

Webster Cottage
Main Street, Dartmouth
College Campus
Hanover
Grafton County
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-68

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

WEBSTER COTTAGE

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Location: Main Street, Dartmouth College Campus,
Hanover, Grafton County, New Hampshire.

Present Owner: Dartmouth College

Present Occupant: (Mrs.) Alice van Leer Carrick Skinner

Present Use: Residence

Brief Statement
of Significance: Early cottage, typical of the area, onetime
residence of Daniel Webster.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Previous owner: The structure was previously owned by the present occupant's late husband, Professor Skinner of the Dartmouth College faculty.
2. Date of erection: 1790
3. Notes on alterations and additions: The structure has been moved several times within the town of Hanover. There is a one sheet drawing of the structure showing first and second floors prepared in connection with a remodeling dated October 28, 1914 (Dartmouth College Buildings and Grounds Department, Hanover, New Hampshire, Drawing No. A4 832; Photocopy in this report.
4. Reference: Alice van Leer Carrick (Mrs. Skinner), The Next-to-Nothing House (Boston: The Atlantic Monthly Press, 1922).

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Daniel Webster, Dartmouth College class of 1801, roomed in this cottage while a student at Dartmouth, and the structure takes its name from this association. Henry Fowle Durant who founded Wellesley College was born in this structure February 20, 1822.

Prepared by Osmund R. Overby
Architect
National Park Service
August 1960

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

Regionally typical cottage in sound condition and well maintained.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: One and one half stories, center block plus rear ell. Center block 40-1/2' x 30-1/2', ell 18' x 21-1/2'.
2. Wall construction: Timber frame and clapboards.
3. Chimneys: One central chimney.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Six panel entrance door with transom light set in simple, unrelieved frame.
 - b. Windows and shutters: 6/6 light double hung windows on first floor, 9/6 light double hung windows in lighted gables of second floor. Regionally characteristic fenestration in gable ends with small windows, fixed 2/2 light, in the two lower corners of the triangle of the gable and a louvered ventilator in the corner at the peak. Unrelieved window frames, fixed slat shutters.
5. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof, asphalt shingles.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed, moulded eaves.

C. Technical Description of Interior:

Central chimney type plan with principal rooms to both sides of the chimney, dining room behind and kitchen in ell to the rear. Bedrooms on second floor.

D. Site:

The structure is located on a large lot in a residential area on the edge of the Dartmouth campus. Landscaping is informal with lawn, large trees and shrubs.

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