

**ARCHEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW AND ASSESSMENT  
BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM**

**SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE  
CORNISH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**FINAL**

*Prepared for:*

**National Park Service  
Northeast Regional Archeology Program  
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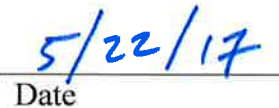
**JULY 2017**

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## Report Certification

The archeological report *Archeological Overview and Assessment Blow-Me-Down Farm Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, New Hampshire* by James Lee and Eryn Boyce of Hunter Research, Inc., has been reviewed against the criteria contained in 43 CFR Part 7.18(a)(1) and upon recommendation of the Park Archeological Advisor has been classified as "Available."

  
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### Classification Key Words:

"Available" - Making the report available to the public meets the criteria of 43 CFR 7.18 (a)(1).

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"Not Available" - Making the report available does not meet the criteria of 43 CFR (a) (1).

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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

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The following technical report describes and interprets the results of an archeological overview and assessment carried out at Blow-Me-Down Farm, part of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in the Town of Cornish, Sullivan County, New Hampshire. The primary goals of this AOA were to: review existing archeological data; generate new archeological data through shovel testing and background research; catalog and assess known and potential archeological resources on this property; and make recommendations concerning the need and design of future studies (National Park Service 1997:25).

The Blow-Me-Down Farm occupies a 42.6-acre parcel located between the Connecticut River to the west, New Hampshire Route 12A to the east and Blow-Me-Down Brook to the south. The property, which has a history extending back into the 18th century, served in the late 19th century as the summer home of Charles Beaman, a significant figure in the development of the Cornish Art Colony. The farm was purchased by the National Park Service in 2010 as a complementary property to the adjacent Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing element of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Historic District in 2013.

The background research conducted in connection with this investigation has focused the work done in the past and a comprehensive history of the property is presented. Archaeological testing was conducted of known historic resources on the property and several new historic period resources were identified. However, these investigations did not identify any evidence of precontact-period archaeology, despite the property being considered to have significant precontact archaeological potential. Assessments are presented for all of the resources identified as well as recommendations for the conservation and management of these resources. Avenues for future archaeological research at Blow-Me-Down Farm are also offered.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The preparation of the archeological overview and assessment involved the cooperation among numerous individuals within the National Park Service. We gratefully acknowledge the following staff for their unwavering support and interest: Dr. William Griswold, Archeologist with the Northeast Region Archaeology Program who served as the project's Contracting Officer; Dr. Meg Watters Wilkes, ASMIS Coordinator with the Northeast Region Archeology Program; Stephen Walasewicz, Integrated Resources Program Manager, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site; and Henry Duffy, Curator, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site.

With regard to Hunter Research staff involvement, the project was conducted under the overall direction of Dr. Richard W. Hunter and James S. Lee. Background research was carried out by Eryn Boyce under the direction of Patrick Harshbarger. Archaeological fieldwork was performed by James Lee and Andrew Martin. Artifact processing and analysis was conducted by Dorothy Both. Report graphics were produced by Evan Mydlowski. Report layout was completed by Patricia Madrigal. This report was written by James Lee and Eryn Boyce with editing by Richard Hunter.

Richard W. Hunter, Ph.D., RPA  
Principal/President

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# Chapter 1

## INTRODUCTION

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### A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE-OF-WORK

The following technical report describes and interprets the results of an archeological overview and assessment (AOA) carried out at Blow-Me-Down Farm, part of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in the Town of Cornish, Sullivan County, New Hampshire (Figure 1.1). The primary goals of this AOA were to: review existing archeological data; generate new archeological data through shovel testing and background research; catalog and assess known and potential archeological resources on this property; and make recommendations concerning the need and design of future studies (National Park Service 1997:25).

Blow-Me-Down Farm occupies a 42.6-acre parcel located between the Connecticut River to the west, New Hampshire Route 12A to the east and Blow-Me-Down Brook to the south (Figure 1.2). The property, which has a history extending back into the 18th century, served in the late 19th century as the summer home of Charles Beaman, a significant figure in the development of the Cornish Art Colony. The farm was purchased by the National Park Service in 2010 as a complementary property to the adjacent Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. In 2013 Blow-Me-Down Farm was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing element of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Historic District (Figure 1.3) (Public Archaeological Laboratory [PAL], Inc. 2012).

The AOA described here was performed at the behest of the National Park Service and the current report supplements the archeological overview and

assessment document previously prepared for Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site by the University of Massachusetts Amherst (Hepler *et al.* 2006). The studies reported on here were performed by Hunter Research, Inc. under contract to the General Services Administration and were administered by the National Park Service.

The scope-of-work for this AOA involved four main tasks: background research and historic map and image analysis; archeological fieldwork; analysis of the results of research and fieldwork; and preparation of this report. Background research entailed a thorough review of previously completed historical studies of the property and of historic cartographic and image sources relevant to the physical development of the property. Archeological fieldwork involved a systematic pedestrian survey of the property and targeted shovel testing in areas of potential archeological sensitivity.

### B. PREVIOUS RESEARCH AND PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The principal sources of information concerning prehistoric archaeological resources in the vicinity of Blow-Me-Down Farm are reports from other cultural resource studies. For general context on Native American sites in the region, several standard texts were consulted (Snow 1980; Haviland and Power 1994; Ritchie 1994; Thomas 1994; Starbuck 2006; Boisvert 2012). A number of published secondary sources on the history of Cornish, the Cornish Colony, Cheshire County and Sullivan County were also consulted for contextual information (Bill 1886; Parmelee 1886; Rawson 1963; Wade 1976; Van Buren

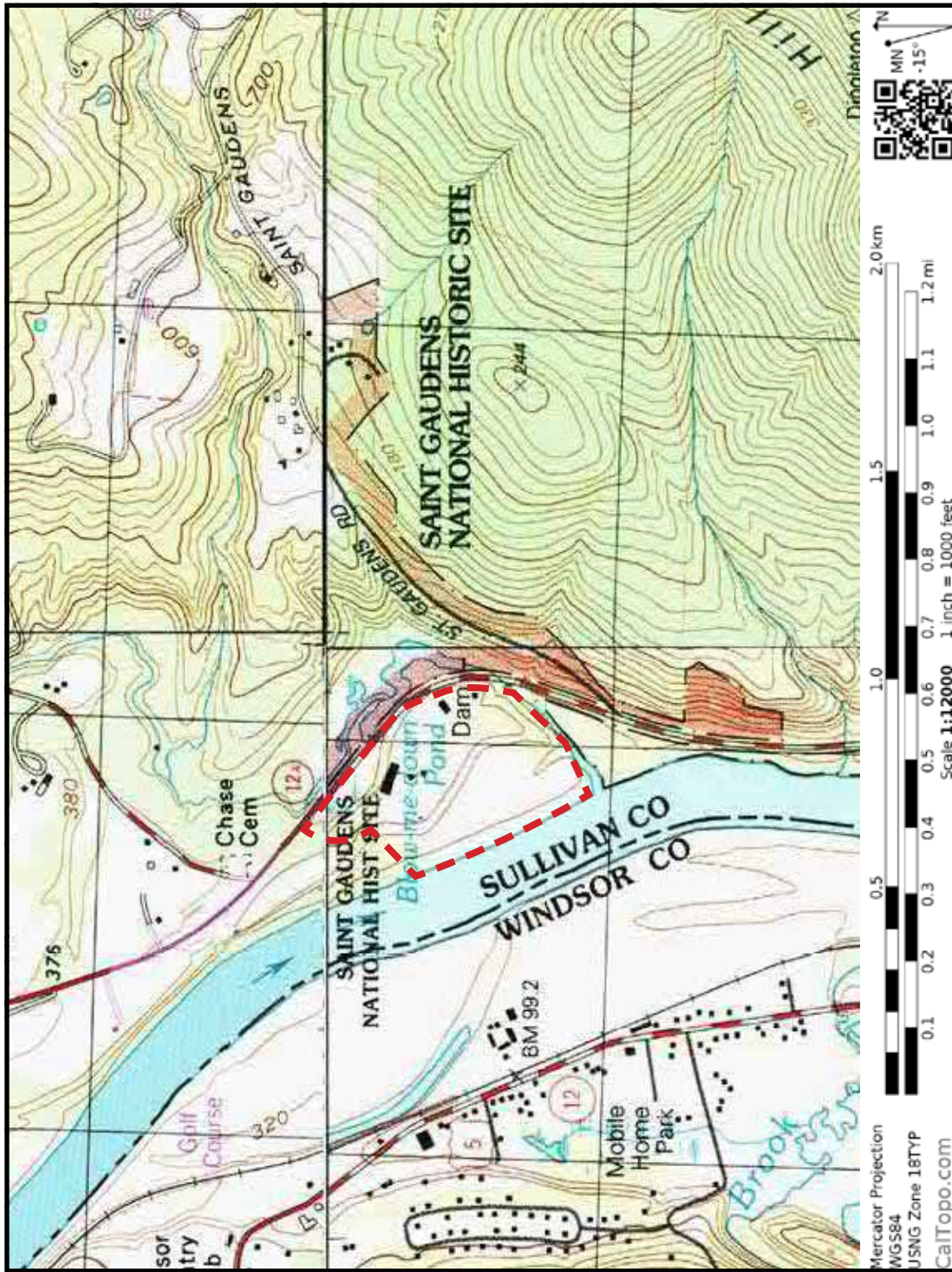


Figure 1.1. Detailed Location of the Blow-Me-Down Farm. Source: USGS 7.5' x 15' Series, Mt. Ascutey, Vermont, New Hampshire (1984).

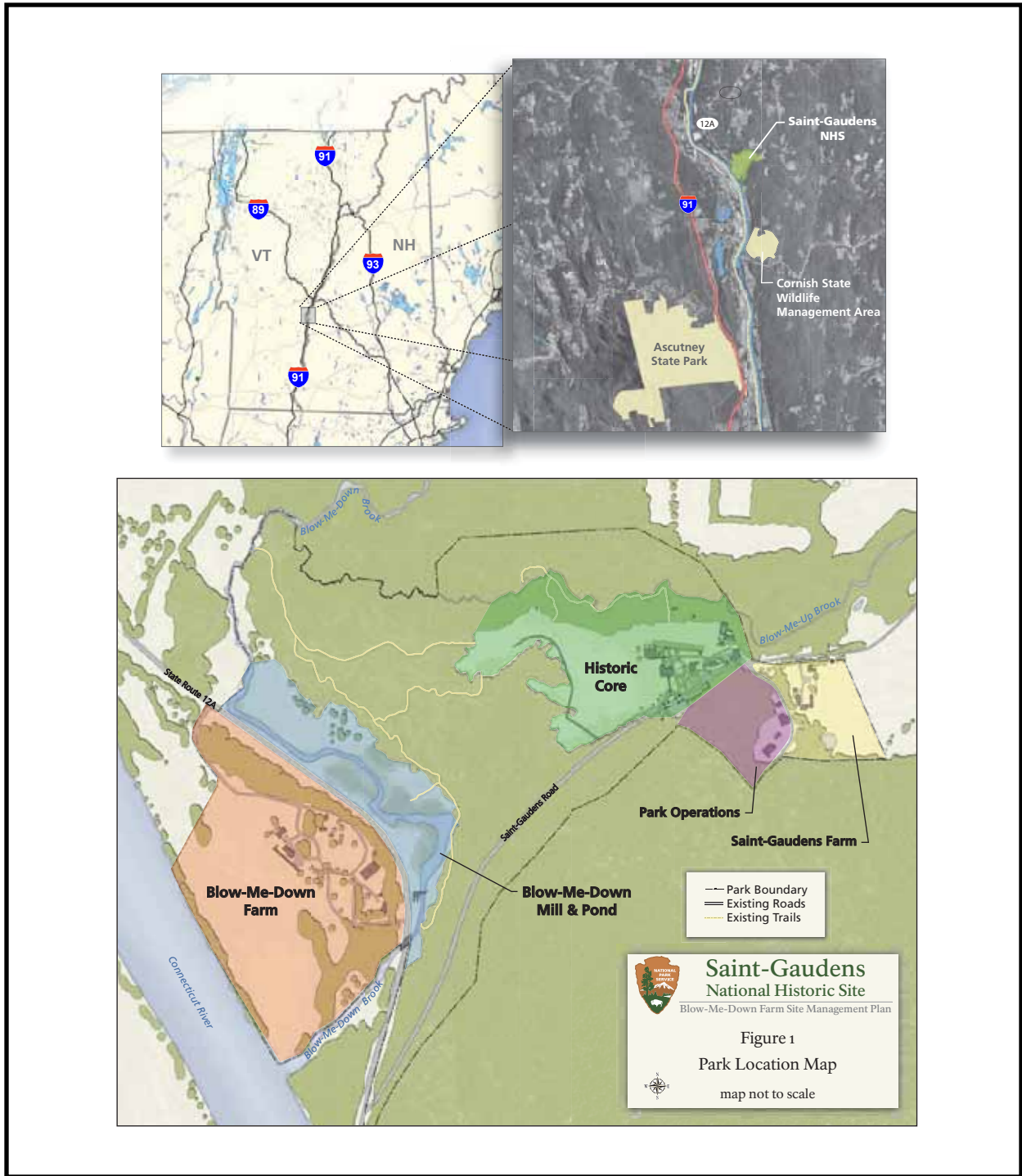


Figure 1.2. Plan of Blow-Me-Down Farm. Source: National Park Service 2013.

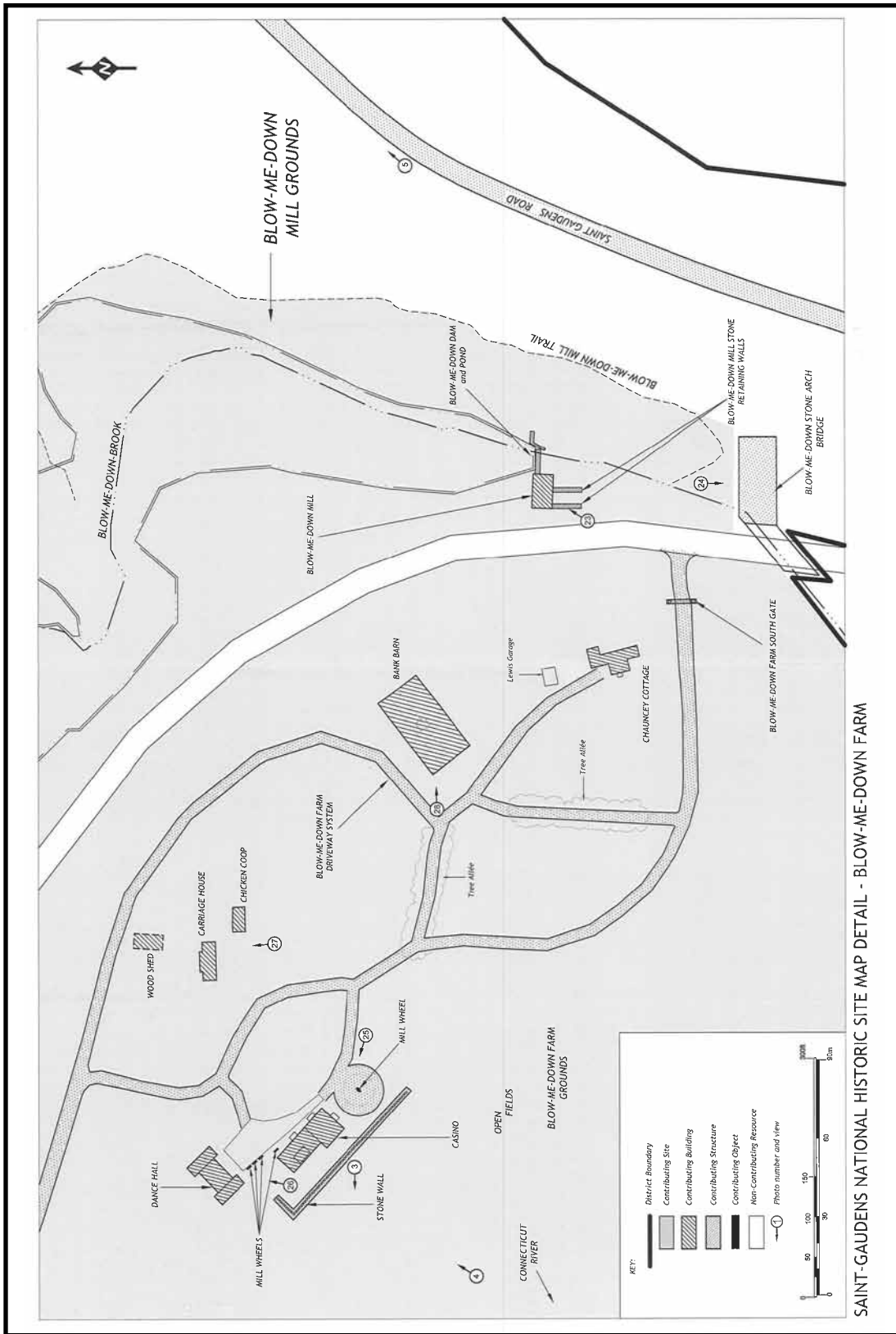


Figure 1.3. Site Plan of the Blow-Me-Down Farm. Source: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. 2012.

1983; Van Buren 1987; Child n.d.), while a series of books containing reprinted 18th-century government documents provided insight into the early history of Cornish (Bouton 1877; Hammond 1882; Batchellor 1894). The series of historic maps and 20th-century aerial photographs available for the area provided much valuable locational data (Plan of the Town of Cornish 1894 (1764); Chase 1894 (1772); Holland *et al.* 1784; Cady 1803; Chapman *et al.* 1805; Carrigain 1816; Walling 1861; Hurd & Co. 1892; Munroe *et al.* 1929; Sheaff 1973; Dryfhout 2000; Nationwide Environmental Title Research 2016). Site-specific data regarding the Beaman family and the development of Blow-Me-Down Farm from 1882 to the 1950 were gathered from Beaman-related archival materials housed at the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish, New Hampshire (Beaman Family 1884-1917), and cultural resource reports prepared for the National Park Service (Hepler *et al.* 2006; Bargmann Hendrie and Archetype, Inc. 2010; Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc. 2013; PAL, Inc. 2013; Fix 2016). Several primary and secondary sources provided additional information about the family, its role in the history of Cornish, Sullivan County and New Hampshire, the establishment and growth of the Cornish Colony and the development of Blow-Me-Down Farm (Wright 1902; The New England Genealogical Society 1907; Sargent 1915; Insurance Company of North America 1935; New Hampshire as an Artist's Colony: 1870-Present 1989; Dryfhout 2000; Saint-Gaudens Memorial 2010).

Hunter Research, Inc. conducted additional research into primary and secondary sources of information to understand the history of Blow-Me-Down Farm before Charles Cotesworth Beaman acquired the property in 1882. This work specifically focused on collecting information about the individuals who owned the property in the 18th and 19th centuries and sought to gain an understanding of what buildings likely occupied the property during this period (Lyon 1854; Brink, McDonough & Co. 1879; McClintock 1883;

Cutter 1912; Chase and Chamberlain 1928; Upham 1928; Wade 1976; Kimball Union Academy n.d.). Examination of land records housed at the Cheshire County Clerk's Office in Keene, New Hampshire, and at the Sullivan County Clerk's Office in Newport, New Hampshire, enabled a chain of title for the property to be established and provided a wealth of information on the evolution of Blow-Me-Down Farm from the 18th century through the late 19th century. Probate records and federal population census schedules provided additional information about the individuals and families who owned and occupied Blow-Me-Down Farm prior to the Beaman family.

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## Chapter 2

### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

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Blow-Me-Down Farm is located in southwestern New Hampshire in the Upper Valley of the Connecticut River in the New England Upland physiographic province (Fenneman 1938). While the underlying bedrock consists of Devonian slates and schists these are deeply buried beneath the alluvial soils within the Blow-Me-Down Farm property (New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services n.d.). Although no formal geomorphological study has been conducted of the property, an examination of the topographic and soil maps provides some evidence as to the origin of the landform on which the Blow-Me-Down Farm is situated (Figure 2.1). As the Laurentide ice sheet was retreating a torrent of melt-water was released that significantly altered the riverine landscape of the Connecticut River valley. It appears that this release of water cut severely into the eastern bank of the river valley just east of Blow-Me-Down Farm before being forced to turn south by the bedrock cliffs along St. Gaudens Road (Figure 2.1, Directional Arrow A).

Around 13,500 B.P. this torrent of water was blocked by ridges of glacial till further to the south which led to the formation of Glacial Lake Hitchcock. Glaciofluvial-derived silts and sands would then have been deposited in the valley bottom below the deep waters of this lake as the current decelerated. These deposits may have been supplemented along the eastern bank by material carried off the eastern hillsides of the valley by Blow-Me-Down Brook, which gathers several small tributaries and disgorged into this glacial lake forming a submerged delta (Figure 2.1, B). After Glacial Lake Hitchcock drained around 12,900 B.P., the Connecticut River began cutting and meandering through the remaining deep lake bed and glacio-fluvial deposits attempting to find a channel (Snow 1980:107). It is possible that as the lake level

lowered and the Connecticut River began the process of searching for a channel it was forced to the west by the mass of the submerged delta that had formed at the mouth of the Blow-Me-Down Brook. A relic channel of the river is visible on the USGS topographic map that suggests the river channel at one time trended west and hit the western bank of the valley bottom before turning east (Figure 2.1, C). It is possible that this channel, after turning abruptly east cut into the submerged delta and created the lower terrace of the Blow-Me-Down Farm. Around the same time Blow-Me-Down Brook was forced to find its way around the high bank of alluvial sediment under Blow-Me-Down Farm and found remnants of the earlier river channel along the cliffs of the eastern bank before emptying into the river, forming the peninsula on which Blow-Me-Down Farm is now situated (Figure 2.1, D). Eventually the river channel took the most direct course and established a primary channel with steep, yet relatively low terraces along its banks.

This peninsula, bordered by the Connecticut River to the west and Blow-Me-Down Pond and Brook to the east ranges in elevation between 295 feet above sea level on the banks of the river to approximately 365 feet above sea level within the yard areas near the farm buildings. This stretch of the Connecticut River is now broad and shallow with a gravelly bed. The lower terrace lies between 295 and 330 feet above sea level and is part of the river's floodplain. A slight swale or remnant flood chute is apparent running through the center of this lower terrace roughly southeast and then south. The soils were wetter in this section during the field investigation period suggesting that this area gathers rainwater and is likely inundated during flood episodes. A steep slope defines the upper terrace where the farm buildings are all situated, which

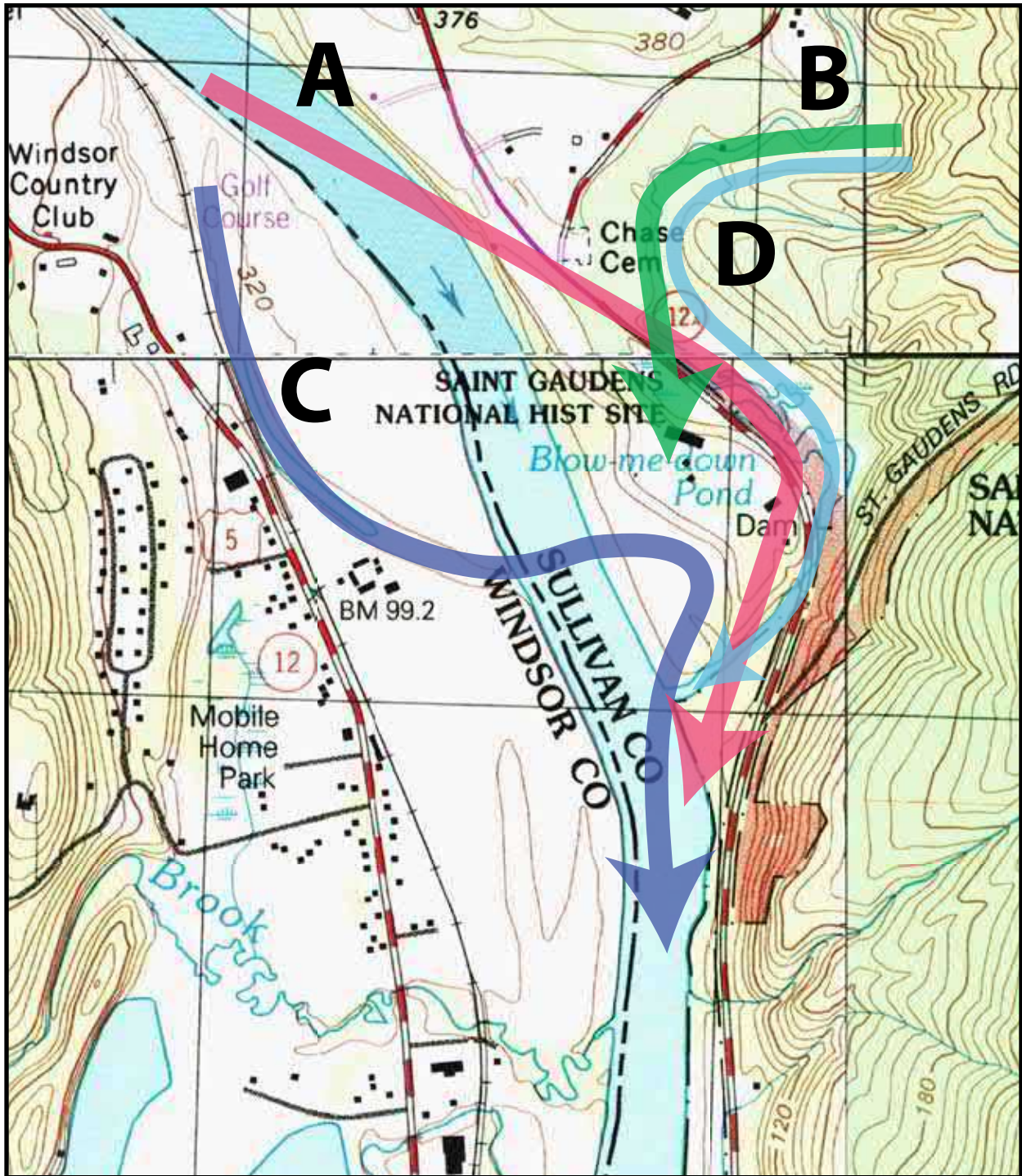


Figure 2.1. USGS Topographic Map of the Vicinity of Blow-Me-Down Farm Showing Alluvial Sequence Discussed in Text. Source: USGS 7.5'x15' Series, Mt. Ascutney, Vermont – New Hampshire (1984).



ranges in elevation from 355 feet to 365 feet above sea level. Low wet areas are located along the northeastern and southeastern edges of the farm property along Blow-Me-Down Brook and Pond where elevations are approximately 355 feet above sea level in the upper area and 315 feet above sea level in the lower area. Blow-Me-Down Brook is now a meandering stream that cuts deeply through the alluvial deposits to the east and north of the farm, and meets the Connecticut River at the southwestern edge of the farm property. Steep cliffs line the river's eastern bank to the south and a broad floodplain is present on the Vermont side of the river to the west.

The majority of soils within the project site are mapped as Windsor loamy sands (WdA) (Figure 2.2). These fertile, excessively drained soils are present in the northeastern portion of the farm property on the upper terrace around the core of the farm. They are derived from glaciofluvial deposits and are often present on glacial outwash terraces, as is the case in this locality. The second most common soil type are Hadley silt loams (Hb), which are present at a much lower elevation along the lower terrace next to the Connecticut River (Figure 2.1). These well-drained soils are also alluvial in origin but are more frequently flooded than the Winooski soil type. Winooski silt loams (Wn) and Unadilla variant silt loams (UnE), both well-drained alluvial soils, are present in much smaller areas along the eastern edge of the property on the banks of Blow-Me-Down Brook (Figure 2.1). In the northeastern corner of the farm, just west of New Hampshire Route 12A is an area of Rumney fine sandy loams (Ru), which are classified as poorly drained and frequently flooded (Natural Resource Conservation Service 2017).

Prior to historic period land clearance and agriculture, the vegetation on the alluvial terraces and river floodplains in this section of New Hampshire was dominated by white pine, hemlock and northern hardwoods, with conifers becoming increasingly prevalent at higher elevations. Modern vegetation cover along

this section of the Upper Connecticut River Valley has been influenced by extensive cutting of the woodlands during the 18th and 19th centuries by the lumber industry and by the creation of large agricultural fields in the floodplain. This has led to later colonization by successional plant communities. The Blow-Me-Down Farm property today still retains some of the landscape features first established during the late 19th century, which include large, open manicured lawns interspersed with groves of trees on the upper terrace and steep slopes leading down to agricultural fields on the lower terrace. While most of the steep slopes separating the upper and lower terraces are wooded, a large section has been cleared to provide an unobstructed view looking south from the main dwelling downstream along the Connecticut River.



Figure 2.2. Soils Map of the Blow-Me-Down Farm Property. Source: NRCS 2017.

## Chapter 3

### CULTURAL HISTORY

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#### A. PRE-CONTACT BACKGROUND

##### 1. Regional Prehistory

A human presence is detectable in New England beginning approximately 11,000 years ago. The chronological sequence for the region is generally divided into four major cultural periods: Paleoindian (*circa* 9,200 to 8,100 B.C.); Archaic (*circa* 8,000 to 1,500 B.C.); Transitional (1,500 to 700 B.C.); and Woodland (700 B.C. to A.D. 1600) (MacDonald 1968; Moeller 1980; Gramly 1982; Curran 1984; Boisvert 2012). The sequence of human occupation in New Hampshire conforms to this overall framework.

