or “high school”. The school was closed in 1920 and was sold to Jennie Grinnel in 1929. She later bequeathed the building to its current owners, the Else Cilley Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). The Nottingham Historical Society’s museum is located on the second floor. The Square Schoolhouse is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Nottingham Center

Similar to the Square with its concentration of historic resources, this area includes the intersection of Route 152 with Flutter Street, Route 156, Halls Way, Church Street and Gerrish Drive. In addition to the historic structures, it also contains the Nottingham Memorial Honor Role on the lawn of the Blaisdell Memorial Library.

Liar’s Paradise (33)

The original building was a schoolhouse in Lee. In 1840 it was moved to the center of Nottingham. In its new location, the building became a post office and general store. The name

Liar's Paradise comes from a sign that was hung on the building some time ago by Halloween pranksters who stole the sign from a local hunting camp.

Neally Place (111)

This two-story wooden colonial structure was built in about 1800. At one time it was part of a stone quarry and served as a shoe shop, store and grange hall.

Town Hall

Built in 1856 this large wooden structure was referred to as a Town House. It served as the Town Hall until the 1990s.

Grange Hall

This wood frame building with spire and belfry, built in 1841, was originally a church on Northwood Road (Route 152). It was cut in two and moved to its current location where it serves as a meetinghouse for the Patuccoway Grange.

Community Church—Church Street /Route 152

Built in 1881 in the “American Gothic” style, this church was originally a Universalist Church. It has steeple with a large bell and most if its interior and exterior features have been retained. An ell built onto the church contains classrooms and a dining/meeting area.

John Chesley Place/Leavitt Homestead (25)

Built about 1790, this two-story colonial with large side porches and attached buildings was once the Sunset Poultry Farm.

Rockingham House (29)

This landmark structure, built in the early 1800s was first opened as a store, inn, and tap room. It was run as an inn until the beginning of Prohibition.

Jiottis Place (50)

Built about 1860 this 2 ½ story wood frame structure originally had an attached barn. There has been extensive remodeling done to the interior and exterior.



Rockingham House (29)

Demeritt Place/Watson Store (99)

The home was built in the late 1800s and was once a store (Watson Store which housed the Post Office). The attached ell once served as a garage and chain saw shop.

Thompson Homestead (66)

Built about 1795, this two-story center-entry colonial has had an extensive addition to the “summer kitchen”. A Thompson family cemetery is on the property.

Old Ford Place (45)

Built about 1720 this cape with an attached barn is one of the oldest houses in Nottingham. A large addition was added in 1975. A Ford family cemetery is located nearby.

Cilley Homestead (58)

This two-story center entry colonial was built in the 1800s with several connecting sheds and barn. There is a dumb waiter to the basement.

Foss Place (39)

This small cape, built about 1944, once served as the town Post office. The property also included a garden shop building and a barn.

Burley Place (46)

This center chimney cape was built about 1730 and has a shed with connecting screen porch. It is thought that this structure was originally a carriage shed for the large house next door.

Watson House (59)

This two story house was built in the late 1800s with an ell and large attached barn.

Chase Place (118)

Built in the 1700s this house had a number of uses including a shelter for hired hands and chickens. Moved to its present location from the Wiggins property.

van Dame/Center/Old North School

This schoolhouse began as a church in Nottingham Center in the early 1800s. About 1870 it was used part-time as a school and then 1878 full time when the Universalist Church was completed. It was moved across the road to its present site in the 1950s. It is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

West Nottingham

Another historic area is centered around the intersection of Route 152 and Gebig Road (east) and Lucas Pond Road (west). It has eight identified historic structures.

Seth Dame Place (18)

This cape style home was built in the mid/late 1700s. It also has a barn and cider house. There is a family cemetery on a hill near the house.

Demmons Store (3)

This Nottingham landmark was built about 1830 as a store and stage coach stop on the Portsmouth-Concord route. It has also served as a Post Office since its earliest days.

Colcord House (82)

Built about 1790 this two-story colonial was at one time made into a duplex. It has an enclosed sun porch. There are old family cemeteries on the property.



Demmons Store (3)

Demeritt Tavern (89)

This large New Englander, built about 1800, is characterized by several gables and front bay windows and attached barn with cupola. It served as a tavern and inn for the stage coach and local traffic. There is an enclosed brick oven in the cellar.

