

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EGR.113
Historic Name:	Bradford, Uri Farm - Guilder House
Common Name:	Winchell, Eliakim - Karner, Felix House
Address:	96 Jug End Rd
City/Town:	Egremont
Village/Neighborhood:	South Egremont;
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	1762
Architectural Style(s):	Federal;
Use(s):	Abandoned or Vacant; Agricultural; Dairy; Meeting Hall; Single Family Dwelling House;
Significance:	Agriculture; Archaeology, Historic; Architecture; Ethnic Heritage; Recreation;
Area(s):	EGR.C, EGR.E, EGR.G
Designation(s):	
Building Materials:	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard; Foundation: Stone, Uncut;
Demolished	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Friday, August 23, 2024 at 9:16 AM

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
G. E. C.	113

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Egremont

96
Jug End Road

Public Name Bradford Farm - Guilder House -
Jug End

Original

Present Part of Jug End Barn

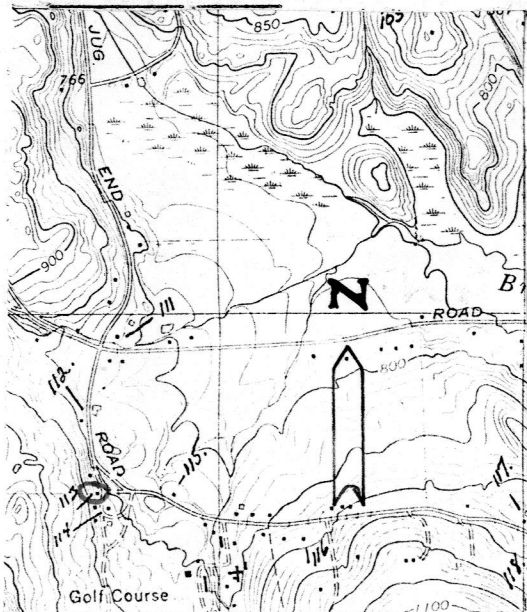
Ship: ☐ Private individual
Private organization
Jug End Barn

Public

Original owner

DESCRIPTION:

location in relation to nearest
cross streets and other buildings
or geographical features.
Indicate north.



Date 1762

Source Local tradition

Style 2½ story Georgian

Architect

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings Large old barn and small salt
box house. Forge barn, modern garage

Major alterations (with dates)
1½ story ell and porch, dormers south side.

Moved Date

Approx. acreage

Setting off Jug End Road, corner of Old Road

Recorded by JNP

Organization BCRPC

Date 9/4/80

1858: U. Bradford
1876: R. H. Bradford
1904: R. H. Bradford

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

2½ story Georgian, twin end chimneys. 9 window front 12/12 windows, cornices, corner boards and returns. 1½ story ell to south with porch. Funeral door south side, panel door.

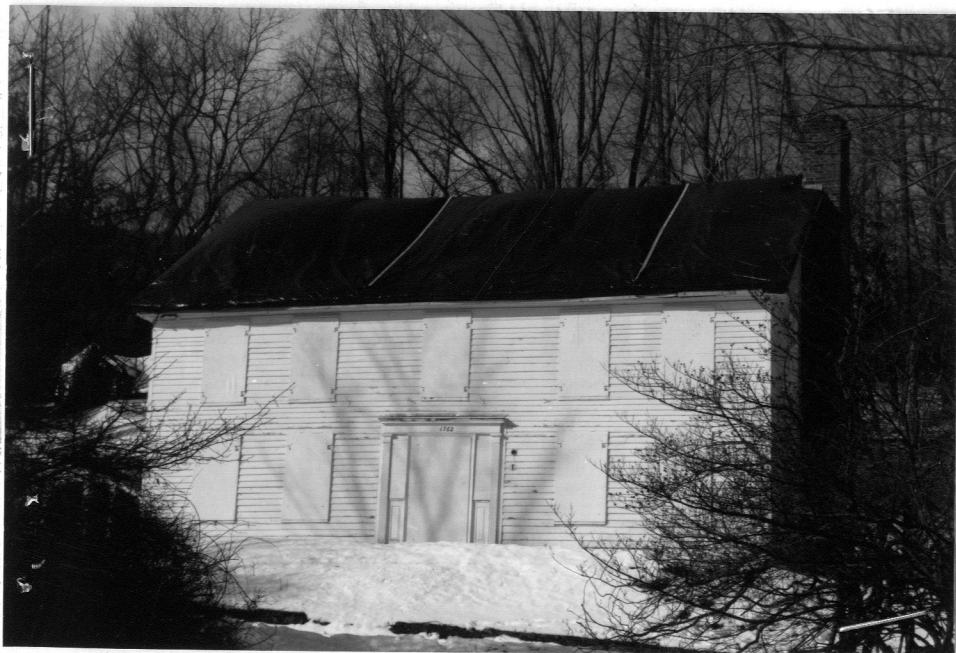
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

Bacon also .

