

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name East Calais Historic District

other names/site number n/a

## 2. Location

street & number Vermont Route 14, Marshfield Road, Batten Road, Back Street,  
Moscow Woods Road

city or town Calais

state Vermont county Washington zip code 05650


not for publication

vicinity

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this \_\_\_ nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

State Historic Preservation Officer

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Name of Property

County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

**Category of Property**(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
45	13	buildings
1	1	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
47	14	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: Store

INDUSTRY: Manufacturing Facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: store

Name of Property

County and State

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE (granite)

walls: WOOD (weatherboard, shingle)

roof: WOOD (shingle), METAL (steel, aluminum)

other:

**Summary Paragraph**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The East Calais Historic District encompasses approximately 24 acres within the town of Calais, a small, rural town located in Washington County, Vermont. Marshfield and Cabot border the town to the east, Plainfield and East Montpelier to the south, Worcester to the west, and Woodbury to the north. The village of East Calais is situated on the eastern side of the town. The village straddles Vermont Route 14 and the arterial roads of Moscow Woods Road, Marshfield Road, and Batten Road. The East Calais Historic District forms the core of the village.

The East Calais Historic District consists of the historic resources located in the central village area. These resources consist primarily of early-nineteenth- to early-twentieth-century industrial, residential, and commercial buildings. East Calais developed as an industrial and agricultural community, maintaining this identity throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is primarily a residential community now, displaying only remnants of its industrial and milling past. The evolution of East Calais is similar to that of many small Vermont villages and towns. The historic resources in the East Calais Historic District retain integrity of location, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, setting, and design. The historic integrity and physical character of the district, with its mixture of open land, a millpond and a dense village residence evoke an early Vermont village.

The East Calais Historic District contains 47 contributing and 14 non-contributing resources. The historic district consists of 43 primary resources, including residential buildings, a high-style church, village store, former schoolhouse, village square and park, and former gristmill and dam that document the development and growth of East Calais from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. There are six primary resources from 1815 to 1850, including the gristmill. The greatest period of development, from 1850 to 1880, is documented by thirteen buildings, predominately residential. East Calais retains the appearance of a mid- to late nineteenth-century village, with remarkably little new construction in the twentieth century. The dominating

architectural style is the Greek Revival, with few examples of the Italianate, Queen Anne, and Gothic Revival styles. Individual examples of twentieth-century architecture dot the village.

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## Narrative Description

The village of East Calais is in the town of Calais in Washington County, Vermont. It is a typical Vermont town consisting of commercial and residential hamlets, forested hills, open agricultural land, and rural farmsteads. East Calais is a small village, built in a narrow valley along the banks of the Kingsbury Brook on the east side of the town. The village developed throughout the nineteenth century in a linear plan dictated both by the narrow valley and exploitation of the Kingsbury Brook's abundant waterpower to operate saw and grist mills.

The primary road through the East Calais Historic District is Vermont Route 14 (historically referred to as Main Street). Four side streets branch off from Route 14 within the village: Back Street, Marshfield Road, Moscow Woods Road and Batten Road. Patterns of development are consistent throughout the village, with a single row of buildings fronting directly onto the road and miscellaneous outbuildings and barns in the rear. At the center of the district are the Moscow Mills building (**HD #12**) and the millpond with a variety of residential buildings aligned in each direction. There is a high concentration of commercial buildings, the church, and the site of a hotel (demolished) located towards the southern end, forming the community center.

The district has intact examples of several types of historic resources generally found in Vermont towns of its size, including one church, a gristmill, a general store, as well as farmsteads, barns, and single-family houses. Most of the historic buildings in the district have granite foundations, timber-frame structures, and clapboard siding. Settlers cleared field stone and timber-framing materials from the surrounding land. The granite foundation blocks most likely came from regional quarries such as Barre, Woodbury, and Adamant.

The dominating architectural style in East Calais is the Greek Revival, which is reflected on the oldest extant buildings of the historic district: the 1815 Putnam-Alden House (**HD #30**), the 1825 George-Marsh House (**HD #29**), and the 1836 Dwinell Homestead (**HD# 20**), which was most likely built by Samuel Rich. These houses possess distinctive Greek Revival-style features such as side-hall plans, cornice returns, and wide fascia boards. There are other distinct architectural styles and forms including the Italianate, Classic Cottage, and Cape Cod. Vernacular builder-inspired examples finish the historic district, presenting minimal architectural details that enrich the visual character of the district with decorative eave brackets, decorative quoins, entries with full entablatures, and full-width or wrap-around porches. There are a few post-1900 buildings in the district, including a bungalow and two Ranch houses. A single example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style exists in the historic district.

Historic farmsteads are comprised of mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival-style houses and farm buildings such as sheep, cow, horse barns, and wagon sheds. The district has several prominent barns, including the Dwinell Homestead (**HD #20**), the Alonzo Pierce Barn (**HD #21a**), and the Hicks-Stoddard Barn (**HD #35a**). Most of these historic agricultural resources retain architectural integrity. The farmsteads have been subdivided or reverted to woodland.

There is a single religious building in the community (**HD #5**). Located at the southern end of the district, the church is near the commercial and industrial activities. Commercial buildings are limited to the Dwinell General Store (**HD#24**), which has been in continual use since the 1850s, the Pierce-White General Store (**HD #6**), and the D.B. Fay Tenement (**HD #9**). The latter examples retain their storefront appearance with porches across the gable front and central entrances. Despite the losses due to fires and industrial changes, the village retains the majority of its historic resources and the overall layout and design of a modest, mid-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century Vermont town.

### Individual Building Descriptions

#### **1. White-Sanders House, 100 Marshfield Road, c. 1870, .5 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, three by five-bay house reflects the Greek Revival style with its temple front, side hall plan and ell. It has a slight setback and is oriented perpendicular to Marshfield Road. Resting on a granite block foundation, it has wood clapboards and a standing seam metal roof. Fenestration consists of evenly spaced 2/2 windows with wood label stops and applied molding detail. Architectural details include boxed cornice with returns, deep frieze and architrave, and corner boards with raised panels. A brick chimney rises from the ridge of the main block, and a metal chimney stack rises from the ridge of the ell. A twentieth-century enclosed porch with a shed roof spans the front elevation of the ell. Centered on the east elevation of the ell is an entry door flanked by four-pane, fixed windows with wide wood trim.

##### **1a. Garage, c. 2000, non-contributing due to age**

This is a 1½-story, gable-front garage located approximately 50 feet to the southwest of the main house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented perpendicular to the road. Centered on east elevation is a door flanked by two vehicular bays. It has vertical siding, metal roof, and a false hayloft door.

##### **1b. Apartment House, c. 1940, non-contributing due to alterations**

This three-story building is northeast of the main house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented perpendicular to the road. It has 1/1 replacement windows and vertical wood siding.

#### **2. Ira Dwinell House, 74 Marshfield Road, c. 1867, 1.38 acres, contributing**

This 2½-story, three by five-bay house is an example of the Greek Revival style with a temple front, side hall plan, a small ell, wing, and attached barn. It has a slight setback and is oriented perpendicular to Marshfield Road. Wooden quoins accentuate the corners of the building's first story and paneled pilasters ornament the corners of the second story. A wood string course separates the first and second stories. The wing has wooden quoins. Fenestration includes 2/2 windows with wood label drops and cornice heads. The front door has a granite sill and steps. The door surround has a cornice head, pointed arch-shaped paneled reveals and pointed arch-shaped paneled sidelights. Additional architectural details include boxed cornice with returns, deep frieze and architrave. Projecting from the west elevation of the wing is an ell that connects to the barn. The attached barn, contemporaneous to the house, stands 1½ stories and is sited perpendicular to the rear ell of the main house. It has a

corrugated metal roof, clapboard siding, sliding barn doors, 6/6 windows, and a gable peak hayloft door.

**3. Fair House, 42 Marshfield Road, c. 1951, .3-acre lot, contributing**

This is a one-story, three by two-bay cottage with wood clapboard siding, casement windows and asphalt shingle roof. It has a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to Marshfield Road. The shallow-pitched gable roof faces towards the road. The entrance, protected by a small gable roof, is located on the western end of the north elevation. Projecting from the west elevation is an addition with a shallow-pitched, corrugated metal, gable roof. On the west elevation of this addition is a secondary addition with a shed roof. Indicative of the Greek Revival style, the house has a side-hall plan with an attached ell and barn extending to the west.

**4. Wesley Peck House, 26 Marshfield Road, c. 1877, .25 acre, contributing**

This is a two-story, three by three bay house that reflects the Italianate style with a hip roof and belvedere. It has a square plan with a c. 2017 addition projecting south from the southwest corner. Fenestration includes 2/2 windows with cornice window heads and paired brackets at the sill. The square belvedere has 2/2 windows and a cornice with paired brackets. The addition has an asphalt shingled gable roof and 1/1 windows. Centered on the east (front) elevation is a wood panel door protected by a gable roof door hood with elaborate heavy brackets and paired brackets under the hood. There is a secondary entrance on the south elevation that is protected by a gable roof hood. Architectural details include corner boards and a cornice with paired brackets.



*Figure 1: Wesley Peck House (HD #4) image c. 1920 (Vermont Historical*

During the nineteenth century, there was a one-story addition projecting from the south elevation. This addition was created from the c. 1838 East Calais School located behind the Alonzo Pierce House (HD #21). It was moved to this site in 1863, attached to the house, and later dismantled at an unknown date. Extending westerly from this addition was a second addition, which connected to a large barn. In 1982, there was a two-bay, gable-front, horse

barn that was converted into a two-car garage. It no longer stands. There was also once an outhouse located next to the barn.

**5. East Calais Church, One Marshfield Road c. 1850, .07 acres, contributing**

This 1½-story, three by three-bay church was constructed in the Greek Revival style, complete with corner pilasters and a deep entablature. The west elevation (front) has a pedimented gable with a triangular louver in the tympanum. Flanking a central 20/20 window of this front elevation are two entrance doors, finished with framing pilasters supporting cornices. The sides of the church have three evenly spaced 20/20 windows. A square bell tower rests on the front ridge and consists of a square base with corner pilasters, cornice and frieze, louvered second stage with pilasters, and spire. Atop the first and second stages, corner pinnacles are joined by rails to form open balustrades.

**6. Pierce-White General Store, 4488 VT Route 14, c. 1818, c. 1870, .2 acres, contributing**

This 2½-story, three by five-bay building has a gable front, two-story ell, and one-story wing. It has a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to VT Route 14. The two-story front porch has chamfered posts, staggered butt- and diamond-patterned shingling, and curvilinear barge boarding between the posts on the second story. A polygonal window bay protrudes from the west side of the wing. The bay has a flat roof and replacement 1/1 windows with wood trim. It formerly housed the Post Office customer area and was entered by a door off the porch. Centered on the north (front) elevation is a wood paneled door flanked by large 2/2 windows. A single replacement 1/1 window is centered in the north(front) gable peak. A slender brick chimney rises from the gable ridge. The fenestration on the second story of the east and west elevations consists of decorative multi-pane sash windows with storm windows. Projecting from the south (rear) elevation is a 1½-story addition with a standing seam roof and replacement 1/1 windows. There is a two-story porch along the northern portion of the west elevation of the addition. It was constructed as a commercial building and has been renovated to function as a dwelling.

**6a. Garage, c. 1910, contributing**

A two-car garage is located approximately 50 feet to the southwest of the main building. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented parallel to the road. It has clapboard siding, standing seam roof, two open vehicular bays, and an off-center hayloft door.

**7. D.B. Fay House, 12 Back Street, c. 1860, .3 acres, contributing**

This 1½-story, three by three-bay house has a Greek Revival style reflected by the temple front, side-hall plan with an ell. It has a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to VT Route 14. Resting on a stone foundation with concrete parging, the wood clapboard building has a standing seam roof. Projecting from the east gable end is a one-story addition with wood clapboards and a standing seam metal roof. Attached to the south elevation of the rear gable end is a c. 1879 woodshed with clapboard siding, barn door, and hayloft door. Fenestration of the main block consists of 2/2 windows with wood peaked hoods typical of

the Greek Revival style. A slender brick chimney rises from the intersection of cross gable ridges. The front entry has a peaked head and deep paneled reveals. Architectural details include paneled corner pilasters with entablature, raking fascia boards, and boxed cornice with returns.

**8. Daniels-Bemis House, 4475 VT Route 14, c. 1873, 6 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, three by five bay house dressed in the Greek Revival style with a side-hall plan main block and a side ell. The L-plan house a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to Route 14. A porch with an polygonal corner, turned balustrade, and turned posts spans the ell. The left side-hall door has full sidelights, a full pediment, pilasters, and paneled reveals. Fenestration includes 2/2 sash windows with peaked window heads and applied wooden decorative detail. A slender cinder block chimney rises from the intersection of the gable ridges. Architectural details include paneled corner posts, raking fascia boards, and boxed cornice with returns. In 1982, the porch had an open valance and brick chimneys rose from the intersection of the gable ridges and the east end of the ell.

**8a. Barn, c. 1865, contributing**

There is a small, two-level, gable-roofed, clapboarded carriage barn located 60 feet to the southwest of the house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented perpendicular to VT Route 14. Resting on a stone foundation, it has clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. The south (front) elevation has a large sliding door and a replacement 1/1 window on the first story, an off-center hayloft door on the second story, and six-pane fixed window centered in the gable peak.

**9. D.B. Fay Tenement, 4533 VT Route 14, c. 1874, .3 acres, non-contributing due to alterations**



Figure 2: D.B. Fay Tenement (HD #9) (Vermont Historical Society)

This 2½-story tenement consists of two primary gable front blocks joined by a flat roofed ell. Shed and porch additions flank either end. The three-bay, gable-front, main block has vinyl siding, cornice returns, and a corrugated metal roof. Centered on the south (front) elevation is an entrance flanked by a replacement window on one side and a c. 1940 polygonal bay on the first story. An entrance porch shelters the front elevation. The west side of the porch



has a set of exterior stairs that dogleg from the west end of the porch around the corner of the building to ascend to the second story. The porch posts are chamfered as are the posts that support the shed roof over the exterior stairs. The second story has a full width porch with a vertical board porch wall. The smaller 1½-story, three-bay, gable-front block has vinyl siding, cornice returns, and a central entrance. It is connected to the main block by a recessed three bay, two-story ell with a full width first-story porch. Extending from the west elevation of the main block is a shed roof addition. A shed-roofed garage projects from the south elevation of the left addition.

**10. Wheelock-Dudley House, 15 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1860, .25 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, three by two-bay house reflects the Greek Revival style with a temple front, side-hall plan and an ell. Resting on a stone foundation, it has asbestos siding and an asphalt shingle roof. Fenestration includes 6/6 windows with simple wood trim and hoods. Two gabled entrance porches were added to main block and ell at an unknown time. The front door has paneled pilasters, sidelights, and deep paneled reveals. Architectural details include a cornice with paired "S" scroll brackets with pendants, paneled corner pilasters, and cornice returns. Extending from the west elevation of the ell is a modern, flat-roofed garage.

**11. Zephaniah Pierce House, 47 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1830, .5 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, three-bay Cape Cod, wood frame house. It has a substantial setback from the road and is oriented perpendicular to Moscow Woods Road. Resting on a high brick foundation, the building has clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. Fenestration includes 1/1 replacement windows.

**11a. Garage/Shed c. 1900, contributing**

This garage is located approximately 36 feet to the northeast of the main house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented perpendicular to the road. It has a large barn door opening and a hayloft door on the gable front. It is lighted by a row of 2/2 sash windows. A detached shed projects from the west elevation of the garage.

**12. Moscow Mills, 34 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1840, c. 1895, c. 1901, c. 1914, .16 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, wood-frame mill building covered by a gable roof. The site has a very steep slope down towards the back of the building and away from the road towards the Kingsbury Brook. It has wood clapboard siding and aluminum roofing. The main section of the roof is framed with 2x6 rafters at twenty-four inches on center. The rear section is framed with 3x7 rafters at thirty-eight inches on center. Neither section has a ridge board. The deck consists of wide boards with a one- to two-inch gap between the boards. The lower section of the east elevation consists of clapboards on the upper section and plywood on the lower section. The south elevation consists of wood clapboard on the front section and asphalt covering on the back section. There is wood trim, corner trim boards, and wood doors with trim at the gable ends. The building has 19 windows and five doors. On the north (side elevation) are two 6/6 windows at the back and one 2/2 window in the front section. On the rear (east elevation) are four 6/6 windows. On the north (river side), there are three 6/6 windows and five 2/2

windows. On the south (front) elevation are four 2/2 double-hung sash windows and two fixed windows at the entry.

In 1914, the gable front block was added at which time the front porch and shed roof office were also most likely constructed. By 1940 the double garage door on the front block was added to accommodate a truck.



Figure 3: Moscow Mills Sawmill (HD #12) (Dwinell Family)

Distinctive historic features include a sizable laid-up stone foundation, clapboard siding, metal siding on the east gable end of the original block, 6/6 windows on the original block, later 2/2 windows, the front porch on the 1914 addition, and c. 1940 garage doors on the gable front.<sup>1</sup>

### **13. Dam, c. 1914, c. 1974, contributing**

This is a concrete dam, which replaced a wooden dam structure. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a wooden structure spanned the dam connecting the Moscow Mills building with the sawmill on the south side of the river. In 1914, Dwinell hired D.W. Cooley of Waterbury, Vermont, to build a cement dam. On the south end of the dam is an iron pipe and a small gable roof pump house. In 1974, Houghton Cate built the existing pen stock at the east side of the river.

### **14. Batchelder House, 10 Moscow Woods Road c. 1964, .25 acres, non-contributing (outside POS)**

This is a one-story Ranch House with vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. Fenestration includes 1/1 windows. The building has been altered with a front-gabled addition on the façade, giving it an L-shaped plan.

### **15. Rudolph Leonard House, 4655 VT Route 14, c. 1939, .21 acres, non-contributing due to alterations**

This is 1½-story, vinyl-sided, Bungalow house. It has a moderate setback and the gable end is oriented towards VT Route 14. The main entrance is on the first story of the north elevation and a cantilever converted porch shelters the entrance. There are shed dormers on the

<sup>1</sup> Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*, November 18, 2002.

northern side of the roof. Extending from the rear elevation is a one-story shed roof wing. Photographic documentation records that in 1982, this building had wood shingle siding, a closed-in porch, brackets, and exposed rafters, all of which have been altered.

**16. Dwinell-Foote House, 4677 VT Route 14, c. 1890, .15 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, three-bay house is dressed in a late expression of the Greek Revival style with a stone foundation, clapboard siding, and corrugated metal roof. The L-plan has a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to VT Route 14. The gable front section is trimmed with a returning cornice and two-part frieze. A c. 1940 enclosed porch spans the west end of the ell and c. 2000 shed roof addition mark the east side of the ell. The rear elevation is in close proximity to the millpond. This house is similar in massing and layout as the Dwinell Tenement (**HD #17**).

**17. Dwinell Tenement, 4713 VT Route 14, c. 1870, .12 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, three-bay house reflects the influences of the Greek Revival style with a gable front main block and side ell. Resting on a granite foundation, it has wood clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The entrance is on the front elevation of the ell. The L-plan dwelling has a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to VT Route 14. The gable front is trimmed with corner pilasters, a two-part frieze, and cornice returns. The 2/2 windows feature cornice caps and recessed panels beneath the first-story windows. An open porch with square posts and a diagonal board rail wraps around the ell. There is an exposed basement in the rear. It is similar to the Dwinell-Foote House (**HD #16**) in form and massing.