Evidence for Paleoindian occupation in New Hampshire, usually identified by the presence of fluted projectile points or associated diagnostic debitage such as channel flakes, is limited. Only 16 sites of this period have been scientifically excavated in the state: the Whipple site in Swanzey; the Thornton's Ferry site and the Hume site near Merrimack; the Thorne site in Effingham; the Weirs Beach site near Laconia; the Jefferson I through V sites near Jefferson; the Potter Site near Randolph; the Stone's Throw site near Tamworth; the Tenant Swamp site near Keene; the George's Mills site near Sunapee (the closest to Blow-Me-Down Farm); site 27-CO-38 near Colebrook; and finally the Mount Jasper lithic source near Berlin. In addition to these documented sites a further eight isolated finds of Paleoindian artifacts have been made in the state (Boisvert 2012:77). The only sites in the northern part of the state are those near Jefferson that make up the Israel River Complex (Boisvert *et al.* 2012:21) and a very small site near Colebrook that yielded a radiocarbon date from a pit feature of 10,290 +/- 170 B.P. (Bunker and Potter

1999). The majority of the Paleoindian sites are small lithic scatters situated near water with relatively few tools or diagnostic artifacts (the exception being the Whipple site in the southwestern corner of the state) and most appear to have been campsites for small hunting groups. These groups were likely seeking out larger game animals, such as caribou, as documented at the well-known Vail site just over the border in Maine where Richard Gramly excavated a caribou kill site and associated camp (Gramly 1982).

The Early Archaic period in New Hampshire is somewhat better documented than the Paleoindian period. The diagnostic artifacts of the Early Archaic period consist of notched and bifurcated projectile point forms, and chipped and ground stone implements. These artifacts indicate a shift in resource exploitation concurrent with environmental changes. Plant foods became increasingly important and smaller game animals, such as deer, as well as freshwater resources, were exploited. While most diagnostic items from this period comprise individual finds that lack good context, there are several stratified sites that have yielded Early Archaic components, such as the Weirs Beach site, Wadleigh Falls and a series of sites near the Amoskeag Falls. These site locations and their associated artifacts (Kirk, Palmer and bifurcated-style points associated with gouges, unifacial edge tools, and lithic cores) support the assertion that Early Archaic groups were using riverine, lacustrine and lowland forest resources (Starbuck 2006:43).

The Middle Archaic period, which is normally identified through the presence of stemmed points, notably the Neville and Stark types, is well documented in New Hampshire. The sites appear larger and are concentrated around lakes and along major rivers. Of

particular note is the Neville site along the Merrimack River near the Amoskeag Falls. This site, for which the Neville-type projectile point is named, yielded evidence of year-long occupation and was primarily focused on the catching and processing of fish (Dincauze 1976). In addition to utilizing the riverine/lacustrine resources exploited by the Early Archaic inhabitants, it is likely that the Middle Archaic occupants of the region also exploited the floral and faunal resources of the uplands; however, sites in upland locations tend to be ephemeral and are not well represented in the archeological record.

Late Archaic period sites are characterized by the presence of notched projectile points (such as the Brewerton, Vosburg and Otter Creek types), small stemmed points (such as the Lamoka type), stone axes and milling equipment. During this period, a warming trend produced increased resource productivity in the area as reflected, for example, in the expansion of the oakhemlock/oakhickory forest and a subsequent increase in nut and fruit resources. Late Archaic sites occur in much greater numbers than Early and Middle Archaic sites. While they are found in both lowland and upland environments, the richest sites tend to be found nears falls and rapids on the major rivers and in some cases show considerable archeological (and hence probably social) complexity. It would appear from the presence of milling equipment that plant resources were increasing in importance during the Late Archaic period. The Transitional period, at the interface of the Late Archaic period with the subsequent Woodland period, is characterized by the appearance of Susquehanna broadblade projectile point forms and Orient "fishtail" points, which are often associated with steatite bowls (Sargent 1969). The manufacture of vessels in this material has been taken by some scholars to imply an increase in sedentism.

The occurrence of pottery, usually Vinette-type sand-tempered ware, is traditionally taken as being the key diagnostic feature of Early Woodland period sites. Other features characteristic of the Early Woodland period include the continuation of complex mortuary practices from the Late Archaic period, and the appearance of certain types of artifacts, such as side-notched Meadowood projectile points. The most detailed information for Early Woodland occupation in the Upper Connecticut River Valley comes from excavations at the Canaan Bridge site on the Connecticut River in the Vermont Piedmont. Overall artifact density at Early Woodland sites tends to be low, but implements used for hunting, fishing and gathering activities are usually present (Haviland and Power 1994). Pollen cores indicate that a climatic shift occurred around 1,000 B.C. wherein the percentages of oak, beech and maple dropped, and those of hemlock, pine and birch increased. Spruce and fir were found at the higher elevations and on northfacing slopes, indicating the return of a cooler climate. There is some indication that upland regions throughout this region were all but abandoned after 1,000 B.C. (University of Vermont 1979).

The Middle Woodland Period is characterized by stamped, impressed or cordmarked ceramics and the Greene, Jack's Reef and Fox Creek types of projectile points (Starbuck 2006:76). Although several sites have yielded Middle Woodland components, the Garvin's Falls site on the Merrimack River near Concord stands out for yielding significant quantities of Middle Woodland ceramics in association with large thermally altered stone "roasting platforms" (Starbuck 2006:83-84). The features of this site emphasize a perceived reliance during this period on fish and freshwater mussels.

Collared vessels (usually with incised decoration), large triangular Levanna points and use of local chert for stone tool manufacture are significant attributes of Late Woodland sites. Within the later Woodland

period, there is a tendency toward more sedentary occupation of larger villages, some with defensive palisades, and a greater emphasis on wild plant collection and perhaps horticulture. While no cultigens have been found in prehistoric archeological contexts in New Hampshire (Starbuck 2006:78), maize was being cultivated during the latter part of this period in New York State and southern New England. Of particular note is the Late Woodland component of the Hunter site in Claremont where the footprints of three longhouses were identified on the banks of the Connecticut River (Starbuck 2006:89).

Among the descendants of these Late Woodland groups inhabiting New Hampshire at the time of European contact in the 17th century were the Western Abenaki in the Connecticut Valley and the Winnepesaukee and Penacooks in the Merrimack Valley. The settlement pattern associated with these groups included networks of short-term hunting camps linked to sedentary villages where horticulture was practiced and food was stored (Haviland and Power 1994).

## 2. Site-Specific Prehistory

The archeological site files of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) list no recorded prehistoric sites within the Town of Cornish. However, a former owner and farmer of the property, Donald MacCleay, reported finding “arrowheads” in the agricultural fields of Blow-Me-Down Farm. However, Mr. MacCleay has passed away and these items were not available for examination (Henry Duffy, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Curator, personal communication, April 2017). Important sites have been found in reasonable proximity to Blow-Me-Down Farm, including the previously mentioned George’s Mills Paleoindian site at the northern end of Lake Sunapee (approximately 26 kilometers [16 miles] to the east), which is characterized as a small transient camp. Probably the most significant site in

the area is the Hunter site, which is located approximately 10 kilometers (6.5 miles) to the south of Blow-Me-Down Farm at the confluence of the Sugar River and the Connecticut River west of Claremont. This site was subjected to large-scale salvage excavations in the late 1960s prior to the construction of a new bridge across the Connecticut River. The site extended across three separate river terraces and yielded stratified archeological deposits dating to the Early, Middle and Late Woodland periods, including three long house patterns (Cassedy 1999 [1991]:12-13; Starbuck 2006:89). Cassedy’s *A Prehistoric Inventory of the Upper Connecticut River Valley* reports only one isolated find of an Early Woodland Meadowood-style point along the Sugar River near Cornish (Cassedy 1999 [1991]:13).

The riverbank terrace setting of Blow-Me-Down Farm and its position just upstream from the confluence of the Connecticut River and Blow-Me-Down Brook is similar to other site locations in the region where prehistoric archeological materials have been found. In addition, the wetlands created by the impoundment of Blow-Me-Down Brook, while a historical feature, may very well have existed in some form in the prehistory period due to the activity of beavers. The diversity of habitats in the immediate vicinity of Blow-Me-Down Farm (including a sizeable open river, a small stream, woodland, wetlands, and steep hilly terrain) would have attracted pre-contact peoples who, unless they were pursuing a resource specific source, were trying to maximize the potential of the landscape. The Blow-Me-Down property has well drained soils, significant portions do not flood, and it provides a high vantage point, even when wooded, from which a broad area along the Connecticut River can be surveyed. Its only drawbacks are the flooding potential of the lower terrace, the lack of nearby workable sources of stone and the high hills to the east and southeast that block the sun until midday, particularly in the winter. One potentially important environmen-

tal question concerns when the Connecticut River channel became established in its current channel, thus allowing the lower terrace landform to stabilize.

Based on these factors and a report of the discovery of precontact artifacts on the property, there exists a high potential for pre-contact archeological deposits being present in some portions of the Blow-Me-Down Farm property, notably on the upper terrace landform, around the farm buildings and on the promontory that projects to the south. The potential for prehistoric archeological resources surviving in these sections of the property is greatly increased if the ground can be shown to have escaped major land alteration during the historic period. The lower terrace is considered to have a moderate pre-contact archeological potential given its flooding potential. The areas on the northeastern and southeastern edges of the farm, along the Blow-Me-Down Brook, are considered to have a low pre-contact archeological potential given the wet soils and proximity to an active stream channel.

## **B. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **1. Blow-Me-Down Farm Before the Beamans**

#### *Early History of Cornish, 1761-1765*

King George III granted the town of Cornish to Reverend Samuel McClintock and 69 other proprietors from Greenland, New Hampshire, on June 21, 1763 (Batchellor 1894:664-665). In 1763, the six-square-mile town contained 23,040 acres and was bounded on the west by the Connecticut River, on the north by the town of Plainfield, on the east by the town of Croydon and on the south by the town of Claremont. The colonial governor of New Hampshire, Benning Wentworth, reserved two shares totaling 500 acres out of the grant for himself (Batchellor 1894:665). Known as “Governor Benning Wentworth’s Farm” (now Dingleton Hill), the prop-

erty occupied a prime location on the Connecticut River. Benning Wentworth’s interest in the property, which was located south of Blow-Me-Down Brook in the northwest corner of the town, stemmed from his involvement in the lumber trade, which supplied masts for the British navy (Figure 3.1) (Wade 1976:2). The property reportedly contained “the best great white pines” in Cornish (Wade 1976:5).

Although Cornish was not formally granted until 1763, the British presence in the town predated the grant and the arrival of the first settlers under that grant. A survey party led by Colonel Joseph Blanchard, who laid out townships in the Connecticut River Valley for Benning Wentworth, visited Cornish in 1760. According to Wade (1976:5), Blanchard’s survey party supposedly named Blow-Me-Down Brook, which appears on the Cornish grant map, after Cape Blomidon in the Minas Basin of Nova Scotia due to the resemblance between Dingleton Hill, which overlooks the brook, and Cape Blomidon. In addition to Blanchard’s survey party, a group of men established a “Mast Camp” on Bryant Brook south of Windsor Bridge to cut white-pine masts for the British navy in either 1761 or 1762 (Wade 1976:2).

The first settlers arrived in Cornish in the summer of 1765, when Judge Samuel Chase and his family decided to relocate to the town from Sutton, Massachusetts. Although Judge Chase decided to delay his arrival in Cornish and to remain in Walpole, New Hampshire, his son, Dudley Chase, his son-in-law, Daniel Putnam, and Dyer Spaulding, a veteran of the French and Indian war, continued north to establish a foothold in Cornish. Dudley Chase, Putnam and Spaulding set up camp in a river meadow at the mouth of Blowmedown Brook on land that eventually became part of the estate of Charles Cotesworth Beanman (Child n.d. Vol. I:13; Wade 1976:6). Reflecting the pattern that defined much of the settlement in New Hampshire, in which wealthy proprietors based near Portsmouth rarely occupied their land grants and, instead, sold

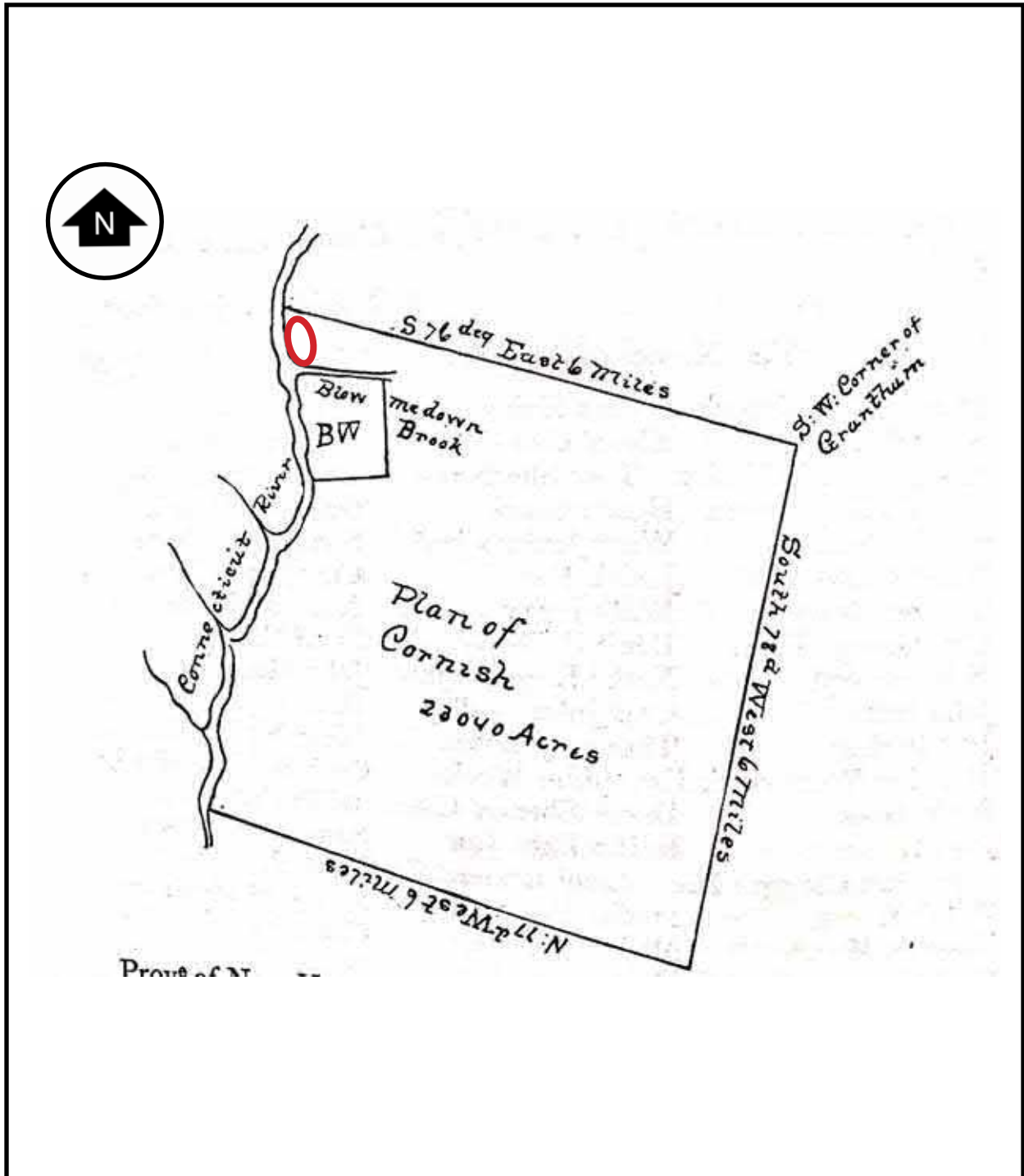


Figure 3.1. Plan of the Town of Cornish. 1894 (1764). Reprinted in Batchellor 1894. Project site indicated (approximately). Not to scale.

them or encouraged poorer families to settle in their place, none of these men belonged to the original group of proprietors.

Judge Chase, Dudley Chase and Daniel Putnam were, however, socioeconomically far removed from the poorer families often induced by proprietors to settle on the frontier. In fact, several members of the Chase family, including Judge Chase, his son Jonathan Chase (later General Jonathan Chase) and his brother Moses Chase were among the original proprietors of the town of Croydon, which was granted on May 31, 1763 (Wade 1976:1). The Chase family quickly re-focused their interests from Croydon to Cornish, likely because of the town's superior natural resources, and Judge Chase purchased extensive tracts of land from the proprietors of Cornish (Child n.d. Vol. I:13; Wade 1976:1). Over the next couple of years, Judge Chase's sons and brothers joined him in Cornish with their families (Child n.d. Vol. I:17). The Chase family would go on to dominate the early history of Cornish and Blow-Me-Down Farm: "for the first twenty years the town's annals are basically a Chase family chronicle" (Wade 1976:5).

#### *The Chase Family at Blow-Me-Down Farm, 1766-1828*

Born on March 3, 1726/7 in Littleton, Massachusetts, Moses Chase emigrated to Cornish from Sutton, Massachusetts, *circa* 1766. It is difficult to accurately determine the year that Moses Chase settled in Cornish, for secondary sources provide conflicting dates for his arrival. Following Chase and Chamberlain (1928:91), Dryfhout (2000:63) states that Moses Chase settled in Cornish in 1764, while Wade (1976:5-6) and Child (n.d. Vol. I:16) date his arrival to 1765 and 1766 respectively. Interestingly, Cutter (1912:1065) writes that "the town of Cornish was settled by two brothers, Moses and Samuel Chase, and Dyer Spalding in 1767," and *The History of Macoupin County, Illinois*

places his arrival "around 1770" (Brink, McDonough & Co. 1879:173). Regardless, Moses Chase had certainly settled in Cornish by 1767, for his name appears on the list of selectmen elected that year at Cornish's first town meeting (Child n.d. Vol. I:17, 157; Dryfhout 2000:63).

The origins of Blow-Me-Down Farm likely date to the 1760s, when Moses Chase reportedly settled with his wife, Hannah Brown Chase, and their three children on the floodplain near the mouth of Blow-Me-Down Brook, where he constructed a house (Hepler *et al.* 2006:27). Presumably, Caleb Chase II was born in this house on September 11, 1767 (Chase and Chamberlain 1928:91). It appears that the family and Cornish officials referred to Moses Chase's son as Caleb Chase II because his uncle, Captain Caleb Chase, also lived in Cornish. Local history credits Moses Chase with constructing "the first wood-framed house in Cornish" (Saint-Gaudens Memorial 2010:1). This likely refers to the *circa* 1787 Federal-period house that Charles Beaman ordered incorporated into the "Casino" in 1887 (for more information on the house, see below) (PAL, Inc. 2012:45). It is speculated that this was the second 18th-century house to stand on the property. Moses Chase probably constructed a small house on the property in the 1760s, before increasing wealth in the 1780s allowed him to build a larger, more impressive dwelling (Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc. 2013:2). Like many aspects of Moses Chase's life and the early history of Blow-Me-Down Farm, understanding the architectural history of Blow-Me-Down Farm is complicated by contradictory information found in secondary sources and the silence of primary resources.

Like his brothers and nephews, Moses Chase became one of the most prominent men in Cornish. Politically, he served as a selectman in Cornish intermittently between 1767 and 1784; represented Cornish in the New Hampshire General Assembly in 1783, 1784 and 1787; and was a member of the Executive Council



of New Hampshire in 1787 (Child n.d. Vol. I:157; Dryfhout 2000:63). The inhabitants of Cornish also elected him as one of the town's representatives to a general committee of the 16 New Hampshire towns on the Connecticut River that sought to join the newly created state of Vermont in 1778 (Child n.d. Vol. I:46). During the Revolutionary War, Moses Chase served as a captain in his nephew Colonel Jonathan Chase's regiment. Both he and his son, Moses Chase Jr., marched with the regiment to relieve Fort Ticonderoga in June 1777, although the regiment arrived after the fort fell to the British (Child n.d. Vol. I:73; Upham 1928:671).

Prior to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Moses Chase apparently used his social prominence to secure the rights to Governor Benning Wentworth's farm. John Wentworth, who succeeded his uncle Benning Wentworth as the colonial governor of New Hampshire in 1766, granted the 500-acre parcel to Moses Chase on behalf of King George III on January 24, 1772 (Batchellor 1894:667-668). In addition to the traditional rents of one ear of Indian corn and one shilling per 100 acres of land owed to the king, the grant required that Moses Chase construct a road three rods wide through the property and "settle or Cause to be settled Two Families in Three Years" (Batchellor 1894:667-668). Despite the widespread belief that this grant included Blow-Me-Down Farm, a survey of Governor Benning Wentworth's farm prepared by Colonel Jonathan Chase in 1772 clearly shows that the property occupied the eastern bank of the Connecticut River south of Blow-Me-Down Brook (Figure 3.2). The grant did, however, include the land currently occupied by the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (Upham 1928:671).

As noted above, the nature of the available sources makes it difficult to document the 18th-century history of Blow-Me-Down Farm. It is unknown when and from whom Moses Chase obtained the land that eventually became Blow-Me-Down Farm, though, like his brother Judge Chase, he may have purchased

the land from one of the original proprietors of Cornish. In addition, it is unknown what buildings occupied the property prior to 1787. Although Moses Chase likely constructed a house on the property in the 1760s, no mention of this house appears in any primary or secondary documents. According to Samuel Holland's *A Topographical Map of the Province of New Hampshire*, published in 1784, the area that became Blow-Me-Down Farm remained vacant, the road along the Connecticut River did not extend north of Bryant Brook and development in Cornish was clustered at the southern end of town near the intersection of the roads leading to Croydon and Claremont south of Bryant Brook (Figure 3.3). Given that the map was created by British officials and published after the end of the Revolutionary War, it likely contained out-of-date information. Regardless, Moses Chase had reportedly constructed "the first frame house ever built in Cornish" by 1787 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:38).

Moses Chase died in Cornish on October 18, 1799. Drafted in 1797 and proved on November 8, 1799, Moses Chase's will divided his property equally between eight of his sons and his three daughters received half shares (Table 3.1; Cheshire County Will 4/64). His ninth son, Moody Chase, received a share worth \$80 less than those of his brothers. Moses Chase was a wealthy man. According to an inventory of his personal and real property, the total value of his estate exceeded \$10,000 in 1800. Although Cheshire County property records indicate that Moses Chase actively speculated in land in Cornish, his real estate consisted of three properties in 1799. These included his home farm, which was valued at \$7,666.66, a 100-acre lot, presumably in Cornish, and a 100-acre lot in Danville, New Hampshire. Moses Chase practiced mixed agriculture at the home farm, growing corn, rye, wheat, flax and barley and raising cattle and sheep. The inventory presents the most accurate picture available of Blow-Me-Down Farm in the 18th century. While the author of the inventory did not

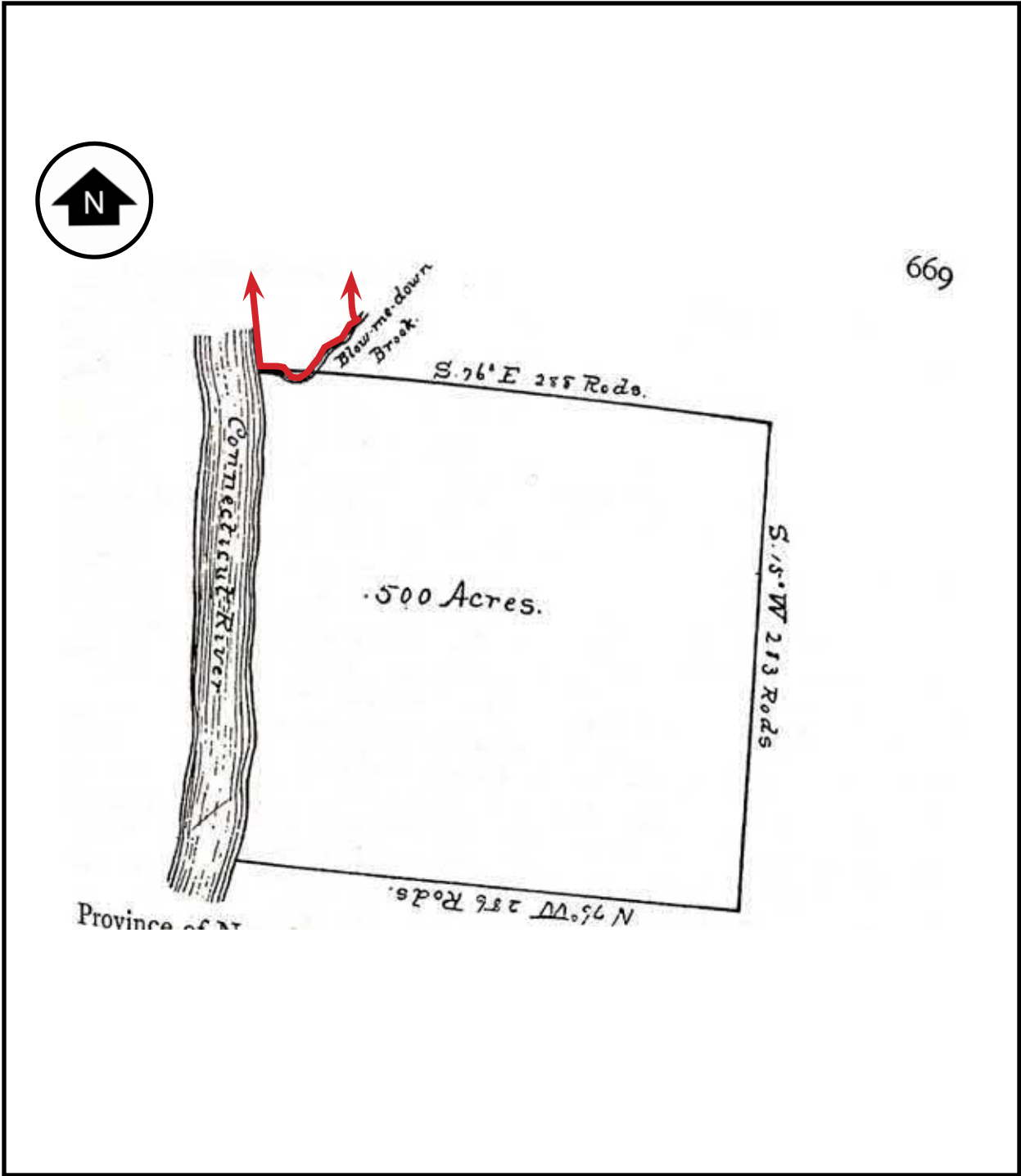


Figure 3.2. Chase, Jonathan. Plan of the grant of Moses Chase. 1894 (1772). Reprinted in Batchellor 1894. Project site indicated (approximately). Not to scale.