Uria Bradford

Purchased of Calvin Benjamin, Sr., June 4, 1855.

Sold to Maj. Hugh Smiley, May 23, 1925.



View West

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETCommunity: Property Address: EGR 113

Egremont Guilder House, Jug End Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s) Form No.
Subarea A 113 (DEM #11)

Former Jug End Resort
Continuation Sheet prepared by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
February/March 1995
(Amendment to 1980 form)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The Federal style Guilder House is the center of the Guilder Farm Area (see Subarea form), a mid-18th-century farm that was renovated as a gentleman's farm in the 1920s and was subsequently incorporated into the resort development at Jug End. The house sits on a stone walled terrace against a hill slope and faces east with the farm drive immediately in front. Immediately to the rear of the house is a high cobblestone retaining wall, part of a garden system installed in the 1920s. The oldest section of the house, constructed ca. 1762 or ca. 1780, is a 2-1/2-story, side-gable, wood-frame dwelling configured with a symmetrical, center-entrance, 5-bay facade and two side bays. The south ell and the small hyphen connecting the main house and ell are later additions, most likely from the 19th century. Historic views document that the exterior of the house is little changed since the 1920s. The house sits on a low stone foundation and is sheathed in clapboards. The main entrance dominates the facade and has a delicately scaled surround with sidelights and apron panels, fluted pilasters, and a simple entablature. The roof gable has end returns, and the second story windows are framed into the cornice. Windows in the main house are 12/12 (front) and 6/6 (sides) sash dating from the 1920s. The original chimney(s) has been removed and replaced with an exterior brick chimney on the north end wall, one at the rear of the house, and an exterior, fieldstone chimney at the south end of the south ell. A 1920s 1-story porch with segmental-arch openings and square posts covers the south end of the house, and the east walls of the hyphen and ell. The east gable roof slope of the ell is broken by four gabled dormers. Windows in the ell and hyphen are 6/6 sash.

The interior of the Guilder House seems to be much altered, although "Colonial" in appearance. Additional investigations would be needed to determine what features and finishes are original and which were added in the 1920s. The plan has a central hall with a room to either side. The hall appears much larger than is typical for the period. It is likely that original stairs and probably a chimney were removed. The north room appears to retain some original window casing. The paneled fireplace surround and overmantle in the north room (first floor), if original, are not in their original location. The south room has a stone fireplace against the west rear wall that was added in the 1920s. The first floor of the hyphen contains a kitchen. The ell has exposed post-and-beam framing, pine paneling and shelving, and a stone fireplace; all were installed in the 1920s to showcase the owner's firearms collection. On the second floor of the main house, a small paneled fireplace located in the north room probably dates from the 1920s, while a corner post in a beaded casing in the northeast corner of the room is probably original. The roof framing in the attic is enclosed in insulation material, and is not visible for inspection and interpretation. It may show the ghost of a former central chimney. The hyphen and ell have small rooms and 1920s finishes on the second floor.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

In 1736, the Massachusetts General Court deeded the former Indian reservation lands in Egremont to John Van Guilder. Van Guilder (d. 1760), a native American raised by a Dutch family, settled in Guilders Hollow near the site of this house (ca. 1762 or ca. 1780). In 1740, John Van Guilder married Mary Karner, a Dutch settler from Sheffield. John Van Guilder died in 1760. The following year, Mary Van Guilder sold land to Jonathan Root and to her grandsons, Eliakim and Hezekial Winchell. It is likely that Eliakim Winchell, who owned the property between 1761 and 1792, constructed the Guilders House during this period. In 1792, he sold the farm to his cousin, Felix Karner. By 1855, the farm, which included 358 1/2 acres was purchased by Uri Bradford. It continued to serve as the Bradford family's farmhouse, until 1922 when the property was sold to Major Hugh Smiley and his wife, Hester Smiley.

SEP 25 1997

MASS. HIST. COMM

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

EGR. 113

Community: Property Address:

Egremont Guilder House, Jug End Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

**Area(s) Form No.
Subarea A 113 (DEM #11)**

Former Jug End Resort
Continuation Sheet prepared by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
February/March 1995
(Amendment to 1980 form)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (*Continued*)

The Guilder House served as the Smileys' home during the 17 years that they lived in Egremont. During that time Hugh Smiley constructed a large dairy barn, which was converted into the Guilder Hollow Club by 1935. He pursued a unique real estate venture, Olde Egremont Inc. And he added a wing onto the south side of this house to display his extensive collection of guns which he began collecting in 1892 at the age of eight.

