

Comment on Lake Tarleton IRP 56394 EA:

The Lake Tarleton Logging Project EA states:

“White Mountain National Forest archaeologists completed a cultural resource review for this project pursuant to the regulations (36 CFR 800) implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470f). No historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.”

The wording of the report actually is: “No historic properties affected subject to WMNF recommendations detailed in Item 15 of Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Report (2019-14-17)”
Item 15:

15. FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES:

a. Based on your research, could the proposed project impact cultural resources? No Direct Impact Indirect Impact

No cultural resources identified, go to number 16.

c. If cultural resources are present, but will not be impacted, explain why: Cultural resources within or near timber harvest units, skid trails, landing areas, and roads were flagged in the field as Heritage Reserve Areas with a 50' buffer where no heavy equipment will be allowed to enter and no timber harvest will occur. Timber harvest will occur in winter over frozen ground in all timber harvest locations of the project area in order to minimize ground disturbance. Winter harvest is especially crucial to protect the Lake Tarleton Lithic Scatter (FS # 09220400557) and areas considered sensitive for pre-contact sites around the margins of Lake Tarleton and Lake Katherine. Additionally, while avoiding individual sites, timber harvesting activities will minimize damage to historic roadways by maintaining their existing footprint and protecting roadside stone walls. No new roads are proposed within this project area; however, existing roadways will be improved or realigned, as well as the addition of gates or barriers to keep unauthorized vehicles from entering. All transportation activities will avoid cultural resources in or around the vicinity of the road work. The boat launch on the east side of Lake Katherine shall be designed to avoid cultural resources as it is the location of an existing parking area. Maintenance of the existing WLO shall avoid ground disturbance near cultural resources, especially with regards to the removal of Scots Pine. The expansion of the apple orchard in the northwestern portion of the project area shall avoid the E. Day (1860) (FS # 09220400550) 50' protected buffer. No trees will be stumped near the site or stonewalls as their removal may cause damage. If these conditions cannot be met, the WMNF shall reinstate consultation with the NH SHPO, as appropriate. No project activities shall proceed until updated consultation is completed. See attached table for information specific to potential impacts and protection measures for each identified site within the project area.

d. If cultural resources will be impacted, explain how each will be impacted: All impacts will be avoided

e. If cultural resources could be potentially impacted, what precautions, protective measures, or project modifications do you recommend to avoid or lessen these impacts? If artifacts or historic features are found or impacted during project activities, work in the area shall stop immediately and the Forest Archaeologist shall be notified. The site shall be protected, and work shall not proceed until directed by the Forest Archaeologist. If linear historic features (e.g. stone walls, historic road, etc.) can't be avoided, crossings shall be placed at existing openings/crossings or at right angles to minimize disturbance and retain overall integrity

f. If these recommendations are implemented could all known potential adverse impacts on cultural resources be removed? Yes No

The above report is not accurate in stating that all known potential adverse impact on cultural resources could be removed with the measures outlined in c. Only known resources will have a 50' buffer, so feller bunchers and skidders are likely to damage unknown resources, for example the missing graveyard mention in Fillion's pamphlet, wells, dumps and stone piles.

The report admits potential for damages, especially to the road, a historic resource above and below ground, one which has not been given the protected status it merits. The Charleston Road appears to have been part of a 1781 layout from Wentworth to Piermont. 155 rods were re-routed in 1785, and from the S. Ames property north to the junction was discontinued in 1875. Recent WMNF logging projects have effectively destroyed the historic aspects of roads and trails, for example the Blueberry Mt. Trail off of the North and South (Long Pond) Road and the Jericho Trail in Easton. The report states: “existing roadways will be improved or realigned, as well as the addition of gates or barriers to keep unauthorized vehicles from entering.” The EA fails to justify “improving” and realigning a

historic resource for a logging project of unproven need. The EA fails to explain what types of users are accessing the Charleston Road illegally, and thus fails to open for public input other ways of limiting this presumably motorized access.

Were the stone piles (below) in Tommy Hall’s former pasture, thorough which the Jericho Trail in Easton passes, marked before, or protected during, the Bowen Brook Logging Project? Edgar Alan Nutt, in his book “Coventry-Benton Revisited” (2004) wrote of the Nathan Mullikan property: “Southeasterly and just beyond the ell are the remains of the outline foundation of a 36 foot square barn mostly destroyed by the Forest Service road running through it.” (p. 229)



The Cultural Resource Review found resources scattered throughout the proposed logging areas, and it was by no means a complete survey. Given the pre and post-contact richness of this area, there are obviously undiscovered resources and logging should not be allowed, except chain-saw clearing around the apple orchards and smaller trees that are damaging foundations. Pruning of the orchards should also be done, and identification of apple varieties if grafted trees remain. The apple trees are historic resources.

Two of several of Tommy Hall’s stone piles, pre-logging, 2019



“There has been much public debate on how the US Forest Service (USFS) can better fulfill its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.... In contrast to recently publicized concerns about indeterminable delays caused by NEPA, our research finds that the vast majority of NEPA projects are processed quickly using existing legal authorities (i.e., Categorical Exclusions and Environmental Assessments) and that the USFS processes environmental impact statements faster than any other agency with a significant NEPA workload...We further show that there has been a dramatic decline in the

number of NEPA analyses initiated and completed annually that should be of great concern to all who care about public lands in the United States...Historically, NEPA provided a platform that facilitated the

transformation of the USFS from a clientelistic agency that primarily served extractive industries to an agency that attempts to balance diverse public values (Fleischman 2017)... Evidence suggests that citizen engagement enabled by NEPA leads to decisions that are better at both managing public resources and aligning with public values (Young et al. 2010, Bevington 2012, 2018, Trnka and Ellis 2014, Nie and Metcalf 2016)... Finally, we find a very significant decline in the number of NEPA projects being initiated and completed that cannot be explained by any changes in NEPA law. If anything, recent acts of Congress and Executive Orders should have decreased the costs and increased the speed of NEPA compliance by introducing new CEs and establishing new processes aimed at increasing the efficiency of environmental reviews (Hoover et al. 2019, Council on Environmental Quality 2020). A great slowdown in USFS activity could mean that needed work is not being done on the landscape. Agency critics have argued that many USFS activities are destructive to the values the agency is supposed to be promoting (Bevington 2018). If this is the case, then fewer projects could mean fewer destructive activities on public lands, and therefore better management.” (2020) <https://academic.oup.com/jof/article/118/4/403/5825558> (emphasis added)

The Lake Tarleton Logging project Cultural Resource review and the EA Scenic Management assessment used an overly narrow definition of scenic resources.

