

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 National Register District

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

N/A

2. Location

Street & number: Vt Route 14, Marshfield Road, Batten Road, Back Street, Moscow Woods Road

City or town: Calais State: Vermont County: Washington

Not For Publication Vicinity: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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C X D

East Calais National Register District

Washington Vermont

Name of Property

County and State

<hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p>Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>Date</p>
---	--------------------

<p>In my opinion, the property <u>meets</u> <u>does not</u> meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p>Signature of commenting official:</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p>Title :</p> <p>or Tribal Government</p>	<p>Date</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau</p>

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.)

Private:

Public - Local

East Calais National Register District

Washington Vermont

Name of Property

County and State

Public - State

Public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

District

Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>43</u>	<u>16</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>46</u>	<u>17</u>	Total

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

East Calais National Register District

Washington Vermont

Name of Property

County and State

Religion: Religious Facility

Agriculture/Subsistence: Agricultural Outbuilding

Industry: Manufacturing Facility

Education:

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Domestic: Secondary Structure

Commerce/Trade: Store

Religion: Religious Facility

Agriculture/Subsistence: Agricultural Outbuilding

Industry: Manufacturing Facility

Education:

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Greek Revival

Italianate

Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood Shingle, Stone, Brick, Metal

Summary Paragraph

The East Calais Historic District encompasses approximately 24 acres in the town of Calais, a small, rural town located in Washington County. 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 with arterial roads of Moscow Woods Road, Marshfield Road, and Batten Road. The East Calais 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 mid-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century industrial, residential, commercial, and religious structures. 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 in the twentieth-first century. The evolution of East Calais is similar to that of many small Vermont towns. The historic resources in the East Calais Historic District retain integrity of location, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, setting, and design.

Most of the resources in the historic district line Vt Route 14, Moscow Woods Road, Back Street, Marshfield Road, and Batten Road. The district contains a collection of nineteenth-century buildings and outbuildings that reflect the growth and development of the area.

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 district consists of 60 structures: a grist mill, a Greek Revival Church, a store, a former schoolhouse, and numerous dwellings. There are a small number of pre-1850 houses and a greater number built after the Civil War when East Calais enjoyed a period of growth and prosperity. There are 30 contributing buildings; 10 non-contributing buildings, 13 contributing outbuildings, and six non-contributing outbuildings. There is one contributing dam, a non-contributing park, a contributing park, and one contributing archaeological site. The village retains the appearance of a mid to late-nineteenth-century village, with much of its well-detailed Greek Revival, Italianate, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne architecture still extant. The historic district retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, design, feeling and association. The individual buildings hold relatively high degrees of integrity, and the surrounding agricultural landscape remains intact.

Narrative Description

(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 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, located 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 Branch's abundant water-power to operate saw and grist mills.

The primary road through the East Calais Historic District is 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 structures fronting directly onto the road and miscellaneous outbuildings and barns in the rear.

The East Calais Historic District contains 46 contributing and 17 non-contributing resources. Most of the resources are from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Every historic building in the village is of wood frame construction. At the center of the district are the Moscow Mills building and the millpond, with a variety of residential structures aligned in each direction. There is a high concentration of

commercial structures, a hotel (demolished), and the church **(HD# 5)** 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 frames, and clapboard sheathing. Settlers cleared fieldstone 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 oldest structures in the historic district are the 1815 Putnam-Alden House **(HD #30)**, the 1825 George-Marsh House **(HD #29)**, and the 1836 Dwinell Homestead **(HD# 20)** most likely built by Samuel Rich in 1836. The only standing industrial structure is the Moscow Mills Sawmill built in the early nineteenth century. The dominating architectural style in East Calais is the Greek Revival. These houses possess distinctive Greek Revival features such as side-hall plans, cornice returns, and wide fascia boards. There are several other architectural styles include Classic Cottage **(HD #28)**, Cape **(HD #11, HD #29, HD #31, HD #33)**, Greek Revival **(HD#2, HD #22, HD #26)**, Italianate **(HD #4, HD #18, HD #25)**, or vernacular in style, such as the **(HD #9, HD #12, HD #24, HD #30, HD #32, HD #36, HD #40, HD #41)**. Historic architectural details enrich the visual character of the district: decorative eave brackets on the **(HD #4, HD #10, HD #25)**, decorative quoins **(HD #2)**, entries with full entablatures **(HD #20)** and full length or wraparound porches **(HD #20, HD #8)**. There are limited post-1900 buildings in the district including one cottage **(HD #3)**, one Bungalow **(HD#15)**, one Colonial Revival **(HD #38)**, and two Ranch Style homes **(HD#14, HD #39)**. To varying degrees, all of the houses show signs of alteration over the years. Most, however, remain largely intact and are easily identifiable as historic structures.

Historic farmsteads comprise mid-19th century Greek Revival style houses and farm buildings such as sheep, dairy, and horse barns and wagon sheds. The district has several prominent barns, for example, the Dwinell Homestead **(HD #20)**, the Alonzo Pierce Barn **(HD #21a)**, the Hicks-Stoddard Barn **(HD #35a)**. The Hicks-Stoddard Barn, associated historically with the Hicks-Stoddard House **(HD #34)**, is direct across the road but is part of the Stephen Duke **(HD #35)** property. Most of these historic agricultural resources retain architectural integrity although lack of maintenance has caused various states of disrepair. The farmsteads have lost their integrity as the properties have been subdivided or reverted to woodland.

There is a single religious structure in the community **(HD #5)**. Located at the southern end of the district, the church is near the commercial and industrial activities. Commercial structures in the East Calais Historic District are limited to the Dwinell General Store **(HD#24)**, which has been in continual use since the 1850s. The Pierce-White General Store building **(HD #6)** and the D.B. Fay Tenement **(HD #9)** retain their storefront appearance with gable front porches and central entrances. Besides Moscow Mills **(HD #12)**, there are very few built resources that document the village's industrial past. In the mid-1800s, the

village contained a sash and blind factory, several blacksmith shops, a harness shop, a second grist mill, and a box factory. None of the structures that housed these businesses remain standing, leaving the village a primarily residential community. Other lost buildings include the Moscow House and Moscow Lodge. These lost buildings were located on the southern end of the district, straddling both sides of the river and were destroyed by fire. Despite these losses, the village retains the majority of its historic structures and the overall layout and design of a modest, mid-nineteenth 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, Greek Revival house with 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 with applied molding detail. A twentieth-century closed-in 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. 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.

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

This is 1½ story, gable-front garage southwest. 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 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 modern windows and vertical wood siding.

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, the proprietor of the general store (**HD #6**), purchased the building in 1874, and 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

This 2½ story, three by five-bay, Greek Revival house has a temple front, side hall plan with a small ell, wing, and attached barn. It has a slight setback and is oriented perpendicular to Marshfield Road. Wooden quoins accentuate the first story corners of the building and paneled pilasters ornament the second story corners. A wood string course separates the first and second stories. The ell 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, Gothic arch-shaped paneled reveals, and Gothic arch-shaped paneled sidelights. Projecting from the west elevation of the ell is a secondary ell that connects to the barn. Additional architectural details include boxed cornice with returns, deep frieze, and architrave.

2a. Barn C. 1867, contributing

This is a 1½ story, barn attached to the house. It is situated 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.

Ira and Clarina Dwinell purchased this property in 1855. Following the sale of their hotel, the Moscow House (**HD #42**), Ira and Clarina began planning their new house in early 1867. In April, Mr. Morse visited the Dwinell's, and he was "helping to plan our house" and "measuring lumber."¹ 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 "house, barn & shed raised" and she added, "how tired one gets of work."²

In 1903, A. Dwinell & Sons bought the house "known as the Ira S. Dwinell place."³ At this time, Albert Dwinell operated the sawmill and gristmill at Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). Albert Dwinell rented the home out as a tenement. In 1905, Arthur Mack "moved his family from A. Dwinell's tenement to what was formerly the Ira S. Dwinell place."⁴ It remained in the Dwinell family until 1905, and 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."⁵ Chet Briggs and Karen Lane purchased the building in 1978.

¹ Clarina Dwinell Diary, Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

² Ibid.

³ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 6, 1903.

⁴ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 4, 1905.

⁵ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

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. Projecting from the west elevation of this addition is a secondary addition with a shed roof.

Wesley Peck originally owned a 1½ story, gable-front, side-hall Greek Revival house with an attached ell and barn extending to the west. This property has the same ownership as the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**) until 1951. After Mabel Burnham purchased the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**) 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.⁶ Following the death of Fifield, she left the house to the Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

4. Wesley Peck House, 26 Marshfield Road, C. 1877, c. 2017, .25 acre, contributing

This is a two-story, three by three bay, Italianate style house with a hip roof and belvedere. It has a square plan with a c. 2018 addition projecting south from the southwest corner. Fenestration includes 2/2 windows with cornice window heads and paired bracket feet. The square belvedere has 2/2 windows and a cornice with paired brackets. The gable roof addition has an asphalt shingle 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 parted 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.

During the nineteenth century, there was a one-story addition projecting from the south elevation. This structure was the c. 1838 East Calais School located behind the Alonzo Pierce House (**HD #21**). It was moved to the present site in 1863, attached to the house and 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 which was converted into a two-car garage. It no longer stands. There was also once an outhouse located next to the barn.

⁶ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont



Figure 1 Wesley Peck House (HD #4) c. 1920 (Vermont Historical Society)

Wesley Peck operated a large farm on the premises. He sold “a building lot with buildings” to George W. Parker in 1877.⁷ 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 their pelts. The Leonard House was a social center for the village kids as Bertha Leonard welcomed the village kids into her home and gave them a safe and happy place to congregate. In 1944, Charles H. Barrett sold the property to Neil and Hazel Tassie. The Tassies formerly owned a general store in Barre and Woodbury. He was also involved in the moving business. In 1949, the Tassies sold it to Mabel Burnham. (Figure 1)

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

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

⁷ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

The church building has a single-entry room, auditorium, and balcony. There was an open porch across the front of the building with doors at each end. The doors opened into an entry with doors near each end, which opened into the auditorium.⁸ 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 in the balcony, but the church then added a platform at one side of the pulpit, which used for the choir. Sunday School classes also used the balcony. 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 horses while churchgoers attended worship services in the church. The small green lawn behind the church once held several more stalls identical to the two stalls at HD #6a. This type of structure was common in Barre and Montpelier located near houses of worship.

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

This is a 2½ story, three by five-bay, gable-front, vernacular building with a two-story ell, and a 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 building wing. The bay has a flat roof and modern 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 modern 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 consist of decorative multi-pane windows with storm windows. Projecting from the south (rear) elevation is a 1½ story addition with a standing seam roof and modern 1/1 windows. There is a two-story porch along the northern portion of the west elevation of the addition.

6a. Garage, c. 1910, contributing

A two-car garage is 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.

⁸ Bemis, Ida Cleo. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century." *Vermont History* 74 (Summer/Fall 2006): 156-175.

This building 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 donuts en route.”⁹ Brothers Henry Pierce and Alonzo Pierce owned the extant building lot in the 1860s.¹⁰ 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 1935.¹¹ 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.”¹² Bernie Chapin purchased the property in 1966.

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

This 1½ story, three by three bay, Greek Revival house has a 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 a 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 consists of 2/2 windows with wood peaked hoods. Wide cross gables give all elevations a gable-front. Windows have peaked heads with applied curvilinear, decorative detail. A slender brick chimney rises from the intersection of cross gable ridges. The front door has a peaked head, and deep paneled reveals. Architectural details include paneled corner pilasters with entablature, raking fascia boards, and boxed cornice with returns.

In 1863, James and Mary Morse sold their house lot to David B. Fay, who lived here with his wife and two children. Daniel 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.”¹³ 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 1926.¹⁴ 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

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

¹¹ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, June 4, 1879.

¹⁴ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

sold it Albert and Hildred Meyers. In 1962, Richard Sample owned the property. (Figure 2)



Figure 2 D.B. Fay House (Vermont Historical Society)

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

This is a 1½ story, three by five-bay, Greek Revival style house 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 elliptical 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 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 two brick chimneys – one at the intersection of the gable ridges and one on the east end of the ell.

8a. Barn, c. 1865, contributing

There small, two-level, gable-roofed, clapboarded carriage barn is 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 modern 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.

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 the extant building. 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, and 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 by L.D. Bemis;” “Sullivan Owen rented an apartment of the L.D. Bemis House;” and “Jerome Bliss moved into the Luther Bemis tenement.”¹⁵

Bemis sold the property to George Pierce and his son, Byron Pierce. Byron 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.”¹⁶ 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 from the house. 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 Two.

Another portion of this land initially belonged to Benjamin White (**HD #1**), 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.”¹⁷ 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 wheelbarrow one or two cans of milk to this building.”¹⁸ 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 due to alterations

This 2½ story, gable-front, vernacular structure 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 modern window on one side and a c. 1940 polygonal bay on the first story. An

¹⁵ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 14, 1892; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 25, 1883; *Northfield News*, Northfield, Vermont, May 25, 1892.

¹⁶ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 14, 1915.

¹⁷ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, May 20, 1896

¹⁸ 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.

entrance porch shelters the front elevation. The west side of the porch has a set of exterior stairs which dog-leg 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 which 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.



Figure 3D.B. Fay Tenement (Vermont Historical Society)

This land started as several parcels of land. By 1874, D.B. Fay (**HD #7**) 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 style house, and an eaves front 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, 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.”¹⁹ 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.”²⁰

Lamb **(HD #2)** combined several parcels of land. In 1908, he sold the store barn, slaughterhouse, sheds and buildings to Galen Hatch, who ran a meat market 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.”²¹ 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.²² 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

This is a 1½ story, three by two-bay, Greek Revival house with a temple front, side-hall plan with 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 the main block and ell at an unknown date. 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.

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.”²³ 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

¹⁹ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 25, 1900.

²⁰ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, June 20, 1900.

²¹ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 5, 1917.

²² Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

²³ 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.

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 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.²⁴ 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.²⁵ Dwinell sold it to Charles V. Kent in 1935.²⁶ 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

This is a 1½ story, three-bay, wood frame, Cape-style 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 c. 1989 clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. Fenestration includes 1/1 modern windows.

11a. Shed/Garage C. 1900, contributing

This garage is 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 windows. A detached shed-roofed shed projects from the west elevation of the garage.

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, and 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 the property owner, Clarence Ainsworth, lived here. Merrick was a jeweler in East Calais between 1874 and 1884. Reuben Wilbur purchased the property in 1905. Wilbur took in boarders as "two of Reuben Wilbur's city boarders called him Jumbo, and were compelled to find lodging elsewhere."²⁷ It remained in the Wilbur family until 1982.

²⁴ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 30, 1882.

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, vernacular, gable roof, mill building. The site has a very steep slope down towards the back of the building and away from the road towards the stream. 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 a 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 wood trim at the gable ends. The building has 19 windows and five doors. On the north elevation, there are two 6/6 windows and one 2/2 window. The 6/6 windows are located in the back section of the building, while a 1/1 window is in the front section. On the rear (east) elevation are four 6/6 windows. On the north elevation, there are three 6/6 windows, three 2/2 windows with storms, and two 2/2 windows. On the south elevation are four 2/2 windows and two fixed windows at the doors.



Figure 4 Sawmill (Dwinell Family)

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.

Distinctive historic features include a sizeable 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.²⁸

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, sawmill and dwelling house” to Orlando H. Leonard and Orion A. Pierce.²⁹ They sold “the gristmill, sawmill and water privileges” it to Wesley Peck **(HD #4)**.³⁰ 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 1871.³¹ This transaction also included “the shop adjoining on the west and built by said Slayton.”³² In 1892, Slayton “sold his shop and adjacent land” to Albert Dwinell.³³

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 the pond.”³⁴ This transaction also included a 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.”³⁵ 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.”³⁶ George Cate purchased the mill in the 1940s which granted Cate the “use of the water wheel which runs gristmill for doing custom grinding, two, ten-hour days” until Blodgett sold the sawmill.³⁷ 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. 1901, c. 1914, c. 1968, c. 1974, contributing

This concrete dam replaced a wooden dam structure. During the nineteenth and early twentieth century, a wooden structure spanned the dam connecting the

²⁸ Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*, November 18, 2002.

²⁹ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

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 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 was unused. 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. The shed houses a 15-kilowatt electric generator that heated the Cate's home (**HD #38**) and Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). At the top of the cascade, is the foundation of a smaller dam to create the pool for the cascade sluice. In 1974, Houghton Cate built the existing penstock on the east side of the river.³⁸

14. Batchelder House, 10 Moscow Woods Road C. 1964, .25 acres, non-contributing

This is a one-story Ranch house with vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. Fenestration includes 1/1 windows.

This was originally the site of a sawmill that 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.³⁹ They sold it to Dell B. Dwinell "together with stock lumber, team, sleds, wagons, and tools belonging there excepting the clapboard machinery" in 1910.⁴⁰ 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 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 due to alterations

This is 1½ story, vinyl sided, Bungalowoid 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 north roofline. Extending from the rear elevation is a one-story shed roof wing. In 1982, this building had wood shingle siding, a closed-in porch, brackets, and exposed rafters.

³⁸ Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*.

³⁹ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

This was originally the site of a 1½ story, eaves front building with a rear ell, and several outbuildings. Ira Page of Plainfield owned this property in the 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 put together three separate parcels. Additional properties included "the old grist mill" and the "sawmill/gristmill including shafting, belting, and saws."⁴¹ In 1937, Dwinell sold the larger lot to Kimball and Mary Blodgett. The Blodgett's sold the "Carley Lot" to Rudolph Leonard in 1938, who built the existing house.⁴² 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 is a 1½ story, three-bay, Greek Revival building with 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 spans 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 **HD #17**.

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 to Edith Foote in 1928, 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 Two, and Bernice was a schoolteacher

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

This is a 1½ story, three-bay, Greek Revival building 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, cornice returns. The

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

2/2 windows feature cornice caps and recessed paneled 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 **HD #16** in form and massing.

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."⁴³ 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.

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

This two-story, Italianate structure has a three by three bay, central 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 cornice window heads. The building's ornamentation includes a scroll sawn bracketed cornice and a denticulated and paneled frieze. The front and side elevations have a polygonal bay window. 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.

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 out to a tenant so that 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 is a two-story, three by three bay, square-plan building has a 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

⁴³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 3, 1897.

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 modern windows. The house has a vertical board, bracketed frieze, and a vertical board band around the base of the house. There is a band 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.

This land belonged to the Dwinell family. After Dell B. Dwinell married Olive Palmer in 1899, they built this house. During construction, they initially lived in the Dwinell Homestead (**HD #20**), and then they moved across the street to the Dwinell Tenement (**HD #17**). The featured a

First-floor master bedroom, living room, parlor, large front hall, and stairway to the 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 an 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. The back of this hallway was a passageway between the kitchen-dining room and living room. ⁴⁴

It remained in the Dwinell family until 1957 when it was sold to Raymond and Freida Garand.

⁴⁴ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.
Section seven page 24



Figure 5 Dell B. Dwinell House (HD #19), C. 1900 (Dwinell Family)

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

This is a 2½ story, five by three-bay, Federal-style house. It sits high on a hill and has a 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, splitting **HD #20** and **HD# 21**. The house is oriented towards this former road. The central door has six panels, a transom, and 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 new heating systems and wood floors.

20a. Barn, c. 1890, contributing

This is 2½ story gable-roof, vertical siding barn is 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.

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)

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 **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 has a six-panel door with 2/3 sidelights. A large front porch has turned posts. A central gable wall dormer was added to the house. Exterior details include 2/2 windows, boxed eaves, and return and beaded corner boards. The interior has architrave moldings and chair rails.

The village water tub was on the property's border with VT Route 14.

21a. Barn, c. 1890, contributing

This small barn is 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 modern overhead garage door.

21b. Outbuilding, c. 1940, contributing

This is one-story shed is 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.

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 a 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."⁴⁵ She was also the librarian for East Calais Circulating Library with the library located in the Pierce home.⁴⁶

Walter Pierce bought the house in 1896 and rented the house to Otis Slayton, who owned a sawmill (**HD #12**). Slayton "moved into A.D. Pierce's with the intention of

⁴⁵ 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.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

making it his home.”⁴⁷ In 1904, the Pierce children “deeded the home place, known as the Alonzo Pierce place, to Archie Persons, the son of Joseph Persons.”⁴⁸ 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.”⁴⁹ 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 it 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

This is a 1½ story, five by four-bay, Greek Revival house with a large central front gabled dormer which extends to house a recessed porch on the upper story. It 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 columns support the balcony porch. The house has cornice with returns, deep frieze, which continues on the porch dormer, 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.

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.⁵⁰ 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. (Figure 6)

⁴⁷ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 4, 1896.

⁴⁸ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 21, 1904.

⁴⁹ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 5, 1919.

⁵⁰ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”



Figure 6 Alonzo Clark House (Vermont Historical Society)

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

This is a 1½ story house with 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, which visually support a paneled frieze. Pilaster boards frame the windows and doors, 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.

In 1873, this was the home of Aro C. Slayton. In 1891, Slayton “deeded his house and 30 acres of land to Sharlock Peck.”⁵¹ The Slaytons then moved to Adamant. In 1892, Horace Pike purchased the Sharlock Peck house for \$700.⁵² 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.⁵³ 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

⁵¹ *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, February 26, 1891.

⁵² *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, March 16, 1892.

⁵³ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 30, 1915.

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 is a 2½ story, three by five-bay, temple front 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 with 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 a pedestrian 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.

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.”⁵⁴ Initially, the Good Templars’ Lodge Hall was on the second floor with the horse sheds located on the first floor.⁵⁵ 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

This is a two-story, three by three bay, Italianate style house with a gabled ell. It sits high on a hill and has a significant 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 entire structure has a high granite foundation, wood clapboard siding, and 2/2 windows.

⁵⁴Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont.*

⁵⁵ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

25a. Garage, c. 2000, non- contributing due to age.

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, hayloft door, and cornice returns.

25b. Shed, c. 2000, non- contributing due to age.

This one-story shed is 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.

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 as the Simon Webb place, and will move there as soon as proper repairs are made.”⁵⁶ 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 1934.⁵⁷ In October of 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Scott of Kents Corners “bought of Ivan Gray, the so-called Madam Sanders house.”⁵⁸ Scott worked for Richard Lamb at the sawmill and furniture factory. (Figure 7)

⁵⁶ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, July 22, 1904.

⁵⁷ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont.

⁵⁸ *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, October, 1937.



Figure 7 Simon Webb House (HD #25), c. 1910 (Vermont Historical Society)

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

This is a 1½ story Greek Revival house with Gothic Revival details with 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 sheathed in aluminum siding and 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 with cut brackets span the west side of the ell.

26a. Garage, c. 1970, non-contributing due to age

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.

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 1880.⁵⁹ 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."⁶⁰ 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."⁶¹ It remained in the Guernsey family until 1949, when George and Kate Guernsey sold it to Glenn and Emma Sulham in 1953.



Figure 8 Gray-Coates House (Vermont Historical Society)

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 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, and the second story was added at an unknown date. During the nineteenth century, a 2½ story barn was at the south end of the property.

⁵⁹ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

⁶⁰ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 7, 1905.

⁶¹ *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, November 8, 1905.

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.⁶² 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

This is a 1½ story five-bay, eaves front, Classic Cottage house. 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. Projecting from the east (rear) elevation is a barn ell with two carriage bay openings. It has 1/1 modern 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 due to age

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

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 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 1987.⁶³

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. The significant setback 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

⁶² *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, February 14, 1928.

⁶³ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

elevation is a rear ell with a carriage bay on the south elevation. The barn has wood clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. During the late nineteenth century, a porch spanned the south and east elevations. The open shed was closed in c. 1995

29a. Barn

This is a 1½ story, gable-front, wood frame barn attached to the rear ell of the main house. It is oriented parallel to the main road. Resting on a stone foundation, it has clapboard siding and a standing seam roof. A 2/2 replacement window flanks the center barn door entrance on each side. Clad in wood shingles, there is a one-story shed roof addition attached to the west elevation.

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, and 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, and Edwin George lived here. 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.”⁶⁴ 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 then moved to Woodbury, returning to East Calais in 1936.

⁶⁴ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.
Section seven page 34



Figure 9 Putnam-Alden House (Vermont Historical Society)

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-style house with side ell and attached woodshed. Resting on a stone foundation, it has clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. It has a substantial setback from the road and is oriented parallel to the main road. The significant 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 a window 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

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.

Caleb Putnam originally built this house. Asa Alden, a native of Natick, Massachusetts, came to Calais in 1819 and moved into the house. Alden was the village blacksmith and postmaster, suing 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.”⁶⁵ Roderick Holton purchased the house at a public auction. Holton 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 1938.⁶⁶ M. Guy George purchased it in 1941, who sold it to Oliver and Christa Pelletier in 1946. (Figure 9)

31.Vera Lamb House, 120 Moscow Woods Road, c. 1945, .10 acres, non-contributing due to alterations

This is a 1½ story, Cape-style house with wood clapboard siding and a corrugated metal roof. Centered on the south elevation is a peaked dormer that caps a center door flanked by a closely paired 1/1 windows on each side.

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 Keniston's owned a large farm on Batten Road, outside of the village Subsequent owners were Horace Duke and Charles and Nellie 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 due to alterations

This is a 1½ story, eaves front, vernacular building 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, converted into a two-bay modern garage at an unknown date. The owners removed a historic barn of unknown age c. 1996.

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, non- contributing due to alterations

⁶⁵ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 29, 1886.

⁶⁶ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

This is a 1½ story, eaves front, Cape Style house with a rear ell. Resting on a concrete foundation, it has vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. Centered on the front elevation is a Tudor style entry pavilion with an asymmetrical flared roofline. Fenestration is 1/1 modern windows.

33a. Garage. C. 1988, non-contributing due to age

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

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

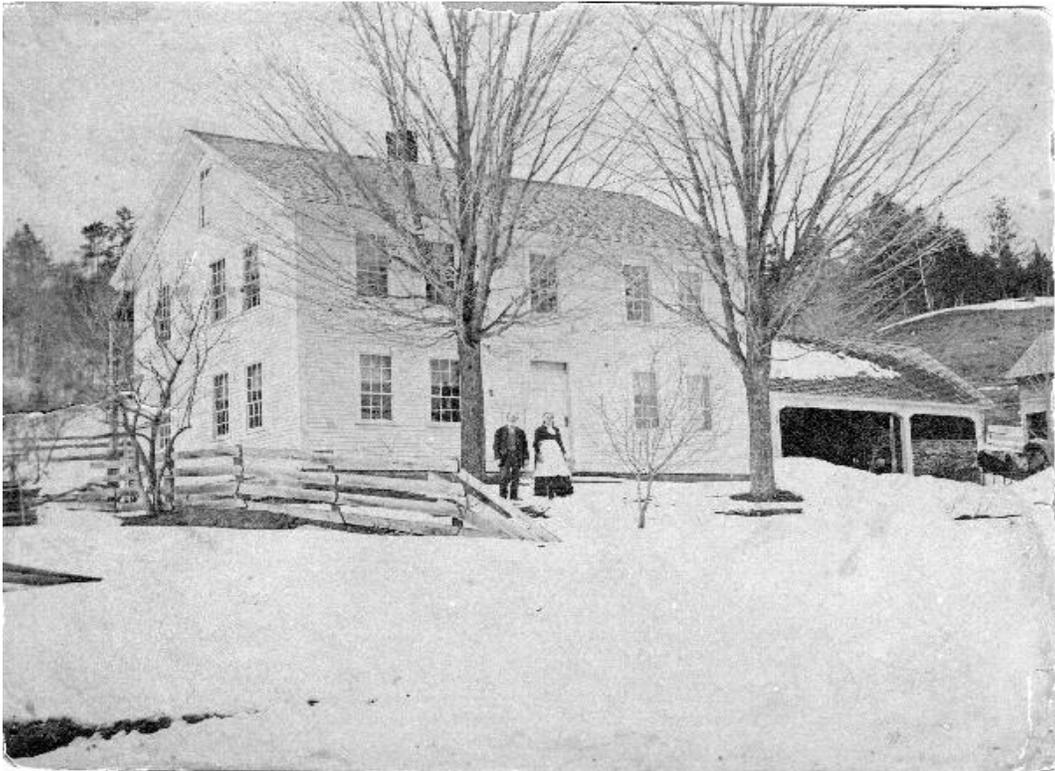


Figure 10 Hicks-Stoddard House (Syver Rogstad)

This is a 2½ story, five by three bay, vernacular 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 a closed-in 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.

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 Two, Bertha Leonard and her granddaughter, Erlene Leonard, moved from their farmhouse at the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**) and moved into 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, non- contributing due to alterations

This is a 1½ story house with 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.

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 story entrance faces the road and has double-track doors. Remaining fenestration on the front facade is 9/6 windows. There is a vent centered in the gable peak. It was built into a slope to facilitate the loading of hay to the third story by pulley in the rear. It was part of the Hicks-Stoddard Farm (**HD #34**) immediately to the southwest.

35b. Barn, c. 1945, contributing due to age

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

35c. Duke Sawmill, c. 1945, contributing

This one-story sawmill is in a hayfield to the northeast of the house. The Duke family farmed the land and then operated the diesel-powered sawmill.⁶⁷

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

⁶⁷ *Moscow Mills Project East Calais, Vt. July 8, 2002.* Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Town File.

Horace Duke in 1945. The Duke family maintained ownership of the Stoddard barn located across the street.

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

This is a 1½ story cross-gable plan, vernacular house. 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 a closed-in porch in the southwest corner of the cross gables. Attached to the east elevation is a carriage barn oriented perpendicular to the ell.

This house was near 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.⁶⁸

Gilman Guernsey owned this land in the 1850s and 1860s. Guernsey was a master builder in the region, building many of the homes in East Calais as well as the Union Chapel. His son, George Guernsey, became a well-known 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

This is a 1½ story, Greek Revival school building with a belfry, wide eave boards, a two-part frieze, cornice returns, a louvered triangle-shaped tympanum, and a porch with pipe posts. The door has a fire pane transom light and a bank of 12/12 windows on the east gable end. The school was a one-room schoolhouse with a wide piazza across the front. There was a girls' and boys' entrance at each end.

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

⁶⁸ Notes made by Alma Leonard, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.
Section seven page 39

schoolroom's big stove in the winter."⁶⁹ The interior consisted of a "big blackboard 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."⁷⁰ The room was divided by gender, with boys sitting on side and girls on the other.⁷¹

In 1895, Alma Leonard recommended that repairs be made to the schoolhouse and requested, "a thoroughly remodeled schoolroom, to change it from cold, dingy, health wrecking place that it has been for years."⁷² 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 the ceiling.⁷³

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. Also, that all plastered school rooms be newly whitewashed."⁷⁴ 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."⁷⁵

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."⁷⁶ In the transformation of the one-room school to a two-room building, Forrest Gray (**HD #23**) "helped to build the belfry in the middle of the roof directly over the hallway separating the two rooms."⁷⁷

At the time of the refurbishment, 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."⁷⁸

⁶⁹ 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.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Leonard, Alma, Town Superintendent of Schools, *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1895*. Montpelier, Vermont: The Watchman Publishing Company, 1895.