Colcord / Dame Homestead (117)

Built about 1750, this old Cape-style house once had two chimneys. The original window and door details have been maintained through the years.

Knolton Homestead (51)

Located on Gebig Road, the original ½ cape was built in the late 1700s and about 1850 a 2 ½ story addition in the New Englander style was constructed. The cape portion has a beehive oven and the property also contains a three story barn.

Mills Place (106)

This New Englander, built about 1900 on Gebig Road, has an attached ell and small barn.

Demeritt Homestead (110)

Originally built in 1752, this two-story center chimney colonial on Route 152 features an attached shed and barn. It has been carefully restored.

Freeman Hall

The Freeman Hall area is also an historic village center which is centered at the intersection of Freeman Hall Road and Kennard Road (east) and Garland Road (west). There are a number of historic buildings, although only four are registered as part of Nottingham's Old Homes publication.

Freeman Hall

Built in the mid 1800s, this 2 ½ story church is more like a large meetinghouse. Owned by the Liberty Baptist Church, it has served as a community center for the Freeman Hall/West Nottingham area holding a variety of social functions and at one time housing a store in the basement.



Freeman Hall

Liberty Baptist Church

Built in the New England Meetinghouse style in 1892, this church has a significant steeple and such features as tin ceilings and stained glass windows.

Tuttle Homestead (132)

This cape built about 1830 features an attached former pig barn and extensively remodeled kitchen.

Hemmingsen Place (133)

Built in the 1800s this cape is situated near an old mill site on the North River. A large barn stood across the road until the 1980s.

Other Important Historic Houses

Each of these historic houses is keyed by number to the attached **Map 13, Historic Homes**.

Ledge Farm, Poor Farm and Berry Roads

Buxton Place (126)

This two-story wood colonial was constructed in the mid-1700s. An inn and tavern once stood near the main house.

Harvey Homestead (92)

Originally built as a Cape in the 1700s, this home was converted into a saltbox style in the 1980s.

Poor Farm (32)

This large two-story colonial once served as the town Poor Farm from 1838-1872.

Hill Tannery (164)

Originally constructed in about 1797, this two-story colonial was of center chimney construction and in the late 1800s was remodeled. Ruins of the old tannery and various outbuildings are still evident.

Witcher Homestead (36)

Built in 1756, this so-called “2-square” colonial was restored in 1980 including the addition of a new ell. An original English-style barn and a 1850s barn are also on the property.

Route 156 (formerly Fish Street) to Raymond Town Line

Samuel Gove Place (43)

Built in 1837, this wood frame colonial-style house features two-chimneys, an ell (incorporates kitchen and dining room) and a large barn.

Gove Homestead (84)

This center entry two-story colonial farmhouse was built in 1765. It features a center chimney, side porch, woodshed, hay barn and shed/cottage. The ell served as the Gove Store for many years.

Deerfield Road, Flutter Street and Stevens Hill Road

Smith Homestead (28)

This large cape was built in 1750 and features a long ell as well as an enclosed porch. Langdon Smith bought the house in 1801-02 and ran a shoe shop there for many years.

Harvey Homestead (54)

This 1 ½ story wood frame New Englander, built about 1850, has an attached ell.

Osgood Homestead (61)

Built in 1876, this 1 ½ half story “Greek Revival” home has an attached barn and ell. The property also has an old stone foundation that is currently of unknown origin.

Dalton Homestead (87)

This large 2-story Federal-Colonial home was constructed in the late 1700s-early 1800s. The present owners did extensive renovations after the property was acquired in 1984. At one time a large unattached barn stood near the road.

Miss Mercy Thurston House (109)

This cape was built in 1850 and originally had a shed used for a comfort station. The shed was replaced by a gambrel style addition. The property once served as sheep farm.

Watson Place (167)

This small cape was built in 1872 and has been extensively renovated. The Watsons once ran a shoe store and barber shop from this location.

Ed Stevens Homestead (168)

This large Dutch colonial style farmhouse, built in 1806, still contains stenciling (possibly Moses Eaton) and a secret room on the first floor that is believed to have been used to hide runaway slaves during the days of the “underground railway”. There is a barn foundation and cemetery on the property.

Route 152 East (McCrillis Street to Lee Line)

Garland Young House (17)

Built in the 1860s this cape style house with two sheds has been extensively renovated.