**18. Bancroft House, 4706 VT Route 14, c. 1867, .2 acres, contributing**

This two-story, Italianate-style house has a three by three bay main block with a hip roof. Sited on a hill, rising to the south, the house has a moderate setback from VT Route 14. There is a two-story, one bay projection extending from the south elevation. Extending from the east (rear) elevation is a long, gable roof ell. Fenestration included 2/2 windows with lintels. The building's ornamentation includes a scroll sawn bracketed cornice and a denticulated and paneled frieze. The front and side elevations have polygonal bay windows. To the left of the front bay is a bracketed door hood. The hood and bays have cornices and friezes ornamented in the same manner as the roof cornice. The door has double leaves with glass panels. The west facade has a porch trimmed in a similar manner.

**19. Dell B. Dwinell House, 4662 VT Route 14, c. 1880, c. 1982, 1.5 acres, contributing**

This is a two-story, three by three-bay building with a square plan finished with wood clapboard siding, stone foundation, and a flat roof.

Sitting on a hill, it has a moderate setback from VT Route 14. Extending from the east elevation is a two-story, gable roof addition. The three-bay front has a one-story porch with turned posts and cut-out brackets. There are 1/1 windows throughout the house. The southwest elevation has a two-story polygonal bay window with 1/1 replacement windows. The house has a vertical board, bracketed frieze, and a vertical board water table. There is a stringcourse of staggered butt shingles between the stories. A one-story, two by one-bay porch with turned posts runs from the side bay window to the rear along the wing.



Figure 4: Dell B. Dwinell House (HD #19) image c. 1900 (Dwinell Family)

The house was described in family papers:

First floor master bedroom, living room, parlor, large front hall, and stairway to second floor was built with what was called a flat roof. Actually, the roof sloped four ways to the chimney in its center beside which is an opening for receiving the rain and snow water to convey it to a cistern on the second floor. The ell part was a story and a half and including the kitchen-dining room, pantry and stairway to the cellar and to a small kitchen chamber and entrance to the attic. Also, beyond the kitchen was the back hallway, privy and woodshed and half story attic overhead. Between the kitchen-dining room area and the living room was a small hallway with outside door to a large porch with steps down to the carriage drive. There was access to this small hall from both the kitchen-dining room and the living room. Back of this hallway was a passageway between the kitchen-dining room and living room.<sup>2</sup>

## **20. Dwinell Homestead, 4610 VT Route 14, c. 1836, 112 acres, contributing**

This is a 2½-story, five by three-bay house is an example of the Greek Revival style augmented by late-nineteenth-century Queen Anne detailing. It sits high on a hill and has substantial setback from the road. There was once a road that ran from the junction of Route 14 and Moscow Woods Road southerly up the hill between the Dwinell Homestead and the Alonzo Pierce House (HD# 21). The house is oriented towards this former road. The central

<sup>2</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

door has six panels, a transom, and  $\frac{3}{4}$ -length sidelights. The entry entablature has a denticulated cornice and denticulated pilasters. A polygonal porch extends around the northwest corner of the house. It has turned posts, and balustrade and sawn brackets. The corner boards are beaded. An ell extends from the east elevation. Attached to the ell was the Town Clerk's office. The house has a water cistern in the attic. In the early twentieth century, the Dwinells removed the large chimney. During the 1930s, the house underwent renovations with a new heating systems and wood floors.

**20a. Barn, c. 1890, contributing**

This is a 2½-story gable-roof, vertical siding barn is located 45 feet to the southeast of the main house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented parallel to the road. It rests on a stone foundation and has a corrugated metal roof. The west elevation has three open bays on the lower level. Extending from the northwest corner of the barn is a secondary barn with vertical siding and a corrugated metal roof.

**21. Alonzo Pierce House, 4608 VT Route 14, c. 1835, 4.75 acres, contributing**

This 2½-story, five-bay house has a corrugated metal roof, stone foundation, and wood clapboard siding. Like the Dwinell Homestead (**HD#20**), this house is oriented towards the road that formerly ran up the hill from the corner of Moscow Woods Road and VT Route 14.

The front entry has a six-panel door with sidelights and an entablature with Tuscan pilasters and wide plain frieze. An added front porch has turned posts and square balusters

supporting a front-gable entry portico. A central gable was also added to the house, changing the original style (probably Greek Revival) to reflect architectural elements of

the late nineteenth century. Exterior details include 2/2 sash windows, boxed eaves and returns, and beaded corner boards. The interior has architrave moldings and chair rails. The village water tub was located on the property's border with VT Route 14.



*Figure 5: Alonzo Pierce House (HD #21) (Vermont Historical Society)*

**21a. Barn, c. 1890, contributing**

This a small barn is located approximately 40 feet to the south of the main house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented parallel to the main road. It has vertical wood siding, corrugated metal roof, and a replacement overhead garage door.

**21b. Outbuilding, c. 1940, contributing**

This is a one-story shed located approximately 40 feet to the east of the main house. It has a rectangular footprint and is oriented perpendicular to the main road. It has a shallow-pitched gable roof, clapboard siding, and casement windows.

**22. Alonzo Clark House, 4564 VT Route 14, c. 1856, .37 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, five by four-bay house influenced by the Greek Revival style. It has a large central front gabled wall dormer that provides a recessed porch on the upper story. The house has a moderate setback and is oriented parallel to VT Route 14. Resting on a brick foundation, it has wood clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. Four square posts support the balcony porch. The house has cornice with returns, deep frieze that continues on the porch gable, and wide corner pilasters. The fenestration consists of 6/6 and 1/1 windows with peaked window heads. The central front door has a denticulated pediment head and paneled reveals. Extending from the rear elevation is a 1½-story ell that has a box cornice, frieze board, and peaked window heads. The rear ell has a full shed roof dormer on each elevation. Architectural details included cornice returns and corner posts. There is a c. 1989 open deck attached to the south elevation.

**23. A.C. Slayton House, 4536 VT Route 14, c. 1879, .4 acres, contributing**

This is 1½-story house has an attached ell and carriage barn. It has a moderate setback and is oriented parallel with the main road. The front facade is divided into three bays by paneled pilasters that visually support a paneled frieze. Windows and doors are framed by pilaster boards with entases under cornice moldings. The front door has full sidelights and paneled reveals. Corner blocks above the door have incised heart motifs. A hipped roof porch on the ell has slender, square, chamfered posts.

**24. Clarence Dwinell Store, 4520 VT Route 14, c. 1850, .3 acres, contributing**

This is a 2½-story, three by five-bay building with a stone foundation, wood clapboard siding, and a standing seam roof. A recessed second-story porch with octagonal posts spans the north (front) elevation. There are 2/2 and 6/6 windows with peaked window hoods on the front elevation. The window hoods are rectangular on the remaining sides. Projecting from the south (rear) elevation is a wing with a porch supported by turned posts. The wing also contains garage doors. Extending to the east is a 2-story ell with an addition projecting to the north. There are gasoline pumps in front of the ell. There was a one-story, flat-roof addition projecting to the north from the northeast corner of the main block and side ell. There was an entry door and bay window with 2/2 windows on the north elevation. This was most likely the site of the East Calais library during the early twentieth century.

**25. Simeon Webb House, 31 Back Street, c. 1870, 1 acre, contributing**

This is a two-story, three by three bay house finished in the Italianate style. The main block is augmented by a gabled ell. It sits high on a hill and has substantial setback from the main road. The main hipped roof has a double bracketed entablature with paneled frieze, heavily molded architrave, applique designed to resemble a dentil course, and a belvedere trimmed with a scaled-down version of the main cornice. The building has a high granite foundation, wood clapboard siding, and 2/2 sash windows.

**25a. Garage, c. 2000, non-contributing (outside POS)**



This is a 2½-story, gable-front garage with two car bays. It has a rectangular footprint and is located 26 feet to the south of the main house. It has wood clapboard siding, false hayloft door, and cornice returns.

**25b. Shed, c. 2000, non-contributing (outside POS)**

This one-story shed is located 35 feet to the south of the main house. It has a square footprint and is oriented parallel to the main road. It has vertical wood siding and a corrugated metal, shed roof.



*Figure 6: Simon Webb House (HD #25), image c. 1910 (Vermont Historical Society)*

**26. Pierce-Guernsey House, 73 Back Street. c. 1870, .3 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story vernacular house reflecting Gothic Revival details. The main block has a wing and attached horse/carriage barn. The side-hall plan house faces towards Marshfield Road. The three attached components each have a gable facing towards Back Street. The gables have decorated bargeboards with acorn pendants and open teardrop design. Resting on a stone foundation, the house is covered in aluminum siding and has a corrugated metal roof. The main block is a cross-gable plan with the off-center gable front door. The entry has a Gothic arch with panel reveals. The glass panels of the double-leaf doors repeat the design. The three-bay porch spans the east elevation and has square chamfered posts with capitals and brackets pierced with stars. Above the porch is a gabled wall dormer. Historic photos

show that the windows had drop label lintels and a one-story porch with cut brackets span the west side of the ell.

**26a. Garage, c. 1970, non-contributing (outside POS)**

This is a small, single bay garage with plywood siding and a metal roof. It is located 43 feet to the northeast. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the main road.

**27. Gray-Coates House, 77 Marshfield Road, c. 1870, .60 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story Greek Revival house with a three-bay gable front and a four-bay ell attached to sheds and a barn/garage. It sits on a hill, has a moderate setback and is oriented parallel with the road. Resting on a stone foundation, it has wood clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. Fenestration consists of 2/2 sash windows with peaked hoods. The front door has a flat-roof entrance porch with cornice and chamfered posts. Decorative wooden detail includes boxed eaves and returns, "Marshfield Applique" between architrave and frieze boards, and pilasters "paneled" with molding. The door detail includes pointed arch panels in sidelight position flanked by pilasters with molding trim similar to the main pilasters. The ell was originally one story; a second story was added at an unknown date. During the nineteenth century, a 2½-story barn was located at the south end of the property.

**28. Allen Goodell House, 93 Marshfield Road, c. 1880, 2 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story five-bay Classic Cottage. It has a moderate setback and oriented parallel to the road. Resting on a stone foundation, it has wood clapboards and a corrugated metal roof. Projecting from the south elevation is a three-bay entrance porch with hip roof, turned posts, and sawn brackets. On the east (rear) elevation is a barn ell with two carriage bay openings. It has 1/1 replacement windows and a modern front door. Trim is limited to corner boards, boxed eaves, and an entablature with returns.

**28a. Barn, c. 2000, non-contributing (outside POS)**

This is a 1½-story barn located 50 feet to the east of the main house. It has rectangular footprint and is oriented perpendicular to the main road.

**29. George-Marsh House, 45 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1825, 1.2 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story Cape with a center brick chimney, granite and stone foundation, clapboard siding, and a standing seam roof. It has a substantial setback from the road and is oriented parallel to the main road; this is due to the common land in front of the house, which was intended to be the town green. Centered on the east elevation is a door with ¾ sidelights flanked by two windows. Fenestration consists of evenly spaced 2/2 windows. Extending from the west elevation is a rear ell with a carriage bay on the south elevation. During the late nineteenth century, a porch spanned the south and east elevations. The attached barn stands 1½ stories with a gable front. It is constructed of wood frame and attached to the rear ell of the main house, oriented parallel to the main road. Resting on a stone foundation, it has clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. The center barn door entrance is flanked by a 2/2 replacement window on each side. Clad in wood shingles, there is a one-story shed roof addition attached to the west elevation. The open shed was closed in c. 1995.



**30. Putnam-Alden House, 17  
Moscow Woods Road, c.  
1815, 2.56 acres,  
contributing**

This is a 1½-story, five by three-bay, gable front, Cape house with side ell and attached woodshed. Resting on a stone foundation, it has clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. It has a deep setback from the road and is oriented parallel to the main road. The large setback is due to the common land in front of the house, which was intended to be the town green. Centered on the gable front is an entrance protected by a gable roof and flanked by windows on each side. Projecting from the east elevation of the side ell is a modern, one bay entry porch with 1/1 windows. The woodshed, attached to the north elevation of the ell, has a double barn door on the east elevation. Fenestration consists of 2/2 windows with simple wood trim. Architectural detail features cornice returns and corner boards



*Figure 7: Putnam-Alden House (HD #30) (Vermont Historical Society)*

**30a. Barn, 17 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1915, contributing**

This is a one-story, gable roof structure with a shed roof addition on the south end. Resting on a stone foundation, it has novelty siding exposed rafter tails, corrugated metal roof, and garage doors on the south elevation.

**31. Vera Lamb House, 120 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1945, .10 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story, Cape Cod house with wood clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. Centered on the south elevation is a pediment that caps a center door flanked by paired replacement 1/1 windows on each side. The entry is covered by an altered/new entry porch with a front gabled roof and thin square posts. The corners of the main block are framed by Tuscan pilasters. The slope of the site allows for a garage in the lower story on the west elevation. The wide overhang of the roof has narrow returns and a wide fascia. A concrete block chimney has been added to the west elevation. The side elevations have single 1/1 replacement windows with undersized shutters. A secondary entry is located on the east elevation in the northern bay.

**32. Lewis Leonard House, 17 Batten Road, c. 1890, 1 acre, non-contributing due to alterations**

This is a 1½-story house with clipped gables and a garage wing. It sits on a hill with a large setback from the road and is oriented parallel with the road. Resting on a stone foundation, it has wood clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. Centered on the eaves front elevation

is a modern entry porch flanked by a set of closely paired 1/1 windows on each side. Extending to the west was a wing rehabilitated into a two-bay modern garage. A barn of unknown age was removed c. 1996.

**33. Bumpus House, 37 Batten Road, c. 1928, contributing**

This is a 1½-story Cape Cod house with an entry vestibule influenced by the Tudor Revival style. The square plan is augmented by the projecting entry bay and a rear ell. This entry bay has the Tudor Revival-style asymmetrically sloping roof capped by a steeply pitched front gable. The sloping roof allows the entry bay to house a single-leaf entry and double-hung window. Resting on a concrete foundation, it has vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. Fenestration is 1/1 replacement windows.

**33a. Garage. c. 1988, non-contributing (outside POS)**

This one-story garage has vinyl siding and a shallow-pitched gable roof with asphalt shingles.

**34. Hicks-Stoddard House, 69 Batten Road, c. 1850, contributing**

This is a 2½-story, five by three-bay, house with a stone foundation, clapboard siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. It sits on a hill and is oriented parallel to the main road. Extending from the east elevation is a one-story ell. Centered on the eaves front is an enclosed entry porch with fixed windows and a clapboard knee wall. Fenestration consists of 2/1 windows with simple wood trim. Architectural details include a boxed cornice with returns, and beaded corner boards. There is a one-story shed attached to the north elevation.

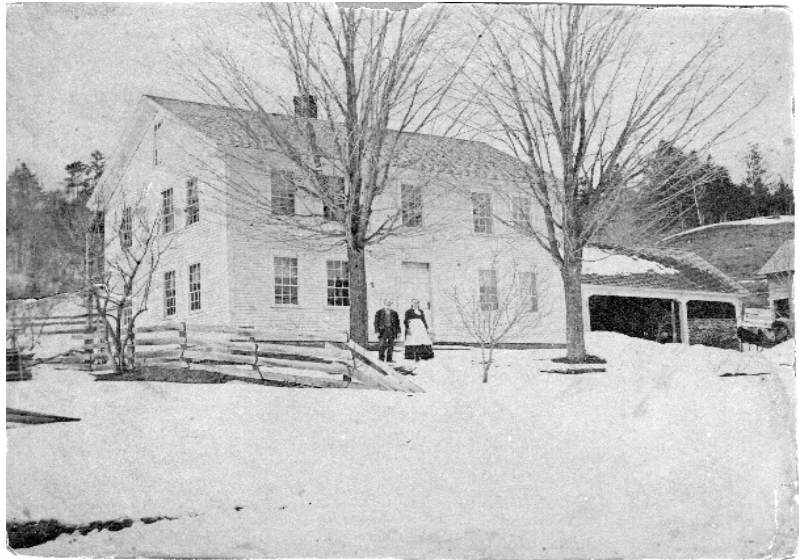


Figure 8: Hicks-Stoddard House (HD #34) (Syver Rogstad)

**35. Dana-Duke House, 64 Batten Road, c. 1938, c. 2017, non-contributing due to alterations**

This 1½-story house was extensively altered c. 2017. It has new wood clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. It has a moderate setback and is oriented perpendicular to the road. A c. 2017, one-story porch spans the entire side of the east elevation, leading to a wood deck add to the rear of the building. A single-leaf entry with a replacement door access the porch. A shed dormer lines the west elevation, abutting the cross-gable roof. An entry stoop of wood on the north side of the building leads to the original entry opening now holding a replacement door.

**35a. Stoddard Barn, c. 1840, contributing**

This three-story barn has a gable roof facing the road, clapboard siding, and a corrugated metal roof. A second-story door faces west towards the house. The first-floor entrance faces the road and has double-track doors. Remaining fenestration on the front facade is 9/6. There is a vent centered in the gable peak. The barn was banked into a slope to facilitate the loading of hay to the third story by pulley in the rear. It was historically part of the Hicks-Stoddard Farm (HD #34) immediately to the southwest.

**35b. Barn, c. 1945, contributing**

This is a one-story barn with vertical siding and a corrugated metal roof.

**35c. Duke Sawmill, c. 1945, contributing**

The one-story sawmill is located in a hayfield to the northeast of the house. It was not fully accessible for survey.

**36. Gilman Guernsey House, 44 Batten Road, c. 1850, .5 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story house has a cross-gable plan. Resting on a granite foundation, it has wood clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. Fenestration consists of 1/1 windows with peaked window hoods. There is an enclosed porch in the southwest corner of the cross gables; the porch has banks of double-hung windows. Attached to the east elevation is a carriage barn oriented perpendicular to the ell.

**37. East Calais School, 44 Batten Road, c. 1863, c. 1901, contributing**

This is a 1½-story schoolhouse reflects the Greek Revival style. It is finished with a belfry, wide eave boards, a two-part frieze, cornice returns, a louvered triangle-shaped tympanum, and a porch with new handicapped access. The door has a five-pane transom light and a bank of 12/12 windows on the east gable end. The school had a one-room plan with a wide piazza across the front, altered in the 1890s and early 1900s. There was a girls' and boys' entrance at each end. The steeply pitched roof is covered in corrugated metal sheets. A brick chimney closely abuts the belfry.

**38. Blodgett-Cate House, 11 Mill Street, c. 1938, .3 acres, contributing**

This is a 2½-story house reflecting the Dutch Colonial Revival with the indicative gambrel roof and continuous dormers across the façade and rear elevations. It sits on a hill and is oriented parallel with the road. Clad in c. 1987 vinyl siding, it has a concrete foundation and an asphalt shingle roof. Fenestration consists of 1/1 windows, which are paired on the front and rear elevations. The roof has overhanging eaves with narrow molded returns and a concrete-block chimney rising from the center. A garage entry is below-grade within the partially exposed foundation; it has vertical board doors.

**39. Cate House, 25 Mill Street, c. 1965, non-contributing (outside POS)**

This is a 1½-story front-gabled dwelling. The c. 1989 addition gives the building a traditional L-shaped plan. It is clad in vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. It has 1/1 replacement windows and single-leaf entry openings. A brick chimney projects from the side of the original main block.

**40. Waite House, 39 Mill Street, c. 1900, .5 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story house with a front gable and ell extending from the east elevation. It has vinyl siding, asphalt shingle roof, and 2/2 windows. Spanning the front elevation of the ell is closed in porch with a bank of 1/1 windows. The main block has wide overhanging eaves and returns. A brick chimney rises from the side of the ell.

**40a. Garage, c. 1920, contributing**

This is a one-story, gable roof garage with clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof.

