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

TOWN: Kingston     COUNTY: Rockingham
SURVEY NUMBER: 99 X
COMMON NAME: Exxon Station
HISTORIC NAME: Clarke Carriage Shop
LOCATION: .74 miles south of inter. of W. Main & Rockrimmon, W side of W. Main St.
OWNER: Harry Clark heirs & Eunice Clark
ADDRESS: 138 Main St., West, Kingston, NH
DATE: c. 1918
SOURCE: Assessor's Office, Kingston
STYLE: Commercial Queen Anne

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System
1. FOUNDATION: Stone _ Brick x Concrete _ Concrete Block
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame _ Post & Beam _ Ballon Frame _ Other
   Load Bearing Masonry _ Stone _ Brick _ Concrete Block _ Other
   Metal _ Iron _ Steel _ Other
   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 _ Tim _ Slate
   Pressed Metal _ Sheet Metal _ Rolled Asphalt _ Other
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
6. OTHER:
   # of Stories _ # of Bays _ Approx. Dimensions _45' x 20'
   Roof Style: Gable _ Hips _ Gambrel _ Flat _ Shed _ Mansard _ Jerkinhead
   Monitor _ Sawtooth _ Other
   Appendages: Porches _ Towers _ Dormers _ Bay Windows _ Ells _ Chimneys _
   Wings _ Cupolas _ Sheds _ Garage _ Other _ Overhang
   Entry Location: Center _ Sidehall _ Other

MAP (Indicate North in circle):
PHOTO

Description of View: Front-east
Side-north
Photographer: Herb Bubert
Negative with: S.R.R.C.
Negative File Number: K-80-4c/5-6A
ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Kingston Exxon Station is an unusual and striking example of the Queen Anne style used in a commercial building.

The main block/office part of the structure is thought to have been moved to this site c. 1920 from Rockrimmon Road. The balloon framing technique could date this part of the structure as early as 1820. This section is simple, 1-story, with the gable roof oriented to the road. The eaves treatment consists of a boxed cornice with a wide frieze and gable-end returns. Decorative, patterned shingles are featured in the gables. Windows have two-over-two sash. The structure rests on a brick foundation.

The feature which separates this structure from other roadside architecture of the period is the unusual porte-cochere which extends from the gable of the main block to shelter the gas pumps. Brick piers support chamfered posts under the delicately curved semi-elliptical arch of the gable. Featured in this gable is a wonderful neon clock which emphasizes the commercial nature of the building. The arched overhang is lined with match-boarding (an unusual exterior detail), which is in an excellent state of preservation.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT: Three separate 1-story garages are located to the north and northwest of the station. These newer structures add to the commercial viability of the site without detracting from the historic quality, in fact they make an interesting comment on the evolution of filling station architecture.

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION: 10 acres bounded to the N-Sadowski, S-Sandin, Sander, Modlich, E-Main Street West, Sandin, Sander, W-Jackson, Wallace, Great Pond.

REFERENCES: Interviews with Mrs. Walter Clark, and Mrs. Gertrude Semple.

1856 Map
1892 Map

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

The Clark Exxon Station is a most unusual surviving piece of commercial roadside architecture. Roadside architecture is just recently being recognized for its valuable historic and design associations, with several books having been published just this year (1980). This unique architectural statement is of great importance to the evolutionary quality of the Kingston Historic District. It is most fortunate that it has been so carefully preserved.

MAP DATA: 1856: Wheelwright shop
1892: Clark's Carriage Shop

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

Recorded By: Scott Novak
Herb Bubert

Date: 1/16/80