⁷³ Gale, Frank J, Health Officer, *Financial Statement of the Officers of the Town of Calais, Vermont, 1898*. Montpelier, Vermont: The Vermont Watchman Company, 1898.

⁷⁴ Gale, Frank J, Health Officer, *Financial Statement of the Officers of the Town of Calais, Vermont, 1898*. Montpelier, Vermont: The Vermont Watchman Company, 1898.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ 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.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

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 schoolroom. Neglected repairs are simply an accumulation of future debt.”⁷⁹

In 1930, the light area 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 schoolroom 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.⁸⁰

In 1936, the school was remodeled, including a new foundation and cellar, a new furnace, frost-proof toilets, and two lavatory drinking fountains. Running water was installed, and considerable grading was done.⁸¹ In 1937, the school updated the building with repairs to the roof, new ceilings, and new interior and exterior paint.

38. Blodgett-Cate House, 11 Mill Street, C. 1938, .3 acres, Non-contributing due to alterations

This is a 2½ story, gambrel roof, Colonial Revival house with a continuous dormer across both eaves' sides. 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.

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 Moscow Mills sawmill and gristmill (**HD #12**). The transactions either increased or decreased the total parcel size. Shubael Wheeler was one of the original landowners in this area. He lived with Samuel Rich in a c. 1825 house 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

⁷⁹ 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.

⁸⁰ *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1930*. Argus and Patriot Job Printing Office, 1930.

⁸¹ *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1936*. Argus and Patriot Job Printing Office, 1936.

the abutment of the bridge crossing the river below said river to the pond and west bank of the pond.”⁸² 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. Houghton

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. He traded milking cows for grinding and selling grain and repairing radios.⁸³

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 Houghton worked as an electrician. In 1963, Houghton Cate assumed ownership of the Moscow Mills building. Either the George Cate family or the Houghton Cate lived in the extant house and **HD #39** next door.

39. Cate House, 25 Mill Street, c. 1965, Non-contributing due to being outside of the period of significance

This is a 1½ story Ranch with vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. It has a c. 1989 addition.

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.”⁸⁴ 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.”⁸⁵ 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 as an electrician. After his father’s retirement in 1963, Houghton assumed ownership of the mill property. The

⁸² Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk’s Office, Calais, Vermont

⁸³ Houghton Melvin Cate Obituary, Obit Tree, 2015.

⁸⁴ *Orleans Independent Standard*, Irasburg, Vermont, November 10, 1868.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

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

40. Waite House, 39 Mill Street, c. 1900, .5 acres, non-contributing due to alterations

This is a 1½ story gable front, vernacular house with an 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.

40a. Garage, c. 1920, contributing

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

David B. Fay owned this land in the mid-nineteenth century. Fay sold it to Ira Cochrane in 1883, who immediately sold it 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 is a 1½ story, vernacular building with a gable roof and a shed roofed porch spanning the west eaves side elevation. Resting on a concrete foundation, it has asbestos siding and a corrugated metal roof.

Gilman Guernsey (**HD #36**) owned this land in the mid-nineteenth century. Guernsey 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



Figure 11 Jacob Lamb House and job printing building (Vermont Historical Society)

The park was 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 19th century. Subsequent hotel owners were Phineas Wheeler and James Morse. A 1873 fire destroyed the building. Following the fire, Jacob Lamb built a new building on the site, using the building as his residence and a new hotel. It was a 2 ½ story, three by five, gable-front building with a side ell. 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. A 1873 fire destroyed the building. 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.”⁸⁶ 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, situated between the Lamb House and the tin shop, that fronted Route 14. These buildings burnt during the 1951 fire.

⁸⁶ Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont

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."⁸⁷ Erlene Leonard recalled the footbridge 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.⁸⁸

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 it 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."⁸⁹

⁸⁷ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁸⁸ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁸⁹ Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont



Figure 12 Tin Shop (Vermont Historical Society)

The tin shop was “not wide as it faced the street, but it broadened in the back section.”⁹⁰ 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)

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.⁹¹

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 checkerboards around it.⁹²

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.”⁹³ While the tin shop “was the favorite winter meeting place for the village

⁹⁰ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

storytellers, while the chairs on the front porch were more popular during the summer.”⁹⁴

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. Historic-period Archaeological Resources

There was a road that followed the north side of the Kingsbury Brook, leading from Moscow Mills Road. To the west of **HD #10** and **HD #11**, and north of the river from **HD #42**, was the site of the Moscow Lodge/ Old Red Shop, the lower Grist Mill, and Ed George’s harness shop. These buildings were located on the north side of the Kingsbury Branch and were immediately across the river from **HD #8** and **HD #9**. There are several foundations associated with these buildings and evidence of a road leading from Moscow Mills Road to the eastern edge of the district. Some abutments were a most likely part of the footbridge that spanned the river as well as parts of the penstock. The Moscow Lodge/Old Red Shop was 2½ story, gable roof building. Built into a hillside, there was a lower central entrance on the eaves side and a second story, gable end entrance on the east end. A porch spanned the first story and covered the second story entrance. There was a dance hall on the second floor, “only as the house was built on a sidehill, the entrance to the hall was on the ground floor and reached by a narrow footbridge.”⁹⁵ The East Calais Grange initially established a meeting place at the “Old Red Shop.” The unstable building was built on stilts and was unsuitable for large meetings, so the Grange found a new meeting place. To the east, there is the foundation of the old powerhouse. Further to the east, at the end of the road, there is a clearing that was the old ball fields.

44. 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 house from the east side. The four extant buildings constituted some of the oldest buildings in the district, suggesting this was the original village center.

⁹⁴ Bemis, Ida Cleo. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

⁹⁵ Bemis, Ida Cleo. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”
Section seven page 47

Land

As the land comprising the East Calais National Register District is primarily a village setting, there are several parcels of land that convey an agricultural setting. Many of the properties in the village maintained small farm operations while a few such as the Dwinell Homestead, George-Marsh House (**HD #29**), the Putnam-Alden House (**HD #30**) and the Hicks- Stoddard House (**HD #34**) had more extensive agricultural operations. The settlers cleared the land for growing crops and pasture grazing. As farmers cleared fields and pastures, they built stone walls, which created the existing land divisions. A section of forest was retained and managed as a woodlot, used for maple sugaring, firewood, and lumber.

8. Statement of Significance

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.)

- 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.)

Community Planning and Development

Agriculture

Industry

Commerce

Religion

Education

Architecture

Archaeology

Period of Significance

1820-1968

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

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 significant for being representative of a well preserved, generally intact, Vermont village that reflects the commercial, industrial, and community development of a small town. The buildings in the neighborhood incorporate the architectural styles and trends that were popular in Vermont, and the country, from the early nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries. Examples of Greek Revival, Italianate, and Colonial Revival architectural styles are in the district. The quality of the buildings and their detailing represent in the built environment, the prosperity and growth that East Calais experienced during the nineteenth century.

East Calais Village is significant under both Criteria A and C. This former mill community still bears the characteristics that tell the story of its development. Under Criterion A, East Calais is significant due to its strong association with the development of industry, commerce, education, religion, and agriculture in Vermont. Because the Kingsbury Branch was able to support several different types of mills, other businesses also sprung up, which turned East Calais into a center for local farmers to bring their raw materials for processing into more usable forms for the local population as was common throughout the United States during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

The district is also significant under Criterion C because it is an excellent example of the physical development of a small, industrial village through economic and architectural changes throughout the nineteenth century. It is an intact collection of historic residential houses and commercial structures. The individual houses generally retain their original materials, such as wood clapboards, rubble stone foundations, and late nineteenth to early twentieth century wooden windows. Design details, such as Greek Revival cornice returns and wide friezes and Queen Anne imbricated shingling, remain mostly intact.

The district is also significant under Criterion D because several commercial and industrial sites may yield valuable archaeological information.

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

The East Calais Historic District is significant as an example of a small, rural, mill village that grew up around the source of water power that fostered the development of numerous small water-powered mills and industries processing local raw materials such as lumber

and grain. Built predominately between 1830 and 1890, the generally single-family dwellings with associated outbuildings, such as barns, are generally vernacular, Greek Revival or Italianate styles. They are set on relatively uniformly shaped lots of varying sizes. The period of district significance begins in 1811 with the construction of the first mill and ends in 1951 with the destruction of the Lamb & Mullin factory. Some alterations to the contributing buildings have taken place, but these changes, however, are largely limited to exterior cladding, porch additions, garages, and additions on secondary elevations. Any outbuildings, such as garages or post-World-War II infill construction, have not altered the character of the East Calais Historic District as a small village that had originally grown up around the millpond.

Community Planning and Development

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A as it reflects the development of a Vermont, mill-based village in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. East Calais is an excellent example of an early community dependent upon water-power for its mills and businesses. There have been few changes to the village layout, and the district retains its historic sense of feeling. The Moscow Mills site and millpond continue to evoke the industrial heritage of the village, and the schoolhouse, church, general store, and residences also continue to evoke the sense of community. Though post-1951 infill building has occurred in the village, the buildings constructed outside the period of significance generally do not compete in scale, massing, or materials with the historic buildings, nor do they detract from the small village character of East Calais.

Industry

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A due to its historic importance in Vermont industry as the center for mill-related activities on the Kingsbury Branch in Calais, Vermont. An increasing need to provide a local means for processing the raw materials produced by farmers, such as grain, lumber and potash from land clearing, led to the establishment of mills and settlements around rivers throughout the newly formed United States during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries in order to take advantage of water power technology.

Commerce

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A due to its role as a commercial hub for the surrounding community. With the falls serving as the economic engine for the community, businesses developed along the VT Route 14 corridor. Historically, the village was the industrial and commercial hub for the surrounding agricultural community. By the mid to late nineteenth century, it provided such services as blacksmiths, wheelwrights, harness shop, sawmill, grist mill, shingle mill, a millinery, butchers, cobblers and general stores. The earliest commercial entities operated out of a single room in a residence, and by the late nineteenth century, there were several buildings dedicated to commercial purposes.

Agriculture

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A due to the presence of many small agricultural operations in the district. While smaller than the farms outside of the district, these properties reflect the need for residences to maintain small family operations for their subsistence. The owners of these smaller agricultural operations were engaged in other commercial/industrial activities in the community but also maintained small animal herds for their use and additional income.

Education

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A due to its historic importance in early education in the Town of Calais. Located in the traditional center of the village, the school fronts the original town green.

Religion

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion A due to its historic importance in early religion, the Town of Calais. The church served as an important community resource, with many of the village's residents serving as deacons and Sunday school teachers. Located at the southern end of the village, the church served as the visual gateway to the village.

Architecture

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion C as an intact collection of historic residential houses and commercial structures. The individual houses generally retain their original materials, such as wood clapboards, granite foundations, and wood windows. Design details, such as Greek Revival cornice returns and wide friezes and Queen Anne imbricated shingling, remain mostly intact.

Archaeology

The East Calais Historic District is significant under Criterion D as there are several sawmill and grist mill sites that have the potential to yield potential archaeological information. There are also foundation walls for several residential and commercial structures. These sites also have significance under industry and commerce.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Criterion A: Community Development and Planning

Settlement

Calais is located in the northern part of Washington county, cornering on to Lamoille and Caledonia counties. The 36-square mile township of Calais was granted to Colonel Jacob Davis and Stephen Fay, both residents of Charlton, Massachusetts, and sixty-eight other men.⁹⁶

The General Assembly at Arlington granted the Calais charter and passed a resolution on October 21, 1780. The charter comprised 23,040 acres of land, and the fees for granting the land was 480 pounds 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.⁹⁷

A Vermont Act of Incorporation officially created the Town of Calais on August 15, 1781. Although chartered ten months earlier, the original proprietors were slow on paying the charter fees, 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 remaining fees.

The Calais proprietors initially met in Charlton, Massachusetts, in 1781. Most of these men were land speculators who obtained charters and sold lots to settlers, and they often looted and divided the land "with no knowledge of the topographic character of the town."⁹⁸

At this time, the Abenaki tribe occupied the land in Vermont for 10,000 years. Extending across most of northern New England into the southern part of the Canadian Maritimes, the Abenaki called their homeland Ndakinna meaning "our land." The western Abenaki tribes, numbering approximately 10,000 people, lived west of New Hampshire's White Mountains across Vermont and New Hampshire to the eastern shores of Lake Champlain. Following King Phillip's War, the Abenaki absorbed thousands of refugees from southern New England native groups. In the eighteenth-century, the Abenaki consisted of members of the Pennacook, Narragansett, Pocumtuc, and Nipmuc tribes. By the time of the East Calais charter, the smallpox epidemics of 1729, 1733, 1755, and 1758 depleted the western Abenaki population significantly. New England settlement and war also forced many of the Abenaki to retreat north into Quebec.

⁹⁶ Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006.

⁹⁷ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*. Syracuse, New York: Syracuse Journal Office, 1889.

⁹⁸ Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006.

The charter members ordered Colonel Jacob Davis to survey the 1st Division of Calais in 1783. Davis, accompanied by Captain Samuel Robinson, and a Mr. Brush, from Bennington, made camp while surveying was on the west shore of Long or Curtis Pond and called 'Grand Camp.' The committee "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."⁹⁹

During the summer of 1786, Captain Samuel Robinson, E. Waters, J. Tucker, E. Stone, General Parley Davis, came from Charleston to Calais, to continue to survey the land.¹⁰⁰ The surveying party traveled to Middlesex, "laden with provisions, cooking utensils, blankets, axes, surveying instruments, etc."¹⁰¹ They "passed a distance of 13 or 14 miles to the camp, erected by the party who commenced the survey three years previous."¹⁰²

The 1786 surveying committee completed the survey of the first and second division lots and returned to Charlton. The following spring, Moses Haskell, considered the first Calais settler, "felled the first tree in 1787."¹⁰³ Francis West, Abijah Wheelock Asa Wheelock, and Peter Wheelock soon followed Haskell.

Francis West was born in 1761 in Tisbury, Massachusetts, on the island of Martha's Vineyard. He arrived in Montpelier in the spring of 1787 and went to the northern border of Montpelier, and "commenced his labors in clearing the forest, striking the first ax into a tree in the town with a view toward settlement."¹⁰⁴ West

Was the only ax of a settler sounding in these forests and night found him their only human occupant. All that spring, summer, and fall, he labored diligently, his season's efforts clearing some eight acres of land besides erecting his little log cabin.¹⁰⁵

West built his crude hut, followed by a permanent dwelling on what he thought was Montpelier land. When they formalized the boundaries, "his home was found to be all in the town of Calais, although removed from the Montpelier line by only about eight feet."¹⁰⁶

Following close behind Francis West, Abijah Wheelock, Asa Wheelock, and Peter Wheelock left Charlton, Massachusetts, in June 1787, "with two yoke of oxen and a wagon."¹⁰⁷ When they reached Williamstown,

They were obliged to leave their wagon and take a sled and cut their way through the woods, which consumed two days, and necessarily they encamped two nights in

⁹⁹ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ Waite, Marcus Warren. *Pioneers of the Town of Calais, Vermont*. Montpelier, VT: Vermont Historical Society, 1932.

¹⁰⁴ *The Vermonter -- The State Magazine*, Vol. 19, Nos. 10-11, Oct.-Nov., 1814

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

the woods and reached Colonel Davis' camp in Montpelier. Here they left their oxen to graze in the woods, proceeded on to their pitch in Calais, and commenced a vigorous onslaught upon the forest.¹⁰⁸

These early settlers spent the warmer months clearing the land and returned to Massachusetts for the winter. The original trees included white pine, birch, rock maple, and beech. The big trees were cut fifteen acres at a time, and the settlers burned the remains. They used the cut wood for fencing and building the houses and outbuildings. If a "good burn" resulted, they planted wheat. They placed the tree stumps in "great rows," and they laid the stone fences adjacent to the stumps.¹⁰⁹

After clearing the Calais forest, the Wheelocks returned to Charlton in October 1787. Abijah and Peter Wheelock returned the following spring, accompanied by Moses Stone, and built crude log houses. They returned to Charlton for the winter. In March 1789,

Abijah Wheelock, with his family, Samuel Twiss, with his newly married bride, Moses Stone, and Gen. Davis, arrived at Col. Davis' house in Montpelier, which served as a hotel for all comers. Here they remained for about two weeks. On the 13th of April Messrs. Wheelock, Stone, and Twiss, with their beds and some light goods loaded upon hand sleds, accompanied by Mrs. Wheelock, Mrs. Twiss, and Gen. Davis, on the crust over snow three feet deep, went on foot to their home in the forest of Calais. Mrs. Wheelock carried in her arms an infant four months old, while their son, two years old, was drawn on the hand sled. They reached their destination the same day, and thus commenced the permanent settlement of Calais.¹¹⁰

Rather than returning to Charlton like previous years, the Wheelocks "remained and raised large families. They were hardworking, honest men. Their descendants are numerous and, like their progenitors, have ever been citizens respected in the community."¹¹¹

These early Calais settlers faced a challenging environment in the untamed northern forest. They "endured every hardship and made many shifts to protect their families."¹¹² Even after forty families had settled in Calais, there still was no road in 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."¹¹³

The settlers found a wilderness where "the woods and streams were filled with game and fish. In this virgin land, the settlers found that the summers were long and hot, the rainfall was then much greater ... and every crop that can grow in these latitudes came quickly to maturity and produced tremendously."¹¹⁴ Working with "primitive tools and primitive

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Sagerman, Paula, *Jericho Rural Historic District National Register Nomination*, United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2009

¹¹⁰ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

¹¹¹ *The Vermonter -- The State Magazine*, Vol. 19, Nos. 10-11, Oct.-Nov., 1814

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ Ibid.

¹¹⁴ Ibid.

methods,” the settlers worked “all through the summer months and in the winter” in complete isolation.¹¹⁵

Colonel Davis, a principal proprietor in the grants of both Montpelier and Calais, supposedly named the town. Davis “had become prejudiced against the custom, so common among the settlers, of giving the name of the old home to the new.”¹¹⁶ Rather than repeating a name previously used in southern New England or across the Atlantic Ocean, Davis’ “attention was naturally drawn to France, rather than England, by her attitude toward this country at that time.”¹¹⁷ With his choice of Calais and Montpelier, Davis reflected the nation’s gratitude towards France and its assistance during the American Revolution. It also reflected the pro-French attitudes of Thomas Jefferson, but this Jeffersonian appreciation would dissipate by the time of his second Presidential term when his embargo act had a profound impact on Vermonters and their trade relations with Canada.

John Taplin, appointed Justice of the Peace, organized the town in March. The initial annual Town Meetings were held in private homes and schoolhouses until the town built the townhouse in 1839. In his capacity as first Town Clerk, first Representative and Justice of the Peace, Peter Wheelock “was the leading man in the first ten years of Calais history.”¹¹⁸ His home was the site of several early town meetings, becoming the center of town activities.

Calais: 1800-1850

During the first half of the nineteenth century, Calais grew steadily in population. In the first decade of settlement, the population of Calais increased nearly tenfold between 1790 (43 people) and 1800 (443 people) and nearly doubled in 1810 (841 people). The population doubled again by 1840 (1709 people).¹¹⁹

In 1801, there were 80 taxed individuals in Calais. There were 1679 acres of improved land; \$182 worth of houses; 112 oxen; 405 cows and other cattle; 178 cattle; and 127 horses. Personal property included seven house clocks, three gold watches; 12 common watches; and \$2,750 of cash. There was one practitioner, and mechanics and mill owners were assessed at \$11,340.

In 1820, there were 80 taxed community members who had 1,990 acres of improved land valued at \$1,366.42; 103 houses and lots valued at \$247.06; nine mills, stores, etc.; 140

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁶ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*. Vermont Watchman and State Journal Press: Montpelier, 1882.

¹¹⁷ Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006.

¹¹⁸ Waite, Marcus Warren. *Pioneers of the Town of Calais, Vermont*.

¹¹⁹ Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

oxen; 429 cows; 169 cattle; and 181 horses. Personal property included five brass clocks, one gold watch; 20 common watches; and \$1,100 worth of cash.

In 1830, the town taxed 252 people. They owned 3690 acres of land valued at \$1,558.60 and 541 houses/lots valued at \$1,401.40. There were 14 mills and stores, two practitioners of medicine, one merchant, and one trader. Animals included 281 oxen, 968 cows/cattle, 101 horses/mules, and 2,797 sheep. Personal property included seven carriages, eight brass clocks, 20 watches, and \$3,350 money on hand.¹²⁰

East Calais: 1850-1900

In Calais, the population had risen in 1840 to 1,709. The town continued to ride the boom in sheep raising and wool manufacturing. By 1850 Calais began to experience the widespread migration of Vermonters to the west-drawn by fertile lands in the Ohio River Valley. These emigrants were largely hill farmers. By 1850, half of Vermont's population had left- roughly 100,000 people. In Calais, by 1850, the population had dropped by almost 300 to 1,410 but remained stable through the 1850s.¹²¹

Life in East Calais: 1850-1900

Until the Civil War, “most organized social intercourse 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.”¹²² Meeting places included Albert Dwinell Hall (**HD #24**), Lamb & Levison hall (**HD #42**), Allen Goodell’s hall (**HD #42**), and Good Templars Hall (**HD #43**). In addition to the halls, there were other sites for social gatherings:

Much of the less formal, but nevertheless very vital parts of the social life of the town are the neighborhood get-togethers. These are 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

¹²⁰ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer. Vermont Watchman and State Journal* Press: Montpelier, 1882.

¹²¹ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont.*

¹²² Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais. Vermont.*

contagious and yet healthy and good. The children are not dominated by the parents but mingle in good fellowship.¹²³

In August 1884, there was the “ice cream benefit festival” which

Was a success, in spite of the threatening weather. Among some, the particularly fine things on the evening’s entertainment were the violin solos, by Prof. C.I. Marsh, of Syracuse, NY, and a recitation by Ms. Nellie White, who gave the selection which gained her the prose at Goddard Seminary prize speaking last year. The entertainment closed with a promenade concert by the band.¹²⁴

During the nineteenth century, East Calais served as the town social center. During a given week, there were dances, socials, plays, parties, and social events. Harold Dwinell recalled the social life in East Calais:

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.¹²⁵

In 1894, singers from East Calais and Woodbury gave performed *Queen Esther* concert.¹²⁶In 1899, there was harvest supper at Levison & Lamb’s hall (**HD #42**), with about seventy people in attendance who partook in ‘boiled victuals’ as well as Indian pudding, pumpkin and apple pie, doughnuts and coffee. After a short literary program, the young people promenaded until about eleven o'clock.¹²⁷

In addition to the plays, there were a fair number of dances and parties. In January 1888, “a good company attended the masquerade promenade last week. The object of the entertainment was to raise money to scrape the pond and keep an ice rink open through winter.”¹²⁸ In November 1888, Mrs. J.O. Lamb gave a tea party at Levison & Lamb’s hall with the proceeds supporting the “fund already started for a new church organ.”¹²⁹

¹²³ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

¹²⁴ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 13, 1884.

¹²⁵ 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.”

¹²⁶ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 22, 1894.

¹²⁷ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 10, 1889.

¹²⁸ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 18, 1888.

¹²⁹ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 21, 1888.

Ida Clee Bemis recalled dancing

The Portland Fancy, Virginia Reel, and all the other square dances. Most everyone, except those who thought dancing was wicked and that included the Dwinell's, went to the dances and took their children with them ... Some even took their babies and a big rocking chair to put them to sleep in, but that was frowned upon by almost everyone. The music for the dances was a couple of fiddles and an organ. One of the fiddlers was the caller.¹³⁰

Bemis also recalled mud cake making. She made a mud cake house in the woodshed and “prepared regular meals using different kinds of leaves for beefsteak and pork chops and frosted our cakes with sawdust. How we treasured the handle-less cups and pitchers and cracked plates we collected from all the neighbors! When summer was over, we packed them away until the next year.”¹³¹

Dwinell Family Fetes

The Dwinell family “always had a propensity for picnics. The family planned backyard picnics. Whenever visitors from the west were present, a hayrack ride to Woodbury pond for a picnic was the grand event.”¹³²

In 1871, thirty-two descendants of Israel Dwinell gathered for “a picnic on the premises of the old homestead” for a party that eventually surged to over 100 with the extended families.¹³³

A sign hung from the trees stating, “Welcome to the Old Homestead,” and the grounds were provided with the means of swinging and playing ring games and croquet. The tables were bountifully spread and beautifully decorated. At two-o'clock, the children sang the song of greeting, and the kindred and friends, of all ages, from one year to eighty-five years old, all heights, from twenty inches to six feet, six and one-half inches, gathered around the tables. I.S. Dwinell presided. Israel Dwinell, in his eighty-sixth year, but in vitality and mind still bright and vigorous, invoked the Divine blessing ... the occasion was in all respects so pleasant that it is proposed to have an annual picnic on the ground as a family institution.¹³⁴

Winter in East Calais: 1850-1900

During the winters, the children of East Calais participated skated on the millpond but the “season was short as it usually snowed as soon as the millpond froze over” and the children “made the most of it while it lasted, the boys building a fire on the island so we could get

¹³⁰ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

¹³¹ Bemis, Ida Clee, “A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Clee Bemis.”

¹³² 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.”

¹³³ *Green Mountain Freeman*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 23, 1871.

¹³⁴ *Ibid.*

warm.”¹³⁵ Another popular winter activity was coasting as the children “coasted from the day of the first snow until spring.”¹³⁶ They used the East Hill road and

[He] started almost up to the cemetery and coasted down to the church in the village, a good quarter of a mile ...We coasted day after day all winter. Sometimes the men would be drawing logs down from the East Hill to the mill in East Calais and would go back with empty sleds drawn by two horses. We would all pile on the sled and get a ride up the hill, laughing and talking with the sleigh bells ringing. I don't know why we never had an accident as the road was narrow, and there was one bad curve just before we got to [my friend] Mabel's house. There wasn't much traffic, but when we did meet a team, we had to steer into the snowbank.¹³⁷

There were also many sledding parties in East Calais:

With no autos running in winter, look out for traffic really had very little to do. The short slide more commonly made by our family, which was the one which started near Grandfather's barnyard. proceeding down the road between the farmhouse and the Alonzo Pierce home, across the main road by the mill yard and up the grade towards the schoolyard. When it was really icy and fast sliding, there would be something of a jump as we crossed the road, and after coming to a stop near the schoolyard, we would slide back to the bridge. ¹³⁸

The pond was a constant source of winter activities. The pond usually froze over by the second week of December, allowing for opportunities for free skating and hockey games. As the snow acted as an insulator and melted the ice, the skating process inevitably included the tedious task of shoveling the snow. The skating went on into the evenings, and there was usually a bonfire on the shoreline. Rubber tires were also a welcomed diversion during the winter. The children set up tires for skate jumping, but once they used tires to maintain the bonfires, the adults became upset.¹³⁹

When the Christmas season arrived, the people of East Calais seemed to celebrate collectively. During the 1880s, according to Ida Clee Bemis,

There were Christmas exercises in the church on the evening of December 25th. No one ever had a Christmas tree at home. Everybody took all their gifts to the church tree, and everybody went to the exercises. The church would be packed. There would be two huge trees reaching nearly to the ceiling as they had to use step ladders to reach the top. The gifts were not wrapped in fancy paper... We children

¹³⁵ Bemis, Ida Clee, "A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Clee Bemis,"

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ 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.""

¹³⁹ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

used to watch them hanging the gifts and wonder who they were for. There would be pieces spoken by the children and stories acted by them, but I never remember any singing of carols or stories of the nativity.¹⁴⁰

After exercises, the presents were distributed. The adults who decorated and hung the tree would ... read the name on it, and the person it was for would stand up, and one of the half dozen teenage crowd who was chosen for the job would take it to the person whose name it bore. Everyone sat quietly in his seat, and the only talk then was the Ohs! and Ahs! of admiration of the gift received. I never remember any special music or exercises at Easter.¹⁴¹

In 1891, the East Calais community gathered at the church on Christmas day

Where a goodly number of presents were distributed, after appropriate services, among the most valuable of gifts was a very young baby girl baby to be D.B. Dwinell and wife, a very appropriate present, and Dell yet wears a smiling face. J.O. Lamb and wife were recipients of a nine-calendar clock from C.G. Levison of Brooklyn, NY, also a nice stuffed spring rocker chair presented by the employees in the box factory, and all were remembered on the Christmas tree.¹⁴²

East Calais and the Civil War

The Civil War had a significant effect on the lives of people in Calais. One hundred forty-nine men from Calais served in the Union Army, and 26 did not return- live of whom died in battle.¹⁴³ Ira Dwinell's hotel served as a recruiting station for a new artillery battery. Mustered in August of 1863, this regiment was to consist of veteran soldiers from Worcester, Calais, and Cabot.¹⁴⁴

Albert Dwinell (**HD #20**) served in the commissary department under General P. P. Pitkin, stationed at Harrison's Landing, Virginia. The army discharged Dwinell on account of illness.

Aro Slayton (**HD #8**), born in East Calais in 1818, came from a long tradition with the military. His great-grandfather was a soldier in the French and Indian war; his grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and his father was a soldier in the War of 1812. Aro aided in recruiting Co. H, of the 13th Vermont in 1862.

Charles Bumpus lived at the Alonzo Clark House (**HD #22**) with his wife and child, Leon. Charles was a veteran of the Civil War, and Leon was active in the Sons of Veterans

¹⁴⁰ Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."

¹⁴¹ Ibid.

¹⁴² *The Northfield News*, Northfield, Vermont, January 7, 1891.

¹⁴³ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

¹⁴⁴ *The Daily Green Mountain Freeman*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 31, 1863

organization. The Bumpus' proudest moments "were when in Sons of Veterans uniforms and regalia and carrying a bass drum to beat out the time for people marching in the parade."¹⁴⁵

Frank Marsh **(HD #29)** enlisted in Company I, Vermont 1st Heavy Artillery Regiment in 1862. He was a drummer and was promoted to Full Corporal in February 1865. Marsh mustered out in June 1865. Upon his return from the war, he set up a wheelwright shop and continued to play his drums on his front lawn.

Alonzo E. Pierce, the son of Alonzo Pierce **(HD #21)**, served as a 2d Lieutenant in Company K, 3rd Vermont Regiment. The army honorably discharged him in 1863 for disability.

Charles Burnap **(HD #18)** enlisted in 1862 in the Company H, 11th Regiment Vermont Volunteer, and served until 1865. Brothers Oscar and George Guernsey **(HD #26)** both served in the 11th Vermont. Additional East Calais veterans were Henry Carley **(HD #26)**, John Hammond **(HD #36)**, Simeon Webb **(HD #25)**, and Moses Lamberton **(HD #22)**.

