

Determination of Eligibility (DOE)

Inventory #: ENF0028

DOE Review Date: 7/10/2024

Date Received: 7/3/2024

Final DOE Approved: Yes

Property Name: District 4 School / Lockehaven Schoolhouse

Area:

Address: 2 Ibey Road

Town: Enfield

County: Grafton

Reviewed For: SR

DOE Program(s):

State Register

Determination of Eligibility:

National Register eligible, individually	Integrity: Yes		Level: Local		
State Register eligible, individually					
Criteria:	A: Yes	B: No	C: Yes	D: No	E: No

Areas of Significance(s):

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance: 1820 to 1974

Boundary:

The State Register boundary is tax map 47, lot 13-A.

Statement of Significance:

The Lockehaven School is eligible for listing in both the State and National registers for its role in the early education of Enfield's children, as well as an early example of historic preservation efforts in NH. The school was sold to an alumna in 1936 and in 1947 opened as a museum, with an impressive collection of ephemera from other students and teachers on display. The schoolhouse was sold to the Enfield Historical Society in 1978, and they continue to use the building for educational purposes. The small one-room schoolhouse is also an excellent example of an early 19th-century schoolhouse.

Comments:

Follow Up:

Notify appropriate parties.

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

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Name, Location, Ownership

Historic name District 4 School / Lockehaven School
Street and number 2 Ibey Road
City or town Enfield
County Grafton
Current owner Enfield Historical Society

Function or Use

Current use(s) museum
Historic use(s) school

Architectural Information

Style vernacular
Architect/builder unknown
Source _____
Construction date c.1820
Source research, physical evidence
Alterations, with dates 1864 renovations, 1940s restoration

Moved? no yes date: _____

Exterior Features

Foundation granite
Cladding wood clapboards
Roof material wood shingles
Chimney material brick
Type of roof gable
Chimney location rear, ridge
Number of stories 1
Entry location façade, center
Windows 12/8 double hung
Replacement? no yes date: _____

Site Features

Setting rural local road
Outbuildings N/A



Photo #1 Direction: NW
Date September 2023

Landscape features mature trees, fence
Tax Map map 47, lot 13-A
Acreage 2.07 acres
State Plane Feet (NAD83) X: 266578.95, Y: 123514.01

Form prepared by

Name Andrew Cushing
Organization Mascoma Valley Preservation
Date of Survey September 2023

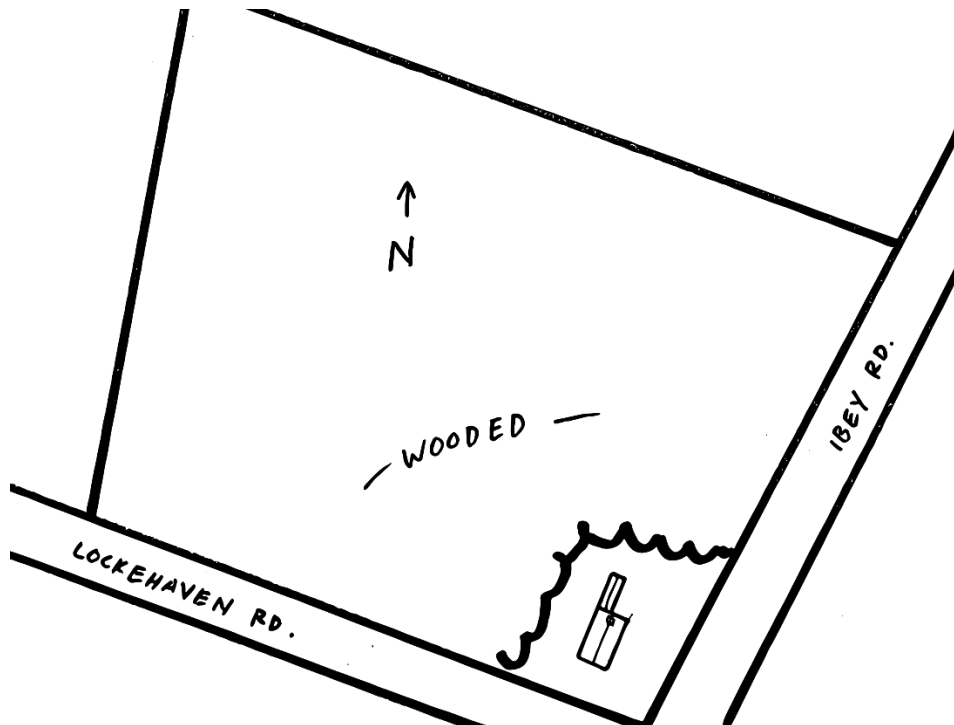
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Location Map



