

The Old Stone Wall

E-Newsletter of the NH Division of Historical Resources

Vol 5, Issue 2

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES
**NH Division of
Historical Resources**

Elizabeth H. Muzzey

Director and State Historic
Preservation Officer

Laura S. Black

Special Projects and Compliance
Specialist

Richard A. Boisvert

State Archaeologist and
Deputy State Historic Preservation
Officer

Edna M. Feighner

Historical Archaeologist and
Review & Compliance Coordinator

Deborah J. Gagne

Grants Coordinator

Tanya E. Krajcik

Historical Archaeologist,
Cultural Resources Records
Coordinator &
Project Archaeology

Elaine P. Loft

Program Assistant

Peter Michaud

National Register, Preservation Tax
Incentives & Covenants Coordinator

Nadine Miller Peterson

Preservation Planner

Mary Kate Ryan

State Survey Coordinator,
NH State Register

Christina St. Louis

Program Specialist for Review &
Compliance

**State Historical Resources
Council**

David R. Starbuck, Plymouth, Chair
Carolyn Baldwin, Gilmanston, Vice

IN THIS ISSUE

Tradition and stewardship on Squam Lake

Dartmouth murals designated National Historic Landmark

Five properties added to the State Register

Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter workshop held in April

RSVP Today! Roundtable on Cultural & Heritage Tourism

New technical assistance from the DHR

Preservation Month recap

All Books Great and Small

Learn more about preservation programs

Tradition and stewardship on Squam Lake



Dining hall at Rockywold, ca. 1940

Since 2009, more than 150 individuals have worked with the Squam Lakes Conservation Society to sponsor the compilation of a National Register multiple property nomination of cultural properties within the watershed of Squam Lake, one of the most cherished of New Hampshire's large lakes. The primary purpose of this project is to identify and document Squam's historical resources, thus raising awareness of the interconnectivity of the built and natural landscapes and encouraging their preservation. The project has received wide community support and has united land conservationists and historic preservationists in one common goal. The project area

Chair

Molly Bolster, Portsmouth
Mary Rose Boswell, Laconia
Nancy C. Dutton, Wilmot
James L. Garvin, Pembroke
Carl W. Schmidt, Orford

Ex Officio

Governor Maggie Hassan
Elizabeth H. Muzzey

Secretary

Elaine P. Loft

[Department of Cultural Resources](#)

Van McLeod
Commissioner

Shelly Angers
Public Information Officer

The DHR is a state resource agency, supported by the State of New Hampshire, by the federal Historic Preservation Fund (through a matching grant administered by the National Park Service of the US Department of the Interior), and by donated funds and services. In addition to its state functions, the DHR is also responsible for administering the federal preservation program in New Hampshire.

includes some 40,000 acres in five separate towns and three counties, making it the largest undertaking of its kind in New Hampshire.

Beginning in the 1880s, Squam was the site of the earliest organized summer camps in the United States, establishing a template for such camps throughout New England. The lake is also the site of innumerable private camps and cottages, many of them deliberately rustic and evocative of the era before electrification, automobile travel and powerful motor boats. Founders of the organized camps and well-to-do private owners often chose the simplest and most basic means of communing with nature, giving Squam an ethos that remains strong today. Their camps and cottages and the summertime activities they sheltered were often a complete antithesis to the home life of their builders, among whom were some of the most successful entrepreneurs and most distinguished teachers, clergy, writers and scientists in the Northeast.

Five initial National Register nomination forms accompanied the multiple property documentation, the first of many nominations that are expected to follow. The initial nominations illustrate principle themes in Squam's evolution, highlight key property types, and demonstrate how Squam's natural and built environments seamlessly intertwine. Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, the author of the documentation, observes that:

Squam has been firmly shaped as much by its natural landscape as by historical events. The result is an environment whose natural splendor has been and continues to be in harmony with the cultural use of the land. Squam is characterized by architecturally distinguished camps, cottages, country houses and estates, village dwellings and farmsteads with their associated outbuildings; close family and social relationships; strong sense of tradition; lengthy tenure to the land; extent of protected lands; and [a] deeply engrained conservation ethic, which is unparalleled in any New England lake community of its size.... The sixty plus miles of Squam Lake are almost devoid of commercial enterprises and there are no marinas.