An interesting chapter in East Calais and the Civil War was Melvin Dwinell. A brother of Albert Dwinell, Melvin,

Was in the south during the Civil War and fought in the southern army. He was never abandoned by the family, and when he first returned to his native home after the war, there were five family picnics in one week. One at the old farm home where Uncle Levi lived, one at brother Ira's home on Maple Street¹⁴⁶, one at the Foster home in North Calais, one at Albert Dwinell's home and still another for a smaller family group at the old sugar house on the home farm.¹⁴⁷

Post Office

The first village post office was created at East Calais about 1830 in the home of Asa Alden **(HD #30)**. Alden served as the postmaster till 1857. Subsequent postmasters were Zephaniah Pierce **(HD #11)** until 1860, James H. Cole **(HD #29)** until 1863, A. D. Pierce **(HD #21)** until 1871, Franklin A. Dwinell **(HD #17)** until 1874 and Clarence Dwinell **(HD #10)** until at least 1882.¹⁴⁸ The post office was in Benjamin P. White's store for several years. In 1885, the *Boston Record*

Reported last Friday evening the name of B.P. White of East Calais in a list of some thirty appointments by the postmaster general among the fourth-class post offices of Vermont. There evidently has been no halt in the march of appointment bureau towards the 'crossroads.' 'Offensive partisanship,' probably, is the ground on which

¹⁴⁵ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

¹⁴⁶ Most likely Maple Avenue which was changed to Marshfield Road at an unknown date.

¹⁴⁷ 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.'"

¹⁴⁸ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

C.R. Dwinell has been removed, although we were not aware that he had ever been on a campaign stump.¹⁴⁹

In 1920, the post office transferred from A.A. Gove's store **(HD #6)** to the home of Carroll J. Lamb **(HD #7)**. During the 1940s, the post office was in the tin shop for a brief time.

Moscow Lodge

Located across the river from the Park **(HD #42)** was the Moscow Lodge. (Figure 13) This land originally belonged to Ira E. Pierce, who sold to James H. Cole **(HD #29)** in 1854. Achsah W. Dutton sold the land to James R. George in 1883, and the George family sold it to the International Order of Good Templars in 1903.

Established in 1851 at Utica, N.Y., as a temperance society, the Order of Good Templars took as its motto, "Friendship, Hope, and Charity." The following year, the organization split renamed itself the Independent Order of Good Templars, and took as its new motto "Faith, Hope, and Charity." The Independent Order of Good Templars addressed religious and moral issues, as well as provided social events. The Lodge became a center for community meetings and social activities and also because it admitted women equally with men and sponsored groups for children ages five to 16. In the 1870s, Good Templars established lodges in over thirty countries, and in 1905, the organization renamed itself once again, becoming the International Order of Good Templars.¹⁵⁰

¹⁴⁹ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, July 22, 1885.

¹⁵⁰ Larson, Sylvia B., Editor. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century." *Vermont History* 74 (Summer/Fall 2006): 156-175.



Figure 13 Moscow Lodge (Vermont Historical Society)

The Good Templars were

Solidly rooted in Christian principles, that taught total abstinence from all kinds of liquor while offering sociability, ritual, a chance to develop local leadership, an opportunity to work with like-minded folks in other communities, equality of membership for both women and men, and, perhaps as important as anything else, the chance to be part of something worthwhile right at home.¹⁵¹

Ida Cleo Bemis recalled that during 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 hard cider in their cellars, but if they drank to excess, they stayed home, and no one knew it.¹⁵²

One of the first examples of the temperance movement in East Calais occurred in 1856 when the Temperance County Convention of Montpelier nominated Alonzo Pierce **(HD**

¹⁵¹ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*.

¹⁵² Bemis, Ida Cleo. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."

#21) candidate for county commissioner.¹⁵³ Organized in 1829, the I.O.G.T. Moscow Lodge No. 22, predated the construction of their building. Initially, the Good Templars' Lodge Hall was in a small room above the horse sheds attached to Dwinell General Store (**HD #24**).

In 1880, The Moscow Lodge, Independent Order of Good Templars, was "in prosperous conditions with forty members in good standing."¹⁵⁴ The officers during the 1880s included Dr. George H. Gray (**HD #27**), Clara Pike (**HD #23**), Mrs. C.R. Dwinell (**HD #10**), and Dell B. Dwinell (**HD #19**). The Lodge celebrated its anniversary each year with an oyster supper, either private or public. The Moscow Lodge also had a junior branch, "which took in upper-grade youngsters for whom special activities were arranged."¹⁵⁵

Besides its general purpose of promoting sobriety, the Moscow Lodge often hosted public functions. In 1882, the Templars had "an entertainment at their hall tomorrow evening, and refreshments will be served consisting of coffee, cake, and popcorn, this being a forfeit of the beaten captain on the competitive system."¹⁵⁶ In 1898, approximately 100 people "attended an oyster supper given last week by Moscow Lodge of Good Templars, to celebrate the nineteenth anniversary of the institution of the lodge. Eight of its charter members were present and three others whose membership covers almost nineteen years."¹⁵⁷

In addition to official functions, the community used the building for a variety of events. In 1900, "the young people are learning the drama 'Our Folks,' which they hope to be able to present in the near future."¹⁵⁸ It was a benefit performance for the library and Moscow Lodge, with "the proceeds to be divided between the two."¹⁵⁹

The Fire of 1873

In September 1873, "the little village of East Calais was aroused by alarm of fire."¹⁶⁰ The fire damaged buildings between **HD #42** and **HD #10**. The fire, discovered around midnight, started in the basement of the Wing & Rideout tin-shop and "burned through the floor above" and "it was impossible to remove the stock of goods and tools."¹⁶¹ The origin 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."¹⁶²

¹⁵³ *Green Mountain Freeman*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 28, 1856.

¹⁵⁴ Parker, B.F., *The International Good Templar*, Volume 20, B.F. Parker, 1907

¹⁵⁵ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais*. Vermont. Barre, VT: Calais Historical Society, 1999.

¹⁵⁶ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 22, 1882.

¹⁵⁷ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 5, 1898.

¹⁵⁸ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 17, 1900.

¹⁵⁹ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 31, 1900.

¹⁶⁰ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

¹⁶¹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

¹⁶² *Ibid.*

The “destructive conflagration” ravaged the Wing & Rideout building, “place being unsupplied with appliances for putting out fires” and “raged with uncontrollable fury for about two hours.”¹⁶³ 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.”¹⁶⁴ The Rideout family “only had time to snatch a change of clothing and get out before the fire closed all avenues of escape.”¹⁶⁵

The fire then spread to Perley Whitcher’s barn, “the next building south, which with its contents was completely destroyed; thence to the boot and shoe store of D. B. Fay, whose stock was partly removed.”¹⁶⁶ The next point of attack was the barn of the ‘Moscow House’ followed by the hotel itself, which was entirely consumed.¹⁶⁷ The loss included “a good hotel building, which had been recently much enlarged and improved; two large barns, sheds, and outbuildings.”¹⁶⁸ 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 lose 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.¹⁶⁹

The fire then went 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.”¹⁷⁰

This fire was a severe loss to the village, with property losses being approximately \$17,000. When the town finally contolled the fire, “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.”¹⁷¹

The houses “on the opposite side of the street frequently caught fire but were extinguished without any serious damage. The house of Clarence Dwinell (**HD #10**) took fire several

¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

¹⁶⁵ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

¹⁶⁶ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

¹⁶⁷ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

¹⁶⁸ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

¹⁶⁹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

¹⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁷¹ Ibid.

times, but, was saved from destruction by the exertions of Dwinell, as was the meeting house **(HD #5)** by Alonzo D. Pierce, who stationed himself in the belfry, and with a supply of water extinguished the flames as fast as they caught. Where all done so well, it would be invidious to particularize individual cases. The people of East Calais wish, however, to return their thanks to their neighbors 'on the hills' who so nobly rushed to their assistance, and helped them battle the fiery element."¹⁷²

A month after the fire, Goodell was "rebuilding his sash and blind factory and cooper shop. His friends are doing the handsome thing by 'lending a hand.'"¹⁷³ C.A. Wing also returned to Calais within a month of the fire and proposed "to continue the tin business."¹⁷⁴ By the beginning of 1874, East Calais was "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."¹⁷⁵

Ladies Social Circle

During the 1880s, the organization was the Ladies Social Circle, which occasionally met a Clarence Dwinell's hall and Levison & Lamb's hall. By 1900, the group was identified as the Ladies League and held events such as a Whist Party at Levison & Lamb's Hall. That same year, Mrs. Jacob O. Lamb and Miss Carrie White "gave a poverty special at Levison & Lamb's hall Thursday evening for the benefit of the Ladies League."¹⁷⁶

Circulating Library

The Circulating Library Society in East Calais opened in 1842 with no building associated with the organization. Village officers included Mrs. Clarence R. Dwinell **(HD #10)**, Inez M. Pierce **(HD #21)**, Benjamin P. White **(HD #1)**, Clara Pike **(HD #23)**. The library was open on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with Inez Pierce serving as the librarian with the library located in the Pierce home **(HD #21)**.¹⁷⁷

Calais: 1900-1951

The period from 1890-1920 was one of a slow decline in East Calais. The population in the town of Calais dropped from 1,082 in 1890 to 865 in 1920. After reaching a high of 1,709 in 1840, the population had dropped nearly by half in 80 years. Despite the population drop, East Calais still maintained a lot of commercial and industrial activity. At this time, the town

¹⁷² Ibid.

¹⁷³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

¹⁷⁴ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 1, 1874.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid.

¹⁷⁶ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 20, 1900; *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 31, 1900.

¹⁷⁷ Bemis, Ida Clee. "A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century."

had a gristmill, sawmill, a creamery, blacksmith shops, job printing shops, tin shop, general stores, and the Levison & Lamb box factory. Harold Dwinell recalled the bustling activity:

The mills, saw, and grist, were 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.¹⁷⁸

Life in East Calais: 1900-1951

As East Calais entered the twentieth century, the village continued to be the center of social events. In 1903, the Union Church (**HD #5**) hosted a performance of *Spinsters Convention*, where the spectators could “see the old maids transformed before your own eyes.”¹⁷⁹ There was a School Exhibition at Levison & Lamb’s Hall (**HD #42**) in 1904 featuring “a program of songs, recitations, and Tableaux followed by the laughable farce entitled, *That Rascal Pat*.”¹⁸⁰

The Moscow Lodge continued to host events in the early twentieth century. In 1904, the Good Templars held a picnic at Woodbury Pond, where Albert Dwinell gave a presentation titled “Patriotism Coupled with Sobriety” and “that the address was appreciated was shown by the marked attention given by all.”¹⁸¹ In 1905, the Moscow Lodge of Good Templars “held its 26th annual oyster supper Saturday evening at Good Templar Hall. A goodly number of people were present, and the last night of the old year was passed very enjoyably both by the members and by the public to whom the doors of the hall were opened.”¹⁸²

During the twentieth century, the Templars faced membership challenges:

Times changed, and people’s interests shifted to other directions, yet it is possible to discern the lodge’s legacy. Those who belonged, especially the young people, retained their anti-liquor feelings, and years later, when voters were given an annual chance to decide whether alcohol could be sold in town, they voted year after year to retain Calais as a ‘dry’ town.¹⁸³

¹⁷⁸ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

¹⁷⁹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, 1903.

¹⁸⁰ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, July 5, 1904.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸² *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 3, 1905.

¹⁸³ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont.*

In February 1922, twenty-five East Calais women gathered together to form the "East Calais Women's Club." The Club was affiliated with the Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs and held regular meetings and events. Formed "to look after all interests of the town," the first initiative of the club was to have the registered nurses in the club hold a class in-home nursing.¹⁸⁴ In October 1922, the newly-formed club "gave an entertainment and sale at the I.O.G.T. hall" and specified that the "money received from the entertainment will go to the State Federation for Child Welfare."¹⁸⁵ In 1923 and for many years after that, the Club helped pay for street lights in the village.

Charles Dudley (**HD #10**) operated a singing school and camp during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Harold Dwinell attended the singing school in the 1920s and recalled the voices of the Bancroft family who lived at **HD #28**:

I remember attending the Charles Dudley Singing School in our church ... Bert was in the bass section ... Laura [Bancroft] gave music lessons, and all the children had good voices. I always enjoyed hearing Carrie and Louise [Bancroft] sing duets. Carl was also a good singer.¹⁸⁶

During the 1930s, the cultural tradition in East Calais remained strong. In 1934, the East Calais Dramatic Players performed three short plays – *The Wedding of Rudy and Nanette*, *Not a Man in the House*, and *When Greek Meets Greek*. Following the plays, the attendees danced to the music of Southwick's Orchestra. That same year, the East Calais Women's Club, presented two short plays – *His Wife's First Husband* and *Lucy Acts Up* at the I.O.G.T. Hall (**HD #43**). It was followed by "musical numbers and a monologue, dancing, Southwick's Orchestra, supper, pay for what you eat. For Benefit of Street Lights."¹⁸⁷

Walter J. Coates (**HD#27**), the proprietor of the Coates & Gove General Store (**HD #6**), also wrote poems, publishing a volume of his work, *Mood Songs*, in 1921. In the summer of 1925, he met with the editor and publisher W. Paul Cook and Vrest Orton in North Calais to discuss "how to stimulate widespread and unified literary activity in Vermont—to encourage nascent writers and promote keener appreciation for their works."¹⁸⁸ In April 1926, Coates published the magazine *Driftwind*, containing poetry and essays by Vermont writers. Coates put together the magazine together meticulously:

He set the type himself and used birch bark or wallpaper as the covers. He gave away copies for a year, as many as 60–80 each issue. The magazine remained an amateur operation; by 1932, they were publishing 400 copies a month. Coates published *Driftwind* for 15 years, as well as operating Driftwind Press, which specialized in

¹⁸⁴ *Hardwick Gazette*, Hardwick, Vermont, February 2, 1922.

¹⁸⁵ *Hardwick Gazette*, Hardwick, Vermont, October 12, 1922.

¹⁸⁶ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

¹⁸⁷ *Barre Daily Times*, 1934.

¹⁸⁸ Ormsbee, Anne, "Poems Between Wallpaper," *East Montpelier Signpost*, May-June 2007.

Vermont literature and small vanity poetry books. The family operated the store until publishing became full time.¹⁸⁹

Forrest "Strad" Gray, the son of Frank and Hattie Gray (**HD #23**), worked as a tinsmith at George Sander's tin shop (**HD #42**) for over thirty years. Strad was a talented musician and thespian. He was a self-taught musician, learning to play the fiddle as a youth, and playing in several local bands. As he was "clever at fashioning from tin or galvanized metal all sorts of forms needed in the installation of roof gutters and rain spouts and stove pipe and bathroom connections," Strad learned that he could fashion a violin from the same material.¹⁹⁰ One weekend, when Sanders was on vacation in Maine, Strad found himself alone in the shop and bored with making maple pails. He used a drawing of a violin that he kept in his drawer and promptly fashioned a tin fiddle for himself.

Just naturally, he was likened to the master violin maker, Stradivarius, and henceforth, "Strad" was used as his name more commonly than Forrest even to this day. And Strad could play a violin or fiddle well. He was in demand for all sorts of entertainments.¹⁹¹

Strad was a member of the Northeast Fiddlers Association and the National Old-time Fiddler's Association and participated in local fiddling contests. He was also a thespian and during the early twentieth century, a member of the East Calais Dramatic Players, "a local theater group that presented productions throughout central Vermont."¹⁹² In 1912, he worked as a job printer, creating sugar labels, letterheads, billheads, statements, envelopes, small posters, butter paper, shipping tags, handbills, and labels.

Whist Parties

Reflecting a nationwide popularity trend, the residents often held whist parties, where they gathered to play a card game similar to bridge. In 1898, a benefit Whist Party was held at Levison & Lamb's Hall, under the auspices of the East Calais Circulating Library. In 1901, there was a "drive whist party for the benefit of the circulating library," which was "the largest yet, there being enough to fill sixteen tables."¹⁹³ During the fall of 1901, the ladies of East Calais "a series of Wednesday evening whist parties" were held at Levison & Lamb's hall "in spite of the storm, there were nine tables."¹⁹⁴

Dwinell Family Fetes

The Dwinell Homestead (**HD #20**) was the site of several gatherings in the early 1900s. In September, Albert Dwinell hosted a husking party at his home for about forty guests,

¹⁸⁹ Ibid.

¹⁹⁰ Forrest Alvin "Strad" Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447.

¹⁹¹ 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."

¹⁹² Forrest Alvin "Strad" Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447.

¹⁹³ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 27, 1901.

¹⁹⁴ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 19, 1901.

“which was thoroughly enjoyed as such affairs usually are.”¹⁹⁵ Two months later, Mrs. Albert Dwinell “entertained ten of her lady friends last Friday evening in honor Miss. Mary Dwinell. Cards, halma, and a delicate spread were the features of this delightfully informal affair.”¹⁹⁶ In 1927, there was a Dwinell family picnic at the home of Clarence Dwinell with thirty-four people who “were descendants of Deacon Israel Dwinell, one of the early settlers of Calais.”¹⁹⁷ A birthday cake was presented to Dell B. Dwinell, celebrating his fourth birthday and “the adults in the party had a ball game and other sports, including horseshoe pitching.”¹⁹⁸

Social Struggles

During the early twentieth century, the people of East Calais struggled with situations that effected many towns in America. In 1919 and 1920, author Sinclair Lewis wrote in the *Saturday Evening Post* about the new phenomenon known as automobumming. According to a Vermont Public Radio broadcast

Improvements in roadway infrastructure throughout the country and the accessibility of the automobile led Americans to travel in record numbers. Lewis called the travelers gasoline gypsies ... and in Vermont, there were few motels or diners so people would park and camp in corn fields and town commons, becoming a nuisance advertising.¹⁹⁹

There was xenophobia towards gypsies, who arrived in East Calais with their painted wagons and finely trimmed horses during the summer. They camped in an open field just below the village where their campfires, singing, and guitar playing were a wonder to the East Calais. Many thought the gypsies were thieves, and mothers feared kidnapping of their children. During the 1920s, the Ku Klux Klan burned a cross above the Alonzo Pierce House (**HD #21**) in which Earl and Bertha Leonard (**HD #4**) “set the dog on them.”²⁰⁰ During prohibition, East Calais was a popular stop for bootleggers who could hide their cars in a garage while eluding special agents and “have a game of poker with the locals.”²⁰¹ An East Calais citizen was often paid a hundred dollars for this activity.

World War One

During World War One, the home front supported the war effort by buying war bonds or savings stamps. When people bought a bond or a savings stamp, they were lending money to the government. Their money would be paid back with interest after the war. Vermont

¹⁹⁵ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 17, 1901.

¹⁹⁶ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 19, 1901.

¹⁹⁷ *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, July 6, 1927.

¹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁹ Lindholm, Jane and Ric Cengeri, *Digging In To The History Of Rock Of Ages*, Vermont Public Radio, June 5, 2014.

²⁰⁰ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*

charitable and service organizations and churches helped with the war effort. Volunteers assisted through the Red Cross. In 1917, Mrs. Guy Bancroft invited

The ladies of Calais (north, east, south, and west) to meet at her home ... to make pajamas, hospital skirts, bandages, socks, etc., also to form a society to carry on the Red Cross work for the town of Calais. It is hoped that there will be good attendance.²⁰²

In November of 1917, several women “met at the Red Cross rooms on Thursday, and a large amount of work was done.”²⁰³ They created packages consisting of scarfs, stockings, compresses, socks, and bandages. A month later, they met again to prepare a Christmas care package for Frank Scott, an East Calais boy serving in the war. In June of 1918, East Calais was

Quick to meet every requirement which the government has made upon it since the war began. Let us not fail in the drive for the W.S.S. We must not fail now. It would be an everlasting disgrace for us to fail to stand back of all our boys that have gone to fight our battles. We must give them support with which alone they can win our fight. Calais’ quota is large. Therefore every man must ‘get into the game’ for all they are worth. Calais was quick to organize a Red Cross society and now has one of the best working societies in the state. Let us keep Calais on the map. Let us not only ‘do our bit’ but ‘do our best.’²⁰⁴

Towards the end of the war, the Red Cross held a fundraising sale. George Balentine donated a Holstein cow, and the “gift makes folks wonder what Ivan Gray and several other prosperous farmers plan to give.”²⁰⁵ Mrs. Guy Bancroft donated two knitting bags, “something every ambitious woman needs, and it seems Alma Leonard could do as much.”²⁰⁶

Criterion A: Industry

East Calais and Industry: 1800-1850

In many New England villages, the town authorities recognized the need for sawmills and gristmills and offered inducements to attract entrepreneurs to the town. The benefits came in the form of land grants, a monopoly on the milling process for a certain amount of time, or tax exemptions.²⁰⁷ In 1786, the Town of Calais offered “one hundred Spanish milled

²⁰² *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, 1917.

²⁰³ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁴ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, June 26, 1918.

²⁰⁵ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 21, 1917.

²⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁷ Hamilton, Edward, *The Village Mill in Early New England*, Sturbridge, Massachusetts: Old Sturbridge Village, 1964.

dollars and one hundred acres” for anyone that built a gristmill or sawmill within two years.²⁰⁸ Six years later, Calais proprietors offered "200 acres of land to any person who would build a corn (grist) mill and a sawmill."²⁰⁹ This land bounty for mills encouraged settlement and served loggers and grain farmers.

Lilley's Mill

During much of the late eighteenth century, Calais settlers purchased grain from the regional communities of Williamstown, Brookfield, and Royalton, which were more than 15 miles distance.

Between 1791 and 1800, Calais witnessed a dramatic population increase, from 45 to 443. With this influx of settlers, there was a need for sawmills. As the settlers cleared their land, they required processed boards to build their new houses.

Mills were frequently among the first structures built in newly settled towns with access to a stream or river as settlers cleared forest to create farmland, turning trees into planks for housing, barns, and fences. In colonial America, town proprietors had often built both sawmills and gristmills in the early stages of establishing their town in order to attract settlers and meet the needs of local rural economies.²¹⁰

Joshua Lilley started one of the first mills (**HD #12**) in Calais. Originally from Charlton, Massachusetts, Lilley arrived in East Calais in 1805, purchasing Lot #40 of the first division of lands and building a log structure “on East Hill half a mile out.”²¹¹ While Lilley’s 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.”²¹² Lilley “hacked out a road from his farm down the hill to the brook” and set up a crude mill.²¹³ He then built for himself a more substantial wood-frame house on East Hill. A tiny settlement soon followed, known as Lilley’s Mills. In addition to running the sawmill from approximately 1800 to 1812, Lilley also “entered into speculations of various kinds, among which was the mercantile, in which he was unsuccessful and had to retrench.”²¹⁴

Early mills were the economic link between farmer, commerce, and industry. As in most Vermont towns, essential foods and materials were produced locally for the town’s inhabitants. This led to the need for processing facilities such as gristmills and sawmills, which a marked time and labor-saving commodity within the village. Before a sawmill was built,

²⁰⁸ Johnson, Beverly, Untitled Manuscript, Town of Calais, Calais Town Clerk, Calais, Vermont, 1988.

²⁰⁹ Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

²¹⁰ Carr, Jacqueline B., “Local History and the Vermont Borderlands, 1790-1820.”

²¹¹ *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, March 30, 1936.

²¹² Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais*.

²¹³ *Ibid*.

²¹⁴ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

Two good men, with a pit saw, could turn out perhaps a dozen average boards in a day, yet the simplest water sawmill, with a crew of one man and a boy, or even a man alone, could saw at least five times as much. This represented a real saving in time and labor in the production of a most essential commodity.²¹⁵

The Calais forests consisted of primarily hemlock, spruce, and pine close to the streams and maple and beech in the highlands. Other timber included fir, tamarack, ash, elm, poplar, basswood, and birch.²¹⁶

Davis' Grist-mill, Saw-mill, Nail and Scythe Factory

In 1812, Lilley sold his mills (**HD #12**) to Major Nathaniel Davis of Montpelier. Born in Oxford, Massachusetts, the twenty-year-old Davis purchased land in present-day East Montpelier. A "man of great energy and comprehensive business ability," Davis built a saw-mill on his east Montpelier farm in 1793, and by 1800, he operated his own mercantile business.²¹⁷ Davis moved to East Calais in 1824 and built a grist-mill, saw-mill, nail factory, and scythe factory, 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 a forge for the manufacture of cut-nails. Davis made the nails from 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 and a clover-mill. Davis also manufactured potash, a granular substance produced from wood ash and used in making soap, that was in high commercial demand.²¹⁸ After the initial clearing of their land, the settlers found that they had a surplus of wood. They used the timber on the farm for lumber as well as charcoal and potash.

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."²¹⁹ In 1838, Davis and his sons built a woolen-mill in North Montpelier, which proved an unsuccessful enterprise.²²⁰

Wheeler and Rich Mill

Nathaniel Davis sold his mill property to his two daughters, who were married to East Calais residents Shubael Wheeler and Samuel Rich.²²¹ Wheeler was the second child of Lieutenant Jerathmiel Bowers and Sibyl Wheeler of Rehoboth, Massachusetts. They emigrated to Montpelier in the late eighteenth century, and Wheeler was born in 1793. After marrying Elsey Davis, the daughter of Nathaniel Davis, they moved to East Calais in

²¹⁵ Hamilton, Edward, *The Village Mill in Early New England*.

²¹⁶ Johnson, John. *Kents Corner Historic District Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

²¹⁷ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer of Washington County, Vermont, 1783-1889*.

²¹⁸ Doyle-Schechtman, Deborah. *Marshland Farm National Register Historic District Nomination Form*, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1998.

²¹⁹ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer of Washington County, Vermont, 1783-1889*.

²²⁰ *Ibid.*

²²¹ *Ibid.*

1816 and “occupied a house next to the mill on the Moscow side of the village.”²²² Initially practicing law in Montpelier, Wheeler continued his practice in East Calais, and was “the only one [lawyer] to live in town for many years.”²²³ He served as the town legislature representative, assistant judge of the County Court, and was Clerk of the Court.

Samuel Rich, the son of Samuel and Margaret Rich, was born in North Montpelier in 1797. His father owned a general store, grist mill, distillery, tavern, and sawmill in what was known as Rich’s Hollow in present-day North Montpelier. The younger Rich took on the surveyor trade and married a daughter of Nathaniel Davis, Dolly. After their wedding, they moved to East Calais in 1824. Rich came into possession of the Davis sawmill and gristmill and approximately 350 acres of land.

Wheeler and Rich operated the mill between 1824 and 1850 and lived in Wheeler’s two-story house immediately to the west of the dam. It was north of the Moscow Mills building (**HD #12**) and the Blodgett-Cate House (**HD #38**). This house burnt to the ground the 1860s. In 1835, Rich built the two-story house (**HD #20**) on a hill overlooking the village. From this vantage point, Rich had a commanding view of his mill and millpond. Rich eventually gained sole proprietorship of the mills, and in 1840, he rebuilt the grist-mill. Ten years later, he sold the mill and other lands to Albert Dwinell, and Rich “he gave up active business.”²²⁴ Rich owned a total of 350 acres in Calais, and the mills and land “were a source of income for many years.”²²⁵

The East Calais nickname of Moscow came during Rich’s ownership of the mills. There are many different stories related to its origin, but the common denominator in all the tales is that a giant millstone was lifted into Samuel Rich’s gristmill and fell, “cracking with such a boom that it was likened to the sound of the Russian city’s bells during Napoleon’s siege.”²²⁶ 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.”²²⁷

East Calais and Industry: 1850-1900

Pitkin’s Sawmill

Levi Pitkin and his brother Daniel Pitkin ran a sawmill (**HD #12**) during the 1850s and 1860s. Born in Marshfield, Vermont, Pitkin also worked on his father's Marshfield farm, which he continued to operate after his father's death.

Albert Dwinell

²²² Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais. Vermont.*

²²³ *Ibid.*

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁶ “*Calais, Vermont, New England USA.*” *Virtual Vermont Magazine*, August 16, 2018.

²²⁷ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 8, 1893.

Albert Dwinell, the son of Israel Dwinell, operated a sawmill from 1851-1854. He was born in 1823 and worked on his father's farm to the south of the district. He briefly attended Peacham Academy and then returned to Calais to teach. His absence from the family farm may have been a burden to the Dwinell family:

Following his marriage to Irene Davis Rich, the daughter of Samuel Rich, Albert Dwinell, took charge of Rich's mills (**HD #12**). They had three children: Franklin, Albert, Clarence Rich, and Dell Burton.

Between 1840 and 1850, the population of Calais decreased from 1709 to 1410 people. The decrease dictated less of a need for sawmills. There were fewer people building homes and agricultural buildings in the town. Between 1841 and 1853, the Brown and Isaac Davis sawmills, located in other parts of Calais, closed down operations. Unlike the sawmills in New Hampshire and Maine, where there were sizeable riparian transportation routes, Vermont sawmills lacked access to broader markets, which limited their customer base to the Calais and the surrounding towns. After running his father-in-law's sawmill for several years, Albert Dwinell sold the sawmill and focused on farming and then started a mercantile business. At this time, Dwinell lived with his wife Irina and two sons. They had two boarders, Samuel D. Rich, who now was a fisherman and Isabel Burnap, their domestic servant.

Peck's Sawmill

After Albert Dwinell shifted to the mercantile business, Wesley Peck (**HD #4**) took possession of the mill property and sold lumber. Peck, a descendant of one Calais' first settlers, Moses Haskell, also owned a large farm south of the village.

Slayton's Mill

In 1871, Otis Slayton bought Wesley Peck's mill property (**HD #12**), "with shop standing thereon on adjoining sawmill near the westerly end of the mill dam together with drum and shafting."²²⁸ He made clapboards, rake teeth for the horse-drawn revolving rakes, and farm implement handles. He also owned a sawmill, grist mill, and mechanic's shop in North Calais on Wheelock Pond and a 48-acre farm. Following the dissolution of his business in the 1890s, Slayton held an auction which "proved to be a fizzle" as Slayton "became dissatisfied with the ways things were selling, kept back everything that was of any real value, so only a small amount of stuff was sold."²²⁹

Lane Manufacturing Company

In 1892, the Lane Manufacturing Company of Montpelier purchased Slayton's shop, plus a plot of land, barn, and the shingle making equipment. The Lane Manufacturing Company was the leading manufacturer of sawmills in the northeastern United States. The

²²⁸ Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk's Office, Calais, Vermont.

²²⁹ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 11, 1892.

equipment was installed in a building spanning the river, connecting the mill buildings on both sides of the pond.

Started by Dennis Lane in the 1860s, the company made many innovations in sawmill technology. The business conducted

A general business as machinists and founders, besides which they manufacture several specialties which are in great demand and bring the company orders from all parts of the country ...The "Monitor" turbine water-wheel, planers for lumber and timber, matchers, clapboard machinery, shingle and lath machinery, saw-mill supplies generally, and shafting, pulleys, and hangers, are embraced in the manufactures of this company. The Lane Manufacturing Co. gives employment to about 100 hands and pays about \$1,000 weekly in wages. The company issues a fully illustrated catalog which describes their productions, and which should be in the hands of every person interested in manufactures of this kind.²³⁰

The Lane Manufacturing Company also specialized in molded and beaded boards. It patented the Patent Lever Set "for feeding timber into a circular saw by means of a hand lever," and the company later developed "an improved double edger machine (to cut boards into a specific width after they came through the circular saw) and a matching-and-joining machine (for tongue and groove cutting)."²³¹

The leading specialty of the works is Lane's patent lever-set saw-mills — in seven sizes- This apparatus has attained a high reputation and is constantly growing in popularity, lumbermen everywhere acknowledging it to be the acme of perfection in sawing machinery.²³²

Lane additionally manufactured the Lane "00" model sawmill, which "was fitted with an extra bed for the carriage that enabled the saw to cut logs up to forty feet."²³³ Lane also outfitted the East Calais mill with a shingle mill, and a bolting saw to cut short logs. In 1912, the Lane Manufacturing Company supplied iron for the Town of Calais for work on a town bridge.

