



**Squam Lakes Watershed  
National Register of Historic Places  
Nomination Committee  
P.O. Box 201, Holderness, NH 03245**

**SQUAM NATIONAL REGISTER INITIATIVE  
NOMINATION PROCESS**

If you own a camp, cottage or farmhouse which is older than 50 years, and you think it may have some historic significance within the watershed, here are the steps involved in participating in the project:

1. **Assessment:** The first step is to determine eligibility for the National Register (NR). Although some owners may have the background and knowledge to do this themselves, most will need to contact a qualified preservation consultant to visit the property. Once the umbrella nomination for the watershed has been approved by the federal government, the Squam National Register nomination committee will post a list of recommended consultants on the Squam NRHP website. The umbrella nomination will set forth the criteria by which all Squam nominations will be evaluated. At this point in time the person most knowledgeable about these parameters is the project consultant, Elizabeth Durfee Hengen (ehengen@gmail.com).

The internet link to the Squam National Register of Historic Places Initiative is up and running at the Squam Lakes Conservation Society website: [www.squamlakes.com](http://www.squamlakes.com) Click on the 'Conservation' button at the top of the SLCS home page to see the latest information.

2. **Cost determination:** The preservation consultant will determine eligibility for National Register listing as well as the budget for the nomination. The cost of a nomination depends on a number of factors: the age and number of structures involved, whether or not related properties might already be listed, the number of owners through history, and other landscape features related to the nomination. Typically, it is not possible to nominate just one structure when it is part of a larger complex, such as a farm or a camp.

The cost of the nomination is the responsibility of the owner. Payments may be made with tax deductible donations to the Squam Lakes Conservation Society for the Squam NRHP account. Checks should be made payable to SLCS-NRHP. The Committee hopes to have limited funds available to assist owners with the cost of the nomination. Grant applications are available upon request.

3. **Timing:** Preparing a nomination for the National Register is a complicated and time consuming process often lasting up to a year from the initial visit by a consultant to the final approval. Field work must be done at appropriate times during the year (spring time is the best for photographs), while historical research is often accomplished in the winter months.

Nominations are first submitted to the New Hampshire Department of Historical Resources. Once approved by the state they are forwarded to the National Park Service for final determination.

4 **Privacy considerations:** Participants have a significant amount of control over privacy issues. There is a requirement that approved properties be listed publicly by the state and the federal government. However, the name of the owner and the specific address do not have to be publicized. For instance, one listing might be: “1922 historic summer camp, Squam Lake, NH” or “Beede Farm, Sandwich, NH”.

The Committee would like to post information about properties in the nomination process and also those which have been approved on the website. However, if you wish not to have your name or property mentioned on this site, we can easily honor your request. Similarly, we issue newsletters and project updates from time to time with photos of some of the historic places being nominated. Just let us know if you prefer not to have photos of your property included in these mailings. The mailings are sent primarily to Squam residents interested in the project with a very limited distribution.

There is no evidence at all that National Register listing will result in tourists trying to find your property. The listings are buried in the state and federal websites which are quite difficult to locate. There is no obligation, ever, to open your historic home to the public, and your property still will be absolutely “Private”.

Some owners are very pleased to be honored with the National Register nomination and are happy to allow photos of their unique structures to be used in our literature. If your property is ever rented to the public, the National Register listing can be a distinct advantage. Most renters will appreciate the honor that the NR designation brings and may also be more respectful of your home and its contents because of it.

5. **Future of the project:** There are so many properties in the Squam watershed which qualify for the National Register that it is difficult to determine what the future will bring. The Committee is committed to assisting owners with the nomination process for the next few years, and will provide incentive grants as long as funds are available. The goal is to add five to ten properties to the NR each year until the watershed is dotted with recognized historic places. This will further establish the area as truly historic and will discourage future development that is not in keeping with the historic character of the Squam Lakes.

6. **Questions:** Please contact Betsy Whitmore: 603-968-7548 or erwhitmore@gmail.com

**Squam NRHP Committee:** Chris Williams, Roger Laroche, John Waldhausen, Don Berry, Jane Beck, Margie Emmons, Bryant Tolles, Derek Brereton, Susan Davies, David Ruell, Linda Foerderer, Connie Ross, Chris Kuhn, Lisa Bennett, Sandra and Carl Lehner, Peter Van Winkle, Lisa Wardlaw; Betsy Whitmore, chair.

**Supporting Organizations:** Squam Lakes Association, Squam Lakes Conservation Society, Lakes Region Conservation Trust, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, Historical Societies in Sandwich, Holderness and Ashland, Moultonborough Heritage Commission.

**Project Consultant:** Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, Preservation Consultant, Concord, NH