The Revised Lake Tarleton Logging Project Environmental Assessment states: “The proposed action is consistent with Forest Plan standards and guidelines for scenery management. Nine viewpoints were used for scenery analysis and the timber units were modeled and adjusted to minimize visual impacts and ensure Forest Plan compliance (Figure 4). Some visual impacts from the proposal can be expected, however these impacts would be most apparently immediately following timber harvest and would fade and blend over time as the forest regenerates.”

To sum up scenic impacts by stating there will be huge visual impacts that will become less noticeable over the next 50 years is not an adequate response.

The EA provided no data showing less than 9% of the view with visual impacts from the proposed logging. The EA provided no data incorporating previous logging. Did the viewshed analysis take into account the increased viewshed that would be created by the logging, for example, the view from the powerline? The EA provided no data showing that 9% is an acceptable scenic impact.



The EA failed to consider the Charleston Road viewshed in its analysis. **After the clearcutting, many portions of the road would have open views like the one in the photo (left) from the Clearcut-Portion-of-the-Jericho Trail, a section of trail that before the logging had no view, and was not included in the project’s Scenery Management assessment.**

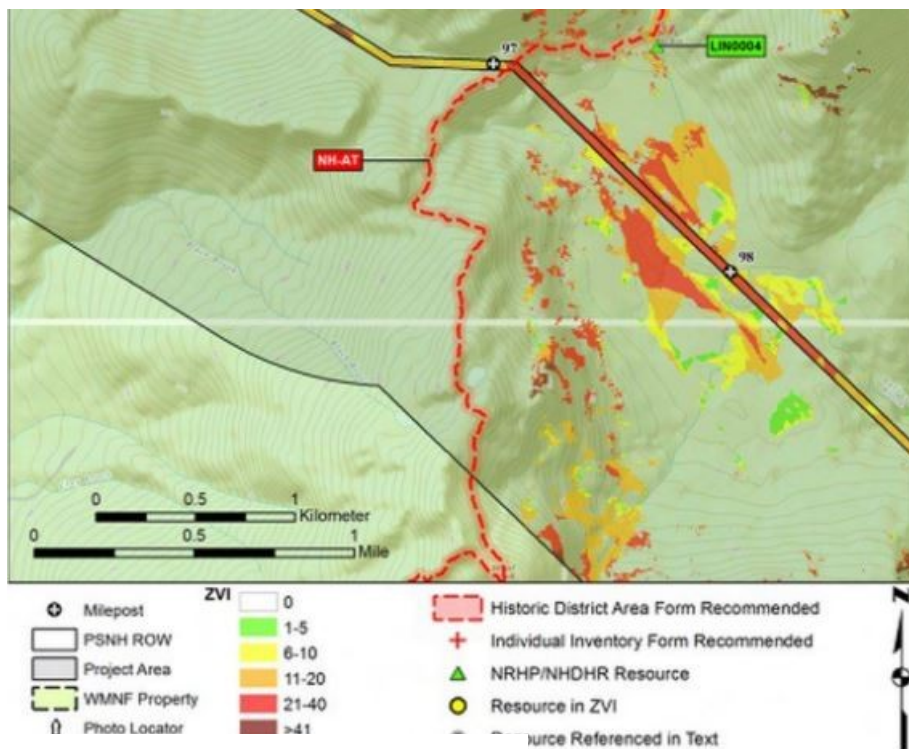
The proposed logging would abut almost the entire Charleston Road.

“Scenery Management

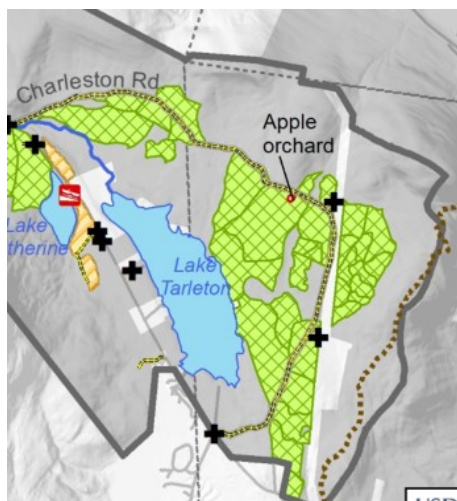
G-1 In evaluating cumulative effects for viewed landscapes from established concern level 1, open, higher elevation viewpoints affording expansive or large scale views, no more than 9 percent of the acreage within the view should be treated with regeneration vegetation management activities within a 30 year period. Total area affected during any one entry period with new regeneration treatment should not exceed 4 percent of the acreage. Assessment may need to be made from multiple viewpoints (that view a common land base). The assessment will apply to each view separately.” **The EA provided no records of the logging that has been done in the Tarleton area over the past 30 years.**

It would be impossible for anything other than a several thousand acre clearcut to be more than 9% of a viewshed, unless that viewshed was extremely limited. USFS failed to provide the percentages of proposed logging areas visible from each of the chosen visual impact locations.

A visual impact map like the one below, needs to be produced for this project.



WMNF has been approached by the Board of Trails (DNCR) which hopes to gain FS permission for OHRV use of the snowmobile trail on the powerline that abuts the old Charleston Road. This would be a cumulative impact in terms of noise, wildlife and terrain damage and would also threaten the cultural resources in and around that section of trail/powerline. WMNF needs to disclose all potential cumulative cultural impacts in the area of the proposed logging.