Albert Dwinell & Sons

After leaving the mill business in 1856, Albert Dwinell focused on agriculture for the next thirty years, living on his farm (**HD #20**) with his wife, Irene, and son, Dell Burton. He also started a general store (**HD #24**). In 1888, he returned to the mill business. Dwinell's operation of a sawmill and a general store was congruent with other New England entrepreneurs:

The country storekeeper took an early and prominent place in the transition from merchant capitalism to our modern industrial society. If he accumulated capital not

²³⁰ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

²³¹ Pritchett, Liz, "From Hand Plane Sawing to Machine Made Ubiquity," *Old-House Journal*, Vol. 21, No. 2, Mar-Apr 1993.

²³² Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

²³³ Johnson, John. *Kent's Corner Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

needed in the operation of his store, the store owner often acquired a power site and became a grist miller, sawed out lumber, or started up a mill ... to move from the cottage to the factory.²³⁴

The Dwinells ran a very frugal lifestyle in the house. When Albert Dwinell purchased Moscow Mills (**HD #12**), “there was only limited commercial exporting of finished lumber,” and much of Dwinell’s business “was supplying local needs for buildings homes and barns.”²³⁵ Life at the Dwinell homestead included “the preparation and storage of meats, the drying, and canning of fruits and vegetables ... [and the] the buck sawing of the woodpile.”²³⁶ Harold Dwinell recalled life in the home:

Life in the Dwinell was substantial and simple. There were rules and order. There were constraints and liberties. There were penalties and rewards. There was sharing and togetherness. There was constant parental love and concern, and there was respect for parents and each other’s rights. Fun, joy, and disappointments were commonly experienced.²³⁷

When the lumber business was thriving, the Albert Dwinell and their home was one of the finest in the town. The home of Albert Dwinell (**HD#20**) was

The most pretentious place in the village. He was the wealthiest man, owned the mill, and a great deal of land. They always kept a maid or hired girl as they were called, and a hired man.²³⁸

Living in the Samuel Rich House, Dwinell made several changes to the house. He added a rear ell and woodshed. 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.²³⁹

During his time as farmer and merchant, Dwinell also focused on politics. He was “very much esteemed in this community,” serving as the town representative [1860-1861] and state senator [1878-1882], taking “an active and distinguished part in public affairs for

²³⁴ Carson, Gerald, *Country Stores in Early New England*, Sturbridge, Massachusetts: Old Sturbridge Village, 1955.

²³⁵ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

²³⁶ 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.’”

²³⁷ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

²³⁸ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

²³⁹ 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.*

many years.²⁴⁰ Governor Farnham appointed Dwinell as state tax commissioner and “served on a special commission to formulate and introduce a bill to equalize taxation - known as the tax law of 1880.”²⁴¹ Governor Farnham then commissioned Dwinell as an appraiser to value the state’s railroad beds, trestles, and bridges.

As a Republican, Dwinell was considered “unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party.”²⁴² In 1882, Republicans suggested Dwinell as a candidate for Lieutenant Governor, and “if chosen to that position, the people have every reason to believe that the same energy, frugality, and economy which have made him successful in private affairs will also characterize the performance of his public duties.”²⁴³ Dwinell was



Figure 14 Sawmill and Dwinell Homestead (Dwinell Family)

A thoroughly unassuming man , eminently practical and judicious in all of his acts, quick to perceive the right and firm in defense, as shown by his whole life of public acts and he has won the confidence and esteem of the people, not only in his immediate vicinity and county, but of the whole state, and they would be pleased , no doubt to see him honored with the second place upon our state ticket.²⁴⁴

Irene Dwinell was

²⁴⁰ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, July 19, 1909.

²⁴¹ 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*.

²⁴² *Ibid*.

²⁴³ *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, June 17, 1882.

²⁴⁴ *Ibid*.

One who won the hearts of all who knew her. She was one who never seemed to think of self but was ever ready to respond to the demands of the suffering and needy with such sympathy extended as is felt but rarely. Hers was a 'well-spent life.'²⁴⁵

In 1888, Dwinell returned to the mill business and took possession of the upper gristmill and sawmill site (**HD #12**). (Figure 14) The purchase was done "in the interest of his son, Dell B. Dwinell, whom Albert Dwinell asked to join him in the A. Dwinell & Son firm."²⁴⁶ At that time, the mill complex consisted of the sawmill on the eastern end of the dam and the connecting building across the stream directly below the dam.

Albert Dwinell & Sons sold "seasoned lumber," including "spruces boards, rough and dressed," "hemlock boards, planed and clipped," "hemlock and pine planks," and "spruce clapboards and cedar shingles."²⁴⁷ In addition to using local woods, Dwinell also imported woods from across the nation. One year, "a car of red shingles from the Pacific coast" arrived at the Plainfield railroad station and were offered "for sales that are right."²⁴⁸ The mill also peeled the hemlock for bark, "which had a worthwhile market value."²⁴⁹

In 1893, Albert Dwinell improved the facilities by installing a 60 horsepower York Success water wheel, "thus insuring them an abundance of power. They have contracts now furnishing 500,000 feet of lumber the coming winter, besides custom work."²⁵⁰

Webb's Lower Grist Mill

In addition to the Moscow Mills site (**HD #12**), there was a lower dam and mill building located in the vicinity of **HD #43**. Simeon Webb (**HD #25**) was the first known operator of the lower mill. He was a Washington County Liquor agent and a cooper before operating the lower grist mill, selling grain and feed. He was a member of both the Universalist Society and Stow Post #29 and Relief Corps. In the Spring of 1885, Webb "had a carload of corn come ... and those who have seen it say it is first class."²⁵¹ A few months later, Webb, with the help of Louis and Jack Martin, "has been making repairs in his mill during the past week."²⁵²

Allen N. Goodell Sash and Blind Company

Allen N. Goodell (**HD #26**) operated a sash and blind factory (**HD #42**) during the 1860s. Fire destroyed the facility in 1873. By the beginning of 1874, East Calais was "rallying from

²⁴⁵ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

²⁴⁶ 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.'"

²⁴⁷ *Woodbury Herald*, Woodbury, Vermont, April 17, 1897; *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, September 21, 1906.

²⁴⁸ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, June 13, 1913.

²⁴⁹ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

²⁵⁰ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 8, 1893.

²⁵¹ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 15, 1885.

²⁵² *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 19, 1885.

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.”²⁵³

Shoe Peg Factory

During the 1860s, Jacob Lamb (**HD #42**) manufactured square pegs with Julius Wheelock (**HD #10**). Wheelock was the grandson of Abijah Wheelock, who settled in East Calais in 1789. As a teenager, Wheelock lived in Plainfield, where he apprenticed with Dennis Lane, a noted inventor of saw mill-related machinery. While the builders of mills were often the millers themselves, carpenters and joiners like Wheelock also specialized as millwrights. Wheelock assisted Lane “to build the first board mill, which made Mr. Lane so famous as an inventor.”²⁵⁴ Julius Wheelock partnered with Jacob Lamb in 1863, and three years later, Wheelock sold his interest in the business. By 1870, Wheelock moved to Berlin and purchased a lumber mill and grist mill on the Dog River. After retiring to a farm in the 1880s, the town of East Montpelier contracted Wheeler in 1888 “to rebuild the mills which have been destroyed by fire; he accordingly erected a very substantial building and equipped it with the latest improvements in machinery.”²⁵⁵

Ed George’s Harness Shop

Ed George operated a harness hop (**HD #43**) on the northwest side of the Kingsbury Branch between 1865 and 1873. After the disastrous 1873 fire, he reopened business by 1877.

²⁵³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 1, 1874.

²⁵⁴ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

²⁵⁵ 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*.



Figure 15 Levison & Lamb Box Factory (Syver Rogstad)

Levison & Lamb Box Shop

Jacob Lamb, initially a cooper by trade, lived in the house at the present site of the park (**HD#42**). After specializing in barrels, shoe pegs, and horse rakes, he started manufacturing druggist boxes in the 1880s. He partnered with C. G. Levison, of New York, to form Levison & Lamb Manufacturing Company. (Figure 15) The firm manufactured druggists' fine wooden boxes. The company also made wooden crates for shipping butter and "a small upright box made with two compartments" used to "hold glass bottles" that were "intended to hold fluids."²⁵⁶

The box shop was a "long three-story shop building ... on the east bank at the end of a low dam erected as the crest of the rocky falls."²⁵⁷ The company also maintained wholesale offices on 290 Broadway, New York City. Levison lived in New York City, and during the summer, he and his family boarded in Woodbury.

²⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁷ 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.'"

The box factory employed approximately ten to twelve men. Employees included George Carley (**HD #15**), Durwood Lamb (**HD #2**), Carroll Lamb (**HD #7**), and Guy Bancroft (**HD #34**). They dovetailed and glued the boxes, “then sandpapered, and we children used to putty the little holes when they didn’t always fit tight where they were dovetailed. Then the boxes were rubbed down and shellacked.”²⁵⁸ The boxes, made of butternut and birch, were

Precisely and exceedingly well made ... The sides were put together with mortised dovetail corners. The tops and bottoms were glued to the sides. Then after trimming, sandpapering, and buffing to make rounded corners and edges, the boxes were run by a saw to make tops and bottoms. Hinges and hasps were then attached, and the finished box was shellacked.²⁵⁹

Levison & Lamb grew rapidly and “made extensive repairs on the box factory” in 1892.²⁶⁰ In 1893, Levison & Lamb’s

Principal work is getting out boxes of syringe companies. The firm employs ten men and does business of about \$4,000 a year. Mr. Lamb is the manager, and he also keeps a hotel, although it is not known by that name.²⁶¹

In 1896, following the election of President William McKinley, the *Woodbury Herald* saw McKinley’s election bringing economic prosperity

This is a lesson to show what the election of McKinley has done for the laboring class, especially to the employees of Levison & Lamb Manufacturing Company. They have been out of work for the past season, but they now have orders for a month’s work with prospects for more. This is only an indication of what is going on all over the United States.²⁶²

East Calais and Industry: 1900-1951

At the turn of the twentieth century, the village had two stores, a church, a dressmaker, a machine shop, a harness maker, a butter tub factory, and a factory for the production of fine wood boxes for pharmacies. During the 1920s, there were two general stores 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 in the town.”²⁶³ In the 1930s and 1940s, over 40 men were employed at Richard Lamb's maple furniture mill until disastrous fires in 1949 and 1951 closed the business leaving many families without an

²⁵⁸ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

²⁵⁹ 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.”

²⁶⁰ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 19, 1892.

²⁶¹ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 8, 1893.

²⁶² *Woodbury Herald*, Woodbury, Vermont, November 18, 1896.

²⁶³ *Ibid.*

income. East Calais was the only village in town to have its water reservoir and was the first to have streetlights (installed in 1922).²⁶⁴

Bancroft's Lower Grist Mill

In the 1890s, Guy Bancroft (**HD #34**) purchased the lower mill site “at the foot of the falls” and conducted extensive repairs by putting “in a new waterwheel of forty horsepower costing over \$200, thus enabling him to grind forty bushels of grain an hour.”²⁶⁵ In 1901, a fire destroyed the the lower gristmill. (Figure 15) Harold Dwinell recalled,

Standing in the living room with Mother that night watching the flames, smoke, and embers as they flew up in the air. Mother was deeply concerned lest embers dropped on the schoolhouse to set it afire.²⁶⁶

Albert Dwinell and Sons

When Bancroft's lower gristmill burnt in 1901, Albert Dwinell recognized an opportunity and opened an improved, modern gristmill:

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 s every way right. The total expense of the plant is estimated at \$2,000.

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.²⁶⁷

²⁶⁴ Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*, November 18, 2002.

²⁶⁵ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 8, 1893.

²⁶⁶ 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.’”

²⁶⁷ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 3, 1901.



Figure 16 Falls and Mills from the West, c. 1920 (Vermont Historical Society)

Following the fire, A. Dwinell & Sons purchased the Bancroft's Mills site, "so a mill will not be built at that point."²⁶⁸ By November 1901, the steelworks in A. Dwinell and Son's grist mill were ready for use," but the new machinery was faulty as "it had run only a short time when there came a crash and the machinery was in fragments. Several men were close by, but fortunately, no one was hit by flying fragments."²⁶⁹

The improved A. Dwinell & Sons gristmill operations used the same water supply flume as the sawmill, but the machinery required much less power. The two mills could operate simultaneously with one man, "except when there was a rush of grists or trade," handling

²⁶⁸ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 3, 1901.

²⁶⁹ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 5, 1901.

the gristmill.²⁷⁰ With A. Dwinell's office located in the gristmill, "he could leave his desk to help whenever needed."²⁷¹

The operation of the sawmill was mostly dependent on the climate. Woodbury Pond, primarily filled by rainfall, fed into the Kingsbury Branch. The fall rains kept the mills operational until December. During the colder winter months, when the pond ice exceeded a foot on either the Mill Pond or Woodbury Pond, mill activities came to a standstill. The occasional winter thaws allowed for brief intermittent periods of activity, but it was not until the spring that the mill was at full capacity once again. During the winter months, when loggers harvested timber, large piles of logs formed near the sawmill and gristmill as well as on the Dwinell Homestead property **(HD #20)**.

In 1908, A. Dwinell & Son improved "their mill by extending the storeroom and erecting an office."²⁷² During the early twentieth century, the sawmill and gristmill complex "required the greatest traffic. Practically all of the grain for processing and the ready-made mixed feeds had to be brought in. The supplies were purchased in carload lots, and the nearest railroad sidings were at Plainfield and near Woodbury Center."²⁷³ In 1914, Dwinell completely rebuilt the dam.

Dwinell owned a team of Western horses (Daisy and Fred), 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 as they delivered finished lumber to Plainfield station and feed on the return trip. The Plainfield station was located a little over six miles distance, and "it would require about ten trips for the big team to haul a carload of lumber to the railroad siding."²⁷⁴

In the summer and fall, workers loaded the wagon with planed softwood or rough hardwood lumber. Sacks of animal feed - bran, cottonseed meal, and middlings - or the wagon body fill of bulk corn (mid-western corn which has been shelled off the cob, thus separate kernels or oats usually made up the return load. In the wintertime, Daisy and Fred pulled a pair of sleds on which was a box body. Sometimes the load to Plainfield was large pieces of hemlock bark, which was sold to tanneries to tan leather. There was seldom lumber to move in the winter as the newly sawed boards from the sawmill were not yet dry. The return loads during this season were similar to those of the summer - feed for cows, horses, pigs and hens; flour for bread and oats for adults and children; bulk grains and in the spring seeds for crops of corn, oats, barley, clover, and hay.²⁷⁵

²⁷⁰ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

²⁷¹ Ibid.

²⁷² *American Miller and Processor, Volume 36, Issues 1-6*, National Miller Publications., 1908.

²⁷³ 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.'"

²⁷⁴ Ibid.

²⁷⁵ Dwinell, Ralph, "Daisy Goes Swimming," Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.
Sections 9-end page 88

When the horses returned to East Calais with wagons full of grain, they would back up to the mill and unload the grain into a shoot that transferred the grain to the cellar and the first elevator. The elevator took the grain to the second floor, where it distributed into an appropriate storage bin. When the grain was needed, it was drawn off through a spout and mixed by hand and then shoveled through the hole in the floor to the cracker. It was then transported via a second elevator into a bin over the mill. This bin distributed the grain into a hopper. After the grain crushed, it third elevator moved and distributed it into another storage bin. When the grain was needed, there were bagging spouts located under each bin.

276

The Dwinell mills was an employer for many 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.”²⁷⁷ Archie Persons (**HD #21**) worked for Albert Dwinell “and became one of his most trusted and capable employees.”²⁷⁸ Byron Pierce (**HD #8**) was a teamster for A. Dwinell & Sons, hauling logs for the sawmill. Before becoming a job printer, Charles Balentine (**HD #16**) performed numerous jobs, including working for A. Dwinell & Sons. Before running the tin shop, Frank Gray (**HD #23**) previously worked as a miller for A. Dwinell & Sons (**HD #12**), making \$300.00 a year.²⁷⁹ In 1897, Dennis Dunham, “a sawyer for A. Dwinell & Son moved last week to the Dwinell House (**HD #17**).”²⁸⁰ John Emery (**HD #7**) and Elbert Celley (**HD #29**) both worked at Dell Burton’s sawmill.

Levison & Lamb

The Levison & Lamb box factory increase its sales in the early twentieth century, growing an extensive clientele list, and having customers across the nation. When the fire destroyed Bancroft’s mill in 1901, “the hall and storeroom of Levison & Lamb adjoining were saved by hard work and persistent work of the bucket brigade.”²⁸¹

The box factory had a large room that was used for community functions, joining a long tradition of East Calais business using their spaces for public events. Events included “an ice cream festival and dance,” “a School Exhibition ... which featured “a program of songs, recitations, and Tableaux followed by the laughable farce entitled, *That Rascal Pat*” and “an *Antiquarian Supper* ... featuring a performance of *Aunt Jerusha’s Quilting Party*.”²⁸² In 1904. “about thirty couples attended the dance at Levison & Lamb’s hall Thursday evening.”²⁸³

The Levison & Lamb hall also served occasionally as a courtroom as the hall was the site of

²⁷⁶ Cate, “Moscow Mills,” Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

²⁷⁷ *Burlington Free Press*, November 6, 1889.

²⁷⁸ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

²⁷⁹ 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.”

²⁸⁰ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 3, 1897.

²⁸¹ *Herald and News*, Randolph, Vermont, February 7, 1901.

²⁸² Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447.

²⁸³ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 7, 1904.

a suit filed by H.C. Gray against Fred Guernsey “for alleged appropriations of turkeys from Gray’s flock to increase the number in Guernsey’s.”²⁸⁴

In 1921, the company was put up for sale with the property, including “land, mill, and contents including machinery and good water power of about 40 feet fall.”²⁸⁵ The premises were “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.”²⁸⁶

Dell B. Dwinell’s Sawmill

After running the Dwinell Store from 1910-1913, Dell Burton Dwinell, the son of Albert Dwinell, ran a lumber mill at the Moscow Mills site (**HD #12**). A graduate of Vermont Methodist seminary, Dell was living with his father in 1882 and teaching. By 1889, Dell Dwinell was “with his father, at the old home, assisting in the farming and saw-mill now connected with the place.”²⁸⁷ In the 1920s, the sawmill produced from 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.²⁸⁸

Dell B. Dwinell was a town representative in 1917 and taught Sunday school classes for 35 years in the East Calais Church. In 1918, Mrs. Dell B. Dwinell “was the first woman to cast a vote in this town.”²⁸⁹

Blodgett’s Mill

In 1937, Kimball Blodgett purchased the Moscow Mills building (**HD #12**). By December of that year, Blodgett “has done much repair work and is now handling both the grain and lumber business. Mr. Blodgett is a hustler, and success is predicted.”²⁹⁰ Born in Calais, Blodgett assisted his father on the family farm in Cabot during the 1920s and 1930s.

At the time of Blodgett’s purchase, the building contained a small stone mill used for Jonny Cake meal and a steel mill manufactured by Sprout, Waldon & Co., Muncy P.A., and Jones scales from Binghamton N.Y.²⁹¹ When Blodgett purchased the mill, he also built a house (**HD #38**) immediately to the north. Built in the Colonial Revival Style, the house had a distinct gambrel roof and porches.

Cate’s Mill and Feed Store

Blodgett sold the mill to George Cate in 1940 and subsequently moved to a farm in Barre. At this time, the mill “was reasonably up to date for that time period and was in good

²⁸⁴ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 20, 1899,

²⁸⁵ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, October 1, 1921.

²⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁸⁷ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

²⁸⁸ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

²⁸⁹ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, March 8, 1918.

²⁹⁰ *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, December 7, 1937.

²⁹¹ Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*.

operating condition.”²⁹² The building 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.²⁹³ Moving from a farm in North Calais, George Cate and his family continued to use the building as a gristmill for grinding corn and oats. When someone wanted to grind grist, they had to contact Rudolph Leonard, the sawmill foreman and set up an appointment. There was not enough water to run the sawmill and gristmill simultaneously, so Leonard would shut down the sawmill temporarily in order to grind the grist.

In 1943, Cate sold Richard Lamb, the sawmill property. As Lamb wanted to build a hydroelectric plant for his chair stock mill (**HD #42**), available water power was going to be limited, so Cate ceased the mill operations. He converted the business into a feed store and sold the unneeded mill equipment to free up space for his retail operation. The Cates sold primarily Bailey Feeds, manufactured in a concrete elevator in Montpelier.



Figure 17 Lamb and Mullin Warehouse (Vermont Historical Society)

The Cates owned a truck which they used to pick up the feed and make deliveries. They also used their truck to pick up milk cans from East Calais farms and deliver them to the Cabot Creamery. Starting in the early 1950s, the Cates sold Blue Seal Feed, and they eventually phased out their Bailey Feed. They initially picked up the Blue Seal Feed from a

²⁹² Cate, “Moscow Mills,” Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

²⁹³ Ibid.

Montpelier dealer, but they soon picked it up at railroad depots in Montpelier, Montpelier Junction, Walden Depot, and Hardwick.

After working as an electrician in Barre and East Calais, Houghton Cate assumed ownership of the mill building and ran the Blue Seal Feed Store. His wife, Lorraine, assisted in the store during the day “because Houghton spent most of his days wiring houses, repairing televisions and appliances and fixing every type of nonoperational equipment in Calais and the surrounding area.”²⁹⁴ In addition to her store duties, Lorraine Cate

Was a loving wife and mother, and eventually, a grandmother and great-grandmother, who was always focused on the needs of her family. Her sons have fond memories of bicycle rides and swimming at the "cement bridge" swimming hole with this woman who had a focus on fitness long before it was in vogue. However, it was fitness tempered with good food as four generations of her family, and many friends and neighbors benefited greatly from her baking skills.²⁹⁵

Born with vision problems, Houghton was declared 4f during World War Two, and as an electrician, Houghton “was never able to drive so people came from all over the area to take him to their homes so that he could repair whatever was not working.”²⁹⁶ Houghton Cate volunteered for the Calais and U-32 school boards, the East Calais church, Calais recreation association, and the Calais water department. He also served as Grand Juror for the Town of Calais. Cate “set a fine example for his entire family by overcoming and essentially dismissing his disability, working hard every day in the true Vermont tradition, and serving his family and his community whenever there was a need.”²⁹⁷

Starting in the late 1960s, Houghton worked on improving the long-abandoned dam (**HD #13**). In 1975, he built a fully functional hydroelectric power plant. He built a new penstock in 1975 and installed a turbine and generator. The hydro unit provided heat and electricity for the feed store and his home, which saved approximately \$1,500 per year in his electricity costs.²⁹⁸

Lamb's Sawmill

During the 1930s, Richard Lamb, the son of Jacob Lamb (**HD #42**), owned one of the first automobile garages in East Calais. He then “started a sawmill in back of his garage,” which “meant acquiring water rights, establishing additional facilities, and arranging for supplies

²⁹⁴ Houghton Melvin Cate Obituary, Obit Tree, 2015.

²⁹⁵ *The World*, April 27, 2011, Barre, Vermont.

²⁹⁶ Houghton Melvin Cate Obituary, Obit Tree, 2015.

²⁹⁷ *Ibid*.

²⁹⁸ *Renewable Resources A National-Catalog of Model Projects*. Center for Renewable Resources Washington, DC, 1980.

of logs.”²⁹⁹ Lamb established a mill in the vicinity of his father’s former company, the Levison & Lamb Box factory.

Lamb soon “discovered a market for hardwood chair seats,” and his mill “became a manufacturing plant from which loads of chair seat blanks went to chair factories down country.”³⁰⁰ In 1940, there were

Three stores, lots of village activity, and a mill whistle at 7 a.m., noon, and five p.m. defined the day for all who could hear. However, the mill was noisy, the main thoroughfare was crowded, and the smoke and ash from the huge smokestack devastated clean laundry hung out to dry.³⁰¹

In 1941, Lamb’s sawmill business employed 40 men. Lamb then began to manufacture maple furniture, which meant “further expansion, and he took over the old Independent Order of Good Templars hall as a place to finish his chairs.”³⁰² (Figure 17)

Lamb & Mullin

After the death of Richard Lamb, his wife, Vera, started the furniture manufacturing business of Lamb & Mullin. The company also purchased the old tin shop, used as finishing rooms for the furniture.

In 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 completely destroyed the site. (Figure 18) 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.³⁰³

²⁹⁹ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*.

³⁰⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁰¹ *Ibid.*

³⁰² *Ibid.*

³⁰³ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.



Figure 18 Fire of 1951 (Syver Rogstad)

With the destructive fire, East Calais lost its last industrial entity. In addition to the main building, the fire also destroyed “the adjacent eight-room home of Mrs. Richard Lamb, one of the plant’s owners, and a two-story warehouse filled with finished furniture.”³⁰⁴ With the fire, 30-40 families lost their jobs. They briefly 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.”³⁰⁵ The site remained in a burnt, demolished state until the summer of 1954 when bulldozers came in and 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 for over a year.”³⁰⁶

Criterion A: Commerce

East Calais and Commerce: 1800-1850

The need to buy dry goods led to the development of stores in the village during the first three decades of the nineteenth century.³⁰⁷ There was an increased demand for finished

³⁰⁴ *The North Adams Transcript*, North Adams, Massachusetts May 22, 1951.

³⁰⁵ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*. Barre, VT: Calais Historical Society, 1999.

³⁰⁶ *Calais Independent*, Elizabeth Kent Gay, Ed., Calais, Vermont, July 4, 1954.

³⁰⁷ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2010.

goods ranging from dry goods to finished lumber products such as window sash, blinds, and shingles. Commercial transactions in Vermont villages increasingly focused on villages where farmers from the surrounding area could purchase or trade for goods they needed. This led to a rise in village commerce and specialty stores and services. Because Vermont remained an agriculture-based economy, these commercial and industrial enterprises continued to remain small-scale and local in focus. Overland transport remained limited and expensive. The manufacturing censuses for the Town of Calais in this mid-nineteenth century period shows this statewide pattern of commercial development reflected in the types of new businesses that appear. During this time, 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 shop in town.³⁰⁸

Walbridge & Pierce

One of the first know mercantile businesses in East Calais was the firm of Walbridge & Pierce, run by John Walbridge and Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**). Israel Dwinell's brother, Ira Dwinell, joined the partnership of Walbridge & Pierce in 1837. The business sold "a well-selected lot of new and fashionable goods, of superior quality, suited to the season."³⁰⁹ The partnership offered

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.³¹⁰

Alonzo Pierce was a native of Calais and the grandson of Asahel and Clarissa (Peck) Pierce. He married Dulcena Nelson in 1856, and they had two children, Harley and Inez. Alonzo Pierce was constable and collector a long time, postmaster for ten years, sheriff of Washington County, and represented Calais in the legislature.

In 1841, Walbridge, Pierce, and Company announced the dissolution of the firm. Israel Dwinell immediately partnered with Stephen Pierce, and they announced

That they have purchased at public auction, the principal part of the stock owned by Walbridge, Pierce, and Co. and now offer the same for sale at the store lately occupied by said firm.³¹¹

In 1842, Alonzo Pierce declared bankruptcy and left his partnership with Stephen Pierce. An assignee's sale followed this announcement, including "the dwelling in which the said

³⁰⁸ Ibid.

³⁰⁹ *Daily Vermont Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 30, 1837

³¹⁰ Ibid.

³¹¹ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 1, 1841.

Pierce now lives also one store and land ... and also other demands: one cow, one parlor stove, one rifle, gun, and other articles of personal property.”³¹²

After his involvement with the dry goods store and tannery, Ira Dwinell (**HD #2**) built the first hotel in Calais, and he sold it to his nephew, Ira S. Dwinell. After the dissolution of his business, Ira Dwinell ran a tannery from 1847 to 1854. Tanneries were an essential part of the East Calais commercial and industrial activities as rawhide was essential to the manufacture of shoes, harnesses, bridles, and saddles. The animal hide in its raw form would stretch when wet, then harden when dry and eventually decay. Dwinell then moved to Glover, Vermont, where he continued in the hotel business.

Cole's General Store

In 1848, James Harvey Cole (**HD#29**) opened the Cole General Store in East Calais. Cole was a second-generation Vermonter with his father migrating from Rehoboth, Massachusetts to Montpelier and eventually Calais. Prior to moving into his house in the village, Cole lived on a farm south of the village. He was married to Emaline Hicks, who was the sister of Alfred P. Hicks, Cole's business partner. Cole eventually moved to Woodbury with his son-in-law, L.O. Leonard.

East Calais and Commerce: 1850-1900

Pierce & Pitkin

Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**) operated the mercantile firm of Pierce & Pitkin. Pierce also let rooms in his house for commercial purposes. A retailer “engaged rooms at A.D. Pierce's and has on exhibition a large assortment of millinery and fancy goods.”³¹³ A merchant by the name of Wilbur “is again in her shop at A.D. Pierce's with a new stock of goods for the fall.”³¹⁴ The firm discontinued after the death of Pitkin, and Pierce, who was “held in high esteem in Calais,” was not “engaged extensively in business.”³¹⁵

Builders, Carpenters, and Joiners

With the East Calais population increasing, and the sawmills churning out finished boards, there was a need for building tradespeople in the community. Harry Stoddard (**HD #34**) was a carpenter and joiner in 1860 and lived in East Calais with his wife and four children. Royal Cunningham (**HD #17**) was a carpenter and joiner during the 1870s. Gilman Guernsey (**HD #36**) was a carpenter and owned much of the property on Batten Road in the 1860s. He was born in Haverhill, New Hampshire, and “came to Calais when a boy, and learned the joiners' trade of Salera Goodenough. About 1837 he married Clotina Southwick, and continued to reside in Calais to the close of his life.”³¹⁶

³¹² *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 5, 1842.

³¹³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 5, 1879.

³¹⁴ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 3, 1883.

³¹⁵ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

³¹⁶ *Ibid*.

Guernsey's son, George, assisted his father for many years before becoming an architect. During the 1860s, he lived with Julius Wheelock **(HD #10)**, who built sash and blinds. Guernsey designed several buildings in Montpelier, including "six downtown business blocks containing dozens of storefronts and an opera house; four grand residences around town, including his own; a Catholic church; and three bridges."³¹⁷ There are 43 known Guernsey buildings in Vermont:

Nineteen of those Vermont buildings are churches. The geographical spread of these commissions suggests how well-known Guernsey was in his time. In 1887, he built the Methodist Episcopal Church in Barton, near the Canadian border. In 1891, he provided Underhill Center with its St. Thomas Catholic Church. By 1892, he was known as far south as Bennington, where he designed the Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church.³¹⁸

Clarence Ainsworth, the son of jeweler/goldsmith Merrick Ainsworth, was born in East Calais in 1852. He grew up in the Zephaniah Pierce House **(HD #11)** and then worked in Montpelier and Berlin as a carpenter/joiner. He owned several properties with his father, including the Zephaniah Pierce House **(HD #11)** and the Daniels-Bemis House **(HD #8)**.

