

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187

Name, Location, Ownership

1. Historic name: Sawyer Farm

2. District or area: _____

3. Street and number: 32 Runnells Rd.

4. City or town: Concord

5. County: Merrimack

6. Current owner: Dorothy R. Sawyer

Function or Use

7. Current use(s): residential

8. Historic use(s): residential/agricultural

Architectural Information

9. Style/type: Georgian

10. Architect/builder: Unknown

11. Source: _____

12. Construction date: ca. 1770-1820

13. Source: Research, visual analysis

14. Alterations, with dates: see attached

15. Moved? no yes date: _____

Exterior Features

16. Foundation: granite block

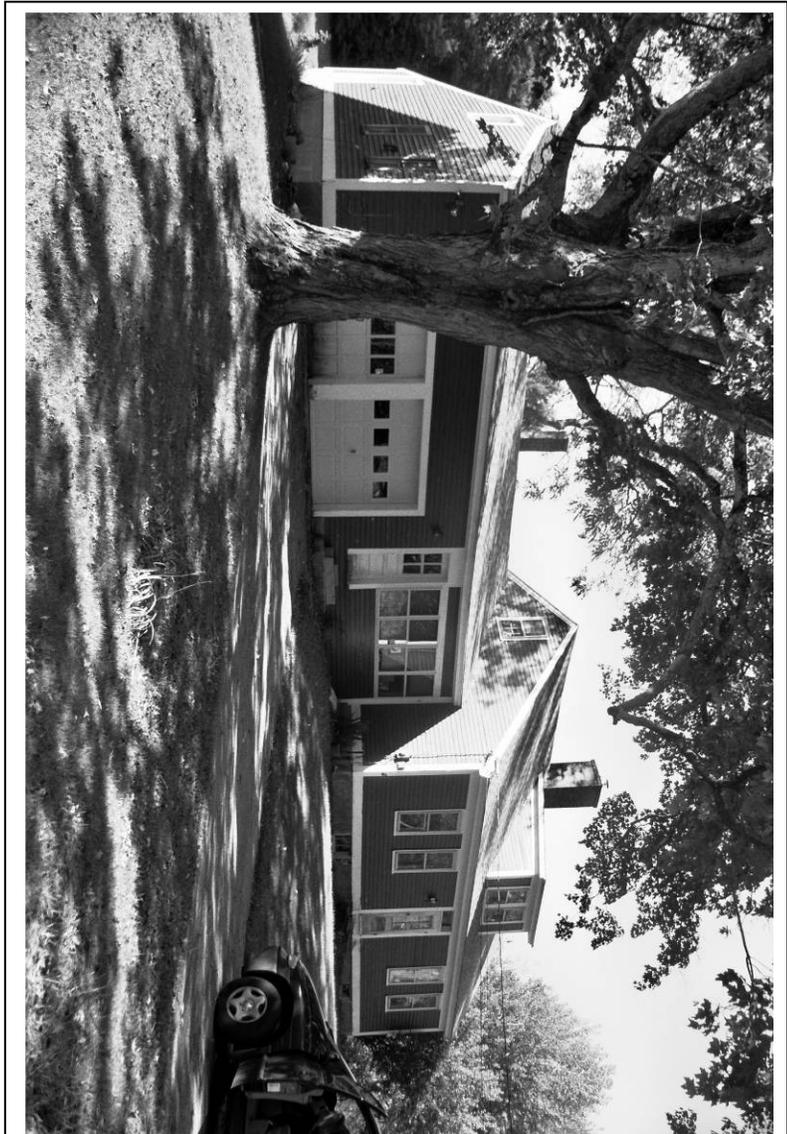
17. Cladding: clapboard

18. Roof material: asphalt shingles

19. Chimney material: brick

20. Type of roof: gable

21. Chimney location: center



Description: Front (southeast) face of house and attached garage

35. Photo #1

36. Date 9/17/2008

37. Roll # 2

Frame # 28

Direction: N

38. Negative stored at: NHDHR

22. Number of stories: 1½

23. Entry location: front, center

24. Windows: 2/1, 6/1

Replacement? no yes date: ca. 1900

Site Features

25. Setting: rural

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187

- 26. Outbuildings: Barn, equipment shed
- 27. Landscape features: fields & woodland, stone walls around portions of the property perimeter
- 28. Acreage: 12.5 acres
- 29. Tax map/parcel: 105/3/6
- 30 UTM reference: 19.286360 / 4791280
- 31. USGS quadrangle and scale:
Hopkinton, 1:24000

