HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE PROJECT
Strafford Rockingham Regional Council
1 Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire
Phone: (603) 778-0885

TOWN: Kingston
COUNTY: Rockingham
SURVEY NUMBER: 72
COMMON NAME: Cunningham House
HISTORIC NAME: Luther D. Peaselee House
LOCATION: W. side of Main St. of N inter of Main & Depot
OWNER: John & Mary Cunningham
ADDRESS: 172 Main St., Kingston, NH
MAP & PARCEL #: U-10/24
DATE: c. 1840
SOURCE: Assessor's Office, Kingston
STYLE: Greek Revival

UTM: Z 12/F 332425 /N 4752700
USGS QUAD: Haverhill Quad 15' Series
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Farmhouse
PRESENT USE: Residential
ARCHITECT/Builder: Unknown
CONDITION: Exc. Good x Fair Poor Ruins
INTEGRITY: Original Site x Moved
Major alterations & date: Unknown

LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl State Local x

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System
1. FOUNDATION: Stone x Brick _ Concrete _ Concrete Block _
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame Post & Beam _ Balloon Frame _ Other _
   Load Bearing Masonry _ Stone _ Brick _ Concrete Block _ Other _
   Metal _ Iron _ Steel _ Other _
3. WALL COVERING: Clapboard _ Wood Shingle _ Board & Batten _ Shiplap _ Aluminum _
   Novelty _ Stucco _ Stone _ Brick _ Sheet Metal _ Asphalt Shingles _ Vinyl _
   Asphalt Sheeting _ Composite Board _ Other _
4. ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle _ Asphalt Shingle _ Standing Seam _ Slate _
   Pressed Metal _ Sheet Metal _ Rolled Asphalt _ Other _
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
6. OTHER:
   # of Stories 21/2 _ # of Bays 3x4 _ Approx. Dimensions 30' x 35' _
   Roof Style: Gable _ Hip _ Gambrel _ Flat _ Shed _ Mansard _ Jerkinhead _
   Monitor _ Sawtooth _ Other _
   Appendages: Porches _ Towers _ Dormers _ Bay Windows _ Ells _ Chimneys _
   Wings _ Cupolas _ Sheds _ Garage _ Other _
   Entry Location: Center _ Sidehall _ Other _

MAP (Indicate North in circle):

PHOTO

Description of View: Front-east Side-north

Photographer: Scott Novak
Negative with: S.R.R.C.
Negative # 72/73
ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Cunningham House is a Greek Revival style structure with its pedimented gable end oriented toward the street and a recessed sidehall entry. Set into paneled reveals is a six-panel door flanked by full-length sidelights and topped by a transom light. The door has fluted surrounds with corner blocks and fluted engaged columns rising to a full entablature. All windows are six-over-six with shutters and some have pedimented lintels. The pedimented gable end has a boxed cornice with a wide frieze and is supported by wide, 2-story pilasters. The medium-pitch roof is topped by two tall, narrow chimneys with corbelled caps.

A 1-story, flat-roofed open porch supported by topped columns is located on the north elevation. A 2-story wing with a pedimented gable-end extends to the north. On the south elevation is a 1-story, flat-roofed, three-by-six bay enclosed porch. A 2-story, shed-roofed ell extends to the northwest and a second ell which is 1½-stories high and gable-roofed.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION:

0.46 acres bounded to the N-Jones, S-Depot Road, E-Main Street, W-Church Street, Collins.

Land originally crossed Church St., to Greenwood Pond; gave land to church and masons.

REFERENCES:

Kingston Historic Advisory Committee; interviews w/members, Spring 1980
1856 Map
1892 Map

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

The L. D. Peaslee House is an outstanding example of the Greek Revival style as displayed by its fully pedimented flushboard facade and recessed doorway. In addition, the historic landscape features surviving on the site evidence the prominence of its builders. The house is located in a focal position in the town center.

Historic Associations: Luther Peaslee built the general store across the street (Site 32). His wife was the daughter of Jacob Hook Sanborn, Site 42. House is very similar to Site 34 (outlying in South Kingston) as the two were built by brothers.

MAF DATA 1856-L.D. Peaslee 1892-L.D. Peaslee

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land Woodland Scattered Bldgs Moderately Built Up X Densely Built Up Residential Commercial Industrial Agricultural Roadside Strip Development Other

Recorded By: Herb Hubert

Date: 12/27/79