Smith Homestead (21)

This center entry colonial was built in 1775. The ell was added to the main house in 1848. The original center chimney was removed and two chimneys added in the 1800s. The building includes a blacksmith shop. A Smith family cemetery is nearby.

Daniel Brackett Place (31)

This cape style house was built in the late 1800s and features a large attached barn.

Tuttle Homestead (34)

Built about 1838 this colonial is the only historic brick house in town. It features a front porch the length of the front façade and an attached shed. A barn and a carriage house are across the road.

Dupont Place (35)

Built about 1800 this cape style house has an attached barn and a kitchen area that was built around an outside Dutch (beehive) oven. The house features wide board floors and a metal ceiling in one room.

Vachon Place (88)

Constructed about 1840, this original cape has had many modifications and currently has a board and batten exterior.

Willoway Farm (114)

This center chimney cape style house with a barn and carriage house was built in the 1700s. Old features include Indian shutters, hand-hewn beams and several fireplaces. There is a cemetery on the property.

Route 152 West (Flutter Street to Route 4)

Nathan Cilley Place (22)

This center chimney cape, built in the 1800s with an attached barn and shed, has been enlarged over the years.

Tuttle Homestead (49)

This 2 ½ story New Englander was built in 1857 by a Reverend Tuttle with a rear enclosed porch and barn.

The Batchelder Homestead (83)

The original house was built in 1790 by Moses Davis as a five-room cape for a large farm. An ell was added in 1888 and a second story many years later.

McCrillis Road-Mill Pond Road

Wild Brier Farm (16)

Built in about 1740 this small New Englander has a wrap around enclosed porch with an attached woodshed and barn. A solar room and 2-car garage have been added.

Stilson Gerrish Place (20)

This small cape with an added enclosed porch was built about 1760. At one time there was a blacksmith shop on the property.

Scales Homestead (23)

This two story colonial house with center chimney was built about 1750. Five generations of Scales lived here and a Scales family cemetery is on the property.

Hugh Kelsey Homestead (26)

This center chimney cape was built in the mid-1700s with an attached ell and barn. The barn was relocated from the Senator Baker farm in Bow and reconstructed in 1989.

John McCrillis Place (30)

Built about 1740 this center chimney colonial has five working fireplaces, downstairs paneling, wide board floors and an old loom in the attic. There is also a nearby barn.

Harvey Homestead (47)

This center chimney cape built in the mid-1700s has three fireplaces, wide board floors and exposed beams with a large barn on the property.

Kelsey Homestead (64)

Built in about 1850 this cape style house has added porches and has a garage and small barn on the property.

York Place (98)

Built about 1770, this center chimney cape has two fireplaces, one with a Dutch oven and an added bedroom. An old cemetery is located nearby.

Culver Place (115)

Built in the mid 1800s this old farmhouse has a large barn and several smaller out buildings.

Harvey Homestead (166)

This farmhouse was built in the late 1700s with a large barn and a power generating facility at the dam across the Little River that forms Nottingham Lake. A portion of the house was moved to the opposite side of the house and serves as an artist's studio.

Gile Road-Route 152 to Lee Line

Harvey Homestead (41)

This center entry colonial was built about 1883 with a large ell. It is part of what were once extensive Harvey family land holdings.

Batchelder Homestead (55)

Built in the mid-1700s this old colonial farmhouse with a wraparound porch and attached barn was once one of the largest homesteads in Nottingham.

Gile Homestead (78)

This two-story center chimney Georgian style colonial was built in 1770 with an ell added in about 1865. A fulling mill, grist mill and blacksmith shop once stood on the original homestead. The house has been carefully restored.

Gile/Doe Homestead (108)

Built in the 1800s this center chimney cape has a fireplace with beehive oven. Over the years a number of additions have been added. A garage and shed are across the road.

Mitchell, Kennard and Garland Roads

Holmes Tavern (4)

Built in the early 1700s, this two-story center chimney colonial features post and beam construction. In colonial time it was a tax collection site for the British. Reportedly, Gen. George Washington and Gen. Lafayette stopped here when the house was an inn.

Mitchell Place (7)

This large cape built in the early 1700s is characterized by a shed dormer and attached ell/garage.

Shippee-Rice Place (12)

This house, built in 1835, was once a half cape, but was later extended to a full one. A mill site on the North River is at the back of the property.