The Squam Lake National Register research is providing a growing record of a lakeside life that once characterized many summer colonies, but is rapidly vanishing. Preservation organizations throughout New England have recognized that historical properties on or near the water are among the most

threatened in the region. In 2000, The Old Stone Wall carried an article about the loss of the old house at Tidewater Farm in Dover, which was put on the market and quickly bought and demolished. The article pointed to the vulnerability of waterfront property both on fresh and salt water:

It is often said that poverty is the friend of preservation. Conversely, great wealth, especially in the hands of people who covet a site but care nothing for its history, has proven to be a force of devastation. Recent waterfront losses in Rye, Portsmouth, Sunapee, and other locales reveal an urgent need to educate the public ... in the intangible values of the cultural landscape.

Fortunately, as shown by the work of so many on the Squam Lake project, there are havens where nature and the traditions of the past have been respected and preserved by generations of dedicated stewards. In recognition of this stewardship, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance presented the Squam National Register of Historic Places Committee with a Preservation Achievement Award at a state-wide event on May 7, 2013.

This article was written by James L. Garvin and Nancy C. Dutton, on behalf of the State Historical Resources Council, which reviews all National Register nominations for the State of New Hampshire.

Dartmouth murals named National Historic Landmark



Orozco Mural at Dartmouth College Baker-Berry Library
Photo: Concord Monitor

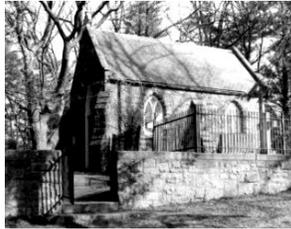
On March 11, 2013, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and National Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis announced that the Orozco mural cycle at Dartmouth College has been designated a National Historic Landmark. National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant places that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Currently there are 2,540 National Historic Landmarks; 23 are located in New Hampshire.

Mexican artist Jose Clemente Orozco created "The Epic of American Civilization" between 1932 and 1934 while artist-in-residence at Dartmouth. Located in the reserve reading room at

the Baker-Berry Library, the murals represent the North American continent, characterized by the duality of indigenous and European historical experiences. Highly controversial in their day, the murals challenged traditional ways of thinking about the development of the Aztec and Anglo-American civilizations in North America.

Five properties added to the State Register

The State Historical Resources Council is pleased to announce that five more properties have been added to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places. The most recent additions are:



Durham's Smith Chapel was built in 1900 as a tribute to philanthropist Hamilton Smith. Modeled after the chapel in England where poet Alfred Lord Tennyson's father was rector, it is constructed in the English Gothic style with stone buttresses at each corner.

Constructed circa 1823, **Hinkson's Carding Mill** in Grafton played an important part in the town's economy, transforming wool--and possibly flax--into usable fiber for knitting, spinning and weaving.

North Hampton's Town Library was built in 1907 to house collections for the library, which had been established in 1892. Designed by James Lawrence Berry in the Tudor Revival Style, the building was converted to town offices in 1973 and still serves the town in that capacity.



North Hampton Town Library

After much discussion about where it should be located, **Orford Town Hall** was built in 1859. The Greek Revival-style building, with its large hall, balcony and kitchen space, served as the central town building and social space until 1988.

Rye Town Hall was constructed in 1839 as a Methodist church and converted to town hall use in 1874. An intact example of Greek Revival architecture in Rye, its primary significance is as the hub of local government.

For more information about the New Hampshire State Register, visit the N.H. Division of Historical Resources website at: www.nh.gov/nhdhr.

Project Archaeology: *Investigating Shelter* workshop held in April

The 2013 New Hampshire Project Archaeology Teacher Workshop took place April 19, 2013 at the Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center in Laconia. Presented by the N.H. Division of Historical Resources, the N.H. State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP), the N.H. Department of Transportation and Prescott Farm, the workshop offered interdisciplinary lessons in history, art, language, mathematics, social studies and scientific inquiry.



Educators from New Hampshire and Vermont spent the day participating in hands-on activities from the award-winning curriculum [Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter](#), which meets Common Core State Standards by providing ways to increase environmental awareness, higher-level thinking skills, stewardship values and multi-cultural appreciation. The workshop guided participants through the process of an archaeological investigation, covering fundamental concepts such as scientific inquiry, citizenship, ethics, cultural understanding and stewardship.

Guest speaker Dr. Richard Boisvert, New Hampshire State Archaeologist and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, covered 14,000 years of New Hampshire history, from the pioneering Paleoindians hunting big game with fluted points to the Contact Period when Native American populations traded with new European arrivals. Participants were also treated to a tour of Prescott Farm and tested their spear-throwing skills using traditional Native American atlatls.

Workshop leaders were Tanya Krajcik, archaeologist at the N.H. Division of Historical Resources and Project Archaeology master teacher, and Sheila Charles, archaeologist and cultural resources program specialist for the N.H. Department of Transportation.

RSVP Today! Commissioner's Roundtable on Cultural & Heritage Tourism

**Join Van McLeod, Commissioner of the N.H. Department of Cultural Resources,
for a Commissioner's Roundtable on Cultural & Heritage Tourism:**

Get on the bus!

Working with coach tour operators for long-term benefits

Hosted by:

[Currier Museum of Art](#)
150 Ash Street, Manchester, NH 03104
Monday, June 10, 2013, 10:00 a.m.-noon

RSVP: Shelly Angers, public information officer: shelly.angers@dcr.nh.gov



New technical assistance from the DHR: Preservation and Sustainability

Preservation is about a sense of place, but it is also about reusing and recycling buildings and spaces in new, vibrant ways and keeping our communities vital. You know the many ways preservation benefits your community, but how do you explain them to selectboards, city councils, developers or operations and management people?

The N.H. Division of Historical Resources has a new technical assistance page to provide you with information and tools you can use to convey to others the importance of historical resources in creating sustainable communities. After you have taken a look at the links on our [Preservation and Sustainability](#) page, let us know at preservation@dcr.nh.gov if there is something you are still looking for; we are here to help!

Preservation Month recap

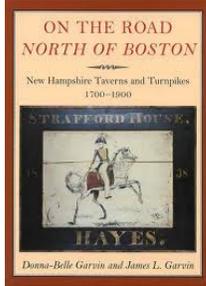


Greenfield State Park

In celebration of National Preservation Month in May, the N.H. Division of Historical Resources (DHR) created a blog that featured examples of mid-20th century modern architecture throughout the state. A new study published on the DHR's web site, "[The Mid-20th Century Modern Architecture in New Hampshire Context, 1945-1975](#)," inspired the blog.

If you did not check out the daily postings throughout May, you can still go to the DHR's web site to read the entries and see photos of our state's newest historical architecture: www.nh.gov/nhdhr/preservation_month.htm

All Books Great and Small Recommendations from the DHR Staff



On the Road North of Boston: New Hampshire Taverns and Turnpikes, 1700-1900; Donna-Belle Garvin and James L. Garvin; Hanover, University Press of New England, 1988.

Mary Kate Ryan, State Survey Coordinator at the N.H. Division of Historical Resources, recommends this book for summer road trips.

We know from calls received at the N.H. Division of Historical Resources that summer means driving around and seeing new places around the state. Some of roads we currently travel have been in existence since before New Hampshire was a state; knowing about these road systems and how visitors and citizens traveled in the past lends a nice perspective to summer drives. Donna-Belle and James L. Garvin's *On the Road North of Boston* provides a fascinating look at the development of New Hampshire's road systems, including the historical precedent for our modern toll roads. The many historic photos help the reader envision the past.

On the Road North of Boston is available at www.nhhistory.org

Learn more about preservation programs

To learn more about historic preservation programs and activities on the horizon, visit the [News and Events Page](#) of the N.H. Division of Historical Resources, the [NH Preservation Alliance Events web site](#), the [Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire E-ssociate](#), and the "history" section of nh365.org. Also visit [PreservationDirectory.com](#), a national portal with links to a wide and expanding range of preservation events, sources and resources.

Staff of the NH Division of Historical Resources prepared this newsletter, edited by Elaine P. Loft.

This newsletter has been financed in part with a federal Historic Preservation Fund matching grant from the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, to the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources/State Historic Preservation Office. However, its contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability. The State of New Hampshire (under RSA 275 and RSA 354-a) prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, sex, race, creed, color, marital status, physical or mental disability or national origin. Any person who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington DC, 20240.

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to elaine.loft@dcr.nh.gov by elaine.loft@dcr.nh.gov | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources | 19 Pillsbury Street | Concord | NH | 03301