“Appalachian National Scenic Trail The National Trails System Act (16 United States

Code [U.S.C.] 1241-1251) identifies the ANST as a National Scenic Trail. The National Scenic Trail designation identifies trails that “provide for maximum outdoor recreation potential and for the conservation and enjoyment of the nationally significant scenic, historic, natural, or cultural qualities of the areas through which such trails may pass” (16 U.S.C. 1242). The National Trails System Act does not specifically regulate visual resources (either within or external to the trail right-of-way), but does require that, “to the extent practicable, efforts shall be made to avoid activities incompatible with the purposes for which such trails were established” (16 U.S.C. 1246c.)”

https://www.ferc.gov/sites/default/files/2020-05/volume-III-part-2_2.pdf

“While no laws or regulations specifically govern visual impacts in the US, the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires that federal agencies... consider the adverse impacts of their actions on properties that may be eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Properties (NRHP). The NRHP includes districts, sites, buildings, objects and cultural resources.” Federal Agencies “must allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment, and must consult with state historic preservation offices and representatives of federally recognized Native American tribes...”

To determine whether the landscape can absorb the visual change resulting from a proposed... project without significantly affecting scenic quality or viewer enjoyment, a project proponent generally prepares a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). The VIA uses techniques such as distance modeling, visual simulations, and professional rating panels to quantify the potential effects and their impact on stakeholders. Ultimately, the VIA determines whether the threshold of acceptable visual impact will be exceeded and considers any measures that will reduce or mitigate visual impact, such as uniform design, lighting and siting.” <https://www.whitecase.com/publications/insight/united-states#:~:text=While%20no%20laws%20or%20regulations,National%20Register%20of%20Historic%20Properties.>

WMNF failed to provide an adequate assessment of the visual impacts of the proposed logging project on the Appalachian Trail and the Charleston Road, one which includes simulated post-logging views, like those shown below:

Figure 3-60: Full Simulation, KOP SSF 05, Regrowth 5 Years after Construction



SSF 05 - Existing Allegheny Trail East, Looking East - Existing View



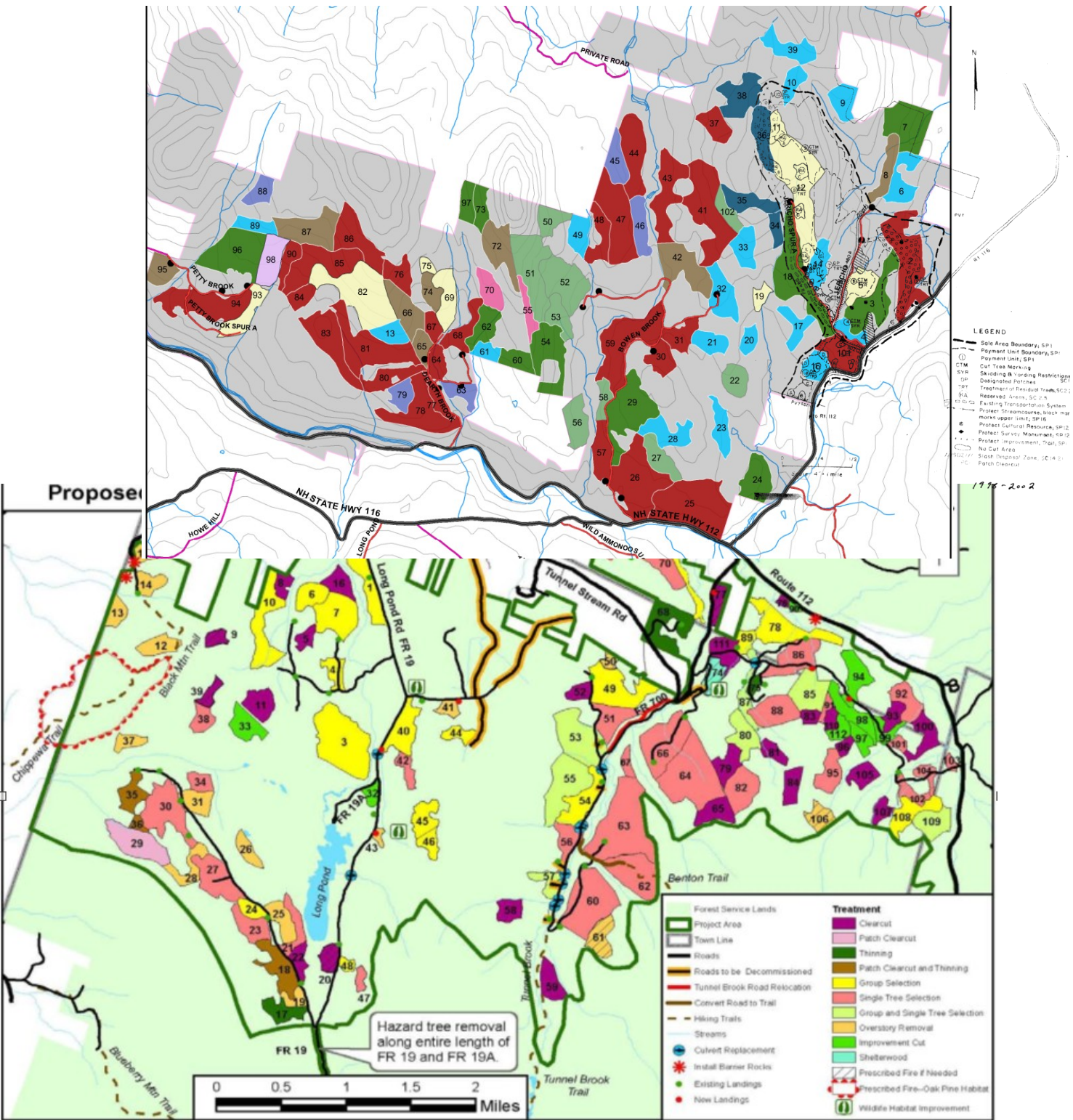
SSF 05 - Existing Allegheny Trail East, Looking East - Proposed View: 75' Permanent ROW, 50' Temp. ROW (5 Year Tree Growth)

A data sheet for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline project, specifically for SSF 05. It includes a title, project name, a map showing the location, and various technical details. The Truescape logo is visible at the bottom.

Atlantic Coast Pipeline	
SSF 05	
Looking Allegheny Trail East	
Location (Township, Range, Section)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Total)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Proposed)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Existing)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Temporary)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Permanent)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Water)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Wetlands)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Cultural Resources)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Historic Properties)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Wildlife)	SSFB05.0
Acres (Other)	SSFB05.0
Truescape	
www.truescape.com	
DATE	05 January 2017
NO.	47

“NEPA VIA includes impacts on the people at those places and on the larger landscape. Where there are potential visual impacts on both scenic values and historic properties, both NEPA and Section 106 VIAs must be conducted.”