Hugh Smiley was the son of Daniel Smiley, a practicing Quaker, who ran the Mohonk Conventions in New Paltz, New York. Smiley felt that his dedication to guns added greatly to the general knowledge of them and to their preservation as part of the past. It was not his belief that a devotion to firearms was necessarily akin to violence. Instead, he believed that knowledge about the history of guns was a scholarly pursuit of one of the great forces in the development of civilization. From his youth until his death in 1973, Smiley gathered an extensive collection of antique guns, which gained him the title "Dean of American Gun Collecting."

However, Smiley's other ventures were not to prove so successful as his gun collecting. Although he continued vigorous promotion and accepted many members to the Guilder Hollow Club, and to a lesser extent, to Olde Egremont Inc., the financial strain Smiley endured during the depression was too great. In 1938, Smiley filed for bankruptcy, and sold this property the following year. While Olde Egremont Inc. continued to function beyond Smiley's departure, the majority of the corporation's landholdings were sold when Smiley left Egremont. The Guilder Hollow Club at Smiley's barn went on to become the Jug End resort.

Robert Lexow purchased Smiley's and Olde Egremont's property including this farm and the Guilder Hollow Club headquarters at Jug End Barn (#10). However, he did not retain Guilder Farm (see subarea form). In 1939, the Guilder Farm was sold to Irene Strobidge, who renamed the farm "Guilderland". The Jug End resort purchased this house and converted it into meeting place with guest housing in 1957. It continued to be used by the resort until it closed in 1985. Since that time, the house has been vacant.

BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES (*continued*)

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"Berkshire Resort Builders Aim At Escape From Civilization." Early New England, 1935.
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Bryan, Clark W. The Book of Berkshire (1887). No. Egremont, MA: Past Perfect Books (reprint), pp. 140-157.
Burgess, Larry. Mohonk, Its People and Spirit.
Egremont Bicentennial Committee. Egremont: 1756-1976. Berkshire Courier, Great Barrington, MA: 1976.
MacDonald, Mimi. "The History of Jug End in the Berkshires Incorporated." Unpublished.
Olde Egremont Herald, various issues in 1932, 1934, and 1935.
Parrish, James N. "The Rebirth of Olde Egremont." The Berkshire Record, 7 July 1989, Sec. B., p. 1.
Yurko, Chris. "The Story of Jug End in the Berkshires." Hampshire Life, 16 September 1994.

Historic Maps:

1794 (Fairchild), 1858, 1858 (Walling), 1865, 1875, 1904



View West, door detail



Interior view West in South room, 1st Floor



Interior view North in North room,
1st Floor



Interior view Northwest in North room,
2nd Floor



*Interior main entrance
View East*

Community: Egremont MKS

MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 4/15/86 ?

Date Reviewed: 4/30/86

Type: Individual District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: Jug End Recreation Area

Inventory Form: #111-118

Address: Egremont

Requested by: ENF

Action: Honor ITC Grant R & C Other:Agency: MEPA
ENF Staff in charge of Review: KK

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

- ☐ Eligible
☐ Eligible, also in district
☐ Eligible only in district
☐ Ineligible
☐ More information needed

DISTRICTS

- ☒ Eligible
☐ Ineligible
☒ More information needed

CRITERIA: A B C D

LEVEL: Local State National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by Staff 4/30/86 (Friedberg)

It appears that a district of late 18th - early 20th century farm residences and outbuildings, which together demonstrate the pattern of rural development for this part of Berkshire County, survives along Jug End Rd. in Egremont. A number of the 9 properties have historic family links. More information would be necessary regarding the evolution of these family farmsteads, and a site visit would be necessary to determine the presence of intrusions.

Original yellow form: Eligibility file _____
copies: Inventory form _____
Town file(w/corresp.) _____
Macris _____
NR director _____

EGR. 113

Community: Egremont

MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 6/28/95 Date Due: _____ Date Reviewed: _____

Type: Individual District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: Jug End Resort Inventory Form: _____

Address: Jug End Rd

Requested by: _____

Action: Honor ITC Grant R & C Other: _____

Agency: _____ Staff in charge of Review: ay & EB

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

- ☐ Eligible
- ☐ Eligible, also in district
- ☐ Eligible only in district
- ☐ Ineligible
- ☐ More information needed

DISTRICTS

- ☐ Eligible
- ☐ Ineligible
- ☐ More information needed

CRITERIA: A B C D

LEVEL: Local State National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by _____

See attached