Site Map



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

Enfield's densest and earliest white settlement occurred in the northeast quadrant of town, known as Chebacco. By the 1780s, this area stretched from the outlet of Deep Lake (today's Crystal Lake) to Spectacle Pond, along Main Road, or Chebacco Street. At the 1793 town meeting, voters approved a meetinghouse to be constructed southwest of this early cluster of farms and mills – a building that was eventually razed and replaced with a church in 1838, this time closer to the houses and businesses of Chebacco.¹

Within the area of Chebacco, a village formed at the outlet of Crystal Lake by the early 1800s. Known as East Enfield, then Johnson's Mills, and then Mill Village, this grouping of buildings was eventually coined "Lockehaven" after playwright and author Edwin Locke's influential residency in the village starting in 1885.²

Since the first districts were laid out in town, East Enfield/Lockehaven (District 4) had a schoolhouse. On June 13, 1793, taxpayers "Voted a school house be erected in each district 16x23 feet and that 150 pounds be assessed therefor – the frame to be erected before Oct. 1, 1794." By December 1794, the East Enfield school was complete and was located slightly southwest of the current location.³ The first teacher was purportedly Benjamin Porter (1771-1818), a lawyer and friend of Daniel Webster who later went on to introduce "witch grass" to the area.

This first schoolhouse burned in 1800 and was replaced in 1803-4 with a building on the present lot. This second schoolhouse also burned in the winter of 1819-20 and was replaced with a third schoolhouse, most likely the current building. At its peak in the mid-19th century, Enfield had eighteen school districts:

- No. 1 = Enfield Village
- No. 2 = Shaker Hill
- No. 3 = Jones Hill
- No. 4 = East Enfield**
- No. 5 = Moses S. Choate (closed 1860)
- No. 6 = East Hill
- No. 7 = Oak Hill
- No. 8 = Samuel Choate (closed 1860)
- No. 9 = Cambridgeville
- No. 10 = George Hill
- No. 11 = Enfield Center
- No. 12 = North End
- No. 13 = Church Family/Shaker
- No. 14 = Potato Hill
- No. 15 = Montcalm
- No. 16 = Benjamin Choate
- No. 17 = Fish Market
- No. 18 = South Family/Shaker

Per 1805 state law, these school districts were responsible for supervising, staffing, and building/maintaining their own schoolhouses for the area children. This autonomy led to great differences between districts, with some districts boasting modern schoolhouses and qualified teachers and others lacking free-standing buildings at all. An 1808 state law mandated that teachers have a certificate from an "English grammar school master and learned minister of the gospel, or preceptor of some academy, or president, professor or tutor of some college"

¹ Nancy Blanchard Sanborn, ed. *Enfield, New Hampshire 1761-2000: The History of a Town Influenced by the Shakers* (Portsmouth, NH: Peter Randall, 2006), 126-127.

² *Ibid*, 128.

³ *Enfield Advocate*, Dec. 9, 1898.

and that an elected board of supervisors inspect each town's schoolhouses annually.⁴ Enfield, like adjacent Canaan, had a townwide school fund that was used to hire teachers and build/renovate schoolhouses. This process was somewhat removed from the normal taxpayer-approved expenditures, but likely helped equalize the districts – a practice that was later codified in state law in 1885.⁵

The state legislature appointed a State Commissioner of Common Schools in 1846 and began publishing annual reports meant to highlight districts' shortcomings and share approved designs for new construction. The first commissioner was Dartmouth professor, Charles Brickett Haddock (1796-1861). Haddock was the nephew of Daniel Webster and was born in present-day Franklin. After graduating from Dartmouth College, he served as a minister in various Upper Valley communities, rhetoric professor at Dartmouth, and state representative for Hanover. In his role as representative, he pushed for education reforms – including the 1846 legislation that earned him the inaugural role of commissioner.⁶

In 1847 Haddock published his first report, in which he shared some of his findings. He called many of the schools he visited “ill constructed,” “badly ventilated,” “utterly repugnant to all habits of neatness, thought taste, or purity,” and “absolutely dangerous to health and morals.” His findings showed that these conditions were true regardless of location in rural areas or villages. He advocated for towns to build more spacious schools on better lots of land.⁷ Two years later, in 1849, the legislature approved funding to send every selectboard in the state a copy of a national publication that included model schoolhouse design. This publication delved into the science of ventilation and ergonomics and shared two examples in New Hampshire, a schoolhouse in Dublin and Greenland. These two schoolhouses were gable front designs in the Greek Revival style, with interior cloak rooms and wood stoves, with pipes running the length of the building to a single rear chimney.⁸