**41. Leonard House, 59 Mill Street, c. 1900, .3 acres, contributing**

This is a 1½-story building with a gable roof and a porch spanning the west eaves side elevation. Resting on a parged concrete foundation, it has asbestos siding and a corrugated metal roof. The porch has a deep shed roof that largely obscures the building primary elevation. The roof of the porch is supported by thin wood posts and has exposed rafters. The single and paired openings hold 1/1 sash that appears to have been replaced.

**42. Park, c. 1977, non-contributing (outside POS)**

The park was historically the site of several prominent East Calais buildings destroyed by the 1873 fire. This included the Ira Dwinell Hotel; Jacob Lamb House; Moscow House and outbuildings; the Allen Goodall; Levison & Lamb Shops; and the Tin Shop where the fire started.



*Figure 9: Jacob Lamb House and printing building (destroyed fire 1873)  
(Vermont Historical Society)*

**43. Moscow Woods Triangle, .3 acres, contributing**

This is an open piece of land that lies in front of the Zephaniah Pierce House (**HD #11**), George-Marsh House (**HD #29**), Putnam-Alden House (**HD #30**), and Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). This lot was initially planned to be the East Calais village green, with the three houses and mill building having frontage on the green. In addition, the c. 1825 Shubael Wheeler House, now destroyed, would have fronted the village green from the east side. The four extant buildings constituted some of the oldest in the district, documenting that this was the original village center.

Name of Property

County and State

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT

**Period of Significance**

1815-1951

**Significant Dates**

1815

1873

1951

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

NA

**Architect/Builder**

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The East Calais Historic District is a representative example of a Vermont mill village, which grew around a source of strong waterpower that fostered development of gristmills and sawmills. The first mills were constructed in the early part of the nineteenth century by residents who tirelessly cleared the land and established housing and commerce. The village's hard-earned prosperity through industry and commerce incited the greatest period of community development in the second half of the nineteenth century. This success was short-lived as fires in 1873 and 1951 devastated the manufacturing enterprises, business ventures, and community gathering places. Yet, the architecture and development of East Calais remain visible to document its history, prosperity, and contribution to the growth of the Town of Calais. The East Calais Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for community planning and development, and Criterion C for architecture. The period of significance begins in 1815 to mark the residential development and ends in 1951, when the second of two fires forever altered the economic and industrial growth of East Calais.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The East Calais Historic District is a rural mill village that grew up around Kingsbury Brook, the waterpower that enabled development of mills and industries processing local raw materials such as lumber and grain. Although the buildings of those first enterprises no longer stand and the industries responsible for the nineteenth-century growth of the village no longer operate, East Calais today continues to document that early history with its architecture and its visible patterns of community development.

#### Community Planning and Development

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A for community planning and development. The historic district documents the establishment and growth of a mill village in central Vermont. Calais, despite its rural location and setting, was a planned community established in 1781 and surveyed by 1786. Unlike other Vermont towns, Calais never developed a core settlement area. Instead, six unincorporated villages developed independently, spread throughout the town: Adamant, East Calais, North Calais, Kent's Corner, Maple Corner, and Pekin. Settlement in all the villages began with the felling of trees, clearing of land for agriculture, and constructing of mills and residential buildings. Community development extended throughout the nineteenth century as the population increased. In East Calais, businesses and services were established, a school constructed to front the town green, circulating library formed, and church erected as the visual gateway to the 24-acre village. The greatest period of residential development occurred after the Civil War (1861-1865), resulting from the village's industrial and commercial prosperity. New construction abounded after a fire devastated the center of the village along Main Street (VT Route 14) in 1873, destroying about ten buildings and businesses. The location of these buildings is marked by a park established over a hundred years after the fire in 1977.

Elsewhere in the town of Calais, , development slowed as the population declined from 1890 to 1920. Yet, industrial and commercial activities thrived in East Calais during this period. The village boasted a gristmill, sawmill, creamery, tin shop, blacksmith shops, job printing shops, general

stores, and the Levison & Lamb box factory. East Calais was the only village in the town to have a water reservoir and was the first to have streetlights (installed in 1922). As the mid-twentieth century approached, the village embraced its earlier heritage with minimal new construction and development. A few examples of mid-century housing were added within the established plan of East Calais.

### Architecture

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion C for its intact collection of historic resources that represent the architectural forms and styles of Vermont from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. The greatest concentration of extant buildings date from the 1850s to 1880, representing development, prosperity, and rebuilding after the devastating 1873 fire. Regardless of the period of construction, the buildings generally have wood clapboard siding, granite foundations, gabled roofs with overhanging eaves, and wood-sash windows. The dominating architectural style in East Calais is the Greek Revival. These houses possess distinctive Greek Revival-style features such as side-hall plans, heavy cornice returns, and wide fascia boards. Some buildings are finished with high style detailing and others stand as vernacular interpretations of this nationally recognized style. Notably, as is common in Vermont, vernacular builder-designed and owner-inspired buildings from the nineteenth century present minimal ornamentation reflecting styles popular at the time of construction. These architectural details include decorative eave brackets, quoins, pointed arches, entries with full entablatures, fanlights, sidelights, full-width or wrap-around porches, and belvederes of the Italianate, Queen Anne, and Gothic Revival styles. Although most of the construction in the East Calais Historic District took place in the nineteenth century, prior to 1880, a few examples of twentieth-century architecture complete the picture.

### **Historic Context**

#### Settlement of Calais, 1780-1850

East Calais, located in the northern part of Washington County, was historically part of the 36-square mile township of Calais granted to Colonel Jacob Davis and Stephen Fay, both residents of Charlton, Massachusetts.<sup>3</sup> The General Assembly at Arlington granted the Calais charter on October 21, 1780. The charter comprised of 23,040 acres of land, and the fee for granting the land was £480 in silver or the equivalent in continental currency.

Resolved, That there be, and we Do hereby, grant unto Colonel Jacob Davis, Mr. Stephen Fay, and Company to the number of Sixty, a Township of Land, by the Name of Calais, Situated in this State, Bounded as follows, and lying East and adjoining to Worcester, and north of Montpelier, Containing Twenty-three Thousand and forty acres, and the Governor and Council are hereby Requested, to State the fees for Granting Said tract, and Issue a Grant under such Restrictions and Regulations as they shall Judge Proper.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006.

<sup>4</sup> Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*. Syracuse, New York: Syracuse Journal Office, 1889.



A Vermont Act of Incorporation officially created the Town of Calais on August 15, 1781. Although granted a charter ten months earlier, the original proprietors were slow to pay the charter fees, thereby creating a lag in the town's official recognition. Eventually, Colonel Jacob Davis, who also held interest in the towns of Montpelier and Derby, covered the fees. The Calais proprietors met in Charlton, Massachusetts, in 1781. Most of these men were land speculators who obtained charters and sold lots to settlers, and they often divided the land "with no knowledge of the topographic character of the town."<sup>5</sup>

The charter members charged Colonel Jacob Davis with the survey of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of Calais in 1783. Davis, accompanied by Captain Samuel Robinson, and a Mr. Brush, from Bennington, "found their way to Calais with their necessary stores, and after running four lines on the north side of the first division, they abandoned the survey." Three years later, during the summer of 1786, Captain Robinson, along with E. Waters, J. Tucker, E. Stone, and General Parley Davis, returned to complete the survey of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Divisions.<sup>6</sup>

Moses Haskell, considered the first Calais settler, "felled the first tree in 1787."<sup>7</sup> Francis West, Abijah Wheelock, Asa Wheelock, and Peter Wheelock soon followed, preparing the land for settlement. The early Calais settlers faced a challenging environment in the untamed northern forest of Vermont. The cut trees—white pine, birch, rock maple, and beech—were used for fencing and building of houses and outbuildings. They spent the warmer months isolated as they cleared the land of the new settlement and returned for the winter to Massachusetts. Even after forty families had settled in Calais, there still was no road into the town, and "pleasure wagons or well-nigh any wagon, except the ox cart, were long unknown here, and young and old either walked or rode a horse when going about."<sup>8</sup>

Following the inducements tendered by many New England villages to attract entrepreneurs, the town's officials offered "one hundred Spanish milled dollars and one hundred acres" to anyone who erected a gristmill or sawmill within two years.<sup>9</sup> In 1792, six years after the initial proposal, town proprietors offered "200 acres of land to any person who would build a corn (grist) mill and a sawmill."<sup>10</sup> Consequently, between 1791 and 1800, Calais witnessed a dramatic population increase, which in turn furthered the need for sawmills to produce finished lumber for building and gristmills to grind bulk grains, seeds, and feed crops.

Colonel Davis, a principal proprietor in the grants of both Montpelier and Calais, reportedly named the towns. The colonel is said to have "become prejudiced against the custom, so common among the settlers, of giving the name of the old home to the new."<sup>11</sup> With his choice of *Calais* and

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<sup>5</sup> Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006.

<sup>6</sup> Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

<sup>7</sup> Waite, Marcus Warren. *Pioneers of the Town of Calais, Vermont*. Montpelier, VT: Vermont Historical Society, 1932.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Johnson, Beverly, *Untitled Manuscript, Town of Calais, Calais Town Clerk, Calais, Vermont, 1988*.

<sup>10</sup> Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

<sup>11</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer. Vermont Watchman and State Journal Press: Montpelier, 1882*.

*Montpelier*, Davis reflected the nation's gratitude towards France, and its assistance during the American Revolution (1775-1783).

During the first half of the nineteenth century, the town of Calais grew steadily in population to form the unincorporated villages of Adamant, East Calais, North Calais, Kent's Corner, Maple Corner, and Pekin. In the first decades of settlement, the population increased nearly tenfold from 1790 with just 43 residents to 1800 with 443 people.<sup>12</sup> In 1801, there were 80 taxed individuals, with 1,679 acres of improved land and \$182 worth of houses. By 1830, the town taxed 252 people who owned 3,690 acres of land valued at \$1,559 and 541 houses/lots valued at \$1,401. There were 14 mills and stores, two practitioners of medicine, one merchant, and one trader.<sup>13</sup> The population had risen to 1,709 by 1840.

By the mid-nineteenth century, Vermont began to experience the widespread migration to the fertile lands in the Ohio River Valley, with nearly half of the state's population moving. These emigrants were largely hill farmers. In the Town of Calais, by 1850, the population had dropped by almost 300 to 1,410 residents.<sup>14</sup> Despite the decrease of residents in the town, development and prosperity began in earnest in East Calais between 1850 and 1880.

#### *Life in East Calais, 1780-1850*

As the land was cleared, the self-sufficient residents of East Calais cultivated wheat, oats, Indian corn, potatoes, flax, rye, beans, barley, peas, turnips, and orchard fruits (primarily apples). By the early 1790s, farmers were producing a considerable surplus of crops in need of processing. This, coupled with the desire for processed boards to erect their new houses and the village's location along the Kingsbury Brook, prompted the construction of gristmills and sawmills that became the economic stimulus for residents, commerce, and industry.

Joshua Lilley, recognizing the need and possible economic prosperity, started one of the first mills. Originally from Charlton, Massachusetts, Lilley arrived in East Calais in 1805, purchasing Lot #40 of the first division of lands where he built a log structure "on East Hill half a mile out."<sup>15</sup> Although his East Hill land was suitable for agriculture, Lilley's ambitions stretched beyond the farmstead as he "wanted to build a mill" and "his only sources of water power was in the valley below." Therefore, to reach the water, he "hacked out a road from his farm down the hill to the brook" and set up a crude mill.<sup>16</sup> Lilley then built a more substantial wood-frame house on East Hill, prompting the development of a settlement known as Lilley's Mills. In addition to running the sawmill from about 1800 to 1812, Lilley "entered into speculations of various kinds, among which was the mercantile, in which he was unsuccessful and had to retrench."<sup>17</sup> Ironically, Lilley's business acumen was mirrored by many future residents of East Calais, who explored various enterprises; some were successful and others continued the adventure.

<sup>12</sup> Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

<sup>13</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*. Vermont Watchman and State Journal Press: Montpelier, 1882.

<sup>14</sup> Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

<sup>15</sup> *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, March 30, 1936.

<sup>16</sup> Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais*.

<sup>17</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

In 1812, Lilley sold his mills to Major Nathaniel Davis of Montpelier. A “man of great energy and comprehensive business ability,” Davis built a sawmill on his east Montpelier farm in 1793, and by 1800, he operated his own mercantile business.<sup>18</sup> He moved to East Calais in 1824 and augmented Lilley’s mills with a new gristmill and sawmill, and opened a store for mill workers. Davis’ facilities also included carding wool and dressing cloth operations, a trip-hammer shop for making scythes and hoes, and a shop and forge for the manufacture of cut nails. The nails were made of iron ore mined from ledges west of the village. Realizing that the cost of shipping nails was too expensive, Davis closed the business after two years of operation. Subsequent endeavors included a cabinet factory, a clover-mill, and manufacturing of potash, a granular substance produced from wood ash and used in making soap. In addition to his industrial enterprises, Davis “bought farm after farm” and was a farmer “on a large scale and marketed more than 100 beef cattle yearly.”<sup>19</sup>

In 1824, Major Davis transferred ownership of the mill property to his two daughters and their husbands, Shubael Wheeler and Samuel Rich. The partnership operated the mill until about 1840, when Rich gained sole proprietorship of the new mill complex known as Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). There are many different stories related to the origin of the name that would become synonymous with East Calais, but the common denominator to all the tales seems to be the breaking of a giant millstone being was lifted into Samuel Rich’s gristmill. The sound was described as a “cracking with such a boom that it was likened to the sound of the Russian city’s bells during Napoleon’s siege.”<sup>20</sup> Another version of the story states that the grindstone fell to the rocks and shattered into pieces, “as was the bell in the once famous capital of Russia, Moscow.”<sup>21</sup>

Statewide, commercial activity increasingly focused on villages where farmers from the surrounding area could purchase or trade for needed manufactured and dry goods. This concept fed East Calais’ commerce with specialty stores and services supporting a locally focused clientele. The manufacturing censuses for the Town of Calais document carriage makers, harness makers, machinists, tanners, marble dealers, match manufacturers, and makers of finished lumber goods, barrel headings, butter tubs, and shoe pegs all opened shops in town.<sup>22</sup>

One of the first know mercantile businesses in East Calais was the firm of Walbridge & Pierce, run by John Walbridge and Alonzo Pierce. Ira Dwinell joined the partnership in 1837. The business provided residents with “a well-selected lot of new and fashionable goods, of superior quality, suited to the season.”<sup>23</sup> The partnership advertised:

To those who wish to buy, in Calais and vicinity, that they will not be undersold, and that by close application to business and strict economy, they hope to be able to sell for as small profits as their neighbors, and if fair trading has anything to do with trade, they intend to merit a due share of patronage.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer of Washington County, Vermont, 1783-1889*.

<sup>19</sup> Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer of Washington County, Vermont, 1783-1889*.

<sup>20</sup> “Calais, Vermont, New England USA.” *Virtual Vermont Magazine*, August 16, 2018.

<sup>21</sup> *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 8, 1893.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> *Daily Vermont Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 30, 1837.

<sup>24</sup> *Daily Vermont Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 30, 1837.

In 1841, Walbridge, Pierce, & Company dissolved, with Israel Dwinell and Pierce purchasing “the principal part of the stock owned...and now offer[ing] the same for sale at the store lately occupied by said firm.”<sup>25</sup> Competition arrived seven years later, in 1848, when James Harvey Cole opened the Cole General Store.

Socially, until the Civil War, most organized community activities “took place in the various district school buildings, in the homes of individuals, or outdoors. In winter, skating and sliding parties were popular while summer offered picnics, fairs, races, and a variety of recreational opportunities. Then more events seemed to take place outside—political events, patriotic observances, family reunions, and the athletic contests between town teams.”<sup>26</sup> Purpose-built meeting spaces in commercial buildings included Albert Dwinell Hall in the Dwinell Store (**HD #24**), Lamb & Levison Hall, and Allen Goodell’s Hall. Less formal social gatherings were often “held at a conveniently located farm. All the family takes part. There may be games and stories for the children, radio, or cards for the grown-ups. There are refreshments of popcorn, pull candy, apples, or sugar on snow. It is at these homely gatherings that a great deal of goodwill is cultivated. Neighborliness is developed, and more than one romance has sprung from such a source. There is a spirit of freedom and joy unrestricted that is contagious and yet healthy and good.”<sup>27</sup>

During this early period of development, construction of residential buildings was largely confined to the northeastern section of East Calais, in close proximity to the industries along the Kingsbury Brook. Extant examples include the Putnam-Alden House (**c. 1815, HD #30**), George-Marsh House (**c. 1825, HD #29**), Dwinell Homestead (**c. 1836, HD #20**), and Zephaniah Pierce House (**c. 1836, HD #11**). The modest homes of Caleb Putnam, Asa George, and Pierce were not ornamental, reflecting the utilitarian need for housing. With the Putnam and George families settled on flanking lots, mill owner Samuel Rich oversaw construction of the Greek Revival-style Dwinell Homestead. These three houses were sited perpendicular to each other around the planned village green. The Shubael Wheeler House, which is no longer extant, was similarly sited with the front entry facing west towards the planned green.<sup>28</sup> The growth of the community was illustrated in the c. 1850 construction of the East Calais Church (**HD #5**), which presented the high-style elements of the Greek Revival style. It was sited at the southwestern end of town as a landmark to the prosperity commencing along Main Street (VT Route 14).

### Prosperity and Development, 1850-1900

As the nineteenth century progressed, East Calais continued to develop with industry and commerce ensuring an economically strong village center. This prosperity brought new residents, who required fashionable housing and expanded business enterprises. The East Calais sawmills churned out finished boards and building tradesmen provided the ornate details that reflected popular architectural styles. The city directory recorded several carpenters, builders, masons, and joiners living in East Calais during the second half of the century, including Harry Stoddard, Royal

<sup>25</sup> *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 1, 1841.

<sup>26</sup> Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*.

<sup>27</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

<sup>28</sup> The Wheeler House was located at what is now the western end of the East Calais School (**HD #37**) parking lot.

Cunningham, Clarence Ainsworth, Julius Wheelock, and Gilman Guernsey. Guernsey's son, George, assisted his father for many years as a carpenter/builder before becoming an architect. The younger Guernsey (1839-1900), who would serve as mayor of Montpelier, was one of the most influential late-nineteenth-century architects in Vermont.<sup>29</sup>

Many of East Calais' residents were jacks-of-all-trades, often investing in new enterprises, opening secondary businesses, and learning different skills by which to support their families. Julius Wheelock, a practicing mason, worked at the sash and blind factory of Allen N. Goodell and later partnered with Jacob Lamb in the manufacturing of wood shoe pegs. Asa Alden was a hotelkeeper, blacksmith, and village postmaster, which initially was operated from his house. He also was a member of the building committee for the Union Chapel Association **(HD #5)**.

Brothers Levi and Daniel Pitkin ran a sawmill, while farming land in Marshfield. Albert Dwinell would operate Moscow Mills **(HD #12)**, obtaining the property from Samuel Rich. The resourceful Dwinell also worked the family farm in addition to teaching at the Calais school and running a successful mercantile business. By 1903, Albert Dwinell was:

Engaged in farming and merchandising through many years and is a representative of business interests, occupying a prominent position in commercial circles. He has been honored with a number of local offices and has also represented his district in both branches of the state legislature, where his loyal support of the measures in which he has believed has proved an important factor in molding the laws enacted during his terms of service.<sup>30</sup>

Dwinell's Moscow Mills was the greatest employer of East Calais residents. In 1889, Henry Wells took "a job of cutting, skidding and drawing to the mill 100,000 feet of lumber for Albert Dwinell for \$275."<sup>31</sup> Archie Persons worked for Dwinell "and became one of his most trusted and capable employees."<sup>32</sup> Byron Pierce was a teamster for A. Dwinell & Sons, hauling logs for the sawmill. Before becoming a printer, Charles Balentine performed numerous jobs for A. Dwinell & Sons. Frank Gray, who later ran the tin shop, worked as a miller for A. Dwinell & Sons, making \$300.00 a year.<sup>33</sup> In 1897, Dennis Dunham, "a sawyer for A. Dwinell & Son moved last week to the Dwinell House **(HD #17)**."<sup>34</sup>

Moscow Mills was eventually purchased by Otis Slayton, who produced clapboard siding, rake teeth for horse-drawn revolving rakes, and farm implement handles. He owned another sawmill, a grist mill, and a mechanic's shop in North Calais on Wheelock Pond and a 48-acre farm. Moscow Mills

<sup>29</sup> There are no known examples of George Guernsey's designs in East Calais.

