

PH0367371

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 1 1976
DATE ENTERED	NOV 30 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC The Frost Place

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ridge Road

S of Franconia off NH 116 on

CITY, TOWN

Franconia

— VICINITY OF

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

New Hampshire

CODE

33

Second

COUNTY

Grafton

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Private (see Continuation Sheet #1)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Grafton County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Route 10

CITY, TOWN

North Haverhill,

STATE

New Hampshire

03774

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE VTN's Environmental Impact Statement for Franconia Notch highway construction.

DATE

Now being completed

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Public Works & Highways, State of New Hampshire

CITY, TOWN

John O. Morton Building, Concord, New Hampshire

STATE

03301

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Frost Place is a low, white frame house, about 54' x 30', facing the Franconia range of the White Mountains. A porch runs the length of the front. On the ground floor, the main part of the house consists of a single large room, fronting on the porch behind the four windows and one door; a bedroom in the projecting ell under the attic window; and a smaller bedroom behind this one (see floor plans). On the floor above is a large front attic bedroom, and two smaller bedrooms over the living room.

The house is substantially as it was between 1915 and 1920, when it was owned by Robert Frost, although there have been changes. At that time, the porch extended only in front of the projecting ell, under the attic window (see 1913 photograph). A wing and dormer window in the attic have been added at the rear of the house.

The original room arrangement was also somewhat different. In Frost's time a pantry, kitchen and living room occupied the space of the present living room. A central fireplace has been added in this room. Frost's study was the larger of the rooms now used as first-floor bedrooms. The original steep attic stairway has been replaced, and the two bedrooms over the living room have been finished. Frost's bedroom, the large front attic room, is unchanged since his day, even to the orange paint on the floor.¹ The stove in the kitchen, a spruce piano, and a deal table he wrote on were also in the house in Robert Frost's time.

There is a barn 25' x 27', in excellent condition, where Frost kept his cow and hens. An orchard he planted and wrote a poem about, "Goodbye and Keep Cold," still stands on the northerly slope, as described in the poem.² The grounds are very well kept.

The house was sold by Willis Herbert to Robert Frost in 1915. In 1920, Frost sold it to Raymond Holden, who in 1922 sold it to Mrs. Della Harriman Herbert, the widow of Willis Herbert. Mrs. Herbert, who undertook the renovations described, bequeathed it to her niece, the present owner, Mrs. Robert Neill. Mrs. Neill, who was born in 1892, lived nearby when the Frosts bought the house and remembers them well.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1915 - 1920, also early 20^s BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Frost Place in Franconia is famous as the house Robert Frost fell in love with at first sight. Searching for a house in April of 1915, he came along the Ridge Road, and saw it--a long white house with many large windows facing a magnificent view of Mt. Lafayette and the Franconia Range of the White Mountains. Around and above the house lay the fields and woods of the farm it belongs to. In the road was the owner, Willis Herbert, later Frost's good friend, raking leaves. Said Frost to him, with Yankee directness,

"I'm going to put you off this farm, I want it."

"Where are you going to put me, in the road?"

"I'm going to put you on the farm next door."³

and he did. Soon he and his family were able to move in, to make the house their home until October of 1920. Even after that time, Frost would return at times and seasons when he needed rest, staying with the Fobes up the road, at the guest house where his daughter was married in 1923.⁴

Frost loved the house, and no wonder. It has a charm all its own, white clapboards, a long front porch, part of which has a floor sagging towards the view. Here Frost used to sit for long periods scribbling, scandalizing his busy farmer neighbors.⁵ The house, a typical L-shape, has a gently-aged look, so settled in the landscape that it almost seems to be growing out of the ground. The present owner, Mrs. Robert Neill, most fortunately has cherished it and kept it as nearly as possible as it was when it sheltered the poet and his family.

Although unmarked in any way, it draws summer visitors like a magnet. They inquire for its whereabouts, struggle to find it, and then walk past, paying homage to New England's, and perhaps America's, greatest poet of the century, a people's poet, one anybody can understand and enjoy. Three busloads of Plymouth State College people came last summer to walk through the house and talk with Mrs. Neill, who graciously shared with them her lore of the poet and the town in his time.

There is much to be shared. One can see the perfectly-preserved barn where lived the cows of whom he wrote to a friend, "You will be glad to hear that my cows and I have composed our differences and I now milk them anchored at one end only."⁶ Beyond the house one can find half-buried in thin woods the apple orchard Frost himself planted late one fall, deliberately putting it on the exposed northern slope. "Goodbye, little orchard, goodbye, and keep cold./ Dread fifty above more than fifty below." But he worried about it left alone. "Its heart sinks lower under the sod,/ But something has to be left to God." One can walk where Frost walked with the city man who

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CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

4

PAGE

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Multiple Private)

1. Mrs. Robert Neill
Ridge Road
Franconia, NH
2. Mr. G. Hammond (son)
25 Maple Street
Bristol, VT
3. Mrs. Norine Lesser (daughter)
1340 Commonwealth Avenue
Allston, MASS

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ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

wanted a thousand of his fir balsams to sell as Christmas trees for three cents each, as told in the poem of that name. He says, "I doubt if I was tempted for a moment/ To sell them off their feet to go in cars,/ And leave the slope behind the house all bare."⁷ It is wooded to this day. One can look as Frost must have done often, at clouds massing above the peaks, dwarfing "the pitiful reality/ Of Lincoln, Lafayette and Liberty." One can speculate where the neighbor's sugar house was where Frost "lingered in a lull in March,/ Outside the sugar house one night for choice,"⁸ and got the fireman to send up sparks for him to admire against the sky. Franconia itself is celebrated in the poem New Hampshire. So is its small neighbor Easton, "whose name appeared/ Between the pictures on a movie screen/ Election night once in Franconia/ When everything had gone Republican,/ And Democrats were in sore need of comfort,/ Easton goes Democratic, Wilson 4,/ Hughes 2. And everybody to the saddest/ Laughed the loud laugh the big laugh at the little."⁹

There can be no doubt that Frost's stay in this house coincided with a burst of creativity. All except nine of the poems in his third book of poems, Mountain Interval,¹⁰ and some of those in his fourth, New Hampshire, were written in Franconia, as his own dated list, now in the Yale University Library, shows. The Pulitzer Prize for Poetry was awarded to New Hampshire, as the best book of poems published in 1923.