These modernization efforts came at a time of great demographic shifts in New Hampshire. In Enfield, the Northern Railroad's arrival in 1848 created new opportunities for local farmers and millers, but also lured young men and women to cities and western locales. Enfield's population reached 1,876 in 1860 and did not recover until the 1960s. During those decades of rural decline, the town grappled with how to best fund and educate its students. Consolidation was one answer. In 1854 a committee recommended “making your school districts larger, the building of new and convenient school-houses, and the raising of more money to educate your children.”⁹ This urging continued. In 1857 the school committee wrote, “We hope the time is not distant when districts **No. 4, 6, 7 and 10** will take measures to exchange the miserable buildings called school-houses within their limits, for better structures, which shall be worthy of the name.”¹⁰

Again, in 1859, the annual report shared that District 4 “is in want of a better house, more pleasantly located.” In 1861: “...the school-house is miserably uncomfortable, and lastly, and mainly, the inhabitants of the District are exceedingly inharmonious” and in 1862: “The School house 4 is inconvenient and uncomfortable, and ought to be repaired immediately.” In 1865 the annual report read, “The teacher's duties were rendered somewhat unpleasant by teaching in a building so totally unfit for school purposes.”

⁴ James Garvin, “Summary of the Development of District School Buildings in New Hampshire,” 2016. See also, Andrew Cushing, State Register Nomination for North Road School, Danbury (2023).

⁵ This 1885 law mandated towns consolidate all disparate districts into one town-wide school district. Its passing led to the closure of many towns' smallest schools.

⁶ Charles Brickett Haddock, Dartmouth Library, Archives, and Manuscripts, <https://archives-manuscripts.dartmouth.edu/agents/people/713?&page=1> See also, Andrew Cushing, State Register Nomination for North Road School, Danbury (2023).

⁷ Henry Barnard, ed. *School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School-houses in The United States*, “Extracts from the ‘Report of the Commissioner of Common Schools, to the Legislature of New Hampshire, June Session, 1847,’” (NY: A.S. Barnes & Co., 1849), 24-25.

⁸ Garvin, “Summary of the Development of District School Buildings in New Hampshire,” 3-5.

⁹ Enfield Town Report, 1854. Page 14.

¹⁰ 1857 annual report, 31

It is unclear what exactly happened in District 4. By the 1867 annual report, the school committee wrote that “The school houses in town are all now good, except in districts No. 2, 14, and 16” and in 1869, the committee wrote, “This school is a treasure. Let the parents guard it with deep interest.” Clearly, the schoolhouse received some attention to transform it from an unfit school into a “treasure.” But despite some sources stating the school was entirely constructed in 1864, the tooling, materials, and construction are more consistent with earlier building techniques, suggesting the school was merely renovated.

In the 1880s student enrollment dwindled to between 5 and 10 pupils. This era of dwindling enrollment was particularly difficult for rural schools in New Hampshire, with most town reports reminding parents to be fair and kind to teachers – who were increasingly difficult to find. In 1886 George Pettengill, teacher at Enfield Center and superintendent, wrote “If parents and citizens would labor as hard to discover the good qualities of teachers as to find their bad ones we should see grander results in our schools.”¹¹ In 1902 it was first referred to as “Lockehaven.” And despite its small enrollment, Lockehaven remained open until the close of the 1921 school year. Around this time, the state passed new legislation following the Spanish Flu that sought to improve sanitation. A study called for the Lockehaven interior to be painted, its perimeter cleared of vegetation, and windows “moved.” None of these actions were taken and instead the school was closed. Marjorie Pitman was the last teacher and she had 7 students.

In 1936 the town approved the sale of the school to Harry Nichols, a former student and descendant of many teachers and prudential committee members.¹² That same year, Enfield consolidated its last remaining schools into the Enfield Village School in North Enfield. Mont Calm and Center School were closed (and partially reopened through the 1940s), with voters eventually approving a measure to sell the vacant schoolhouses.