2018-2022 Bowen Brook Logging Plan with 1998-2002 Cooley Cut superimposed.



Pemi Northwest Logging Plan 2013 (above)

Clearcuts and shelter cuts are extremely depressing to look, be in, and walk through. In the summer they are hot. As they grow up they become even more impassible as saplings cover the stumps and dropped trees and raspberries require protective clothing. Even thinning destroys the feel of a forest, especially a forest one is familiar with, because parts of it are missing. This is not an assessment based on ignorance of the “need” for management (deer habitat and saw-logs) but an understanding of the damage done to the forest. One can see and feel this in the cut-over area north of the north end of the Charleston Road. Given the recent logging here, the plan is clearly to prevent any old growth forest, the most scenic forest possible. WMNF has not taken into account that logged forests have visual impacts not just when they are clearcut, shelter cut, etc. but for the next 100 years. The fact that most people have not experienced an old growth forest does not mean WMNF can ignore this standard.

The Environmental Assessment failed to assess the scenic and recreational value of the Lake Tarleton area as a mature forest. The EA failed to consider the scenic experience of viewing a clearcut forest compared to viewing a mature forest. Less than 1% of New Hampshire forests are old growth. People want to see and be in mature forests. The short and easy access to the historically rich Tarleton Lake area increases its value for such recreation.

“Section 106 of the National Historic Places Act requires Federal agencies to consider the impacts, including visual impacts, of their undertakings on the ability of certain historic properties to convey their historic significance. Visual impacts of Federal agency undertakings must also be considered under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) for their potential to affect historic properties, scenic resources present in the landscape, and the scenic experiences of people who view the landscape. This paper discusses important differences between visual impact analysis (VIA) under Section 106 and under NEPA. In essence, VIA under Section 106 looks at impacts on places, while a NEPA VIA includes impacts on the people at those places and on the larger landscape. Where there are potential visual impacts on both scenic values and historic properties, both NEPA and Section 106 VIAs must be conducted.”

WMNF failed to do an adequate Section 106/NEPA analysis, including VIAs for the AT and the Charleston Road.

“When conducting VIAs, there may be confusion about the resources that must be evaluated and the appropriate method for assessing impacts on a given resource. When stakeholders focus on a particular resource or when impact assessment professionals are accustomed to using a familiar methodology, the result may be a tendency to see the impacts and assessment approach through the “lens” of the resource they are accustomed to dealing with. This can result in overlooking important impacts and/or using inappropriate methods to conduct the assessment.”

“Limitations of Key Observation Point Analysis in VIAs Under NEPA Using KOP analysis in a VIA to assess impacts on people’s visual experience and enjoyment is clearly consistent with the NEPA mandate to assure that all people have aesthetically pleasing surroundings, in part because it addresses the interaction of humans and their aesthetic experience of the landscape. This implies that humans are the receptors for visual impacts. Relying solely on KOP analysis in VIA is problematic, however, because as land uses and people’s viewing behaviors and locations change over time, KOPs and viewer sensitivities may also change.

For example, the development of new roads or trails may result in new areas being opened up for scenic viewing and other recreational uses. A project that has little impact on views from current KOPs

may have much larger effects if evaluated from different KOPs in the future.”

<https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/gtr/gtr-nrs-p-183papers/20-sullivan-VRS-gtr-p-183.pdf>

The proposed Lake Tarleton logging project EA scenic evaluation is invalidated by its limited KOP analysis.

The Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Report finding of No Effect ignored the important historic landscape of the Lake Tarleton area, which includes Lake Tarleton and Lake Katherine, the Cross Mine, the old Tarleton Club trails and the Charleston Road itself, with its associated cellar holes, stone piles, foundations, old dumps, foundations, springs, wells and orchards.

The Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Report ignored the history of Charleston, documented in William Little’s Histories of Warren (1854 and 1870), Thumbnail history of Warren, New Hampshire, 1763-1963: by John H. Nichol, The Life, Labors, and Travels of Elder Charles Bowles, of the Free Will Baptist Denomination, by Eld. John W. Lewis. Together with an Essay on the Character and Condition of the African Race by the Same. Also, an Essay on the Fugitive Law of the U.S. Congress of 1850, by Rev. Arthur Dearing; Elder John W. Lewis, (1853), Theda Page Brigham’s Some More Things about Coventry-Benton (1964), Robert Fillions pamphlets; Early Haverhill-Warren roads (1991), Charleston (1995), Still some More Things about Coventry-Benton, and Lake Tarleton... (2005), William Whitcher’s Some Things about Coventry-Benton, Roland Bixby’s History of Warren (1985), the Lake Tarleton Club map (1921), James E. Hobbs’ Piermont, N.H. and Lake Tarleton Club, [Piermont](#), Jeffrey Belyea’s A Pictorial History of Warren, N.H. (1985), William Whitcher’s records, Amos Cloughs 1860s stereoviews, deeds, and three posts by Lyme Cellar Holes:

<https://lymecellarholes.wordpress.com/2016/04/02/behind-lake-tarleton-piermont/>

<https://lymecellarholes.wordpress.com/2018/05/11/revealing-charleston/>

<https://lymecellarholes.wordpress.com/2016/04/02/behind-lake-tarleton-piermont/>

The Charleston Road, Lake Tarleton and Lake Katherine area is eligible for listing to the National Register.

It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of U.S. history and the lives of persons significant in our past: One of the first residents of Charleston was Charles Bowles, a bi-racial man who later became a notable Free Will Baptist preacher.

It has yielded and “may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (National Park Service 1997)” through the pre-contact artifacts, the remains of Charleston; foundations, orchards, stone walls, the Cross Mine, the Lake Tarleton Club remains and history and the summer camps; the latter all aspects of the tourism history of New England.

This Old Charleston Road area retains integrity of setting and feeling:

“Setting is the physical environment of a historic property and includes the character of the place in which the property played its historical role. Setting can include natural or humanmade elements, such as topographic features, vegetation, paths, or fences, and, importantly, the relationships between buildings and other features or open space. Setting should be examined not only within the exact boundaries of the property, but also between the property and its surroundings (National Park Service 1997)...