The place names scattered through his poetry provide a fascinating study. Nearly all are names of small villages and towns in New Hampshire. Several towns are the locale of the events of a single poem: for instance, Coos of The Witch of Coos, and Littleton of The Starsplitter.¹² It is noteworthy that these towns encircle, not Derry, his earlier home, but Franconia.¹³

There are still present in the town some respected senior citizens who remember Frost and his family from their childhood days. Among them are Mrs. Sarah Welsh,¹⁴ great-granddaughter of Luke Brooks, discoverer of the Great Stone Face; Mr. Joseph Fobes, son of the family who befriended the Frosts for many years; Mrs. Ruth Ayres Givens, whose father Philip Ayres saved Franconia Notch for the State. Their memories can and should be tapped for every encounter with the Frost family that they and others may recall, to enrich our knowledge of his time.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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PAGE

7 and 8. Footnotes to the DESCRIPTION of the Frost Place, and the SIGNIFICANCE:

1. "Irma is in her room, Papa is upstairs, and Carol and I are in the dining-room." Letter of Elinor Frost to Lesley Frost, Dated Franconia, April, 1920. Family Letters of Robert and Elinor Frost, University of New York Press, 1972. p. 89.
2. Goodbye and Keep Cold, Complete Poems of Robert Frost, Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1949. p. 281.
3. New Hampshire, op. cit., p. 203-4.
4. The wedding is described in The Years of Triumph, Lawrance Thompson, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York, 1970, p. 307.
5. "Right now, I am thinking of the view from our old place in Franconia." Letter of R.F. to Charles A. Monroe, 5 Sept. 1928, op. cit., p. 331-2.
6. R.F. to Louis Untermeyer, July 1915, quoted in The Letters of Robert Frost to Louis Untermeyer, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, New York, 1963, p. 12.
7. Christmas Trees, Collected Poems, p. 132.
8. Evening in a Sugar House, op. cit., p. 289.
9. New Hampshire, op. cit., p. 205.
10. "July, 1916...Harcourt has been and gone...I am to be out this fall with a book to be known as Mountain Interval." Letters of Robert Frost to Louis Untermeyer, p. 38.
11. See attached Xeroxed copy of a list in Frost's own handwriting, dating poems written in Franconia, The original is in the Yale University Library.
12. Complete Poems, pp. 247, 218.
13. New Hampshire northcountry placenames, with titles of Frost's poems to which they relate:

Coos	<u>The Witch of Coos</u>
Dalton	<u>A Fountain, A Bottle, A Donkey's Ears, and Some Books</u>
Easton	<u>New Hampshire</u>
Franconia	<u>New Hampshire</u>
Grafton	<u>The Pauper Witch of Grafton</u>
Lancaster	<u>A Hundred Collars</u>
Littleton	<u>The Starsplitter</u>
Lunenburg	<u>The Mountain</u>
Woodsville	<u>A Hundred Collars</u>

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4

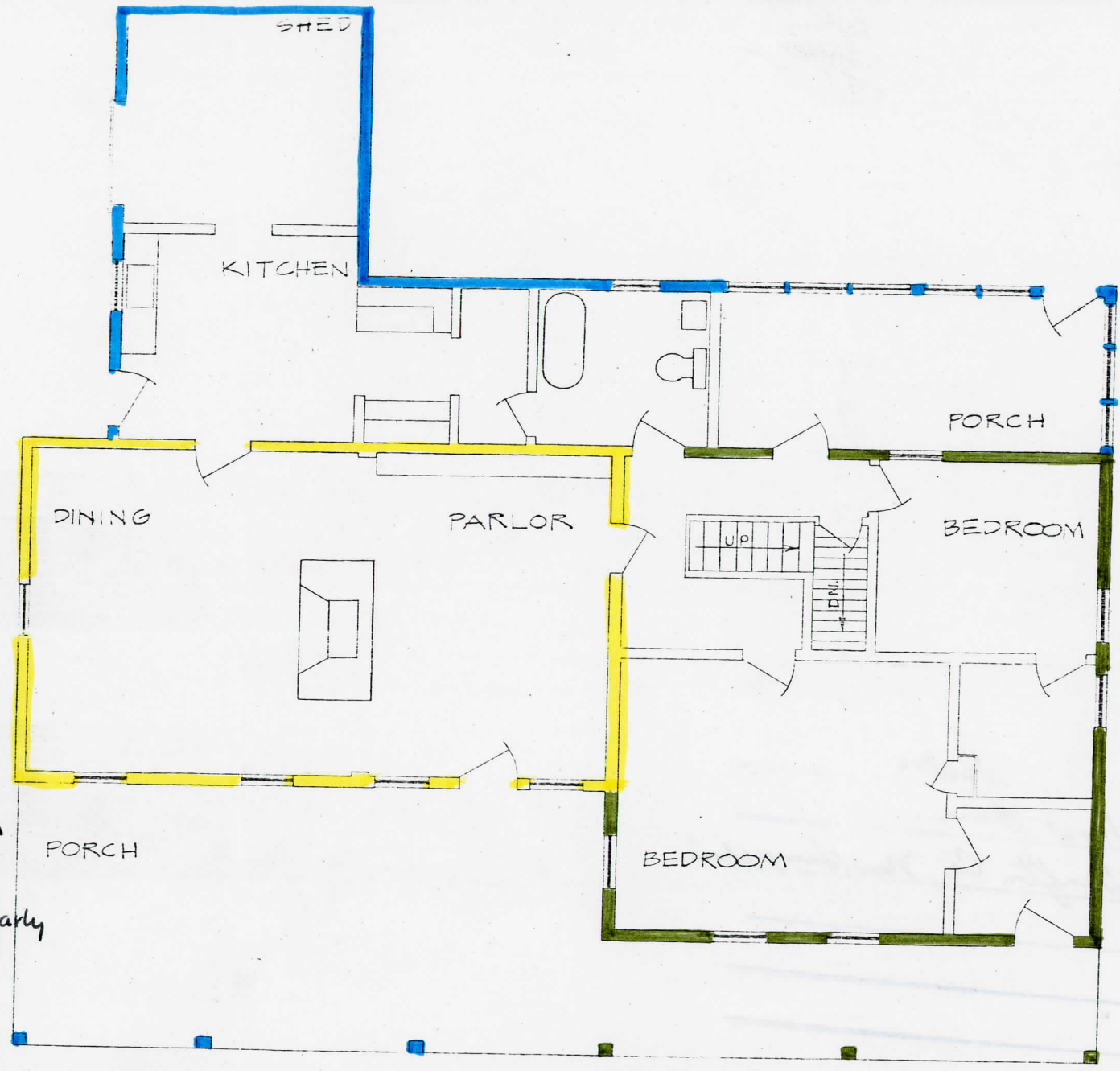
ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