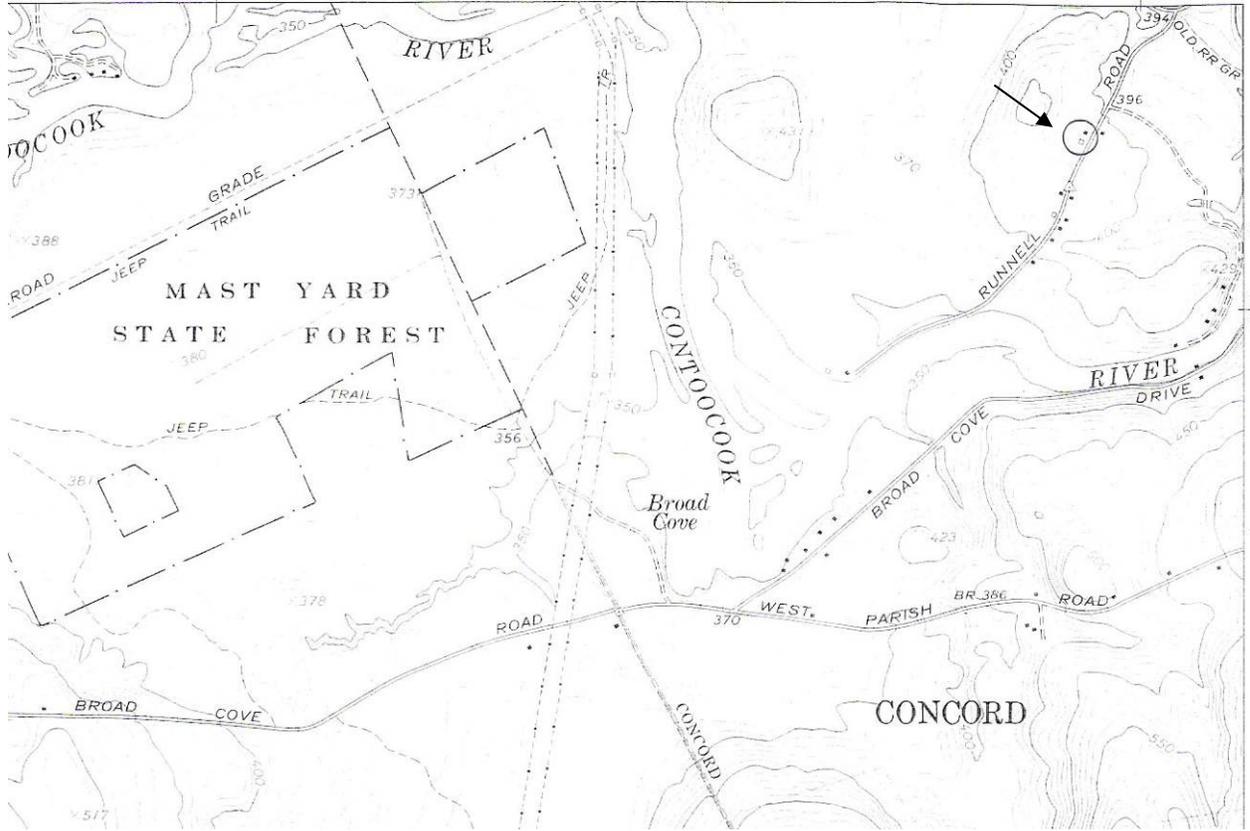
Form prepared by

- 32. Name: Roger C. Hawk
- 33. Organization: for Concord Heritage Commission
- 34. Date of survey: September 2008