During the 1850s, Julius Wheelock **(HD #10)** apprenticed with Dennis Lane in Montpelier. A practicing Mason, Wheelock worked at the sash and blind factory of Allen N. Goodell **(HD #26)** during the 1860s. Wheelock then partnered with Jacob Lamb in the manufacture of wood shoe pegs.

Blacksmiths

³¹⁷ Lilly, Amy, "A New Book Remembers Vermont Architect George Guernsey," *Seven Days*, April 16, 2014.

³¹⁸ *Ibid.*



Figure 19 Blacksmith Shops (Vermont Historical Society)

Early New England villages often had several blacksmiths in the community. They produced edge tools or machinery; made horseshoes and shod horses or were wheelwrights and repaired farm machinery, wagons, and carriages. They performed general ironwork, repairing tools, and making hardware and other metal items.

Between 1819 and 1841, Asa Alden (**HD #30**) was a hotel keeper and blacksmith. Born in Natick, Massachusetts, Alden moved to Vermont in 1794 and married Avis Snow in 1817. The couple “were among the first who came to East Calais, and settled in Moscow in 1819.”³¹⁹ Alden was a practicing Methodist and member of the building committee for the Union Chapel Association (**HD #5**). He also played the bass viola for musical performances. He set up the first post office in his house and served as the village postmaster. Alden was

The village blacksmith about 30 years, in which occupation he had the misfortune to lose one eye. For 20 years, he was the first hotel-keeper at this place and held the post-office 27 years. and other offices of public trust. Reared under Congregational discipline, his sympathies were ever in that direction, and while there was no such organized church in town, he yet lived to all appearance the life of a quiet and exemplary Christian. We will remember him at the earlier church services and singing-schools, held in the school-house, he being the only one who discoursed bass on a big viola for miles around.³²⁰

³¹⁹ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

³²⁰ Ibid.

During the late nineteenth century, there were a series of blacksmiths who set up a shop between the D.B. Fay Tenement (**HD #9**) and the Wheelock-Dudley House (**HD #10**). Joseph Persons (**HD #31**) was a blacksmith between 1872-1878; Perley F. Whitcher (**HD #22**) was a blacksmith from 1871 to 1879, and Moses Lamberton (**HD #22**) and Theodore Morrison were blacksmiths in the 1880s and 1890s. (Figure 19)

Wheelwright Shop

In the 1880s, Frank Marsh (**HD #29**) was a “popular wheelwright” who “fashioned many a sled and wagon wheel” that were “expertly and substantially made.”³²¹ The Marsh shop “was a very special place of interest” to the young boys of East Calais who

Loved to listen to his stories of partridge hunting, and we all believed him to be the greatest hunter we ever knew. We like to watch him play horseshoes by the tin shop as he waited with others for the mail. He was a right good horseshoe thrower too.³²²

Marsh’s shop located his shop in his barn, across from the schoolyard. When Marsh set a cart tire, he caught the attention of the students:

This was so partly because of the circular bonfire in which the tire was heated and partly because of the quick action needed to get the steel tire pounded into place on the felloe and the clouds of steam which arose when water was poured onto hot metal to shrink it in place.³²³

Marsh was a drummer during the Civil War, and his love for the instrument continued on after the war. His wife did not allow him to play in the house, so he often played outside of his house at the George Marsh House (**HD #29**). Harold Dwinell recalled Frank Marsh:

Just as true that the villagers expected to hear frogs all around the millpond peep and whistle in the Spring, they would always hear the drum solos of Frank for a few minutes each warm summer evening as he moved his drum out on the porch.³²⁴

General Stores and Dry Goods

There was a succession of general stores in East Calais, which also served as the community center. General stores thrived in rural Vermont in the nineteenth century as incomes and population grew. The stores served as a one-stop-shop for the East Calais community, offering a breadth of goods. They provide the essentials for the rural Vermonters, including tools, lighting supplies, newspapers, meat, clothing, and building supplies. The general store was

³²¹ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

³²² Letter, November 24, 1960, Harold A. Dwinell papers, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

³²³ Ibid.

³²⁴ Ibid.

Where the locals gather, shop, and converse. Historically, general stores served in absence of the many specialty stores that we see today. A general store was not only a place to obtain food, but clothing, hardware, and other general household supplies, locksmith services, often the local post office was located in a general store, and many other services housed under one roof.³²⁵

A.P. Hicks and Company

Alfred Hicks (**HD #34**) ran one of the first general stores in East Calais with James Cole (**HD #29**) as well as serving as a Selectman, Lister, and Justice of the Peace. In 1873, A.P. Hicks and Company sold tin, sheet iron, and hollow-ware. Hicks was “engaged in mercantile business fifteen years; afterward, he devoted his whole time to his farm.”³²⁶

Albert Dwinell Store

After being engaged in the sawmill and grist mill business for six years, Albert Dwinell ran his farm and then operated a general store (**HD #24**) where he was “a general produce dealer, handling livestock, potatoes, apples, wool, turkeys and maple sugar.”³²⁷

³²⁵ O'Donnell, Christopher, *Simpler Times: A Collection of Vermont General Stores*. Vermont Historic Preservation Program Student Presentation, January 12, 2008.

³²⁶ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*. Vermont Watchman and State Journal Press: Montpelier, 1882.

³²⁷ 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.

Clarence R. Dwinell's Store



Figure 20 Clarence Dwinell's General Store (Vermont Historical Society)

Clarence Dwinell took over his father's operation and operated the general store (**HD #24**) from approximately 1879 to 1910. His wife ran a millinery in the store, selling "night robes, skirts, and corset covers," which were "good quality, low prices," and she took orders "for ready-made dress skirts, spring styles, serge, satin, and mohair."³²⁸ (Figure 20)

As a school director, Clarence Dwinell performed duties the District #12 school. The district reimbursed Dwinell for activities such as "reports to State Superintendent, State Board of Health," "paid for labor and material painting school house No. 12," "Cleaning, repairs, supplies and money," "7 ¼ cords, two-foot wood", and "services as a school director"³²⁹ He also provided goods and labor from his store such as "wire for snow fence," "paint for roller and brush, "and "wire and nails."³³⁰ As the Town Clerk, the town reimbursed Dwinell for activities such as "services as ballot clerk," "surveying," "indexing Births, Deaths and Marriages," "making tax bill & tax book," "to pay auditors," and "services as Clerk and Treasurer."³³¹ In 1882, Clarence Dwinell was a Justice of the Peace and ran the public telephone office in his general store.

³²⁸ *Woodbury Herald*, Woodbury, Vermont, April 17, 1897.

³²⁹ *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1898 -1936.*

³³⁰ *Ibid.*

³³¹ *Ibid.*

Kelso General Store

James Kelso (**HD #15**) ran a general store in 1874 in the vicinity of the park (**HD #42**). In the mid-nineteenth century, he owned land at the present site of the park (**HD #42**) with Charles Wing and Phineas Wheeler. They sold the land to Walter Pierce, who opened the tin shop on the property. In 1880, Kelso worked as a carpenter and joiner, and by 1882, he purchased the Warren Williams Farm in Hardwick.

Z.G. Pierce General Store

Between 1876 and 1904, three men - Zephaniah Pierce, Walter Pierce, and Benjamin White- owned and operated the general store (**HD #6**). During those 24 years, the two formed and dissolved partnerships with the name of the store having several different variations. Zephaniah Pierce started a mercantile business in the building in 1863. He was the son of Noah and Ruth Pierce, early settlers of East Calais. The nephew of Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**), Zephaniah was born in Calais in 1822. He married Eliza Sayles Leonard, a member of the Wheelock family, another early Calais family. Zephaniah was initially a farmer in Calais, went to Iowa in 1850, and worked in a hardware store. Returning to Calais in 1853, Pierce continued with the hardware trade.

Pierce purchased the building in 1863. He often made the long journey to Boston to purchase goods for the store. Pierce went to “market this week, and has purchased a stock of seasoned goods, which he proposes to let his customers have at prices that they cannot help admitting to be reasonable.”³³² In 1871, he planned “to go to market for Fall styles, but is compelled to defer his trip until his customers pay up sufficiently to furnish him with the requisite funds, a fact he desires to let them know.”³³³ During the 1873 business year, the firm bought over “80,000 pounds of butter , over 20,000 pounds of poultry and nearly 5000 dozen eggs, paying farmers for the same \$30,000. His freight to and from Montpelier has been more than 202,000 pounds.”³³⁴ In 1875, Pierce “just returned from the market, with a complete stock of goods as can be found in Washington County, which they will be sold as heretofore, at lower prices for the same quality of goods that can be had elsewhere.”³³⁵

³³² *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 3, 1872.

³³³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 14, 1871.

³³⁴ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 1, 1874.

³³⁵ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 29, 1875.



Figure 21 B.P. White's Store (Vermont Historical Society)

Z. G. and W.L. Pierce General Store

Zephaniah Pierce then partnered with his son, Walter L. Pierce. They offered

To their customers, some extra bargains in the line of parlor and sitting room stoves. Do not fail to call before buying elsewhere. This was owing to their having an overstock of this class of stoves."³³⁶ In 1879, Zephaniah and Walter made several changes to the store. They installed a cash system, "and consequently marked down the price of their wares, making it better for their customers, with no danger of bad debts on their hands."³³⁷

In addition, they installed "some shelves through the center of their store, and on them, they have the best assortment of crockery that can be found in any country store."³³⁸

B.P. White General Store

During the 1870s, with Zephaniah Pierce ailing, Benjamin White (**HD #1**) purchased the business, and Walter Pierce continued to work in the store. (Figure 21) White was one of fourteen children of John and Lucy (Blanchard) White, of New Boston, Massachusetts. Benjamin P. White was "an influential citizen, and holds the positions of town agent and

³³⁶ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 19, 1877.

³³⁷ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 20, 1879.

³³⁸ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 31, 1879.

postmaster.”³³⁹ He served as constable ten years and represented Calais in the legislature. He married Christina Wheelock, and they had three children. After the death of Christina Wheelock, Benjamin married Amelia Pierce, of Cabot. According to Ida Clee Bemis, Benjamin White was

Probably the second wealthiest man in town, owner of the store ...We sometimes got milk from them for five cents a quart. I went after it with a tin pail. It wasn't pasteurized, of course, and probably was full of germs by the time I got home, but I lived to tell the tale. There was an apartment over Mr. White's store, and various families lived there through the years.³⁴⁰

White was also postmaster, notary public, and law agent for Calais. He died in 1919.

Pierce and White

Eventually, the two store owners formed the partnership of Pierce & White. “Operating a ‘First Class Country Store,” Pierce & White specialized in groceries, dry goods, and West India Goods such as teas, spices, flour, ready-made clothing. They also offered shingles and cedar posts.³⁴¹

W.L. Pierce General Store

Walter Pierce eventually had sole ownership of the general store where he was as a “Dealer in General Merchandise,” offering items such as coffee, codfish, crackers, tar, sugar.³⁴² He was also a postmaster of East Calais under the second administration of Grover Cleveland. Ida Clee Bemis recalled that Pierce

Bought and sold paper rags, as they used to say. Everybody saved their rags and sold them to him. I remember seeing the big piles of rags on the floor above the store. They were sorted, white in one pile, and colored in the other. We always washed our rags before selling them, and I guess everyone always did because we never thought of the piles of rags as being dirty.³⁴³

During the spring of 1893, Pierce was

In market purchasing goods for spring trade, having enlarged my store for the purpose of making room for a larger line of ladies' goods, consisting of dress goods, fancy goods, ready-made garments, etc. It will be for your interest to delay your purchases until you have the opportunity to look over my new stock.³⁴⁴

³³⁹ Ibid.

³⁴⁰ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

³⁴¹ Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont

³⁴² Ibid.

³⁴³ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

³⁴⁴ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, May 3, 1893.

In 1898, Walter Pierce moved to Hardwick in 1902 and died in Southern Pines, North Carolina, in 1905.

Jewelry

Merrick Ainsworth was a goldsmith, jeweler, watch and clock repairer in the late nineteenth century. He owned property along Batten Road, and he lived at both the Daniels-Bemis House (**HD #8**) and the Zephaniah Pierce House (**HD #11**). His son, Clarence Ainsworth, was a carpenter who co-owned the properties with his father.

Printing Shops

There was a small, gable-front building in the vicinity of **HD #42**. 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**). Carroll Lamb was also the East Calais postmaster with the post office set up in this house. Charles Balentine lived with his mother, Nancy Parker. Before settling into the printing business, he performed numerous jobs, including working for A. Dwinell & Sons and maintaining chicken houses on the North Calais road. He also was an excellent solderer and usually worked at the tin shop, making maple sugar pails and syrup cans in the busy season for them.

Painters & Paper Hangers

With the sawmill providing the lumber and the builders providing their services, there was also a need for painters, plasterers, and paper hangers to do the finish work. George Carley (**HD #14**) grew up in his parent's home. His father was a civil war veteran, and "aside from what little income he could make from a flock of hens, he and his life lived on his pension."³⁴⁵ George was a painter and paper hanger, and "his painting skill was used in painting and trimming sleighs and buggies. He was very clever in painting lines and designs as trimming on the dash panels and backs of the seats in a sleigh or buggy."³⁴⁶

Ira Marsh was the son of village wheelwright, Frank Marsh (**HD #29**). In the 1870s, Ira lived with his parents and worked as a painter.

Shoemakers/Cobblers

Abdiel Kent ran a large-scale shoe factory at Kents Corners, employing between five and ten men. In East Calais, several cobblers set up operations in their house or barn. Jonathan Herrick ran his shop out of the George-Marsh House (**HD #29**) and was "an honest, temperate, industrious man" who outfitted "his family as well as neighbors."³⁴⁷

³⁴⁵ Ibid.

³⁴⁶ Ibid.

³⁴⁷ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*. Montpelier, Vermont: Watchman and State Journal Press, 1882; Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*. Barre, VT: Calais Historical Society, 1999

Luther Bemis (**HD #8**) was a shoemaker during the 1870s. Seven shoemakers, including Luther Bemis, worked in the Town of Calais in 1878, six in 1879, and none in the 1880s.³⁴⁸ The shoe business, like other small rural enterprises, suffered from rapid industrialization in the cities and the production of factory-made shoes.³⁴⁹ Luther Bemis and Serepta Dwinell Bemis had two children, Bernice and Ida. The Bemis family lived at the Daniels–Bemis House (**HD #8**). Luther Bemis

Learned the shoemakers' trade and had a shop after he married in East Calais. He made high boots for men. They came nearly to the knees. The heavy leather soles were put together with wooden pegs ... After they began wearing factory-made boots, there was very little work, just repairing shoes, and my father did what little jobs around town that he was able to.³⁵⁰

Luther Bemis also sought other forms of income. His daughter, Ida Clee Bemis, recalled:

One thing he did was buying and selling calf skins. He bought them from the farmers, and when he got enough, he would bundle them up and ship them to ex-Governor Carroll Paige [Page] in Hyde Park. Sometimes he would get a team and take them to Hardwick to the train, and he would take me with him. It was a great treat sitting on the seat with him on that high lumber wagon.³⁵¹

Pierce Tin Shop

Before East Calais had a permanent tin shop and hardware store, a traveling peddler frequently visited East Calais in a horse-drawn, closed body cart ...

With brooms and mops bottoms up along the outside walls with perhaps a large dishpan, mop pail or basket hanging with them, while inside the body were stacks of tin and iron cooking utensils, strainers, mixing spoons and the likes.³⁵²

In addition to the mercantile business (**HD #6**), Walter Pierce opened a tin and hardware store. This business no longer stands and was located in the vicinity of the park (**HD #42**) and the D.B. Fay Tenement (**HD #9**). Pierce received “a fine lot of kitchen and parlor stoves for fall and winter trade.”³⁵³

Doctors and Physicians

The first known physician in East Calais was Dr. John T. Gilman, who was succeeded by Asa George (**HD #29**). Born in Weare, New Hampshire, in 1797, George studied medicine at Dartmouth College. The family moved to Calais in 1825 and “had a very extensive practice

³⁴⁸ Dorman B. E. Kent Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont

³⁴⁹ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

³⁵⁰ Bemis, Ida Clee, “A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Clee Bemis,” Vermont History 73 (Summer/Fall 2005). Vermont Historical Society, Montpelier, 2005.

³⁵¹ Ibid.

³⁵² Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

³⁵³ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 3, 1883.

up to the close of his long and useful life.”³⁵⁴ He was “a man of marked character and ability and a leading man in his profession.”³⁵⁵ He was instrumental in the formation of the Union Chapel (**HD #5**). Dr. George

Was industrious and indefatigable in his attendance on his patients. Neither bad roads, storms, or dark nights kept him from their bedside. He was constant in attention to the poor as well as the rich. Indeed, the poor he never oppressed. He was brusque in manners, but warm, kind, and sympathetic, and had a wide reputation as a physician.³⁵⁶

George “cast the only Republican vote in Calais several years ...[and] prophesied from the first that he would live to see Calais represented in the legislature by a Republican, and he had that honor in 1854 and 1855. He also held all the important offices in his town.”³⁵⁷In addition to his medicinal role, George was also a farmer. In 1875, he gave a presentation titled “Manure” at the annual meeting of the Vermont State Board of Agriculture, Manufacturers, and Mining in Plainfield.

George H. Gray (**HD #27**) served as the “eclectic physician and surgeon” between 1868 and 1894.³⁵⁸ While a competent physician, he often called for assistance. In 1884, he requested that Dr. S. Putnam of Montpelier “to counsel with Dr. G.S. Gray of East Calais, the case being that of Mrs. Bushby of this village, who is considered dangerously sick.”³⁵⁹

During the early twentieth century, Dr. Frank Gale lived at the Simeon Webb House (**HD #25**). He delivered many East Calais babies and served as the health officer for Calais School District. Besides Dr. Gale, East Calais residents visited Dr. Hall in Woodbury and Dr. Wheeler in North Montpelier.³⁶⁰

Hotels

Located on a coach road, several hotels sprouted up in East Calais. In addition to running a blacksmith shop, Asa Alden (**HD #30**) operated one of the first hotels in East Calais.

Ira Dwinell, the son of Archelaus and Olive Dwinell of Sutton, Massachusetts, moved to Croydon, New Hampshire, and then Marshfield, Vermont. He built the first hotel in Calais and sold it to his nephew, Ira S. Dwinell. He eventually moved to Glover, Vermont, where he continued in the hotel business.

Ira S. Dwinell married Clarina Pierce, the sister of Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**). They operated his uncle’s hotel, known as the Moscow House, at the southern end of the district in the vicinity of **HD #8** and **HD #42**. In 1860, they lived in the hotel with their son, Byron. There

³⁵⁴ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

³⁵⁵ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

³⁵⁶ Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

³⁵⁷ Ibid.

³⁵⁸ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

³⁵⁹ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, July 23, 1884.

³⁶⁰ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

were also two domestic servants and a farm laborer living at the hotel. According to Ida Bemis, Ira Dwinell “was well-to-do and was the only person I ever knew who raised sheep.”³⁶¹ He was an Assistant Judge of Washington County Court and Washington County Republicans, cemetery commissioner, commissioner of the Montpelier, Hardwick and Black River Railroad, delegate to the Republican Congressional District Convention and committee member for the Calais centennial celebrations on the 4th of July. Calais.

Ira Dwinell’s hotel was a popular spot as the coaches stopped there. According to Ida Clee Bemis,

Times were quite lively around Uncle Ira’s hotel about noontime with the two coaches and changing of horses and dinners for passengers. Both coaches were heavy laden with passengers as they were carrying them at cut rates, and you could get a ride for nearly nothing if the stage not already filled. This was some time in the sixties, and hotel business was good.³⁶²

The hotel was also the site of official business. In 1842, the assignee’s sale for the bankruptcy of Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**) was at Ira Dwinell’s hotel. When the Union Chapel Association formed in 1846, the Dwinell hotel was the site of the early meetings. The hotel was also a recruiting station during the Civil War. In 1873, an East Calais hotel was the site of meetings concerning the Montpelier, Hardwick, and Black River Railroad.

Following the sale of the Moscow House, Ira and Clarina built their new home (**HD #2**) on Marshfield Road. In 1903, in remarking about the death of Clarina Dwinell, the *Burlington Clipper* reminisced about the Dwinell hotel:

Perhaps some will remember the tavern at East Calais kept by Ira S. Dwinell away back in the days when Montpelier was connected with Barton by stagecoach, and also the mistress of the inn, Mrs. Dwinell, who has died at her son’s home in Taunton, Mass. She could remember to the day of her death the four-horse coach loads that used to stop to have dinner served by her.³⁶³

James Morse (**HD #7**) ran the Moscow House in the late 1860s/early 1870s. In 1869, Morse

Made numerous desirable improvements to his hotel ... The entire building has been raised up, and a story put under it, an addition being also made to the surface size; the before spacious hall. Has been lengthened and beautified, and the entire establishment refitted and refurnished.³⁶⁴

³⁶¹ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

³⁶² Dwinell, Clarence R. “Recollections of Stage Drivers and Mail Carriers.” April 20, 1932, Harold A. Dwinell papers, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

³⁶³ *The Burlington Clipper*, Burlington, Vermont, April 11, 1903

³⁶⁴ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 4, 1869.

Morse celebrated the improvements by hosting Dedication Ball with “good music, a good supper, and a good time generally.”³⁶⁵

The Moscow House was the site of many East Calais dances and festivities. As early as 1865, the hotel was the site of “a social dance, where at a goodly number were present, all seeming to enjoy themselves highly, and going home content with their entertainment.”³⁶⁶ Following the 1869 improvements, there was a “ ‘ Social Dance for Old and Young’ ... all who attend will doubtless have a good time, as that is the order of things under the administration...of Morse .”³⁶⁷ In the first month of 1872, the hotel was the site “a public dancing and oyster supper” and “Morse gets up the supper, and the music will be all right.”³⁶⁸ Approximately 100 people attended the dance in January 1870, “and everybody passed off in good shape.”³⁶⁹ In 1871, the Masonic fraternity held a dance, and “arrangements are being made on a scale that promise to make it truly a *recherche* affair.”³⁷⁰

Morse sold the Moscow House to Phineas Wheeler in February 1872. During his ownership of the hotel, Morse “won many friends since he has kept this hotel, as is proved by his constantly increasing patronage, and the number that always attended the dances given there.”³⁷¹ Upon selling the hotel, Morse moved into Wheeler’s East Calais home. By 1873, Morse

Formerly a well-liked and successful landlord at East Calais is now rebuilding the hotel at Plainfield Springs, and when the improvement is completed, there will be an excellent, roomy, and convenient hotel in place of that sham that has for years repelled custom that wanted to go there.³⁷²

Before purchasing the hotel, Phineas Wheeler was a farmer and Morgan Horse breeder. Soon after taking possession, Wheeler considered “making extensive repairs, and putting it in first-rate condition for a country hotel.”³⁷³ A month later, the Moscow House was “undergoing extensive repairs ... It is enlarged and improved in a manner to add greatly to its looks as well as convenience.”³⁷⁴ Wheeler maintained the hotel’s role in the community as a dance hall. During the summer of 1872, “an approaching dance will doubtless draw a goodly attendance of those in that region who ‘delight in the mazy dance.’”³⁷⁵

³⁶⁵ Ibid.

³⁶⁶ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, July 13, 1865.

³⁶⁷ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 30, 1869.

³⁶⁸ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 18, 1872.

³⁶⁹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 20, 1870.

³⁷⁰ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 15, 1871.

³⁷¹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 22, 1872.

³⁷² *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 10, 1873.

³⁷³ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 20, 1872.

³⁷⁴ *Green Mountain Freeman* Montpelier, Vermont, April 10, 1872.

³⁷⁵ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, June 13, 1872.

In 1873, a fire devastated the Moscow House. As fire ravaged the entire north side of the road, there was

An attempt was made 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 int requisition to prevent the destruction of the buildings on that side. The loss of Mr. Phineas Wheeler, the proprietor of the hotel, is about \$5000, with an insurance of \$2,300. In addition to the pecuniary loss of Mr. Wheeler, the devotees of the Terpsichore lose 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.³⁷⁶

The fire ravaged

The hotel property of Phineas Wheeler, which was entirely consumed, a good hotel building, which had been recently much enlarged and improved, two large barns, sheds, and outbuildings ...This fire was a severe loss to the village. It has not yet fully recovered from its effects, and the hotel has not been replaced.³⁷⁷

Jacob Lamb's house (**HD #42**) "provided hotel accommodations after the fire of 1873."³⁷⁸ In 1876, a Leap Year Ball was held at Goodell's Hall "with supper at the Moscow House and music from Leonard's band."³⁷⁹ With Lamb focused on his box factory, he hired Kelso Gray to run the hotel.

In addition to being a cobbler, the Bemis family (**HD #8**) also worked in the hotel industry. While the Vermont Legislature was in session, Bemis "was head chef at the Pavilion Hotel in Montpelier" and Serepta "did chamber work and worked in the linen closet."³⁸⁰ The children also worked in hotels as the family traveled from hotel to hotel, including Roger's Rock Hotel on Lake George, New York, and Mount Mansfield Hotel in Stowe. During the winters, the Bemis family went to southern hotels such as the San Juan Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

Tenements

Due to a large amount of industrial and commercial enterprises in East Calais, the village was the most prosperous in Calais. This prosperity created a large labor pool that needed housing. As a result, many of the houses in East Calais were tenements.

There was a tenement in the D.B. Fay Tenement (**HD #8**) and Daniels-Bemis Houses (**HD #9**). D.B. Fay (**HD #7**) also rented apartments in his other East Calais properties. During

³⁷⁶ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 11, 1873

³⁷⁷ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

³⁷⁸ 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."

³⁷⁹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 6, 1876.

³⁸⁰ Bemis, Ida Cleo, "A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Cleo Bemis,"

the 1870s and 1880s, the local and regional newspapers featured entries such as “Royal Cunningham is to occupy a tenement in the D.B. Fay Block,” “Mark Wait O.O. Provost moved into one of the Fay tenements,” “George Smart moved into the tenement of D.B. Fay, and opened a barbershop,” “Elijah White moved into the D.B. Fay tenement, and hired the cooper shop for another year,” Oliver Ainsworth’s family moved into the second floor of Fay’s tenement home,” and “Freeman Gray left his farm, and move into one of the Fay tenements.”³⁸¹

In 1900, Albert Dwinell built the Dwinell Tenement (**HD #17**) for his workers. In 1897, Dennis Dunham, “a sawyer for A. Dwinell & Son moved last week to the Dwinell House.”³⁸² There were several apartments attached to Clarence Dwinell’s store (**HD #24**). After Albert Dwinell purchased the Ira S. Dwinell house (**HD #2**), the house was rented out. In 1905, Arthur Mack “moved his family from A. Dwinell’s tenement to what was formerly the Ira S. Dwinell place (**HD #2**).”³⁸³

Frank Dwinell (**HD #15**) also rented out his house. Born in 1848 and attended Barre Academy, and worked in his father's East Calais store in 1868. In 1874, he moved to Plainfield and opened his store. He served as Plainfield’s Town Clerk and Treasurer. In 1878 he was elected to represent Plainfield in the Vermont House of Representatives. In 1890 he was elected to the Vermont Senate and was chosen its President. He was an original incorporator of the Vermont office of the Farmers' Trust Company. Dwinell's other business interests included serving as a member of the board of directors for Montpelier's Wetmore & Morse Granite Company and First National Bank, and a Vice President of the Montpelier Building & Construction Company. In 1898, he became a Loan Inspector for Montpelier's National Life Insurance Company.

Oscar Guernsey owned several buildings in East Calais, including the A.C. Slayton House (**HD #23**) and the Goodell-Guernsey House (**HD #26**). In April 1915, Oscar Guernsey “purchased the two-tenement house of Enos Hopkins.”³⁸⁴ In 1916, Charley Bumpus “moved his family into the Oscar Guernsey tenement.”³⁸⁵

East Calais and Transportation: 1800-1900

The earliest road in East Calais came down from East Hill and into the village across the Mill Pond between the Dwinell House (**HD #20**) and Alonzo Pierce House (**HD #21**). Joshua Lilley most likely built this road c. 1804 when he cut a road from his home on East Hill down to the North Branch, where he built the village’s first sawmill. In 1821, a road

³⁸¹ *Green Mountain Freeman*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 2, 1878; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 25, 1883; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, September 2, 1885; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 9, 1887; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, January 13, 1897.

³⁸² *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 3, 1897.

³⁸³ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 4, 1905.

³⁸⁴ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 30, 1915.

³⁸⁵ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 9, 1916.

connected East Calais to Woodbury to the north. In 1874, a road, Road #10 (Moscow Woods Road), was built connecting East Calais with North Calais.

Significant changes were made in the transportation network in the 1850s with the arrival of the railroad in Vermont. The Montpelier & Wells River Railroad bypassed Calais when it established a station in Plainfield Village in 1873. There were attempts to have the railroad arrive locally as “the friends of the Montpelier, Hardwick and Black river railroad held a meeting in East Calais in 1873 to discuss and devise the best means to forward the enterprise and bring the road to the earliest possible completion.”³⁸⁶

East Calais “straddled the most direct route from Montpelier to Newport near the Canadian border.”³⁸⁷ The mail arrived by stage and two horses in the 1860s. It arrived twice a day, at 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM. 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.

A second stage line ran in competition, stopping at East Calais at the same time “times were quite lively around” Ira Dwinell’s hotel

About noontime with the two coaches and changing of horses and dinners for passengers. Both coaches were heavy laden with passengers as they were carrying them at cut rates, and you could get a ride for nearly nothing if the stage not already filled. This was some time in the sixties, and hotel business was good.³⁸⁸

During the 1880s, the Daniels-Bemis House (**HD #8**) had a large yard in front which

Had a croquet set, and every night there would be a gang there playing while they waited for the stage and the mail. That was the busiest time of the day ... A stage picked up the mail at Plainfield in the late afternoon when the train came in from Wells River. The stage was a high wagon with three seats across it and a place for baggage behind the seats and drawn by a pair of horses.³⁸⁹

With the vital economic activity of the mills, factories, and shops, East Calais relied on the train station in Plainfield:

The supplies for the stores, for the most part, were hauled into the village by freight teams from the railroad station at Plainfield, and the supplies of kerosene and

³⁸⁶ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 24, 1873.

³⁸⁷ 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.

³⁸⁸ Dwinell, Clarence R. “Recollections of Stage Drivers and Mail Carriers.”