The Welsh Farm (13)

This two story restored center chimney colonial built in the 1750s features nine-over-six windows. The property also includes an attached ell and barn.

Kennard Homestead (14)

This cape was built in the late 1700s with a large barn to the rear that is no longer standing. A Kennard family cemetery is on the property with stones dating back to the 1800's.

Caron-Pantier Place (53)

Built in 1840 this cape has an attached shed and garage. A detached barn was taken down in 1972.

Levi Chapman Homestead (62)

Built in the 1700s this is an extensively modified cape with a shed dormer and front porch and a long ell. A Chapman family cemetery is on the property with headstones from the 1700s.

Rourke Place (85)

Built about 1830 this cape has a shed and garage and has been in the family since it was first constructed. There is also cellar hole and cemetery on the property.

Leathers Homestead (102)

This large restored Georgian colonial originally built in 1755 features nine-over-six windows, three Rumford fireplaces, wide board floors and a center chimney. A small building across the street once serves as a blacksmith shop.

Flagg Mitchell House (105)

Built in the period 1894-1898, this 1 ½ story farmhouse has a front dormer that was added at a later time. It originally had a summer kitchen. A large barn is also on the property.

Gebig, Priest and Freeman Hall Roads

Nathan Tuttle Homestead (65)

This cape built about 1750 has a stone foundation with dirt floor with an extension added subsequently. It was once part of a mill complex on the North River.

Marsh House (77)

Built in the 1880s, this two-story colonial with an attached ell, once had a sawmill on the North River at the back of the property.

Chase Place (100)

Built about 1865 this 1 ½ story cape with an attached ell is the old Freeman Hall parsonage. At one time it provided housing for the teachers from the Gebig School.

Route 4 (formerly Turnpike Road)

McDaniel Homestead (1)

Built in 1742, this center chimney cape was originally built in Barrington and was moved to Nottingham in 1794 or 1795. It features post and beam construction, two working fireplaces and large rocks forming the cellar walls. A large detached barn was built in 1895.

Merry Hill Farm (5)

This two story colonial built in the late 1700s was once a tavern and inn on the First New Hampshire Turnpike. The barn has been renovated to serve as an antique shop.

Nielson House (56)

This two-story colonial built in about 1770 has an attached ell with interesting detail over the front door and first floor windows. There are cellar holes and cemeteries on the property

Old Bridge Place (57)

This cape built in 1792 was extensively remodeled in the 1940s.

Burnham Place (146)

This cape, probably built in the 1800s, has two chimneys and has had many improvements through the years.

Schools

In the last quarter of the 1770s, school districts were established. The first classes were held in the meeting house on Nottingham Square until a school could be built. As the population grew, the Square School attendance was divided into four districts and then others were added until there were thirteen schools at one time. Only two school structures still exist today—Square and Van Dame/Center/Old North. **Table HR-1** below is keyed by number to the attached **Map 14, Schools and Mill Dams**.

Table HR-1: Historic Schools

Map ID/District #	School Name	School Location
1.	Square	Nottingham Square (Existing)
2.	Tavern Hill	Tavern Hill Road
3.	Mountain	Mountain Road
4.	Bean Hill	Bean Hill Road
5.	Independent	Gebig Road
6.	Van Dame/Center /Old North	Nottingham Center (Existing)
7.	Lower Turnpike	Route 4
8.	Glass/Banks	Mitchell Road
9.	North Summer	McCrillis Road
10.	South Summer	South Summer Street
11.	Upper Turnpike	Route 4
12.	Gebig (New North)	Freeman Hall and Gebig Road
13.	(Name not confirmed)	Route 152 near Priest Road

Source: Nottingham Historical Society

Schools usually had a fall and spring session and the parents of the children were solely responsible for the school in their district. Besides a school tax, parents were responsible for firewood to heat the school, school repairs and boarding the teacher.

As the population fluctuated the number of operating schools also fluctuated, but by 1901 there were only nine schools. In 1919 there were seven schools and by 1921 only two schools remained operational—Van Dame/Center/Old North and Gebig. In 1954 a newly constructed consolidated elementary school was built.