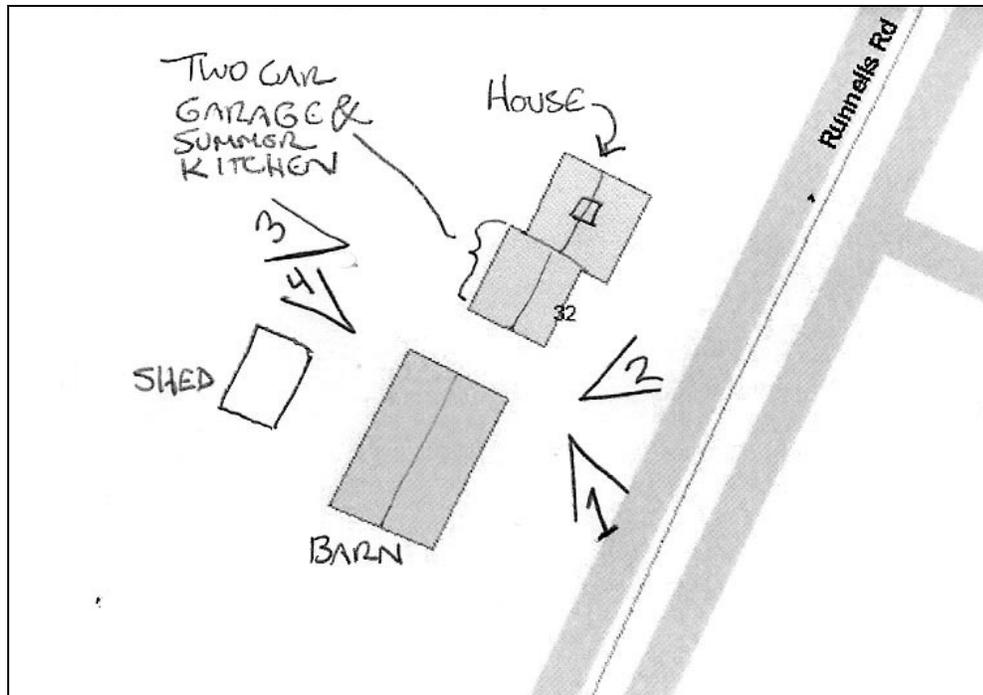
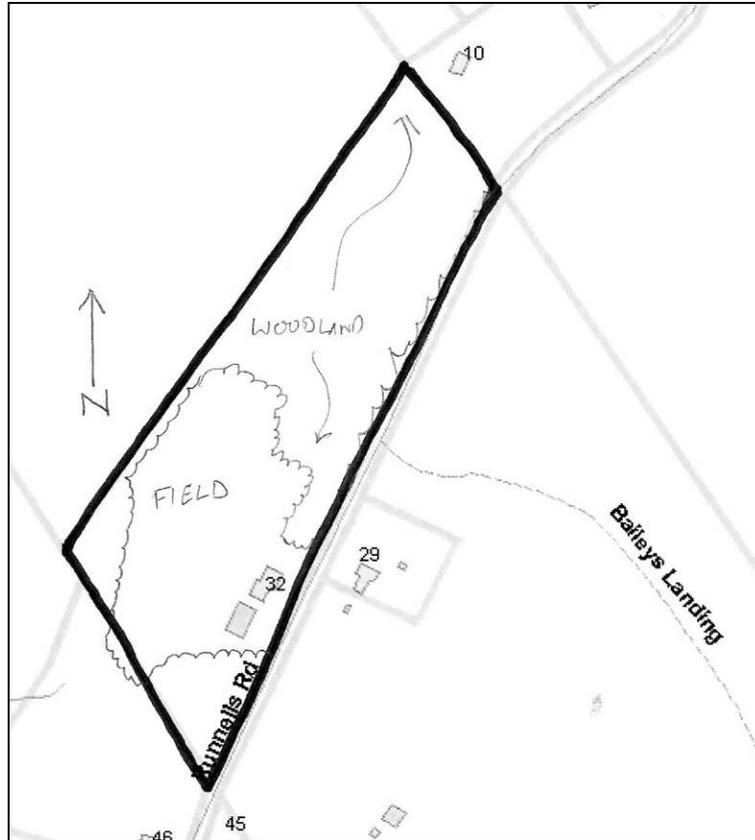
INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187

39. LOCATION MAP: USGS map, not to scale



40. PROPERTY MAP & PHOTOGRAPH KEY:



INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187****Methods and Purpose**

This form was completed as part of a survey of rural agricultural properties within the City of Concord, a project sponsored by the Heritage Commission. The overall purpose of the project was to raise public awareness of the city's rich agricultural legacy through a combination of identification, education, public policy and preservation planning tools.

Due to limited resources, the survey focused on barns and outbuildings that met all of the following criteria: (1) were sited on at least 10 acres of land; (2) they were located in a fairly rural area and not within the city center or an outlying village; (3) the surrounding land retained historic landscape features, such as open fields, pasture, and stone walls; (4) the outbuildings retained a high level of integrity from their agricultural era. None of the barns on the St. Paul's School campus were included. In addition, a few landmark barns, even if on a small lot, were included. Approximately 45 properties were included in the survey. Whenever possible, an interior inspection of the buildings was undertaken.

The survey was conducted at the reconnaissance-level. Historic background information was acquired from questionnaires sent to each property owner, personal interviews, a review of historic maps, and limited research in local histories. Certainly, additional research data on farms is available from population and, in particular, agricultural census records, and owners are encouraged to pursue those to add to this data base.

When properties were part of a larger, agricultural district, the form locates them as such, and a separate form documenting that historic agricultural neighborhood was prepared.

41. Historical Background and Role in the Town or City's Development:

This farmstead's land was originally part of an 80-acre parcel, delineated in 1737 and sold to Zechariah Chandler. Runnells Road cut through the property ca. 1790. Sometime before 1817, Amos Sawyer of Hopkinton built this house on the property for his 120-acre farm. The map of 1858 shows "A. Sawyer" (perhaps the same Amos) in residence. By 1892, "E. Sawyer" was on the property.¹

According to Michael Russell (son-in-law of the current owner), Amos Sawyer sold the property to Irene Runnells, who later sold it to the White family. In 1953, current owner Dorothy Sawyer (no relation to Amos Sawyer) acquired the property from the Whites.

The farm has been used for dairying, poultry farming, swine- and sheep-raising at different times in its history.

¹ Amsden, Chapter 20: 1, 7.

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187



32 Runnells Road, photographed mid-20th century. *From Amsden, A Capital for New Hampshire, Ch. 20, opposite page 7.*



Painting by Irene Runnells, 1933. *Courtesy Michael Russell.*

42. Applicable NHDHR Historic Contexts:

- 51. Mixed agriculture and the family farm, 1630-present.
- 56. Local-scale dairy farming, 1800-present.
- 64. Poultry farming, 1870-present.

43. Architectural Description and Comparative Evaluation:

According to Michael Russell, son-in-law of the current owner, an old cellar hole exists near the northeast corner of the property; perhaps from an earlier home on the site.

House (ca.1770-1820): This five bay, center chimney, clapboard cape rests on a granite block foundation. A double window shed roof dormer is positioned over the front door (southeast face) and a full width dormer exists on the rear (northwest) roof pitch. The house has plain, close-cropped trim. The first floor has 2/2 windows. The sash is 6/1 in the dormers. The original post and beam structure

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187**

and center chimney details are visible in the basement. The entire structure has an asphalt shingle roof. Michael Russell explained that the first floor of the house is finished but the second floor was never finished or lived in.

The wing attached to the southwest elevation of the house was once a summer kitchen. According to M. Russell, it had a porch that was modernized and enclosed ca. 1950-1960, when the two-car garage was attached. Much of the earlier interior trim of summer kitchen is still intact. The garage has clapboard siding, a concrete block foundation, 6/1 windows and modern overhead garage doors. Russell also noted that physical evidence suggests that the house was once connected to the barn by the summer kitchen and a carriage shed.

Barn (ca.1820): The barn is a six bay post and beam, of queen post design. The timbers are all hand hewn. The roof includes smoothed log purlins and vertical sheathing boards. The four bays on the northeastern end of the barn appear original with the two bays to the southwest having been added at a later date – although these bays are also hand hewn. Examination of the siding boards salvaged from the recent renovations revealed that “type B” cut nails were used to attach the earlier sheathing to the structure. (Type “B” nails came into use around 1820.)

A full-sized, double sliding door is positioned on the northwest side with a thirteen-light transom. According to M. Russell, a hinged barn door was located on the southeast side of the barn directly opposite this northwest door, making this an English barn configuration. The post and beam framing for this door is still evident as are the remnants of the earthen ramp on the southeast side.

Within the last few years, the barn has been shored up, structurally repaired, resided and reroofed. The new siding is board and batten and the roof is pre-formed metal. The gable peaks have horizontal pine boards. The foundation has been re-supported during the renovation process but is still dry laid up stone. A smaller sliding barn door is on the northeast gable end, with a seven-light transom. This door is in approximately the location where a carriage house connector once attached to the barn.

Equipment Shed (2001): The shed, located northwest of the barn, shelters a tractor and other equipment. It is of simple, dimensioned lumber construction with a formed metal roof and vertical board siding.

46. Statement of Integrity:

This property is a largely intact late 18th/early 19th century farmhouse and English barn that retains its agricultural landscape.

48. Bibliography and/or References:

Amsden, Grace P., *A Capital for New Hampshire*. Unpublished manuscript in 3 vols., written between 1930 and 1960.

Bouton, Nathaniel, *The History of Concord*. Concord: Benning W. Sanborn, 1856.

City of Concord Directories, 1812 -1970.

Lyford, James O., ed., *History of Concord, NH*. Concord: Rumford Press, 1903, 2 vols.

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187

Interview

Michael Russell, Fall 2008.

Maps, Atlases, Plans and Views

1858 *Map of Merrimack County*. Surveyed by H. E Walling, New York. Published by Smith and Peavey.

1892 *Town and County Atlas of the State of New Hampshire*. Compiled by D. H. Hurd and Co., Boston.

2006 *Aerial Maps*. City of Concord.

Surveyor's Evaluation

NR listed: individual
within district

Integrity: yes
no

NR eligible: individual
within district
not eligible
more info needed

NR Criteria: A
B
C
D
E

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187

Address: 32 Runnells Rd. Date taken: Sept, 2008 Negative stored at: NHDHR



Photo 2 description: Front (southeast) side of barn
Roll: 2 Frame: 29 Direction: W



Photo 3 description: Northwest (rear) of house and attached garage
Roll: 3 Frame: 12 Direction: E

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0187

Address: 32 Runnlees Rd. Date taken: Sept., 2008 Negative stored at: NHDHR



Photo 4 description: Northwest side of barn

Roll: 3 Frame: 13 Direction: E