“Feeling is a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property’s historic character.” (Bulletin, National Park Service 1997)

The Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Report incorrectly arrived at a finding of No Significant Effect. 2,687 acres were incompletely surveyed, the proposed project would affect 5,375 acres, cultural resources were found in an area with a pattern of settlement and pre-contact use that indicates that far more extensive resources exist.

WMNF has improved their documentation of the locations of historic features in the Forest, but appears not to value these resources and has made almost no effort to preserve them. NHDHR has also been slow to acknowledge the value of foundation holes, old un-built roads, and other cultural “remnants”.

The same assessment of lack of value led to the failure to save the thousands of historic structures that have been destroyed through neglect or deliberate destruction since the mid 1860s. With global warming and the sixth great extinction, pre-fossil fuel historical resources will increase in cultural significance and value, representing as they do a culture that existed and thrived without the objects, fossil-fuel dependence, materials and culture of acquisition and consumption that now threaten the planet and which are evident in every built landscape we encounter from a vehicle.

The Charleston/Lake Katherine/Lake Tarleton area is of value not only because it offers an experience of the natural world, but also because it offers an experience of the pre-fossil fuel material culture and environment.

“The images of a colonial farmhouse on a hill, a brick mill village by a waterfall, or the austere church on a common are all undisputed icons of Massachusetts’ history and culture. But the historic landscape of the Commonwealth is far more complex than these familiar snapshots, and contains many other, individual features that collectively contribute to the larger cultural landscape. Often made of stone, they may have a historic significance that makes them worthy of preservation in their own right; as it is often these stone details that are the only features to survive successive periods of care, development, abandonment, and neglect. They are the wells and cellar holes, the stone walls and dams, the boundary markers and quarries, examples of which are found scattered throughout Massachusetts, providing clues towards former land uses in places where the past is often obscured by development, neglect, vegetation, or theft. They are the traces that survive where more ephemeral materials have disappeared.

Yet how do we learn to recognize these features when toppled stone boundary markers or collapsed and tree-filled cellar holes often go unnoticed in the woods? Even when identified, it may be assumed that their isolation removes any relevance or historic significance. But it is exactly these types of landscape elements that tie the land to a past use and history that may no longer be immediately discernable, and without the skills needed to identify these features their eventual loss is assured. However, stone features can be protected through proper stewardship that addresses threats such as neglect, collapse, and damage from vegetation and theft.” (emphasis added)

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/terra-firma-5/download>



This section of wall was carefully built to span this small stream.

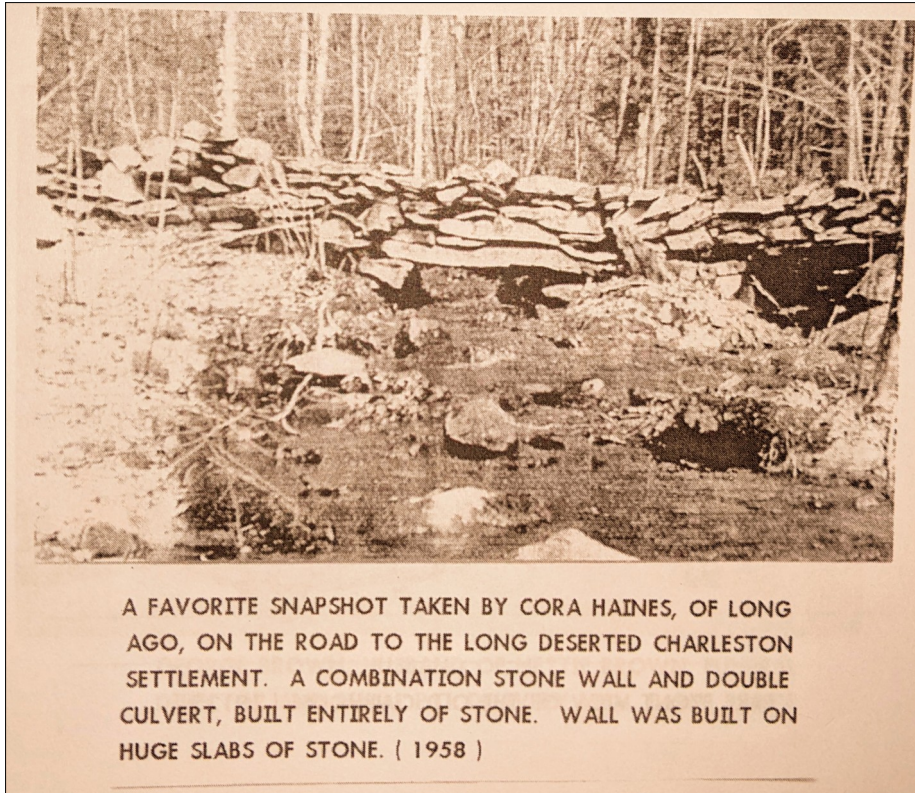
<https://lymecellarholes.wordpress.com/2016/04/02/behind-lake-tarleton-piermont/>



<https://lymecellarholes.wordpress.com/2018/05/07/uncovering-charleston/> (right)



Closeup of gravestone of Stephen Lund, aged 12 yrs, 7 months



A FAVORITE SNAPSHOT TAKEN BY CORA HAINES, OF LONG AGO, ON THE ROAD TO THE LONG DESERTED CHARLESTON SETTLEMENT. A COMBINATION STONE WALL AND DOUBLE CULVERT, BUILT ENTIRELY OF STONE. WALL WAS BUILT ON HUGE SLABS OF STONE. (1958)

'A Pictorial History of Warren, N.H.' by Jeffrey Belyea (above)



Setting and feeling of historic Jericho Trail/Road, Easton, N.H. destroyed by logging, WMNF, 2022

Section of Jericho Trail not ruined by abutting clearcuts, shelterwood cuts or thinning, WMNF, 2022



One of Tommy Hall's stone piles, left unprotected during Bowen Brook logging, 2022.