Historic Churches

As early as 1798 the town tried to attract a minister, but was not successful until some years later. The earliest remaining church/meetinghouse is Freeman Hall at the corner of Freeman Hall and Garland Roads. Today there are three historic churches including Freeman Hall, the Community Church in Nottingham Center and the Liberty Baptist Church on Freeman Hall Road—each described previously.

Community Church—Church Street /Route 152

Built in 1881, this church is described in the Nottingham Center section above.

Congregational Church

Although built as recently as the mid-1970s, this church is in the meetinghouse style and was constructed along the lines of the Revolutionary period church in Newington.

Freeman Hall

Built in the mid 1800s, this church/meetinghouse is described in the Freeman Hall section of this chapter.

Liberty Baptist Church

Built in 1892, this church is described in the Freeman Hall section of this chapter.

Mills and Dams

At a meeting in 1727, it was decided that the first saw mill should be constructed on the ‘Tuckaway River’; a second was voted on for the North River near Bow Street in 1729. Water power to run these mills was stored behind many small dams. These mills were used for sawing lumber, grinding grain and “fulling”—a process to create a nap on rough woolen homespun cloth. The first fulling mill was known as Gebig Mill on the upper reaches of the North River. See attached **Map 14, Historic Schools and Mill Dams** for locations of existing dams. It was also a lumber and grist mill. The first grain mill was built on the South Branch of the North River by Shem Drown. In 1732 another mill was built by Richard Dolloff of Exeter on the Stingy (Pawtuckaway) River. With subsequent improvements in machinery, the mills began to turn out finished lumber, clapboards and lumber. At one time there were believed to be seventeen (17) water powered mills in operation in the town.

Pawtuckaway Lake was created by the installation of two dams on the Pawtuckaway River. About 1852 the Newmarket Manufacturing Company, which had relied on water power for its

mills from the Pawtuckaway and North Rivers, decided additional water power was needed. The company acquired dam and flooding rights in the Pawtuckaway area and constructed two dams—Dolloff Dam to the south and Drowne’s Dam to the north, as shown on the **Historic Schools and Mill Dams Map**. Numerous dikes were constructed to prevent water from inundating adjacent land that had not been purchased. Originally called Dolloff Pond and Pawtuckaway Pond the water area was about 800 acres. Subsequently, the two ponds were referred to as Pawtuckaway Lake.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries can be very important historic resources. These locations often provide an important source of family information and data. Many are associated with the historic homes described in a previous section which included references to family cemeteries on the property. In the *Nottingham’s Old Homes of 1997* publication 46 cemeteries were identified in the town. The current list prepared by the Nottingham Historical Society contains 110 cemeteries—two of which are town cemeteries—Southside and Old North. The list below is keyed by number to the attached **Map 15, Historic Cemeteries Map**.

<u>ID</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>
1	Gove	29	Cilley #3	57	Cate	84	Pickering
2	Simpson	30	Tuttle	58	Chapman	85	Quick Priest
3	Goodrich	31	Kenison-Edgerly	59	Chase	86	Welch-Priest
4	Cilley #1	32	Dame-Colcord	60	Kennard	87	Rollins
5	Cilley #2	33	Leathers-Banks	61	Emerson	88	Gordon Demeritt
6	Ramsbottom	34	Thompson	62	Crowell	89	Shute
7	Southside (Town)	35	Smith	63	Tuttle-Davis	90	Sleeper
8	Ford	36	J. Woodman	64	Dyer	91	Spencer
9	Stevens #1	37	Wescott	65	Sawyer	92	Thurston
10	Dalton	38	Batchelder-Davis	66	Thompson-	93	Tilton
11	Brown	39	Stevens, A.	Fernald		94	Arah Tuttle
12	Stevens #2	40	McDaniel	67	Evans	95	White
13	Norris	41	McCrillis	68	Fogg	96	Asa Witham
14	Gile	42	Gen. Butler	69	Mt. Community	97	Levi Woodman
15	Hugh Kelsey	43	Watson	70	French	98	Franklin Edwards
16	Kelsey-Harvey	44	Bean #1	71	Furber	99	Peter Thurston
17	Kelsey-Marston-	45	Bennett	72	Gerrish	100	J. Hill
Harvey		46	Lane	73	Neally-Gile	101	Allen
18	Scales-Smith	47	Gerrish-Allen	74	Welch-Langley-	102	Witham
19	Mitchell-Rollins	48	Bartlett	Glass		103	Howell
20	Glass	49	Batchelder-	75	Hall	104	Rodgers
21	Priest	Demeritt-Burnham		76	Watson-Ladd	105	Mabel Smith
22	Davis	50	Batchelder	77	Langley	106	Town Dump
23	Eben. Tuttle	51	Bean #2	78	Thomas Langley	107	Sarah Witcher
24	New North	52	Davis-Jones-Bean	79	Luthers	108	Norris Tomb
25	Bruce-McDaniel	53	Conley-Blaisdell	80	Marston	109	Lucy
26	Old North (Town)	54	Burnham	81	Capt. John Smith	110	Haley
27	Dame	55	Asa Burnham	82	Neally		
28	Demeritt	56	Zeph. Butler	83	Parker/Barker		