**Table 3.1. Blow-Me-Down Farm, Sequence of Ownership.**

Transfer Date	Grantor	Grantee	Reference	Sale Price	Notes
18 October 1799	Moses Chase	Daniel Chase, John Chase, Amos Chase, Nahum Chase, Caleb Chase, Moody Chase, Moses Chase, Clement Chase, Harvey Chase, Sarah Chase, Hannah Kimball and Judith Bryant	Cheshire County Will No. 107	n/a	Moses Chase's will divides his property between his nine sons and three daughters. Eight of his sons receive equal portions. Moody Chase receives a share worth \$80 less than his brothers' shares. Moses Chase's daughters receive portions worth half the value of the shares belonging to each of their brothers.
10 May 1800	Daniel Chase, John Chase, Amos Chase, Moody Chase, Sylvanus Bryant, Judith Bryant, Clement Chase, Nahum Chase, Harvey Chase, Moses Chase, Daniel Kimball and Hannah Kimball	Caleb Chase	Cheshire County Deed 43/338	\$6,540.00	Moses Chase's heirs sell their shares of his 350-acre farm to their brother/brother-in-law Caleb Chase.
30 November 1802	Sarah Chase	Caleb Chase	Cheshire County Deed 43/337	\$168.00	Sarah Chase sells her share of Moses Chase's 350-acre farm to her brother Caleb Chase.
20 December 1822	Caleb Chase	George B. Upham	Cheshire County Deed 92/168	\$2,000.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 400-acre farm to George B. Upham. The farm is bound on the north by the farms of Captain Nahum Chase, Samuel Huggins and Joseph Chase; on the east by the farm of Joseph Chase; on the south by the farms of Benjamin Smith, Jesse Kimball and Moody Hall; and on the west by the Connecticut River.
13 February 1823	Caleb Chase	George B. Upham	Cheshire County Deed 92/247	\$1,000.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 400-acre farm to George B. Upham. Farm as described above.
24 March 1823	Caleb Chase	John Bryant	Cheshire County Deed 92/308	\$3,000.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 405-acre farm to John Bryant. Farm as described above. Farm includes 50 acres taken off of the Governor's Grant.
19 June 1824	Caleb Chase	James Smith	Cheshire County Deed 98/33	\$1,278.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 405-acre farm to James Smith. Farm as described above.
25 March 1825	Caleb Chase	Edward Kimball	Cheshire County Deed 98/476	\$25.00	Caleb Chase sells a lot containing 25 rods of land located on the west side of the river road to Edward Kimball.
5 April 1825	John Bryant	Caleb Chase	Cheshire County Deed 97/433	\$3,000.00	John Bryant discharges mortgage of Caleb Chase's 405-acre farm.
5 April 1825	Caleb Chase	Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy	Cheshire County Deed 98/459	\$3,300.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 405-acre farm to the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy. Farm as described above excepting a lot containing 1 acre and 10 rods deeded to Moody M. Hall and a lot containing 25 rods deeded to Edward Kimball.
8 April 1825	Caleb Chase	Nathaniel Penniman	Cheshire County Deed 99/35	\$1,000.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 405-acre farm to Nathaniel Penniman. Farm as described above and subject to mortgages to George B. Upham and the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy.
8 April 1826	Caleb Chase	Nathaniel Penniman	Cheshire County Deed 100/556	\$1,000.00	Caleb Chase mortgages his 405-acre farm to Nathaniel Penniman. Farm as described above and subject to mortgages to George B. Upham and the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy.
10 September 1827	Nathaniel Penniman	Caleb Chase	Cheshire County Deed 99/35	\$1,000.00	Nathaniel Penniman discharges mortgage on Caleb Chase's 405-acre farm as mortgaged on 8 April 1825.
8 December 1828	Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy	Abijah Porter	Sullivan County Deed 4/299	\$3,000.00	The Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy transfer their mortgage on Caleb Chase's 405-acre farm to Abijah Porter.
8 July 1835	Abijah Porter	Reuben Davis	Sullivan County Deed 12/394	\$7,500.00	Abijah Porter sells a 328-acre farm to Reuben Davis. Property is bounded by land belonging to Moody Hall, Nahum Chase, Joseph Chase and Samuel Huggins and the Connecticut River excepting a lot containing 1 acre and 10 rods deeded to Moody March Hall.
8 July 1835	Reuben Davis	Abijah Porter	Sullivan County Deed 12/414	\$6,500.00	Reuben Davis mortgages his 404-acre farm to Abijah Porter. Farm as described above.
17 August 1842	Abijah Porter	Reuben Davis	Sullivan County Deed 12/414	\$6,500.00	Abijah Porter discharges Reuben Davis's mortgage.
15 October 1868	Reuben and Julia Ann Davis	William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow	Sullivan County Deed 90/339	\$1.00	Trustee deed for three parcels of land and personal property of Reuben Davis. First parcel the 329-acre homestead of Reuben Davis as described above. Second and third parcels located in Norwich, Vermont. Proceeds from the sale of the parcels of land and personal property intended to be used for the support of Reuben Davis and his family.
4 March 1869	William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow	Chester Pike	Sullivan County Deed 90/462	\$16,750.00	William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow sell the 329-acre farmstead of Reuben Davis to Chester Pike.
4 March 1869	Chester Pike	William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow	Sullivan County Deed 90/463	\$11,167.66	Chester Pike mortgages his 329-acre farm to William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow.
26 July 1871	William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow	Windsor Savings Bank	Sullivan County Deed 117/6	\$10,876.25	William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow transfer Chester Pike's mortgage as described above to the Windsor Savings Bank.
2 October 1882	Windsor Savings Bank	Chester Pike	Sullivan County Deed 117/7	\$10,876.25	Windsor Savings Bank discharges Chester Pike's mortgage.
25 September 1882	Chester Pike	Charles C. Beaman	Sullivan County Deed 118/187	\$8,000.00	Chester Pike sells a parcel of land to Charles C. Beaman. Parcel is bound on the west by the Connecticut River, on the south by Blowme-down Brook and land of William E. Everts; on the east by the river road; and on the north by land of O.B. Williams. Includes two springs located on the orchard lot located east and opposite of the land of William M. Everts, the aqueduct laid from those springs and the right to enclose those springs excepting the right to run a 3/8 inch pipe from the springs to the house and barn on the east side of the river road opposite the property of March Hall.
15 December 1900	Charles C. Beaman	Hettie Sherman Beaman	Windsor County Probate Files: Bates, J to Benjamin, F ( <a href="http://www.ancestry.com">http://www.ancestry.com</a> )	n/a	Charles C. Beaman's will leaves all of his real estate in Cornish and Plainfield, New Hampshire, to his wife, Hettie Sherman Beaman.
25 January 1919	William Everts Beaman, Allen W. Everts, Edward J. Holmes, Herbert C. Lakin and John Erikson, executors of the estate of Hettie Sherman Beaman	William Everts Beaman	Sullivan County Deed 193/260	\$1.00	The executors of the estate of Hettie Sherman Beaman sell 19 parcels of land in Cornish to William Everts Beaman. Blow-Me-Down Farm is tract No. 10. It is bounded by Blow-Me-Down Brook on the south; by the river road on the east; by the land of O.B. Williams on the north; and by the Connecticut River on the west. Tract No. 10 excepting and reserving the Casino and a tract of meadow and woodland sold to Mary S. Holmes.
28 December 1950	Vera I. Beaman	James and Elizabeth Campbell Lewis	Sullivan County Deed 336/497	\$1.00	Vera I. Beaman sells 8 parcels of land in Cornish to James and Elizabeth Campbell Lewis. Blow-Me-Down Farm is tract No. VI. It is bounded by the St. Gaudens Memorial, River Road, the Connecticut River and the land of Hugh Wade.
28 June 1971	Frederic P. Houston and Colin Gray-Lewis, executors of the estate of James Campbell Lewis	Nicholas G. Bolos and William A. Smith	Sullivan County Deed 495/327	\$249,150.00	The executors of the estate of James Campbell Lewis sell 9 parcels of land in Cornish to Nicholas G. Bolos and William A. Smith. These include the 8 parcels of land from Vera I. Beaman. Blow-Me-Down Farm as described above.
30 June 1971	Nicholas G. Bolos and William A. Smith	National Bank of Lebanon	Sullivan County Deed 495/343	\$150,000.00	Nicholas G. Bolos and William A. Smith mortgage three pieces of property, including the 9 parcels described above, to the National Bank of Lebanon.
4 November 1971	Bolos and Smith	Kearwood, Inc.	Sullivan County Deed 501/359	n/a	Release of writ of attachment with Kearwood, Inc. as the plaintiff and Bolos and Smith as the defendant. Writ of attachment against Blow-Me-Down Farm property, which is bound by New Hampshire Route 12A, Blow-Me-Down Brook and the Connecticut River. Also includes three points of access to the property from New Hampshire Route 12A and the right to the water supply from Beaman Springs.
10 November 1971	Nicholas G. Bolos and William A. Smith	Bernard C. and Helen N. Stearns	Sullivan County Deed 501/361	unknown	Property as described above.
10 November 1971	National Bank of Lebanon	Nicholas G. Bolos and William A. Smith	Sullivan County Deed 501/361	\$150,000.00	The National Bank of Lebanon releases the property described above from the mortgage described above.
20 November 1978	Bernard C. and Helen N. Stearns	Donald M. and Vera MacLeay	Sullivan County Deed 625/129	\$120,000.00	Property as described above. Subject to an easement given by Bernard C. and Helen N. Stearns to Connecticut Valley Electric Co. and New England Telephone and Telegraph Co.
15 March 1990	Donald MacLeay	Vera MacLeay	Sullivan County Deed 907/554	Under \$100.00	Property as described above and subject to the easement described above.
23 October 1998	Vera H. MacLeay	Trustees of Saint-Gaudens Memorial	Sullivan County Deed 1169/186	Unknown	Property as described above excepting a 6.6-acre parcel north of current access road. Includes two points of access to the property from New Hampshire Route 12A and the right to the water supply from Beaman Springs. Subject to the easement described above. Reserving the right to Vera H. MacLeay and Donald MacLeay to occupy the premises for the duration of their natural lives.
25 January 2010	Trustees of Saint-Gaudens Memorial	United States	Sullivan County Deed 1764/4	\$1.00	The Trustees of Saint-Gaudens Memorial sell a 42.60-acre parcel to the east of New Hampshire Route 12A and the right to the water supply from Beaman Springs to the United States. Subject to the easement described above.



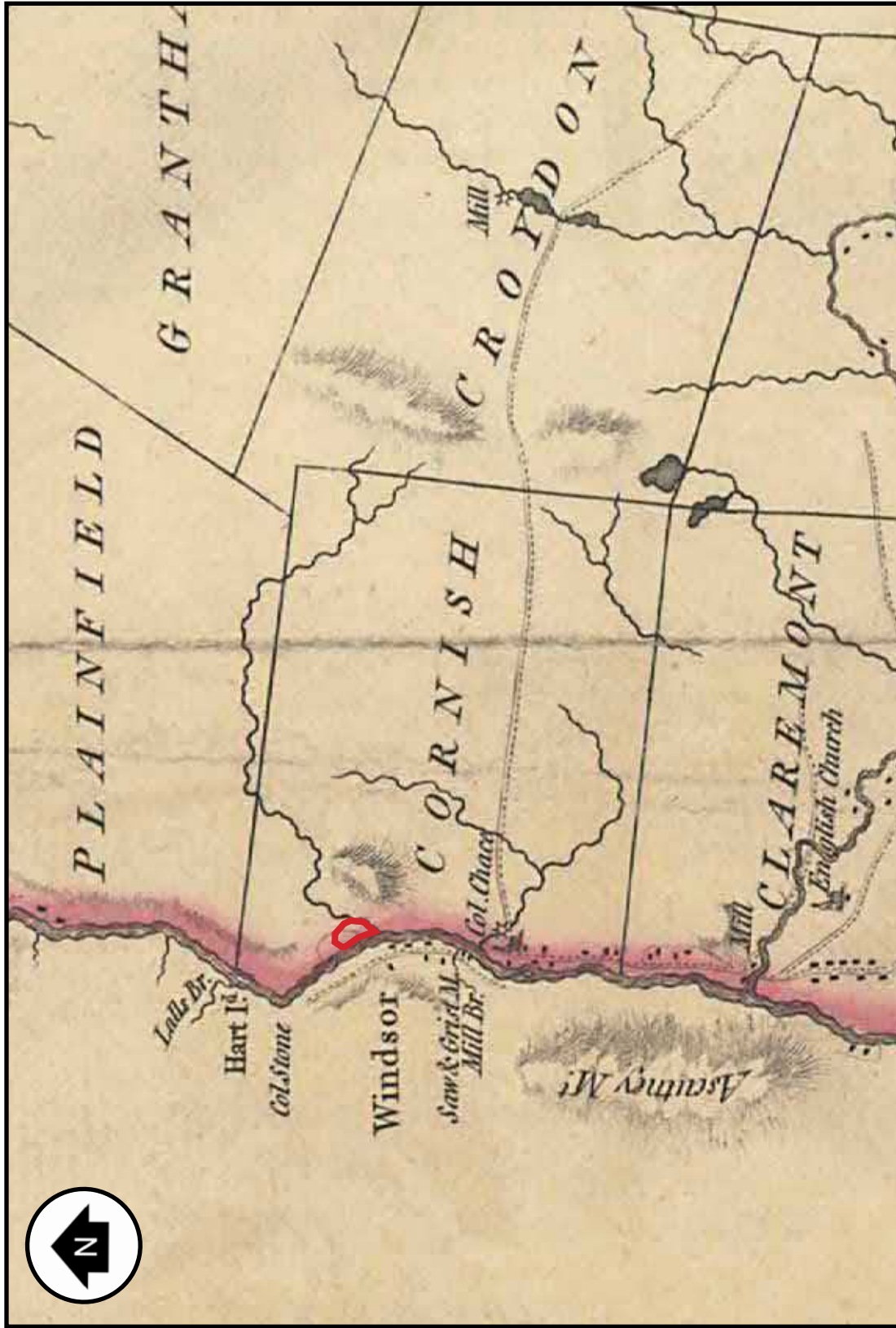


Figure 3.3. Holland, Samuel, Thomas Wright, George Sproutle, James Grant, Thomas Wheeler and Charles Blaskowitz. *A Topographical Map of the Province of New Hampshire*. 1784. Electronic document, <http://www.loc.gov/74692582> [accessed January 2017]. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 2 miles (approximately). Source: Library of Congress.

explicitly identify the individual buildings that stood on Moses Chase's farm, he did organize the inventory into four distinct sections. One section details the livestock and farming tools and implements, such as scythes and broad axes, that he owned. A second section describes carpentry tools, such as a hand saw and four augers, and farming implements, including a winnowing mill. A third section chronicles a comfortably furnished house, and a fourth section contains a miscellaneous section of moveable objects and valuables, including saddles and promissory notes from family members and friends (Cheshire County Will 4/64). This organization suggests that Moses Chase's farm consisted of a barn or stable, an outbuilding, possibly for storage, and a large house.

After Moses Chase's death, his children redistributed his real estate. Caleb Chase II sought ownership of the home farm. He purchased the shares of the 350-acre property from his brothers Daniel, John, Amos, Moody, Clement, Nahum, Harvey and Moses and from his sisters Judith Bryant and Hannah Kimball and their husbands for \$6,540 on May 10, 1800 (Cheshire County Deed 43/338). Caleb Chase II did not assume complete ownership of the home farm until November 30, 1802, when Sarah Chase sold her share to him for \$168 (Cheshire County Deed 43/337). According to a map that depicted the allotment of property in Cornish, the wedge-shaped farm property occupied the eastern bank of the Connecticut River and contained approximately 344 acres in 1803. It should be noted that only 50 of these acres originally belonged to Governor Benning Wentworth's farm, which had been divided and sold to four men, likely by Moses Chase, prior to 1803 (Figure 3.4).

By 1805, Cornish had developed into a full-fledged town. The population, which rose steadily during the 18th century from the 133 settlers counted in the 1767 census, reached 1,268 people in 1800 and 1,606 inhabitants in 1810 (Child n.d. Vol. I:187, 191). Three churches served the population. The Congregational

church, which was constructed in 1788, and the Baptist church, which opened in 1803, stood at the geographic center of town, while the Episcopalian Trinity Church, which was built between 1795 and 1808, occupied land donated by Colonel Jonathan Chase south of Bryant Brook (Figure 3.5) (Wade 1976:25-27). A complex network of roads crisscrossed Cornish, connecting the town's scattered farms to one another, the center of town and the neighboring towns of Plainfield, Croydon, Claremont and Newport (Figure 3.5). One of three roads that ran north through Cornish from Claremont to Plainfield, the River Road hugged the eastern bank of the Connecticut and, after crossing Blow-Me-Down Brook, ran through the middle of Caleb Chase II's farm. Near the farm, a road branched off from River Road and ran east to a fulling mill owned by William Bryant on Blow-Me-Down Brook, before turning north towards Plainfield and Truman's Mills, which stood on Blow-Me-Down Brook at the Cornish-Plainfield border (Figure 3.5) (Hepler *et al.* 2006:40).

Like his father, Caleb Chase II was a prominent figure in Cornish in the early 19th century. In addition to farming, he held a commission as captain in the town militia and was active in town politics, serving as Cornish's representative to the New Hampshire State Legislature in 1813, 1814 and 1815 (Child n.d. Vol. I:164; Child n.d. Vol. II:78). He married Elizabeth Deming on January 21, 1789, and the couple likely occupied their own house or farm in Cornish before Caleb Chase II purchased his father's home farm in 1800 (Child Vol. II:78). It appears that Caleb Chase II farmed the property successfully for the next two decades, during which time he expanded the size of the farm to approximately 400 acres (Cheshire County Deeds 92/168, 92/247, 98/476, 97/433, 99/35, 100/556).

Beginning in 1805, Caleb Chase II reportedly shared his property with Abijah Porter. According to local history, Porter operated "an old 'wayside

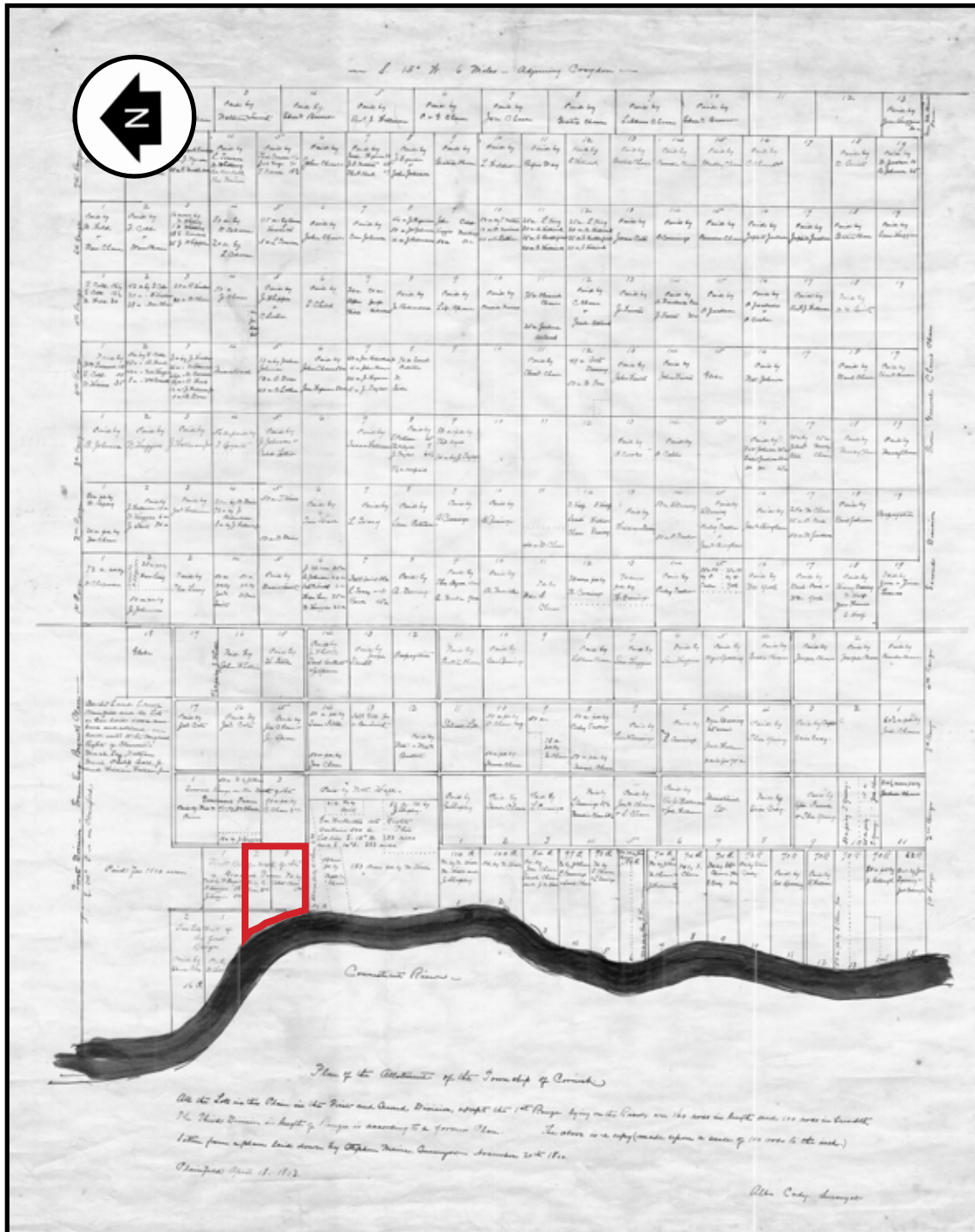


Figure 3.4. Cady, Albe. *Plan of the Allotment of the Township of Cornish*. 1803. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 2.25 miles (approximately).

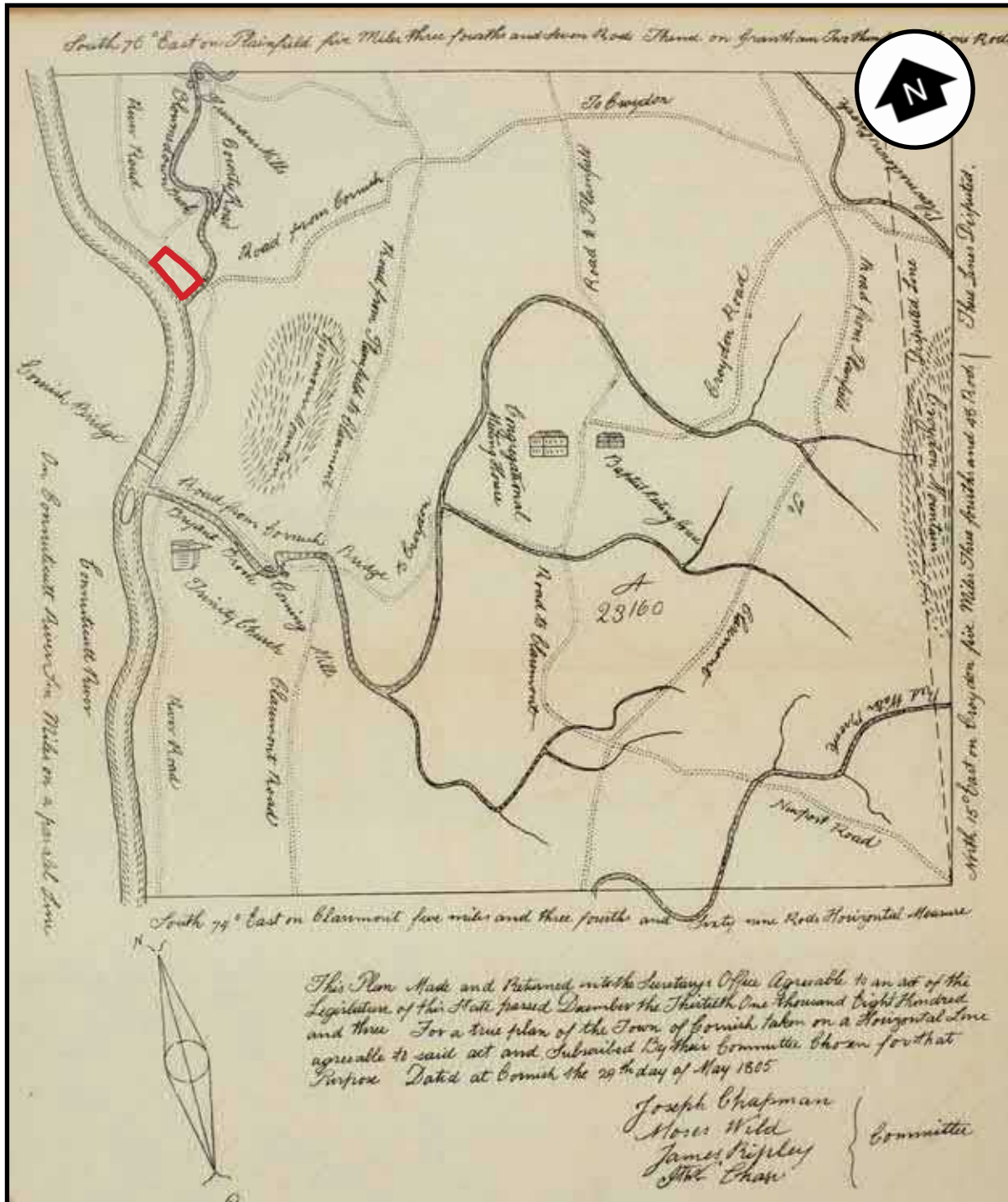


Figure 3.5. Chapman, Joseph, Moses Wild, James Ripley and Jonathan Chase. Plan of the Town of Cornish. 1805. Reprinted in Child 1910. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 6500 feet (approximately).



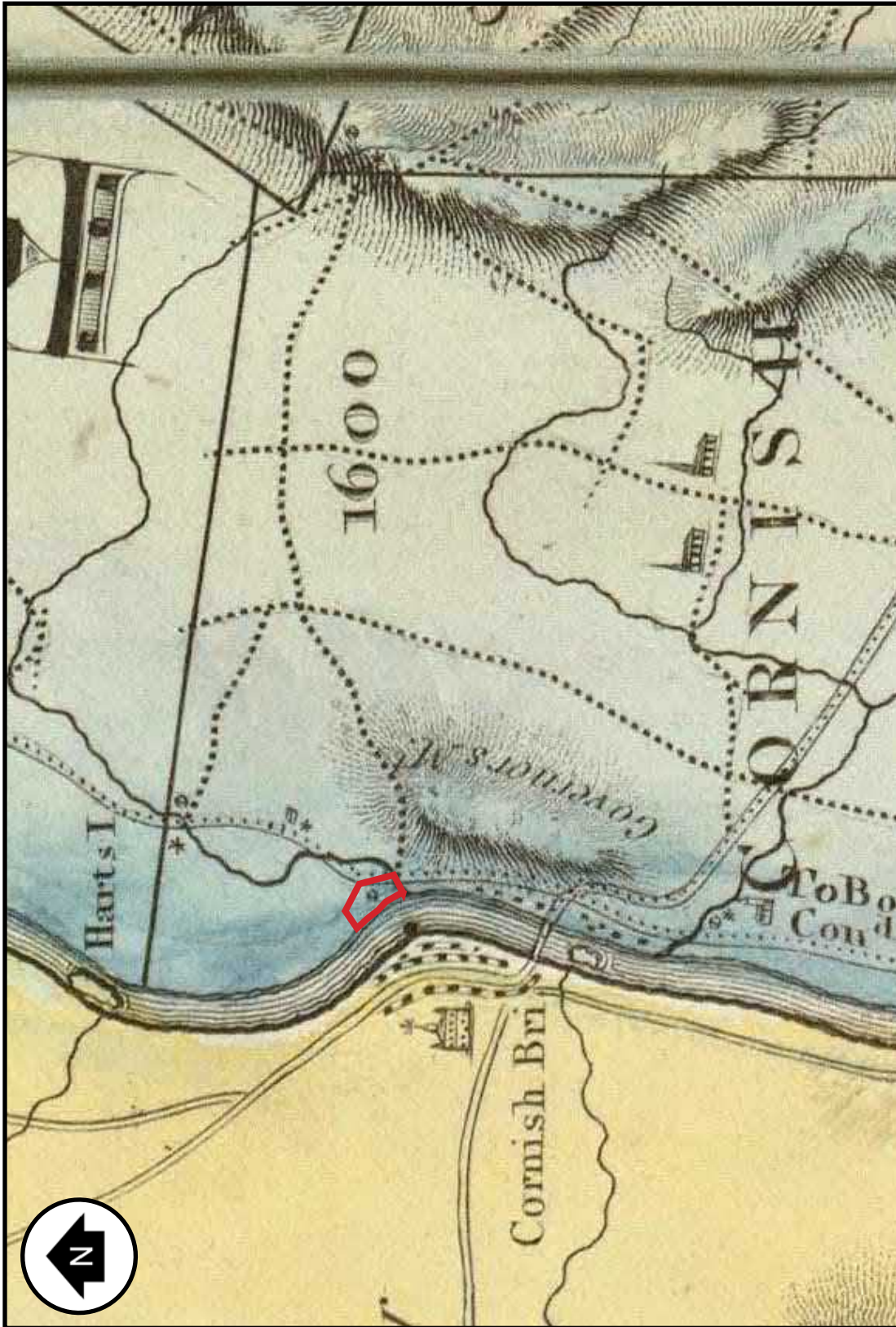


Figure 3.6. Carrigain, Philip. *New Hampshire*. 1816. Electronic document, <http://www.davidrumsey.com> [accessed January 2017]. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 6280 feet (approximately). Source: David Rumsey Map Collection.

inn” on the property (Beaman Family 1884-1917:2; Dryfhout 2000:64). The nature of the relationship between Porter and Caleb Chase II remains unknown. Presumably, Abijah Porter’s inn occupied a separate building and not the Chase farmhouse. Philip Carrigain’s *Map of New Hampshire*, however, shows only one building on the property in 1816 (Figure 3.6). While Carrigain’s map indicates the location of important institutional buildings, mills and houses, it does not appear to capture the location of every house and building in each town. As such, it likely excludes minor buildings and outbuildings. Regardless, little information on Abijah Porter and his inn survives.

Cheshire County property records suggest that Caleb Chase II began to experience a period of economic hardship in 1822, for he obtained several mortgages on the property over the next couple of years. After mortgaging the farm to George B. Upham for \$2,000 on December 20, 1822, and for \$1,000 on February 13, 1823, Caleb Chase II obtained an additional five mortgages of between \$1,000 and \$3,000 from John Bryant, James Smith, the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy and Nathaniel Penniman (Cheshire County Deeds 92/168, 92/247, 98/476, 97/433, 99/35, 100/556). Although he managed to repay two of these mortgages – John Bryant discharged a mortgage of \$3,000 on April 5, 1825, and Nathaniel Penniman discharged a mortgage of \$1,000 on September 10, 1827 – Caleb Chase II was ultimately unable or chose not to repay five of the loans (Cheshire County Deeds 97/433, 99/35). His failure to repay one mortgage would cause him to lose title to the farm.

Caleb Chase II mortgaged his 405-acre farm to the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy for \$3,300 on April 5, 1825 (Cheshire County Deed 98/459). While it is unclear why Caleb Chase II chose to obtain a mortgage from the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy, he possessed a personal connection to the school’s principal founder. Founded in 1813 to educate “poor and pious young men for the gospel

ministry . . . and such others as may be admitted by the trustees,” Union Academy largely owed its existence to Daniel Kimball. A native of Meriden, New Hampshire, Daniel Kimball donated \$6,000 in 1812 for the creation of the school and promised to leave the bulk of his estate to the school in his will if it were located in Meriden (Kimball Union Academy n.d.).