<sup>30</sup> Carleton, Hiram, *Genealogical and Family History of the State of Vermont: A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Founding of a Nation, Volume 1*.

<sup>31</sup> *Burlington Free Press*, November 6, 1889.

<sup>32</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

<sup>33</sup> Dwinell, Harold, "Stories written by Harold A. Dwinell about Family Members and Incidents and People in East Calais, occurring in the 'Turn of the century Years.'"

<sup>34</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 3, 1897.

was subsequently operated by the prosperous Dennis Lane Manufactory Company of Montpelier. After some modifications, the mill generated molded and beaded boards, tongue-and-groove boards, and shingles, all used to ornament the new buildings of East Calais and surrounding communities.

The arrival of the railroad in the middle part of the nineteenth century drastically changed development and commerce across much of Vermont. Yet, the Montpelier & Wells River Railroad bypassed Calais when it established a station eight miles to the south in Plainfield in 1873. Attempts to have the railroad arrive locally never proved successful and local businesses continued to depend on stagecoaches to transport goods. Because East Calais “straddled the most direct route from Montpelier to Newport near the Canadian border,” the mail arrived by stage and two horses twice a day. The Concord Coach, with four horses, ran from Newport to Montpelier on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and returned on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. It stopped in East Calais around noon for dinner and a change of horses.<sup>35</sup>

East Calais served as the social center for the Town of Calais in the second half of the nineteenth century. During any given week, there were dances, socials, plays, parties, and social events. Harold Dwinell recalled the social life:

Besides the church services and Lodge meetings regularly held each week, there were a number of special events that added to the social life. Some like the flag-raising occurred only once every four years when there were presidential elections, school events like celebrations of Memorial Day, there were annual events and the Memorial Day usually included a special service often on Sunday at the Memorial Hall in North Calais; and Fourth of July celebrations with night fireworks sent up from the schoolyard, the Sunday School Picnic, and School plays were expected each year.<sup>36</sup>

Giving balance to the festivities was the Independent Order of Good Templars, which was established in 1852 to address religious and moral issues, as well as sponsor social events. The organization became a primary sponsor of community meetings and social activities, using a small room above the horse shed attached to the Dwinell General Store (**HD #24**). A purpose-built lodge was constructed in 1903 and, in addition to official functions, was used by the community for a variety of gatherings and events. Ida Clee Bemis recalled the temperance atmosphere of East Calais in the 1880s:

There was a thriving Lodge of Good Templars in East Calais when I was there. Most of the young people belonged. None of my family did...I don't know why we weren't a drinking family. In fact, I never knew of a drunk in East Calais. Most of the farmers had a barrel of

<sup>35</sup> Dwinell, Harold, “Stories written by Harold A. Dwinell about Family Members and Incidents and People in East Calais, occurring in the “Turn of the century Years.” Harold A. Dwinell papers, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>36</sup> Dwinell, Harold, “Stories written by Harold A. Dwinell about Family Members and Incidents and People in East Calais, occurring in the “Turn of the century Years.”

hard cider in their cellars, but if they drank to excess, they stayed home, and no one knew it.<sup>37</sup>

On September 5, 1873, "the little village of East Calais was aroused by alarm of fire."<sup>38</sup> The blaze damaged buildings on northwest side of Main Street southwest from Moscow Woods Road. It was discovered around midnight, having started in the basement of the Wing & Rideout tin and hardware store. The flames "burned through the floor above" to the firm's manufacturing and sales rooms. The tin-making process made it "impossible to remove the stock of goods and tools." The newspapers reported that the source of the fire was "a mystery that will probably not be solved. It was discovered in a room used only for wood and coal, and no fire of any description has been in the apartment."<sup>39</sup> The second-floor tenement "was occupied by the families of W. H. Rideout and Alonzo Batchelder, who were able to save but little of furniture and clothing."<sup>40</sup> The Rideout family "only had time to snatch a change of clothing and get out before the fire closed all avenues of escape."<sup>41</sup>

The fire then spread to Perley Whitcher's barn, "the next building south, which with its contents was completely destroyed; thence [the fire moved] to the boot and shoe store of D.B. Fay, whose stock was partly removed."<sup>42</sup> The next point of attack was the barn and Moscow House, which were entirely consumed.<sup>43</sup> The Moscow House was a "good hotel building, which had been recently much enlarged and improved; [the fire also destroyed the hotel's] two large barns, sheds, and outbuildings."<sup>44</sup> Proprietor Phineas Wheeler attempted:

...to save the furniture of the hotel, but without avail, as the wind carried the flames to the opposite side of the street, and the active endeavors of all were called at once into requisition to prevent the destruction of the buildings on that side.... In addition to the pecuniary loss of Mr. Wheeler, the devotees of the Terpsichore lost one of the finest dancing halls in the State—a hall which has been noted from time immemorial, and which has probably been the scene of more hours of revelry than any other in Vermont.<sup>45</sup>

*The Argus and Patriot* detailed the path of the fire as it next moved to the sash and blind factory of A.N. Goodell, a quick victim to the flames, "and here, among the combustible material afforded it, reveled joyously for a short time, until a smoldering pile of ashes once more asserted that it had become a conqueror.... at the residence of Mr. Z.G. Pierce, the fiery elements had to acknowledge itself vanquished. The roof of Mr. Pierce's residence had been covered in blankets, and the active endeavors of Messrs. J.W. Leonard and B.F. Rideout, in keeping them thoroughly wet, effectually checked the progress of the flames.... The houses on the opposite side of the street frequently

<sup>37</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."

<sup>38</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

<sup>39</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873.

<sup>40</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

<sup>41</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

<sup>42</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

<sup>43</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

<sup>44</sup> Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

<sup>45</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

caught fire but were extinguished without any serious damage.”<sup>46</sup> *The Vermont Christian Messenger* added, “the fire was continually catching at different points. At one time the church would be on fire, then a shed, or a dwelling, and so on everywhere in the vicinity. There was no respite from watching and working for the two hours the flames raged the hottest. Men, women and children worked with a will and a purpose to save all that was possible.”<sup>47</sup>

The “destructive conflagration” ravaged the village, as the “place being unsupplied with appliances for putting out fires...[which] raged with uncontrollable fury for about two hours.”<sup>48</sup> With at least eight of the village center’s buildings destroyed, property losses reaching approximately \$17,000; this is equivalent to \$363,224 in 2020. With the fire was finally controlled, the newspapers described the extent of the devastation, “East Calais could have easily presented its claims, in proportion to its population, to rivalry with Chicago and Boston, and even its ancient namesake has no cause to feel ashamed, one half of the village has been destroyed.” The newsmen speculated “whether the place is rebuilt depends upon the creditors of those who lost by the fire. The sufferers show commendable pluck and say that if they are not pressed too hard by their creditors they will at once commence rebuilding.”<sup>49</sup>

Although the scene of the fire can clearly be identified today, East Calais swiftly began to recover. A month after the fire, Allen Goodell was “rebuilding his sash and blind factory and cooper shop. His friends are doing the handsome thing by ‘lending a hand.’” C.A. Wing of Wing & Rideout, returned from Boston and “proposes to continue the tin business.”<sup>50</sup> At the beginning of 1874, the speculating reporters conceded that East Calais was indeed “rallying from the effects of the fire last fall. Mr. Goodell has a shop up and running, and more convenient than before, with a good hall, finished over his head. In the Spring, a hardware store and tin shop and the shoe shop of D.B. Fay are to be rebuilt.”<sup>51</sup> A park was eventually created in the center of the village, marking the location of the 1873 destruction.

During the next three decades, thirteen of the extant buildings in East Calais were constructed. Many of these presented elements of the popular Greek Revival style, some (later) embellished with detailing from the Gothic Revival and Queen Anne styles fashionable at the end of the century. Generally, stylistic emphasis was confined to the main entry, typically with a paneled door flanked by pilasters and usually surrounded by a full transom and sidelights. Examples from this period exhibiting the Greek Revival style include the Alonzo Clark House (**c. 1856, HD #22**), D.B. Fay House (**c. 1860, HD #7**), Wheeler-Bemis House (**c. 1860, HD #8**), Wheelock-Dudley House (**c. 1860, HD #10**), and Allen-Goodell House (**c. 1880, HD #25**). Greek Revival-inspired houses in East Calais typically stood 1½ stories, but the Ira Dwinell House (**c. 1867, HD #2**) and White-Sanders House (**c. 1870, HD #1**) prominently rose two stories in height. The Dwinell House was finished with pedimented gables completed by ornamental cornices, carved cornice brackets, quoins, and

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<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> *Vermont Christian Messenger*, Montpelier, September 11, 1873.

<sup>48</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873.

<sup>49</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

<sup>50</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 2, 1873

<sup>51</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 1, 1874.



elaborate door and window surrounds. It was described by Ida Clee Bemis as, "The most pretentious place in the village."<sup>52</sup> The distinct Italianate style was illustrated on the Bancroft House (**c. 1867, HD #18**), Simeon Webb House (**c. 1870, HD #25**), Wesley Peck House (**c. 1877, HD #4**), and Dell Dwinell House (**c. 1880, HD #19**). These two-story buildings were adorned with scrolled cornice brackets supporting wide overhanging eaves finished with expansive entablatures and ornate corner boards that read as pilasters; two of the houses were crowned with belvederes. Modest residential construction at the end of the nineteenth century was defined by the Lewis Leonard House (**c. 1890, HD #32**), Dwinell-Foote House (**c. 1890, HD #16**), and Waite House (**c. 1900, HD #40**).

#### East Calais During the Twentieth Century

Beginning with the 1890-1891 Recession through to the 1920s, the United States experienced a slow decline in its economic prosperity and development. The population in the larger Town of Calais dropped from 1,082 in 1890, to 865 in 1920. This was the most notable decrease of residents in more than 80 years. Yet, Calais remained active with commercial and industrial activities. The town boasted a gristmill, sawmill, creamery, blacksmith shops, printing shops, tin shop, general stores, and the Levison & Lamb box factory. The Village of East Calais had two stores, dressmaker, machine shop, harness maker, butter tub factory, and factory to produce fine wood boxes for pharmacies. Harold Dwinell recalled the bustling activity:

The mills, saw, and grist [provided] the greatest commercial activity in the community with the creamery and box shop in second and third positions of importance. The total workforce for the established businesses, including the clerks in the general stores and hardware shop, probably did not number more than twenty persons even in the busiest of season, and the workers were almost entirely village residents. The owners worked practically full time in each enterprise, and the small shops like the blacksmith shop wheelwright were almost entirely owner operated.<sup>53</sup>

In 1914, the State of Vermont provided the following description of East Calais:

The surface is hilly. The soil is somewhat sandy in the eastern part with clay in the southern and central parts of the town. The principal crops are hay, corn, oats, barley, potatoes, maple sugar, and dairy products. There are no large tracts of timber in town but many good woodlots, which contain spruce, hemlock, pine, fir, tamarack, ash, elm, poplar, basswood, maple, birch, and beech.<sup>54</sup>

East Calais was the only village in town to have a water reservoir and was the first to have streetlights, which were installed in 1922.<sup>55</sup> There were two general stores (the renamed Clarence Dwinell Store and Pierce-White Store) plus "five other shops, stores, and markets," which allowed for East Calais to carry "the largest and most complete line of dry goods and groceries of any village

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<sup>52</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."

<sup>53</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

<sup>54</sup> Vermont. Office of Secretary of State, *Industrial Vermont: The Mineral, Manufacturing, and Water Power Resources of the Green Mountain State*. Capital City Press: Montpelier, 1914.

<sup>55</sup> Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*, November 18, 2002.

in the town.”<sup>56</sup> The Clarence Dwinell Store (**HD # 24**), which was constructed c. 1850, operated as the Coates & Gove General Store in the early part of the twentieth century. The store offered a variety of items, including the White House Coffee brand and Page’s Perfected Poultry Feed. Proprietor Walter J. Coates operated a small printing office in the store, which also served as the village post office. In 1913, the store became the agent for the *Barre Times* and accepted subscriptions to the paper.<sup>57</sup> Every year, Dr. E.J. Rutter set up in the store for a single day to provide village residents with eye examinations.<sup>58</sup> Despite the sale of the property numerous times in the twentieth century, it remains a significant commercial enterprise for East Calais. The c. 1879 Pierce-White General Store (**HD #6**) was purchased in 1904 by Carlisle C. Renfrew, who offered groceries, hardware, sewer pipes, shingles, fireproof roofing, paints, oils, varnishes, and novelties. Following the death of Renfrew from pneumonia in 1906, the newspaper advertised the sale of the company, noting it as a “first-class chance for someone to engage in business.”<sup>59</sup> The mercantile business would be sold several times during the twentieth century before closing in the 1960s; the building was eventually rehabilitated to provide housing.

After a fire in 1901 destroyed the lower mills at the foot of the falls then owned by Guy Bancroft, Albert Dwinell recognized an opportunity to establish a modern gristmill to be part of Moscow Mills (**HD #12**) enterprise. *The Daily Journal of Montpelier* described the endeavor:

The building is a story and a half structure 70 by 28 feet with an ell 24 by 28 feet. It is equipped with modern appliances, including three grain elevators, a New Process grinding mill, and an Excell crusher, which have a capacity of 3,500 pounds per hour. L.B. Dow of Montpelier had the general supervision of building the mill and adjusting the machinery, which is a sufficient guarantee that is every way right. The total expense of the plant is estimated at \$2,000 [\$60,328 in 2020].

The great need of such a plant has long been in evidence, and the enterprise and push of Messrs. Dwinell & Sons in supplying the long-felt want is highly commendable. The site where the Bancroft mill was burned some months since has been purchased by that firm, so a mill will not be built at that point.<sup>60</sup>

A. Dwinell & Son continued to improve “their mill by extending the storeroom and erecting an office.”<sup>61</sup> The sawmill and gristmill complex at the c. 1840 Moscow Mills “required the greatest traffic. Practically all of the grain for processing and the ready-made mixed feeds had to be brought in.”<sup>62</sup> Dell Burton Dwinell, the son of Albert Dwinell, took over Moscow Mills in 1914 and had the dam rebuilt. The company owned a team of Western horses, heavy sleds, and wagons to assist with shipping the lumber and grist. The freight team was on the road six days a week, hauling feed from Plainfield or Hardwick. The wagons were loaded going both ways. In the summer and fall, workers

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<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

<sup>57</sup> *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 7, 1913.

<sup>58</sup> *Barre Daily Time*, Barre, Vermont, October 15, 1920.

<sup>59</sup> *Montpelier Evening Argus*, February 10, 1906.

<sup>60</sup> *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 3, 1901.

<sup>61</sup> *American Miller and Processor*, Volume 36, Issues 1-6, National Miller Publications., 1908.

<sup>62</sup> Dwinell, Harold, “Stories written by Harold A. Dwinell about Family Members and Incidents and People in East Calais, occurring in the “Turn of the century Years.”

loaded the wagon with planed softwood or rough hardwood lumber. Sacks of animal feed or loose bulk corn or oats usually made up the return load. In the wintertime, the return loads included feed for cows, horses, pigs and hens; flour for bread and oats for adults and children; and bulk grains.<sup>63</sup>

Under the ownership of the younger Dwinell in the 1920s, Moscow Mills produced 5,000 to 6,000 feet of edged lumber per day, with a yearly production of approximately 500,000 feet. There was also a dressing mill that handled 150,000 feet of custom work and stock.<sup>64</sup> Yet, Vermont sawmills and gristmills like Moscow Mills lacked access to broader markets, which limited the customer base to Calais and the surrounding towns. Moreover, operation of the mills was dependent on the climate and came to a standstill when the ponds froze. The industrious residents of East Calais, most of whom were employed at one time or another at the mills, focused interests in the colder months on manufacturing. This included the production of barrels, shingles, beaded board siding, wooden boxes and crates, and furniture. Factories produced harnesses, window sashes and blinds, pegs for shoes and boots, building nails, and scythes for cutting crops.

Ownership of the mills and manufacturing businesses changed frequently, with each new proprietor improving and altering production to benefit from advancing technologies and to meet consumer needs. In 1921, a sales announcement for the defunct Levison & Lamb Box Factory professed that the sawmill had been “used nearly 40 years by the said corporation for the manufacture of wood boxes,” and the property was “good for any business where water power is required.”<sup>65</sup> In the 1930s, Richard Lamb established a mill in the vicinity of his father’s former box company and “discovered a market for hardwood chair seats.” His sawmill “became a manufacturing plant from which loads of chair seat blanks went to chair factories down country.”<sup>66</sup> In 1941, Lamb’s sawmill business employed 40 men. He then began to manufacture maple furniture, which allowed for further expansion, “and he took over the old Independent Order of Good Templars hall as a place to finish his chairs.”<sup>67</sup>

When Moscow Mills was again sold in 1940, it was described as “reasonably up to date for that time period and was in good operating condition.”<sup>68</sup> The property then consisted of three elevators, an attrition mill, a small stone mill, a corn cracker, a corn sheller, several grain bins with draw off spouts, a built-in platform scale, a large box, bolting screens, and grain scoops. It was purchased by George Cate, who continued operation of the gristmill for corn and oats, sold the sawmill to Richard Lamb. When someone needed to operate the gristmill, they had to contact the sawmill foreman to set up an appointment because there was not enough water to run the sawmill and gristmill simultaneously. With the expansion of Lamb’s business, he wanted to build a hydroelectric plant for his chair stock mill. Consequently, because of the limitations of the available waterpower, Cate ceased the gristmill operations of Moscow Mills. He converted the business into a feed store and sold the unneeded mill equipment to free up space for his retail operation. When it ceased mill

<sup>63</sup> Dwinell, Ralph, “Daisy Goes Swimming,” Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>64</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

<sup>65</sup> *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, October 1, 1921.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>68</sup> Cate, “Moscow Mills,” Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

operations in 1943, Moscow Mills was the last known working gristmill in Calais, and possibly in all of Washington County. Today, the mill building and associated 1914 dam stand as rare documents of a nineteenth-century water-powered mill.