³⁸⁹ Bemis, Ida Clee. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”

gasoline were brought in by either horse-drawn tank wagons or by barrels shipped in as freight.³⁹⁰

The arrival of the railroad shifted the centers of commerce away from the old stage routes and led to the decline of many towns along the routes. The lack of a good transportation network put the mills at a disadvantage. At the same time, after the Civil War, the industry began to change rapidly with steam replacing water power. Factories increased in size and scale and began using a system of interchangeable parts. It was hard for small local mills to compete with the mass-produced products of the larger factories who could now, due to better transportation, distribute goods to broader markets.³⁹¹

East Calais and Commerce: 1900-1951

Coates & Gove

After Dell Dwinell transitioned to operating the sawmill, the Coates & Gove general store (**HD #24**) operated between 1911-1920. (Figure 22)The store offered a variety of items, including the White House Coffee brand and Page's Perfected Poultry feed. In 1913, the store became the agent for the Barre Times and accepted subscriptions to the paper.³⁹² Every year, E.J. Rutter, optometrist, set up in the store for a single day, giving eye examinations.³⁹³

³⁹⁰ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

³⁹¹ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

³⁹² *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 7, 1913.

³⁹³ *Barre Daily Time*, Barre, Vermont, October 15, 1920.



Figure 22 Austin Gove's General Store (Syver Rogstad)

Walter J. Coates, a minister, storekeeper, postmaster, poet, and publisher, was born in Montague, New York. Between 1901 and 1903, he served summer pastorates in East Calais and Marshfield. Following his graduation from St. Lawrence University Divinity School, he became pastor of the Universalist churches at North Hatley and Huntingville, Quebec. Coates married Florence Webster Gray, the daughter of Dr. George H. and Nettie Gray (**HD #27**). After the death of Florence in 1906 from tuberculosis, Coates had “a long nervous breakdown which forced him out of the active ministry definitely. He took up printing and life insurance at East Calais.”³⁹⁴ In 1908, Coates married Nettie Gove, a cousin of his first wife, Florence Gray. He purchased a small printing office in East Calais and with his father-in-law, Austin, and set it up in the Coates & Gove store. He also served as postmaster and was an inspector of risks for several Vermont fire insurance companies.

Austin A. Gove married Alta Worthen in 1912, and they lived above the store. In 1920, Coates & Gove announced the dissolution of their partnership, and Austin Gove became the sole proprietor. Coates purchased the George Pray store in North Montpelier in 1922 while Gove continued to run the general store from that point forward. In 1929, Coates, a published poet, helped found the League of Vermont Writers, and, in 1938, received an honorary degree from UVM.³⁹⁵

³⁹⁴ Ibid.

³⁹⁵ Ormsbee, Anne, “East Montpelier Historical Society, “*East Montpelier Signpost*, January-February 2005.



Figure 23 Renfrew's Store (Vermont Historical Society)

Renfrew's General Store

In 1904, Carlisle C. Renfrew purchased the Pierce-White General Store building (**HD #6**). He sold groceries, hardware, sewer piped, shingles, fireproof roofing, paints, oils, varnishes, and novelties. (Figure 23) Following his death of pneumonia in 1906, his wife placed the following ad in the paper:

For Sale: Owing to the death of proprietor will sell store and stock of general merchandise in East Calais, doing a good business and well-stocked. A first-class chance for someone to engage in business.³⁹⁶

A.G. Dutton's General Store

In 1906, Asa G. Dutton bought the Renfrew store and goods and moved into the tenement above the store. Dutton was a member of the Winooski Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and served as First Constable for East Calais and on the board of the East Calais Creamery. In March 1913, Dutton died from pneumonia and was remembered for "being widely known throughout the county."³⁹⁷ His wife, Mary J. Dutton, settled his estate and sold the stock and goods of the store. An advertisement in the *Barre Daily Times* stated:

³⁹⁶ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, February 10, 1906.

³⁹⁷ *The Montpelier Morning Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 11, 1913.

Wanted: a customer for the A.G. Dutton & Co. store at East Calais. The stock of goods has been largely reduced, and a good opportunity is here offered any person desiring a good business.³⁹⁸

In 1914, the store was still for sale “with a good tenement over it, also stock of goods. A general country store.”³⁹⁹

Adelson’s General Store

In 1919, the Lithuanian born Barney Adelson bought the A.G. Dutton store and conducted necessary repairs. Previously, Adelson lived in Plainfield and ran a clothing sales cart. Like the previous stores at this site, Adelson specialized in clothing, dry goods, and groceries. Adelson also held weekly auctions at the store, setting up on the front porch on summer Saturday evenings. In May 1922, the spring opening at the Adelson Store advertised “exceptional values in Gingham, Percales, Organdies, Embroidered, Mercerized, and Printed Voiles. A complete line of gents, ladies and children’s shoes. Also, the popular princess corsets.”⁴⁰⁰ Following the death of Adelson in October 1933, there was a public auction of a “land and buildings, including store, of late Barnard Adelson, situated in the town of East Calais. Contents of store optional.”⁴⁰¹

Gray’s General Store

Ivan and Ola Gray purchased “a lot of land with store and outbuildings” belonging to Adelson in 1935.⁴⁰² Ivan Gray was the son of the town’s physician, Dr. George H. Gray (**HD #27**). He was also the Town Clerk, running the municipal office in the store. Gray’s store offered a variety of goods such as “bulk cookies, Cross crackers, penny candy, comic books, dried codfish, salt salmon, two kinds of dry cereal, dried fruit and some meat, and clothes.”⁴⁰³

Meat Markets

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the people of East Calais obtained their meats from their animals. During the summers, they purchased their meats from the traveling cart of Lavake Ainsworth of North Calais.

The cart drawn by two horses would be stopped at the doorstep by a string of load “whoas” by which Lavake let the people in the house know he had arrived. He would drop the reins and go to the rear of the cart to swing the end gate up and the cutting board down in place.⁴⁰⁴

Durwood D. Lamb (**HD #2**), the son of Jacob Lamb (**HD #42**), was a farmer and maintained

³⁹⁸ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, November 10, 1913.

³⁹⁹ *The Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, September 28, 1914.

⁴⁰⁰ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, May 1, 1922.

⁴⁰¹ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, September 18, 1919.

⁴⁰² Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont

⁴⁰³ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont

⁴⁰⁴ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

a registered Ayrshire herd. He built a slaughterhouse near **HD #8** and owned a meat market between **HD #9** and **HD #10**. As a “dealer in beef, veal, pork, mutton and lard, canned goods, tallow, hides,” Lamb often traveled to Boston to purchase livestock.⁴⁰⁵

In 1908, Lamb sold his store barn, slaughterhouse, and sheds to Galen Hatch, purveyor of meats and sausages. Hatch also harvested ice for his store and the community. At the beginning of the new year, when the pond was frozen solid, Hatch ventured on the ice and prepared the East Calais for the warmer months.

When the ice reached a thickness of between 14 and 28 inches, it was ready to cut. Teams of bundled men would head out in the morning while it was still dark, often in subzero weather, to begin the long day of harvesting. Before cutting the ice, they first prepared its surface. A horse-drawn scraper removed the rough snow crust. Then the men marked the area to be cut. A grid pattern was scored by dragging a circular saw over the surface. Next the men, using large hand saws, finished separating the blocks by cutting the rest of the way through the ice. They knocked the blocks free of each other with a breaking chisel and pushed them into a narrow channel which flowed toward the shoreline. Here they loaded the heavy rectangles of ice into an ice house. Storing the ice properly required as much skill as cutting it. Sawdust or hay insulated the blocks and kept them from melting through the hot days of summer.⁴⁰⁶

Galen Hatch (**HD #9**) established a business partnership with Harvey Burnham and together formed a meat business, Hatch & Burnham, with stores in Woodbury and East Calais. Burnham was born in Woodbury and then moved to Montpelier, where he worked as a janitor at the National Life Insurance Company for 25 years. Suffering from ill health, Burnham and his wife moved to East Calais to the Alonzo Peace House (**HD #21**).

Hatch & Burnham eventually dissolved their partnership, and Harvey Burnham took over the “East Calais end of the business” and conducted “the entire business at East Calais under Harvey Burnham.”⁴⁰⁷ Before moving to Woodbury, Hatch sold the property to Burnham - “Galen will be missed here, but what is our loss, will be Woodbury’s gain.”⁴⁰⁸

In 1919, Burnham sold Lee Tebbetts of Hardwick, the meat and grocery business. Tebbetts formerly worked at the Hatch & Burnham meat market in the Woodbury store. He then worked in North Montpelier, East Montpelier, and Williamstown before moving to East Calais. In 1919, the *Barre Daily Times* wrote: “Wanted – Everyone to visit the new Tebbetts Store in East Calais; meat, dry goods, notions, etc.”⁴⁰⁹ Lee and Lilla Tebbetts married in 1904 and lived above the A.G. Dutton and Co. Building (**HD #6**) during the 1920s. The two

⁴⁰⁵ 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.”

⁴⁰⁶ *The Winter Ice Harvest*, The Green Mountaineer, The Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁴⁰⁷ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 5, 1917.

⁴⁰⁸ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, October 19, 1916.

⁴⁰⁹ *The Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, October 18, 1919.

ran the store until 1949. Like a previous meat market owner, Tebbetts also harvested and sold ice. In 1921, Tebbetts “and a gang of men are busy filling the ice houses.”⁴¹⁰ In 1939,

The harvesting of ice is now going on and, as usual, is in the charge of Lee Tebbetts. The ice is being harvested this year by a circular saw rig designed and constructed by Arthur Wilbur of this place, doing the work faster and better than the ice plow formerly used. The ice is 16-18 inches thick.⁴¹¹

Sanders Tin Shop

In 1892, Walter Pierce sold George Sanders the tin and hardware store. He was a “dealer in stoves, tinware, hardware, paints and oils, lead and iron pipe. Pumps.”⁴¹² George Elmer Sanders was born in Calais in 1868. He married Ina G. Bullock in 1895, and they lived at **(HD #1)** and **(HD #28)**. Sanders also provided work and labor for the Town of Calais. Between 1898 and the 1930s, the town paid Sanders for “wire for snow fence,” “hammer handles,” “axle grease for road crews,” “tile,” “cement,” “tools for road work,” “wire and nails,” “nails and tools,” “stock and labor,” and “materials for house.”⁴¹³ He also conducted work and labor for the East Calais School **(HD #37)**, including “furnace, fixtures, and repairs for #12,” and “repairs at school No. 12.”⁴¹⁴

Starting in 1904, the Sanders shop saw an increased demand for maple sugar containers when there was a growth of maple sugar interest when tobacco companies began flavoring their products with maple sugar. Additional products included galvanized smokestacks for sap evaporators, water tanks, stovepipes, and corrugated metal roofing.

Gray's Tin Shop

In 1910, Frank Gray **(HD #23)** bought George Sanders' tin shop and formed Frank Gray & Son. The son of Kelso and Adaline Gray, Frank Gray, married Mattie Bliss in August 1883, and they had one child, Forrest Alvin 'Strad' Gray. They lived in Plainfield and East Montpelier and lived at their farm on Bliss hill. They then moved into the village, and “in recent years have spent winters in the village.”⁴¹⁵

Gray was primarily a farmer, but he also performed other work duties in the community. He previously worked as a miller for A. Dwinell & Sons **(HD #12)**, making \$300.00 a year.⁴¹⁶ He also worked for builder Oscar Guernsey **(HD #23 and #26)**, sawing wood, chopping wood for George Parker **(HD #4)**, drawing wood for Otis Slayton **(HD #12)** and carrying hay for Moses Lamberton **(HD #22)**.

⁴¹⁰ *Montpelier Evening Argus*, February 3, 1921.

⁴¹¹ The Burlington Free Press, Burlington, Vermont, February 8, 1939.

⁴¹² Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447.

⁴¹³ Town of Calais Reports, Calais Town Clerk, Calais, Vermont.

⁴¹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴¹⁵ Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447.

⁴¹⁶ 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.’”

After attending school in East Montpelier, their son, Forrest Gray, “got sick of farming” and worked briefly at Drown’s Drug Store in Barre.⁴¹⁷ After contracting the measles, in which Strad infected his entire family, he changed careers and apprenticed with a tinsmith, Jim Drew, of Cabot. He returned to East Calais to work for George Sanders.

This was certainly what he liked and did most naturally. His field of work outside the store, which was more commonly known as the ‘tin shop,’ ranged from installing metal roofs on residences, porches, and other buildings to the repair of water pumps at or near the bottom of wells.⁴¹⁸

Forrest’s primary duties included “emptying ‘the earthenware spittoon,’ soldering up ‘what tinware come in need fixing,’ and waiting on the ‘front store.’”⁴¹⁹

Frank Gray’s diary entries (**HD #23**) from 1911 include “stayed in the store today, got 3 lbs. of butter, 31 [cents] a pound,” “stayed in the store today, went and got the windows today,” and “worked in-store today, had 8 cords of dry wood of D.B. Dwinell; had 2 bales of hay of O.J. Guernsey.” Gray also performed work outside of the store including “worked in cemetery 7 hours,” “harrowed for potatoes today,” “worked trimming trees for C.R.D. (C.R. Dwinell) in the forenoon, worked in the cemetery in the afternoon,” and “put in a foundation for Carry White.”⁴²⁰

When his parents bought the Sanders store, Forrest assisted his parents in managing the tin shop. The largest-selling items were two-quart dippers and ten-pound sugar pails. Gray’s ownership of the tin shop was short-lived. Unfortunately, Forrest

Bought too much stock. We bought a whole line of Glenwood stoves, you know, and filled that store full of them. We bought too much stock, so we failed up and sold it back to them. And that ended.⁴²¹

George Sanders repurchased the store in 1912, and Forrest continued to work for Sanders for the next thirty years as a tinsmith. During that period, Gray also worked as a tinsmith and plumber in North Montpelier, Hardwick, Morrisville, and Ludlow. While the store owner, Sanders, was “rather a coarse workman” because he made wide seams and his

⁴¹⁷ Interview with Forrest “Strad” Gray, Oral History Project, Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁴¹⁸ 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.’”

⁴¹⁹ Interview with Forrest “Strad” Gray, Oral History Project, Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁴²⁰ Frank Gray Diary, Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont; *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, June 19, 1889.

⁴²¹ Interview with Forrest “Strad” Gray, Oral History Project, Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

workers referred to him as Sanders Seams. His favorite expression was “make it in a sixteenth of a dead spider’s bustle.”⁴²²

During this time a store hung in front of the store, which read “Stoves Glass Tin Hardware and Nails” and “proclaimed its business except it did not mention metal roofing or the manufacture of maple sugar and syrup containers or later the sale of gas and oil after the automobile appeared.”⁴²³ George Sanders started selling automobiles in 1920.

The Lamb & Mullin Company purchased the tin shop, which it used as a storage facility. A devastating 1951 fire destroyed the building. While the tin shop no longer stands, “sooner or later, everyone in Calais had a reason to visit the tin shop on Main Street.”⁴²⁴

Automobiles

With the advent of the automobile in the early twentieth century, the demand for carriages and harnesses decreased. The automobile also made it possible for village residents and farmers from the surrounding areas to travel to Montpelier and Barre for a more extensive selection of goods and materials. Mass-produced materials from urban areas also began to be available by mail-order, further decreasing the need for locally produced goods. These industries gradually disappeared from the village scene. The village lost its manufacturing emphasis and became a service area for nearby farmers who came to buy supplies and get mail at the store, repairs at the blacksmith, and lumber at the sawmill.⁴²⁵

Edwin George, who made harnesses for years, upgraded with the evolving times and sold automobiles from 1920 to 1923. He also worked for the Town of Calais performing “work on road machine with team.”⁴²⁶ After George Sanders (**HD #28**) repurchased the tin shop in 1912, he started selling automobiles in 1920. During the early twentieth century, George Sander sold Socony gas at the tin shop. William Kendall also ran a garage in East Calais in the 1920s. Across the street, Clarence Dwinell sold Mobil gas at his store(**HD #24**).

Richard Lamb, the grandson of Jacob Lamb (**HD #42**), ran a garage in the early twentieth century. His uncle, Carroll Lamb (**HD #7**), was the town printer, village postmaster, and health officer. Richard Lamb has “always been ‘handy,’ liked to tinker, and seemingly could

⁴²²Interview with Forrest “Strad” Gray, Oral History Project, Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁴²³ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁴²⁴ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*.

⁴²⁵ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

⁴²⁶ *Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1901*. Argus and Patriot Job Printing Office, 1901.

fix anything mechanical.”⁴²⁷ He built the garage “next to his home, which had once been the Moscow House, run by his grandfather.”⁴²⁸ This garage building burned in 1951. He

Knew he had things to learn, so he went to Detroit and took a course in auto mechanics. It was a short course, but when he returned with his certificate, the town acknowledges that here was a man who knew how to fix cars. From that point on, he was always busy. In addition to his regular trade, he did the maintenance work for the town trucks, graders and plows.⁴²⁹

Criterion A: Agriculture

East Calais and Agriculture: 1800-1850

Farming was the primary occupation of Calais' first settlers. They grew a variety of crops including wheat, oats, Indian corn, potatoes, flax, rye, beans, barley, peas, turnips, orchard fruits (primarily apples), and “Indian Hay.”⁴³⁰ By the early 1790s, farmers were producing a considerable surplus of wheat, which they took to the gristmills which

Increased the market value of the grain because flour was a high demand commodity in both the domestic and international markets; a bushel of wheat produced between 25 and 33 pounds of flour. Although farmers faced transport difficulties, wheat rapidly became ‘Vermont’s cash crop’ by the turn of the century.⁴³¹

As farmers cleared their land, they planted wheat, which replaced potash as the leading cash crop. At the end of the eighteenth century, Vermont was called the “breadbasket of New England” as wheat production thrived.

Most farmers, even after they cleared and cultivated their land, managed a wood lot on their property so that they could continue to earn income by selling timber. The local sawmill was not only essential to create the building materials, but it also sustained the incomes of farmers, particularly during the winter months. Fallen timber was also burned to produce potash, which was an important source of income for farmers as it was exported to manufacture soap, gunpowder, and bleach. Potash declined in the 1810s when sodium replaced potash in manufacturing soap and gunpowder.

During the early nineteenth century, the sheep industry flourished in Vermont. The introduction of Merino sheep in 1811, coupled with the passage of the 1824 Tariff on Woolens stimulated woolen manufacturing in Vermont. Entrepreneurs established woolen factories wherever sufficient water power existed. By the late 1820s and 1830s, sheep

⁴²⁷ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*.

⁴²⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴²⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴³⁰ Carr, Jacqueline B., “Local History and the Vermont Borderlands, 1790-1820.”

⁴³¹ Carr, Jacqueline B., “Local History and the Vermont Borderlands, 1790-1820.”

farming was lucrative and widespread, replacing diversified subsistence farming. In 1824 Vermont's sheep population was 475,000. By 1836 it was 1.1 million, and by 1840 there were over 1.5 million sheep in Vermont. The industry peaked around 1840 and was on a decline by the latter part of the decade due to the repeal of the wool tariff in 1846 and competition from the west made possible by the opening of canals and railroads. During this period, the number of woolen mills in Vermont tripled from 33 in 1836 to 100 by 1850.

432

Manufacturers prized Merino sheep for their long, soft wool, and the animals' grazing style was ideal for the rolling hills of Vermont. As Merinos and the related Saxony imports spread across the state, "the lengthy fleeces of these breeds offered a quality of wool that precisely met the needs of the increasing number of woolen mills, especially those producing high-grade yarn and cloth."⁴³³ Over time, Vermonters perfected the sheep breed. Between 1812 and 1865, the weight of fleece compared to the total weight of the sheep expanded from 6% to 21%. In 1820, there were no sheep listed on the Calais grand list. By 1830, there were 2797 sheep on the grand list. Calais' exponential growth mirrored the growth in Vermont's sheep industry.

From 1810-1830 the town's population proliferated. By 1820, Calais had a population of 1,111. By 1830, the population grew to 1,539. As the population grew and the villages became established, demand grew for produced items, and a commercial economy developed.⁴³⁴ While Calais' human population increased significantly, the increasing number of sheep overshadowed the expanding human population.⁴³⁵ Carding and fulling mills benefited immensely from this sheep craze, as some of their production was directed towards export, as well as for local wool processing.

The farms were a system of mixed-husbandry, home-industry, and small-scale family farming. Mixed husbandry meant that Calais farmers did not focus their endeavors on a single product but harvested a variety of crops and animal products. The home industry relied on non-agricultural income to support the farm, including lumbering, clothing, and craft occupations. Small-scale family farming with limited production has consistently characterized most of Vermont's agricultural community. The Vermont farmer is the 'summer farmer, winter woodsman,' and the farm year is an endless cycle of seasonal activities.⁴³⁶

In 1842, Calais participated in the Vermont sheep boom, and farm livestock consisted mainly of sheep (5,409), cattle (2,919), swine (666), and horses (252). Grain production

⁴³² Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

⁴³³ Russell, Howard S. *A Long Deep Furrow, Three Centuries of Farming in New England*.

⁴³⁴ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*.

⁴³⁵ Thompson, Zadock. *Gazetteer of the State of Vermont*. Montpelier: Walton, 1824.

⁴³⁶ Hastings, Scott E. Jr. and Geraldine S. Ames. *The Vermont Farm Year In 1890*. Woodstock: Billings Farm Museum, 1983.

consisted of bushels of oats (18,473), Indian corn (5,089), wheat (3,630), buckwheat (1,394), rye (578), and barley (152). Other farm products included maple sugar (24,420 pounds), potatoes (24,246), wool (14,160 pounds), and hay (5,899 tons).⁴³⁷ By 1850 there were 157 Calais farms with an average of 119 acres that supported more milk cows and horses and fewer sheep, cattle, and hogs. In 1849 these farms produced butter (97,780 pounds) and cheese (63,065 pounds). Thirty years later, in 1879, the farms produced much more butter (205,440 pounds) and less cheese (7,900 pounds).⁴³⁸

East Calais and Agriculture: 1850-1900

During the second half of the nineteenth century, sheep farming for mutton and wool declined and was gradually eclipsed by the dairy industry that, with the arrival of the railroad and the opening of urban markets in southern New England, became Vermont's leading agricultural industry.

The United States Agricultural Census for Vermont, completed between 1850 and 1880, shows diversified farming operations during this last half of the nineteenth century. The records also show consistency in agricultural productions. During this time, sheep raising was the dominant agricultural activity, but East Calais also remained ideal for pasturage and dairying. The East Calais farms of the 1850s were self-sustaining, often having orchards, sheep, broad grain fields, shade trees, cattle barns, and sheep barns. Farms were often improved (tilled, pasture, orchard, and mowing) and unimproved (woodland). The farms produced butter, cheese, orchard products, maple sugar, and wool while they grew wheat, rye, corn, oats, peas, beans, and potatoes. The farm worked with horses and oxen, and there was a relatively small herd of dairy cows. There were a few swine to use for lard and meat. Activities at the farm often included spinning and weaving, and productions such as sausage and soap making.

Israel Dwinell arrived in Calais in 1813 with his new bride Phila Gilman and moved into the house of Joshua Lilley. This house was on East Hill, above the village, and outside of the district boundary. The son of Archelaus and Olive Dwinell of Sutton, Massachusetts, Israel Dwinell previously lived with his parents in Croydon, New Hampshire, and then Marshfield, Vermont. They had ten children, all born in the same house into which they moved the day they were married.

Three of Dwinell's sons remained in East Calais - Ira S. Dwinell, Albert Dwinell, and Levi Gilman. While facing the hardships of early settlement, the Dwinells

⁴³⁷ Thompson, Zadock. *Gazetteer of the State of Vermont*. Montpelier: Walton, 1824.

⁴³⁸ Agricultural Extension Service, University of Vermont, "Agricultural Trends in Calais, Vermont", 1940.

Found means and disposition to give their children advantages which few of their day enjoyed, two of their sons obtaining a collegiate education; the others enjoying advantages above the most.⁴³⁹

Israel Dwinell “lived to the advanced age of eighty-eight years.”⁴⁴⁰ People spoke of Dwinell at his funeral:

He was one of a very few old men, whose bodies have not outlived their minds. He retained in a remarkable degree the strong mental powers, which were his natural endowment. For him, the winter of age was not a time of fruitlessness. When he felt that mortal disease was upon him and realized that through suffering, he must be born into the life of Heaven, he said, ' Pray that God's will—not mine— be done.⁴⁴¹

The Dwinells died “as they had lived. Strong in the faith of the Gospel,’ as said Reverend Mr. Sherburn in the funeral sermon of Mr. Dwinell.”⁴⁴² Phila (Oilman) Dwinell

Was a woman of beautiful character and of superior intelligence. Like her husband, she was ‘strong in the faith of the gospel.’ At every remembrance of her, children arise up and call her blessed.’⁴⁴³

In 1850, Israel Dwinell had 100 acres of improved and sixty acres of unimproved land. The cash value of his farm was \$4000. He had four horses and seven cows. His farms yielded 25 bushels of wheat, 25 bushels of rye, 50 bushels of corn, 155 bushels of oats, 10 bushels of peas, and 500 pounds of Irish potatoes. His 35 sheep produced 115 pounds of wool. He maintained a small fruit orchard that produced \$15 worth of products, and in the spring, his maple trees 56 pounds of maple sugar.

The Dwinell farm produced 20 tons of hay in 1850. A typical nineteenth-century haying day started with “men with scythes” entering

The fields at daybreak and mowed, several men one behind the other, and mowed around the field. Men or boys shook out the windrows of grass to dry and later raked it by hand into windrows and then into tumbles or cocks. Men with forks loaded hay on wagons or carts. It was drawn to the barn, pitched off by hand, and two or more men (depending on the depth of the mow) were in the mow to move (or mow) the hay back.⁴⁴⁴

Ira Ide co-owned the Zephaniah Pierce House (**HD #11**) with Clarence Ainsworth and Oliver Wheelock. He was born in Calais in 1817 and spent his entire 92 years on his East

⁴³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁴⁰ Jewett, Henry Erastus, *Israel Edson Dwinell, D.D.* W.H. Hardy: Oakland, California, 1892.

⁴⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴⁴² Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer.*

⁴⁴³ Jewett, Henry Erastus, *Israel Edson Dwinell, D.D.* W.H. Hardy: Oakland, California, 1892.

⁴⁴⁴ Tarbell, Carroll R. *History of Mount Holly, Vermont.* Self-Published, 1887.

Hill family farm. Known as a “frugal, industrious and successful farmer,” Ide “was true of a disciple of the simple life.”⁴⁴⁵

In addition to running the saw, planing, and shingle-mills, Albert Dwinell (**HD #20**) maintained 12 head of cattle on his 300-acre farm. In 1882, he gave a presentation, titled “Manures,” at the Farmer’s Meeting in North Montpelier. Before his presentation, Dwinell gave “just tribute to Vermont as a state, preferable to most others, and destined, in his opinion, in coming years, to great improvement and successful advance in agricultural development.”⁴⁴⁶ In another speech, in the late 1880s, Dwinell had a bleaker outlook on the state:

Our young men, our men of ability and enterprise, have been and are constantly leaving us. We who are left, are left to suffer loss and feel the paralyzing effect of a virtue, a strength, a motive power, gone out of us.⁴⁴⁷

Zephaniah Pierce ran a general store (**HD #6**) from 1857 to 1874. He was the village postmaster for approximately three years during this time. He also maintained a farm with his wife. In 1860, they had a couple boarding with them, Leis and Sarah Leonard. Leonard, a farm laborer, most likely worked on the Pierce farm. That same year, Zephaniah Pierce had 115 acres of improved and 50 acres of unimproved land with his farmstead valued at \$3500. He had seven cows, eight cattle, two sheep, and one pig. His farm yielded 75 bushels of corn, 270 bushels of oats, 100 pounds of potatoes, ten bushels of buckwheat, and 25 tons of hay. His seven cows produced 1000 pounds of butter and 120 pounds of cheese. His sugarbush produced 300 pounds of maple sugar.

While Asa Alden (**HD #1**) was the village blacksmith and postmaster, he also maintained a small farm. In 1874, the State Board of Agriculture discussed the need to improve the quality of seeds. A speaker referenced Asa Alden (**HD #30**), who “raised the same variety of corn upon the same kind of soil for forty years” and he had no intention “to change his seed until he has tested it more thoroughly.”⁴⁴⁸

The Peck family owned a 97-acre farm south of the village. Wesley Peck also owned the house at 26 Marshfield Road (**HD #4**) and the Moscow Mills (**HD #12**). The Peck farm had eight cows, six horses, 19 head swine, 500 sugar trees, and 100 apple trees. Peck was the inventor of the odorless fertilizers. In 1877, the Pecks

Completed ... a barn that is a compliment to themselves, a credit to their town, and will be a source of comfort to their stock. That of the former is forty-four by sixty

⁴⁴⁵ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 29, 1909.

⁴⁴⁶ *Green Mountain Freeman*, Montpelier, Vermont, February 8, 1882.

⁴⁴⁷ Graff, Chris, “In 2000, Celebrate This Success,” *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, November 26, 2000.

⁴⁴⁸ *Green Mountain Freeman* Montpelier, Vermont, January 15, 1874.

feet; the latter forty-four by seventy-four feet. Each barn has a cellar or basement under the entire building.⁴⁴⁹

In 1882, Peck had 19 head cattle, eight horses, and 160 acres. In 1883, Peck was “running his sawmill, farm, sugar bush, and an egg wagon.”⁴⁵⁰

In 1873, Alonzo Pierce **(HD #21)** was engaged in sheep husbandry. In April, Pierce

Lost a Cotswold ewe equal to the best in Washington County, its weight being 200 lbs. The first clip of wool from here and her mate, they being twins, weighed over 30 lbs., as attested by Z.G. Pierce, who purchased it. The last year’s lamb of her mate weighed 147 lbs. when only eight months and fifteen days old, and is now a fine yearling.⁴⁵¹

Norman Nye originally owned land along Batten Road. In 1860, he was a farmer, living on his father’s Calais farm. In 1863, he operated his farm in Cabot, and in 1870, Nye had his own Calais farm, where he lived with his wife Ledema and two children. By the 1880s, Nye managed farms in Walden, Hardwick, and then Marshfield. During the twentieth century, he raised chickens on his Northfield farm on the Roxbury Road, specializing in Plymouth Rocks and Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds. Nye died in Northfield in 1923 at the age of 87 years old.

Aro Slayton **(HD #8)**, born in East Calais in 1818, and after serving in the Civil War, he moved to Elmore, Vermont, where he built a sawmill and was engaged in the lumber business. He also built bridges specializing in railroad bridges. In 1885 he returned to Calais “onto the farm where he now lives and is giving his attention to its cultivation.”⁴⁵²

Husking Parties

During the 1880s, there were several corn husking parties in East Calais. Indian corn was one of the standard New England products, and it formed an essential part of the food of the community. The people of East Calais did not use much flour instead of using cornbread, Indian pudding, hominy, hasty pudding, and hulled corn. After the farmers harvested the corn in the late autumn, farmers held husking parties in the evenings, rather than taking care of the corn by themselves.