Nichols worked with fellow alumna Wilson Roberts of New Haven, CT to solicit other alumni from the school to restore the building and create a museum, which opened in 1947. The group set up school desks and collected photographs of early teachers and ephemera (e.g. report cards) from former students. The local newspapers reported that “This schoolhouse... has been restored at some expense by a group of former students who not only feel a sentimental regard for the school but feel that the school should be preserved as a monument to rural education of a century gone by...”¹³ The July 1947 open house included a reunion for teachers, too. Of the 17 former teachers the alumni group located, 10 returned for the event, including Mabelle Gove White who taught in 1882-83. The oldest former pupil to attend was Mary Jane Fogg Shipman, aged 94, who “was a student there before Abraham Lincoln became president.”¹⁴ The *Canaan Reporter* shared that 120 people were in attendance.¹⁵

Nichols and the alumni group continued to open the museum on special occasions until selling the schoolhouse to the Enfield Historical Society in 1978.¹⁶ The Enfield Historical Society had been founded in 1976 and continued to operate the school as a museum open for special occasions, as it does today.

Enfield joined the Mascoma Valley Regional School District in 1963, further consolidating its schools with neighboring towns. The sole operating school in town is now the Enfield Village School, dating to 1907.

Applicable NHDHR Historic Contexts (please list names from appendix C):

- 1001. Elementary and secondary education, 1770-present.
- 1100. Local government, 1630-present.
- 1201. Historic preservation, 1899-present.

¹¹ 1886 annual report, 24.

¹² Grafton County Deeds, Book 661, Page 44.

¹³ “Lockehaven One-Room School House,” *Hanover Gazette*, June 26, 1947.

¹⁴ “Lockehaven School Arouses Many Nostalgic Memories in Audience,” *Hanover Gazette*, July 10, 1947.

¹⁵ “120 at Opening in Lockehaven,” *Canaan Reporter*, July 10, 1947.

¹⁶ Grafton County Deeds, Book 1347, Page 958.

Architectural Description and Comparative Evaluation:

The District 4/Lockehaven School in Enfield, New Hampshire sits on a 2-acre parcel of mostly wooded land at the southeast corner of Lockehaven Road – a paved road – and Ibeys Road – a dirt road – just north of the tip of Crystal Lake. The vernacular building is oriented with its gable front to the south, or facing Lockehaven Road. The cleared lot around the schoolhouse is marked by a white rail fence with granite posts. Halves of granite mill stones are also displayed on the property's front lawn. Mature deciduous trees dot the lawn.

The one-story, two-room, timber-framed schoolhouse measures 20' x 26' with a rear woodshed/privy ell that extends from the northwest and measures 10' x 16'. The main school building rests on a foundation of cut granite capstones, with the rear ell resting on stone piers. The roof is finished with wood shingles; its exterior is finished with clapboards; and a single interior brick chimney extends from the rear ridge, while the rear ell is finished with unpainted board and batten. All trim is flat stock, including corner boards, frieze, bed molding, rake boards, and cornice. The roof has an overhang of about 1'. All windows are double hung 12/8 sash (except on the woodshed ell, which has a single 6/6 window), and the front four-panel door is capped by a four-light transom window integrated into the door surround.

The façade, or south elevation, is the gable front and includes only the principal entrance. This door is accessed by a set of granite steps and 20th century wooden handrails. A sign above the transom reads "District No. 4 Lockehaven, N.H." and an additional sign in the very peak of the gable reads "1864." The only other ornament on the elevation is a mounted flag pole that extends from above the transom to 15+ feet above the ridge, and a Victorian door latch that was installed in c.1900.

The side elevations (east and west) are mostly identical. Originally, both elevations had two bays of windows located toward the northern end of the building. At some point between 1908 and 1921 (based on historic photographs), the eastern elevation gained an additional window at the southernmost bay. Each window has a strapped board shutter, hinged on the northern casing. The woodshed ell's eastern elevation includes only a simple board door with two granite steps. The western elevation of the woodshed includes a single double hung window and a small cut-out with a screen where the privy is located.

The rear/northern elevation of the schoolhouse includes a 12/8 window at the eastern half and the woodshed on the western half. The woodshed gable end includes a fixed 8-light sash in the peak, possibly added in the 1940s restoration.

The interior of the schoolhouse is divided into the cloakroom, schoolroom, and woodshed/privy. The cloakroom, which occupies 2/3 of the width of the southern end of the building, is finished with hand-planed horizontal boards on the southern wall, a board ceiling, and plaster walls above wide horizontal board wainscot. The south wall retains the border wallpaper which can otherwise be seen in the historic interior photograph from 1908 (see Figure 2). The door leading into the schoolroom is directly north of the main entrance – it is four paneled and has thumb latch hardware seen in catalogs from the 1870s.