Summary and Observations

Nottingham has an abundance of historic resources many of which have significant historic value and are very well preserved. Residences from all periods are relatively intact including early farmhouses that include barns or other agricultural buildings. There is a significant concentration of historic structures including residences, farmhouses and an historic school in Nottingham Square. There is also a concentration of public buildings, residences and churches in Nottingham Center. At present, there are two properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Square Schoolhouse and Van Dame/Center/Old North School) and none on the State Register of Historic Places. Nottingham is fortunate to still have a significant inventory of such resources, especially since little has been done to protect them.

The town should commit to protecting and conserving its historical buildings and resources. The first step should be a thorough inventory of existing resources that might concentrate in the areas of Nottingham Center and Nottingham Square. This work would build on the work already begun by the Nottingham Historical Society. One opportunity to fund this work might be through a grant from the Certified Local Government Program of the NH Division of Historic Resources. Other initiatives might include encouraging property owners with historic properties to consider listing them on either the National or State Registers of Historic Places.

Techniques for Protection of Historic and Cultural Resources

National Register of Historic Places

Structures, sites, and districts of important historical or architectural significance may be nominated to and listed on the National Register, a federal listing of such structures, sites, and districts. Nottingham has only two properties listed—the Square Schoolhouse and the Van Dame/Center/Old North Schoolhouse. Such a listing provides protection to the property relating to federally approved or licensed actions. Any federal action, like constructing a federally aided highway near such a structure, would require an environmental impact assessment to determine if the listed property could be adversely impacted by the proposed Federal action. Listing on the National Register provides no protection against demolition or alteration by a private owner. Structures normally have to be at least 50 years old before being eligible for National Register status.

State Register of Historic Places

The New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places is one part of the state's efforts to recognize and encourage the identification and protection of historical, architectural, archeological and cultural resources. These irreplaceable resources may be buildings, districts, sites, landscapes, structures or objects that are meaningful in the history, architecture, archeology, engineering or traditions of New Hampshire residents and communities. The State Register is administered by the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR), which is the state's Historic Preservation Office. Nottingham has not listed any sites through this program.

Neighborhood Heritage District

A neighborhood heritage district is an area within a community that is intended to focus on protecting the particular character of an area. It is usually intended for protection of historic heritage, but does not have to be. Such districts can be established through the zoning powers of a community. The chief objective is to protect *neighborhood* character and the shared features of buildings located there, rather than *details*, such as window sash, doors, and trim, pertaining to individual buildings. The term “character” implies the district will protect those significant features that define a property or setting. What those features might be are decided by the community. For more see: *Neighborhood Heritage Districts: A Handbook for New Hampshire Municipalities*, NH Division of Historic Resources, 2008

Designation as Certified Local Government (CLG)

The Certified Local Government (CLG) program is designed to provide an opportunity for local governments to become more directly involved in identifying, evaluating, protecting, promoting and enhancing the educational and economic value of local properties of historic, architectural and archaeological significance. Created by the 1980 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, the CLG program requires that the Division of Historical Resources (DHR) designate at least 10 percent of its annual Historic Preservation Fund allocation from the Department of the Interior to local governments that have become Certified Local Governments.