The school was accordingly built in Meriden, New Hampshire, and Daniel Kimball kept his promise. At his death on February 17, 1817, his \$32,000 estate passed to the school treasury and the school was renamed the Kimball Union Academy in his honor (Child n.d. Vol. II:75). Daniel Kimball had married Hannah Chase, Caleb Chase II’s older sister, on December 4, 1777 (Chase and Chamberlain 1928:91). After her husband’s death, Hannah Chase Kimball retained an active interest in Kimball Union Academy and became of its primary financial benefactors. She donated \$10,000 to make the school coeducational in 1839, and the bulk of her estate came to the school after her death on June 17, 1847 (Child n.d. Vol. II:75-76). Abijah Porter purchased the mortgage on the farm from the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy for \$3,000 on December 8, 1828 (Sullivan County Deed 4/299).

#### *Before the Beamans, 1829-1882*

It is assumed that Abijah Porter continued to operate his inn at the Chase Farm after purchasing the mortgage from the Trustees of the Kimball Union Academy. Presumably, Caleb Chase II did not possess the necessary funds or decided not to pay off the mortgage and to regain title to the property from Porter. It is unknown where Caleb Chase II lived after he lost title to the farm, though he may have continued to occupy the farm with his family as Abijah Porter’s tenant. Sullivan County property records indicate that Caleb Chase II sold two 11-acre lots in Cornish with his brother Daniel Chase in 1828 and a 100-acre lot

in Cornish independently in 1830 (Sullivan County Deeds 2/235, 5/18, 6/101). Although he did not purchase any land in Sullivan County during this period, Caleb Chase II continued to live in Cornish through 1850. According to a population census schedule of 1850 for Cornish, he lived in town with his daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, and his granddaughter, Hannah. His wife, Elizabeth Deming Chase, died on September 20, 1840. Caleb Chase II apparently left Cornish after 1850, for he died at the age of 89 in Williamstown, Vermont, on September 1, 1856 (Child n.d. Vol. II:78).

Reuben Davis purchased the Moses Chase farm from Abijah Porter for \$7,500 on July 8, 1835 (Sullivan County Deed 12/394). Strangely, the original deed indicated that the property encompassed 328 acres, but the mortgage for \$6,500 that Reuben Davis obtained from Abijah Porter on July 8, 1835, described a 404-acre farm (Sullivan County Deeds 12/394, 12/414). Regardless, Reuben Davis, who relocated to Cornish from Boston, Massachusetts, settled on the farm and quickly became a leading figure in town. He actively participated in the social issues of the mid-19th century, working to promote temperance and serving as one of the founding members of the Cornish branch of the National Colonization Society, which advocated for emancipation and the resettlement of former slaves outside of the United States (Child n.d. Vol. I:169-170, Vol. II:127). Politically, he served as a town selectman in 1838, as Cornish's representative to the New Hampshire Legislature from 1839 to 1843, twice as a State Senator and as a justice of the peace in Cornish in 1854 (Lyon 1854:77; Child n.d. Vol. I: 158, Vol. II:127; Dryfhout 2000:65; Fix 2016:11). He was reportedly also a delegate to the national convention that nominated James K. Polk for president and a personal friend of President Franklin Pierce (Child n.d. Vol. II:127).

Like Moses Chase and Caleb Chase II, Reuben Davis was also a farmer (Child n.d. Vol. II:127). An undated picture from the mid-19th century shows him seated

in a phaeton in front of a complex of farm buildings (Photograph 3.1). Although the location pictured in the photograph is unknown, it seems likely that Reuben Davis would choose to be photographed on his farm. In addition to farming, Reuben Davis operated a sawmill on Blow-Me-Down Brook in the general location of the current Blow-Me-Down gristmill (Dryfhout 2000:65). According to H.F. Walling's *Topographical Map of Sullivan County, New Hampshire*, three buildings stood on Reuben Davis's property (Figure 3.7). Presumably the two buildings located west of the river road represented a house and barn on the Chase farm, and the building located on the east side of the river road adjacent to Blow-Me-Down Brook was the sawmill. Reuben Davis may not have been the first person to construct a dam or mill in this location, however. According to local history, Sylvanus Bryant ran a gristmill on Blow-Me-Down Brook (Child n.d. Vol. I:181; Dryfhout 2000:65). Sylvanus Bryant, who appears in the deed in which Caleb Chase II purchased the shares of Moses Chase's home farm, was married to Moses Chase's daughter Judith (Child n.d. Vol. II:77; Dryfhout 2000:65). The couple lived on a farm north of the center of town (Child n.d. Vol. II:34; Dryfhout 2000:65).

Like many aspects of Cornish's and Blow-Me-Down Farm's history, however, confusion about the existence, or lack thereof, of this gristmill exists. Sylvanus Bryant's gristmill does not appear on the 1805 map of Cornish, though the fulling mill operated by William Bryant, Sylvanus Bryant's brother, is shown on Blow-Me-Down Brook northeast of the Chase farm (Figure 3.5). Carrigain's map of New Hampshire, in contrast, indicates that a fulling mill and a grist mill stood in the same location in 1816 (Figure 3.6). Although property records and Cornish town records provide concrete proof of the existence of William Bryant's fulling mill (Hepler *et al.* 2006:40), only secondary sources (Child n.d. Vol. I:181; Wade 1976:33; Dryfhout 2000:65) refer to the gristmill. Dryfhout (2000:65) is the only source to identify Sylvanus Bryant as the owner of the



Photograph 3.1. Reuben Davis. Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.



Figure 3.7. Walling, H.F. Topographical Map of the County of Sullivan, New Hampshire. 1860. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 4430 feet (approximately).

gristmill. In contrast, Child (n.d. Vol. I:181) and Wade (1976:33) refer to “Bryant’s mill.” Regardless, the Chase farm would briefly return to the family when Sylvanus Bryant and Judith Chase Bryant’s grandson purchased the property. Moses Chase’s great-grandson, Chester Pike, purchased the 329-acre Chase farm from William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow for \$16,750 on March 4, 1869 (Sullivan County Deed 90/462). William H. Sabine and Hiram Harlow had been appointed as trustees to sell Reuben Davis’s personal property and real estate in Cornish and Norwich, Vermont, on October 15, 1868 (Sullivan County Deed 90/339).

Born in Cornish to Ebenezer Pike and Sarah Chase Bryant on July 30, 1829, Chester Pike continued the family tradition of farming and public service. Like his father, Ebenezer Pike, Chester Pike became a horse trader (Child n.d. Vol. II:285; Dryfhout 2000:65; Fix 2016:11). After purchasing the Chase farm in 1868, he constructed a new house on the property and supposedly used the house constructed by Moses Chase in *circa* 1787 as a barn (Beaman Family 1884-1917:38; Dryfhout 2000:65). Chester Pike raised cattle and farmed his property, which reportedly encompassed “about one thousand acres of land” and was “one of the largest, if not the largest farm” in New Hampshire, producing corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley and potatoes using modern machinery (McClintock 1883:292-293). This 1,000-acre farm apparently comprised several individual properties. According to the agricultural census schedule of 1880 for Cornish, Chester Pike owned four farms and rented one farm (Fix 2016:12). Although Chester Pike’s house burned down on May 11, 1875, he continued to farm the Chase property (Beaman Family 1884-1917:5; Dryfhout 2000:65). In 1882, his farm produced 6,800 baskets of corn and three 300 tons of hay and housed “one hundred and thirty head of cattle, three hundred sheep, thirty-seven horses, and forty hogs” (McClintock 1883:293).

Chester Pike possessed an equally distinguished political career. He served as a Cornish selectman from 1857 to 1859, a county commissioner from 1859 to 1862 and, apart from four years, a town moderator from 1863 to 1898 (Child n.d. Vol. I:159, Vol. II:285; Dryfhout 2000:66). He represented Cornish in the New Hampshire Legislature from 1862 to 1863 and from 1887 to 1888. He was a state senator from 1883 to 1884, and he served as the President of the New Hampshire senate from 1885 to 1886 (Child n.d. Vol. II:285; Dryfhout 2000:65). He became the provost marshal of the third Congressional district and the military district headquartered at West Lebanon, New Hampshire, in 1863 and continued in this position until the end of the Civil War (Child n.d. Vol. II:285-286; Dryfhout 2000:66). He became a collector for Internal Revenue in 1866 and served as a state justice in Cornish (Child n.d. Vol. II:286; Fix 2016:11). In addition to his agricultural and political activities, Chester Pike actively pursued a variety of business interests. He was a partner in the firm of Lamson, Dudley & Pike, which sold cattle and sheep and dairy, produce and meat products in the Boston market, operated a lumber business and held the position of director in the Claremont National Bank for 25 years (McClintock 1883:293; Child n.d. Vol. II:286; Dryfhout 2000:66).

One of the largest landowners in Cornish and an acquaintance of Walter M. Evarts, the father of Hettie Sherman Evarts Beaman and the father-in-law of Charles Coteworth Beaman, Chester Pike facilitated the formation of the Cornish artists’ colony by gradually selling portions of his extensive Cornish property to its members and patrons in the 1880s and 1890s (Child n.d. Vol. I:220-223). In fact, William M. Evarts purchased most of Governor Benning Wentworth’s farm (Dingleton Hill), 428 acres, from Chester Pike (Dryfhout 2000:66). Beaman purchased the Chase farm, which was bound by Blow-Me-Down Brook and his father-in-law’s property on the south, the river road on the east, property belonging to O.B.

Williams on the north and the Connecticut River on the west, from Chester Pike for \$8,000 on September 25, 1882 (Sullivan County Deed 118/187). This purchase formed the foundation on which Beaman would develop Blow-Me-Down Farm during the ensuing decades.

## **2. The Beamans at Cornish**

### *The Development of Blow-Me-Down Farm, 1882-1899*

Charles Cotesworth Beaman ushered Cornish into a new phase of its history when he purchased the Chase farm from Chester Pike on September 25, 1882. The presence of the Beaman family in Cornish and the Evarts family in Windsor, Vermont, served as the catalyst for the development of the Cornish Colony. As the native population of Cornish declined – it dropped from a peak of 1,726 inhabitants in 1840 to 1,156 people in 1880 and 934 people in 1890 – the number of artists and wealthy families from New York and Boston with seasonal homes in Cornish and the neighboring towns increased (Child n.d. Vol. I:191; New Hampshire as an Artist’s Colony: 1870-Present 1989; Hepler *et al.* 2006). Numerous histories and cultural resource reports (Child n.d. Vol. I; Wade 1976; Van Buren 1983; Van Buren 1987; Hepler *et al.* 2006; Fix 2016) extensively chronicle the life of Beaman, the development of the Cornish Colony, often called “Little New York” by Beaman, and the role that Beaman played in its growth (Wade 1976:43). As such, these topics receive only limited space in this chapter, which will focus primarily on the development of Blow-Me-Down Farm during the tenure of the Beaman family.

Born in Houlton, Maine, to Charles Cotesworth Beaman, a Congregational minister, and Mary Ann Stacy on May 7, 1840, Beaman became a prominent lawyer in New York City in the 1860s and 1870s.

After his Harvard Law School thesis on “Rights and Duties of Belligerent War Vessels” and the subsequent publication of a book based on that thesis titled *The National and Private Alabama Claims and their Final and Amicable Settlement* earned him a reputation as an expert on the subject, Beaman was appointed as solicitor for United States on the tribunal sent to Geneva, Switzerland, in 1871 by President Ulysses S. Grant to settle claims about actions committed by the CSS Alabama and other Confederate warships during the Civil War (Wade 1976:43; Fix 2016:13). This trip introduced Beaman to William Maxwell Evarts, whose law firm Cushing, Evarts & Waite served as counsel for the United States, and his family, including his daughter Hettie Sherman Evarts (Fix 2016:13). Evarts, whose wife Helen Minerva Bingham Wardner was from Windsor, Vermont, had established a summer estate in town and purchased the majority of the land along the Connecticut River between Windsor and North Hartland (Wade 1976:44). Beaman and Hettie Evarts married in 1874, and Beaman followed his father-in-law’s example by purchasing land across the river from Windsor and establishing his own summer estate on the banks of the Connecticut River in Cornish (Wade 1976:44).

After purchasing the Chase Farm, Beaman immediately commenced an extensive building campaign to transform the property into a gentleman’s farm. He hired Daniel Appleton and Harris M. Stephenson, architects from Boston, to design a suitable cottage for the property, which Beaman renamed Blow-Me-Down Farm. Dubbed “Blow-Me-Down,” the cottage consisted of three older houses linked together and occupied the site of the house constructed by Chester Pike in 1869 (Photograph 3.2) (Wade 1976:45; Dryfhout 2000:66). Construction began in August 1883, and the Beaman family moved in on July 11, 1884 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:5; Dryfhout 2000:67).



Photograph 3.2. "Blow-Me-Down." Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.



Beaman continued to expand Blow-Me-Down Farm and his landholdings. He began to construct a large new bank barn measuring 100 by 40 feet on July 28, 1884. The Beamans held an “old fashioned barn raising,” whose attendees included Chester Pike, on August 19, 1884, to celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary (Beaman Family 1884-1917:10). Although the majority of the original fabric of the barn survives today, it was significantly larger in 1884, with several additions that have since been removed (Saint-Gaudens Memorial 2010:2). These included a one-story frame cow barn on the south side (Dryfhout 2000:74). The carriage house was also completed (PAL, Inc. 2012:18). In addition to these new buildings, Beaman “established a tradition of relocating outbuildings to achieve a desired rustic effect” (PAL, Inc. 2012:43). In 1884, he relocated a shed and small barn to the south side of the new bank barn, moved an existing carriage house and stable to the property and built or relocated a pig house and a tool house. The installation of a fence to enclose a farm yard and the erection of a house for a farmer caretaker completed the changes that Beaman made to Blow-Me-Down Farm that year (PAL, Inc. 2012:43).

In a move that would soon prove highly significant for Cornish, Beaman purchased the Huggins-Mercer Farm, which bordered Blow-Me-Down to the east and contained the brick house locally known as “Huggins’ Folly,” from William W. Mercer for \$7,500 on 1884 (Child n.d. Vol. I:220; Hepler *et al.* 2006:46). He offered to sell the house to Augustus Saint-Gaudens for use as a summer home in 1885, but Saint-Gaudens declined, choosing, instead, to rent the property (Hepler *et al.* 2006:46). A respected sculptor whose notable commissions included a statue of Farragut for Madison Square Park in New York by 1885, Saint-Gaudens became acquainted with Hettie Sherman Beaman when her father William Maxwell Evarts commissioned two statues from him in Rome in 1872 (Wade 1976:47; Hepler *et al.* 2006:46; Fix 2016:14). The acquaintance blossomed into a friendship with

Hettie Sherman Beaman and her new husband when Saint-Gaudens returned to New York in 1874 (Wade 1976:47). Saint-Gaudens eventually purchased the Huggins-Mercer Farm, which Beaman called “Blow-Me-Up,” for \$2,500 in 1891 (Wade 1976:49; Hepler *et al.* 2006:48). Saint-Gaudens christened the property “Aspet” after his father’s birthplace, a town in southwest France (Hepler *et al.* 2006 48).

During the ensuing years, construction continued unabated at Blow-Me-Down Farm and in the surrounding vicinity. In 1885, Beaman installed a lawn tennis court and brought a Gothic playhouse to the property from the Evarts estate in Windsor, Vermont (Photograph 3.3) (Dryfhout 2000:74; PAL, Inc. 2012:45-46). The biggest change to the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm occurred with the erection of the “Casino” in 1887. Designed by Joseph Wells of McKim, Mead and White, the “Casino” incorporated a portion of the original timber framing from the house constructed by Moses Chase, which Beaman dated to 1787 (Photograph 3.4) (Beaman Family 1884-1917:38). The house, which had been used as a barn by Chester Pike, was moved northwest of “Blow-Me-Down,” the interior completed with corner cupboards from old houses in Cornish and Sciate, Rhode Island, and the exterior remodeled in the Classical Revival style. The “Casino” initially served a purely recreational purpose, hosting parties, dances and other social events. The rear ell held a ten-pin bowling alley. The “Casino” was completed in 1888, and the Beamans christened it with a tea party, billiards and bowling on August 18, 1888 (PAL, Inc. 2012:45).

In addition to the completion of the “Casino,” 1888 witnessed the construction of a chicken coop and a woodshed and the erection of a gymnasium in the orchard at Blow-Me-Down Farm. Per an agreement reached with the Cornish town government in 1887, in which he agreed to pay the cost difference between wood and stone, Beaman also funded the construction of an arched stone bridge over Blow-Me-Down Brook



Photograph 3.3. Tennis Court at Blow-Me-Down Farm. Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.



Photograph 3.4. "Casino." Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.

(Child n.d. Vol. I:277). He drew on the design services of McKim, Mead and White, hiring Joseph Wells to furnish a design for the bridge. Jabez Hammond completed the masonry work, laying the keystones on the north and south ends of the bridge on July 4 and July 5, 1888 (PAL, Inc. 2012:45).

After a brief lull in 1889, construction at Blow-Me-Down Farm resumed in 1891 with the erection of the Blow-Me-Down Mill, which occupied the site of the former sawmill adjacent to the stone bridge over Blow-Me-Down Brook. Beaman commissioned McKim, Mead and White to design the new mill in 1889, and the final design is attributed to George Babb (PAL, Inc. 2012:45). Jabez Hammond constructed the adjacent dam and pond. Beaman operated the Blow-Me-Down Mill as a gristmill, producing livestock feed for the local community, including farmers and members of the Cornish Colony. A blacksmith shop was attached to the rear of the building (PAL, Inc. 2012:45). Beaman had the mill outfitted to produce electricity in 1892 and connected electric lines to a motor in the barn and lights in “Blow-Me-Down” and the “Casino” (Beaman Family 1884-1917:82). The addition of a two-and-a-half story western wing to “Blow-Me-Down” and the placement of a flag post on knobs in front of the house completed the list of projects undertaken by Beaman in 1892 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:85, 87).

During his slow transformation of Blow-Me-Down Farm into a gentleman’s farm, Beaman continued to expand his landholdings in Cornish and Plainfield, New Hampshire. In addition to purchasing the Huggins-Mercer farm in 1884, he acquired the Williams farm, which contained a house constructed by Nahum Chase, the son of Moses Chase and brother of Caleb Chase II, in 1797, on October 15, 1885 (Sullivan County Deed 122/123). Beaman remodeled the Nahum Chase house and renamed it “Chaseholme” (Beaman Family 1884-1917:27, 36). Beaman continued to purchase property during the ensuing years and

by his death in 1900, Beaman owned more than 1,000 acres in Cornish and Plainfield (Dryfhout 2000:67). The Hurd map of Cornish shows the extent of his property in town in 1892 (Figure 3.8). Two of the buildings that stood at Blow-Me-Down Farm, likely “Blow-Me-Down” and the bank barn, and Blow-Me-Down Mill also appear on the Hurd map. Although the map does not depict all of the outbuildings that occupied Blow-Me-Down Farm in 1892, a photograph of the farm taken looking west towards the Connecticut River and Vermont in the 1890s clearly illustrates the spatial relationship between “Blow-Me-Down” (left), the “Casino” (middle, back), the bank barn (middle, front), the Blow-Me-Down Mill pond and the numerous outbuildings on the property (Photograph 3.5).

In addition to the construction of new buildings and the relocation of existing buildings, Beaman transformed the landscape of Blow-Me-Down Farm. He planted trees between the house, barn and stable and a hemlock hedge along the road leading to the barn (PAL, Inc. 2012:46). In keeping with his interest in agriculture and his use of the property as a gentleman’s farm, Beaman also oversaw the planting of fruit trees in an orchard. In 1886, Blow-Me-Down Farm possessed an orchard that contained 100 pear trees, 50 dwarf pear trees and approximately 41 apple trees (PAL, Inc. 2012:46). A gymnasium appeared in the orchard in 1888, and a dry-laid stone wall was constructed to the west of the “Casino” in 1890 (PAL, Inc. 2012:45). Beaman also expanded the outdoor recreation facilities on the property. A “Mr. Lakin” laid out a nine-hole golf course on the property in 1897 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:128). Dubbed Blow-Me-Down Links, the golf course covered a total of 1,897 yards and likely extended south over Blow-Me-Down Brook and “along the ravine to the east or west of River Road (State Route 12A)” (PAL, Inc. 2012:45). Beaman played his first game on the course on July 4, 1898 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:142). Additional changes to the Blow-Me-Down Farm

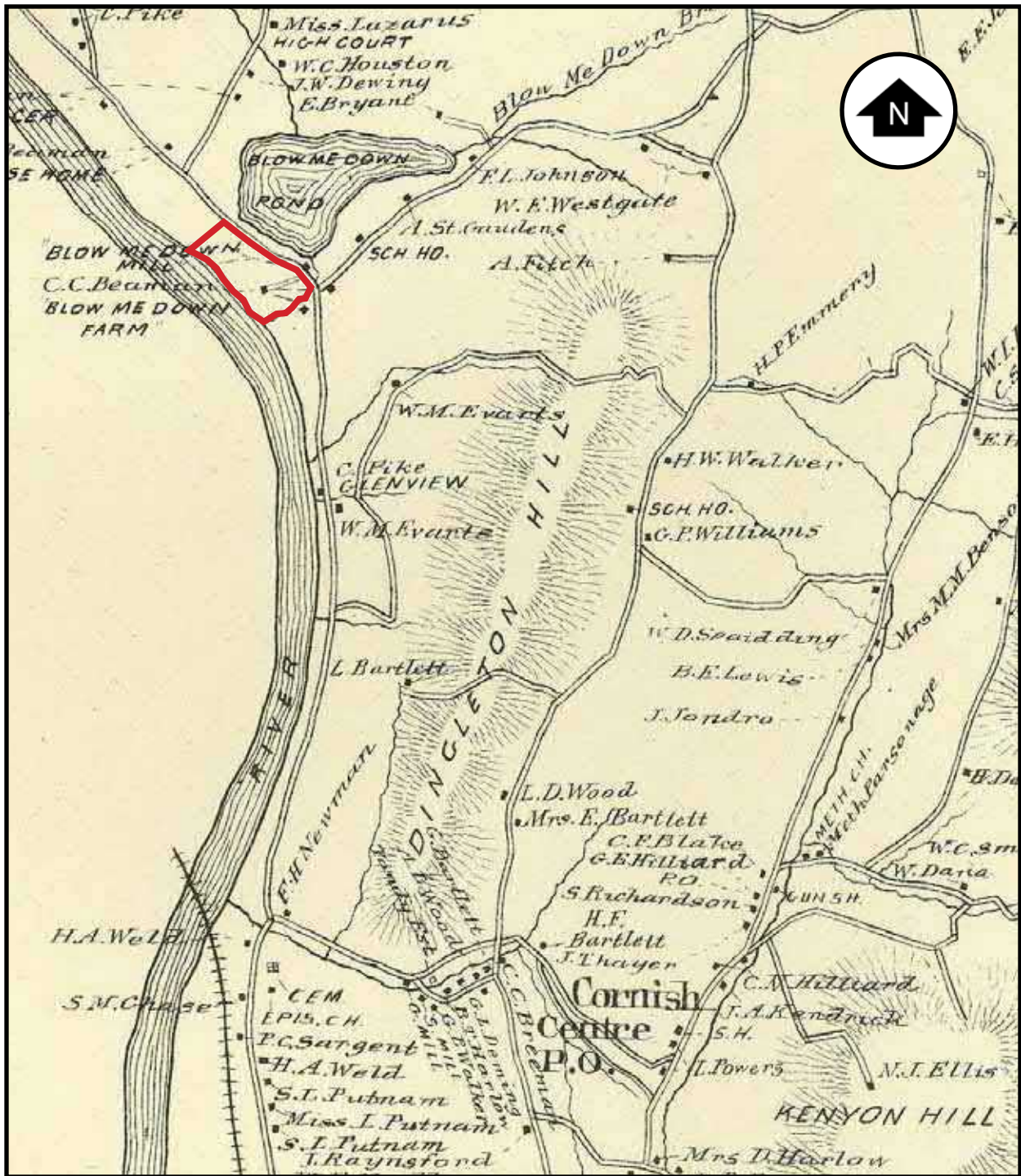


Figure 3.8. D.H. Hurd & Co. Cornish, Sullivan Co. in *Town and City Atlas of the State of New Hampshire*. 1892. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 2900 feet (approximately).



Photograph 3.5. Blow-Me-Down Farm. Circa 1890s. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.

landscape occurred during this period. Landscape architect Ernest Bowditch designed and implemented significant improvements to the driveway system at Blow-Me-Down Farm between 1896 and 1898, and landscape architect/architect Charles Adams Platt designed the stone posts of the gate located on the south driveway, which was erected in the fall of 1898 (Photograph 3.6) (Beaman Family 1884-1917:145, 148; PAL, Inc. 2012:44).

During the last eight years of the 19th century, Beaman continued to oversee the construction of new buildings and the relocation of existing structures at Blow-Me-Down Farm. He built the “laundry studio” for Hettie Sherman Beaman and a new cow barn in 1894. In 1896, he funded the construction of a coachman’s house designed by Daniel Appleton. Following a longstanding pattern in which he sold houses and land or rented houses he owned to friends and members of the Cornish Colony at discount prices, Beaman constructed the “Chauncey Cottage” for a close friend in 1897 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:126; PAL, Inc. 2012:43). Designed by Daniel Appleton, the one-and-a-half story frame house was built for Elihu Chauncey, a friend and neighbor who visited Cornish frequently and whose connection with Beaman extended back to their time at Harvard, and his family (Beaman Family 1884-1917:127; Dryfhout 2000:73; PAL, Inc. 2012:43). Finally, Beaman ordered the shed and blacksmith shop near the Blow-Me-Down Mill moved to the other side of River Road (State Route 12A) in 1898 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:144). Under the direction of Hettie Sherman Beaman, “the pig pen, carpenter shop, stable, carriage house and shed about one hundred and fifty feet or more directly north” on October 9, 1899 (Beaman Family 1884-1917:157). By 1900, these outbuildings housed “20 horses, 2 mules, 70 milk cows, 86 other domesticated cattle and 2 hogs” (PAL, Inc. 2012:46).

*A Brief Interlude: Blow-Me-Down Farm under Hettie Sherman Beaman, 1900-1919*

The 17 years of construction and change planned and overseen by Beaman and the first era of Blow-Me-Down Farm’s history came to an abrupt halt when he died in New York City on December 15, 1900. Per the stipulations of Beaman’s will, Hettie Sherman Beaman inherited all of his properties in Cornish (Windsor County Will 6/277). Under her ownership, Blow-Me-Down Farm entered a period of relative quiet. She reduced the agricultural activities at the farm and sold off her husband’s herds of cows and livestock at auction. The Beaman family continued to summer at Blow-Me-Down Farm, but Hettie Sherman Beaman began to rent the houses on the property to friends, relatives and new members of the Cornish Colony. Following in the footsteps of her husband, she also occasionally sold pieces of her property in Cornish to enable members of the Cornish Colony to build houses and live in town. She also continued her husband’s generosity towards the inhabitants of Cornish, supporting the Discussion Club formed by local women and serving as one of the patrons of the “Bird Masque” held at the Meriden Bird Sanctuary in 1913 (Dryfhout 2000:70). Hettie Sherman Beaman died in Boston, Massachusetts, on May 4, 1917, and divided her property equally between her children and grandchildren (Knox County Probate Record 122/143). William Evarts Beaman, her only son and youngest child, purchased the bulk of the property that his father and grandfather had acquired in Cornish, including Blow-Me-Down Farm, which totaled 19 tracts of land, on January 15, 1919 (Sullivan County Deed 193/260; Dryfhout 2000:71).

*Changes at Blow-Me-Down Farm, 1919-1950*

Born on January 25, 1881, in New York City, William Beaman followed his father to Harvard University (Child n.d. Vol. II:26; Rawson 1963:99). After



Photograph 3.6. South Gate. Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.



graduating from college in 1904, he spent time in Cornish, where he lived until he became involved in the real estate business in Seattle, Washington, in 1906 (Rawson 1963:99; Dryfhout 2000:71). After marrying Vera Benjamin in Mystic, Connecticut in March 1912, William Beaman returned to Cornish, and the couple made “Chaseholme” their year-round home (Dryfhout 2000:71). Although William Beaman, known as “Billy,” “Willy” or “Squire Beaman” to the inhabitants of Cornish, reportedly lacked his father’s “intellectual energy and wit,” he shared Beaman’s interest in art and modern farming techniques (Wade 1976:87).

Like his father and their 18th and 19th-century predecessors at Blow-Me-Down Farm, William Beaman became a successful farmer and held a politically and socially prominent position in Cornish. According to Rawson (1963:99-100), he introduced new methods of crop rotation and cattle handling and grew the first crop of alfalfa in Cornish. He also became a vocal advocate for agricultural reform in Sullivan County and New Hampshire, reportedly playing a key role in the establishment of the Farm Bureau (Rawson 1963:99-100; Dryfhout 2000:72). As part of these activities, he helped to organize the “Farmers’ Tour,” a two day tour designed to introduce farmers from Cheshire County to the agricultural techniques and practices used by their neighbors in Sullivan County in an effort to increase agricultural output, and, as part of the event, hosted a lunch for 300 farmers at Blow-Me-Down Farm in August 1915 (Sargent 1915:19). These activities helped propel William Beaman to a modest political career. He represented Cornish in the New Hampshire General Assembly, where he served on the agricultural committee, in 1913, 1915, 1917, 1943 and 1944 (Sargent 1915:19; Dryfhout 2000:71).