From miles around came the young men and girls, not simply to remove husks from the ears of golden corn, but to have a frolic. Work and play united to chase the hours away, and before midnight the huge pile of maize had vanished.⁴⁵³

⁴⁴⁹ *Green Mountain Freeman* Montpelier, Vermont, August 8, 1877.

⁴⁵⁰ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 25, 1883.

⁴⁵¹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 24, 1873.

⁴⁵² Child, Hamilton, *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Washington County, for 1783-1889*.

⁴⁵³ Perley, Sidney, *The Essex Antiquarian: An Illustrated ... Magazine Devoted to the Biography, Genealogy, History and Antiquities of Essex County, Massachusetts, Volumes 3-4*. Essex Antiquarian, 1899.

Like the barn raisings, the corn husking parties were a combination of work and play. Ida Clee Bemis recalled attending an East Calais husking party as a youth in the 1880s:

On the barn floor, dimly lighted with lanterns, the sweet-smelling hays in mows above, there would be two rows of people sitting facing each other with the corn in the husks piled between them, and everybody husking and talking and laughing. Anyone finding a red ear of corn was supposed to throw it to the person they had a "crush on," and that person was supposed to catch the thrower and kiss him or her. Sometimes it would hit the wrong person, perhaps an old man with whiskers stained with tobacco juice. He would be only too glad to kiss a young girl and then how everyone would laugh and holler! After the corn was husked, everybody went into the house to supper. There would be baked beans and brown bread and all kinds of pies and cheese and new cider.⁴⁵⁴

In 1892, Corn huskings were "all the rage. There was one last week Thursday night at H.W. Bullock's, and one on Friday evening at C.O. Eastman's, where some 70 people gathered, and hushed 250 bushels."⁴⁵⁵ While huskings were popular, time-saving, social events, it did not happen everywhere. As late as 1908, Ira Ide's wife, "who is ninety-one years old, husked this fall, all alone, about 200 bushels of corn."⁴⁵⁶

Calais Farmer's League

During the nineteenth century, East Calais farmers gathered together to share ideas about their trade. In 1876, the Farmer's Meeting gathered in East Calais, which was "well attended by the farmers, their wives, and daughters. There was a fine display of some of the most approved varieties of fruits, vegetables, and seeds; also, samples of butter."⁴⁵⁷ Ira S. Dwinell (**HD #2**) was elected chairman and Dr. George H. Gray (**HD #27**), Secretary. A. Dwinell "opened a spirited discussion on butter-making urging the importance of improving the quality, and the means to be used to accomplish it."⁴⁵⁸

The 1891 Calais Farmer's League Meeting was an active group meeting regularly and discussing topics of the day, such as cooperative stores in the large cities, money tax versus labor tax, use of fertilizers, or cutting oats while green versus when they are ripe.⁴⁵⁹ In addition, Inez Pierce (**HD #21**) presented a paper titled "Mushroom."⁴⁶⁰ The group also

⁴⁵⁴ Bemis, Ida Clee, "A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Clee Bemis,"

⁴⁵⁵ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, October 19, 1892.

⁴⁵⁶ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, October 16, 1908.

⁴⁵⁷ *Green Mountain Freeman* Montpelier, Vermont, March 8, 1876.

⁴⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵⁹ *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, February 26, 1891; *Northfield News*, Northfield, Vermont, February 17, 1892; *Burlington Free Press*, Burlington, Vermont, March 16, 1892.

⁴⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

discussed non-agriculture topics. In December 1892, The Farmer's League met at the schoolhouse to discuss the question of women suffrage.⁴⁶¹

East Calais Grange

Founded in 1867, the Patrons of Husbandry, or the Grange, advanced methods of agriculture, as well as to promote the social and economic needs of farmers. The financial crisis of 1873, along with falling crop prices, increases in railroad fees to ship crops, and the United States Government's reduction of paper money in favor of gold and silver devastated farmers' livelihoods and caused a surge in Grange membership in the mid-1870s.⁴⁶²

The first Subordinate Grange in New England was established in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, in 1871. The Vermont Grange chapters "served an important social and educational function on the state and particularly the local levels ...Four years after its founding in 1871, the number of Subordinate Granges in Vermont had risen to 160 with approximately 6,300 members."⁴⁶³

The East Calais Grange initially established a meeting place in a building known as the "Old Red Shop" located northwest of the river in the vicinity of **HD #43**. The Old Red Shop, formerly part of the Levison & Lamb box factory, had a dance hall on the second floor. Since the unstable building rested on stilts, it was unsuitable for large meetings. The Grange purchased a building, also in the vicinity of **HD #43**, that had an open side basement. The Grange "removed the partitions on the first floor and basement" and installed "a low stage on the first floor," which "provided for meetings, entertainments, and plays put on by village groups and for serving meals in the easily accessible basement."⁴⁶⁴

Agriculture Challenges

The Vermont climate often posed challenges for East Calais farmers. In 1881, the East Calais' field produced corn that was "very small, and we shall probably have a small crop this year. Grass and the grains are looking well."⁴⁶⁵ In 1898, "several farmers of the town have had their cows tested for tuberculosis, but so far no animals have been found."⁴⁶⁶

Lye

Henry Carley (**HD #14**) was a Civil War veteran who raised pigs but primarily lived off of his pension. During the early twentieth century, Carley performed the annual ritual for making lye for making homemade soap. Carley

⁴⁶¹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, December 14, 1892.

⁴⁶² "The Grange Movement, 1875," Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Accessed, October 27, 2018.

⁴⁶³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶⁴ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁴⁶⁵ *Green Mountain Freeman*, Montpelier, Vermont, June 22, 1881.

⁴⁶⁶ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, April 27, 1898.

Set up a sloping platform which had grooves around the edges and coming together in the middle of the front where the liquid would run off into receptacles. The platform would hold two or three barrels which he filled with hardwood ashes. He would then add water to the ashes, which he continued to do until the run-off liquid appeared to begin to appear clear. So far as we knew, this was the only operation of this kind in the village.⁴⁶⁷

Maple Sugaring

During the winter, farmers headed into the timber lots to cut firewood and log timber for lumber. During the spring, many Vermont farmers started the maple sugaring process. The farmers attached a sled to their draft horses and headed up into the woodlot to tap their trees. As maple sugar and syrup production increased, farmers started to sell their maple products to centralized processors rather than on the farm.

In April 1872, the East Calais farming community was

Making but little headway in sugaring, and some orchards are still held by the snow blockade. The past few days have caused a heavy disappearance of snow, but there is enough left yet, although the softened condition renders travel anything but agreeable. Fodder for stock is short, and those who are compelled to move it find the roads almost impassable.⁴⁶⁸

In the spring, there were “sugar offs.” Maple sap was “placed in a large square pan which fitted on top of a brick arch with a fire under it.”⁴⁶⁹ They boiled the sap until it turned to syrup and

When it was nearly done, it would boil up to the top of the pan, and they would put large spoonfuls of cream into it to keep it from boiling over ... Just before the syrup was ready, we would dip some out into dishes and pour it out on pans of hard-packed snow. Then eat and eat, then eat a pickle, then more sugar and so on ad infinitum. They used to whittle out little paddles to eat the sugar with. Of course, we could have used spoons, but it tasted better with paddles. When the syrup was ready, it was poured into pails and tubs. They used mostly ten-pound pails and sold it for \$1.00 a pail.⁴⁷⁰

Frank Gray performed various jobs in the East Calais, doing work for local farmers and the sawmills. During the spring of 1899, he performed a variety of maple sugar-related jobs. His diary entries include “good sap day, gathered some,” “gathered and boiled today,”

⁴⁶⁷ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁴⁶⁸ *Green Mountain Freeman* Montpelier, Vermont, April 10, 1872.

⁴⁶⁹ Bemis, Ida Clee, “A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Clee Bemis,”

⁴⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

“boiling sap today, syruping off,” “went to the creamery and sugared off,” and “washed tubs and finished sugaring.”⁴⁷¹

East Calais and Agriculture: 1900-1951

During the first three decades of the twentieth century, farms focused more exclusively on dairying as their primary agricultural activity, particularly as the trend towards fluid milk production developed. As Calais entered the twentieth century, the town shared an agricultural narrative shared by towns throughout Vermont and New England. Beginning soon after the American Civil War, the stony and infertile land and the hardscrabble subsistence farming eventually led “to widespread farm abandonment in preference for Midwestern prairie lands.”⁴⁷² While the soil was a contributing element to the decline, it was also the sheer size of Midwestern farms that made it difficult for smaller Vermont farms to maintain a competitive edge.

While there was a widespread decline, there were still agricultural activities in Calais. 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.⁴⁷³

Before purchasing the store (**HD #6**), Ivan and Ola Gray farmed on the Warren Leonard Farm in Calais. While living at the Simeon Webb House (**HD #25**), the Grays maintained a small farm, having both horses and oxen. At the 1912 Calais Grange Fair, Gray won honors for his oxen.

During the early twentieth century, William Waite lived at the Waite House (**HD #40**) and owned a 50-acre farm approximately one mile north of the village. The land consisted of ten acres of meadowland, with the rest of it being pasture land. They had two cows, one bull, and there was only a shed on the farmland. They broke the bull, which provided all of the power on the farm. Keeping his animals in the barn next to the extant house, Waite took the animals up to farm every day.

The animal was driven with reins, and with a bit just like a horse. During the Spring and Summer months, it was a common but interesting site to see Mr. Waite seated

⁴⁷¹ Diary of Frank Gray, Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont

⁴⁷² Bell, Michael M. *Did New England Go Downhill?* Geographical Review, Vol. 79, No. 4. October, 1989

⁴⁷³ 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.

on a two-wheel cart drawn by the bull and tethered to the axle of the cart one or two cows being led to pasture. Late in the afternoon, the return trip would be made. During haying and harvesting, a four-wheel wagon would be used and a small load of hay being hauled to the barn with the cows being led behind. Later, the load might be some corn with pumpkins on top.⁴⁷⁴

In addition to being the proprietor of the tin shop (**HD #42**), George Sanders operated a farm, specializing in potatoes. He used certified seed, and his field “passed the various inspections of leafroll, mosaic, blight, etc.”⁴⁷⁵ Sanders sold his potatoes to Long Island farmers for seed. During the 1920s, the trend of supplying southern farmers was “steadily increasing” as northern seeds were “more vigorous and hardier” and did “not deteriorate as rapidly from the effects of the warm climate.”⁴⁷⁶

Farmer’s Exchange

Between 1914 and 1918, farmers’ exchanges organized and incorporated in five Vermont counties to collectively buy farm supplies such as feed, fertilizer, and seeds. Harold Dwinell described the growth of Farmer’s Exchanges in Calais and Washington County:

The Washington County Farmer’s Exchange was one of the first to be created in the state. Opportunities for farmers to buy grain and already mixed stock feed rations at the railroad siding at near wholesale process became popular. Corn for grinding planting declined, and the need for gristmill services faded. The Farmers Exchanges established warehouses and truck delivery services so members could have feed delivered to their farms still at lower prices than was necessary for local feed dealers to charge Moreover, the Exchanges also made available seed and fertilizer at bulk purchase costs.⁴⁷⁷

East Calais Grange

The East Calais Grange continued to have active membership in the twentieth century. Starting in 1908, it put on annual fairs featuring displays, exhibits, and entertainment. In 1910, 500 people attended the 3rd annual fair that featured a “display of livestock” and an “exhibition in the floral hall” that “was equal to and better than any shown at county fairs.”⁴⁷⁸ The committee recognized Clarence R. Dwinell (**HD #10**) for his broodmare/colt and Colombian Wyandottes; Durwood D. Lamb (**HD #2**) for his Grade Ayrshire Bull and Holstein Cow and Walter Coates (**HD #27**) for his Blue Andalusians. Two years later, 600 people attended the East Calais Grange Fair with a dinner for 250 attendees and music provided by the Woodbury Brass Band. Durwood D. Lamb (**HD #2**) won again with the first

⁴⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷⁷ 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.’”

⁴⁷⁸ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, July 8, 1910.

prize for registered Ayrshire breed, and the fair recognized George Sanders (**HD #1** and **HD #28**) and Forrest Gray (**HD #23**) for their Holstein bulls.

The 1917 Grange officers included Lee Tebbetts (**HD #9**), Carroll J. Lamb (**HD #7**), Durwood D. Lamb (**HD #2**). Austin Gove, the proprietor of Coates & Gove (**HD #6**), was a master of the East Calais grange in 1918. During the First World War, the Grange fair featured a Red Cross sale to support the soldiers and war effort. East Calais community members offered swine, seed corn, and bushels of potatoes for sale.⁴⁷⁹

Trapping

Several East Calais residents supplemented their income through raising and trapping animals for their pelts. John Slayton (**HD #8**) raised mink and had a slaughterhouse close to the house. Earl and Bertha Leonard ran the farm at the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**) as well as raised raccoon for their fur.

The Mills and Agriculture

Several East Calais stores sold items targeted for the East Calais agriculture community. At the tin shop (**HD #42**), George Sanders sold the Eclipse Corn Planter “for planting ensilage and field corn, beans, peas and seeds in hills, drills or checks; For distributing fertilizers, ashes, hen manure - wet or dry.”⁴⁸⁰ A. Dwinell and Sons (**HD #12**) was a dealer in Pratt’s Food – “a sure egg producer, fattener and regulator,” and “flour and all kinds of feed, custom grinding a specialty.”⁴⁸¹ They also sold “mixed feed, bran and cottonseed,” which were “a favorite seed here.”⁴⁸² In 1904, Dwinell’s

Oats are selling well, as they are good quality and low in price. Pastures are at their best now, and the feed trade is correspondingly low. The corn is slow-growing, owing to cold weather and much rain. Growing grass looks fine.⁴⁸³

East Calais Dairy Operations

Starting in the 1870s, butter replaced cheese as the leading commercial dairy produce. The use of iced butter cars on the Central Vermont and Rutland railways enabled Vermont farmers to establish butter markets in southern New England. The growing urban market, the need for standardization, and the introduction of the centrifugal cream separator in 1884 stimulated the development of butter factories or creameries.

For a brief period, the Capital Creamery Company of Boston operated a creamery near the Daniels-Bemis House (**HD #8**). The company also owned facilities in East Montpelier, Washington, and Williamstown. Cream from the East Calais station was “delivered at the

⁴⁷⁹ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, September 18, 1918.

⁴⁸⁰ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, May 9, 1894.

⁴⁸¹ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, 1903.

⁴⁸² *American Hay, Flour and Feed Journal*, Volumes 5-7, Wm. R. Gregory Company, 1904.

⁴⁸³ *Ibid.*

corner and taken by the company to Montpelier.”⁴⁸⁴ Harold Dwinell recalled a creamery building on this property and “going with grandfather’s hired man as he conveyed on a wheelbarrow one or two cans of milk to this building.”⁴⁸⁵ In 1897, the East Calais farmers “decided to build a creamery, and directors were chosen to locate the building and carry on the work.”⁴⁸⁶ The new creamery, which attracted “the farmers for a considerable radius,” was located on the western edge of the village on the North Calais road.⁴⁸⁷

Frank Gray (**HD #23**), who performed a variety of odd jobs in East Calais, often worked for the local dairy farmers. His diary entries from the late nineteenth century include “went to the creamery, paid Dell Dwinell 34 dollars;” “done chores and went with milk;” “cut a little wood today, went with the milk, carried George Sanders’ milk;” and “went with milk and carried out potatoes.”⁴⁸⁸ During the winter, there were approximately 80 Creamery patrons, a number which rose to over 110 during the busy summer season. Harold Dwinell recalled the creamery operations:

The creamery was also, to some extent, a seasonal high operation too. Dairy cows usually provide a flush of milk after turned out to pasture in the spring. Pasture feeding was low-cost feeding, so farmers bred their cows or most of them to freshen in the early spring, so milk production would be held to a high level through the lush pasture season. Thus, milk deliveries to the creamery and the butter production per day was greatest during the spring and early summer. The creamery needed a large supply of ice for use in the butter hardening storage room, which was harvested from the millpond. As milk receiving, sampling, separating, churning, and butter processing and packing were daily operations two workers including the manager, were needed much of the year. During the weeks of lowest milk deliveries, one man could usually handle the full operation.⁴⁸⁹

After running the lower grist mill for several years, Guy Bancroft (**HD #34**), attended the University of Vermont’s dairy program. Upon his graduation, he returned to East Calais and ran the creamery. George Sanders, the proprietor of the tin shop (**HD #42**) and resident of the **HD #1** and **HD #28**, was the treasurer of the East Calais Pleasant Valley Creamery during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Agriculture Challenges

Like all Vermont farmers, the East Calais agriculture community faced challenges, either caused by nature or regulation. A 1902 storm “did much damage to the crops and to the

⁴⁸⁴ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, May 20, 1896

⁴⁸⁵ 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.”

⁴⁸⁶ *Argus and Patriot*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 3, 1897.

⁴⁸⁷ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁴⁸⁸ Diary of Frank Gray, Forrest Alvin “Strad” Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447.

⁴⁸⁹ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

highways in this section ... fields of oats, corn, and grassland look as though rivers had been over them, and potatoes were dug before ready for market ... At six o'clock, the water in the millpond was the highest it has been in years."⁴⁹⁰

During the early twentieth century, Calais farmers faced the dual challenge of decreasing property values and a climbing tax rate. In 1892, the East Calais grand list was \$5,587.23, with a tax rate of \$.75. In 1923, the grand list decreased to \$5,467.35, with the tax rate increasing to \$3.50. During this period, the population of Calais decreased by 310. During the 1920s, Calais felt "very acutely the burden of abandoned farms."⁴⁹¹ In most cases, the farmhouses remained occupied, but the lands were not being used to their full capacity.

In December 1952, a snow storm-ravaged Calais, "that piled up on power and telephone lines, bent down young trees, broke old limbs, crushed roofs on barns and outbuildings, blocked roads and generally set the community back into the days and ways of 25 to 50 years ago."⁴⁹² The farmers of Calais were "milking by hand in the light of kerosene lanterns, hauling water in milk cans for thirsty stock. Some hitched up tractors or jeeps or other gasoline engines, but all the power-operated gas pumps had shut down."⁴⁹³

Maple Sugaring

In late March of 1901, several Calais farmers "began work in their sugar orchards last Friday."⁴⁹⁴ With annual thawing from the long winter, there was a ritual of farmers heading up into the woodlots. It was during these spring months, and there was "no time of the year when the farmer has so many friends as during the sugar season, and they dispense their products very generously to all who visit their camps."⁴⁹⁵

In 1912, the State of Vermont manufactured 7,117,071 pounds of maple sugar, and the produced 433,750 1/2 gallons of maple syrup with 5,190,401 trees tapped. Washington County made over 600,000 pounds of sugar and 12,125 gallons of maple syrup. There were improvements in maple sugaring process, most notably scientific data available through the University of Vermont Experiment Station's bulletins such as *Maple Sugar*, *The Maple Sap Flow*, *Buddy Sap*, and *Micro-organisms of Maple Sap*.⁴⁹⁶ In 1913, many East Calais farmers refrained from "sugaring this season, owing to unfavorable weather. Sugar runs darker in color, and is generally expected to bring high prices."⁴⁹⁷

⁴⁹⁰ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, August 6, 1902.

⁴⁹¹ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁴⁹² *Calais Independent*, Calais, Vermont, December 19, 1952.

⁴⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹⁴ *Vermont Watchman and State Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 27, 1901.

⁴⁹⁵ *Montpelier Morning Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, March 25, 1910.

⁴⁹⁶ Crockett, Walter, *How Vermont Maple Sugar is Made*, Vermont Department of Agriculture, No. 21, March, 1915.

⁴⁹⁷ *Barre Daily Times*, Barre, Vermont, April 7, 1913.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the East Calais tin shop (**HD #42**) and hardware stores found a new opportunity during the maple sugar season. Initially, sugaring was primarily for home use, either used for sweetening or preserving food. In 1904, George C. Cary of the St. Johnsbury company, Cary Maple Sugar Company, promoted the use of maple sugar as a flavoring agent for tobacco and cigarettes, resulting in a demand for maple sugar containers. Using wire bail, the East Calais tin shop started making galvanized smokestacks for sap evaporators and ten-pound containers. In 1972, Forrest "Strad" Gray recalled the pail making process:

When you soldered the pails, you had a kerosene stove. And we heat the copper (soldering iron) in that. Well, you get the copper in there good and hot. And to tell when it's hot enough [to] solder, you put it to your face. You can tell by the feeling if it's hot enough [to] solder. You take the copper and put it right near your face. Well, if you begin to blister, then you can give it to your garry[Sic] ...⁴⁹⁸

In the 1920s, Calais boasted "very good sugar orchards," but the "block and bobbin industries" made "heavy inroads on some of the older maple stands."⁴⁹⁹ The Calais farmers witnessed an increase in demand for maple syrup versus the traditional sugar. As the maple sugar companies provided cans, Calais farmers were not required to purchase the expensive containers.

During the early 1950s, Several Calais farmers participated in the Upper Winooski Sugar Festival. By this time, the amount of maple sugar operations had decreased in Calais "because trees have been cut off or lost in the hurricane, equipment is expensive and labor the same."⁵⁰⁰

Corn Roasts

During the summer, the East Calais children visited a farm on East Hill, where they built a huge bonfire. While the initial intent was to roast corn, the kids usually ended up cooking hot dogs and roasting marshmallows.

Farming in the 1950s

In 1953, Calais farms were increasing in size as "the larger farm increases in labor and capital efficiency with resulting higher returns on the farmer's investment. It has paid dairy farmers to have high rates of production of milk per cow. Most of the local farms grow mainly perennial hay; fewer small grains and potatoes are grown than 24 years ago, and about the same amount of corn. The use of fertilizer and lime has increased from 13 to 20; the number of horses decreased greatly. Milk production per cow rose from 191 lbs.

⁴⁹⁸ Interview with Forrest "Strad" Gray, Oral History Project, Erlene Leonard Files, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁴⁹⁹ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁵⁰⁰ *Calais Independent*, Calais, Vermont, March 27, 1953.

butterfat to 270 lb. in 1950. The gain was closely related to the amount of grain-fed. Although the number of acres and the number of cows increased per farm, the labor forces stayed the same, so that the rise in labor efficiency amounted to about 25 to 30%. Butterfat production per man increased by about 50% in ten years.”⁵⁰¹

Criterion A: Education

East Calais and Education: 1850-1951

In 1826, the community applied to the selectman to organize a school district in East Calais. At this time, teachers held classes in various homes in the area. In 1837, the town voted to build a school located near the Alonzo Pierce House (**HD #21**). The town moved the schoolhouse on rollers to the Wesley Peck House (**HD #4**), where it was attached to the house and used as a kitchen. In 1863, D.B. Fay (**HD #7**) donated land to the Calais School District #12. (Figure 24) This land previously was the site of the home of Shubael Wheeler. It was a small, rectangular-plan building with a center entrance, a single room, and a belfry.



Figure 24 Calais School, District #12 (Vermont Historical Society)

⁵⁰¹ Ibid.

The seventeen-year-old Alma Davis Leonard began teaching in East Calais in 1871. She taught in Calais schools for several years and became Calais School Superintendent for forty years. Upon her death in 1936, Nora Gallagher wrote of Leonard:

Plain living and high thinking were her chosen way of life. She loved Vermont and this town and served both well. For most of her active life since childhood, she taught school, mostly in this town and village (East Calais) - and for so many terms that even she lost count of them - thus impressing three generations of children, with her clear good sense and high ideals. She has often been called the best teacher the town ever produced, and I think no one ever disputed it.⁵⁰²

There was a wood room on the inside, and it was the pupils' responsibility to keep the stove stoked during the winter months. A student ritual was the cleaning of the slates. On the sidewall of the classroom "just inside the boys' door was a shelf that held the water pail, tin dipper and hand basin" and there was a daily ritual in which the teacher chose two students "to 'pass the water' and 'wet the sponges.'"⁵⁰³ The students passed the dipper around the room, and "every pupil drank out of the same dipper."⁵⁰⁴ The other student "who 'wet the sponges' passed the hand basin with water in it to each pupil to wet his sponge," which was used to erase the work performed on their slates.⁵⁰⁵ During planting and harvest seasons, there were about 15 pupils in school and approximately 25 or 30 in winter "when farm work was slack."⁵⁰⁶ The teachers taught the East Calais students reading, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, writing, geography, U.S. History, and physiology.

Criterion A: Religion

East Calais and Religion: 1824-1951

The Calais pioneers were "reared under church influences, and early formed religious societies" meeting first in private homes, barns, and later in schoolhouses.⁵⁰⁷ A variety of itinerant elders conducted services, such as marriages and baptisms, in Early Calais. These religious leaders "generally had no formal religious training, having learned their calling from older colleagues."⁵⁰⁸

⁵⁰² Gallagher, Mrs. Nora, "Alma Davis Leonard," Wheelock Reunion, East Calais, September 5, 1936, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁵⁰³ Ibid.

⁵⁰⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁰⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁰⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁰⁷ *Souvenir Booklet Commemorating Centennial Celebration of East Calais Union Chapel, East Calais, Vermont, August 28-29, 1948.*

⁵⁰⁸ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont.*

In 1824, there were five religious societies in Calais: Baptists, Congregationalists, Universalists, Methodists, and Freewill Baptists, and "the greatest harmony prevails among them."⁵⁰⁹

In 1846, the East Calais community met

To form a society for the purposes of procuring a site, building and keeping in repair there on a house of public worship: that we may secure to individuals of different sectarian principles of Religion, equal rights, and privileges as well as to promote the peace, harmony, and goodwill of society.⁵¹⁰

The men who signed the Articles of Association of the Union Chapel Association were "Universalists, Christians, Methodists, Congregationalists, and Spiritualists, along with one Free Inquirer."⁵¹¹ They included members of the Dwinell family, Guernsey family, Charles Dudley(**HD #10**), Samuel Rich (**HD #20**), Asa Alden(**HD #30**), James H. Cole(**HD #29**), Alonzo Pierce(**HD #21**), Shubael Wheeler (**HD #12**), Zephaniah G. Pierce(**HD #42**), William S. Orcutt. The Clerks of the Union Chapel Association included Nelson Chase, Alonzo D. Pierce (**HD #21**), Alonzo Pierce (**HD #21**), Ira S. Dwinell (**HD #2**), Asa Alden (**HD #30**), Albert Dwinell (**HD #20**), Joseph Leonard, Zephaniah G. Pierce (**HD #42**), Levi G. Dwinell (**HD #2**), and Dell B. Dwinell (**HD #19**). Ira S. Dwinell's inn hosted the first meeting of the Union Chapel Association in 1847.

The group raised money for the purchase of land and construction of a building by selling pews. The house was "to be located at or near the top of the hill nearly south of the dwelling house of Ira Dwinell at East Calais, on a site to be procured at an expense not exceeding thirty dollars."⁵¹² The land cost \$50, and the building cost was \$1,049.90. Gilman Guernsey (**HD #36**) "built the chapel after first carrying on his back from the mill to the church site most of the lumber used in the construction."⁵¹³ Daniel Keniston, who lived on a farm on the north side of Batten Road, did the stonework for the chapel. Two of East Calais' young boys, Warren Earl Bliss and George Guernsey (**HD #26**), apparently helped with the construction by climbing the ladders and delivering the wooden framing pegs to the workmen.⁵¹⁴

The church dedicated the building in 1847 with remarks by elder Bennett Palmer, a native of Calais. Reverends Warren, Hemming, and Wheeler also assisted in the dedication

⁵⁰⁹ Thompson, Zadock. *Gazetteer of the State of Vermont. Montpelier.*

⁵¹⁰ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais. Vermont.*

⁵¹¹ Cate, Weston A. Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais. Vermont.*

⁵¹² Articles of Association, Union Chapel Association, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁵¹³ Ibid.

⁵¹⁴ *Souvenir Booklet Commemorating Centennial Celebration of East Calais Union Chapel, East Calais, Vermont, August 28-29, 1948.*

services. The chapel was most likely completed by December 18, 1847, as a special meeting of Union Chapel Association was held “at their meeting house” on this date.⁵¹⁵

At the 1848 meeting, the association voted to allow for singing schools in the chapel. At the 1851 meeting, the association voted to build a row of horse sheds behind the church. In 1879 and 1880, “the Universalists of Calais have had meetings of their order, one service each Sabbath in East Calais, and each alternate Sabbath in the west part of the town.”⁵¹⁶ At this time, there were approximately 100 families in Calais. Since they were “scattered all over town,” it was “difficult to get one-half to meet at any one place, and meetings were held in different places.”⁵¹⁷

The had the talent of Alonzo Pierce and Alonzo D. Pierce (**HD #21**) to lead singing during church services.⁵¹⁸ The Carley family (**HD #14**) were “faithful church members” with the elder Henry Carley serving as the deacon for many years.⁵¹⁹ Carley often led prayer services, and his son, George, “was a fine tenor voice and sung in the church choir quite faithfully and frequently would join ... in a quartette for singing at a funeral.”⁵²⁰

Walter J. Coates (**HD #27**), who later became the proprietor of the Coates & Gove store (**HD #6**), was also a reverend. Before moving to East Calais, Coates often frequented East Calais as a guest preacher. In 1901, the Ladies’ League, “voted to engage Walter Coates of Canton, NY to preach three Sundays during the Christmas vacation.”⁵²¹

While five different denominations used the church during the 19th century, the Universalists and Congregationalists, “two somewhat but weakly active groups merged to form the present East Calais Community Church.”⁵²² The new group associated itself with the United Church of Christ and became part of the Woodbury-Calais Parish.

Dwinell Family and Religion

Israel and Phila Dwinell “were known for their religious piety and commitment to education.”⁵²³ The characteristic that “distinguished this family was their deep interest in religion and the importance they placed upon the education of their children.”⁵²⁴ The Dwinells, “shortly after settling in life ...made a profession of religion, and were for many years connected with the church known as ‘the Marshfield and Calais Church.’”⁵²⁵ In later

⁵¹⁵ The East Calais Union Chapel, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁵¹⁶ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

⁵¹⁷ Ibid.

⁵¹⁸ Ibid.

⁵¹⁹ Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁵²⁰ Ibid.

⁵²¹ *The Daily Journal*, Montpelier, Vermont, November 19, 1901.

⁵²² Dwinell Family Papers, Dwinell Homestead Association, East Calais, Vermont.

⁵²³ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

⁵²⁴ Ibid.

⁵²⁵ Ibid.

years they were connected with the Christian Church of the town, they "dying as they had lived. Strong in the faith of the Gospel, as said Rev. Mr. Sherburn in the funeral sermon of Mr. Dwinell."⁵²⁶

Israel Edson Dwinell, the son of Ira Dwinell, "resided on his father's farm until about 18 years of age."⁵²⁷ He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1843 and then attended the Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He was a pastor in Salem, Massachusetts, and then Sacramento, California. Dr. Dwinell wrote and published several sermons and articles and received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of Vermont in 1864.