Tax Incentives for Protection of Barns and Agricultural Buildings

NH RSA 79-D, creates a mechanism to encourage the preservation of historic New Hampshire barns and other agricultural buildings by authorizing municipalities to grant property tax relief to barn owners who (a) can demonstrate the public benefit of preserving their barns or other historic farm buildings, and (b) agree to maintain their structures throughout a minimum 10-year preservation easement. This voluntary program encourages barn owners to maintain and repair their buildings by granting them specific tax relief and assuring them that assessments will not be increased as a result of new repair work. The program provides a means to give new economic life to buildings which are architecturally or culturally important, but whose original economic function has ceased to exist. While requiring the historic preservation of the buildings’ exteriors, the statute allows interiors to be retrofitted into retail, office, or other uses.

Undertaking this program could contribute to the historic landscape and economy of Nottingham by:

- making the Town more attractive to vacationers and tourists;
- creating employment opportunities for the local construction industry;
- providing opportunities for additional retail and office space,
- reusing large, older structures for public benefit, and
- helping to maintain the rural character of Nottingham.

It is closely modeled after New Hampshire's open space discretionary easement program (RSA 79-C), which authorizes local governments to grant property tax relief to encourage the preservation of open land. The statewide guidelines include consideration of whether there is local interest and

support for the structure's preservation, its historic and agricultural significance, and the degree to which tax relief will encourage its preservation.

The NH Preservation Alliance has established a program to assist landowners with maintenance of historic barn structures. The Historic Barn Assessment Grant Program was created by the NH Preservation Alliance, in conjunction with the Division of Historical Resources and the New Hampshire Historic Agricultural Structures Advisory Committee, to help barn owners assess the needs of their historic structures. The program offers competitive matching grants of \$250 or \$400 to hire a barn assessment consultant who determines what's required to stabilize, repair and reuse the structure.

Investment Tax Credits

An owner of income-producing property (not including an owner-occupied private residence) listed on the National Register may be eligible to apply for an investment tax credit of 20 percent of a certified rehabilitation project through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program. The tax credit can provide a significant economic incentive for commercial developers to rehabilitate an historic property that otherwise would not get rehabilitated. The reason that this is important from an historic preservation standpoint is that the work must be done to federally approved standards. This program is administered through the State Historic Preservation Office.

Historic Districts by Local Governments

Another mechanism to provide protection for historic resources is the creation of a locally controlled historic district for areas with a distinctive historic and/or architectural character. Nottingham has not adopted any such district. Under 674:45, "The preservation of structures and places of historic and architectural value is hereby declared to be a public purpose."

Historic districts include all the buildings within the district. They do not prevent the ordinary maintenance or repair of the buildings, nor do the districts prevent new construction within the district. Their purpose includes: "preserving (and reflecting) elements of...cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history, conserving property values, fostering civic beauty, strengthening the local economy and promoting the use of a historic district for the education, pleasure and welfare of the citizens of a municipality." (RSA 674:45 I-V).

Heritage Commissions

Under RSA 674:44 communities may establish heritage commissions that have similar powers and duties as conservation commissions. Unlike historic district commissions that have regulatory powers within specific areas of a community, the heritage commission advises and assists other local boards relative to the value of historical, cultural and archaeological resources throughout the community. Currently, if a project is located outside the boundaries of the current historic districts there is no official process to provide information regarding its impact on historical resources.

The commission may also accept and expend funds for the protection of heritage resources. This may be accomplished through a non-lapsing heritage fund similar to the conservation fund that may be established for conservation commissions.

Preservation Easements

Another method of providing protection for historic properties is to grant a preservation easement to insure the preservation of the character-defining features of a property for the public's benefit. The extent of the protection is dependent on the strength of the easement. Some easements protect just the façade of a building. Others protect the larger preservation values, including, but not limited to:

- the exterior and interior architectural features,
- materials,
- landscape features,
- outbuildings,
- fences, and
- archaeological resources of a property.

The easement is granted by the owner to either a governmental unit or a non-profit corporation in the historic preservation field. The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources protects a variety of properties through preservation easements. Term easements (easements that expire after a predefined period of time) and perpetual easements (easements that never expire) have come through state and federal land transfers, mitigation through the review and compliance program, and substantial federal grants for building projects like the Save America's Treasures program.

Fee Simple Purchase/Gift

Either a governmental unit or a non-profit historic preservation organization might use this technique to purchase or receive a gift of a building for that entity to preserve and maintain for the public to view.