William Beaman also followed the Beaman tradition of funding public improvements in Cornish and actively supporting local community organizations. Prior to the arrival of President Woodrow Wilson and

his family in Cornish in the summer of 1913, William Beaman ensured that the River Road was paved between the Cornish covered bridge and Plainfield. President Wilson summered at “Harlakenden,” Winston Churchill’s Cornish estate, from 1913 to 1915. While World War I raged in Europe, William Beaman served as the Chairman of the Cornish Public Safety Committee of the Food Administration and became involved with the War Savings Bond and Liberty Loan Committee (Dryfhout 2000:71-72). He worked with Homer Saint-Gaudens, the son of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, to preserve and promote the traditions of the Cornish Colony, and he served as a trustee of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial after it was established by Augusta Saint-Gaudens in 1907 and as a trustee of the Cornish Bridge (Rawson 1963:100; Wade 1976:89).

William Beaman and his family moved from “Chaseholme” to “Blow-Me-Down” after the death of Hettie Sherman Beaman in 1917. As noted above, he legally acquired title to Blow-Me-Down Farm from the trustees of Hettie Sherman Beaman’s estate on January 15, 1919. Although the deed did not indicate the size of Blow-Me-Down Farm, identified by the deed as “Tract No. 10,” probate records prepared after the death of Hettie Sherman Beaman state that the farm contained 806.387 acres in 1917 (Fix 2016:16). William Beaman’s three sisters, Mary Stacy Holmes, Helen Beaman Lakin and Margaret Beaman Erikson, inherited a total of 11 tracts of land from their mother’s estate. William Beaman purchased the majority of these parcels from his sisters during the 1920s (PAL, Inc. 2012:46).

Blow-Me-Down Farm initially experienced few, if any, changes after William Beaman occupied the property with his family in 1917. A fire, however, changed that within a decade of William Beaman’s tenure. A large fire destroyed “Blow-Me-Down” on the evening of February 9, 1926. William Beaman hired the Boston-based architectural firm of Killham,



Photograph 3.7. "Casino" after 1927 renovation. Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.

Hopkins and Greely to convert the “Casino” into a residence in 1927, while he occupied “Chaseholme” with his family. The firm, which was known for its work in the Colonial Revival style, designed a two-and-a-half-story rear addition that roughly doubled the size of the “Casino” (Photograph 3.7) (Dryfhout 2000:72-73). The bowling alley was detached, moved behind the “Casino” and remodeled into a new ballroom (Photograph 3.8). According to Wade (1976:87), the ballroom was known as the “Reformatory” because it was intended to keep the younger generation of Beamans and their friends from visiting local dance halls that played jazz. A U.S. Geological Survey map from 1929 shows the ballroom and three other buildings, likely the bank barn, the “Casino,” which was renamed “Blow-Me-Down” after the remodel, and “Chauncey Cottage,” arrayed along a driveway west of the River Road (Figure 3.9). Unfortunately, the U.S. Geological Survey map offers little detail and does not include all of the buildings and outbuildings on the property.

A fire insurance inspection and survey report of Blow-Me-Down Farm prepared in July 1935 remedies this situation and provides a detailed portrait of the property. According to the report, Blow-Me-Down Farm contained 20 buildings, including the Blow-Me-Down Mill, in 1935. A map of the property prepared by Dryfhout (2000) shows the location of these buildings, though it does not provide information about the surrounding landscape (Figure 3.10). The fire insurance survey described the remodeled “Casino” as a “basement and two story frame dwelling, mainly for summer occupancy” with a shingle roof (Insurance Company of North America 1935). The first story held a large living room with a brick fireplace, a dining room with a brick fireplace, a den paneled with pine, two bathrooms, a pantry, a laundry, a coat room and a recessed porch with a tile floor. The floors were maple and part of the pine paneling in the dining room and hall came from an old house. The second story held five bedrooms, four bathrooms and two sleeping

porches, while three finished bedrooms and a bathroom occupied the third floor (Insurance Company of North America 1935). The Blow-Me-Down Mill, which ceased operating as a gristmill in 1918, was used for storage and no longer provided electricity to Blow-Me-Down Farm. It appears that William Beaman had also ceased to actively farm the property by 1935, for, according to the fire insurance survey, the bank barn was in “hardly better than fair condition” and contained no animals (Insurance Company of North America 1935).

The 1930s marked a turning point for Blow-Me-Down Farm and the Cornish Colony. Although the Beaman family would own and inhabit Blow-Me-Down Farm for another 15 years after the fire insurance survey and report referenced above, the Cornish Colony entered a period of prolonged decline as the Depression hurt the art industry and dramatically reduced the number of artists moving to Cornish (Bargmann Hendrie and Archetype, Inc. 2010:6). At Blow-Me-Down Farm, the Beaman family constructed only one new building, a one-and-a-half-story, one-bay, gable-roof, clapboarded garage. Known as the Lewis Garage, the building was completed sometime between 1935 and 1950 (PAL, Inc. 2012:18). William Beaman died in Cornish on July 5, 1945. At the time, he owned 806.4 acres of land in Cornish. This included Blow-Me-Down Farm and 400 acres from “Governor Benning Wentworth’s Farm,” also known as the “Wentworth” and “Dingleton” pastures (Dryfhout 2000:75). The family retained ownership of Blow-Me-Down Farm until 1950, when Vera I. Beaman, William Beaman’s widow, sold eight tracts of land in Cornish, including Blow-Me-Down Farm, to James and Elizabeth Campbell Lewis (Sullivan County Deed 336/497). In doing so, she brought the Beaman era of Blow-Me-Down Farm to a close.

### **3. After the Beamans**

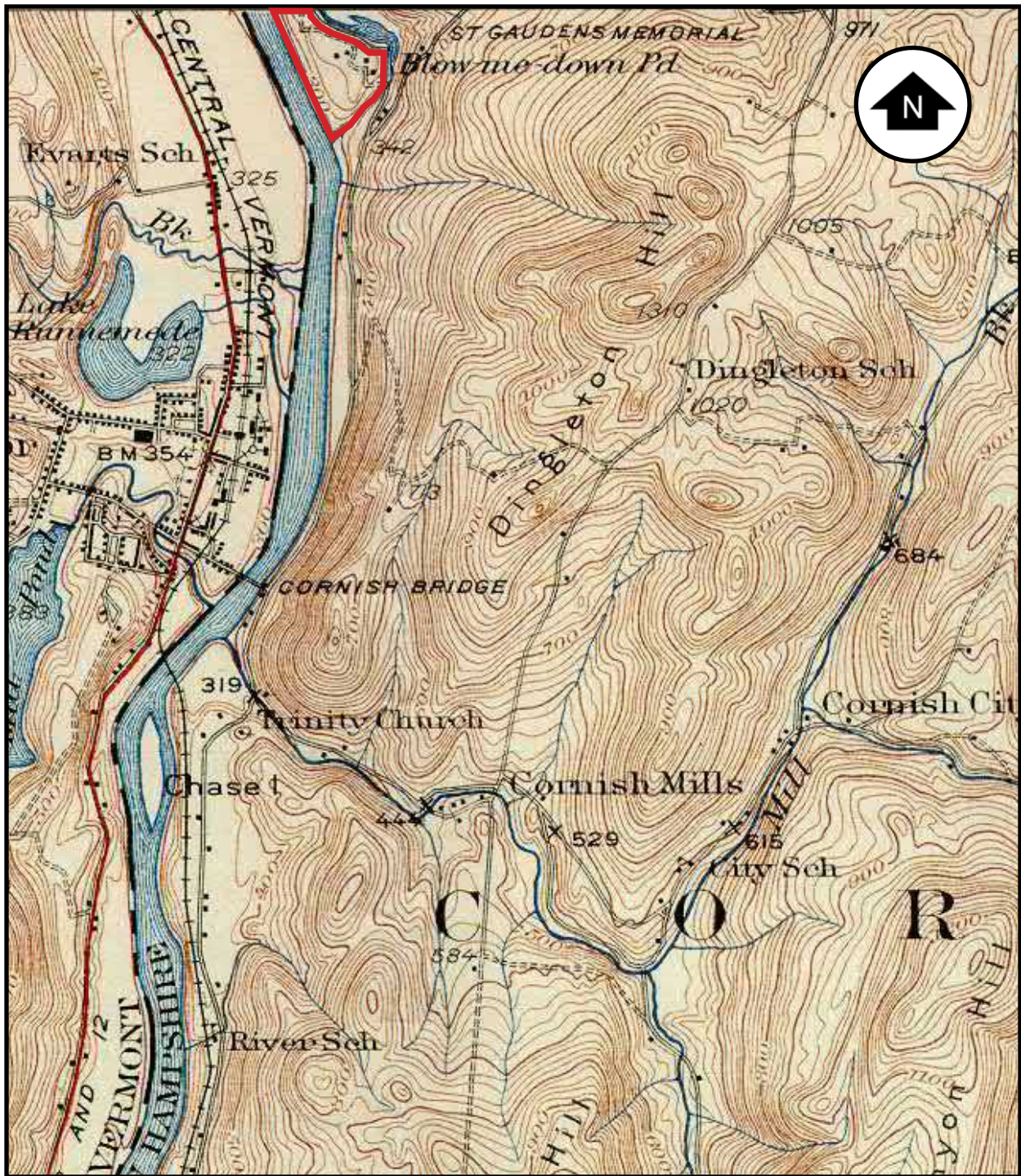


Figure 3.9. Munroe, Hersey, C.H. Davey, Clinus Smith, R.L. McCammon, H.A. Bean, and F.H. Sargent. Claremont Quadrangle from *United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey*. 1929. Electronic document, <http://docs.unh.edu/nhtopos/Claremont.htm> [accessed December 2016]. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 3080 feet (approximately). Source: University of New Hampshire.

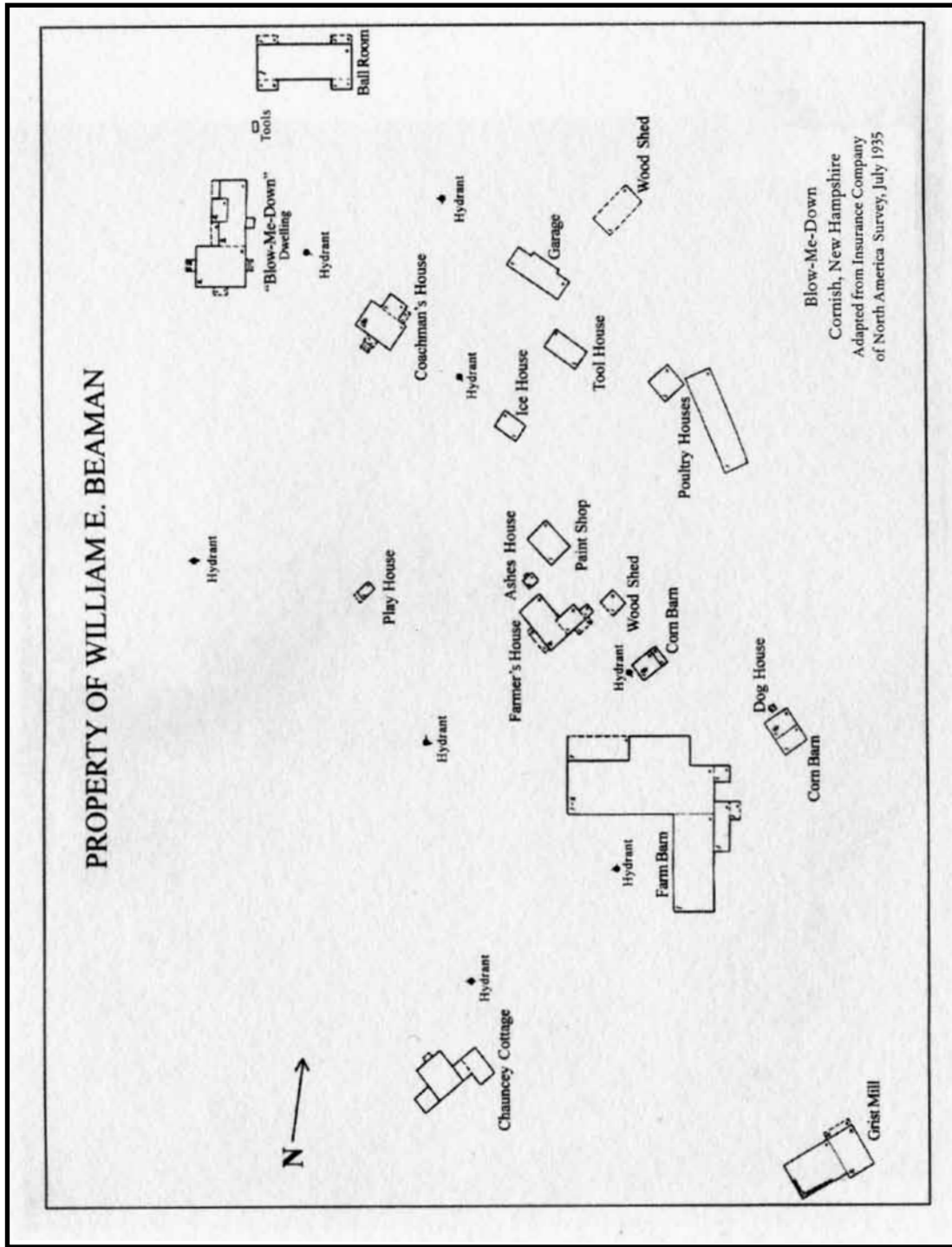


Figure 3.10. Dryfhout, John. *Property of William E. Beaman, Blow-Me-Down, Cornish, New Hampshire, Adapted from Insurance Company of North America Survey, July 1935*. 2000. Printed in Dryfhout 2000. Not to scale.



Photograph 3.8. “Casino” and “Reformatory.” Undated. Source: Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Archives.

James and Elizabeth Campbell Lewis purchased eight tracts of land in Cornish from Vera I. Beaman for \$1.00 on December 28, 1950. Blow-Me-Down Farm was included in the transaction as “Tract No. VI” (Sullivan County Deed 336/497). James Campbell Lewis died a widower at the age of 82 on August 4, 1970 (Reed 2012; Fix 2016:17). The executors of the Lewis estate sold nine parcels of land in Cornish, which included the eight parcels purchased from Vera I. Beaman, to William A. Smith and Nicholas G. Bolos, who formed the partnership of Bolos & Smith in Plainfield, New Hampshire, for \$249,150 on June 28, 1971 (Sullivan County Deed 495/327).

Bolos & Smith subdivided the properties into a number of parcels and auctioned them off individually. During this process, Bolos & Smith relocated the one-and-a-half-story “Coachman’s House,” which was designed by Daniel Appleton and constructed by Beaman in 1896, to one of the subdivided properties (Dryfhout 2000: 73). Bolos & Smith were likely responsible for demolishing or relocating other buildings from Blow-Me-Down Farm, for an aerial photograph from 1956 shows that all or most of these buildings remained in their original locations during the tenure of James and Elizabeth Campbell Lewis (Figure 3.11).

Regardless, the National Park Foundation purchased the 50-acre parcel containing Blowmedown Pond and the Blow-Me-Down Mill in 1971 (Dryfhout 2000:73-75). The Blow-Me-Down Mill, which had been leased by Dr. Carl Rodney Comstock, Jr. and served as a doctor’s office from 1950 to 1959, had stood empty for decades and was badly deteriorated. The roof of the south wing failed during the winter of 1967-1968, and the south wing was demolished in the summer of 1968 (Bargmann Hendrie and Archetype, Inc. 2010:6-7). It appeared on a map of sites of historic interest in Cornish prepared by the Cornish Conservation Commission in 1973 (Figure 3.12). Interestingly, the Cornish Conservation Commission chose not

to include Blow-Me-Down Farm on the map. The National Park Service acquired the Blow-Me-Down Mill from the National Park Foundation in 1984 (Bargmann Hendrie and Archetype, Inc. 2010:7).

Bolos & Smith likewise separated the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm from the rest of the Beaman lands and reduced it to a 50-acre lot. Bernard C. and Helen N. Stearns acquired the property from Bolos & Smith on November 10, 1971, and renamed it “Just A Plain Farm” (Sullivan County Deed 501/361; Dryfhout 2000:75; Fix 2016:17-18). Bernard and Helen Stearns moved to Pennsylvania in 1976 (Fix 2016:18). They sold Blow-Me-Down Farm to Donald M. and Vera MacLeay for \$120,000 on November 20, 1978 (Sullivan County Deed 501/361). Donald M. MacLeay transferred title to Blow-Me-Down Farm to Vera MacLeay on March 15, 1990. Following a donation made by Eric Lagercrantz to the Saint-Gaudens Memorial in memory of his wife Mary Beaman Lagercrantz, daughter of William Beaman and granddaughter of Charles Cotesworth Beaman, the Trustees of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial purchased Blow-Me-Down Farm from Vera MacLeay on October 23, 1998 (Saint-Gaudens Memorial 2010). The deed granted Donald and Vera MacLeay the right to reside on the property during their lifetime (Sullivan County Deed 1169/186). By 2000, the number of buildings at Blow-Me-Down Farm had dropped from the 20 recorded by the fire insurance survey of 1935 to ten (Figure 3.13). Per the wishes of Eric Lagercrantz, the Trustees of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial transferred title to Blow-Me-Down Farm, which contained 42.6 acres, to the National Park Service on January 25, 2010 (Sullivan County Deed 1764/4).



Figure 3.11. Aerial Photograph. 1956. Scale 1 inch = 230 feet (approximately). Location of project site outlined. Source: Nationwide Environmental Title Research 2016.



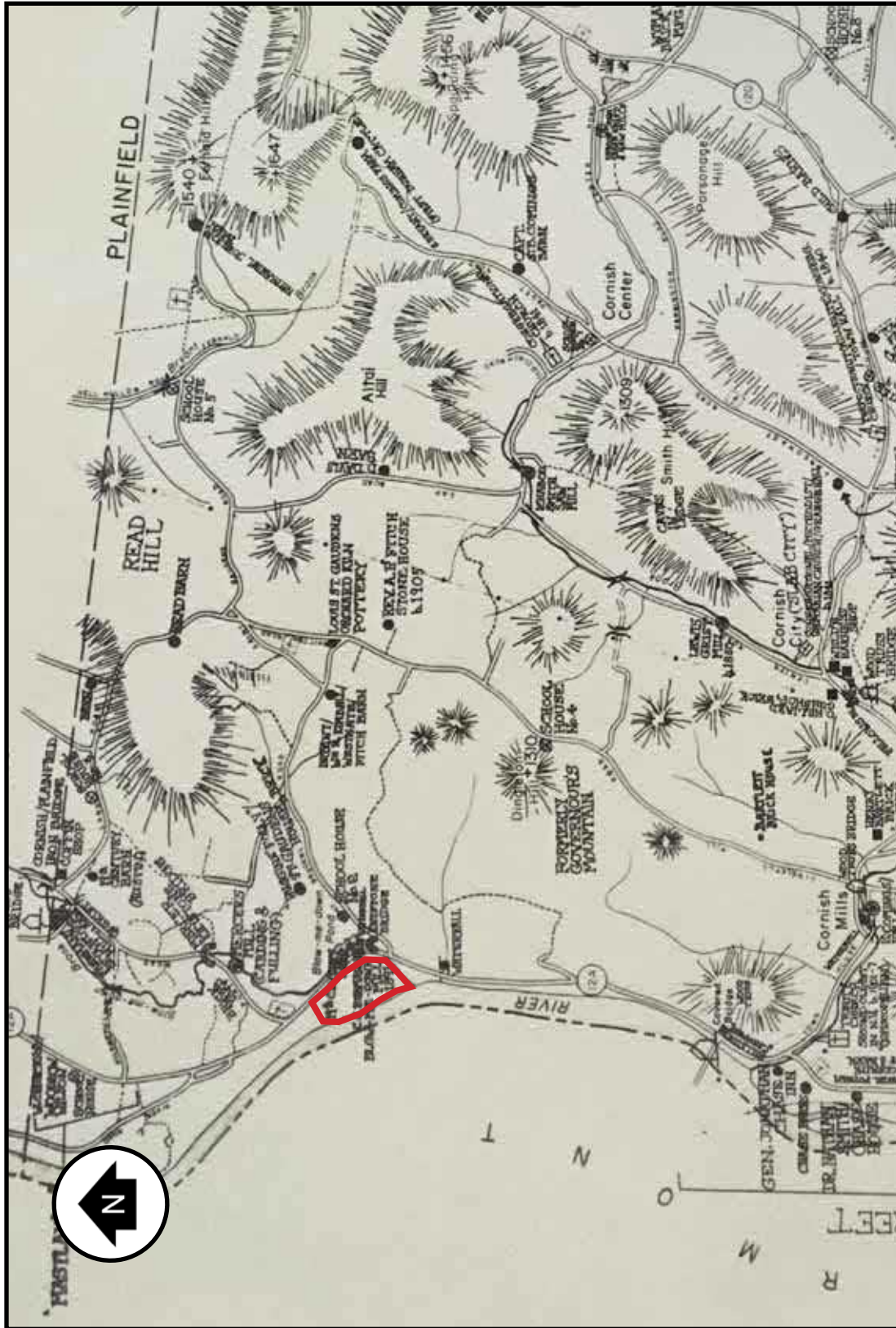


Figure 3.12. Sheaff, Dick. *Town of Cornish, N.H.* 1973. From the collection of the New Hampshire Historical Society. Project site indicated (approximately). Scale: 1 inch = 3550 feet (approximately).

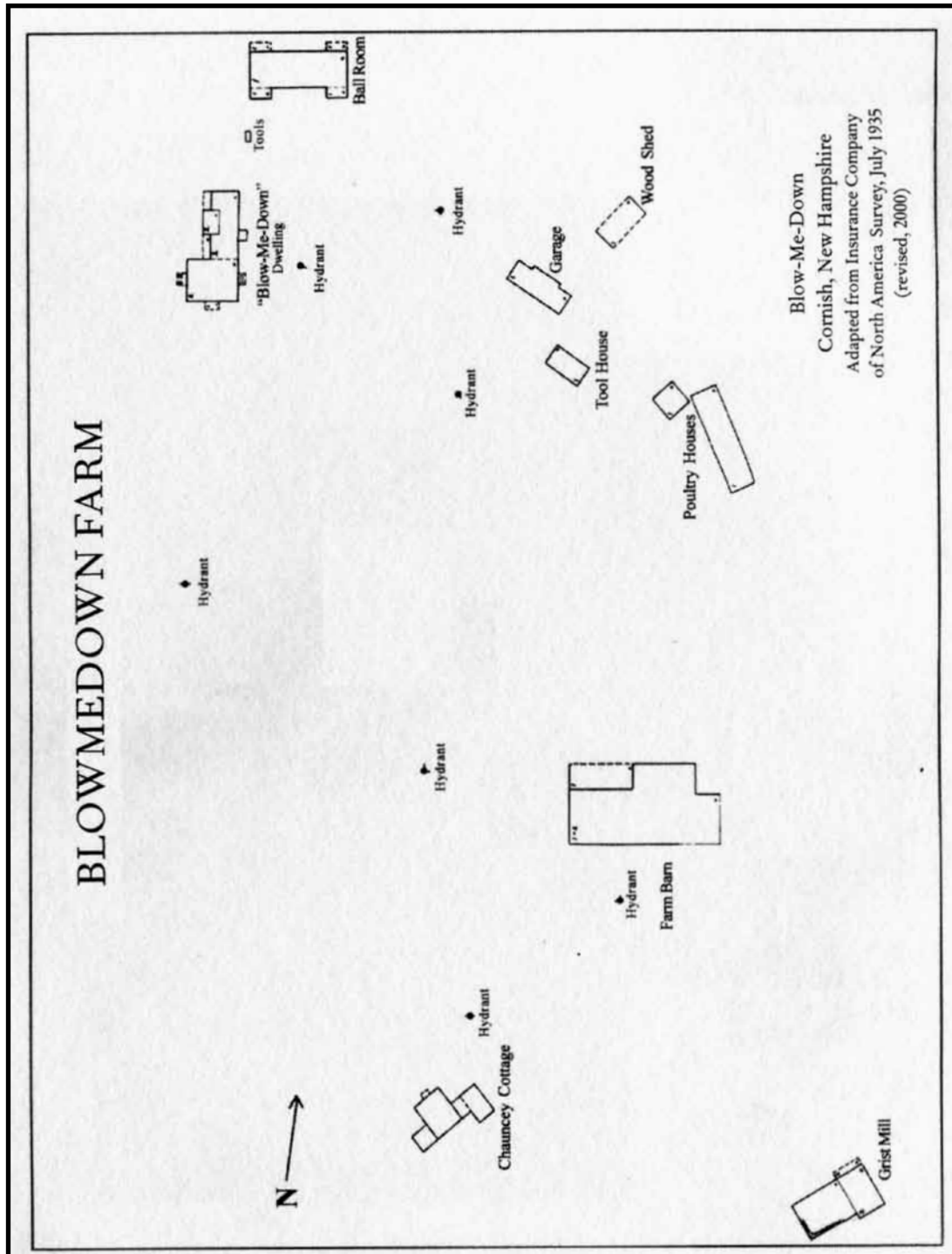


Figure 3.13. Dryfhout, John. *Blowedown Farm, Blow-Me-Down, Cornish, New Hampshire*, Adapted from *Insurance Company of North America Survey, July 1935* (revised, 2000). 2000. Printed in Dryfhout 2000. Not to scale.

## Chapter 4

### PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

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Following a review of materials at the National Park Service Northeast Regional Office in Lowell, Massachusetts, the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources in Concord and the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish only a single archeological study was identified that addressed the archeology of Blow-Me-Down Farm. Several archeological investigations have been conducted at the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site and these are summarized in the archeological overview and assessment prepared for that property in 2006 (Hepler *et al.* 2006). At the time of that study Blow-Me-Down Farm was still in private ownership and was not yet part of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Historic District (PAL, Inc. 2012).

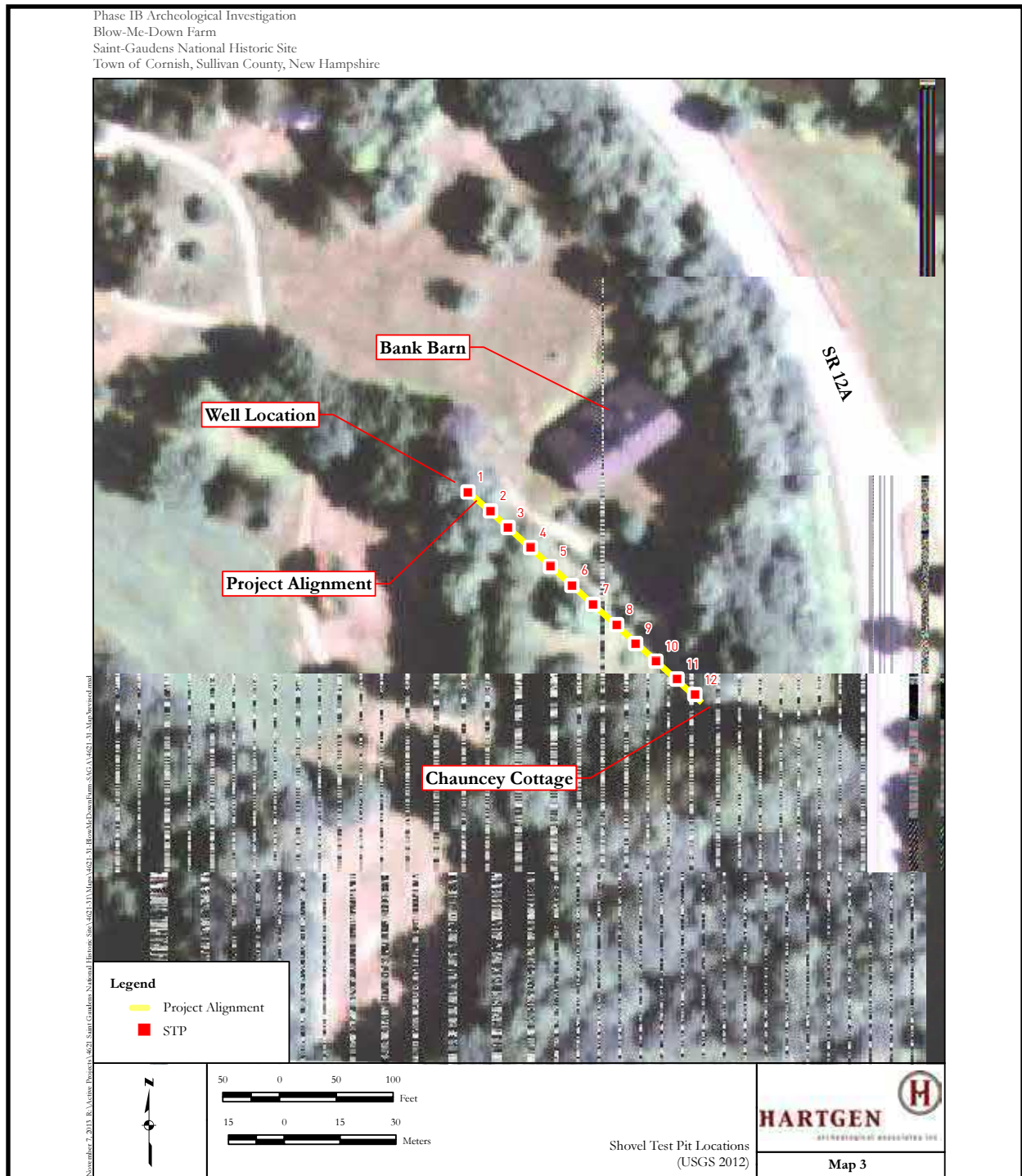
In 2013 Hartgen Archeological Associates conducted a Phase IB archeological investigation at Blow-Me-Down Farm for the National Park Service in connection with the installation of a well head, water service and electrical conduit (Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. 2013). This study commenced with a basic site file check at the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources and background research. The research concluded that the site had both pre-Contact and historic archeological sensitivity.