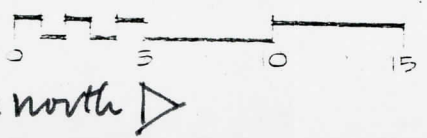
7 and 8. Footnotes (Continued).

14. "Robert Frost served on the Board of Education (of Franconia) for three years. He also was President of the PTA. His children attended the local school." A History of Franconia, Sarah N. Welsh, Courier Printing Co., 1972. p. 180.

Interior partitioning appears to have been rearranged several times prior to Frost occupancy, as well as after it. 2/2 windows are not original and I suspect the east elevation of the 1826 section has been modified - particularly the door location! 1850's section front door is in proper position for the period, but does not appear in 1913 photo - perhaps concealed by middle porch post.



THE FROST PLACE
EXISTING PLAN - 1975



- ca. 1826-1830's - per 10/30/76 phone call from N.H. - B.G.
- ca. 1856-1858
- post 1922

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



11/30/76
 Name: Frost Place
 Location: Grafton Co., New Hampshire

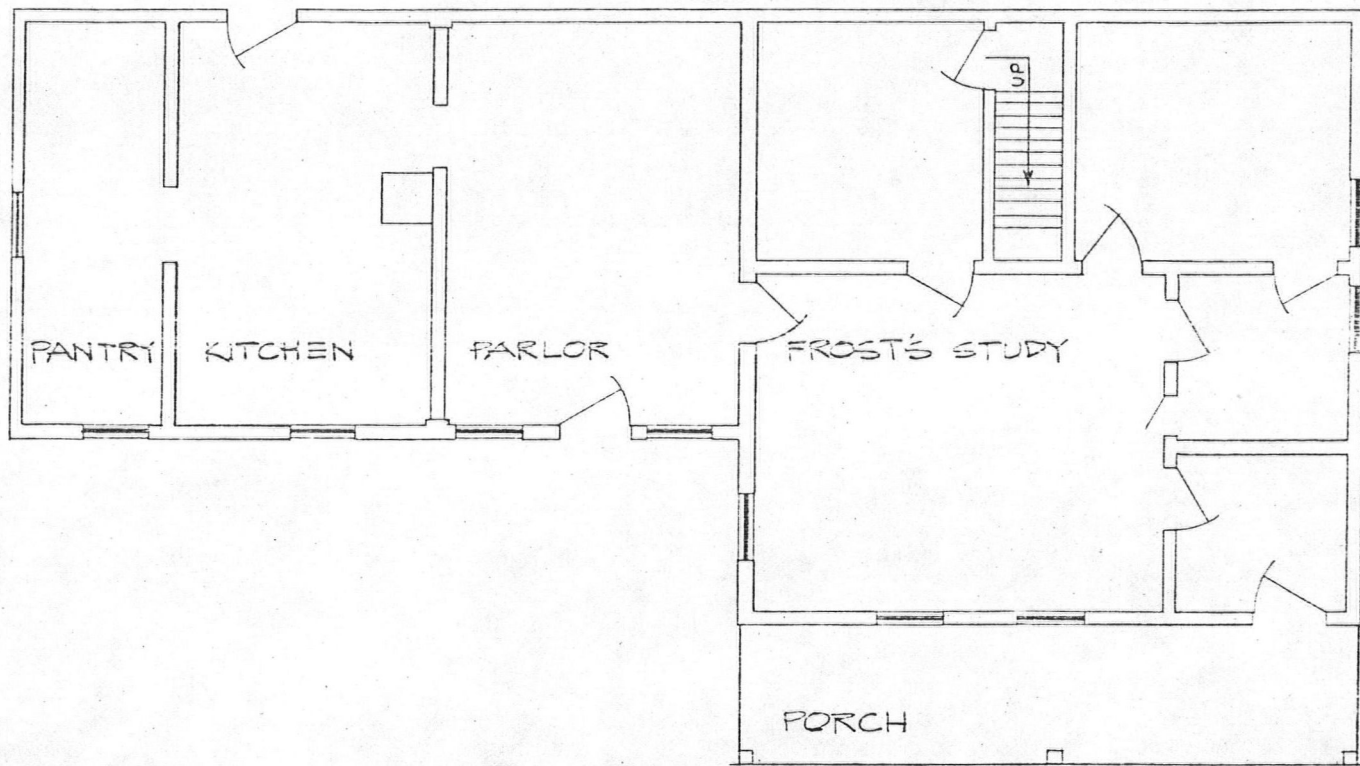
1870's section
 front door is in
 proper position for
 the period, but
 the door location
 modified part
 section has been
 of the 1870's
 the east elevation
 and 1/2 original
 1/2 original
 well as effort
 occupant
 given to find
 several times
 returned
 have been
 appear to
 part of
 part