Following her husband's death in 1948, Vera Lamb expanded his chair-making enterprise to be a furniture manufacturing business under the name Lamb & Mullin. The company purchased the old tin shop, which was used as finishing rooms for the furniture. In May 1951, a fire broke out in the diesel engine house and spread across the road to the old lodge hall where barrels of chemicals and wood finishes were stored. The fire destroyed the sawmill constructed in the 1930s by Richard Lamb and "the adjacent eight-room home of Mrs. Richard Lamb, one of the plant's owners, and a two-story warehouse filled with finished furniture."<sup>69</sup> Erlene Leonard recalled:

I heard the whistle blow early one morning and went outside to see flames high over the tops of the buildings. I remember the sound, a loud crackling and crashing as the building fell in, and the intense heat on main street. The firefighters did a great job saving the houses on the street, and only Lamb's was destroyed.<sup>70</sup>

Although the loss of the business and buildings did not compare to the devastation caused by the 1873 fire, the 1951 fire did change the economic future of East Calais forever. The flourishing industrial significance of the village ceased with the destruction of the furniture manufacturing and sawmill of Lamb & Mullin. Closure of the industry terminated 30 to 40 local jobs. The company explored reopening the mill, but the costs were prohibitive, and the "loss of so many buildings and the cessation of the activity the mill had generated changed not only the face of the village but its future expectations."<sup>71</sup> The burned buildings remained in a demolished state until the summer of 1954, when bulldozers razed the site, an action "welcomed by everyone in town, but especially by all the East Calais people who've had to look at the blackened ruins every day...."<sup>72</sup>

With a decline in population in East Calais during the early twentieth century, construction was limited. From the first decade of the twentieth century until the 1951 fire destroying Lamb & Mullin, just six of the extant buildings were constructed. These included the Tudor Revival-inspired Bumpus House (**ca. 1928, HD #33**), the Dutch Colonial Revival-style Blodgett-Cate House (**ca. 1938, HD #38**) and the bungalow known as the Rudolph Leonard House (**c. 1939, HD #15**). Post-World War II construction included the Vera Lamb House (**c. 1945, HD #31**), Dana-Duke House (**c. 1945, HD #35**), Batchelder House (**c. 1964, HD #14**), and Cate House (**c. 1965, HD #39**).

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<sup>69</sup> *The North Adams Transcript*, North Adams, Massachusetts May 22, 1951.

<sup>70</sup> Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>71</sup> Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*. Barre, VT: Calais Historical Society, 1999.

<sup>72</sup> *Calais Independent*, Elizabeth Kent Gay, Ed., Calais, Vermont, July 4, 1954.

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository: Calais Town Clerk, Vermont Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2. Geographical Data

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Name of Property

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County and State**Acreage of Property** 23.93

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- A. **Lat:** 44.36514° N **Lon:** 72.43262° W
- B. **Lat:** 44.36441° N **Lon:** 72.43203° W
- C. **Lat:** 44.36395° N **Lon:** 72.43204° W
- D. **Lat:** 44.36379° N **Lon:** 72.43198° W
- E. **Lat:** 44.36403° N **Lon:** 72.43087° W
- F. **Lat:** 44.36392° N **Lon:** 72.43102° W
- G. **Lat:** 44.36369° N **Lon:** 72.43160° W
- H. **Lat:** 44.36303° N **Lon:** 72.43087° W
- I. **Lat:** 44.36317° N **Lon:** 72.43014° W
- J. **Lat:** 44.36421° N **Lon:** 72.42990° W
- K. **Lat:** 44.36617° N **Lon:** 72.42681° W
- L. **Lat:** 44.36665° N **Lon:** 72.42748° W
- M. **Lat:** 44.36675° N **Lon:** 72.42727° W
- N. **Lat:** 44.36701° N **Lon:** 72.42749° W
- O. **Lat:** 44.36715° N **Lon:** 72.42712° W
- P. **Lat:** 44.36740° N **Lon:** 72.42743° W
- Q. **Lat:** 44.36723° N **Lon:** 72.42777° W
- R. **Lat:** 44.36711° N **Lon:** 72.42827° W
- S. **Lat:** 44.36669° N **Lon:** 72.42875° W
- T. **Lat:** 44.36678° N **Lon:** 72.42901° W
- U. **Lat:** 44.36700° N **Lon:** 72.42910° W
- V. **Lat:** 44.36715° N **Lon:** 72.42906° W
- W. **Lat:** 44.36734° N **Lon:** 72.42910° W
- X. **Lat:** 44.36728° N **Lon:** 72.42878° W
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- AA. **Lat:** 44.36917° N **Lon:** 72.42805° W
- BB. **Lat:** 44.36927° N **Lon:** 72.42950° W
- CC. **Lat:** 44.36946° N **Lon:** 72.42956° W
- DD. **Lat:** 44.36891° N **Lon:** 72.43126° W
- EE. **Lat:** 44.36863° N **Lon:** 72.43063° W
- FF. **Lat:** 44.36832° N **Lon:** 72.43055° W
- GG. **Lat:** 44.36833° N **Lon:** 72.43064° W
- HH. **Lat:** 44.36815° N **Lon:** 72.43064° W

Name of Property

County and State

II. **Lat:** 44.36836° N **Lon:** 72.43138° W  
 JJ. **Lat:** 44.36800° N **Lon:** 72.43130° W  
 KK. **Lat:** 44.36765° N **Lon:** 72.43074° W  
 LL. **Lat:** 44.36756° N **Lon:** 72.43066° W  
 MM. **Lat:** 44.36752° N **Lon:** 72.43072° W  
 NN. **Lat:** 44.36737° N **Lon:** 72.43075° W  
 OO. **Lat:** 44.36736° N **Lon:** 72.43060° W  
 PP. **Lat:** 44.36573° N **Lon:** 72.43199° W  
 QQ. **Lat:** 44.36590° N **Lon:** 72.43185° W  
 RR. **Lat:** 44.36555° N **Lon:** 72.43240° W  
 SS. **Lat:** 44.36566° N **Lon:** 72.43267° W

**Or****UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983 ☐

1. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Boundary begins at the northwest junction of the Kingsbury Brook and the northern border of parcel 09-051.000. It then goes 104 meters southeasterly until meeting the northern junction of 09-062.000 and 09-059.000. It then follows the western and southern boundary of 09-059.000, running easterly to Marshfield Road. It follows Marshfield Road until reaching the northeast corner of parcel 09-058.000. It includes all of 09-058.000. At the southern point of 09-058.000, it follows an eastern straight line for 80 meters until meeting the southeast corner of 09-055.000. It follows the eastern border of 09-055.000 in a northerly direction. It follows the southern line of parcel 09-041.000 in its entirety. The line bisects 09-033.000 on a line that terminates at the southeast corner of 09-038.000. It follows the northeast boundaries of parcels 09-038.000 and 09-036.000 and then follows Route 14 in a northeast direction until it meets a point parallel with the northeast boundary of parcel 09-035.000. At this point, it follows a northwest line joining the northeast boundary of parcel 09-035.000. From this point, the boundary follows the shoreline of the Kingsbury Brook Mill Pond until it reaches the end of parcel 09-013.000. It then follows the outer boundaries of parcel 09-014.000 (thereby excluding this parcel from the district. It then follows the eastern boundary of parcel 09-026.000 in a northerly direction until it reaches a point parallel with the southeast corner of 09-027.000. It follows the southern boundary of this parcel in an easterly direction until reaching Batten Road. It follows Batten Road in a southerly direction until reaching a point parallel with the northeast corner of the parcel of 09-026.000. It then runs in a southwesterly direction

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Name of Property

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County and State

following the rear boundaries of all of the parcels on Batten Road. Upon reaching the northwest corner of parcel 09-022.000, it follows the west border of 09-022.000 crossing Moscow Woods Road on a line parallel with the west border of 09-022.000. It bisects 120-037-10155, following a straight line, in a southwesterly direction until meeting the junction of 09-049.000 and 09-051.000. It follows the northern border of parcel 09-051.000 until reaching the first point.

### **Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The East Calais National Register Historic District consists of the land and resources associated historically with the village of East Calais. This rural landscape retains the integrity of appearance that was present during the period of significance, 1812-1952. The district follows the perimeter property lines of the properties along Marshfield Road, Batten Road, Moscow Woods Road, and Route 14. Due to the size of parcels of **HD #20** (09-033.000), **HD #30** (parcel # 09-017.000) and **HD #35** (parcel 09-026.000) were truncated due to the size of the lots. The adjustments were made in a manner where to retain the agriculture features such as agriculture fields and woodlots. The geography surrounding East Calais Village assists in defining the district boundaries. Marshfield Road rises steeply to the south while the northern and southern ends of Route 14 features hills and steep mountain embankment limited development on the two ends of the district. Batten Road rises to the north, and Moscow Woods has limited development to the southwest. The junction of Moscow Woods Road and Route 14 form the central axis of the district with Marshfield Road and Batten Road serving as arterial roads. Woodlands form a ring around the district's entire southern boundary.

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### **3. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Brian Knight  
organization: Brian Knight Research  
street & number: PO Box 1096  
city or town: Manchester state: VT zip code: 05254  
e-mail: [brianknight@fastmail.fm](mailto:brianknight@fastmail.fm)  
telephone: 201-919-3416  
date: December 6, 2018

### **SHPO Editing By**

name/title: Laura V. Trieschmann, SHPO/Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian  
organization: Vermont SHPO  
street & number: 1 National Life Drive, Davis Bldg. 6<sup>th</sup> Fl  
city or town: Montpelier state: VT zip code: 05620  
e-mail: [Laura.trieschmann@vermont.gov](mailto:Laura.trieschmann@vermont.gov) [Devin.colman@vermont.gov](mailto:Devin.colman@vermont.gov)  
telephone: 802-505-3579  
date: June/July 2020

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 PPI (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered, and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: East Calais National Register District

City or Vicinity: Calais

County: Washington

State: Vermont

Photographer: Brian Knight

Date Photographed: September 9, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photograph 1 of 58: View looking southwest at north elevation of HD #1: White-Sanders House

Photograph 2 of 58: View looking west at east elevation of HD #1a: Outbuilding

Photograph 3 of 58: View looking northwest at east elevation of HD #2: Ira Dwinell House

Photograph 4 of 58: View looking west at east elevation of HD #3: Fair House

Photograph 5 of 58: View looking northwest at east elevation of HD #4: Wesley Peck House

Photograph 6 of 58: View looking southwest at north elevation of HD #5: East Calais Church

Photograph 7 of 58: View looking south at north elevation of HD #6: Pierce-White Store

Photograph 8 of 58: View looking south at north elevation of HD #6a: Outbuilding

Photograph 9 of 58: View looking southwest at north elevation of HD #7: D.B. Fay House

Photograph 10 of 58: View looking northwest at south elevation of HD #8: Daniels-Bemis House

Photograph 11 of 58: View looking northwest at south elevation of HD #8a: Outbuilding

Photograph 12 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #9: D.B. Fay Tenement

Photograph 13 of 58: View looking west at south elevation of HD #10: Wheelock-Dudley House

Photograph 14 of 58: View looking southwest at east elevation of HD #11: Zephaniah Pierce House

Photograph 15 of 58: View looking northeast at west elevation of HD #12: Moscow Mills

Photograph 16 of 58: View looking east at HD #13: Dam

Photograph 17 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #14: Batchelder House

Photograph 18 of 58: View looking northwest at south elevation of HD #15: Rudolph Leonard House

Photograph 19 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #16: Dwinell-Foote House

Photograph 20 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #17: Cunningham-Dwinell House

Photograph 21 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #18: Bancroft House

Photograph 22 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #19: Dell Dwinell House

Photograph 23 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #20: Dwinell Homestead

Photograph 24 of 58: View looking southwest at north elevation of HD #20a: Outbuilding

Photograph 25 of 58: View looking west at east elevation of HD #21: Alonzo Pierce House

Photograph 26 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #22: Alonzo Clark House

Photograph 27 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #23: A.C. Slayton House

Photograph 28 of 58: View looking south at north elevation of HD #24: C.R. Dwinell Store

Photograph 29 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #25: Simeon Webb House

Photograph 30 of 58: View looking south at north elevation of HD #25a: Outbuilding

Photograph 31 of 58: View looking south at north elevation of HD #26: Goodell-Guernsey House

Photograph 32 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #26a: Outbuilding

Photograph 33 of 58: View looking northeast at west elevation of HD #27: Gray-Coates House

Photograph 34 of 58: View looking southeast at west elevation of HD #28: Allen-Goodell House

Photograph 35 of 58: View looking northwest at east elevation of HD #29: George-Marsh House

Photograph 36 of 58: View looking southwest at east elevation of HD #29a: Outbuilding

Photograph 37 of 58: View looking west at east elevation of HD #30: Putnam-Alden House

Photograph 38 of 58: View looking northwest at south elevation of HD #30a: Outbuilding

Photograph 39 of 58: View looking north at south elevation of HD #31: Vera Lamb House

Photograph 40 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #32: Lewis Leonard House

Photograph 41 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #33: Bumpus House

Photograph 42 of 58: View looking northwest at south elevation of HD #34: Hicks-Stoddard House

Photograph 43 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #35a: Outbuilding

Photograph 44 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #35: Dana-Duke House

Photograph 45 of 58: View looking southwest at north elevation of HD #36: Gilman -Guernsey House

Photograph 46 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #37: East Calais School

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Photograph 54 of 58: View looking south at Mill Pond and HD #16

Photograph 55 of 58: Mill site

Photograph 56 of 58: Mill site

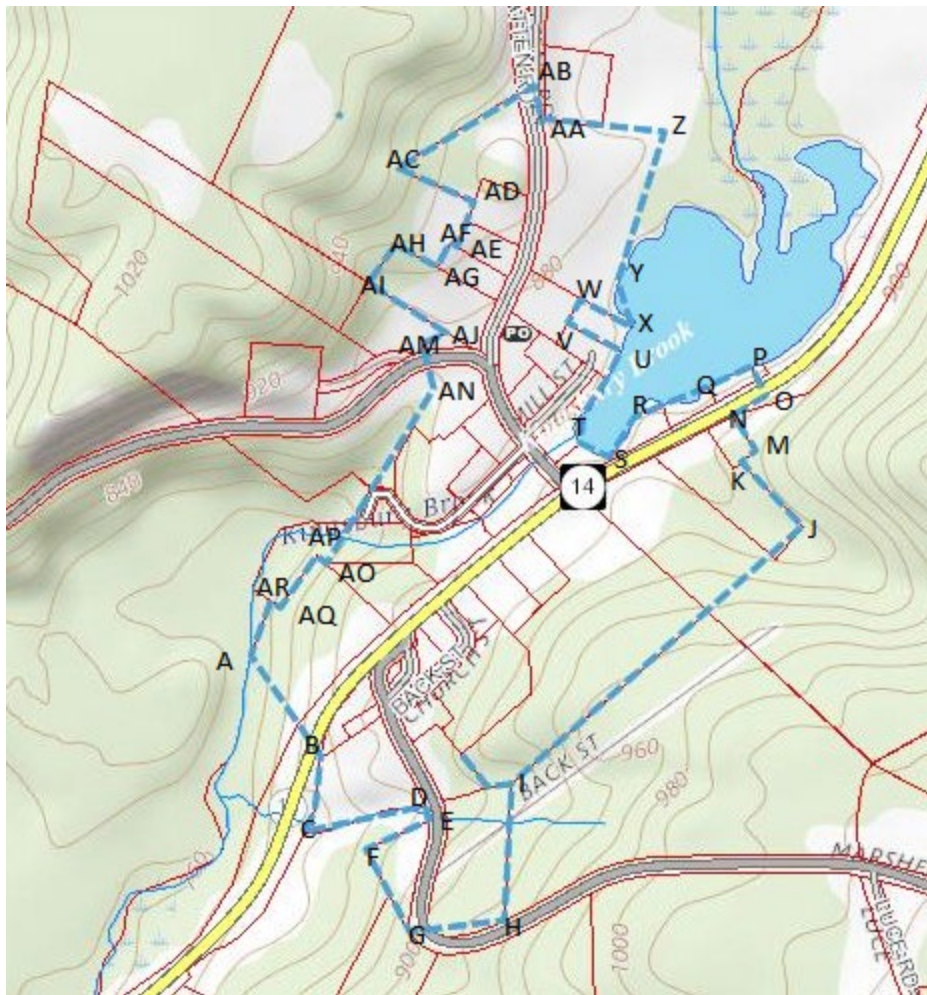
Photograph 57 of 58: Mill site

Photograph 58 of 58: Mill site

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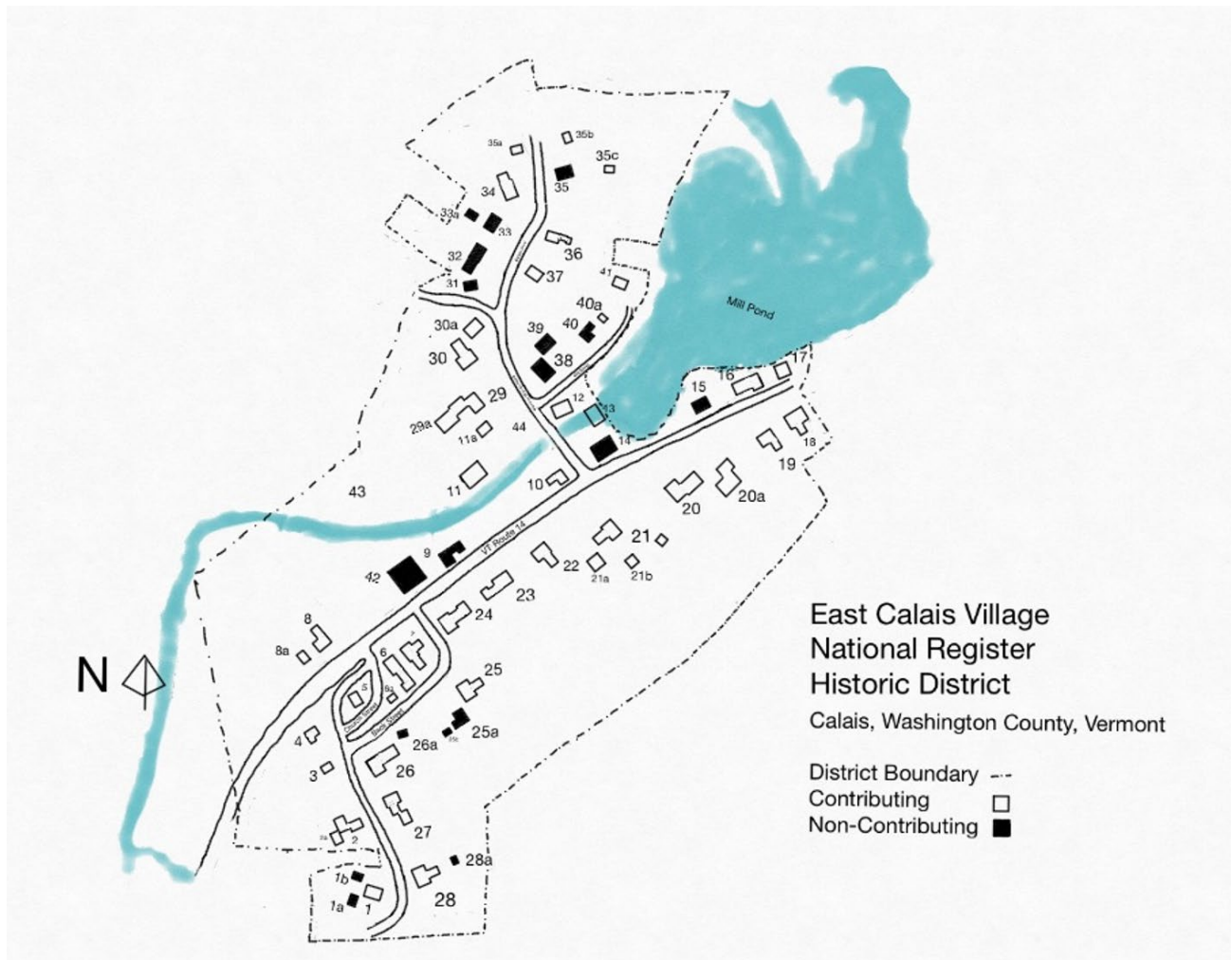
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**Property Owners (as of June 1, 2020)**