Below Misery, Tom Hall, 2012



Knowledge of the cultural, environmental and social damage caused by clearcutting is part of our culture, one that elicits a response to bear witness. *Clearcut, Tom Hall, 2017*

This type of road “improvement” would damage the Old Charleston Road.
(Jericho Trail/Road, Easton, N.H. after widening, logging and “upgrades”, 2022.)



Below, Old Charleston Rd., 2022, proposed as a logging/haul road with “upgrades.”



The Cultural Resource Reconnaissance Report states: “If linear historic features (e.g. stone walls, historic road, etc.) can’t be avoided, crossings shall be placed at existing openings/crossings or at right angles to minimize disturbance and retain overall integrity.”



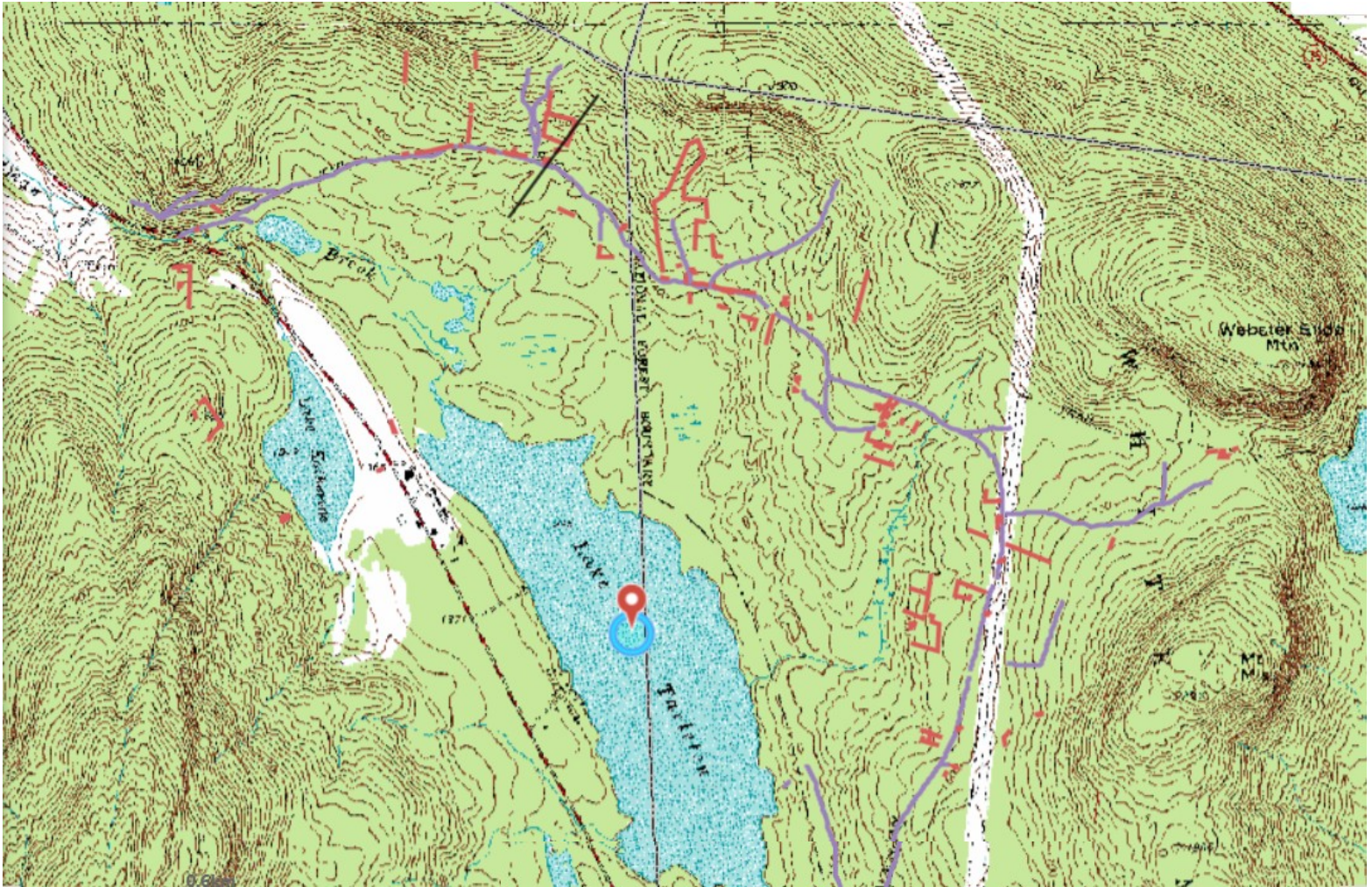
Vulnerable stone wall,
Charleston Rd. Piermont,
2022

Tom Hall: “I like to call my paintings ‘Maine Stories:’ each a narrative in my native state. Born in Portland, I grew up in the heart of the Lakes District in southwestern Maine, on the edge of its western mountains. Here was found the landscape – rivers, farms, orchards, foothill, and mountains – that would continue to inspire forty years later. As the painter John Marin used to say, ‘Paintings are stories. Paintings are *always* stories.’

When the woods were cut, the country changed. Everything: the game, the people, the river. It all changed. Being right there, you couldn’t help but see it... live it... take it right into your heart... and all the quandary of humankind that goes with it. It’s tough to walk in a clearcut: stump, mud, branch...stump again.

Once, in a poem, Frank O’Hara wrote, ‘possibility is the great good.’ That quote comes to mind a lot these days, particularly on these hillside walks. I like the regardless optimism in it. And it tugs at my sleeve... something about taking responsibility and raising a voice – which is the painting – to take exception.”

Incomplete Map of Cultural Resources visible on Lidar. This does not include all the stone walls abutting the Road.



“Linear historic properties occupy a middle ground between archaeology, landscape and the built environment. They may represent transportation features such as roads, railroads, trails, or engineered waterways – or large infrastructure including ditches, fortifications or boundaries. Such categories can be subdivided further: for example, as portage or oxcart trails, stagecoach or military roads, aqueducts or drainage ditches, etc. As extant systems or abandoned segments, many linear properties have associated archaeological sites, features or artifacts. When known, these often contribute to the property’s historical significance.”