Preservation of Other Resources

Nottingham, because of its farming heritage, has an interesting array of natural vistas and landscape features that may be worthy of preservation. For example, there are surviving farmsteads, rolling fields, mature trees, stone walls and rural roads that all contribute to the historic and cultural character of the community. These features are not suitable for protection through historic districting techniques. In these circumstances other techniques might be suitable including:

Scenic Roads

Roads with attractive large trees and/or stone walls along the side may be designated as scenic roads under New Hampshire Statute RSA 231:157. Nottingham has already taken advantage of this provision by designating eight (8) scenic roads under this program. If a scenic road is designated by a Town Meeting vote, then no repair, maintenance, reconstruction or paving work may be done if it involves removal of certain size trees or demolition of stone walls unless the Planning Board has held a public hearing and has given its written consent. Additionally, the

Planning Board, in its Subdivision and/or Site Plan Review procedures, may want to have a provision to modify its road standards if a designated scenic road is part of or adjacent to a proposed development. Such a provision would provide an opportunity to ensure that the standards of the subdivisions roads would be consistent with an existing scenic road.

Nottingham has designated all or portions of the following roads as scenic: Poor Farm Road, Ledge Farm Road, Stevens Hill Road, Gile Road, Mitchell Road, Kenard Road, Case Road, and Priest Road. **See also discussion of Scenic Roads in Transportation Chapter.**

Scenic Easements

It is also possible for a landowner to grant an easement over his/her land in order to protect views, vistas or other features that are worthy of protection. When such easements are granted to a non-profit or governmental organization, if the fair market value of the property is reduced by these restrictions, then the owner may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes.

Action Plan

Vision Goals for Historic Resources

Preserve and protect Nottingham's historic resources.

Preserve the town's rural, small town character by promoting patterns of development that respect and reinforce the natural landscape and the traditional New England style of its villages.

Objective HR 1: Protect and preserve Nottingham's historic and cultural resources.

Actions

- HR 1.1: Consider establishing a Heritage Commission under the provisions of RSA 674:44 that can advise the Planning Board or other community boards relative to the value of the town's heritage (historical, archaeological, and cultural) resources.
- HR 1.2: Prepare a comprehensive historic resources inventory—both written and photographic—of all historic sites and buildings in the Town of Nottingham based upon information collected and published in *Nottingham's Old Homes 1722-1997*, prepared in 1997.
- HR 1.3 Apply to become a Certified Local Government (CLG) through the NH Division of Historic Resources to allow Nottingham greater opportunity to identify, evaluate, and protect local properties of historic, architectural and archaeological significance. Such an inventory could provide the basis for establishing a Historic District or Neighborhood Heritage District.
- HR 1.4: Encourage more Nottingham property owners to place their properties on the National and or State Register of Historic Places.
- HR 1.5: Consider establishing a National Register or Neighborhood Heritage District in the Nottingham Square area.
- HR 1.6: Encourage Nottingham property owners with historic agricultural buildings to preserve these buildings through the NH RSA 79-D program to encourage the preservation of historic barns and other agricultural buildings.

Objective HR 2: Preserve and enhance the scenic and historic quality of Nottingham's rural landscape and roadways.

Actions

- HR 2.1: Manage the gateways into town, such as Routes 152 and 156, to protect their historic character and landscape quality; and also ensure that new development is consistent with this character.
- HR 2.2: Work with the New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources and the Department of Transportation to manage location of road signs to avoid interference with the view of

historic resources from public roads, and, where appropriate, to place historical markers to heighten awareness of historic resources.

HR2.3: Consider adopting additional town roads, or road segments, as scenic for inclusion in the town's scenic road inventory consistent with RSA 231: 157.

HR 2.4: Undertake a program to inventory Nottingham's scenic resources including its historic resources. Identify specific scenic views to be selected for scenic easements.

Objective HR 3: Maintain historic educational programs that enhance citizen awareness of Nottingham's unique history and the numerous surviving artifacts of its history and culture.

Actions

HR 3.1: Establish permanent heritage walking trails in Nottingham Square that would include a map, permanent interpretive markers for specific historic properties and individual house plaques identifying the year of original construction.

HR 3.2: Consider the establishment of annual Heritage Walks or Excursions that would focus on a particular aspect or geographic area of Nottingham's history.

HR 3.2: Work with other groups—public and private—to establish historic road and river programs that involve Nottingham and surrounding communities. Such programs might include specific designations such as Historic Byways or an American Heritage River, or involve tours and trips along such historic corridors