<b>1</b>	<b>White-Sanders House</b>	<b>100 Marshfield Road</b>	<b>C. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Richard and Joan Larow 26 Marshfield Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
1a	Garage	100 Marshfield Road	c. 2000	NC	Richard and Joan Larow 26 Marshfield Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
1b	Apartment House	100 Marshfield Road	c. 1890	NC	Richard and Joan Larow 26 Marshfield Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>2</b>	<b>Ira Dwinell House</b>	<b>74 Marshfield Road</b>	<b>C. 1867</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Karen Lane PO BOX 150 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Fair House</b>	<b>42 Marshfield Road</b>	<b>C. 1951</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Alfred and Marieka Larrabee 86 Sand Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Wesley Peck House</b>	<b>26 Marshfield Road,</b>	<b>c. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Richard and Joan Larow 26 Marshfield Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>East Calais Church</b>	<b>One Marshfield Road</b>	<b>c. 1850</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>East Calais Church 41 Back Street East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Pierce-White Store</b>	<b>4488 VT Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Hans A Kruse 4488 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
6a	Garage	4488 VT Route 14	c. 1890	C	Hans A Kruse 4488 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>7</b>	<b>D.B. Fay House</b>	<b>12 Back Street</b>	<b>c. 1860</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Marshall Stover 12 Back Street East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Daniels-Bemis House</b>	<b>4475 VT Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1860</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Joshua and Daphne Larkin 4475 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
8a	Barn	4475 VT Route 14	c. 1865	C	Joshua and Daphne Larkin 4475 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>9</b>	<b>D.B. Fay Tenement</b>	<b>4533 VT Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1871</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Wheelock-Dudley House</b>	<b>15 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1860</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Charles and Laura Bateman 20329 Paradise Lane</b>

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					<b>Topanga, California 90290</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Zephaniah Pierce House</b>	<b>47 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1830</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Helen Wilson PO Box 74 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
11a	Garage	47 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1900	C	Helen Wilson PO Box 74 East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>12</b>	<b>Moscow Mills</b>	<b>34 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1840; c. 1901</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>John Risse 18 Oakland Road Brookline, MA 02445-6743</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Dam</b>		<b>c. 1914</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>John Risse 18 Oakland Road Brookline, MA 02445-6743</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Batchelder House</b>	<b>10 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1964</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Steven C. Gomez PO Box 52 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Rudolph Leonard House</b>	<b>4655 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1939</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Ronald and Linda Clark PO Box 45 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Dwinell-Foote House</b>	<b>4677 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1890</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Pamela Mallett 4677 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Cunningham- Dwinell House</b>	<b>4713 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Otis Bruce 4713 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Bancroft House</b>	<b>4706 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1867</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Dale Batchelder 4706 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Dell Dwinell House</b>	<b>4662 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1880</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Mathew and Deborah Sylvester PO Box 53 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Dwinell Homestead</b>	<b>4610 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1836</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Dwinell Homestead Association C/O Andrew Noyes 2600 Kennedy Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07306</b>
20a	Barn	4610 Route 14	c. 1890	C	Dwinell Homestead Association C/O Andrew Noyes 2600 Kennedy Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07306

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<b>21</b>	<b>Alonzo Pierce House</b>	<b>4608 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1835</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Timothy and Buffy Root Po Box 181 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
21a	Barn	4608 Route 14	c. 1890	C	Timothy and Buffy Root Po Box 181 East Calais, Vermont 05650
21b	Outbuilding	4608 Route 14	c. 1900	C	Timothy and Buffy Root Po Box 181 East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>22</b>	<b>Alonzo Clark House</b>	<b>4564 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1856</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Robert E. Mitchell PO Box 38 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>A.C. Slayton House</b>	<b>4536 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1879</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Kathryn Nuissel 2007 Hill Street Berlin, VT 05602</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>C.R. Dwinell Store</b>	<b>4520 Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1850</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Edward Walbridge 1417 Kent Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Simeon Webb House</b>	<b>31 Back Street</b>	<b>c. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Alan Powell and Cheri Rossi 31 Back Street East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
25a	Garage	31 Back Street	c. 2000	NC	Alan Powell and Cheri Rossi 31 Back Street East Calais, Vermont 05650
25b	Shed	31 Back Street	c. 2000	NC	Alan Powell and Cheri Rossi 31 Back Street East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>26</b>	<b>Goodell-Guernsey House</b>	<b>73 Back Street</b>	<b>c. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>John Brooks PO Box 164 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
26a	Garage	73 Back Street	c. 1970	NC	John Brooks PO Box 164 East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>27</b>	<b>Gray-Coates House</b>	<b>77 Marshfield Road</b>	<b>c. 1870</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Ashley Andrews 77 Marshfield Road Plainfield, Vermont 05667</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>Allen-Goodell House</b>	<b>93 Marshfield Road</b>	<b>c. 1880</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Linda Hennessy 93 Marshfield Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>

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28a	Barn	93 Marshfield Road	c. 2000	NC	Linda Hennessy 93 Marshfield Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>29</b>	<b>George-Marsh House</b>	<b>45 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1825</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Syver and Mary Rogstad PO Box 144 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
29a	Barn	45 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1850	C	Syver and Mary Rogstad PO Box 144 East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>30</b>	<b>Putnam-Alden House</b>	<b>17 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1815</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Beth McCullough 1227 VT Route 14 Woodbury, Vermont 05861</b>
30a	Barn	17 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1915	C	Beth McCullough 1227 VT Route 14 Woodbury, Vermont 05861
<b>31</b>	<b>Vera Lamb House</b>	<b>120 Moscow Woods Road</b>	<b>c. 1945</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Jeffery Gallagher PO Box 16 East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>32</b>	<b>Lewis Leonard House</b>	<b>17 Batten Road</b>	<b>c. 1890</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Anne Toolan 17 Batten Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>33</b>	<b>Bumpus House</b>	<b>37 Batten Road</b>	<b>c. 1928</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
33a	Garage	37 Batten Road	c. 2000	NC	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
<b>34</b>	<b>Hicks-Stoddard House</b>	<b>69 Batten Road</b>	<b>c. 1850</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Reese Hersey 69 Batten Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
<b>35</b>	<b>Dana-Duke House</b>	<b>64 Batten Road</b>	<b>c. 1945</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
35a	Barn	64 Batten Road	c. 1850	C	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
35b	Barn	64 Batten Road	c. 1980	NC	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
35c	Sawmill	64 Batten Road	c. 1900	C	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650

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36	<b>Gilman - Guernsey House</b>	<b>44 Batten Road</b>	<b>c. 1850</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Piper and Alan Rexford 44 Batten Road East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
37	<b>East Calais School</b>	<b>34 Batten Road</b>	<b>c. 1863</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Calais Recreation Association 3120 Pekin Brook Road East Calais, Vermont, 05650</b>
38	<b>Blodgett-Cate House</b>	<b>11 Mill Street</b>	<b>c. 1938</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Michael McCarty 805 Morgan Drive Boulder, Co 80303</b>
39	<b>Cate House</b>	<b>25 Mill Street</b>	<b>c. 1965</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Michael McCarty 805 Morgan Drive Boulder, Co 80303</b>
40	<b>Waite House</b>	<b>39 Mill Street</b>	<b>c. 1900</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Brian Emmons 39 Mill Street East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
40a	Shop	39 Mill Street	c. 1920	C	Brian Emmons 39 Mill Street East Calais, Vermont 05650
41	<b>Leonard House</b>	<b>59 Mill Street</b>	<b>c. 1900</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Erlene Leonard 59 Mill Street East Calais, Vermont 05650</b>
42	<b>Park</b>	<b>Route 14</b>	<b>c. 1977</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>Calais Recreation Association 3120 Pekin Brook Road East Calais, Vermont, 05650</b>
43	<b>Village Green</b>	<b>Moscow Woods Road</b>		<b>C</b>	

## Individual Building Ownership Histories

### 1. **White-Sanders House, 100 Marshfield Road, C. 1870, .5 acres, contributing**

Henry L. Pierce of New Bedford, Massachusetts, sold this property to Charles Burnap in 1868. Burnap was a carpenter and joiner and likely built the existing house. Born in 1839, Burnap married Sarah Williams in 1866. Benjamin White, proprietor of the general store (**HD #6**), purchased the building in 1874, when the Burnaps moved to California. Burnap also owned the Bancroft House (**HD #18**), which he sold to White at the same time. White lived here with his wife, Amelia, and one son and three daughters. In 1896, White sold the house and land to George E. Sanders, who ran the tin shop (**HD #42**). It remained in the Sanders family until 1945.

### 2. **Ira Dwinell House, 74 Marshfield Road, C. 1867, 1.38 acres, contributing**

Ira and Clarina Dwinell purchased this property in 1855. Following the sale of their hotel, the Moscow House (**HD #42**), they began planning their new house in early 1867. In April, Mr. Morse “help[ed] to plan our house” and “measur[ed] lumber.”<sup>73</sup> On April 25, Ira Dwinell commenced by digging the cellar. Alonzo Pearce (**HD #21**) dug the well in early May and on May 14, eleven men assisted with the house and barn. Five days later, Clarina Dwinell wrote in her diary that the “house, barn & shed raised” and she added “how tired one gets of work.”<sup>74</sup>

In 1903, A. Dwinell & Sons bought the house “known as the Ira S. Dwinell place.”<sup>75</sup> At this time, Albert Dwinell operated the sawmill and gristmill at Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). Dwinell rented the home as a tenement. In 1905, Arthur Mack “moved his family from A. Dwinell’s tenement to what was formerly the Ira S. Dwinell place.”<sup>76</sup> It remained in the Dwinell family until 1905. Subsequent owners were Glen and Susie Burnham, and Durwood and Lilla Lamb. Durwood Lamb “worked at times in the box shop. He was a horse trader and performed livery services. He was a butcher and on a small piece of land south of the village built a slaughterhouse.”<sup>77</sup> Chet Briggs and Karen Lane purchased the building in 1978.

### 3. **Fair House, 42 Marshfield Road, C. 1951, .3-acre lot, contributing**

Wesley Peck originally owned a 1½-story, gable front house. This property had the same ownership as the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**). After Mabel Burnham purchased

<sup>73</sup> Clarina Dwinell Diary, Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

<sup>74</sup> Ibid.

<sup>75</sup> *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 6, 1903.

<sup>76</sup> *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 4, 1905.

<sup>77</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.



the Wesley Peck House in 1948, she sold this small parcel to Ila Fifield in 1951. Fifield was a disabled artist who assembled and painted Alice in Wonderland figurines.<sup>78</sup> Following the death of Fifield, the property was bequeathed to the Northern New England Conference of Seventh Day Adventists.

**4. Wesley Peck House, 26 Marshfield Road, C. 1877, .25 acre, contributing**

Wesley Peck operated a large farm on the premises. He sold “a building lot with buildings” to George W. Parker in 1877.<sup>79</sup> Dying in 1921, George Parker spent all 72 years of his life in East Calais. The Peck Farm was the closest active farmstead to the village during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The house then went to Parker’s daughter, Bertha Leonard. She and her husband, Earl, ran the farm as well as raised raccoons for pelts. The Leonard House was a social center for the village kids as Bertha Leonard welcomed them into her home and gave them a safe and happy place to congregate. In 1944, then-owner Charles H. Barrett sold the property to Neil and Hazel Tassie. The Tassies owned general stores in Barre and Woodbury. He was also involved in the moving business. In 1949, the Tassies sold the property to Mabel Burnham (figure 1).

**5. East Calais Church, One Marshfield Road C. 1850, .07 acres, contributing**

This 1½-story church building was built with a single-entry room or vestibule, auditorium, and balcony. There was an open porch across the front of the building with entries at each end. The entries opened into a vestibule with doors near each end that accessed the auditorium.<sup>80</sup> There was a wood closet at one end of the hallway and stairs to the balcony at the other end. The choir and organ were originally in the balcony; the congregation added a platform at one side of the pulpit for the choir. The balcony was also used for Sunday School classes. There was a wood stove located in the main room with the wood storage located in the hallway. There was an extensive series of stalls built to house carriages and/or horses while churchgoers attended worship services. The small green lawn behind the church once held several more stalls identical to the two stalls at the Pierce-White General Store.

**6. Pierce-White General Store, 4488 VT Route 14, C. 1818, C. 1870, .2 acres, contributing**

This store was originally located across the street in the vicinity of **HD #42** and moved to its present location during the early nineteenth century. Local stories suggest that “the building was hauled across the brook, the lady who lived inside continued to fry

<sup>78</sup> Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>79</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>80</sup> Bemis, Ida Clea. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.” *Vermont History* 74 (Summer/Fall 2006): 156–175.

donuts en route.”<sup>81</sup> Brothers Henry Pierce and Alonzo Pierce owned the building lot in the 1860s.<sup>82</sup> Zephaniah Pierce purchased the store in 1863 and then sold it to his business partner, Benjamin P. White, in 1876. In 1893, White sold it to Walter Pierce. Subsequent store owners in the early twentieth century were C.C. Renfrew, A.G. Dutton, and Barnard Adelson. Adelson sold a “lot of land with store and outbuildings” to Ivan and Ola Gray in 1935.<sup>83</sup> Glen and Rhey Sulham sold it to Wendell and Marion Reed of East Barre in 1952. This transaction included “all the store fixtures and equipment of every kind on said premises.”<sup>84</sup> Bernie Chapin purchased the property in 1966.

**7. D.B. Fay House, 12 Back Street, C. 1860, .3 acres, contributing**

In 1863, James and Mary Morse sold their house lot to David B. Fay, who lived here with his wife and two children. Fay, a lawyer, owned several tenement buildings in East Calais. In 1862, his uncle, Samuel Fay, gave him a c.1845 farmstead on East Hill. In 1879, he built “a two-story woodshed adjoining his house.”<sup>85</sup> The house then belonged to Jane Dwinell, who sold it to John and Annette Emery in 1910. John Emery was a sawyer with the sawmill at Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). The Emerys sold it to Fred and Etta Burnham in 1915. The Burnhams sold “the so-called D.B. Fay Place” to Carroll and Ida Lamb in 1926.<sup>86</sup> At this time, Carroll Lamb became the East Calais postmaster and the post office was set up in this house. He also was a job printer with offices in the vicinity of **HD #42** as well as one of the buildings between **HD #9** and **HD #10**. It remained in the Lamb family until 1944 when they sold to Albert and Hildred Meyers. In 1962, Richard Sample owned the property (figure 2).

**8. Daniels–Bemis House, 4475 VT Route 14, C. 1873, 6 acres, contributing**

Part of this land initially belonged to Ira Dwinell, who operated the Moscow House immediately to the east. Phineas and May Wheeler were the next hotel proprietors. The hotel property then went to James and Mary Morse, who continued hotel operations. Following the fire of September 1873, the Morses sold the land to Samuel Daniels, who most likely built this house. Daniels spent his entire life in Woodbury, and this was an investment property. In 1873, Mrs. O. Blanchard was a tenant in the building. Albert Dwinell was the next owner; he sold the house to Luther D. Bemis, who ran a shoe shop in the adjacent barn. The Bemis family rented the house to several boarders. During the 1880s and 1890s, Mark R. Bliss “moved to town from Marshfield into the house owned

<sup>81</sup> Ibid.

<sup>82</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>83</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

<sup>85</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, June 4, 1879.

<sup>86</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

by L.D. Bemis;" "Sullivan Owen rented an apartment of the L.D. Bemis House;" and "Jerome Bliss moved into the Luther Bemis tenement."<sup>87</sup>

Bemis sold the property to George Pierce and his son, Byron Pierce. The younger Pierce was a teamster for A. Dwinell & Sons, hauling logs for the sawmill. Father and son, Merrick Ainsworth and Clarence Ainsworth, were the next owners. In 1915, Aro Slayton and his son, Earl, moved from Adamant "to the Byron Pierce house, which they have purchased."<sup>88</sup> Slayton's nephew, John Slayton and his wife, Blanche, were the next owners. The Slaytons operated the village telephone office in their home. John Slayton raised mink in the back of the house and had a slaughterhouse down the hill. Fred and Minnie Horr owned it in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Haudier P. Roy owned the building in the years following World War II.

Another portion of this land initially belonged to Benjamin White, who sold it to the Capital Creamery Company of Boston. The company also owned facilities in East Montpelier, Washington, and Williamstown. Cream from the East Calais station was "delivered at the corner and taken by the company to Montpelier."<sup>89</sup> A member of the Dwinell family recalled a creamery building on this property and "going with grandfather's hired man as he conveyed on a wheel barrow one or two cans of milk to this building."<sup>90</sup> The property then transferred to one of the creamery owners, Francis Batchelder, in 1902. In 1903, Clarence Ainsworth purchased the creamery site as well as the adjacent house.

#### **9. D.B. Fay Tenement, 4533 VT Route 14, C. 1874, .3 acres, non-contributing**

This land began as several parcels later joined. By 1874, D.B. Fay purchased four lots of land from Perley Whitcher, J.B. Bliss, Willard Rideout, and Allen Goodell. These parcels constituted the harness shop, tin shop, and blacksmith shop that were destroyed by the fire of 1873. These parcels comprised the land between the D.B. Fay Tenement (**HD #9**) and the Wheelock-Dudley House (**HD #10**). The destroyed buildings consisted of 2 ½-story gable-front barn, a Cape Cod house, and another barn.

Under Fay's ownership, the house served as a tenement. Subsequent owners were George Lance, Asa B. Wheeler, and Theodore Morrison. Morrison rented the property from Lance for his blacksmith shop located in a barn to the east. Three years later,

<sup>87</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 14, 1892; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 25, 1883; *Northfield News*, Northfield, Vermont, May 25, 1892.

<sup>88</sup> *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 14, 1915.

<sup>89</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, May 20, 1896

<sup>90</sup> Dwinell, Harold, "Stories written by Harold A. Dwinell about Family Members and Incidents and People in East Calais, occurring in the "Turn of the century Years." Harold A. Dwinell papers, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

Lance sold his blacksmith's shop to Morrison. In 1900, he sold the "piece of land with barn thereon" to Fred and Evelyn Cole of Waltham, Massachusetts "reserving the blacksmith shop."<sup>91</sup> The Coles sold the "barn lot" to Durwood Lamb, who "moved last week from his father's residence to his new house next door to the meat market."<sup>92</sup>

Lamb **(HD #2)** combined several parcels of land. In 1908, he sold a number of the buildings to Galen Hatch, who ran a meat market in the buildings as well as rented space for commercial and residential tenants. During the early twentieth century, Carroll Lamb **(HD #7)** ran a job printing shop on the first floor. Hatch sold the property to his business partner, Harvey Burnham **(HD #21)**, in 1910. By 1916, Hatch moved to Woodbury and a year later, the business partnership of Hatch & Burnham dissolved. Harvey Burnham took over the "East Calais end of the business of the firm known as Hatch & Burnham" and conducted "the entire business at East Calais under Harvey Burnham."<sup>93</sup> Burnham sold the slaughterhouse lot to John Slayton **(HD #8)** and another part of the property to Lee and Lilla Tebbetts. Tebbetts previously ran a meat market out of the A.G. Dutton & Co. Store **(HD#6)**. The Tebbetts then sold the building to Vera Lamb, who ran Lamb & Mullin **(HD #42)** in 1945. In 1953, Vera Lamb sold the "Lee Tebbetts Store Property" to Richard and Muriel Hill.<sup>94</sup> The Hills sold the property to Neil R. Tassie in 1960 (figure 3).