It was to his mother that Dr. Dwinell was chiefly indebted for the impetus given to his intellectual aspirations. Like all other New England boys of that time, he attended 'the little red school-house' in winter, and worked on his father's farm in summer; but there were long winter evenings then, as now, and though East Calais was but a hamlet, where active men cultivated the ungenerous soil, or chopped down for winter fires the beech and birch, and made sugar from the maple, and where industrious women added to their household duties the spinning of flax and wool, the little village among the hills had its public library, modest indeed, yet of unspeakable value to such as had any aspirations after knowledge. The mother encouraged his love of books, guided his tastes, and favored his plans for further study. It was a not uncommon event for him to be ensconced in some corner, absorbed in a book, while others of the family were "doing the chores." If the natural inquiry was raised, 'Why can't Edson do this?' the mother's ready reply was, 'Oh, Edson is reading.'⁵²⁸

During the 1850s, Israel Dwinell spent "parts of the months of July and August ... at Calais, on vacation. These days of vacation in Vermont were always delightful to him. Often preaching in the village church on the Lord's day, he gave up the rest of the week to unreserved enjoyment of the familiar scenes and friends around him."⁵²⁹

Albert Dwinell (HD #20) was a long-time member of the Congregational Church and served as superintendent of the Sunday-school,

And his efforts on behalf of the church have been far-reaching and beneficial. To know Albert Dwinell is to esteem and honor him, for his life has been upright, and in all its relations, he has been true to duty and to the trust reposed in him.⁵³⁰

⁵²⁶ Hemenway, Abby Maria, *The History of Washington County in the Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

⁵²⁷ Jewett, Henry Erastus, *Israel Edson Dwinell, D.D.* W.H. Hardy: Oakland, California, 1892.

⁵²⁸ Ibid.

⁵²⁹ Ibid.

⁵³⁰ 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.

The Sunday School summer picnic was an annual event when the community “all put on our best clothes and drove to some sugar woods and took our lunch.”⁵³¹ The picnic featured a speech by Dwinell and then a form of entertainment. He also served as treasurer of the Washington County Sunday School Association. Mrs. A. Dwinell was also active in church affairs, as she was president of the Universalist Ladies’ League, which provided financial aid to the Universalist Society of Calais.

Clarence Dwinell followed in his father’s footsteps, serving the Sunday School for a long time. In 1931, the church Sunday School elected Clarence Dwinell as auditor, a position he held for 25 years. During the late twentieth century, Christian Endeavor meetings were held every Tuesday evening at D.B. Dwinell’s home.

Criterion C: Architecture

East Calais and Architecture: 1800-1850

East Calais was one of the later settled villages in Calais. The earliest houses in East Calais are the Dwinell Homestead (**HD #20**), Zephaniah Pierce House (**HD #11**), the Putnam-Alden House (**HD #30**) and the George-Marsh House (**HD #29**). They were located in the northeastern section of town, closest to the industries on the Kingsbury Branch. Built by Samuel Rich, the Dwinell Homestead (**HD #20**) was an eaves front Federal Style home. George and Putnam built simple Cape Style Houses, on adjacent lots. They were sited perpendicular to each other, reflecting the town’s initial plans to build a village green. There is a tract of town-owned land in front of both of these houses. The now-destroyed Shubael Wheeler House was at the western end of the East Calais School (**HD #37**) parking lot. Its front (west) elevation fronted the planned green.

East Calais and Architecture: 1850-1900

The district has many examples of the regionally characteristic, mid-nineteenth-century, sidehall plan front-gable Greek Revival houses. By the 1830s, the Greek Revival style was spreading throughout Vermont, popularized in part by newly published handbooks for carpenters. Greek Revival became the official state architecture with Ammi B. Young’s (1798-1874) design of the Vermont State House in 1838. Inspired by the ancient architecture of Greece that had been adopted by the popular culture, builders used the Greek Revival style for houses and churches. In Calais, most of the stylistic emphasis is on the main entry, a paneled door flanked by pilasters and usually surrounded by a full transom light. The surviving Greek Revival houses in the district are the work of local joiners and carpenters who continued craft traditions passed on by experienced

⁵³¹ Bemis, Ida Cleo. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”
Sections 9-end page 141

builders.⁵³² Well-preserved examples of Greek Revival, sidehall plan style are the D.B. Fay House **(HD #6)**, Wheeler-Bemis House **(HD #8)**, and Wheelock-Dudley **(HD #10)** House. The c. 1856 Alonzo Clark House is an example of eaves front Greek Revival style house. While most of the Greek Revival houses in East Calais are 1 1/2 stories, the c. 1867 Ira Dwinell House **(HD #2)** and the c. 1870 White-Sanders House **(HD #1)** are two stories with the Ira Dwinell House featuring distinctive quoins.

Large numbers of the one- and two-story houses in the district have the distinctive front- or side-gable forms and massing common to the region but little to no architectural detailing of any particular style. Examples are th the two general stores, the Clarence Dwinell Store **(HD #24)** and the Pierce-Benjamin store **(HD #6)**.

Built in 1900, the Dwell Dwinell house **(HD #19)** stands out in the village. Built with a flat roof and featuring decorative trim work, the house resembles a nineteenth-century commercial structure rather than a residence.

A few of the larger houses built in the mid-to-late nineteenth century in East Calais possess high-style designs. The 1867 Ira Dwinell House has pedimented gables with ornamented cornices, carved cornice brackets, corner quoins, and elaborate door and window surrounds. There are three Italianate houses - the c. 1867 Bancroft House **(HD #18)**, the c. 1870 Simeon Webb House **(HD #25)** and the c. 1877 Wesley Peck House **(HD #4)**. These are two-story buildings adorned with paired cornice brackets and belvederes.

Owners updated many of the nineteenth-century houses with stylish details and additions. Several houses had porches added, including Dwinell Homestead **(HD #20)** and the Daniels-Bemis House **(HD #8)**. The Wheelock Dudley House **(HD #10)** has a sidehall plan evocative of the Greek revival Style, and th owners added with corner brackets. The Pierce Store **(HD #25)** had a distinctive polygonal bay addition.

East Calais and Architecture: 1900-1951

When Albert Dwinell improved the Moscow Mills site **(HD #12)**, several vernacular buildings were built to accommodate the labor pool. They included the c. 1890 Lewis Leonard House **(HD #32)**, the c. 1900 Waite House **(HD #40)** and the c. 1890 Dwinell-Foote House **(HD #16)**. Most of the twentieth-century residences constructed within the district possess elements of the Colonial Revival style, the dominant national architectural style through the late 1950s. Colonial Revival style homes include the c. 1928 Bumpus House **(HD #33)**, c. 1938 Blodgett-Cate house **(HD #38)** and the c. 1939 Rudolph Leonard House **(HD #15)**. Post-World War Two houses include the Vera Lamb House **(HD #31)**, the Batchelder House **(HD #13)**, the Dana-Duke House **(HD #35)**, and the Cate House **(HD #39)**.

⁵³² Johnson, John. *Kent's Corner Historic District National Register Calais, Washington County, Vermont.*

Criterion D: Archaeology

The park was 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.

Ira Dwinell's hotel was close to the east elevation of the Daniels–Bemis House (**HD #8**) in the 19th century. Subsequent hotel owners were Phineas Wheeler and James Morse. Fire destroyed the building in 1873. Following the fire, Jacob Lamb built a new building on the site, using the building as his residence and a new hotel. It was a 2 ½ story, three by five, gable-front building with a side ell. 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. A fire destroyed by the barn in 1873. When the Goodell property was put up for auction in 1880, Jacob Lamb purchased the land, which contained the Allen Goodell shop. This 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.”⁵³³ The Goodell property became the Lamb & Mullin sawmill. The company used the Moscow Lodge building (**HD#43**) across the river for storage. They also built a large two-story kiln, between the Lamb House and the tin shop, that fronted Route 14. 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.”⁵³⁴ Erlene Leonard recalled the footbridge 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.⁵³⁵

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

⁵³³ Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont

⁵³⁴ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁵³⁵ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

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 it 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.”⁵³⁶

The tin shop was responsible for most of the house roofs, porch roofs, eaves spouts, chimney flashing, and drip edges on houses throughout the village. During World War Two, the post office was in the tin shop. Erlene Leonard recalled:

I remember buying defense stamps during World War II. Just about anything you wanted could be found in this store, and if it couldn't, Strad Gray could probably make you one.⁵³⁷

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**).

There was a road that followed the north side of the Kingsbury Brook, leading from Moscow Mills Road. To the west of **HD #10** and **HD #11**, and north of the river from **HD #42**, was the site of the Moscow Lodge/ Old Red Shop, the lower Grist Mill, and Ed George's harness shop. These buildings were located on the north side of the Kingsbury Branch and were immediately across the river from **HD #8** and **HD #9**. There are several foundations associated with these buildings and evidence of a road leading from Moscow Mills Road to the eastern edge of the district. Some abutments were likely part of the footbridge that spanned the river as well as parts of the penstock. The Moscow Lodge/Old Red Shop was 2½ story, gable roof building. Built into a hillside, there was a lower central entrance on the eaves side and a second story, gable end entrance on the east end. A porch spanned the first story and covered the second story entrance. There was a dance hall on the second floor, “only as the house was built on a sidehill, the entrance to the hall was on the ground floor and reached by a narrow footbridge.”⁵³⁸ The East Calais Grange initially established a meeting place at the “Old Red Shop.” The unstable building was built on stilts and was unsuitable for large meetings, so the Grange found a new meeting place. To the east, there is the foundation of the old powerhouse. Further to the east, at the end of the road, there is a clearing that was the old ball fields.

Conclusion

With the gradual decline of agriculture, the closing of the gristmill, and the fire at the Lamb & Mullin factory, East Calais transitioned from an agriculture/industrial hamlet to a

⁵³⁶ Calais Land Records, Town of Calais, Calais, Vermont

⁵³⁷ Erlene Leonard Diary, Erlene Leonard Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

⁵³⁸ Bemis, Ida Cleo. “A Walk through the Village of East Calais, Vermont, in the Late Nineteenth Century.”
Sections 9-end page 144

primarily residential community. With Moscow Mills (**HD #12**) occupied by a variety of cottage industries and the Clarence Dwinell Store (**HD #24**) continued to be operated as a village general store, there are vestiges of East Calais' commercial past continuing on into the twenty-first century. Many of the residential homes retain their integrity and are important in relaying the history of the community. The once-bustling village of East Calais with homes, mills, stores, manufacturing shops are understood from the historic residences and commercial buildings clustered along both sides of the Kingsbury Branch, as well as the remaining dams, mill pond, and foundation walls, which are all that remain to tell the story of the mill activity that once flourished in this rural community.⁵³⁹

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Newspapers

Argus and Patriot, Montpelier, Vermont.

Barre Daily Times, Barre, Vermont.

Burlington Free Press, Burlington, Vermont.

Calais Independent, Elizabeth Kent Gay, ed., Calais.

Daily Vermont Patriot, Montpelier, Vermont.

Express and Standard, Newport, Vermont.

Green Mountain Freeman, Montpelier, Vermont.

Hardwick Gazette, Hardwick, Vermont.

Montpelier Morning Journal, Montpelier, Vermont.

Montpelier Evening Argus, Montpelier, Vermont.

Montpelier Daily Argus, Montpelier, Vermont.

News and Citizen, Morrisville, Vermont.

Northfield News, Northfield, Vermont.

Orleans Independent Standard, Irasburg, Vermont.

St. Johnsbury Caledonian, St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

⁵³⁹ Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2010.

The Barre Daily Times, Barre, Vermont.
The Barre Evening Telegram, Barre, Vermont.
The Burlington Clipper, Burlington, Vermont.
The Daily Journal, Montpelier, Vermont.
The Daily Green Mountain Freeman, Montpelier, Vermont.
The North Adams Transcript, North Adams, Massachusetts.
The Vermonter -- The State Magazine.
Vermont Watchman and State Journal, Montpelier, Vermont.
Woodbury Herald, Woodbury, Vermont.

Books

Albers, Jan. *Hands on the Land: A History of the Vermont Landscape*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2000

Aldrich, Lewis Cass, and Frank Holmes, *History of Windsor County, Vermont, With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of some of its Prominent Men and Pioneers*. Syracuse, New York: D. Mason and Company Publishers, 1891.

American Hay, Flour and Feed Journal, Volumes 5-7, Wm. R. Gregory Company, 1904.

American Miller and Processor, Volume 36, Issues 1-6, National Miller Publications., 1908.

Bassett, T. D. Seymour. *The Growing Edge: Vermont Villages, 1840-1880*. Montpelier: Vermont Historical Society, 1992.

Hayward, John. *The New England Gazetteer, Seventh Edition*. Boston: John Hayward, 1839.

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.

Cate, Weston A., Jr. *Forever Calais: A History of Calais, Vermont*. Barre, VT: Calais Historical Society, 1999.

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

Coates, Walter John, *The Lee Family of Hounsfield, N.Y.* The Driftwood Press: North Montpelier, Vermont
June 1941.

Davis, George Lucien, *Samuel Davis, of Oxford, Mass., and Joseph Davis, of Dudley, Mass., and Their Descendants*. George L. Davis: North Andover, 1884.

Garvin, James L., "The Range Township in Eighteen Century New Hampshire," *New England Prospect: Maps, Place Names, and Historical Landscapes*. Dublin, New Hampshire: Seminar for New England Folklife, 1980.

Hastings, Scott E. Jr., and Geraldine S. Ames. *The Vermont Farm Year In 1890*. Woodstock: Billings Farm Museum, 1983.

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

Harris, William Charles, *The American Angler, Volume 6*, Angler's Publishing Company, 1885

Hubka, Thomas. *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England*. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1984.

Jewett, Henry Erastus, *Israel Edson Dwinell, D.D.* W.H. Hardy: Oakland, California, 1892.

Lenney, Christopher J., *Sightseeing, Clues to the Landscape History of New England*. Hanover, New Hampshire: University Press of New England, 2003.

Norwich Historical Society, *Norwich, Vermont: A History*. Montpelier, Vermont: Leahy Press, 2012.;

Norwich Woman's Club. "Know Your Town" 1940.

Parker, B.F., *The International Good Templar, Volume 20*, B.F. Parker, 1907

Rollins, Alden M. *Vermont Warnings Out, Vol. 1, Northern Vermont*. Camden, ME: Picton, Press, 1999.

Rosenberg, Nathan "America's Rise to Woodworking Leadership" *America's Wooden Age: Aspects of its Early Technology*.

Russell, Howard S. *A Long Deep Furrow, Three Centuries of Farming in New England*.

Slafter, Edmund F. *The Charter of Norwich, Vermont: and Names of the Original Proprietors*. Boston: David Clapp & Son, 1869.

Souvenir Booklet Commemorating Centennial Celebration of East Calais Union Chapel, East Calais, Vermont, August 28-29, 1948.

Swift, Esther Munroe. *Vermont Place-Names: Footprints of History*. Brattleboro: Stephen Greene Press, 1977.

Thompson, Zadock. *History of Vermont, Natural, Civil, and Statistical*

Thompson, Zadock. *Gazetteer of the State of Vermont*. Montpelier: Walton, 1824.

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.

Waite, Marcus Warren. *Pioneers of the Town of Calais, Vermont*. Montpelier, VT: Vermont Historical Society, 1932.

Waite, Marcus Warren. *The Wheelock Family of Calais, Vermont: Their American Ancestry and Descendants*. N. Montpelier: Driftwood, 1940.

Wood, Joseph S. *The New England Village*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1997.

Periodicals

American Hay, Flour and Feed Journal, Volumes 5-7, Wm. R. Gregory Company, 1904.

"Are you Going to Build or Repair?" Bird & Son, Inc., 1935.

Bulletin - Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station, Issues 56-71. Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station, 1897

Agricultural Extension Service, University of Vermont, "Agricultural Trends in Calais, Vermont", 1940.

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.

Bemis, Ida Clee, "A Late-Nineteenth-Century Childhood in East Calais: Recollections of Ida Clee Bemis," *Vermont History* 73 (Summer/Fall 2005). Vermont Historical Society, Montpelier, 2005.

DeBoer, John C., and Clara Merritt DeBoer. "The Formation of Town Churches: Church Town and State in Early Vermont," *Vermont History*, Vol. 64, No. 2, 1996.

Ormsbee, Anne, "Poems Between Wallpaper," *East Montpelier Signpost*, May-June 2007.

Archival Collections

Carr, Jacqueline B., "Local History and the Vermont Borderlands, 1790-1820."

Dorman B. E. Kent Collection, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

Dwinell, Clarence R. "Recollections of Stage Drivers and Mail Carriers." April 20, 1932, Harold A. Dwinell papers, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

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.

Forrest Alvin "Strad" Gray (1884-1987) Papers, 1865-1987, Doc 445-447, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

Greg Belcher, Interview "Green Mountain Chronicles" Oral History Transcriptions, 1981-1989 (bulk: 1987-1988) MSA 199 & 200, Vermont Historical Society.

New England Protective Union, (Division 271, Georgia, Vermont), Records, 1851-1867. Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

Reports

Gilbertson, Elsa and Suzanne Jamele, Agricultural Resources of Vermont Multiple Property Form, United States Department of Interior, National Park Service, 1991.

Henry, Hugh. *Hayward and Kibby Mill National Register Nomination*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1992.

Jamele, Suzanne, *North Calais Village Historic District National Register Nomination, Calais, Washington County, Vermont*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2010.

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

Moscow Mills Project East Calais, Vt. July 8, 2002. Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Town File.

Pritchett, Liz, "From Hand Plane Sawing to Machine Made Ubiquity," *Old-House Journal*, Vol. 21, No. 2, Mar-Apr, 1993.

Pritchett, Liz. *Moscow Mills, East Calais, Vermont: Determination of Outstanding Significance*, November 18, 2002.

Sagerman, Paula, *Jericho Rural Historic District National Register Nomination*, United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2009.

Visser, Thomas, and Suzanne Jamele. *Chittenden Mill National Register Nomination*. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1992.

Town Records

Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Calais, 1930. Argus and Patriot Job Printing Office, 1930.

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.

Calais Land Records, Calais Town Clerk, Calais, Vermont

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

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

Websites

“Timeline,” Cabot Historical Society Website, Accessed September 15, 2018.

“The North Montpelier Woolen Mill” *Water and Wool*. East Montpelier Historical Society.

“Calais, Vermont, New England USA.” *Virtual Vermont Magazine*, August 16, 2018.

“The Grist Mill-fulling Mill Complex” Historic Bethlehem, 505 Main Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage 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
- Y. **Lat:** 44.36754° N **Lon:** 72.42871° W
- Z. **Lat:** 44.36769° N **Lon:** 72.42923° W
- 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
- 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):

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 Branch 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 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.

11. 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
telephone: 201-919-3416
date: December 6, 2018

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.)

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

Photograph 47 of 58: View looking northeast at west elevation of HD #38: Blodgett-Cate House

Photograph 48 of 58: View looking southeast at north elevation of HD #39: Cate House

Photograph 49 of 58: View looking north at south elevation of HD #40: Waite House

Photograph 50 of 58: View looking northeast at south elevation of HD #41: Leonard House

Photograph 51 of 58: View looking north at HD #42: Park

Photograph 52 of 58: View looking northwest at Mill Pond and HD #12

Photograph 53 of 58: View looking north at Mill Pond and HD #41 and HD #40

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

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Property Owners

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

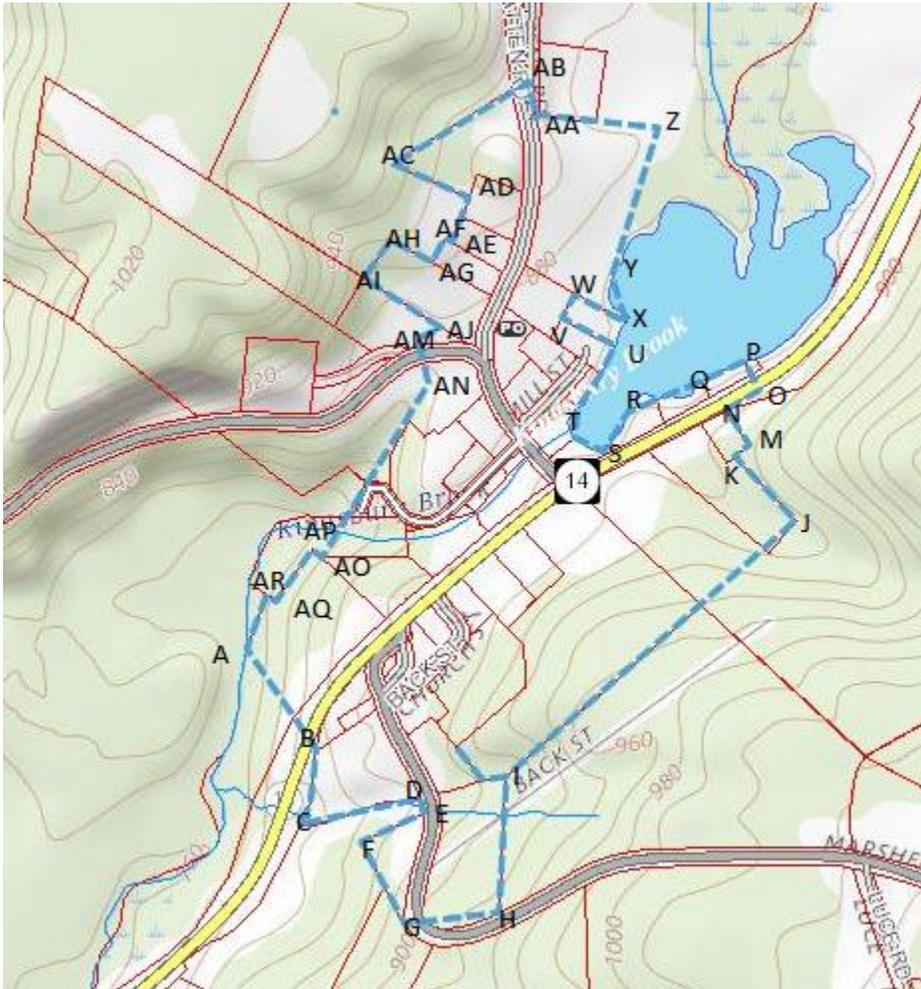
10	Wheelock-Dudley House	15 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1860	C	Charles and Laura Bateman 20329 Paradise Lane Topanga, California 90290
11	Zephaniah Pierce House	47 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1830	C	Helen Wilson PO Box 74 East Calais, Vermont 05650
11a	Garage	47 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1900	C	Helen Wilson PO Box 74 East Calais, Vermont 05650
12	Moscow Mills	34 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1840; c. 1901	C	John Risse 18 Oakland Road Brookline, MA 02445-6743
13	Dam		c. 1901	C	John Risse 18 Oakland Road Brookline, MA 02445-6743
14	Batchelder House	10 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1964	NC	Steven C. Gomez PO Box 52 East Calais, Vermont 05650
15	Rudolph Leonard House	4655 VT Route 14	C. 1939	NC	Ronald and Linda Clark PO Box 45 East Calais, Vermont 05650
16	Dwinell-Foote House	4677 VT Route 14	D. 1890	C	Pamela Mallett 4677 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650
17	Cunningham-Dwinell House	4713 VT Route 14	c. 1870	C	Otis Bruce 4713 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650
18	Bancroft House	4706 VT Route 14	c. 1867	C	Dale Batchelder 4706 VT Route 14 East Calais, Vermont 05650
19	Dell Dwinell House	4662 VT Route 14	c. 1880	C	Mathew and Deborah Sylvester PO Box 53 East Calais, Vermont 05650
20	Dwinell Homestead	4610 VT Route 14	c. 1836	C	Dwinell Homestead Association C/O Andrew Noyes 2600 Kennedy Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07306
20a	Barn	4610 VT Route 14	c. 1890	C	Dwinell Homestead Association C/O Andrew Noyes 2600 Kennedy Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07306

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

29	George-Marsh House	45 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1825	C	Syver and Mary Rogstad PO Box 144 East Calais, Vermont 05650
29a	Barn	45 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1850	C	Syver and Mary Rogstad PO Box 144 East Calais, Vermont 05650
30	Putnam-Alden House	17 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1840	C	Beth McCullough 1227 VT Route 14 Woodbury, Vermont 05861
30a	Barn	17 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1915	C	Beth McCullough 1227 VT Route 14 Woodbury, Vermont 05861
31	Vera Lamb House	120 Moscow Woods Road	c. 1945	NC	Jeffery Gallagher PO Box 16 East Calais, Vermont 05650
32	Lewis Leonard House	17 Batten Road	c. 1890	NC	Anne Toolan 17 Batten Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
33	Bumpus House	37 Batten Road	c. 1928	NC	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
33a	Garage	37 Batten Road	c. 2000	NC	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
34	Hicks-Stoddard House	69 Batten Road	c. 1850	C	Reese Hersey 69 Batten Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
35	Dana-Duke House	64 Batten Road	c. 1945	NC	Stephen Duke 64 Batten Hill Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
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
36	Gilman - Guernsey House	44 Batten Road	c. 1850	C	Piper and Alan Rexford 44 Batten Road East Calais, Vermont 05650
37	East Calais School	34 Batten Road	c. 1863	C	Calais Recreation Association

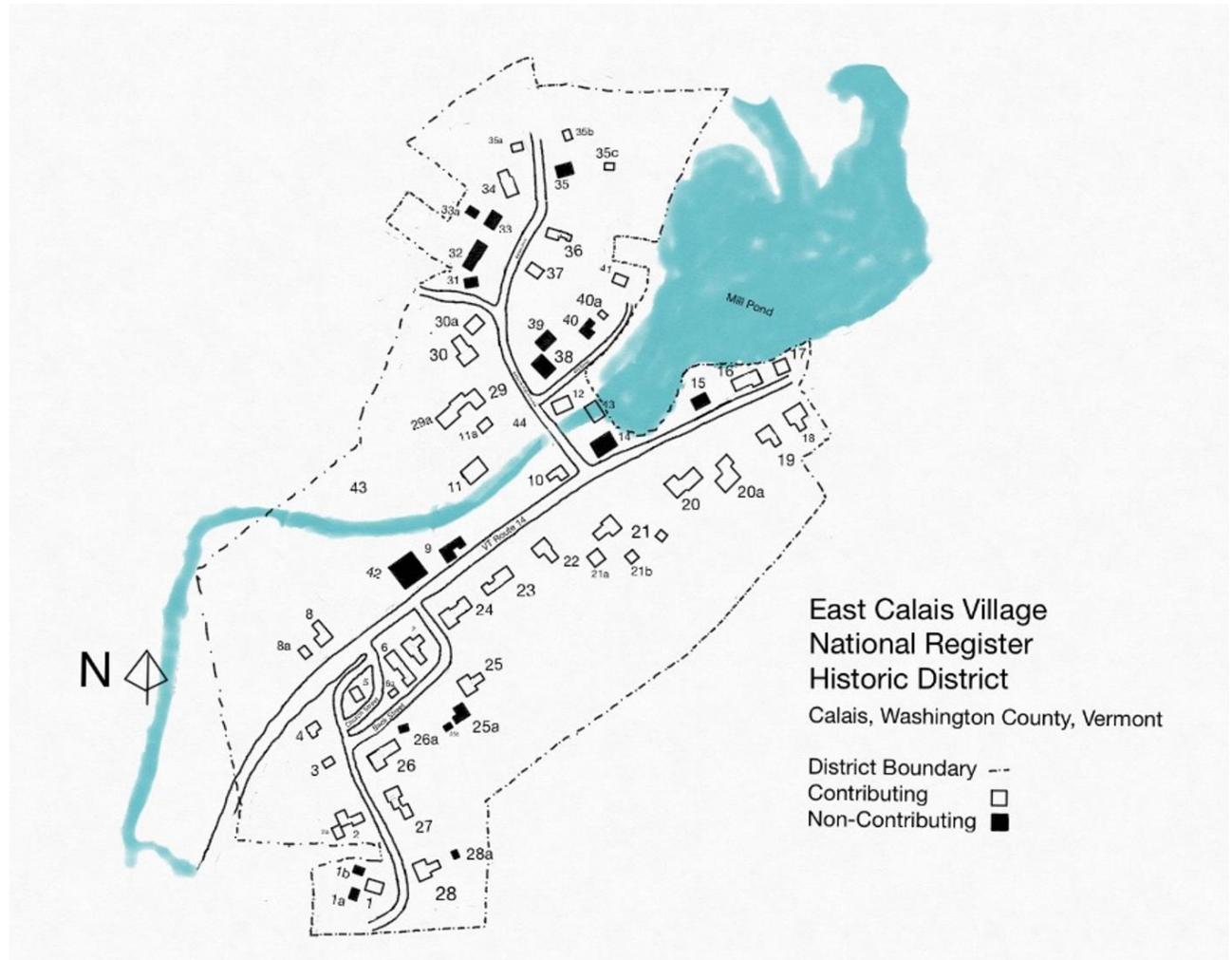
					3120 Pekin Brook Road East Calais, Vermont, 05650
38	Blodgett-Cate House	11 Mill Street	c. 1938	NC	Michael McCarty 805 Morgan Drive Boulder, Co 80303
39	Cate House	25 Mill Street	c. 1965	NC	Michael McCarty 805 Morgan Drive Boulder, Co 80303
40	Waite House	39 Mill Street	c. 1900	NC	Brian Emmons 39 Mill Street East Calais, Vermont 05650
40a	Shop	39 Mill Street	c. 1920	C	Brian Emmons 39 Mill Street East Calais, Vermont 05650
41	Leonard House	59 Mill Street	c. 1900	C	Erlene Leonard 59 Mill Street East Calais, Vermont 05650
42	Park	Route 14	c. 1977	NC	Calais Recreation Association 3120 Pekin Brook Road East Calais, Vermont, 05650
43	Archaeological Sites	Old Grist Mill Road		C	
44	Village Green	Moscow Woods Road		C	

District Boundary



- 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
Y. Lat: 44.36754° N Lon: 72.42871° W
Z. Lat: 44.36769° N Lon: 72.42923° W
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
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



List of Figures

- Figure 25 Wesley Peck House (HD #4) c. 1920 (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 26 D.B. Fay House (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 27 D.B. Fay Tenement (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 28 Sawmill (Dwinell Family)
- Figure 29 Dell B. Dwinell House (HD #19), C. 1900 (Dwinell Family)
- Figure 30 Alonzo Clark House (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 31 Simon Webb House (HD #25), c. 1910 (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 32 Gray-Coates House (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 33 Putnam-Alden House (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 34 Hicks-Stoddard House (Syver Rogstad)
- Figure 35 Jacob Lamb House and job printing building (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 36 Tin Shop (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 37 Moscow Lodge (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 38 Sawmill and Dwinell Homestead (Dwinell Family)
- Figure 39 Levison & Lamb Box Factory (Syver Rogstad)
- Figure 40 Falls and Mills from the West, c. 1920 (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 41 Lamb and Mullin Warehouse (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 42 Fire of 1951 (Syver Rogstad)
- Figure 43 Blacksmith Shops (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 44 Clarence Dwinell's General Store (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 45 B.P. White's Store (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 46 Austin Gove's General Store (Syver Rogstad)
- Figure 47 Renfrew's Store (Vermont Historical Society)
- Figure 48 Calais School, District #12 (Vermont Historical Society)