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

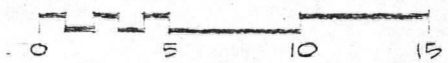
THE FROST PLACE

CA 1875-1878

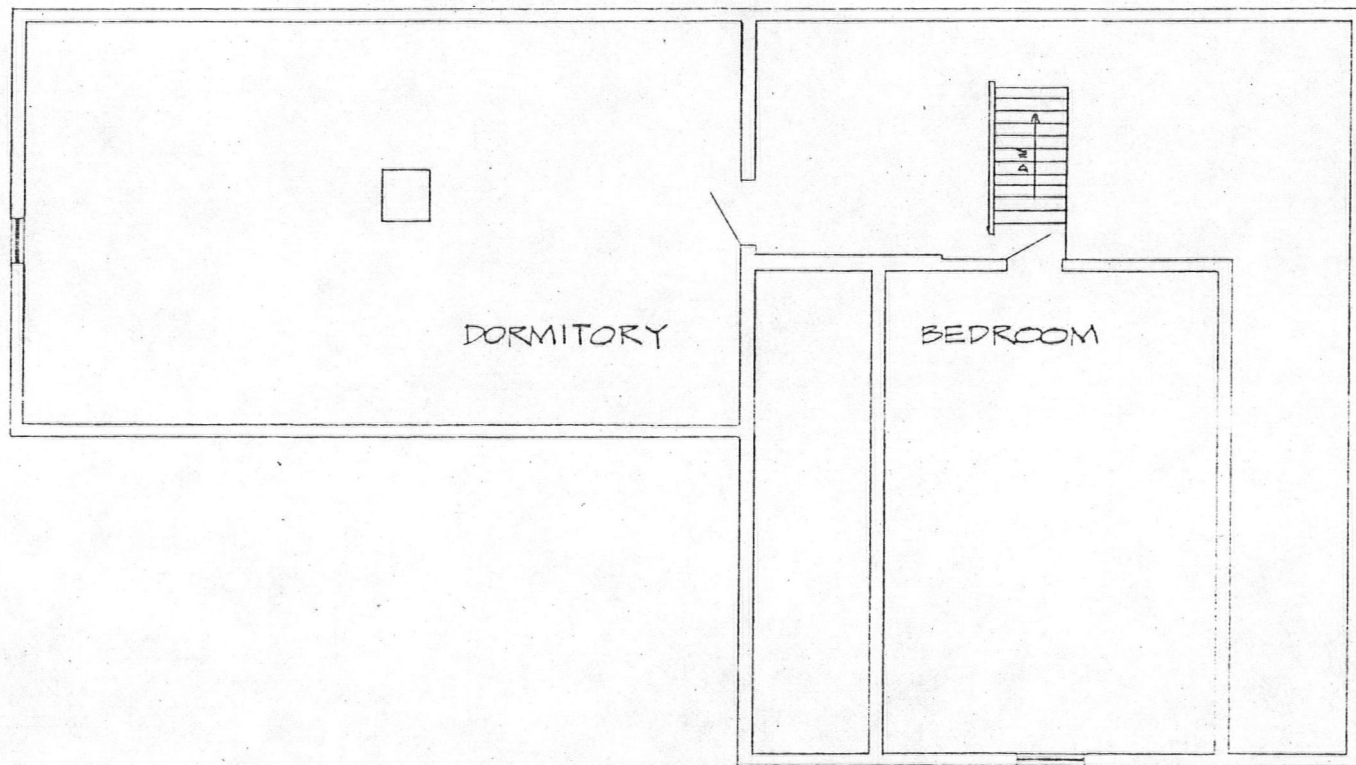




THE FROST PLACE
FIRST FLOOR - 1915/1920

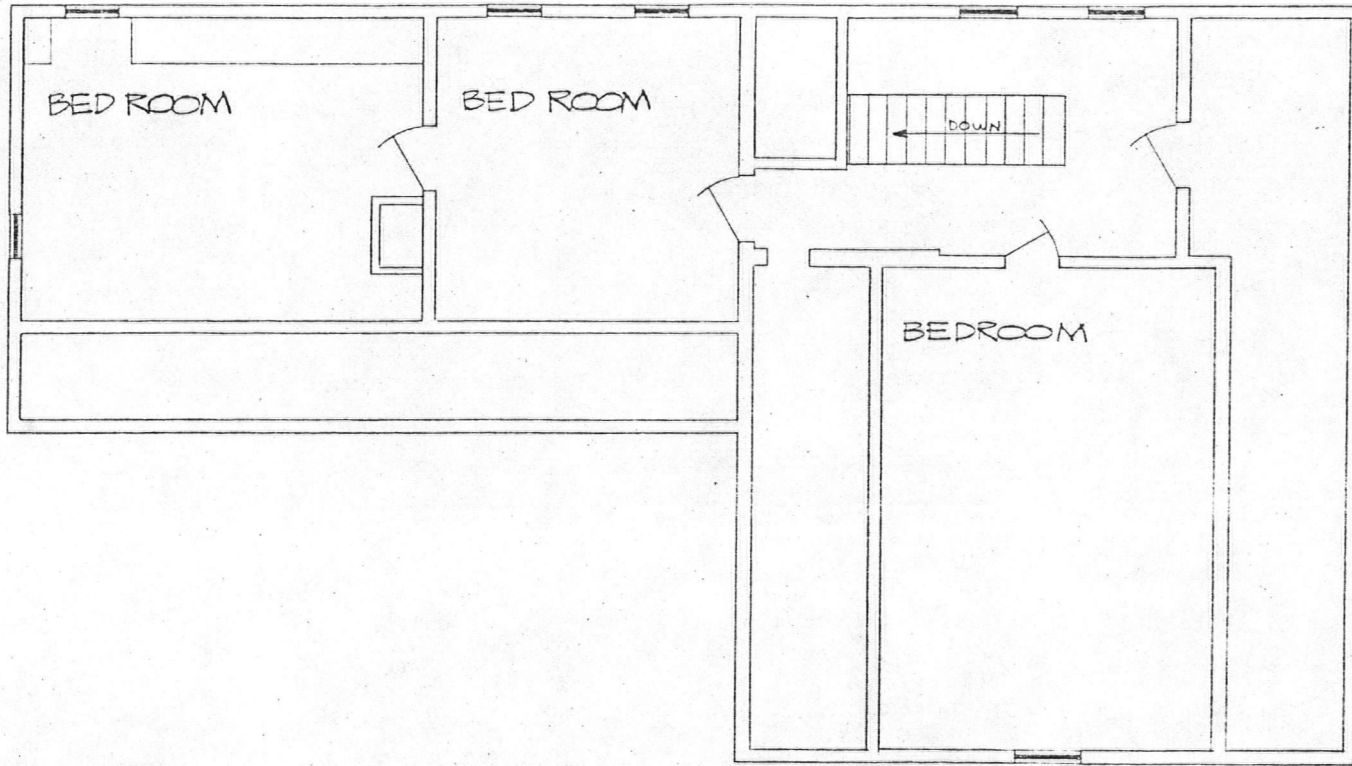


NOV 30 1976



THE FROST PLACE
SECOND FLOOR - 1915/1920

NOV 30 1976

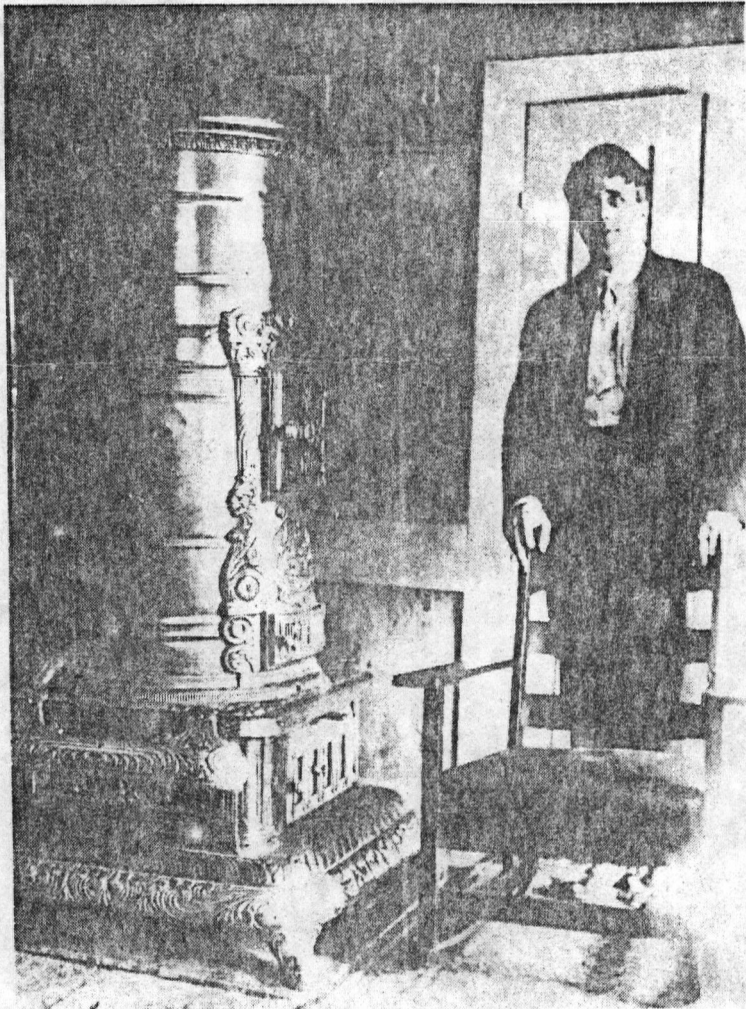


THE FROST PLACE
SECOND FLOOR - EXISTING

NOV 30 1976

Littleton Courier

Feb. 25, 1976



ROBERT FROST IN HIS FRANCONIA study, courtesy of George H. Browne, Robert Frost Collection, Plymouth State College.

Committee Seeks Stove For Frost Place In Franconia

The Franconia Bicentennial Subcommittee on the Frost Place is looking for a stove.

In its efforts to restore the famous poet's former Franconia residence to its condition when he lived there, the committee would like to find a replica of the original stove pictured above. Anyone who has any recollections of the original stove, or who knows where one like it may be found, is requested to contact Committee Chairman Mrs. Stuart Machlin, The Frost Fund, Box F, Franconia, N.H. 03580.

James Fox, the committee's

architectural specialist, reported that the position of the stove can be exactly located in the room today because the narrow door (behind Frost in the photo) is still there. He added that a knothole in another photo taken in the study is still in the wainscoting, and can be used as a reference in fixing the posi-

tioning of furnishings in the room.

A desk at which much of the poet's work and letters were written appears in that photo, and Mr. Fox is building an exact replica of that desk to use when the room is refinished authentically to Frost's stay.

In other business, Mrs. Machlin reported that the committee has already received \$3,000 in gifts and pledges from public-spirited citizens and local organizations, and is much encouraged. Further donations and pledges will be sought this week, she said, before beginning a wider appeal. A coupon for donations appears elsewhere in this issue.

NOV 30 1976



THE FROST PLACE, FRANCONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE (about 1913)

NOV 30 1976

Property The Frost Place

State N. H.

Working Number 10.1.76.4207

Grafton Co.