<https://core.tdar.org/collection/70002/roads-rivers-rails-and-trails-and-more-the-archaeology-of-linear-historic-properties>

Roads as historic resources:

<http://historicroads.org/preservation/>

http://fitchfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/FITCH_Paul-Marriott_final_web.pdf

https://www.waterfordcitizens.org/wp-content/uploads/Historic-Roads-design-maintainance-nchrp_W189.pdf

<http://historicroads.org/2021/06/29/2022conference/> Conference September 22-24, 2022Bowen

<https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://www.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=2071&context=wmlr>

https://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhcarch/archresources/Roads_Rails_Trails_REPORT.pdf

Charles Bowles, early settler in Charleston:

“Charles Bowles was born into slavery in Boston, MA in 1761. In 1776 at age 15 he was owned by a loyalist family in Boston. The account is a bit incomplete, but he leaves slavery and becomes a soldier in the Continental Army. As was often the case, a person was granted freedom from slavery for serving as a soldier during the Revolution. Charles Bowles pursued his freedom, settling in New Hampshire, where he married Mary Corliss, a second cousin (which sounds like my family). He becomes a Christian in the Free Will Baptist movement and is baptized at the Wentworth, NH Free Will Baptist Church. Both his Baptist and Methodist friends urge him to answer God’s call and become an evangelist and church organizer. After three years of struggle, he enters upon an itinerant ministry which brings him to Huntington, VT.

Now this is where it gets really good. In 1816 he arrives in Vermont. He is threatened with violence because of the color of his skin. A mob in Hinesburg ties him to a fence rail and attempts to throw him into a pond. Instead, Charles Bowles, tied to a fence rail, preaches to the mob and the mob stops and listens and unties Charles Bowles and many become Christians. The threat of violence ceases. An account of this episode reads “. . .he preached with such power of the Spirit, that many were converted; and as they gathered at the waterside soon after for baptism, shouts of joy and praise resounded through the hills on the farther shore.” This sounds like the Book of Acts. He goes on to preach in Huntington where 150 people come to Christ. He later organizes the Huntington Baptist Church with 90 baptized members, goes on to plant the Starksboro Baptist Church, and periodically leaving the valley, also plants the Enosburg Baptist Church. He becomes a farmer in Huntington but travels throughout northwestern Vermont leading revival services and helping to organize churches. In 1836 he feels called to repeat his ministry in the vicinity of Malone, NY, where he died in 1843. Upon Charles Bowles’ death it is written, “His spirit was so catholic, and his soul so filled with divine power, he could always unite with any evangelical Christian on gospel ground to oppose the kingdom of Satan, and build up the interest of Zion.” Another comment at his death: “He was honored as a father, and highly respected by all.” I think Charles Bowles was really an apostle.”

<https://www.abc-vermontnewhampshire.com/news/archives/10-2019/3>

Charles Bowles:

CHAPTER I. His Origin—Early Life—Enters the Army—Close of the War—His Conversion—Joins the C. Baptist Church—Whitfield's Labors— Withdraws from the C. Baptists and joins the F. W. Baptists. Elder Charles Bowles, the subject of this Memoir, was born in the city of Boston, A. D. 1701. His father was an African, in the humble capacity of a servant.— His mother was a daughter of the celebrated Col. Morgan, who was distinguished as an Officer in the Rifle Corps of the American army, during the Revolutionary struggle for Independence. His infancy was spent with his father; but while in his childhood, he was placed under the care of Mr. Jones, of Lunenburg, Mass. At the early age of twelve, Mr; Jones died, and ho was placed in the family of a Tory. But it appears that his young heart, did not readily imbibe the sentiments of " the divine right of kings," neither did he altogether fancy his new situation; for at the tender age of fourteen, we find him serving in the Colonial army, in the capacity of waiter to an officer. He remained in this situation for two years, and then enlisted, a mere boy, in the American army, to risk his life in defence of the holy cause of liberty. He must have learned here, to meet danger with courage and resolution ; this was a portion of his life that called into vigorous exercise that courage and perseverance, for which he was ever after characterized. We know: very little of of his military life, save that he served through the en-tire war (p. 1)

After the close of the war, and the disbanding of the army, Elder Bowles went into the State of New Hampshire, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. Soon after, be was married to Miss Mary Corliss his cousin, a grand daughter of the above named Col. M. Such was the condition and financial resources of the country, during and subsequent to the war, that those who had so nobly sacrificed their time and strength in the common cause, were obliged to return to their homes unrewarded, save by the pleasing remembrance of the victories they had won— the gratitude of a nation of freemen, and the bright anticipation of the undisturbed enjoyment of civil and religious liberty. Soon after his marriage, he began to find that he was raising his arm in rebellion, against a mightier king than George the III. He felt that he was living in open violation of the just requirements of the King of Heaven. (p. 6)

Elder Bowles soon after openly professed faith in the Redeemer, by receiving the ordinance* of baptism, and uniting with the Calvinistic Baptist Church, in the town of Wentworth, New Hampshire. He then labored in Warren and adjacent towns. At this time, Baptist sentiments were quite unpopular in the State, while Congregationalism exerted the all-controlling influence over the public mind; and consequently, the Baptists enjoyed the privilege, which all religions minorities have always enjoyed, of being persecuted and called heretics; and that other privilege too, of enjoying much of the spirit and power of the holy gospel... (p. 19)

On the 24th he gave the parting hand to the friends in Hanover. He visited some friends in Lyme and Oxford on his way to Piermont, and held meetings at brother Norris', Cobourn's and Roberson's. On arriving at Piermont, he found a good home at brother Ephraim Cross. On the 29th, he went to Warren;, and preached in the evening) and put up at Mr. Stephen Richardson's. On the 30th, he visited some of his children, who were living there, he also visited some of his old neighbors in the place. He seemed to enjoy a happy time, and yet as he says, "It was a solemn time to me in reflecting what changes the flight of time had made in the society of my fellow-men." He seemed to enjoy the social greetings of his friends in the place, and his was a temperment to enjoy it; he was ardent in his affections as a beloved father, and possessed those social qualities as a friend and a neighbor, and although he had been absent for a season, friendship still existed.

November 1st, he preached at brother Corlis'. The 2d he took leave of his friends and his children, and rode to Bradford, Vermont... (p 114)

And to highten the joy of his soul, he received a letter this day from Warren, New Hampshire, giving him the happy intelligence that his daughter Sarah had just been converted to God, and also his daughter Eunice was under deep conviction, and was seeking the Lord with all her heart. . (p. 142)

The declaration of some that the African is willing to be in slavery, is false; it is contrary to his human nature. And it is proved false, by oft-repeated cases of absconding from slavery to British soil, to enjoy physical and mental freedom. Such a declaration is one of the mean subterfuges to which the tyrant and his abettors are driven, when pressed by Infinite justice and truth on the great question of right between man and man. God created every man with all the elements and spirit of freedom interwoven in every fibre of his existence; with human rights written on the whole volume of his human nature. The body is only to bear about his manhood. If by the operation of slavery, one being of the human family whatever be his color, becomes so far reduced in ignorance and forgetful of his obligation to himself, and his God, as to be willing to be a slave, and consent to inferiority, so much the more the guilt of the nation that upholds it. But remove all the evil effects of slavery, as well as slavery itself—strike down its black; flag, and unfurl the banner of freedom in the name of humanity—let the pure generous spirit of christian philanthropy prevail, and there is not an African in the nation but would feel far happier in the enjoyment of freedom, than in slavery.” (p. 258)

The life, labors, and travels of elder Charles Bowles, of the Free Will Baptist denomination / by Eld. John W. Lewis ; together with An essay on the character and condition of the African race by the same ; also, An essay on the fugitive law of the U.S. Congress of 1850, by Rev. Arthur Dearing.

History of Warren, New Hamshire, William Little 1870:

“It is told how on that day there was visiting and merry-making, that Joseph Patch went home to his father-in-law’s, Mr. Stevens Merrill’s and that Joshua Copp and Joshua Merrill, also went down there to eat thanksgiving supper. Then all the Clements assembled at Col. Obadiah’s, all the Whitchers at John’s on Pine hill; Simeon Smith and his friends were social on Red Oak hill, and the Clarks and the Lunds had a merry-making over at Charleston,* and down by Eastman ponds.”

* *Charleston*—Mr. Nathaniel Libbey,, on reading the advance sheets of this work, said he knew why Charleston was so called, that it was named after Charles Bowles, who once lived in that delectable region. Bowles only stopped there a short time, and said he was frightened away by the immense bull-frogs which inhabited Tarleton lake; that every night he could hear them singing out “Charles Bowles! Charles Bowles! We are a coming, we are a coming!” His friends laughed and him and called the place Charles’ town—Charleston.” (p. 304) 1

“EPHRAIM LUND was the next settler. He came from Plymouth, N.H. where he had built the first saw-mill for the proprietors of that township and he erected a cabin and cleared a few acres on the south shore of Tarleton lake. The place where he lived was long known as Charleston, but why it was so called no one has ever been able to tell. It rained a few days after he first came to Warren, succeeded at night by a thick fog. A little past sunset he was startled by the wildest cry he had ever heard. It seemed as if some one lost in the woods was hallooing in despair. He got his gun and starting towards the lake discharged it several times, that the report might guide the lost one to his cabin—but no person came. Who was it? What had happened? A few days after he heard the

hallooing again, and going through the woods to the rocky shore he learned that she sound that startled him so was the cry of “the great northern diver.” He had never heard or seen the bird before, and was now perfectly satisfied that when told that if any one could “halloo like a loon” that person’s voice must be most loud and terrible, especially if it was heard by a man solitary and alone, on a foggy night and in the dark woods.

Joseph Lund, his brother, came shortly after and settled near him...” (p. 227)

“From this first union district, the germ sometimes called the “*centre District*,” sometimes the “*Village school on the Green*,” have sprung first *Runaway pond district*,* otherwise known as the *Weeks district*, in the school house of which for many years the town meetings were held and then in their order came the now defunct *Charleston district*, ** *Beech hill district*, *Pine hill district*, *the Summit*, *Height o’ Land*, *East-parte*, *The Forks*, sometimes called *Clough district* in “Patchbreuckland, *Streamy valley* or *Sawtelle district*, and *Moosehillock district* on the southwestern mountain spur...”***

***”Nathaniel Merrill taught school in Charleston in 1795, at old Mr. Lund’s. Nathan Merrill was the son of Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, and settled on Beech hill. --Selectmen’s Records, Vol I. (p. 320)

“There were no frosts, no snows, no cold and chilling winds in the summer of 1817. All over town there was bustling life and even over to the Charleston district, by Tarleton lake, where times had been the hardest, the hearts of men took courage. Corn grew again, the potatoes were luxuriant, and deep grass overhung the banks of all the little streams, and many a flower nodded above the clear water.” (p. 415)

“They were a happy people over at Charleston. Amos Tarleton, Thomas Pillsbury, Ephraim Potter, Richard Pillsbury, Stephen Lund,* Daniel Day, Hosea Lund, Benj. Bixby, and others, lived there. David Smith was born there. He was a good school-master, was selectman, tax collector, town treasurer, and county treasurer: cool, shrewd, long-headed, he was one of Warren’s smartest men. They had a Methodist society, a class, Sabbath school and regular preaching, a good school-house, which also answered for a church; many have taught school in it, and a grave yard was by it, where the early settlers were sleeping. Their building were good, their great barns were always well filled with hay, and their sugar places were the best in town.

But alas! All this is changed. The dwellers in the district by the lake are all dead, the houses and the barns have mouldered away, the spot where they stood can hardly be found, and the fields and the pastures are grown with forest trees. Even the old school-house, the church in Charleston, is gone. Nothing but the foundation remains. The burying ground by it is overgrown; the thistle shakes its lonely head by the tombstone, the gray moss whistles to the wind, the fox looks out of its hole by the sunken graves, and the wood-brakes and the birches above them.

Whence came this desolation? The great west takes away the young men of Warren; they are gone to cities, the gold mines of California invited some of them; some died on the battle-field. A hundred years may go by before Charleston district shall have such a thriving, happy population again.” (p. 416)

“The old burying ground at Charleston should not be forgotten.” (p. 488)

“Mr. Anderson burned to death at a coal pit over to Charleston, 1852” (p. 560)

Foundation, possibly J & J Webster



Apple Orchard, four walled sections, possibly Lund