#### **10. Wheelock-Dudley House, 15 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1860, .25 acres, contributing**

Eliza Wheelock owned the house in the 1860s. She previously lived on a Woodbury farm with her husband, Titus, and their six children. Titus Wheelock was the son of Abijah Wheelock, one of the first settlers of the Town of Calais. Abijah Wheelock moved from Charlton, Massachusetts, to Calais in 1788 and "built a hut and returned to his native town."<sup>95</sup> After the death of Titus Wheelock in 1850, Eliza returned to East Calais. She lived here with her son, Julius Wheelock, who worked at Goodell's sash and blind factory. George Guernsey, a carpenter and joiner, lived with the Wheelocks in 1860. Julius Wheelock partnered with Jacob Lamb in 1863 and manufactured shoe pegs. Marcus Waite then owned the building, selling it to Samuel Swasey in 1868. Swasey immediately sold it to Charles Dudley. Born in Sutton, Massachusetts, Dudley served as Calais Selectman, Lister, and state representative. He married Susan Rich, the sister of Samuel Rich, one of the original large landowners in East Calais. Signey and Louse Foster bought it in 1876. The Fosters then sold the house to Otis Slayton **(HD #10)**, who

<sup>91</sup> *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 25, 1900.

<sup>92</sup> *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, June 20, 1900.

<sup>93</sup> *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 5, 1917.

<sup>94</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>95</sup> Carleton, Hiram, *Genealogical and Family History of the State of Vermont: A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Founding of a Nation, Volume 1*. Lewis Publishing Company, 1903.

ran the gristmill and sawmill (**HD #12**). Slayton lived here with his wife, Sarah. By 1883, Jacob Lamb (**HD #42**) was a tenant in the house. In 1891, Otis Slayton sold the "Charles Dudley House" to Sherlock and Carrie Peck.<sup>96</sup> Two years later, the Pecks sold it to John and Nella Gilman. In 1912, the Gilman estate sold "the building lot with buildings" to Clarence Dwinell.<sup>97</sup> Dwinell sold it to Charles V. Kent in 1935.<sup>98</sup> Prior to moving into the village, Kent bred horses on his farm in Calais.

**11. Zephaniah Pierce House, 47 Moscow Woods Road, C. 1830, .5 acres, contributing**  
Zephaniah Pierce, the proprietor of the general store (**HD #6**), was the first known occupant of this house. He sold the land to Oliver Wheelock, Clarence Ainsworth and Ira Ide in 1864. Ide lived on a farm on East Hill; Ainsworth and Wheelock were siblings. This building once had frontage on the road leading from Moscow Woods Road to the lower grist mill. In the 1870s, Merrick Ainsworth, the son of property owner, Clarence Ainsworth, lived here. Merrick was a jeweler in East Calais between 1874 and 1884. Reuben Wilbur purchased the property in 1905 and used it as a boarding house.<sup>99</sup> It remained in the Wilbur family until 1982.

**12. Moscow Mills, 34 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1840, c. 1895, c. 1901, c. 1914, .16 acres, contributing**

Levi Pitkin and Erasmus Burnap owned part of the land during the 1860s. In 1866, Pitkin sold "all the land I own in the Town of Calais," which included "my full share of grist mill, saw mill and dwelling house" to Orlando H. Leonard and Orion A. Pierce.<sup>100</sup> They sold "the gristmill, saw mill and water privileges" it to Wesley Peck.<sup>101</sup> Peck sold the property "with shop standing thereon on adjoining sawmill near the westerly end of the mill dam together with drum and shafting" to Otis Slayton in 1871.<sup>102</sup> This transaction also included "the shop adjoining on the west and built by said Slayton."<sup>103</sup> In 1892, Slayton "sold his shop and adjacent land" to Albert Dwinell.<sup>104</sup>

During the 1880s and 1890s, Albert Dwinell purchased land from Slayton and Peck, creating a larger mill property. In 1938, Kimball Blodgett bought the grist mill property on the "westerly side of the river at the abutment of the bridge crossing the river below said river to the pond and west bank of pond."<sup>105</sup> This transaction also included a

<sup>96</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>97</sup> Ibid.

<sup>98</sup> Ibid.

<sup>99</sup> *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 30, 1882.

<sup>100</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid.

<sup>102</sup> Ibid.

<sup>103</sup> Ibid.

<sup>104</sup> Ibid.

<sup>105</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

smaller parcel of land that Blodgett could continue to use “as long as Blodgett owned and operated the sawmill which is connected with the gristmill.”<sup>106</sup> Blodgett reserved “all carpenter and machinist tools now in said gristmill, also all lumber stored in the loft of said grist mill and all loose shafting, boxes, pulleys and mill repair supplies stored under mill.”<sup>107</sup> George Cate purchased the mill in the 1940s and were granted “use of the water wheel which runs gristmill for doing custom grinding, two, ten hour days” until Blodgett sold the sawmill.<sup>108</sup> Blodgett agreed not to sell grain or maintain any retail grain business in Calais for ten years. In 1943, the Cates sold the sawmill property to Richard Lamb, who owned the chair stock mill (**HD #42**). In 1961, Houghton Cate assumed ownership of the grist mill, operating a retail feed business on the site (figure 4).

### **13. Dam, c. 1914, c. 1974, contributing**

This dam replaced a wooden dam. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a wooden structure spanned the dam connecting the Moscow Mills building with the sawmill on the south side of the river. In 1914, Dwinell hired D.W. Cooley of Waterbury, Vermont, to build the cement dam. In 1943, Houghton & Cate sold the sawmill and water rights to Lamb & Mullin. Following the 1951 fire that destroyed the Lamb & Mullin factory site, the dam ceased to operate. In the mid-1970s, Houghton Cate reacquired the water rights and repaired the dam. Cate built a hydroelectric plant in a small wood clapboard shed immediately to the southwest of the dam. In 1974, the existing penstock on the east side of the river was added.<sup>109</sup>

### **14. Batchelder House, 10 Moscow Woods Road C. 1964, .25 acres, contributing**

This was originally the site of a sawmill, which was connected to the Albert Dwinell gristmill on the opposite side of the dam. In 1889, Albert Dwinell sold “undivided half interest of the sawmill and lands with all machinery, tools and fixtures including shafting, belting saws...” to his children Clarence R. Dwinell and Franklin Dwinell.<sup>110</sup> They sold it to Dell B. Dwinell “together with stock lumber, team, sleds, wagons and tools belonging there excepting the clapboard machinery” in 1910.<sup>111</sup> Dell B. Dwinell owned it in the early twentieth century, operating the sawmill. In 1943, Lamb & Mullin (**HD #42**) purchased the sawmill site from Houghton Cate, using the site for their business. Following the 1951 fire that destroyed the Lamb & Mullin site, the sawmill sat

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<sup>106</sup> Ibid.

<sup>107</sup> Ibid.

<sup>108</sup> Ibid.

<sup>109</sup> Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*.

<sup>110</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>111</sup> Ibid.

unused for many years. Lamb & Mullin eventually tore down the sawmill and sold the property to Robert and Rose Carr in 1963. Carl and Gladys Batchelder bought it in 1964.

**15. Rudolph Leonard House, 4655 VT Route 14, c. 1939, .21 acres, non- contributing**

This was originally the site of a 1½-story building with a rear ell and several outbuildings. Ira Page of Plainfield owned this property in the mid-nineteenth century and James Kelso lived here in 1873. In 1882, Kelso moved to the Warren Williams farm in Hardwick, and Henry Newton purchased this property. Newton sold it to Henry and Julia Carley in 1889. The Carley family sold it to Florence Wait in 1915, and the original house burned in 1919. Wait sold it to Charles and Alice Dana in 1929. Dell B. Dwinell purchased the property in 1930. During Dwinell's ownership, he joined three separate parcels. Additional properties included "the old grist mill" and the "sawmill/gristmill including shafting, belting and saws."<sup>112</sup> In 1937, Dwinell sold the larger lot to Kimball and Mary Blodgett. The Blodgetts sold the "Carley Lot" to Rudolph Leonard in 1938, and the bungalow was constructed.<sup>113</sup> The Leonards sold it to Glenn and Ida Ellis in 1963.

**16. Dwinell-Foote House, 4677 VT Route 14C. c.1890, .15 acres, contributing**

This property was undeveloped until Albert Dwinell built this house. It then went to his son, Frank Dwinell. He rented the property to a variety of occupants. Nancy Parker and her son Charles Balentine were the first known tenants. Nancy Parker was a laundress and village nurse, often serving as a midwife. Frank A. Dwinell sold it in 1928 to Edith Foote, who then sold it to E. Bart Scribner and Earl W. Winter in 1936. A graduate of Goddard Seminary, Winter was active in banking in Barre, and Scribner was an insurance agent in Barre. They most likely did not live in the extant house and it may have been an investment. William and Adelaide Bushey purchased it in 1946. The Busheys were farmers in Westford and Barre before moving to East Calais. Robert and Bernice Macon bought it in 1949. Married in 1946, Robert Bacon was a veteran paratrooper of World War II. Bernice Bacon was a schoolteacher.

**17. Dwinell Tenement, 4713 VT Route 14, C. 1870, .12 acres, contributing**

In 1873, Royal Cunningham lived here and then it belonged to the Dwinell family. It served as a tenement for people who worked at the Dwinell's mills. In 1897, Dennis Dunham, "a sawyer for A. Dwinell & Son moved last week to the Dwinell House."<sup>114</sup> Elam Prevost, a farmhand on Albert Dwinell's farmstead, lived in the house. The Haskins family were the next owners. Walter and June Jackson purchased the building in 1941. Ralph Mears bought it in 1951.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>114</sup> *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 3, 1897.

**18. Bancroft House, 4706 VT Route 14, C. 1867, .2 acres, contributing**

Albert Dwinell owned this land in the 1870s. He sold two parcels of land to Charles and Sarah Burnap in 1875 and 1880. The Burnaps sold it to John Bancroft in 1885. Bancroft was a retired, Plainfield undertaker and coffin maker. The Bancroft estate sold it to Stephen Farrar, formerly a Berlin farmer. Farrar sold it to his relative, Emma J. Lacount, in 1926. Lacount sold it to Reuben Wilbur in 1953. Haudier Roy purchased it in 1961. Roy used to own the Wheaton Farm on Trow Hill in Barre. He also owned properties in Barre, in which he leased to a tenant; this East Calais property may have also been an investment. Roy sold it to Dale Batchelder in 1962.

**19. Dell B. Dwinell House, 4662 VT Route 14, c. 1900, c. 1982, 1.5 acres, contributing**

This land belonged to the Dwinell family. After Dell B. Dwinell married Olive Palmer in 1899, they built this house. During construction, they lived in the Dwinell Homestead (**HD #20**), and then they moved across the street to the Dwinell Tenement (**HD #17**). It remained in the Dwinell family until 1957 when it was sold to Raymond and Freida Garand. The house was described in family papers:

First floor master bedroom, living room, parlor, large front hall, and stairway to second floor was built with what was called a flat roof. Actually, the roof sloped four ways to the chimney in its center beside which is an opening for receiving the rain and snow water to convey it to a cistern on the second floor. The ell part was a story and a half and including the kitchen-dining room, pantry and stairway to the cellar and to a small kitchen chamber and entrance to the attic. Also, beyond the kitchen was the back hallway, privy and woodshed and half story attic overhead. Between the kitchen-dining room area and the living room was a small hallway with outside door to a large porch with steps down to the carriage drive. There was access to this small hall from both the kitchen-dining room hall from both the kitchen-dining room and the living room. Back of this hallway was a passageway between the kitchen-dining room and living room. <sup>115</sup>

**20. Dwinell Homestead, 4610 VT Route 14, c. 1836, 112 acres, contributing**

Samuel Rich, who owned the gristmill (**HD #12**), lived here In 1859, Rich sold Albert Dwinell a portion of his land, including this building lot. Over the years, the Dwinells increased the property size by purchasing land from Alonzo Snow, Otis Ainsworth and Almon W. Guernsey (figure 5).

<sup>115</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.



**21. Alonzo Pierce House, 4608 VT Route 14, c. 1835, 4.75 acres, contributing**

Alonzo and Thirza Pierce built this house on a terrace above street level. Alonzo Pierce, the son of Asahel Pierce, was one of the early settlers of East Hill. Thirza was the niece of Israel Dwinell, who owned a large farm further to the east. Alonzo and Thirza's son, Alonzo D., and his wife, Dulcena, were the next owners of the house. Like his father, Alonzo D. represented Calais at the State Legislature as well as served as postmaster. Their daughter, Inez, was the village dressmaker, played the organ in church, and "was very clever in arranging plays and entertainments for the church and the Red Hall."<sup>116</sup> She was also the librarian for East Calais Circulating Library with the library located in the Pierce home.<sup>117</sup>

Walter Pierce bought the house in 1896 and rented it to Otis Slayton, who owned a sawmill (**HD #12**). Slayton "moved into A.D. Pierce's with the intention of making it his home."<sup>118</sup> In 1904, the Pierce children "deeded the home place, known as the Alonzo Pierce place, to Archie Persons, the son of Joseph Persons."<sup>119</sup> The Persons family moved from Adamant to East Calais, having lived in a house on the west side of the village before moving to the Alonzo Pierce House. In 1918, Persons moved to North Montpelier, and a year later, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Burnham "moved into Archie Person's house."<sup>120</sup> Walter and Emma Chapin purchased the building in 1924. Chapin performed various jobs in East Calais, including being a teamster and assisting local farmers with haying. Bernie Chapin sold to the Jackman family in 1926. Chapin and the Jackmans operated a meat and grocery store (**HD #24**) in the 1920s, and Bernie Chapin continued to live with the Jackmans during this time. Orrin Jackman was a sheriff and Charlotte Jackman taught at the school.

**22. Alonzo Clark House, 4564 VT Route 14, c. 1856, .37 acres, contributing**

Owning the land immediately to the east, Alonzo Pierce (**HD #20**) sold this land to Alonzo Clark in 1855. In the 1870s, Perley Whitcher, a blacksmith, lived here. During the 1880s, Moses Lamberton, the "village smithy," lived in this house.<sup>121</sup> Both Whitcher and Lamberton ran their blacksmith shop across the street between D.B. Fay Tenement (**HD #9**) and the Wheelock-Dudley House (**HD #10**). Charles Bumpus lived here during the early twentieth century.

**23. A.C. Slayton House, 4536 VT Route 14, C. 1879, .4 acres, contributing**

<sup>116</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century." *Vermont History* 74 (Summer/Fall 2006): 156-175.

<sup>117</sup> Ibid.

<sup>118</sup> *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 4, 1896.

<sup>119</sup> *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 21, 1904.

<sup>120</sup> *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 5, 1919.

<sup>121</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."

In 1873, this property was owned by Aro C. Slayton, who oversaw construction of the house. In 1891, Slayton “deeded his house and 30 acres of land to Sharlock Peck.”<sup>122</sup> The Slaytons then moved to Adamant. In 1892, Horace Pike purchased the Sharlock Peck house for \$700.<sup>123</sup> Pike, a farm laborer, lived here with his wife and daughter, Clara. James Warhurst, a village blacksmith, lived in this house during the early 1900s. The Pike family sold it to Frank and Mattie Gray in 1910. The Grays sold it to Enos Hopkins in 1914. In April 1915, Oscar Guernsey “purchased the two tenement house of Enos Hopkins,” and Hopkins moved to East Cabot.<sup>124</sup> By 1920, Oscar Guernsey was a retired farmer, and he rented this house to tenants. The guardian of Oscar Guernsey sold it to Carl and Sarah Bancroft in 1922. Carl Bancroft worked in the mill, and Sarah (Sadie) had a small candy and ice cream store. The Bancrofts then sold it to Ola Gray, who sold it to John Morale in 1935.

**24. Clarence Dwinell Store, 4520 VT Route 14, c. 1850, .3 acres, contributing**

This building has had continued use as a general store. Ira Dwinell sold this to Henry Pierce of New Bedford, Massachusetts, in 1852. Pierce sold it to Alonzo Pierce in 1860, and Albert Dwinell purchased it four years later. Albert sold it to his son Clarence Dwinell in 1889. The addition on the front “once housed a milliner and later the town library.”<sup>125</sup> Initially, the Good Templars’ Lodge Hall was located on the second floor with the horse sheds located on the first floor.<sup>126</sup> There were apartments in the upstairs rooms as well. During the early 1900s, Mrs. Hammond and her daughter, Kate, lived in the apartment. In 1910, Clarence Dwinell sold it to Dell B. Dwinell, who ran the store for approximately three years. Dwinell sold it to Austin and Alta Gove in 1913. Called the Coates & Gove store during the early twentieth century, Warren J. Coates operated the store with his father in law, Austin Gove. Herbert and Elise Wallace purchased it in 1939, and they expanded the scope of the operations by adding an automobile garage and gas station. Orrin and Charlotte Jackman bought it in 1969.

**25. Simeon Webb House, 31 Back Street, C. 1870, 1 acre, contributing**

L.J. Pierce owned this building in 1873 and then Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**). Alonzo Pierce sold it to Simeon Webb in 1880. Webb, who owned the lower grist mill, lived here with his wife, Lavinia. Alfred Jack, a teamster for Alonzo D. Pierce, purchased the building in 1903. During the early twentieth century, this was the home of Dr. Gale, the town physician. In 1904, Austin Sanders “purchased of Alfred Jack the house and lot known

<sup>122</sup> *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, February 26, 1891.

<sup>123</sup> *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, March 16, 1892.

<sup>124</sup> *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 30, 1915.

<sup>125</sup> Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*.

<sup>126</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

as the Simon Webb place, and will move there as soon as proper repairs are made.”<sup>127</sup> Sanders, a Civil War veteran, was the father of George E. Sanders, the proprietor of the tin shop **(HD #42)**. Ivan and Ola Gray, who operated the general store **(HD #6)**, purchased “the Simon Webb place” in 1934.<sup>128</sup> In October of 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Scott of Kents Corners “bought of Ivan Gray the so-called Madam Sanders house.”<sup>129</sup> Scott worked for Richard Lamb at the sawmill and furniture factory (figure 7).

**26. Pierce-Guernsey House, 73 Back Street. C. 1870, .3 acres, contributing**

Edson York sold this lot to Allen Goodell in 1870. Goodell owned a store in the vicinity of the park **(HD #42)** with an upstairs social hall. Ira Dwinell sold the “Allen N. Goodell House and lot” to Benjamin P. White in 1880.<sup>130</sup> Thomas J. Porter owned the property in 1883. The estate of Persis W. Porter sold it to Walter L. and Diana Pierce in 1889. Pierce ran the general store **(HD #6)** and tin shop **(HD #42)**. In 1905, Oscar Guernsey “purchased the Walter Pierce house and has moved his family there.”<sup>131</sup> Guernsey, a veteran of the Civil War, used to run a farm on the North Montpelier road in Calais before moving into the village. Upon purchasing the Walter Pierce house, Guernsey made “quite extensive repairs inside.”<sup>132</sup> It remained in the Guernsey family until 1949, when George and Kate Guernsey sold it to Glenn and Emma Sulham in 1953.

**27. Gray-Coates House, 77 Marshfield Road, C. 1870, .60 acres, contributing**

Benjamin P. White, who owned several buildings in East Calais as well as the general store **(HD #6)**, sold this land to Royal Cunningham, a carpenter and joiner. Cunningham sold it to Dr. George H. Gray in 1871. In 1880, Gray lived here with his son, Ivan.<sup>133</sup> After the death of Dr. Gray in 1895, his wife Nettie continued to live on the premises for another twenty-three years. She served the community as a librarian and was an active member of the I.O.O.F. The Gray estate sold it to Forrest Gray and Gerald Hawkins in 1955 (figure 8).

**28. Allen Goodell House, 93 Marshfield Road, C. 1880, 2 acres, contributing**

Alonzo Pierce sold this building to Allen Goodell in 1880. Goodell operated the sash and blind factory in the vicinity of the park **(HD #42)**. Asa Dutton, who ran the general store **(HD #6)**, was the next owner. The Asa Dutton estate sold it to Jane Dwinell in 1895. Bert and Laura Bancroft lived here in the late nineteenth century. Bert Bancroft worked as a miller at the Moscow Mills **(HD #12)**. Moving from a farm on East Hill, Herman and

<sup>127</sup> *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, July 22, 1904.