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 1
Maps 1

HISTORIAN

~~cancel, then~~ accept
P. Grover 10/15/76
10/1/76

Although the significance could have been written more effectively, it appears to have been well researched. #7 refers us to floor plans and a 1913 photo, neither of which is included. We need to know the date of construction for the house. Also wonder if this is Frost's first house after returning ~~home~~ in 1915 from a stay of several years in England (where he produced his first book of poetry). Otherwise - OK.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept Call then accept
10/21/76 10/5/76
Soldman

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Call
BRANCH CHIEF

Accept
Cole
10.27.76

KEEPER

Hunt
11.24.76

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2-1-77

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered NOV 30 1976

INT:2106-74



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM: NEW HAMPSHIRE

Historic Name: ~~THE FROST PLACE~~

Common Name: ~~THE FROST PLACE~~

NR District: N/A

Address: Ridge Road

City/Town/State: Franconia, New Hampshire

Photographer: Austin Macaulay

Shrafton Co.
OCT 1 1976

Negative with: Austin Macaulay

Lafayette Drive, Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Description: View of southeast (front) and southwest (side) elevations.

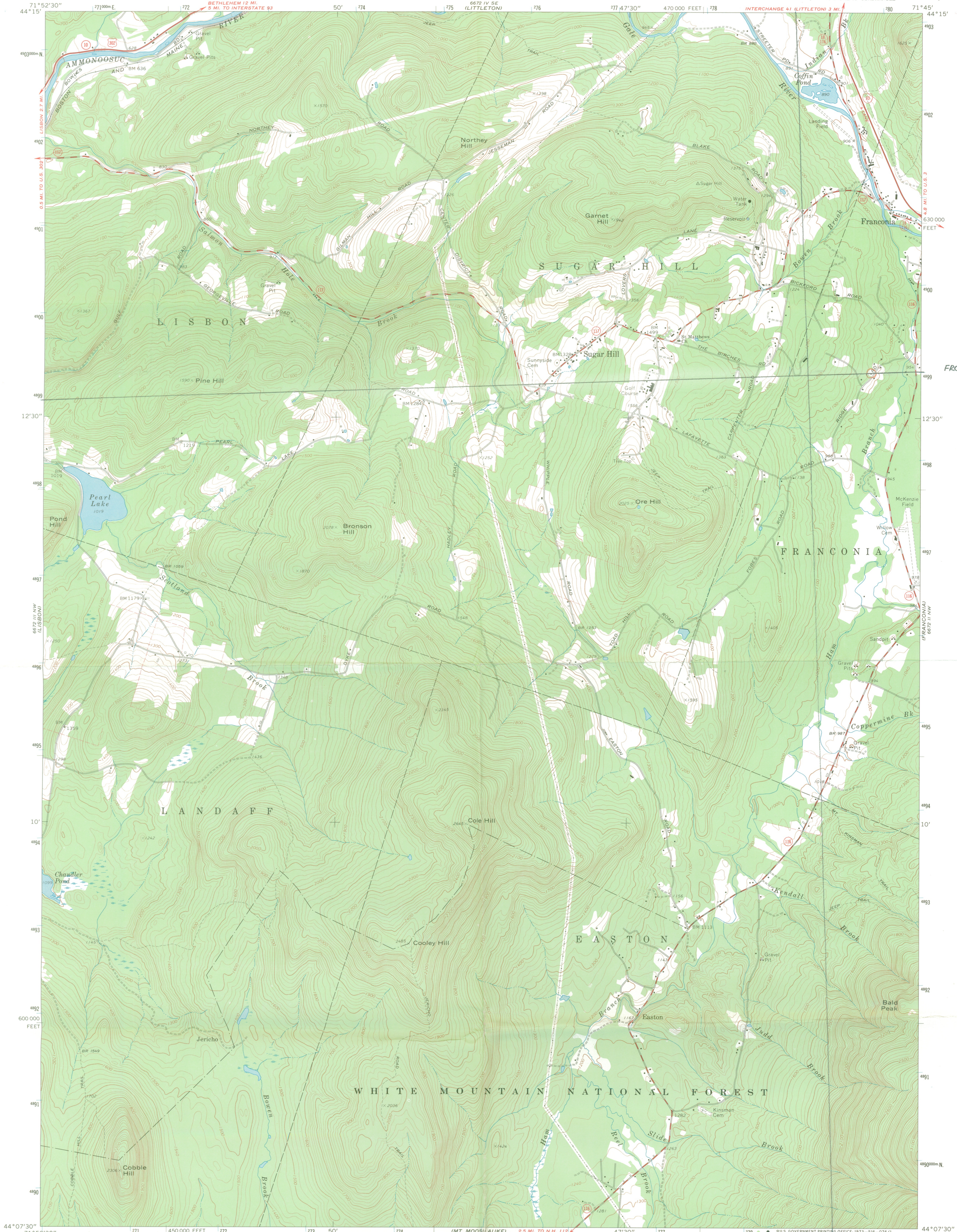
(Southeast elevation faces toward Presidential Range, White Mountains)

Photographer facing N ~~NE E SE S SW W NW~~ Photo Date: Sept. 1, 1975

Photo Number 1 of 1

NOV 30 1976

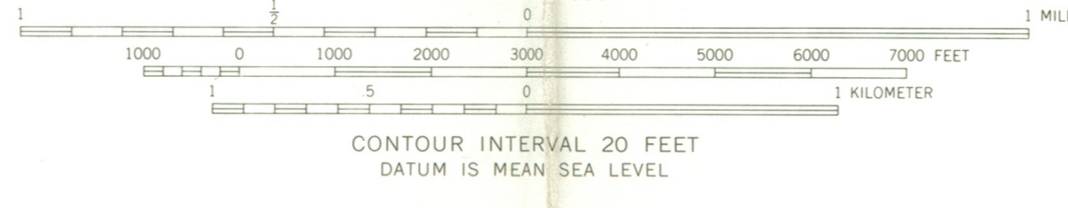
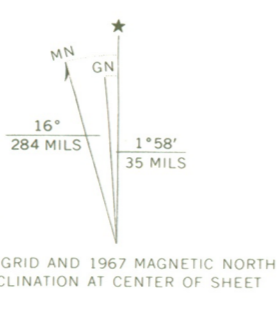
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NAME: The Frost Place
NR DISTRICT: N/A
CITY/TOWNSHIP/STATE: Franconia NH