The field investigation comprised the excavation of 12 half-meter-square shovel tests placed at 7.5-meter intervals along a line extending from the northwest corner of Chauncey Cottage to the proposed well head location 25 meters west of the barn (Figure 4.1). Soils were screened through 1/4-inch mesh and artifacts were bagged by provenience. Where tests were not disturbed by the construction of a farm lane, they identified a fine sandy loam topsoil to a depth of 13 and 26 centimeters overlying a brown fine sand

subsoil. The investigators identified what they considered a B-horizon soil in Shovel Tests 1, 8 and 10. Shovel Tests 2 and 11 exhibited several fill contexts including gravel and coal cinder deposits. Shovel Test 12 was excavated immediately against the foundation of Chauncey Cottage and showed that this building's foundation was composed of mortared shale below the ground surface and mortared brick above ground. A builder's trench was not identified in this test.

A total of 75 artifacts were collected and cataloged using the National Park Service's Interior Collections Management System. Almost half of these artifacts (34) were recovered from Shovel Test 12 at Chauncey Cottage. Most of the recovered cultural materials date to the late 19th and early 20th centuries and include common domestic items such as pieces of window and bottle glass, cut nails, brick fragments, and mammal bone fragments and sherds of typical 19th-century ceramic types such as redware, whiteware and porcelain. One sherd of creamware and a single sherd of white salt-glazed stoneware were also recovered. These types of artifacts are normally associated with late 18th-century sites and suggest that archeological deposits related to the earliest inhabitants of the property might survive. The collection of artifacts recovered by this investigation is curated at the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site.

The survey concluded with a recommendation that no significant archeological deposits were identified, but cautioned that the farm still had a high pre-Contact and historic archeological potential.



## Chapter 5

### DOCUMENTED DISTURBANCES

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#### A. PREHISTORIC PERIOD

A significant aspect of investigating, interpreting and managing any archeological site involves gaining a clear understanding of the documented and potential post-depositional processes that may have affected the integrity of cultural deposits through time. At Blow-Me-Down Farm pre-Contact archeological deposits are anticipated, but there appear to be few such processes that need to be accounted for when developing a testing strategy and preparing an assessment. During the prehistoric period the most active and substantial changes in the landscape are likely to have occurred as a result of alluvial action. The Connecticut River is constantly, albeit very slowly, altering the landscape along its banks. This may occur through flood events that scour banks and deposit alluvial material, thereby changing the location of sand and gravel bars and modifying the actual course of the river. Over long periods of time, such as the 12,000 years that people have lived in the northeastern United States, the ongoing alteration of the river's banks and floodplain can have a profound effect on the archeological deposits generated by the occupation of local inhabitants. As no geomorphological investigations have been conducted at Blow-Me-Down Farm the full scale of these changes within the farm property along the Connecticut River and its principal tributary Blow-Me-Down Brook are not fully understood. It is also possible that the activities of burrowing animals, such as muskrats, groundhogs and foxes, have some potential to affect disturb pre-Contact sites. North American beavers, which have the ability through their tree felling and dam building activity to create large wetland areas on small streams, may also play an important role in modifying the local environment. All of these actions and other

essentially natural land-altering processes must be taken into account when investigating prehistoric and historic archeological sites.

#### B. PRE-BEAMAN PERIOD (BEFORE 1882)

In addition to the natural processes noted above the activities of early European settlers in the area also will have affected both the pre-Contact archeology and, in a cumulative fashion, the Euro-American archeological deposits that these settlers were leaving behind. Although it is not entirely clear when European settlement first occurred within the Blow-Me-Down Farm property several historic period activities were undoubtedly taking place in the late 18th and early 19th-centuries that would have had a profound effect on pre-Contact and early historic period archeological resources. Lumbering, tree clearing, the creation and use of farm fields all will have changed the landscape indelibly. As trees and ground cover were removed soils became exposed and, in farm fields, were subject to plowing. This activity will have altered the natural stratigraphy of the soils and would have mixed artifacts together within the plowzone. Another side effect of clearing and plowing is soil erosion, which can deflate archeological stratigraphy.

#### C. BEAMAN PERIOD (1882-1950)

When the Beaman family purchased the property in 1882 it was comprised of a burned-out farmhouse, another earlier farmhouse converted for use as a barn, and a few other small outbuildings. Charles Beaman commenced an extensive construction and landscaping campaign that lasted until his death in 1900 and was started again by his son a few years

later. By the 1920s, before the primary residence was lost in a fire, there were approximately 21 buildings situated on the portion of the Blow-Me-Down Farm property that makes up the current project site with additional buildings lying beyond the current project limits. Each of the sites of these buildings is both a potential archeological resource and a potential source of disturbance of earlier buried resources. Beaman, and later his son, also moved several of these buildings to new locations, which may have resulted in disruption of archeological remains. In the late 1920s William Beaman moved the Dance Hall to its current location and had a large addition built on the rear of the Casino building. It is likely that the storm sewer system that exists on the site was installed at the same time, along with an interconnected system of fire hydrants, fed from a reservoir off the property to the southeast (Figure 5.1). In addition to the buildings that the Beamans built and moved around the property, a nine-hole golf course, a lawn tennis court, new farm lanes bordered by hemlock hedges, the planting of a pear orchard with hundreds of trees, and ongoing large-scale farming of the property will all have taken their toll on archeological deposits and features. Finally, the removal of the remnants of the 35-room Blow-Me-Down Cottage is likely to have involved extensive disturbance of the immediate surroundings of this building.

#### **D. POST-BEAMAN PERIOD (1950 TO PRESENT)**

Compared to the extensive construction that took place during the Beaman ownership, changes and disturbances during the post-Beaman period have been relatively limited. It is unclear when or if the golf course and lawn tennis court were ever physically removed, or if they were just left to decay in place. The removal of many of the outbuildings on the site is probably the most significant source of disturbance in the post-1950 period. While most of the outbuildings were presumably built on piers or shallow fieldstone

foundations, the removal of the Coachman's House, the Farmer's House, and the additions to the barn in the 1970s probably required more invasive demolition activity and is more likely to have disturbed earlier archeological remains. Also, during the 1970s, an in-ground pool was built west of the Dance Hall and a large prefabricated metal building used for horse riding was erected at the northern end of the property (Yokum and Machurat 2014:22). Both of these structures have since been removed constituting another episode of ground disturbance. Given its location it is likely that the construction and removal of the pool may have impacted historic-period archeological resources. At some point during the 20th century at least one underground electrical conduit was run between the Casino and the Blacksmith Shop; an underground propane service was installed from the Casino to a tank to the north and then further north to the site of the prefabricated metal building; and a sewer line was run from the Casino to the south just to the west of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage site. The approximate locations of these ground-invasive utilities are all included on the survey of the property from 2008 (Figure 5.1).

More recently a new well was drilled and installed west of the barn. This well was connected to Chauncey Cottage via an underground waterline and electrical conduit. The disturbance caused by these actions was addressed through an archeological investigation of the well site and trench alignment prior to their installation (Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. 2012). This investigation is discussed above in Chapter 4. Finally, two percolation tests were recently conducted with a machine south of the flagpole and north of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage site by National Park Service personnel. While the exact location of these tests is not mapped they were observed by the site's facilities manager who reported that no archeological materials were identified (Steve Walasewicz, Manager of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, personal communication, October 17, 2016).







## Chapter 6

### RESULTS OF ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

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#### A. FIELD METHODS

Archeological fieldwork for this assessment was conducted in October and November of 2016 and consisted of a thorough field inspection of the entire property followed by the excavation of shovel tests. Shovel test locations were established based on the results of the historic map and image analysis and field inspection, and most especially on an insurance map of the property created in 1935 (see above, Figure 3.13) and an aerial photograph of the property from 1956 (Nationwide Environmental Title Research 2016) (Figure 6.1). The testing plan was submitted to the National Park Service (NPS) for review. While testing was based on a 30-meter grid, some tests were offset to target those areas with the highest potential for intact archeological remains and other tests were eliminated in areas where recent ground disturbance could be documented (e.g., along the driveway and parking areas) or where archeological potential was considered low (especially on steep slopes). Particular attention and effort was spent assessing the archeological integrity of the grounds within the core area of Blow-Me-Down Farm where the testing grid was tightened to a 15-meter interval.

The subsurface investigation ultimately entailed the excavation of 75 half-meter square shovel tests. The locations of these tests, along with potential building footprints extrapolated from historic maps, are shown on Figure 6.2. Tests were flagged at the onset of fieldwork using a sub-foot-accuracy handheld GPS unit (Trimble Geo 7x). The exact GPS coordinate of each shovel test is listed in Appendix A. Measurements were made using the metric system and depth measurements were taken from a different datum for each shovel test or unit. All excavations that were

conducted were recorded digitally on tablets using the archeological context system (see Appendix B for a summary of subsurface testing results). All soils were screened through ¼-inch mesh screen. Excavation was performed by hand with a shovel and extended with a 4-inch-bucket auger to a depth of up to 2 meters, or until an unavoidable impasse or culturally sterile soils were encountered. Each shovel test was backfilled after the completion of testing and documentation. All artifacts were bagged by excavation unit and archeological context. Artifacts were taken to the Hunter Research laboratory in Trenton, New Jersey, where they were cleaned, bagged and cataloged using the National Park Service's Interior Collections Management System (ICMS) (see Appendix C for an inventory of recovered artifacts). Artifacts are summarized in Table 6.1 and in more detail in Appendix C. These items will be returned to the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site at the completion of this study.

This investigation was also supplemented by Dr. William Griswold, an archeologist with the NPS, who conducted a ground-penetrating radar survey of the sites of the Coachman's House and Farmer's House.

#### B. SURVEY RESULTS

For the purposes of organizing this discussion the Blow-Me-Down Farm project site has been divided into six areas that are largely based on separate landscape elements within the site. These areas, delineated on Figure 6.2, are the Lower Terrace Area, the Upper and Lower Blow-Me-Down Brook Area, the Upper Terrace Area, The Blow-Me-Down Farmstead, the Chauncey Cottage Area, and the Promontory Area.



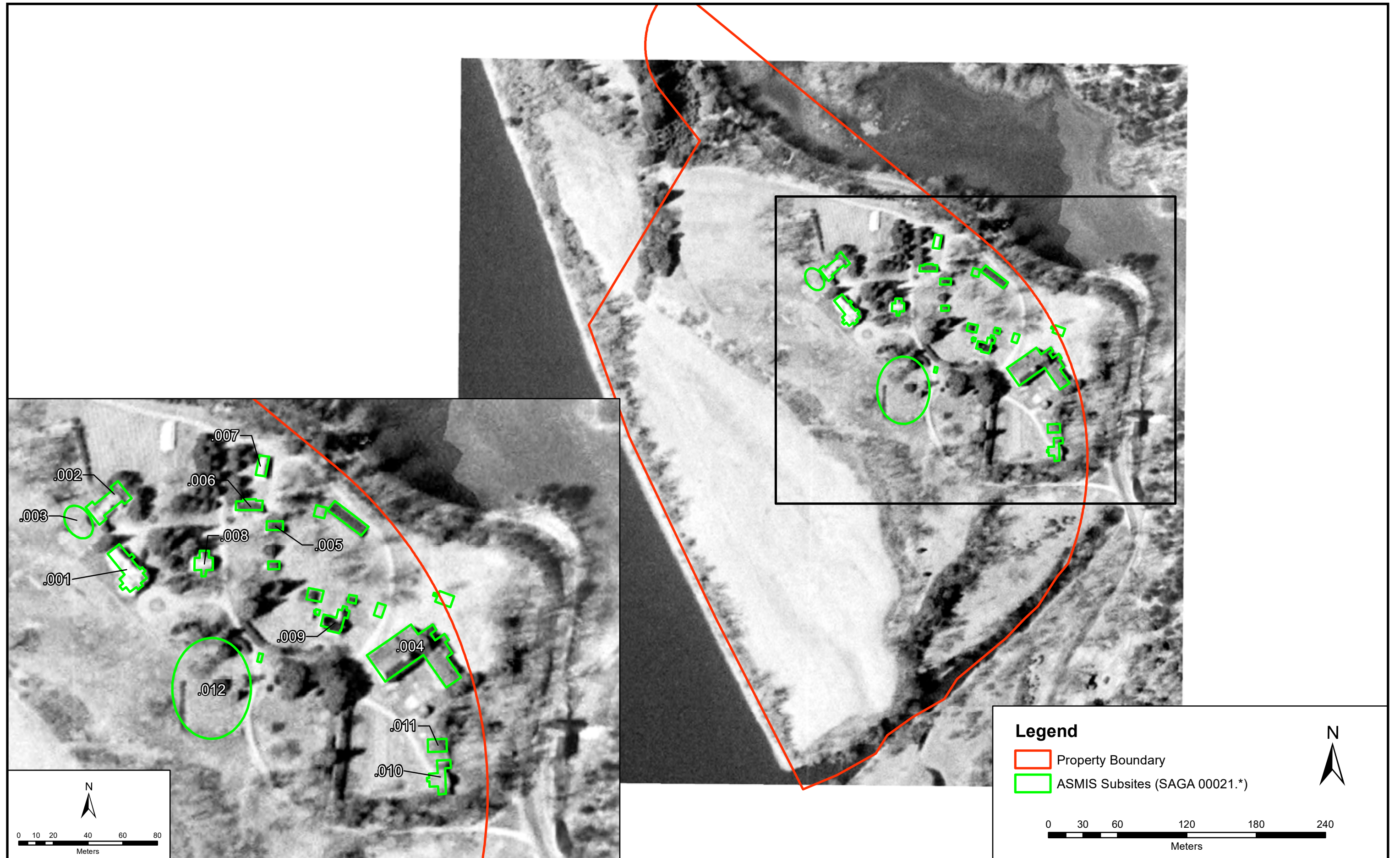


Figure 6.1. Historic Aerial Photograph of Blow-Me-Down Farm from 1956 with the Insurance Survey Plan from 1835 Georeferenced and Overlain.

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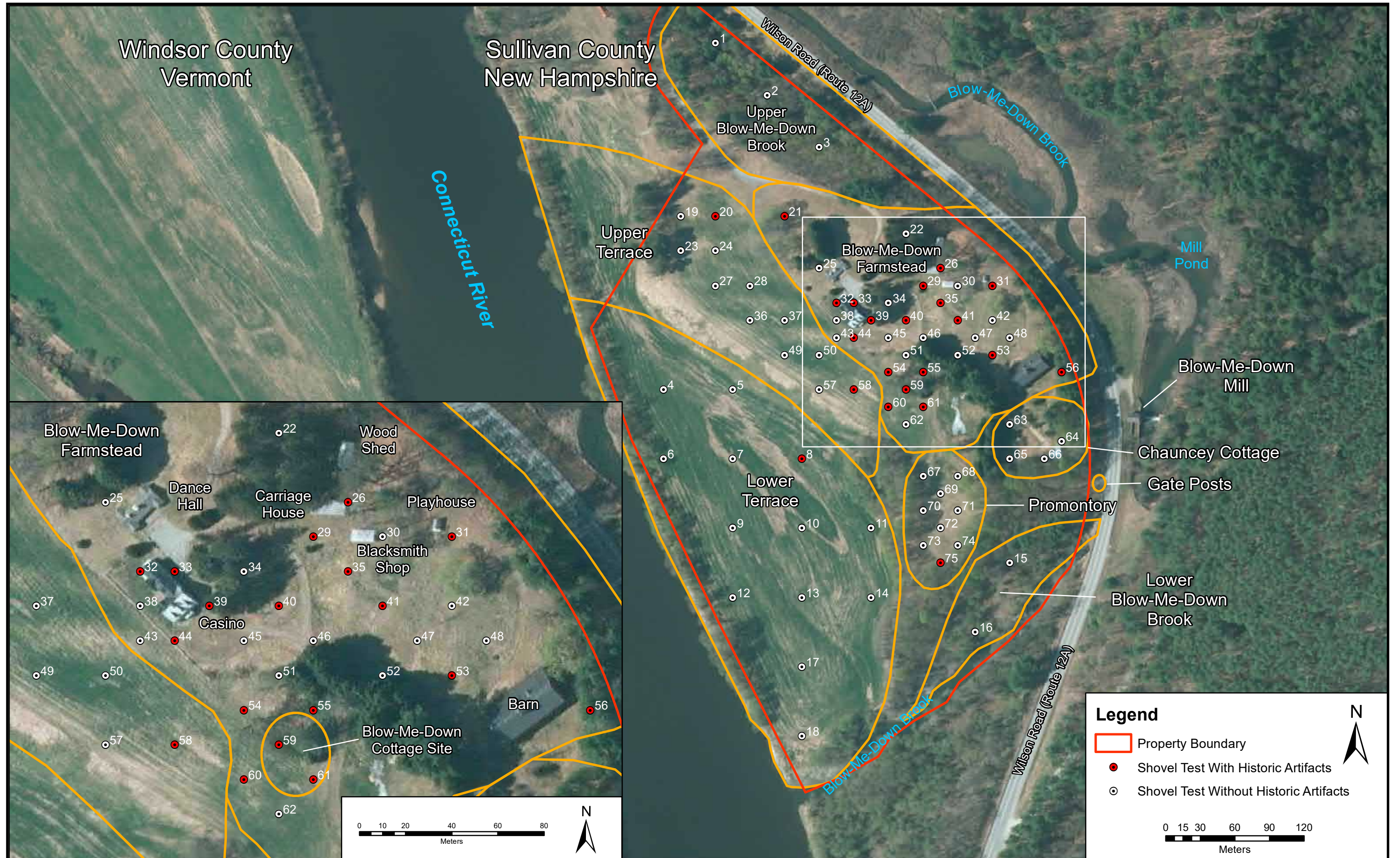


Figure 6.2. Aerial Photograph of Blow-Me-Down Farm Showing the Location of Archeological Tests, Historic Features and Areas Described in Text.

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## 1. Lower Terrace Area

This area is located on a low terrace within the floodplain of the Connecticut River at an elevation of generally 315 to 330 feet above sea level (asl) (Figure 6.2). The western edge of this area is the eastern bank of the Connecticut River, which runs roughly northwest to southeast (Photograph 6.1). A steep bank slopes up to the east to a high terrace along the eastern edge of this area, which curves eastward and then to the south in an arc that was likely caused by a former river channel, which is still visible as a slightly lower swale in the middle of this area (Photograph 6.2). The area is narrow (50 meters) at its northern end, widens to approximately 190 meters in the middle and is 125 meters wide just above the confluence of Blow-Me-Down Brook and the Connecticut River, which forms its southern boundary. This area is still used as an agricultural field and at the time of testing the remnants of a fallow hay crop provided ground cover. A line of brush and small trees was growing along the river bank on the western border. No historic buildings or landscape features were observed and no prehistoric artifacts were identified on the ground surface (owing to the limited visibility caused by the ground cover a rigorous controlled surface collection was not conducted).

A total of 13 shovel tests (Shovel Tests 4-14, 17 and 18) were excavated in this area at 60-meter intervals. The soil stratigraphy generally consisted of a silty loam Ap horizon overlying a loamy silt B horizon at a depth of between 14 to 23 centimeters. This B1 horizon was a well-sorted alluvial soil overlying another B2 horizon at a depth of generally 130 to 165 centimeters. A darker silty sand was identified in Shovel Tests 10, 12 and 13 that may represent a buried A horizon or an additional context deposited by a flood event. Excavation was extended to 200 centimeters in some tests using a 4-inch-diameter bucket auger and in some tests, particularly in the southern part of this

area where the ground surface elevation is generally lower, a mottled sand was identified (particularly in Shovel Test 17).

Only a single test yielded a cultural artifact; a sherd of lead-glazed redware, which was recovered from the uppermost context of Shovel Test 8 (Table 6.1). This shovel test was located at the base of the slope that leads up to the second terrace closer to the core area of Blow-Me-Down Farm.

The absence of prehistoric artifacts in this area is likely a result of the unstable nature of this landform. It appears to be alluvially deposited and the low swale against the edge of the slope along the eastern edge of the area suggests that a channel ran along the base of this slope. The rest of this area may have been within the river channel until relatively recently. The well-sorted soils identified during shovel testing could be the result of silt dropping out of the water during overbank flooding events after the channel had moved west.

## 2. Upper and Lower Blow-Me-Down Brook Area

These two sections of Blow-Me-Down Brook are located along the eastern boundary of the property to the north and south of, and at a much lower elevation than, the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm (Figure 6.2). Both areas are wooded, low-lying and wet with muddy surfaces. Vegetation consists of secondary deciduous trees and thin brushy ground cover. The upper area is 240 meters long northwest-southeast and 70 meters wide at an elevation of around 350 feet asl. Standing water was visible in the upper area, trapped next to the highway embankment (Photographs 6.3 and 6.4). As late as 1956 this area was within or immediately adjacent to the channel of Blow-Me-Down Brook and was only filled when Route 12A was relocated further to the east by 1958 (Nationwide Environmental Title



Photograph 6.1. View south showing the southern end of the lower terrace with the Connecticut River visible in the background (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-055].





Photograph 6.2. View north showing lower terrace with Casino visible in background (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-075].



Photograph 6.3. View facing north showing the northern end of the upper Blow-Me-Down Brook area (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-033].



Photograph 6.4. View south showing the southern end of the upper Blow-Me-Down Brook area and the retaining walls along the former route of Wilson Road (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-035].

Research 2017). The lower area measures approximately 210 meters long northeast-southwest and is only 40 meters wide. At an elevation of around 310 feet asl, it is still part of the floodplain of Blow-Me-Down Brook and the Connecticut River and evidence of this was observed in the area in the form of rafts of sticks, branches and other buoyant items (plastic bottles, foam, etc.) on the ground surface (Photograph 6.5).

Five shovel tests were excavated in these two sections of Blow-Me-Down Brook: Shovel Tests 1-3 in the upper area and Shovel Tests 15 and 16 in the lower area on a 60-meter grid (Figure 6.2). The soil stratigraphy in the upper Blow-Me-Down Brook segment consisted of a dark humic silty sandy loam with some gravels overlying an impasse in Shovel Test 1 and a silty clay gley to a depth of at least 70 centimeters in Shovel Test 2. Route 12A formerly ran through the western edge of this area before it was moved to the east, which may account for the gravels and the impasse in Shovel Test 1. A concrete crib-lock retaining wall was observed in the bank at the southwestern end of this area, apparently installed to prevent the slope from collapsing into the former road alignment, which is just visible as a slightly elevated contour of land that otherwise resembles the rest of this wooded area (Photograph 6.4).

Soils along the lower segment of Blow-Me-Down Brook consisted of a dark humic silty loam overlying a loamy silt at 18 centimeters in Shovel Test 15 and a clayey silt at 110 centimeters in Shovel Test 16. A mottled sand underlay this clayey silt and the test was ended at a stone impasse at 125 centimeters below the ground surface. These soils suggest this area was also subject to the changing channel and flood events of Blow-Me-Down Brook. At the very north end of this lower section of the brook a former driveway entrance with mortared stone gateposts was observed (Photograph 6.6). A chain hung between these posts

preventing traffic on this overgrown driveway, which climbed the slope up to the northwest towards the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm.

### **3. Upper Terrace Area**

The Upper Terrace extends from the northern end of the project site 320 meters to the southeast through its center, with the Lower Terrace Area to the west and south and the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm to the east (Figure 6.2; Photographs 6.7 and 6.8). This terrace is approximately 80 meters wide at its widest point and sits at an elevation of 360 feet asl. The ground slopes sharply down 20 to 30 feet to the lower terrace to the west and there is a slight rise of less than 5 feet to the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm to the east. Vegetation in this area consists almost entirely of a lawn with a stand of large trees present at its northern end. Beaman built a lawn tennis court at the southern end of this area in 1885 and part of the Blow-Me-Down Links nine-hole golf course, which was constructed around 1890, likely covered this area. Creation of both of these features would have required some reworking of the landscape. A slight change in the topography suggests that a road or path used to run along the top edge of the slope along the western edge of this area. This may have been the farm lane which is visible in a historic view of the farm (see above, Photograph 3.5). This same photograph shows a gazebo along the southwestern edge of this area. No evidence of this building was identified.

A total of 12 shovel tests (Shovel Tests 19, 20, 23, 24, 27, 28, 36, 37, 49, 50, 57 and 58) were excavated across this entire area on a 30-meter grid. A silty loam Ap horizon was identified extending to a depth of between 21 and 36 centimeters overlying a loamy silt B1 horizon across this area. The B2 horizon in the northern and southern parts of this area consisted of a silty sand at generally 80 to 100 centimeters and extended to a depth greater than 190 centimeters. In



Photograph 6.5. View facing southeast showing the lower Blow-Me-Down Brook area from the promontory area (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-043].



Photograph 6.6. View facing west showing the gate posts at the driveway entry to Blow-Me-Down Farm at the north end of the lower BMD Brook area (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-186].



Photograph 6.7. View north showing the upper terrace (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-053].



Photograph 6.8. View northwest showing the northern end of the upper terrace (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-141].



the central part of this area the B2 horizon was a loamy silt. The fine, homogenous nature of the silt in this area suggests that these soils were aeolian-derived silts, possibly deposited as Glacial Lake Hitchcock receded and winds carried silts up from the river bed, decelerated and then deposited them at the top of this terrace. The stratigraphy of this area has also likely been affected by its historic use as both a grass tennis court and a golf course (Dryfhout 2000:60).

Only two artifacts were recovered from shovel tests within this area (Table 6.1). An aqua-colored fragment of window glass was identified in the uppermost context of Shovel Test 20 at the northern end of the area and a small sherd of plain pearlware was recovered from the uppermost context of Shovel Test 58 at the southern end (Figure 6.2). Shovel Test 58 is relatively close to the site of Blow-Me-Down Cottage and this artifact, whose possible date of manufacture extends from the late 18th century into the early 19th century, is likely associated with the pre-Beaman occupation of this site.

#### **4. Blow-Me-Down Farmstead**

The area covered by the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm is 275 meters long from northwest to southeast and approximately 140 meters wide at its widest point (Figure 6.2). This area occupies the highest part of the property, at approximately 365 feet asl, with New Hampshire Route 12A to the east, the Upper Terrace Area to the west and the Chauncey Cottage Area to the south. It consists of a group of seven buildings surrounded by lawns interspersed with a few groves of trees. The sites of several no-longer-extant buildings, identifiable on historic maps, are also located in this area. Driveways and unpaved lanes are interspersed across this area, serving the various standing and no-longer-standing buildings and connecting to exits to the south and northwest.

The standing buildings within the farmstead can be divided into three groups. The Casino and Dance Hall are located along the western edge of this area next to the Upper Terrace Area. These buildings were built in the late 19th century and have been heavily modified. The Dance Hall has also been moved from its original location. The Casino Building, built in 1887, by Charles Beaman, supposedly incorporates framing elements from the 18th-century Moses Chase House. This building is a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay frame dwelling with three dormer windows, a central brick chimney and a full cellar (Photograph 6.9). The front door, which faces south, has a small stone porch with classical columns supporting its roof. Soon after this building was erected a rear ell was added to house a ten pin bowling alley. After the primary residence of the property, "Blow-Me-Down," was destroyed by fire in 1926, the Casino was made into a residence. The bowling alley addition was detached, moved and remodeled into the Dance Hall in 1927 and a large two-and-a-half-story addition was added to the Casino (Photograph 6.10). The Dance Hall, now in its current location north of the Casino, was expanded at both ends and porches and a cupola were added (Yokum and Machurat 2014) (Photograph 6.11). This building rests on piers. At some point in the mid-20th century an in-ground pool (recently removed) was built next to the Dance Hall. A line of mature hemlocks extends north from the Dance Hall. These trees were likely started as small shrubs for a garden area (Photograph 6.12). An asphalt driveway runs between these two buildings and is drained by three storm water inlets that connect with underground conduits that run to the southwest (see above, Figure 5.1; Photograph 6.13). Three millstones are set upright as a curb along the edge of this asphalt parking area. A fourth millstone is set directly in front of the Casino around the base of a flagpole (Photograph 6.14). Another feature of note is a 66-meter-long dry-laid stone retaining wall, built in 1890, that runs northwest-southeast to the west of the Casino (Photograph 6.15).



Photograph 6.9. View north showing the Casino building (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-150].



Photograph 6.10. View east showing the Casino (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-145].



Photograph 6.11. View southeast showing the Dance Hall (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-139].



Photograph 6.12. View south showing a line of mature hemlock trees extending north from the Dance Hall (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-150].



Photograph 6.13. View southwest showing a line of millstones used as curbing between the Casino and Dance Hall. Note the storm drain in the right foreground. This drains via conduits to the west (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-129].



Photograph 6.14. View south showing the millstone around the base of the flag pole south of the Casino (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-158].



Photograph 6.15. View southeast showing the dry-laid stone retaining wall just west of the casino (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-147].



Another group of outbuildings is located east of the Casino and Dance Hall. The northernmost of these is a two-sided structure, known as the Wood Shed, which has three bays open at either end (Photograph 6.16). This one-story frame building is built on piers at its corners, has a gabled metal roof and an earthen floor. The two ends are covered in clapboard siding. It likely served historically as a shelter for carriages. Just south of the wood shed is a four-bay frame outbuilding, known as the Carriage House, which has clapboard siding and four sets of double doors set on hinges (Photograph 6.17). There is also a single door on its western end and a single window facing south above the eastern most bay. This outbuilding has a metal shed-style roof and earthen floor and is set on a simple fieldstone foundation. The insurance report from 1935 also describes it as a garage and states that it served as a horse barn, as well as a carriage house (Insurance Company of America 1935:3).

Just southeast of this building is an outbuilding known as the Blacksmith Shop. Labeled as a “Tool House” on the insurance map, it is described as a shed for storing and fixing tools. This outbuilding is also a four-bay, shed-roofed frame building set on a simple fieldstone foundation (Photograph 6.18). It has a metal roof and a wooden floor. A garage door is located on the western end, and simple plank doors on iron strap hinges are located at the western end of the southern façade and in the middle of the eastern façade. Three sets of 28-pane windows (six in all) are also located on the southern façade. A closed chicken chute door is centered below each of these window sets and a louvered vent is located above. A fourth louvered vent is located on the eastern façade. The form of this outbuilding and the lack of any visible hearth chimney or stove pipe strongly suggest that it may originally have been a poultry house.

Two other poultry houses are noted on the insurance map a little further to the east, but no evidence of these buildings was observed. In addition to these two poul-

try house sites, an Ice House is mapped to the south of the Blacksmith’s shop. The Ice House is described in the insurance report as a simple frame building with an interior sheathed in wood for insulation (Insurance Company of America 1935:5). Just to the west of this building is the site of the Coachman’s House. The insurance inspections report from 1935 describes this building as a one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling with an earthen basement floor built in 1896 (Insurance Company of America 1935:2). While no evidence of this house was identified during shovel testing the ground-penetrating radar survey conducted at the site of this building identified a potential anomaly in its mapped location that suggests evidence of this building survives archeologically. A modern play house was also recently placed near these outbuildings (Photograph 6.19), serving as a replacement for the small play house that was located on the property during the Beaman period of occupation.

The third group of buildings and building sites center around the Barn. As with the Dance Hall, this building has been the subject of a historic structure report and will not be described in great detail here (Fix 2016) (Photograph 6.20). The Barn is missing a few of its later additions including a timber-frame cow barn that once extended to the south and an addition to the east that formerly connected the barn to a stone and earth ramp (Photograph 6.21). A barnyard was also formed by the frame addition and at least three other no-longer-extant farm buildings that are visible in a historic view of the farm (see above, Photograph 3.5). These buildings likely included the pig pen, stable and possibly the carpenter shop that were said to have been moved to the north in 1899. While no shovel tests were excavated in this immediate area the entire barnyard area south of the standing barn is likely to retain archeological traces of this building complex.



Photograph 6.16. View north showing the Wood Shed (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-113].



Photograph 6.17. View northwest showing the Carriage House (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-112].



Photograph 6.18. View northwest showing the Blacksmith Shop or "Tool House" (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-110]



Photograph 6.19. View north showing the modern Play House (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-105].



Photograph 6.20. View north showing the Barn (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-95].



Photograph 6.21. View northeast showing the stone and earthen ramp at the eastern end of the Barn (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-99].

The Farmer's House was located north of the barn along with approximately six associated outbuildings (Photograph 6.22). The Farmer's House was similar in form to the Coachman's House and was a one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling with an earthen floored basement. A brief ground-penetrating-radar survey of this house site by Dr. William Griswold of the National Park Service identified subsurface disturbances that appeared to confirm its plotted location. The insurance report for the farm specifically mentions that this building had an interior toilet (Insurance Company of America 1935:6). This would suggest that this building and the Coachman's House, which was built around the same time, would not have had exterior privies. There was a small brick smokehouse just north of the Farmer's House, as well as the Paint Shop (an art studio for Hettie Beaman), which was formerly a laundry building (Insurance Company of America 1935:4), a wood shed and a corn barn. Another corn barn was located further to the east along with a small dog house.

As mentioned earlier a set of farm lanes and drive-ways connected all the main buildings of the farm. The driveway entrance was flanked by two mortared-stone gate posts opposite the Blow-Me-Down Mill (see above, Photograph 6.6). These were designed by a landscape architect and installed in 1898. The now-abandoned drive then climbed uphill to the west and then turned north towards the former site of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage and the Casino. Parts of this driveway, particularly to and from the barn area, were lined with hemlock shrubs that have since grown into mature trees (Photograph 6.23). Another driveway leaves the farmstead heading north before turning east to meet Route 12A. This northern route is now used as the primary access road into the property. Another set of historic features to note are the seven fire hydrants located throughout the entire Blow-Me-Down Farmstead area (see above, Photograph 6.22). This system was installed in the late 1920s after the main house was lost to fire. It was supplied

by a reservoir on the hillside to the southeast of the Blow-Me-Down Farm property. Its installation must have required the excavation of several trenches to a significant depth.

The Blow-Me-Down Cottage Site lies at the southwestern corner of the Blow-Me-Down Farmstead Area (Photograph 6.24). No surface evidence of this 35-room mansion remains, except for several hummocks of soil. A lane that is visible in a few historic photographs of the cottage still runs north-south along the eastern edge of this site, providing a more definitive location for the house, which is not accurately plotted on any of the maps so far identified. This "cottage" was built in 1883-84 and incorporated the foundation of the Pike House, which was built in 1869 and burned down in 1875 (Dryfhout 2000:66). Some sources state that at this time the original 18th-century Moses Chase House was being used as a barn on the property and was later used as part of the Casino (Dryfhout 2000:65). This somewhat unclear developmental history of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage Site is likely to complicate an understanding of its archeology.

Finally, the location of the building sites discussed above largely relies on the map from the insurance report prepared for the farm in 1935. A detailed plan of the farm dating any earlier than this has not been identified. However, there is a fine view looking down on the farm from a hill to the southeast, thought to date to the 1890s, that shows several large, high gabled roofs to the east of the Casino that do not match the shed-roofed structures that stand there today (see above, Photograph 3.5). This photograph would have been taken prior to the construction of the Coachman's House in this area in 1896. The angle of the view makes plotting these structures impossible as they largely obscure one another. It is very possible, for instance, that the Blacksmith Shop/Tool Shed building is not, as has been noted, in its original location and that another building stood in this location





Photograph 6.22. View southeast showing the site of the Farmer's House and associated outbuildings. The Barn is visible in the background and a hydrant is visible in the foreground (photographer: James Lee, October 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D1-007].



Photograph 6.23. View northwest showing the mature hemlocks that were planted as ornamental shrubs along the driveway (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-88].



Photograph 6.24. View southeast showing the site of the Blow-Me-Down cottage (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-77].

that functioned as a blacksmith shop. The largest of these buildings may be the gymnasium (for which no known plan or other image exists), which was built in the orchard in 1888.

This area was subject to more testing than any other area because of the intensity of historic activity in and around the core of Blow-Me-Down Farm. A total of 33 shovel tests (Shovel Tests 21, 22, 25, 26, 29-35, 38-48, 51-56 and 59-62) were excavated in this area (Figure 6.2). While loosely arranged on a 30-meter grid, tests were concentrated around standing structures and the sites of former buildings in order to sample archeological deposits and potentially identify more precisely the locations of buildings. Shovel tests across this area identified a dark silty loam or loam topsoil to a depth of between 22 and 49 centimeters. In some tests (Shovel Tests 29, 33, 53, 56 and 59) this was underlain by a gravel or gravely loam context interpreted as fill. These tests, while distributed across this area, seem to be located in proximity to standing buildings or building sites and may be related to no-longer-extant walks or driveways. In most of the tests the second layer of soil was a loamy silt B horizon, which extended to between 80 and 100 centimeters below the ground surface where a fine sand context was identified. In Shovel Test 44 this profile appears to have been disturbed by a nearby, underground storm sewer line that runs east-west into the Upper Terrace Area. This disturbance is evident as three layers of fill, including a coarse sand and gravel context at between 50 and 60 centimeters beneath the ground surface.

Another group of tests with non-standard profiles were those excavated in and around the Blow-Me-Down Cottage site (Shovel Tests 55, 59, 60 and 61). A third context (containing rocks) was observed in the soil sequence in Shovel Test 55. This was a gravel overlying a compacted silty clay that was also identified in Shovel Test 59. Mottled loams were observed underlying the topsoil in Shovel Tests 60 and 61.

These variations suggest that more significant ground disturbing activities occurred in this location. Of particular note is the stone impasse reached at a depth of 71 centimeters beneath the ground surface in Shovel Test 61. Impasses were an extremely rare occurrence in the shovel testing at Blow-Me-Down Farm; there was only one other instance and this was attributed to disturbance related to the adjacent highway. Given its location it is possible that the rubbly impasse in Shovel Test 61 represents the rubble-filled foundation of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage. The increased frequency of artifacts from the tests in this area also argues for the proximity of this dwelling. Of the 75 artifacts recovered from this area 33 were recovered from the tests in this area, with Shovel Test 55 yielding 15 artifacts including a sherd of redware and whiteware and three sherds of pearlware (Table 6.1). Shovel Tests 59 and 60 also yielded redware and plain and blue transfer-printed whiteware sherds. Although not a large sample size, the presence of pearlware sherds at this location (and also the recovery of a wrought iron nail from Shovel Test 60) does support the historical narrative of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage being built on the site of and incorporating elements of the earlier farmhouse. In addition to these ceramics, window glass (1), bottle glass (2), mammal bone fragments (4), cut nails (8) and brick and mortar fragment were also identified in this area (Table 6.1).

Shovel tests around the Casino (Shovel Tests 32, 33, 39 and 44) were slightly more productive with a combined 18 artifacts, but these items were exclusively building materials such as window glass (3), cut nails (2), wire nails (7) and brick and mortar fragments (Table 6.1). Elsewhere within the Blow-Me-Down Farmstead Area artifact distribution was more diffuse. Overall a total of 75 artifacts were recovered from this area: 40 of these were building materials such as nails, brick and mortar fragments; 20 were ceramic sherds; 10 were glass fragments; and 4 were mammal bone fragments. Diagnostic artifacts from this assemblage include the pearlware sherd (manu-

factured from 1780 to 1830), a blue transfer-printed whiteware sherd (largely manufactured from roughly 1820 to 1860), and the wrought iron nail (which were largely replaced by machine cut nails between 1820 and 1840). These artifacts all date to the pre-Beaman period and do not appear to be obviously related to any of the currently standing buildings.

## 5. Chauncey Cottage Area

This area is situated along the eastern edge of the project site above Route 12A and includes the immediate surroundings of the cottage and its garage as well as its front yard (Photograph 6.25). The area measures 55 meters to the hemlock-lined driveway to the west and south, 55 meters to the barn to the north, and sits at an elevation of approximately 320 feet asl (Photograph 6.26). Built in 1890, Chauncey Cottage, which is located in the southeast corner of this area, is a frame one-and-a-half-story, two-bay, wood-shingle-sided dwelling with a gambrel metal roof, brick chimney and a shed addition on its northern side. A small, covered porch covers the front door of the house, which is located in its western façade. A second door is located on the western side of the shed addition. In addition to the cottage, a small, one-bay frame garage with similar wood-shingle siding is located just to its north. A driveway runs from the Blow-Me-Down Farmstead Area to the southeast in front of the cottage before turning west and running back to the farm's main driveway. A fire hydrant is located northwest of the cottage in the yard.

Four shovel tests were excavated in this area (Shovel Tests 63-66) at roughly 30-meter intervals, two within the yard and two near the cottage. The soil stratigraphy observed in the shovel tests excavated in this area consisted of a silty loam A horizon to a depth of between 7 and 18 centimeters. An underlying B1 horizon varied from sandy silt to loam silt to depths between 25 and 50 centimeters. A silty sand B2 hori-

zon was identified at the bottom of these tests extending to greater than 120 centimeters below the ground surface. Despite the presence of a standing domestic structure in this area no artifacts were identified in any of these shovel tests. This may be attributable to two different causes. The first is that the cottage was built as a holiday retreat and not as a year-round dwelling. As such it would not have seen the intensity of use that a permanently occupied family home would see. Elihu Chauncey, for whom the cottage was built, and his family may have had most of their meals with their hosts, the Beamans, elsewhere on the farm. The other factor is the maintenance of the lawn around the house. As a vacation home in a heavily landscaped property, they may have tried not to dispose of trash in visible locations. A thorough search of the bank behind the cottage may lead to the identification of an over-the-bank midden. It is also possible that additional testing could identify a deposit missed by the limited testing conducted in this area.

## 6. Promontory Area

This area is located south of the Upper Terrace and Blow-Me-Down Farmstead areas and consists of a 95-meter-long and 5-meter-wide undulating, open grassy field (Figure 6.2; Photograph 6.27). This location looks out over Blow-Me-Down Brook to the southeast and its confluence with the Connecticut River to the southwest. A small hill appears to have been built up at the northern end of this area with two large stones and a tree placed at the top of it. At its southern end a farm lane runs down the ridge between the Lower Terrace Area and the lower section of Blow-Me-Down Brook providing access to the southern end of the field on the lower terrace (Photograph 6.28).

Nine shovel tests (Shovel Tests 67-75), placed in a staggered 30-meter interval, were excavated within this area. The soil stratigraphy of this promontory



Photograph 6.25. View facing southeast showing the Chauncey Cottage and garage (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-091].



Photograph 6.26. View facing south showing the former driveway lined with overgrown hemlocks. The Chauncey Cottage area is located to the left of the view (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-086].



Photograph 6.27. View north showing the Promontory area (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-046].





Photograph 6.28. View south showing the lane the leads south downhill from the Promontory to the Lower Terrace (photographer: James Lee, November 2016) [HRI Neg.#16048/D2-042].

generally consisted of an 8-23 centimeter-thick loam that was interpreted as a fill level. This overlay the silty loam A horizon identified in other areas of Blow-Me-Down Farm, which in turn overlay a loamy silt B1 horizon at between 37 and 58 centimeters below the ground surface and a silty sand B2 horizon to depths exceeding 162 centimeters. The southernmost test in this area, Shovel Test 75, located at the narrowest point of this promontory, was the only one to yield artifacts (Table 6.1). A sherd each of lead-glazed redware and creamware, which dates from the 18th century into the 19th century, were recovered from the first context of this test. With only two artifacts, it is difficult to speculate as to their origin. They are most likely field trash and their early date of manufacture suggests that might relate to the pre-Beaman occupation of the property.

It was considered likely that excavations in this area had the highest potential of yielding evidence of pre-historic occupation. It is located on an elevated bluff, with a southern exposure, and looks down towards a confluence of a small, year-round stream and the Connecticut River. The soils are well-drained and it is high enough to be out of the floodplain. It is possible that the testing interval was too large and may have simply skipped over a smaller Native American campsite. While there are several factors that recommend it as a suitable location for Native American occupation, there are other reasons that suggest otherwise. This area lies within the shadow of the hills to the east and south for much of the day and is set high above, by 30 to 40 feet, the surrounding water sources. There is also a lack of stone sources for tool making in the immediate area, with the nearby bedrock outcrops consisting of a slatey shale. While it is still considered likely that Native American campsites exist in or near Blow-Me-Down Farm, they may be limited to small, short-term sites that leave only ephemeral traces in the archeological record.

## Chapter 7

### KNOWN AND POTENTIAL ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

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#### A. PRE-CONTACT ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No previously identified pre-Contact archeological sites have been identified within the Blow-Me-Down Farm property. The targeted subsurface testing program conducted as part of this archeological overview and assessment did not identify any pre-Contact artifacts in the 75 shovel tests that were excavated. The absence of such materials on this property was somewhat unexpected. Archeological assessments of the property's potential to yield pre-Contact resources have considered some parts of Blow-Me-Down Farm to have a high or moderate archeological sensitivity, notably on the high promontory at the southern end of the property that overlooks the confluence of Blow-Me-Down Brook and the Connecticut River. It is possible that the later 18th- through 20th-century building programs and land use detailed in this report disturbed the pre-Contact deposits, however, even in these cases one would expect to find pre-Contact artifacts intermingled with more recent cultural materials. It is also possible that the 30-meter testing interval used to investigate most of the property, including the upper and lower terraces, is too large to pinpoint the types of Native American sites that might be expected. Small transient camp sites or task-specific sites could easily be less than 30 meters across in their horizontal dimension.

#### B. HISTORIC ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section of this chapter summarizes and evaluates the historic archeological resources identified during this archeological overview and assessment and

is organized by ASMIS number. The location and recommended limits of each of these subsites is illustrated in Figure 7.1 and Table 7.1. All of the resources discussed are considered subsites of the Blow-Me-Down Farm Site (SAGA00021.000), which is part of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site.

#### *Casino (SAGA00021.001)*

The Casino is a two-and-a-half-story frame building with a large two-and-a-half story addition to its rear that was built in 1887 as a recreation hall and renovated and turned into a dwelling in 1927. This subsite includes several adjacent landscape features such as a flagpole placed within the center of a millstone to the south, a sidewalk curb composed of three millstones standing on end to the north, and a dry-laid stone wall to the west. Six shovel tests excavated in the immediate vicinity of this subsite identified buildings materials and some evidence of disturbance cause by the 20th-century installation of a storm water drain.

This subsite was evaluated in 2015 and determined to be in good condition. No deterioration of this subsite as an archeological resource since 2015 has been observed and its **Condition** is still considered *Good*. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered *Medium* based on its anticipated ability to contribute to the history of the Beaman period at Blow-Me-Down Farm.

Table 7.1. Blow-Me-Down Farm Archeological Overview and Assessment: ASMIS Subsites.

ASMIS#	Resource Name	Elements	Previous Condition	Condition	Depositional Integrity	Data Potential
SAGA00021.001	Casino	Casino Building, Millstone Curb, Millstone and Flagpole, and Dry-Laid Stone Wall	Good	Good	Not Assessed	Good
SAGA00021.002	Dance Hall Building	One-story frame hall	Good	Good	Not Assessed	Modest
SAGA00021.003	Pool Site	Pool, no-longer-extant	Good	Good	Not Assessed	None
SAGA00021.004	Barn	Building, Stone Ramp, Outbuilding Sites	Good	Good	Not Assessed	High
SAGA00021.005	Blacksmith Shop (Tool House)	Outbuilding, Site of Two No-Longer-Extant Poultry Houses	Good	Good	Not Assessed	High
SAGA00021.006	Carriage House	Outbuilding	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	Modest
SAGA00021.007	Wood Shed	Outbuilding	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	Low
SAGA00021.008	Coachman's House Site	Site of No-Longer-Extant Dwelling	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	High
SAGA00021.009	Farmer's House Site	Site No-Longer-Extant Dwelling, Ash House, Ice House, Paint Shop, Wood Shed, Dog House, and 2 Corn Barns	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	High
SAGA00021.010	Chauncey Cottage	Dwelling	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	Medium
SAGA00021.011	Lewis Garage	Outbuilding	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	None
SAGA00021.012	Blow-Me-Down Cottage Site	No-Longer-Extant Dwelling Site	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	High
SAGA00021.013	Gate Posts	Mortared-Stone Pillars	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	Low
SAGA00021.014	Hydrant System	7 Hydrants Connected to Water System	Not Assessed	Good	Not Assessed	Moderate



Figure 7.1 Aerial photograph of Blow-Me-Down Farm showing ASMIS subsites.

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***Dance Hall (SAGA00021.002)***

This one-story frame building was originally constructed as an ell addition to the Casino in 1887. When the Casino was converted to a dwelling in 1927 this addition was moved to its current location, renovated and made into a Dance Hall. It does not have a true foundation and currently rests on piers. The single shovel test excavated just north of this building did not identify significant archeological deposits.

This subsite was evaluated in 2015 and determined to be in good condition. No deterioration of this subsite as an archeological resource since 2015 has been observed and its **Condition** is still considered **Good**. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **Modest** based on its limited ability to contribute to the history of the Beaman period at Blow-Me-Down Farm.

***BMD Pool Site (SAGA00021.003)***

This subsite consists of the location of a modern in-ground swimming pool, which was built in the 1970s and removed before the National Park Service purchased the property in 2010. No subsurface testing was conducted at this location during the current investigation. This subsite was evaluated in 2015 and determined to be in good condition. No deterioration of this subsite as an archeological resource since 2015 has been observed and its **Condition** is still considered **Good**. Given the minimal extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **None** based on its modern date of construction and removal.

***Barn (SAGA00021.004)***

The main block of the Barn, which is all that survives above ground, was built in 1884. Several additions formerly existed to the east and south of the currently standing structure. The principal addition was a one-story frame cow barn that extended to the south. A few other buildings were located within the barnyard formed by the main block and the cow barn, including a pig pen, small barn or stable and possibly a carpenter's shop. The single shovel test excavated in this area did not yield significant archeological data.

This subsite was evaluated in 2015 and determined to be in good condition. No deterioration of this subsite as an archeological since 2015 has been observed and its **Condition** is still considered **Good**. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **High** based on its anticipated ability to contribute to the history of the Beaman period at Blow-Me-Down Farm. Archeological data at this subsite may help to clarify the developmental history of the farm's outbuildings and the many episodes of rearrangement of the farmstead by the Beamans.

***Blacksmith Shop (SAGA00021.005)***

This one-story frame outbuilding with a shed roof appears to be a poultry house, not a blacksmith shop. As stated in Chapter 6, the building has three chicken chute openings, vents and large windows but no chimney or opening for a chimney pipe. The Beamans built a poultry house in 1884 and it is possible that this is that building, relocated on the former site of the Blacksmith Shop. It is also identified as a Tool House on the insurance plan from 1835. A single shovel test was excavated adjacent to this building, which did not yield significant archeological data. The insurance plan also located two other no-longer-standing

poultry house buildings to the east of the Blacksmith Shop. A single shovel test excavated in this latter area (Shovel Test 31) found sherds of redware, whiteware, window glass and nails. The three ceramic sherds may represent the dispersal of domestic waste around the farmyard, a phenomenon for which there has been little evidence at Blow-Me-Down Farm. The building-related artifacts could relate to the maintenance or removal of these buildings.

This subsite was evaluated in 2015 and determined to be in good condition, although at the time it was not delineated to include the sites of two poultry house. No deterioration of this subsite as an archeological resource since 2015 has been observed and its **Condition** is still considered **Good**. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **High** based on its anticipated ability to contribute to the history of the Beaman period at Blow-Me-Down Farm, particularly with regard to clarifying the location of blacksmithing activities on the site.

#### ***Carriage House (SAGA00021.006)***

The Beamans built a carriage house in 1884, reputedly nearer to the Barn, and in 1899 this building was moved to the north, possibly to its current location. This one-story shed-roofed outbuilding has four bays with swing-out doors. A shovel test excavated next to its eastern end yielded a machine cut nail and brick fragment and another test excavated to the southwest yielded four sherds of redware and another machine-cut nail. Artifacts of this type are fairly commonly found on historic sites.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human actions that are

likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing around the Carriage House it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **Modest** based on its anticipated ability to contribute to the history of the Beaman period at Blow-Me-Down Farm. This building has apparently been moved at least once and the archeology associated with it would be limited to the later Beaman period.

#### ***Wood Shed (SAGA00021.007)***

The Wood Shed is a one-story, two-sided shed with three bays open at either end. This building is built on piers. A wood shed was built by the Beamans in 1888 and no reference has been found to this building ever having been moved. A single shovel test excavated to the northwest of this structure produced no significant archeological data.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human actions planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing around the Wood Shed is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **Low**. Although it was built by the Beamans and still apparently in its original location, activities associated with storing and curing wood are considered unlikely to leave a significant archeological expression.

#### ***Coachman's House Site (SAGA00021.008)***

This subsite is the site of a no-longer-standing building built by the Beamans in 1896 and identified through background research. Its location is plotted on the insurance plan of the property from 1935 and it is



visible in this location in several historic photographs. Ground-penetrating-radar conducted in connection with the current investigation confirmed the presence of subsurface anomalies that may relate to the building's foundations. Two shovel tests excavated at this location yielded only a single wrought nail.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human actions planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **High**. The subsurface condition of this house site is unknown but there is the potential to uncover structural details about the building and domestic material that may reveal information about its occupants.

#### ***Farmer's House Site (SAGA00021.009)***

This no-longer-extant house was built by the Beamans in 1896. It was identified through background research and is plotted on at least one historic plan of the property. It is also visible in several historic photographs. The site of this building was subjected to limited ground-penetrating-radar survey, which identified subsurface anomalies possibly consistent with a buried house foundation. Several shovel tests were excavated in this area, yielding a single sherd each of redware and whiteware, a fragment of window glass and a machine cut nail. The only stratigraphic anomaly in this area was a context of gravel identified in Shovel Test 53. In addition to the house site, this subsite also includes seven other building sites that have not been located or investigated archeologically. An Ice House, Ash House (smokehouse), Paint Shop (artist's studio), Wood Shed, Dog House and two Corn Barns were also located in the vicinity of this building.

The extent of disturbance caused by the installation of a fire hydrant system in this area and by the demolition of the Farmer's House is unclear.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human actions planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **High**. The condition of the subsurface remains of this house site and the seven outbuildings is unknown, but there is the potential to uncover structural details about these buildings, while domestic material may reveal information about its occupants.

#### ***Chauncey Cottage (SAGA00021.010)***

This one-and-a-half story house was built by the Beamans in 1897. It appears to have had a shed-roof addition added to its northern side during the 20th century. Four shovel tests were excavated around this building but these yielded no significant archeological data. A Phase IB archeological survey was conducted within this subsite when a new well was drilled in 2012 (Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc. 2012). This survey recovered a number of artifacts and provided some detail regarding the house's construction.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human actions planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **Medium**. While the domestic material associated with this subsite may reveal information about its occupants it was only occupied intermittently during the later period of the Beaman ownership.

***Lewis Garage (SAGA00021.011)***

This single-story frame garage building was built on a concrete foundation sometime between 1935 and 1950 and served the occupants of Chauncey Cottage. Shovel tests excavated near the Chauncey Cottage yielded no significant archeological data.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human activities planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **None**. This relatively modern building has very little potential to yield information about the history of the property.

***Blow-Me-Down Cottage (SAGA00021.012)***

The site of the Blow-Me-Down Cottage is at the core of the Blow-Me-Down Farm property. The cottage supposedly consisted of three older houses linked together and occupied the site of the house constructed by Chester Pike in 1869. Construction began in August 1883 and the Beaman family took up residence in 1884. Over the next few decades this cottage was expanded further into a 35-room mansion. While several historic photographs show the Blow-Me-Down Cottage from different angles no plan has been located that accurately plots the footprint of this building. Shovel Tests excavated in and around this site recovered a slightly greater frequency of artifacts and encountered a rocky impasse that is interpreted as rubble remaining from its demolition.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human activities planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the lim-

ited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **High**. This subsite not only lies within the core area of the Beaman occupation, but it is thought likely that earlier 19th- and possibly even 18th-century houses stood in this part of the site. Some archeological evidence of this earlier occupation is anticipated to remain beneath and amongst the post-1884 deposits.

***BMD Farm Gate Posts (SAGA00021.013)***

This pair of mortared stone gate posts is situated at the entrance to the no-longer-used Blow-Me-Down Farm driveway on New Hampshire Route 12A, opposite the Blow-Me-Down Mill. They were designed by a landscape architect and erected in 1898.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered **Good** as there are currently no natural forces at work or human activities planned that are likely to negatively affect it. Given the limited extent of archeological testing it is not possible to assess the **Depositional Integrity** of this resource. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered **Low**. Minimal archeological data are anticipated around landscape features of this type.

***BMD Farm Hydrant System (SAGA00021.014)***

This fire protection system, installed during the early 20th century, consists of seven frost-free hydrant plugs that are fed by a no-longer-extant offsite reservoir to the southeast. The hydrants are connected underground by a series of water pipes. The approximate location of the hydrants and water lines are indicated on Figure 5.1.

This subsite has not been previously evaluated. Its **Condition** is considered *Good* as there are currently no natural forces at work or human activities planned that are likely to negatively affect it. No archeological testing was targeted at this fire protection system and the **Depositional Integrity** of this subsite is not assessed. The **Data Potential** of this subsite's archeology is considered *Moderate*. Few archeological deposits or features of interest are anticipated in association with this subsite.

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## Chapter 8

### RECOMMENDATIONS

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This archeological overview and assessment has identified several components, or subsites, within the Blow-Me-Down Farm property with archeological potential. Although no pre-Contact archeological deposits were identified during this investigation it is still considered likely that such deposits may exist within the property, particularly given the report of the recovery of “arrowheads” from the property by a former owner. Their absence to date shapes some of the recommendations provided below. The archeological deposits and features that have been identified principally relate to the occupation of Charles Beaman and his descendants, although some evidence of earlier occupation was uncovered, notably in the form of late 18th- and early 19th-century ceramic types. The pre-Beaman site history has been well documented through background research, but little evidence of this period has so far been found on the ground within the farm property. The Beaman family activities on the site are also well documented in the historical record, although several questions remain, particularly regarding the configuration and arrangement of the farm and how that changed over time. This topic is important not only with reference to farming activities onsite but also because of the disturbance caused when new buildings were erected and old ones were demolished or moved. The archeology of the post-Beaman period also revolves mostly around understanding site disturbances and compensating for these when examining the earlier archeology. The demolition of so many buildings in the mid-20th century has obviously had a reductive effect on archeological traces of earlier periods of occupation.

Preservation in place is generally the preferred option, particularly on a property like Blow-Me-Down Farm where many of the archeological sites have seen little

or no deterioration over the last seven years since the property was purchased by the National Park Service. However, improvements are planned and in many cases the deterioration of the above-ground resources may be corrected in such a manner that requires disturbance of below-ground archeology. In instances where proposed site improvements have the potential to affect archeological resources identified by this investigation archeological survey work is recommended well in advance of construction in order to allow for consultation, potential project redesign, or mitigation. Any such investigations should be carried out in consultation with a National Park Service archeologist and in consultation with the New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources. Surveys should be preceded by preparation of a research design and implementation of a work plan by a qualified archeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s professional standards for archeology as set forth in 36 CFR Part 61.

In the case of Blow-Me-Down Farm archeological research is also recommended as an accompaniment to future site planning and in anticipation of yet-to-be-planned improvements. The following is a list of potential research questions that the archeology of the Blow-Me-Down Farm property may be able to address. These may change over time as new information is gathered and are not intended to be all-inclusive.

What is the evidence for the pre-Contact-period occupation of the property? The artifacts reported to have been recovered by the former property owner Donald MacLeay should be sought out and documented along with the location of their discovery. If no further evidence is identified, what factors either precluded peo-

ple from visiting/using the property during this period or have removed any evidence of pre-Contact occupation? Could natural alluvial processes be concealing these deposits or is their apparent absence a function of the archeological sampling methods used to date?

Where within the property were the late 18th- and early 19th-century dwellings and outbuildings? The later Beaman and post-Beaman occupation has certainly disturbed earlier archeological resources but are there earlier elements left amongst the presently standing buildings?

Where are the non-building-related archeological deposits associated with the Beaman occupation of the Blow-Me-Down Farm? While a number of standing structures and building sites have been identified on the property, very little domestic material, for example as might be found in trash middens, has been identified. Does the general absence of domestic material relate to a change in attitudes towards trash disposal, an effort to create a more idyllic farmstead, or, again, could this be the result of archeological sampling biases?

How did Charles Beaman, Hettie Beaman and William Beaman modify the natural and earlier cultural landscape of Blow-Me-Down Farm from 1884 to 1950?

How does Blow-Me-Down Farm compare with other large farms in the region? How might the Beaman's quest to make Blow-Me-Down Farm more appealing and idealized for themselves and visitors have affected its function?

Where are the buildings identified during background research for which there is no well-mapped location, such as the pigpen, carpenter's shop, gymnasium and blacksmith shop?

In an effort to address these questions the following types of investigations are recommended in order help plan future improvements:

A geomorphological investigation could be useful in identifying those portions of the property with stable pre-Contact landforms and a higher Native American archeological potential and in characterizing natural processes that may have obscured or destroyed such landforms. This type of study could be coupled with limited archeological testing. Geomorphological investigation might make use of deep, mechanically excavated test trenches on the lower and upper terraces and the promontory. Mechanical testing is not recommended within the core of the Blow-Me-Down Farm or around Chauncey Cottage.

The core of the Blow-Me-Down Farm where the various buildings are, and have previously been, concentrated, is a good candidate for a comprehensive ground-penetrating-radar survey. The open, grassy condition of much of this area would permit the efficient surveying of this type. Such a survey may be able to identify building footprints, historic and modern disturbances, historic and modern underground utilities and natural soil anomalies. This type of information would assist in piecing together the history of the farm, picking targets for additional archeological investigation and in planning future improvements.

Additional archeological investigation is capable of yielding important information of national interest. However, archeology should not be done for its own sake and should, for the most part, not be conducted unless improvements are planned that require ground disturbance. As far as investigations in support of planning, additional comprehensive shovel testing of the Blow-Me-Down Farm property is not recommended. Instead, targeted testing that addresses pertinent research questions regarding the farm's history

is preferred, making use of the results of a geomorphological study, ground-penetrating radar survey, or the discovery of hitherto unseen historical documents.

Regarding ASMIS subsites within the Blow-Me-Down Farm site, all previously identified subsites were considered in good condition in 2015 and this report, based on fieldwork conducted in November 2016, does not recommend any changes to these assessments. It is important to monitor the condition of archeological resources and it is recommended that further inspections of the Blow-Me-Down Farm site take place at a minimum every five years.

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## Chapter 9

### UPDATES TO THE SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ARCHEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW AND ASSESSMENT

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The Archeological Overview and Assessment (AOA) for the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site was completed by the University of Massachusetts Amherst in July 2006. Since that time two minor archeological studies have been conducted at the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. These studies are summarized in this chapter as an update to the original AOA.

In October 2010, William Griswold, an archeologist with the National Park Service's Northeast Regional Archeology Program, conducted a geophysical investigation of the site of the Studio of the Caryatids located just west of the Atrium and New Gallery at the Saint-Gaudens National Historic site as part of a New Hampshire Archaeology Month event. The investigations were intended to be both a public education effort and a supplement to the archeological investigations conducted at the site by John Milner Associates, Inc. in 1991. The results of the investigation, which included ground-penetrating radar (GPR), resistivity and gradiometric surveys, are detailed in a report issued by the National Park Service (Griswold 2011). The GPR survey identified several walls of the former building that appeared intact under approximately a meter of fill, along with the limits of fill or debris, likely related to the fire that destroyed the building in June 1944. The resistivity survey identified a feature of uncertain origin northwest of the studio as well as the limits of the foundation construction trenches of the studio (and perhaps also of its predecessor). The gradiometric survey identified ferrous metal objects and the approximate location of the building's brick foundations. These results are summarized in Figure 12 of the report (Figure 9.1).

The second investigation was conducted in connection with the emplacement of a full-scale cast of the Augustus Saint-Gaudens sculpture entitled *Abraham Lincoln: The Man* (also known as the "Standing Lincoln"). A significant foundation needed to be built to support the sculpture and, prior to its construction, test pits were excavated under the supervision of National Park Service staff. The area was found to have been previously disturbed by modern utility trenching. Following Section 106 consultation with the New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources, construction was permitted and proceeded without further archeological oversight (James Kendall, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Superintendent, personal communication, April 2017).

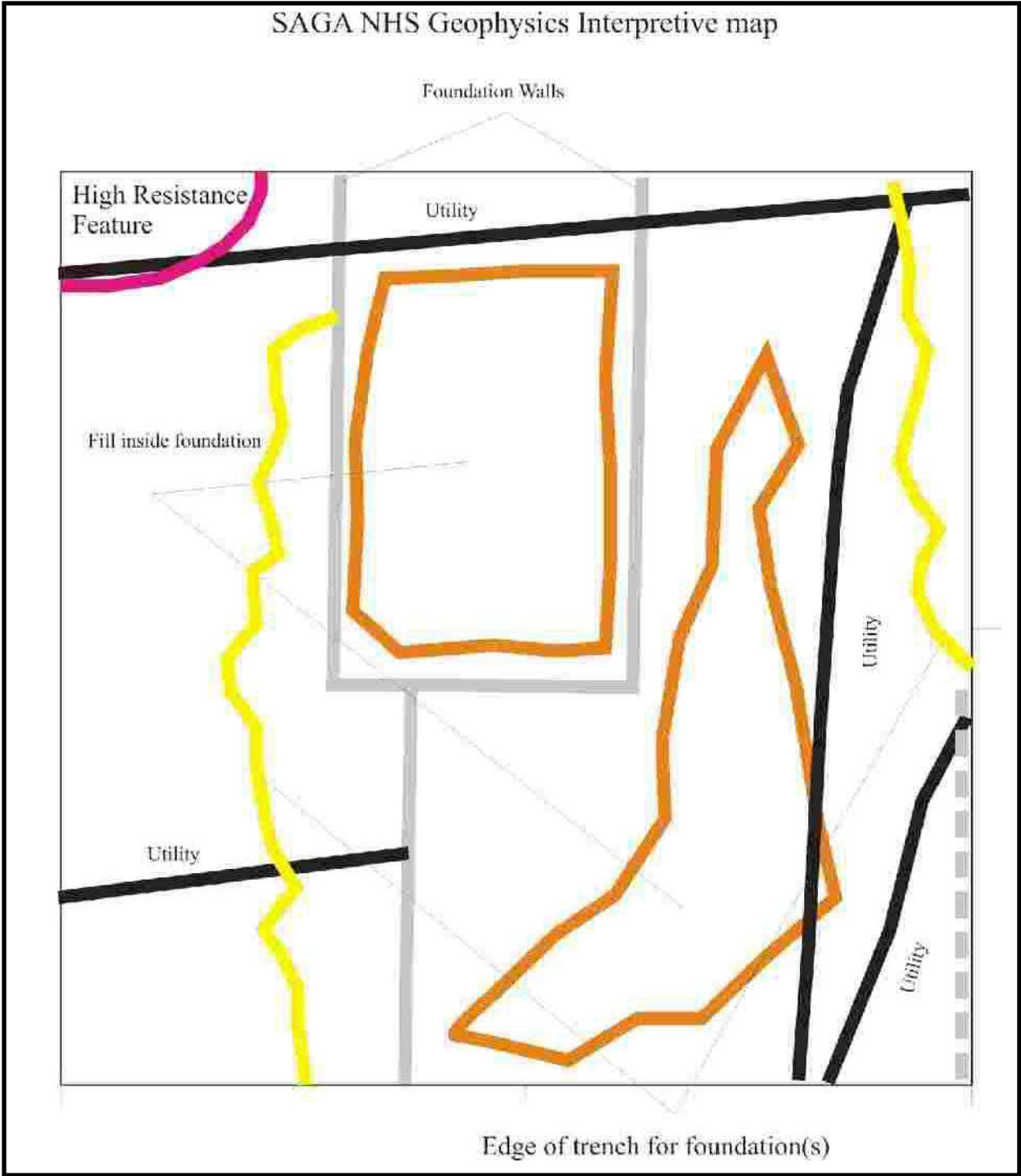


Figure 9.1. Interpretive Map from the Geophysical Investigations at the Studio of the Caryatids Site. Source: Griswold 2012.

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**Appendix A**

**SHOVEL TEST COORDINATES**

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**Appendix A**  
**Shovel Test Coordinates**

Shovel Test	UTM
1	18T 711799 4819669 UTM
2	18T 711847 4819626 UTM
3	18T 711893 4819583 UTM
4	18T 711767 4819368 UTM
5	18T 711827 4819370 UTM
6	18T 711769 4819307 UTM
7	18T 711830 4819310 UTM
8	18T 711889 4819312 UTM
9	18T 711832 4819250 UTM
10	18T 711892 4819253 UTM
11	18T 711952 4819254 UTM
12	18T 711834 4819190 UTM
13	18T 711894 4819192 UTM
14	18T 711954 4819195 UTM
15	18T 712073 4819229 UTM
16	18T 712045 4819168 UTM
17	18T 711896 4819132 UTM
18	18T 711899 4819073 UTM
19	18T 711776 4819518 UTM
20	18T 711806 4819519 UTM
21	18T 711866 4819521 UTM
22	18T 711971 4819510 UTM
23	18T 711777 4819488 UTM
24	18T 711807 4819489 UTM
25	18T 711898 4819478 UTM
26	18T 712003 4819482 UTM
27	18T 711808 4819459 UTM
28	18T 711838 4819460 UTM
29	18T 711988 4819466 UTM
30	18T 712018 4819467 UTM
31	18T 712048 4819469 UTM
32	18T 711914 4819448 UTM
33	18T 711929 4819448 UTM
34	18T 711959 4819450 UTM
35	18T 712004 4819452 UTM
36	18T 711839 4819431 UTM
37	18T 711869 4819432 UTM
38	18T 711915 4819433 UTM
39	18T 711944 4819435 UTM
40	18T 711974 4819436 UTM
41	18T 712019 4819438 UTM
42	18T 712049 4819439 UTM
43	18T 711915 4819419 UTM

Shovel Test	UTM
44	18T 711930 4819419 UTM
45	18T 711960 4819421 UTM
46	18T 711990 4819422 UTM
47	18T 712035 4819423 UTM
48	18T 712065 4819425 UTM
49	18T 711871 4819402 UTM
50	18T 711901 4819402 UTM
51	18T 711976 4819406 UTM
52	18T 712021 4819407 UTM
53	18T 712050 4819409 UTM
54	18T 711962 4819391 UTM
55	18T 711991 4819391 UTM
56	18T 712111 4819396 UTM
57	18T 711902 4819373 UTM
58	18T 711932 4819374 UTM
59	18T 711977 4819376 UTM
60	18T 711962 4819360 UTM
61	18T 711992 4819362 UTM
62	18T 711978 4819346 UTM
63	18T 712068 4819350 UTM
64	18T 712114 4819336 UTM
65	18T 712069 4819319 UTM
66	18T 712099 4819321 UTM
67	18T 711995 4819302 UTM
68	18T 712025 4819303 UTM
69	18T 712011 4819287 UTM
70	18T 711996 4819271 UTM
71	18T 712027 4819273 UTM
72	18T 712011 4819257 UTM
73	18T 711998 4819242 UTM
74	18T 712027 4819243 UTM
75	18T 712013 4819227 UTM

**Appendix B**

**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

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**APPENDIX A**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	1	1	0 - 32cm	silty sand loam with gravel	5Y 3/2	--
		2	32 - cm	impasse with bedrock	--	--
Shovel Test	2	1	0 - 10cm	silty sand loam	5Y 3/2	--
		2	10 - 44cm	silty clay	5GY 5/1	--
Shovel Test	3	1	0 - 15cm	silty sand loam	5Y 3/2	--
		2	15 - 70cm	silty clay	5GY 5/1	--
		3	70 - cm	impasse with bedrock	--	--
Shovel Test	4	1	0 - 15cm	silty loam with slate debris	10YR 5/2	--
		2	15 - 30cm	loamy silt with slate debris	10YR 6/3	--
		3	30 - 170cm	sandy silt	10YR 5/3	--
		4	170 - 195cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	5	1	0 - 14cm	silty loam with slate debris	10YR 5/2	--
		2	14 - 160cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	160 - 185cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	6	1	0 - 17cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	17 - 165cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	165 - 180cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/3	--
		4	180 - 190cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	7	1	0 - 22cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	22 - 150cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	150 - 185cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	8	1	0 - 18cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	18 - 155cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	155 - 180cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	9	1	0 - 22cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	22 - 165cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	165 - 180cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	10	1	0 - 20cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	20 - 29cm	silt	10YR 6/2	--
		3	29 - 160cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	160 - 175cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	11	1	0 - 22cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	22 - 135cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	135 - 170cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	12	1	0 - 12cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	12 - 22cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
		3	22 - 85cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	85 - 120cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	13	1	0 - 23cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	23 - 29cm	silty loam	10YR 6/2	--
		3	29 - 130cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	130 - 185cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	14	1	0 - 22cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	22 - 170cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	170 - 198cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	15	1	0 - 18cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	18 - 130cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	130 - 170cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	16	1	0 - 10cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	10 - 110cm	clayey silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	110 - 125cm	mottled sand with slate debris	10YR 6/3, 10YR 4/3	--
		4	125 - cm	impasse with bedrock	--	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	17	1	0 - 15cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	15 - 117cm	clayey silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	117 - 127cm	silty sand with slate debris	10YR 6/2	--
		4	127 - 200cm	mottled sand with slate debris	10YR 6/3, 10YR 4/3	--
Shovel Test	18	1	0 - 17cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	17 - 140cm	loamy silt with cobbles	10YR 4/3	--
		3	140 - 185cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	19	1	0 - 30cm	silty loam [ Ap horizon]	10YR 5/2	--
		2	30 - 72cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/2	--
		3	72 - 189cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	20	1	0 - 29cm	silty loam [ Ap horizon]	10YR 5/2	--
		2	29 - 110cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	110 - 145cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	21	1	0 - 22cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	22 - 58cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	58 - 90cm	silty sand	2.5Y 5/6	--
		4	90 - 110cm	silty sand	2.5Y 4/4	--
Shovel Test	22	1	0 - 25cm	silty loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	25 - 81cm	loamy silt	2.5Y 5/6	--
		3	81 - 110cm	silty sand	2.5Y 4/4	--
Shovel Test	23	1	0 - 24cm	silty loam [ Ap horizon]	10YR 5/2	--
		2	24 - 68cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	68 - 75cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	24	1	0 - 21cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	21 - 90cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	90 - 100cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	25	1	0 - 39cm	silty loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	39 - 82cm	loamy silt	2.5Y 5/6	--
		3	82 - 90cm	silty sand	2.5Y 4/4	--
Shovel Test	26	1	0 - 25cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	25 - 90cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	90 - 110cm	silty sand	10YR 6/4	--
Shovel Test	27	1	0 - 33cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	33 - 175cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	175 - 190cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	28	1	0 - 35cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	35 - 95cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	95 - 145cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/4	--
Shovel Test	29	1	0 - 9cm	silty loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	9 - 16cm	gravel [ driveway]	--	--
		3	16 - 55cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		4	55 - 85cm	loamy silt	10YR 3/4	--
		5	85 - 100cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	30	1	0 - 30cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	30 - 70cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	70 - 80cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	31	1	0 - 44cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	44 - 75cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	75 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	32	1	0 - 44cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	44 - 185cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	185 - 195cm	loamy silt	10YR 6/2	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	33	1	0 - 13cm	loam [ fill]	10YR 3/2	--
		2	13 - 18cm	gravel [ fill]	--	--
		3	18 - 22cm	silty loam [ fill]	10YR 5/2	--
		4	22 - 39cm	silty loam	10YR 3/4	--
		5	39 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	34	1	0 - 23cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	23 - 62cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	62 - 120cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	35	1	0 - 38cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	38 - 78cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/6	--
		3	78 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	36	1	0 - 26cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	26 - 80cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	80 - 87cm	silt	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	37	1	0 - 25cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	25 - 110cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	110 - 130cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/4	--
Shovel Test	38	1	0 - 42cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	42 - 112cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	112 - 150cm	loamy silt	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	39	1	0 - 25cm	silty loam [ fill]	10YR 5/2	--
		2	25 - 50cm	silty loam [ fill]	10YR 4/3	--
		3	50 - 190cm	silty sand	10YR 7/3	--
Shovel Test	40	1	0 - 32cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	32 - 70cm	loamy silt	10YR 3/4	--
		3	70 - 100cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	41	1	0 - 39cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	39 - 80cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	80 - 100cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	42	1	0 - 36cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	36 - 55cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	55 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	43	1	0 - 26cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	26 - 53cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	53 - 76cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	44	1	0 - 30cm	silty loam [ fill]	10YR 5/2	--
		2	30 - 50cm	silty loam [ fill]	10YR 4/4	--
		3	50 - 60cm	gravel [ fill]	--	--
		4	60 - 95cm	silty loam	10YR 4/3	--
		5	95 - 110cm	sand	10YR 7/3	--
Shovel Test	45	1	0 - 15cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	15 - 30cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/6	--
		3	30 - 70cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	46	1	0 - 31cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	31 - 72cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/6	--
		3	72 - 85cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	47	1	0 - 34cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	34 - 65cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	65 - 98cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	48	1	0 - 49cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	49 - 92cm	silty sand	2.5Y 5/4	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	49	1	0 - 26cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	26 - 105cm	loamy silt	10YR 3/4	--
		3	105 - 116cm	loamy silt	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	50	1	0 - 15cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	15 - 95cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	95 - 110cm	compact loamy silt	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	51	1	0 - 29cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	29 - 77cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	52	1	0 - 14cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	14 - 50cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	50 - 90cm	loamy silt	2.5Y 5/4	--
		4	90 - 110cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	53	1	0 - 17cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	17 - 26cm	gravel	--	--
		3	26 - 51cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		4	51 - 128cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		5	128 - 135cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	54	1	0 - 31cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	31 - 70cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	70 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	55	1	0 - 17cm	loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	17 - 70cm	silty loam	10YR 4/2	--
		3	70 - 79cm	loamy silt with rock	10YR 4/3	--
		4	79 - 121cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	56	1	0 - 10cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	10 - 39cm	sandy gravel	10YR 5/6	--
		3	39 - 75cm	silty loam	10YR 4/3	--
		4	75 - 99cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	57	1	0 - 21cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	21 - 130cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	130 - 165cm	fine silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	58	1	0 - 30cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	30 - 120cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	120 - 130cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	59	1	0 - 31cm	loam	10YR 4/3	--
		2	31 - 71cm	silty loam with gravel	10YR 5/4	--
		3	71 - 79cm	compact silty clay	2.5Y 7/1	--
		4	79 - 110cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	60	1	0 - 17cm	loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	17 - 39cm	mottled loam	10YR 5/2, 10YR 6/2	--
		3	39 - 58cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	58 - 100cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	61	1	0 - 25cm	loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	25 - 65cm	mottled silty loam	10YR 5/2, 10YR 6/2	--
		3	65 - 71cm	silty loam	10YR 4/3	--
		4	71 - 71cm	impasse with cobbles	--	--
Shovel Test	62	1	0 - 23cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	23 - 71cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/4	--
		3	71 - 125cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--



**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	63	1	0 - 17cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	- 35cm	sandy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		3	- 74cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	64	1	0 - 18cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	18 - 50cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	50 - 95cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	95 - 120cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	65	1	0 - 7cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	7 - 25cm	loamy silt	10YR 3/4	--
		3	25 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	66	1	- 17cm	silty loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	- 41cm	loamy silt	10YR 5/2	--
		3	- 80cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	- 85cm	silty sand	10YR 6/2	--
Shovel Test	67	1	0 - 8cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	8 - 37cm	loamy silt	10YR 3/3	--
		3	37 - 80cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	68	1	0 - 22cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	22 - 58cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	58 - 105cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	105 - 129cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	69	1	0 - 23cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		2	23 - 162cm	mottled silty clay loam [ fill]	10YR 5/2, 10YR 6/2	--
		3	162 - cm	impasse with cobbles [ fill]	--	--

**APPENDIX A (Cont.)**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSURFACE TESTING**

Unit Type	No.	Context	Depth	Soil Description [Interpretation]	Munsell	Cultural Materials
Shovel Test	70	1	0 - 16cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	16 - 47cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	47 - 105cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	105 - 120cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	71	1	0 - 10cm	loam	10YR 2/2	--
		2	10 - 39cm	loose sand with gravel	10YR 6/2	--
		3	39 - 70cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	70 - 102cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	72	1	0 - 19cm	loam	10YR 3/1	--
		2	19 - 48cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	48 - 130cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	130 - 138cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	73	1	0 - 17cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	17 - 46cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	46 - 85cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	85 - 95cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	74	1	0 - 11cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	11 - 30cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	30 - 90cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	90 - 110cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--
Shovel Test	75	1	0 - 18cm	loam	10YR 3/2	--
		2	18 - 46cm	silty loam	10YR 5/2	--
		3	46 - 80cm	loamy silt	10YR 4/3	--
		4	80 - 90cm	silty sand	10YR 7/2	--

\* Discarded

**Appendix C**

**ARTIFACT INVENTORY**

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Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 8, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9494	CERAMIC	REDWARELEAD GLAZED 1 SURFACEINDETERMINAT E VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 20, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9495	GLASS	BROAD SHEETLIGHT AQUAWINDOWPANE- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 21, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9496	GLASS	BROAD SHEETLIGHT AQUAWINDOWPANE- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 26, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9497	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY,	SAGA 9498	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL- FRAGMENT	1.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
SHOVEL TEST 26, CONTEXT 1				
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 29, CONTEXT 3	SAGA 9499	CERAMIC	REDWAREMANGANESE GLAZED 1 SURFACEINDETERMINAT E VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 29, CONTEXT 3	SAGA 9500	CERAMIC	REDWAREUNGLAZEDIND ETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 29, CONTEXT 3	SAGA 9501	CERAMIC	REDWAREMANGANESE GLAZED 1 SURFACEINDETERMINAT E VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 29, CONTEXT 3	SAGA 9502	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC	SAGA 9503	CERAMIC	REDWAREUNGLAZEDIND ETERMINATE VESSEL	2.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 31, CONTEXT 1			SHERD	
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 31, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9504	CERAMIC	WHITEWARE (IRONSTONE)PLAININDET ERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 31, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9505	GLASS	BROAD SHEETLIGHT AQUAWINDOWPANE-FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 31, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9506	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 31, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9507	METAL	WIRENAIL	1.00

<b>Within Site</b>	<b>Catalog #</b>	<b>Class 4</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Item Count</b>
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 32, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9508	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 32, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9509	METAL	WIRENAIL	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 33, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9510	METAL	WIRENAIL	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 33, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9511	METAL	WIREROOFING NAILNAIL	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 35,	SAGA 9512	CERAMIC	PORCELAINUNDECORAT EDINDETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00



Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
CONTEXT 1				
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 39, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9513	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 39, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9514	GLASS	BROAD SHEETLIGHT AQUAWINDOWPANE-FRAGMENT	3.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 39, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9515	METAL	WIRENAIL	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 39, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9516	METAL	WIRENAIL	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN	SAGA 9517	METAL	WIRENAIL	1.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 39, CONTEXT 1				
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 39, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9518	OTHER MINERAL MATERIALS	MORTAR GRAY WITH BLACK FLECKING MORTAR	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 40, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9519	METAL	HAND WROUGHT NAIL- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 41, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9520	CERAMIC	WHITEWARE PLAIN INDETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 41, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9521	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATE NAIL- FRAGMENT	1.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 44, CONTEXT 3	SAGA 9522	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 44, CONTEXT 3	SAGA 9523	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATE NAIL-FRAGMENT	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 53, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9524	CERAMIC	REDWARE UNDECORATED INDETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 53, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9525	GLASS	BROAD SHEET UNCOLORED WINDOW PANE-FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 53,	SAGA 9526	SYNTHETIC	INDETERMINATE SYNTHETIC OBJECT WHITE AND YELLOW INDETERMINATE SYNTHETIC OBJECT-	1.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
CONTEXT 1			FRAGMENT	
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 54, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9527	GLASS	CURVEDWHITE INDETERMINATE GLASS- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 55, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9528	CERAMIC	REDWARELEAD GLAZED 1 SURFACEINDETERMINAT E VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 55, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9529	CERAMIC	PEARLWAREPLAININDET ERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	3.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 55, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9530	CERAMIC	WHITEWAREMOLDEDIND ETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN	SAGA 9531	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	2.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 55, CONTEXT 2				
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 55, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9532	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATE NAIL- FRAGMENT	4.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 55, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9533	BONE	INDETERMINATE UNDIAG NOSTIC BONE-FRAGMENT	4.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 56, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9534	GLASS	CURVED UNCOLORED IND ETERMINATE GLASS- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 56, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9535	GLASS	CURVED GREEN INDETER MINATE GLASS- FRAGMENT	1.00

<b>Within Site</b>	<b>Catalog #</b>	<b>Class 4</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Item Count</b>
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 56, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9536	GLASS	BROAD SHEETUNCOLOREDWIND OWPANE-FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 56, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9537	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 58, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9538	CERAMIC	PEARLWAREPLAININDET ERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 59, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9539	CERAMIC	REDWAREUNGLAZEDIND ETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 59,	SAGA 9540	CERAMIC	WHITEWARETRANSFER PRINTED BLUEINDETERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
CONTEXT 2				
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 59, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9541	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	3.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 59, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9542	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 59, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9543	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL- FRAGMENT	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 59, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9544	OTHER MINERAL MATERIALS	MORTARYELLOW WITH GRAVEL FLECKINGMORTAR	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN	SAGA 9545	CERAMIC	BRICKBRICK-FRAGMENT	1.00

Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 60, CONTEXT 2				
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 60, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9546	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 60, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9547	METAL	HAND WROUGHTNAIL- FRAGMENT	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 61, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9548	CERAMIC	WHITEWAREPLAININDET ERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	2.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 61, CONTEXT 2	SAGA 9549	METAL	MACHINE CUT, INDETERMINATENAIL	1.00



Within Site	Catalog #	Class 4	Description	Item Count
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 75, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9550	CERAMIC	REDWARELEAD GLAZED 1 SURFACEINDETERMINAT E VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY, SHOVEL TEST 75, CONTEXT 1	SAGA 9551	CERAMIC	CREAMWAREPLAININDET ERMINATE VESSEL SHERD	1.00
SAINT GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, BLOW-ME-DOWN FARM, PHASE I STUDY	SAGA 9552	ARCHIVAL/MANUSCRIPT COLLECT.	1. ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS 2. RESEARCH, MISCELLANEOUS 3. FIELD DOCUMENTS, MAPS, ADDITIONAL RECORDS, FIELD ARTIFACT INVENTORY 4. LAB DOCUMENTS, ARTIFACT CATALOG SAMPLE SHEETS, MISCELLANEOUS DRAFTS 5. FINAL REPORT, BOUND COPY (1)	1.00
Total Records Count	59			

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**Appendix D**

**UPDATED NPS ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES MANAGEMENT  
INFORMATION SYSTEMS (ASMIS) DATABASE FORMS**

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