The main school room has board floors, horizontal board wainscot with plaster above a simple nosed chair rail, simple window casing, and an exposed ceiling of hand-hewn top plates and beams – most likely exposed during the 1940s restoration (there is ghosting of lath and plaster). The corner posts are encased. A rear suspended chimney hangs from the ceiling at the northern end, and connected to it is a wood stove. A door, also four paneled, leads to the woodshed. This simple space includes a two-hole privy at the southwest corner, but is otherwise open and unfinished, exhibiting the timber frame structure. The attic of the main schoolhouse is accessed through a hatch in the ceiling by the woodstove. The building's three bents of rafters and purlins can be clearly seen, with new sawn sheathing boards that were installed when the last wood shingle roof was installed in c.2000.

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The Lockehaven Schoolhouse is the only extant one room schoolhouse in Enfield. The Enfield Center School (District 11), also owned by the Enfield Historical Society, was constructed in 1851 as a two-story school. The North Enfield/Enfield Village School (District 1) is a brick consolidated school that was constructed in 1907 and expanded in 1924. This school also served as the high school and today serves as Enfield Village School.

National or State Register Criteria Statement of Significance:

The Lockehaven School is significant for its contributions to the education of generations of Enfield students in the 19th and early 20th century. The building is also significant for its relatively early preservation efforts, led by alumni of the school in the 1940s. That effort resulted in an impressive – and perhaps unparalleled – collection of photographs and ephemera related to the school's teachers and students, material that has been displayed in the school for nearly 80 years.

The Lockehaven School is also significant for its vernacular architecture. The hand-hewn timber frame structure and its attached wood shed/privy are finished with clapboards, simple trim, 12/8 sash windows, and wood shingled roof. The interior retains its wainscot, doors, wood stove, and privy. These exterior and interior details reflect typical rural schoolhouse architecture in the early- to mid-19th century, but to a rare degree of intactness due to its 1921 closure and early conversion into a museum.

Period of Significance:

c.1821, potential construction of the schoolhouse
c.1821-1921, operation as the District 4/Lockehaven School
c.1947, restoration of the schoolhouse
1947-1974 (50 year cut-off), operation as a museum

Statement of Integrity:

The Lockehaven School exhibits all aspects of integrity, thanks to its early conversion into a museum by the 1940s. The school remains in its original location and rural setting in East Enfield; retains a remarkable amount of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship reflecting its construction between c.1822 and 1864; and continues to convey the feeling and association of a rural schoolhouse.

Boundary Description and Justification:

The Lockehaven School continues to occupy an approximately 2-acre lot at the corner of Lockehaven and Ibey Roads. This lot (tax map 47, lot 13-A) is illustrated on page 2 and described in the deed between Harry Nichols to the Enfield Historical Society (Book 1347, Page 958).

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Bibliography and/or References:

Canaan Reporter. Various articles.

Enfield Advocate. Various articles.

Enfield Historical Society photograph and ephemera collection.

Enfield Town Reports. Various years.

Garvin, James. "Summary of the Development of District School Buildings in New Hampshire." 2016.

Grafton County Deeds. Various.

Hanover Gazette. Various articles.

Sanborn, Nancy Blanchard ed. *Enfield, New Hampshire 1761-2000: The History of a Town Influenced by the Shakers*. Portsmouth, NH: Peter Randall, 2006.

Surveyor's Evaluation:

NR listed: individual _____
within district _____

Integrity: yes _____
no _____

NR eligible: individual _____
within district _____
not eligible _____
more info needed _____

NR Criteria: A _____
B _____
C _____
D _____
E _____

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Figure 1. Lockehaven School, c.1895. Enfield Historical Society collection.



Figure 2. 1908 interior. Enfield Historical Society Collection.

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Figure 3. 1908. Enfield Historical Society collection.



Figure 4. School before 1947 restoration, c.1940. Enfield Historical Society collection.



Figure 5. 1947 rededication event with former teachers. Enfield Historical Society collection.



Figure 6. Early view of schoolhouse as a museum, c.1950. Enfield Historical Society collection.



Photo # 2 Description (with direction): Looking SW, showing rear elevation and privy/woodshed.



Photo # 3 Description (with direction): Looking SE; west elevation.

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Photo # 4 Description (with direction): Context, looking west down Lockehaven Rd. Ibey Rd. on the right.



Photo # 5 Description (with direction): Interior, looking SSW toward front entrance.

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Photo # 6 Description (with direction): Interior, looking ESE.



Photo # 7 Description (with direction): Detail of front door hardware.

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Photo # 8 Description (with direction): Attic, showing roof framing. Looking SSW

PHOTO KEY