UTM ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A 19	2-78-710 ± 48-99-000	
B		
C		
D		

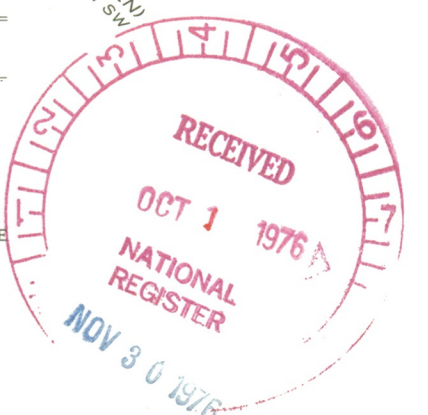
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1967
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New Hampshire coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 19, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface — Light duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface — Unimproved road
Interstate Route — U.S. Route — State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SUGAR HILL, N. H.
NE/4 MOOSILAUKE 15' QUADRANGLE
N4407.5—W7145/7.5
1967
AMS 6672 III NE—SERIES V814



May 20, 1976

Mrs. Norine Lesser
1340 Commonwealth Avenue
Allston, Massachusetts 02134

Dear Mrs. Lesser:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Frost Place, Franconia, N.H., may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

National Register listing provides recognition of significant cultural resources worthy of preservation, but does not impose any restriction or limitation on the use of private property. Once entered in the National Register, properties are eligible to be considered for Federal matching grants-in-aid for preservation, restoration or reuse. In addition, National Register designation provides for review and amelioration of potential effects which any Federally funded, assisted or licensed project might have on the property.

The nomination of a property to the National Register of Historic Places begins with the preparation of National Register nomination forms, maps and photographs; the material is reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office and considered by the State Historic Preservation Review Board. If the proposed nomination is approved by the Review Board, it is submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer; if signed by the SHPO, it is forwarded to the National Park Service for consideration, review and final approval. Upon approval of the nomination by the National Park Service, the property is entered in the National Register of Historic Places. As co-owner of the property, you will be notified of subsequent action on the nomination.

Your comments and opinions are an important part of the nomination process, and will assist the Review Board in its consideration of the property's significance. For your convenience, a reply card is provided. If you wish to submit additional information, please address correspondence to:

New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer
Box 856
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Should you have any questions, please contact the Historic Preservation Office (271-3483). We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Linda Ray Wilson, Director
NH Historic Preservation Office

cc: Commissioner Gilman, SHPO
Dr. Evangeline Machlin

May 20, 1976

Mr. G. Hammond
25 Maple Street
Bristol, Vermont 05443

Dear Mr. Hammond:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Frost Place, Franconia, New Hampshire, may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

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Sincerely,

Linda Ray Wilson, Director
NH Historic Preservation Office

cc: Commissioner Gilman, SHPO
Dr. Evangelina Machlin

May 20, 1976



Mrs. Robert Neill
Ridge Road
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Dear Mrs. Neill:

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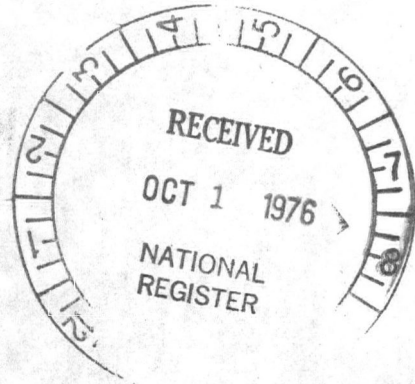
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Box 856
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

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Sincerely,

Linda Ray Wilson, Director
NH Historic Preservation Office



- I/we favor the proposed nomination to the National Register of yes - very much in favor
- I/we do not favor the proposed nomination
- I/we have no opinion about the proposed nomination
- I/we wish to submit additional information

COMMENTS:

DATE: May 24-76

Name: Mrs. Robert Neill

Address: Ridge Rd -

Franconia - N.H. 03580



I/we favor the proposed nomination to the National Register of West Place Franconia

I/we do not favor the proposed nomination

I/we have no opinion about the proposed nomination

I/we wish to submit additional information

COMMENTS:

DATE: 5.24.76

Name: George E. Hammond

Address: 62 Maple Street, Box 33 Bristol
VT. 05443

June 1, 1976

Mr. G. Hammond
25 Maple Street
Bristol, Vermont 05443

Dear Mr. Hammond:

As New Hampshire's State Historic Preservation Officer, I am pleased to inform you that the Frost Place, Franconia, New Hampshire, was approved by the New Hampshire Historic Preservation Review Board at its meeting of May 27, 1976, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Nominations are submitted to the National Park Service for consideration, review and final approval. Copies of the National Register nomination papers are on file and are available for your inspection at the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office (Room 317, State House Annex, Concord, New Hampshire). As a co-owner of the property, you will be notified of subsequent action on the nomination.

If you have any questions, please contact the Historic Preservation Office. Your comments will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

George Gilman
Commissioner
State Historic Preservation Officer

GG:LW:bf

cc: Selectmen, Town of Franconia, NH
Bicentennial Committee of Franconia, NH
NH Charitable Fund
Dr. Evangeline Machlin

June 1, 1976

Dr. Evangeline Machlin, Chairman
Subcommittee on the Frost Place
Bicentennial Committee of Franconia
Box 89
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Dear Dr. Machlin:

As New Hampshire's State Historic Preservation Officer, I am pleased to inform you that the Frost Place, Franconia, New Hampshire, was approved by the New Hampshire Historic Preservation Review Board at its meeting of May 27, 1976, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

I am submitting the National Register forms which you prepared to the National Park Service for consideration, review and final approval; you will be notified of subsequent action on the nomination.