<sup>128</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>129</sup> *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, October 1937.

<sup>130</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>131</sup> *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 7, 1905.

<sup>132</sup> *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, November 8, 1905.

<sup>133</sup> *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, February 14, 1928.

Elle Bullock purchased the property in 1922. Merl and Carrie Benjamin purchased it in 1925. Carrie Benjamin was the daughter of previous owners Bert and Laura Bancroft, and she was born in this house in 1898. Ina Sanders purchased in 1934. Merl Dunward Lamb sold the “house and garden plot” to Breck and Carolyn Campbell in 1987.<sup>134</sup>

**29. George-Marsh House, 45 Moscow Woods Road, C. 1825, 1.2 acres, contributing**

Asa George, the first known occupant of this house, was born in Weare, New Hampshire, in 1797. The family moved to Calais in the late eighteenth/early nineteenth century. George was a physician and farmer. During the 1830s, Jonathan Herrick was a shoemaker, living and working at this site. James Harvey Cole lived here in 1858, followed by Edwin George. He ran a harness shop to the southwest of his home, close to the river and the lower gristmill. James R. George sold the house to Frank E. Marsh and Charles A. Adams in 1895. Frank Marsh was a “popular wheelwright,” who “fashioned many a sled and wagon wheel” that were “expertly and substantially made.”<sup>135</sup> Marsh and Adams sold it to Jack and Julia Homes in 1895. Elmer and Dorothy Celley purchased it in 1926. Celley held a variety of jobs working for E.E. Brown, Lee Tebbetts, C.A. Wing Farm, George Wheelock, and Dell Dwinell. Celley sold the property to Delbert and Hattie Lawson in 1932. Celley moved to Woodbury, returning to East Calais in 1936.

**30. Putnam-Alden House, 17 Moscow Woods Road, C. 1815, 2.56 acres, contributing**

This house was built by Caleb Putnam. Asa Alden, a native of Natick, Massachusetts, came to Calais in 1819 and moved into the house. Alden was the village blacksmith and postmaster, using the home for both operations. In 1886, “the Asa Alden place” was offered for sale “comprising a house, barn, sheds and seven acres of land. Also, a lot of farming tools and household furniture.”<sup>136</sup> The house was sold at public auction to Roderick Holton. He lived here with his wife, Clarina, and their son and four daughters. He then sold it to Laura Marsh, who then sold it to Byron L. Wilbur in 1927. His estate sold “the Marsh Place” to Walter and June Jackson in 1938.<sup>137</sup> M. Guy George purchased it in 1941, selling to Oliver and Christa Pelletier in 1946 (figure 9).

**31. Vera Lamb House, 120 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1945, .10 acres, contributing**

Norman Nye owned this property in the nineteenth century. Subsequent owners were Lewis Leonard and Laurie York/Nelson. The Bancroft family owned it in the early twentieth century. Kimball Blodgett owned the property in the 1930s and sold it to Robert and Ruth Keniston in 1931. The Kenistons owned a large farm on Batten Road, outside of the village. Subsequent owners were Horace Duke and Charles and Nellie

<sup>134</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

<sup>135</sup> Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

<sup>136</sup> *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 29, 1886.

<sup>137</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

Hubbard. Vera Lamb, who owned the Lamb & Mullin company, lived here in the late twentieth century.

**32. Lewis Leonard House, 17 Batten Road, c. 1890, 1 acre, non-contributing**

Lewis Leonard sold this to Laurie Nelson, who then became Laurie York. Bert and Laura Bancroft sold it to Kimball Blodgett in 1928. Robert and Ruth Keniston, who owned a large farm on Batten Road, owned it in the 1930s. Elmer and Dorothy Celley purchased it in 1936.

**33. Bumpus House, 37 Batten Road, c. 1928, contributing**

Norman Nye and William Orcutt were early owners of this land. Betsy Martin, Laura Nelson, Lewis Leonard, and Bert Bancroft owned the land in the nineteenth century. Kimball Blodgett purchased the land in the 1920s, selling the lot with a new building to Charlie and Lucy Bumpus in the 1940s.

**34. Hicks- Stoddard House, 69 Batten Road, c. 1850, contributing**

Alfred Hicks and Alfred Eddy were both early occupants of this house. Hicks ran one of the first stores in East Calais with James Cole as well as serving as a selectman, Lister, and justice of the peace. The Stoddard family owned the farm in the mid-nineteenth century. Jasper M. Stoddard sold H.E. Stoddard the farmhouse and barn in 1855. Guy and Anna Bancroft, Charles Dana, and then Horace Duke were the next owners. During World War II, Bertha Leonard and her granddaughter, Erlene Leonard, moved from their farmhouse at the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**) to an upstairs apartment at this house. When Horace Duke purchased the land in 1945, the transaction did not include the barn, which became part of 64 Batten Road (**HD #35**) (figure 10).

**35. Dana-Duke House, 64 Batten Road, c. 1938, c. 2017, non-contributing**

In the 1860s and 1870s, Merrick Ainsworth and the Stoddard family owned the land in this area. In the early 1900s, Charles Dana purchased the land. Dana sold it to Horace Duke in 1945. The Duke family retained ownership of the Stoddard barn located across the street.

**36. Gilman Guernsey House, 44 Batten Road, c. 1850, .5 acres, contributing**

This house was originally located in the vicinity of the George-Marsh House (**HD #29**). John Hammond, who lived on the site of the Dana-Duke House (**HD #35**), moved the house in the nineteenth century.<sup>138</sup> Gilman Guernsey owned this land in the 1850s and 1860s. Guernsey was a master builder in the region, building many of the houses in East Calais as well as the Union Chapel. His son, George Guernsey, became a well-known

<sup>138</sup> Notes made by Alma Leonard, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

architect designing buildings throughout the region. Gilman Guernsey sold it to John Hammond in 1866 who moved the house to the site. This transaction also included the land associated with the Leonard House (**HD #41**). Riley and Abbie Goodall purchased it in 1910. Riley Goodall did different jobs in town, including occasionally working for Clarence Dwinell in his store or for George Balentine during the haying season. Goodall also owned a farm on east hill. During the first three decades of the twentieth century, the house belonged to Albert and Riley Goodall, Levi and Alice Wheeler, and Dan and Myrtle McLean. Purchasing the building in 1929, McLean previously lived in Woodbury and then Hardwick. In 1922, he still worked in Woodbury, driving a horse to get there in the 1920s. Ozias and Sylvia Humphrey purchased the building in 1959. The Humphreys previously lived in Marshfield and then Barre.

### **37. East Calais School, 44 Batten Road, c. 1863, c. 1901, contributing**

David B. Fay sold it to Calais School District #12 in 1863. It was 1/3 acre of Lot #26 in the First Division of Lots. During the 1880s, a center door accessed the wood room and the bell rope. The room was “filled with wood every summer to fill the schoolroom’s big stove in the winter.”<sup>139</sup> The interior consisted of a “big black board across the front wall and in front of it the platform and teacher’s desk. In front of that, the big stove and then the pupils’ desks and seats.”<sup>140</sup> The room was divided with boys sitting on side and girls on the other.<sup>141</sup>

In 1895, Alma Leonard recommended that repairs be made to the schoolhouse and requested “a thoroughly remodeled school room, to change it from cold, dingy, health wrecking place that it has been for years.”<sup>142</sup> The 1898 Health Report for the schoolhouse gave the following report:

Air space, 9,450 cubic feet; seating capacity, 42, seats good; Light, three windows on each side; means for ventilation, strips under windows; privy fair; good sink; recommendations: windows in back, ventilator in ceiling.<sup>143</sup>

The health officer also advised “that all privies be cleaned out spring and fall, and that sand, sawdust or some similar material be provided to put into them at short intervals.

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<sup>139</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.” *Vermont History* 74 (Summer/Fall 2006): 156–175.

<sup>140</sup> Ibid.

<sup>141</sup> Ibid.

<sup>142</sup> Leonard, Alma, Town Superintendent of Schools, *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1895*. Montpelier, Vermont: The Watchman Publishing Company, 1895.

<sup>143</sup> Gale, Frank J, Health Officer, *Financial Statement of the Officers of the Town of Calais, Vermont, 1898*. Montpelier, Vermont: The Vermont Watchman Company, 1898.

Also, that all plastered school rooms be newly white washed.”<sup>144</sup> The officer also recommended, “as proper means of ventilation is probably the matter in which our schools are most deficient, I would like to state that it is estimated that 3,000 cubic feet of fresh air per hour is required for each person.”<sup>145</sup>

In 1901, the one-room school building was “turned on its foundation and made into a two-room building with a hallway in the center separating the rooms.”<sup>146</sup> In the transformation, Forrest Gray (**HD #23**) “helped to build the belfry in the middle of the roof directly over the hallway separating the two rooms.”<sup>147</sup> At the time, there were two teachers at the school “with one hearing the youngest classes in the entries, one on either side of the large wood storage in the front of the building. In those days, older boys and girls would attend school in the winter and spring.”<sup>148</sup>

In 1917, the schoolhouse was in a state of “unsanitary condition” causing sickness in the classroom during the winter term and was “a matter of grave concern to the town. Repairs to provide for better sanitation in heat, light and ventilation are needed in every school room. Neglected repairs are simply an accumulation of future debt.”<sup>149</sup>

In 1930, the illumination of the East Calais school:

...was increased to meet the state specifications and the source of light changed to the left and rear of the pupils. Increasing the light area of a school room plays a large part in conserving the eyesight of our children who spend the majority of their time for eight years in our schools. Further improvements at East Calais consisted of the installation of jacketed stoves, admitting pure, fresh air, which is heated before being circulated above the room, and chemical toilets installed inside the building.... With the improvements of the past summer very few other changes will be necessary to give the East Calais School a standard plate.<sup>150</sup>

### **38. Blodgett-Cate House, 11 Mill Street, C. 1938, .3 acres, contributing**

This site was open land until Kimball Blodgett built the existing house. The land traded hands several times during the nineteenth century. It is historically associated with the

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<sup>144</sup> Gale, Frank J, Health Officer, *Financial Statement of the Officers of the Town of Calais, Vermont, 1898*. Montpelier, Vermont: The Vermont Watchman Company, 1898.

<sup>145</sup> Ibid.

<sup>146</sup> Dwinell, Harold, “Stories written by Harold A. Dwinell about Family Members and Incidents and People in East Calais, occurring in the “Turn of the century Years.” Harold A. Dwinell papers, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>147</sup> Ibid.

<sup>148</sup> Ibid.

<sup>149</sup> Butterfield, J.W., Superintendent of Schools, *The Annual Report of the Officers of the Town of Calais, Vermont, 1918*. Montpelier, Vermont: Edson the Printer, 1898.

<sup>150</sup> *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1930*. Argus and Patriot Job Printing Office, 1930.

Moscow Mills sawmill and gristmill (**HD #12**). Shubael Wheeler was one of the original landowners in this area. He lived with Samuel Rich in a c. 1825 house to the north of this site. The land was then subdivided with Levi Pitkin, Erasmus Burnap, and Wesley Peck (**HD #4**) owning parcels in the 1860s. During the 1880s and 1890s, Albert Dwinell purchased and consolidated several parcels of land. In the 1930s, Kimball Blodgett bought the grist mill property on the “westerly side of the river at the abutment of the bridge crossing the river below said river to the pond and west bank of pond.”<sup>151</sup> Blodgett built the first house on this site. In 1940, George and Nina Cate purchased the adjacent gristmill and adjacent house and barn. Their son, Houghton Cate, recalled that the new East Calais house was significantly better than their previous farmstead in North Calais. Cate recounted that some of the better aspects of moving to the village were that the house had a flush toilet and bathtub, and he only had to milk one cow instead of twenty.<sup>152</sup>

Houghton and Lorraine Cate put together three different parcels between 1940 and 1978. After living in Barre for several years, Houghton and Lorraine Cate returned to East Calais, where he worked as an electrician. In 1963, Houghton Cate assumed ownership of the Moscow Mills building. Either the George Cate family or Houghton Cate lived in the extant house and **HD #39** next door.

### **39. Cate House, 25 Mill Street, c. 1965, non-contributing**

Shubael Wheeler was one of the original landowners in this area. He was a native of East Montpelier. Wheeler “was the son of one of the earliest settlers of Montpelier and married the daughter of another.”<sup>153</sup> In 1816, Wheeler lived in Montpelier. Wheeler was a justice of the peace, a Whig representative, a judge for the Washington County Court, and a probate judge. He was a “man of large intelligence, good judgment, and a genial disposition.”<sup>154</sup> He sold the land to Samuel Rich in 1834. During the late nineteenth century, this land belonged to Norman Nye, Clarence Ainsworth, and William Orcutt. During the early 1900s, part of the land belonged to Henry Carley and then William Henry and Florence Waite. The Waites moved to Calais from Boston, where William Henry worked as a customs inspector. They sold their house and land to Charles Dana and Horace Duke, who then sold it to Kimball Blodgett. Kimball Blodgett joined this parcel of land with the gristmill property. By the time Houghton and Lorraine Cate owned the gristmill property, there were several buildings on the parcel. After working as an electrician in Barre for several years, Houghton Cate returned to East Calais to work. After his father’s retirement in 1963, Cate assumed ownership of the mill

<sup>151</sup> Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont

<sup>152</sup> Houghton Melvin Cate Obituary, Obit Tree, 2015.

<sup>153</sup> *Orleans Independent Standard*, Irasburg, Vermont, November 10, 1868.

<sup>154</sup> Ibid.



property. The extant was built at this time, suggesting that the Cates built an additional house for one of the two Cate families.

**40. Waite House, 39 Mill Street, c. 1900, .5 acres, contributing**

David B. Fay owned this land in the mid-nineteenth century. Fay sold it to Ira Cochrane in 1883, and it was immediately sold to William Waite. The Waites also owned a farm north of the village. Following the death of William Waite, Alonzo and Sarah Holt purchased it in 1916, and then Dustin Cheever bought it in 1919. Cheever sold it to Arlo and Ethel McKinstry in 1927. Lewis and Charlotte Lunge bought it in 1932. Verne and Claire Clough then owned the land. The Cloughs foreclosed in 1939, and George and Nina Cate purchased the building from the Capital Savings Bank and Trust Company in 1943.

**41. Leonard House, 59 Mill Street, c. 1900, .3 acres, contributing**

This land belonged to Gilman Guernsey (**HD #36**) in the mid-nineteenth century. He sold it to John and Martha Hammond in 1866. Henry Carley owned it in the late nineteenth century. The Carley family sold it to Henry and Florence Waite, then Charles Dana and Horace Duke. Kimball Blodgett purchased the property in 1937. After living at the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**) for several years, and then the Hicks-Stoddard House (**HD #29**) in the 1940s, Bertha Leonard and her granddaughter, Erlene Leonard, moved into this house in August 1943. Bertha Leonard, as well as her daughter and son-in-law, worked for Lamb & Mullin (**HD #42**).

**42. Park, non-contributing**

The park was historically the site of several prominent East Calais buildings including the Ira Dwinell Hotel/Jacob Lamb Home/Moscow House, the Allen Goodall/Levison & Lamb Shops and the Tin Shop (figure 11).

Ira Dwinell's hotel was close to the east elevation of the Daniels-Bemis House (**HD #8**) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Subsequent hotel owners were Phineas Wheeler and James Morse. The building was destroyed by the 1873 fire. Following the fire, Jacob Lamb built a new building on the site, using it as his residence and a new hotel. It was a 2½-story, three by five building with a gable-front and wing. There was a porch along the front elevation. During the 1880s and 1890s, Lamb resurrected the Moscow House and operated a hotel in his home. During the 1940s, there was an Esso filling station located in front of the house.

To the northeast of the Lamb House was a gable roof barn, oriented at an angle to the house. In the 1870s, the Allen Goodell ran his sash and blind shop here. It was destroyed by the fire of 1873. When the Goodell property was put up for auction in

1880, Jacob Lamb purchased the land, which contained the Allen Goodell shop. This shop eventually became the Levison & Lamb box factory. Richard and Vera Lamb purchased the Allen Goodell property plus “the shop and contents ...known as Levison & Lamb shop.”<sup>155</sup> This became the Lamb & Mullin sawmill. Lamb & Mullin used the Moscow Lodge building (**HD#43**) across the river for storage. The company also built a large two-story kiln that directly fronted Route 14 and was situated between the Lamb House and the tin shop. These buildings burnt during the 1951 fire.

The Jackmans purchased the Lamb & Mullin property in 1956. The Jackman Family sold it to the East Calais Women’s Club in 1977 and the Calais Community Recreation Association bought it in 2003. A footbridge once spanned the brook in the vicinity of the park, which provided access to the lower grist mill, Moscow Lodge, and George’s Harness Shop. The footbridge was approximately “eight feet wide, with a roof and boarded up about three feet.”<sup>156</sup> Erlene Leonard recalled the footbridge from when she was a child:

It was a great meeting place for us. I can still remember the times spent there, riding my bicycle through it, and barely making the corner, or just watching the river rush over the rocks and always yelling when you talked to your friends here, because of the constant roar of the river.<sup>157</sup>

To the east of the Lamb & Mullin kiln was the tin shop, a 2½-story, gable-front building with wood clapboard siding, a front porch, wood window hoods, and cornice returns. Following the fire of 1873, Zephaniah G. Pierce purchased the property from James Kelso, Charles Wing, and Phineas Wheeler, and opened a hardware store/tin shop. His son, Walter Pierce, purchased it in 1879 and he sold it to Benjamin P. White in 1884. In 1892, George Sanders purchased the property and continued the hardware/tin shop business. Frank Gray bought the shop in 1910 and sold it back to Sanders in 1912. The Sanders sold to John and Phyllis White, “the so called ‘old tin shop and hardware store’ it being operated for many years by the late George E. Sanders.”<sup>158</sup>

The tin shop was “not wide as it faced the street, but it broadened in the back section.”<sup>159</sup> The front part of the building was a hardware store offering the hundreds of items farmers and rural folks were likely to need. The back section of the tin shop was initially called a Tin Manufactory (figure 12).

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<sup>155</sup> Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont

<sup>156</sup> Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>157</sup> Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>158</sup> Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont

<sup>159</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

Here tinsmiths like Forrest 'Strad' Gray fashioned dozens of tin items, from sap pails to stovepipes, from grain scoops to cream jugs. Everyone in town sooner or later had cause to visit the tin shop.<sup>160</sup>

On the north side of the front room was a "long counter with shelves and drawers behind it. Larger items were displayed on the south side. In the rear was the traditional round oak stove with seats and checker boards around it."<sup>161</sup>

With a large round oak stove located in the center of the room, the tin shop "was a popular gathering place for the local men to play cards or just sit around and swap tales."<sup>162</sup> The tin shop "was the favorite winter meeting place for the village story tellers, while the chairs on the front porch were more popular during the summer."<sup>163</sup>

Immediately to the east of the Lamb house was a small, gable-front building. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it was the site of a printing store, operated by Carroll Lamb (**HD #7**), Charles Balentine (**HD #16**) and Walter Coates (**HD #27**).

#### **43. Moscow Woods Triangle, .3 acres, contributing**

This is an open piece of land that lies in front of the Zephaniah Pierce House (**HD #11**), George-Marsh House (**HD #29**), Putnam-Alden House (**HD #30**), and the Moscow Mills Building (**HD #12**). This lot was initially planned to be the East Calais village green, with the three houses and mill building having frontage on the green. In addition, the c. 1825 Shubael Wheeler House, now destroyed, would have fronted the village green from the east side. The four extant buildings constituted some of the oldest in the district, suggesting this was the original village center.

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<sup>160</sup> Ibid.

<sup>161</sup> Ibid.

<sup>162</sup> Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

<sup>163</sup> Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."