Thank you for your significant contribution to the New Hampshire Historic Preservation Program; it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

George Gilman
Commissioner
State Historic Preservation Officer

GG:LW:bf

June 1, 1976



Mrs. Robert Neill
Ridge Road
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580

Dear Mrs. Neill:

As New Hampshire's State Historic Preservation Officer, I am pleased to inform you that the Frost Place, Franconia, New Hampshire, was approved by the New Hampshire Historic Preservation Review Board at its meeting of May 27, 1976, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Nominations are submitted to the National Park Service for consideration, review and final approval. Copies of the National Register nomination papers are on file and are available for your inspection at the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office (Room 317, State House Annex, Concord, New Hampshire). As a co-owner of the property, you will be notified of subsequent action on the nomination.

If you have any questions, please contact the Historic Preservation Office. Your comments will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

George Cilman
Commissioner
State Historic Preservation Officer

GG:LW:bf

cc: Selectmen, Town of Franconia, NH
Dr. Evangeline Machin
Bicentennial Committee of Franconia, NH
NH Charitable Fund

June 1, 1976

Mrs. Norine Lesser
1340 Commonwealth Avenue
Allston, Massachusetts 02134

Dear Mrs. Lesser:

As New Hampshire's State Historic Preservation Officer, I am pleased to inform you that the Frost Place, Franconia, New Hampshire, was approved by the New Hampshire Historic Preservation Review Board at its meeting of May 27, 1976, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Nominations are submitted to the National Park Service for consideration, review and final approval. Copies of the National Register nomination papers are on file and are available for your inspection at the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office (Room 317, State House Annex, Concord, New Hampshire). As a co-owner of the property, you will be notified of subsequent action on the nomination.

If you have any questions, please contact the Historic Preservation Office. Your comments will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

George Gilman
Commissioner
State Historic Preservation Officer

GG:LW:bf

cc: Selectmen, Town of Franconia, NH
Bicentennial Committee of Franconia, NH
NH Charitable Fund
Dr. Evangeline Machlin



NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GEORGE GILMAN
COMMISSIONER

September 24, 1976

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service, Department of Interior
18th and C Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As New Hampshire's State Historic Preservation Officer, I am pleased to nominate to the National Register the Frost Place, Franconia, New Hampshire.

The National Register nomination has been reviewed by the Preservation Advisory Council, and was approved by the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Review Board at its meeting of May 27, 1976. The present co-owners of the property have been notified; copies of the notification letters and the co-owners' comments are enclosed.

The Town of Franconia is striving to acquire the Frost Place; however, it appears that action by the National Park Service on the proposed nomination will be necessary before the transaction, now pending, can be completed. Therefore, I respectfully request that this nomination be given priority consideration.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Historic Preservation Office (603-271-3483).

Sincerely,

George Gilman, Commissioner
State Historic Preservation Officer

GG:LW:bf

encs

DATE 10/15/76

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

9:15

AM
PM

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name) (return call)

Linda Wilson

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

New Hampshire state staff

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

The Frost Place

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

This was Frost's first home after returning from England in 1915.

The earliest section of the house (SW ell, w/ chimney) dates from the 1830's ~~1840's~~. The rest of the house that existed in Frost's time was built between 1856 + 1858. Porch + wings added later. She will send a sketch map dating the sections of the house. - received 10/21/76

The floor plans + 1913 photo (see mem. form, #7) are already on the way here. - arrived 10/18/76

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Beth Grosvenor

TITLE

Historian

OFFICE

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOV 30 1976

Date Entered

Name

Location

The Frost Place

Franconia
Grafton County

Also Notified

Hon. Thomas J. McIntyre
Hon. John A. Durkin
Hon. James C. Cleveland
Regional Director, North Atlantic

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. George Gilman
Commissioner, Department of Resources
and Economic Development
P. O. Box 856
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

880 Mott 11/30/76

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder: ?

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal Robert Frost, owner + resident, 1915 - 1920; poet

events Frost wrote many of the poems in his 3rd + 4th books of poetry while living here, a period early in his career at which time he was gaining recognition for his talent.

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): ^{1830/1840} ~~1826~~; 1856-58

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: unknown

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): 1915 - 1920

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

8-9

COMMENTS:

(include architectural information here)

Description: frame, clapboard ^{ing}; 1 1/2 stories, L-shaped, gabled roof sections, exterior chimney (not original), full ^{width} front porch; REAR ADDITION, PORCH ALTERATIONS; and alterations, some furnishings dating to years of Frost's occupation; barn. the town of Hamonic is attempting to acquire the Frost Place.

SIGNIFICANCE:

(maximum two sentences)

~~This was the first home of the eminent poet Robert Frost after his 3 year stay in England when he published his first 2 books and gained his first critical acclaim; many of the poems which appeared in his 3rd + 4th books, the latter of which earned him the first Pulitzer Prize, were written during his 5 years in this house and many of his later poems were written about his life here and in nearby New Hampshire towns.~~ ^{AND, PULITZER PRIZE WINING, 4TH BOOK.}

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 10/1/76
Reviewer: INITIALS: BG KP
NR
DOE NOV 30 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Foot Place ①

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER: South of Franconia off NH 116 on Ridge Road Rde
CITY, TOWN: _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 3rd

STATE: New Hampshire VICINITY OF: Franconia COUNTY: Grafton code: 009

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline): _____ FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME): _____
NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR Substantially intact-1 EXTERIOR Substantially intact-2 ENVIRONS Substantially intact-3
~~unknown - 4~~ unknown - 5 ~~unknown - 6~~
~~not applicable - 7~~ not applicable - 8 ~~Not applicable - 9~~

~~Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0~~

CONDITION - EXCELLENT ~~GOOD~~ ~~FAIR~~ ~~DETERIORATED~~ ~~RUINS~~ ~~UNEXPOSED~~ ~~Unexcavated~~ ~~UNALTERED~~ ~~ALTERED~~ ~~Reconstructed~~ ~~Excavated~~ ORIGINAL SITE ~~MOVED~~ ~~Unknown~~

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
IF YES, NAME: _____

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
IF YES, NAME: _____

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- House

now- House

SIGNIFICANCE:

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW/Gov't/politics
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)
- entertainment
- health
- recreation
- settlement
- socio/cultural
- urban & commun planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO