National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2019



Baker-Biddle Property

Cape Cod National Seashore

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Baker-Biddle Property

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 976132

Parent Landscape: 976132

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Cape Cod National Seashore

Alpha Code: CACO

Park Organization Code: 1730

Park District: CACO

Region: Northeast

Restricted: No

Landscape Description:

The Baker-Biddle Property is part of Cape Cod National Seashore, located at 610-612 Bound Brook Island Road in Wellfleet, Massachusetts. The site is located 0.25 miles east of Cape Cod Bay, and like other residential properties in the area, is surrounded by successional woodlands and forested wetlands. These lands and waterways were open and navigable in late eighteenth century when David Baker, Jr. established a farm on the island and built the wood-frame Baker House with his son David III in the 1820s. The Cape Cod style home served as the focus of the Baker farm, which included a gristmill, saltworks, pastures, and gardens. Changes in land use and transfers of land ultimately decreased the farm to its current 10-acre parcel. Although now ringed by woodlands, the Baker House is the core of the property and reflects modifications made by owners Jack Hall and Francis and Katherine Biddle in the mid-1900s.

Today a collection of small wood-frame studios and cottages stand near the Baker House, arranged around a broad lawn in the late 1930s and 1940s during Hall's residency. Extensive gardens to the north and south of the house and tree plantings in the lawn date to the Biddles, who resided seasonally at the property in the 1950s and 1960s. The site remained in the Biddle family until it was acquired by the National Park Service in 2011. The Baker-Biddle Property is not promoted as a park destination, and the buildings are currently vacant pending future historical research and park planning. However, a wayside and sign offer limited site interpretation.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Baker-Biddle Property is significant under two criteria of the National Register of Historic Places: Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Entertainment/Recreation, and Criterion B in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation, Law, Literature, and Politics/Government. Under Criterion A, the property is locally significant for its association with multiple generations of the Baker family who settled on Bound Brook Island, including Lorenzo Dow Baker, founder of the United Fruit Company and now Chiquita Brands International. It is also locally significant for its association with the Cape's transition to a tourism economy focused on leisure and the beauty of the natural landscape, and namely Francis and Katherine Biddle who owned the property as a seasonal retreat and frequently hosted gatherings of world-class poets and literary critics. Under Criterion B, the property was the home of several notable figures: it is locally

significant for Francis Biddle, Attorney General for President Franklin Roosevelt and Lead Judge at the Nuremberg war crimes trials; and locally significant for Katherine Biddle, an acclaimed poet and writer.

The period of significance for the landscape at the Baker-Biddle Property is 1820-2011. The period begins in the 1820s when David Baker Jr. and his son David III constructed the Baker House. The time period includes the end of Baker family ownership of the property in 1935; an expansion of the house and relocation of additional buildings to the site by Jack Hall in 1937-1949; and modifications to the house and other buildings and installation of gardens and landscaping by Francis and Katherine Biddle in 1949-1968; the death of Francis in 1968 and Katherine in 1977; and the years when use and care of the property transitioned to the Biddles' son Edmund Randolph. The period ends in 2011 when the property was transferred to the NPS

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of the Baker-Biddle Property is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1820-2011) to current conditions. Many of the historic landscape characteristics and features of the site are still intact. The relationship of the site's features upon the local landforms is evident but increasingly obscured by successional vegetation. The historic Baker House, Delight Cottage, Studio, and Barn Cottage are extant and in stable condition, and continue to reflect the site's historic layout. Circulation features in the form of brick patios, steps, walls, flagstone paths, an earthen-shell driveway, and the trace of the old Duck Harbor Road remain. Old fence lines and a granite water trough speak to the site's former uses. A large elm is one of several specimen trees that still shade the site's maintained lawns and patios, and a screen of trees still grows along the driveway.

The most significant change since 2011 has been the continued trend of revegetation at the property, which has now reclaimed the abandoned south vegetable garden and blocked views looking south to what was once Duck Harbor. Planting beds throughout the site are overgrown, especially in the north flower garden. Other vegetation is in poor condition, such as several trees in the lawns, or is missing, including foundation beds at the Baker House and shade trees in the lawn. Vegetation cloaks remnant fences and portions of the Duck Harbor Road, while grass increasingly spreads into the brick patios. Vegetation also covers the former site of the privy, which collapsed and has been removed. The unmaintained and unrestrained vegetation reinforces the loss of creative composition and social gatherings that once occurred here. Fortunately, many of these conditions are reversible with vegetation maintenance.

Condition:
The landscape at the Baker-Biddle Property is in "Fair" condition, which indicates that the property shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. The assessment is primary due to the presence of successional vegetation that obscures former land uses and landscape features.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

The Baker-Biddle Property is one of nineteen cultural landscapes that have been identified at Cape Cod National Seashore. Documentation for seven landscapes has been completed: Atwood-Higgins Historic District, Fort Hill Rural Historic District, Long Point, Nauset Light Area, Pamet Cranberry Bog, Truro Highlands Historic District, and Dune Shacks of the Peaked Hill Bars. The remaining undocumented landscapes include: Doane Homestead, Fresh Brook Village, Great Island, Hollows, North Beach, North Truro Air Force Station, Penniman House, Race Point, Salt Pond Visitor Center, Small Pox Cemetery, and Wellfleet Ponds.

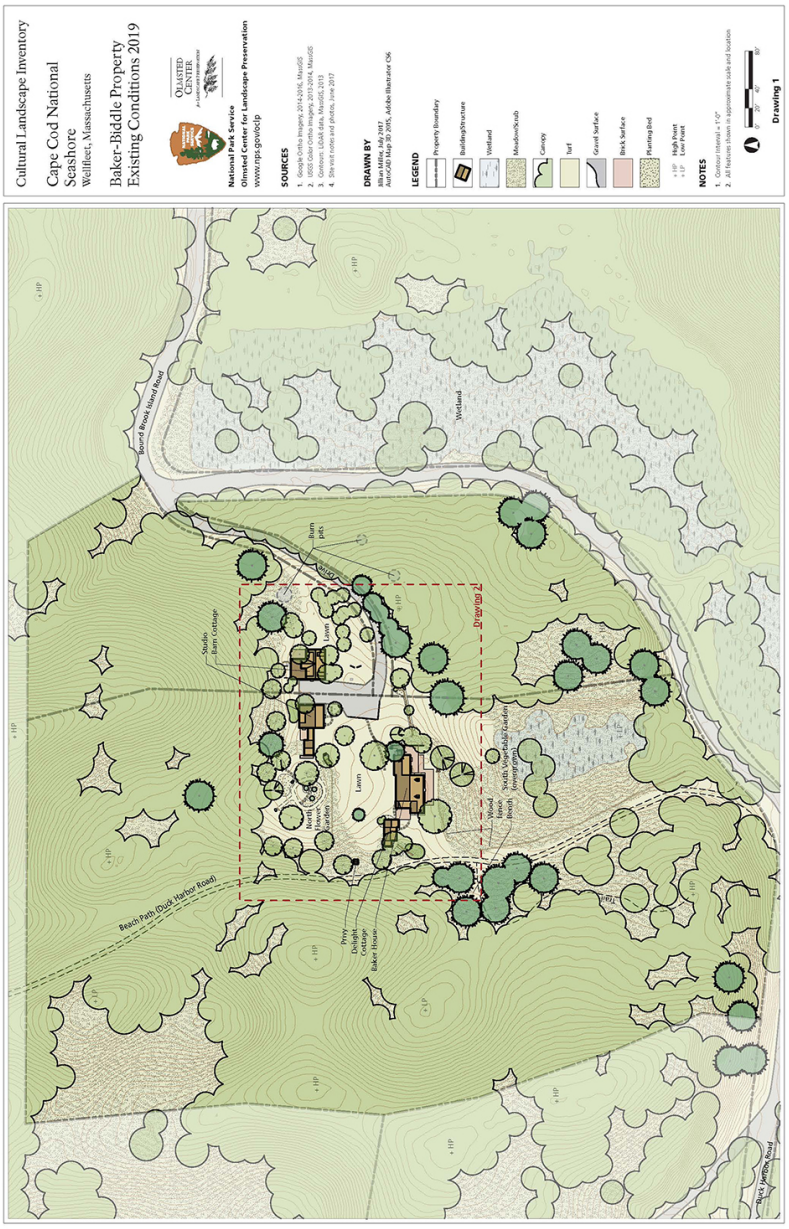
Landscape Type:

Historic Vernacular Landscape

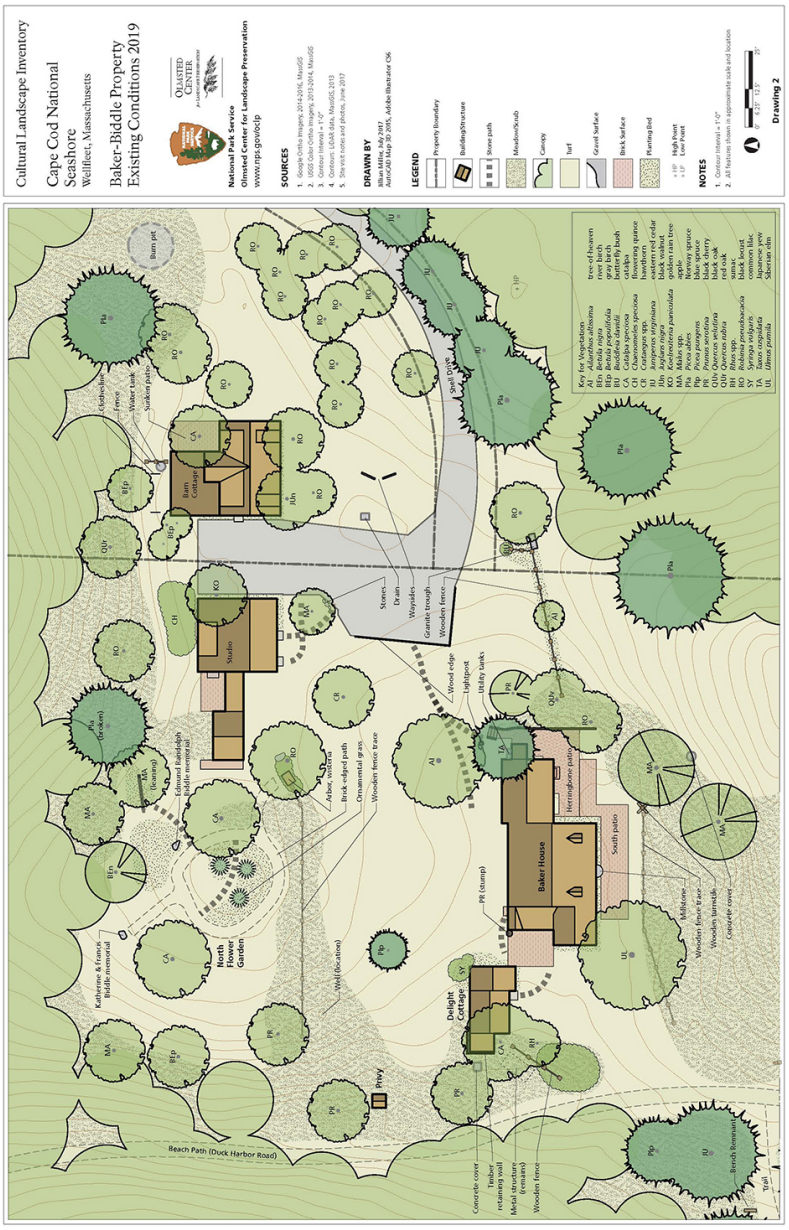
Other Names:

Other Name:	Baker-Biddle Property	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Baker, David Home	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Home of L.D. Baker	**Other Name Type:**	Historic

Site Plan



Site plan for Baker-Biddle Property, 1 of 2.



Site plan for Baker-Biddle Property, 2 of 2.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 06/26/2019

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

In June 2017 a site visit to the Baker-Biddle Property was conducted by the following: Historical Landscape Architects Christopher Beagan and Jeff Killion; Designing the Parks interns from the Olmsted Center; the park's Cultural Resource Program Manager, Bill Burke; Margie Coffin Brown, Integrated Resource Manager for Minute Man National Historical Park; and a group of interns and volunteers from Minute Man NHP, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), and Gateway National Recreation Area. Jill Miller, one of the Olmsted Center interns, completed a draft report in 2018, and Jeff Killion completed the final report in 2019. The park contact for the Cultural Landscape Inventory is Bill Burke. He can be reached by telephone at (508) 255-3421 or by email at Bill_Burke@nps.gov.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Baker-Biddle Property
Cape Cod National Seashore

Cape Cod National Seashore concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Baker-Biddle Property, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Should Be Preserved and Maintained

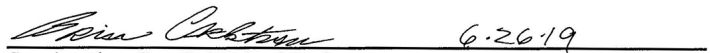
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Baker-Biddle Property is hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, Cape Cod National Seashore — Date

Park Concurrence Form, June 26, 2019.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

August 7, 2019

Jeff Killion
CLI Coordinator
National Park Service
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
15 State Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02109

RE: Baker-Biddle Property, Wellfleet, Cultural Landscape Inventory

Dear Mr. Killion:

I am writing in response to the recent letter of Jonathan Meade, Associate Regional Director, Resource Steward and Science, National Park Service, seeking Massachusetts Historical Commission concurrence with the status of previously unevaluated resources identified in the Cultural Landscapes Inventory for the Baker-Biddle Property for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. MHC staff has reviewed the CLI report. We note that determinations of significance under Criteria C and D are beyond the scope of this project, and we encourage their consideration at a later date. We have the following comments:

1: The MHC concurs that the Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion A for its association with multiple generations of the Baker Family. However, the area of significance may more appropriately be Social History rather than Exploration/Settlement. While the Bakers were early settlers of Bound Brook, the Baker-Biddle House dates to the 1820s so its historical significance and associations begin at that time. In addition, it does not appear that the initial Baker settlers built upon what is now the 10-acre parcel on which the house stands.

2: The MHC concurs that the Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion A for its associations with Cape Cod's transition to a tourism economy focused on leisure, appreciation for the landscape's natural beauty, and as a place attracting notable writers and artists.

3: The MHC does not concur that the Baker-Biddle Property is nationally significant under Criterion B for its association with Lorenzo Dow Baker (1840-1908). While Baker was born and raised in the Baker-Biddle House, this is not the place where he made his major accomplishments. In 1861 at the age of 21, Lorenzo Dow Baker married and moved out of the homestead. He subsequently became a prominent fruit merchant and real estate magnate with houses in Wellfleet and Jamaica. In 1882, after his father's death, he took title to the Baker-Biddle Property. He owned, but did not occupy it, until his death in 1908. Baker's Wellfleet house "Belvernon" (WLF.153) is included within the Wellfleet Center National Register Historic District. While Lorenzo Dow Baker is an outstanding member of the Baker family, his associations with the Baker-Biddle Property are best linked to Criterion A with a local level of significance.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
(617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 1 of 8.

4: The MHC does not concur that the Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion B for its association John "Jack" Hughes Hall (1913-2003). This is not the property with which Hall is most associated. However, it may be locally significant under Criterion C for its association with Hall. Hall bought the house in 1937, and it was his year-round residence from 1940 to 1949. He made many changes to the property and is responsible for the majority of the accessory buildings. A self-taught architect/builder, Hall began his design-build practice in the late 1940s. He designed a modernist house for himself in 1949, but is best known for his modernist design of the Ruth and Robert Hatch Jr. House (1961, NRMPS 2014).

5: The MHC does not concur that the Baker-Biddle Property is nationally significant under Criterion B for its association with Francis Beverly Biddle (1886-1968). Although Biddle was a nationally significant figure, having served as lawyer, judge, US. Solicitor General, US Attorney General, and judge at the Nuremberg war crimes trials, Biddle's career was complete when Biddle and his wife purchased the house. He and his wife bought the Baker-Biddle House in 1949 as a seasonal retreat, after Biddle had retired, and his primary residence remained in Philadelphia. His association with the house is best linked to Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation and reflects the transition of Wellfleet and Cape Cod to a tourism and vacation economy; however, Criterion B at the local level would also apply.

6: The MHC concurs that the Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion B for its association with Katharine Garrison Chapin Biddle (1890-1977). An "acclaimed poet and writer," she had established her reputation before living at the Baker-Biddle House. At her summer retreat in Wellfleet, she hosted literary gatherings for notable guests, made improvements to the landscape adding formal and informal gardens, and with her husband oversaw alterations to the main house and to the outbuildings to meet their needs. As with her husband, Katharine Biddle's associations with the Baker-Biddle Property would fulfil Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation as well as Criterion B.

7: The MHC does not concur with the period of significance. For National Register purposes, the period of significance typically begins with the oldest extant standing resource on the property, unless significance has been established under Criterion D. The construction date for the house, the oldest resource, is in the 1820s. Thus, even though David Baker acquired the land in 1792, no changes to the cultural landscape prior to the 1820s have been identified in the CLI. Regarding the end date, since the property remained associated with the Biddle Family until it was transferred to the National Park Service in 2011, MHC recommends an end date after Francis Biddle's death in 1968 to include later associations with his widow and with their son Edmund Randolph.

8: The MHC does not concur with the categorization of resources as they appear on the present list. For National Register purposes, contributing resources would be those buildings, structures, sites, and objects that fall within the period of significance. All others would be noncontributing. The National Register does not have an "undetermined" category. Views and vistas, and vegetation, are not considered as either contributing or noncontributing for National Register purposes. We note that the collapsed privy would best be considered a contributing site.

These comments are provided in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended).

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 2 of 8.

Thank you for giving MHC the opportunity to comment on this report. Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please feel free to contact Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, at this office.

Sincerely,

Brona Simon

Brona Simon
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

xc: Jonathan Meade, Associate Regional Director, Resource Steward and Science, NPS, Northeast Region, Philadelphia
Brian Carlstrom, Superintendent, Cape Cod National Seashore

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 3 of 8.

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
1234 House
20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1.A.2 (NER-RSS)

JUL 02 2019

Ms. Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3314

Dear Ms. Simon:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for the Baker-Biddle Property at Cape Cod National Seashore. We seek your concurrence on the status of previously unevaluated resources identified in this CLI for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For example, the NPS List of Classified Structures inventory includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 4 of 8.

Previous Historic Property Evaluation:

Cape Cod National Seashore was authorized on August 7, 1961 and established on June 1, 1966. The Baker-Biddle Property was included in the park's authorized boundary, but was not acquired until 2011. Documentation of the property's historic resources is limited to a Massachusetts Historical Commission inventory form for David Baker House (WLF.279) completed by Helen C. Purcell of the Wellfleet Historical Commission in March 1984. The form describes the house as Georgian Cape style dating to 1792 (date since revised), set on a cleared area within a locust and shrub woodland. The form also identifies the workshop studio, barn cottage, and "trying shed." The MACRIS cover sheet identifies the area of significance as "Architecture." Also in July 1984, Purcell completed an inventory form for Bound Brook Island (WLF.H). This form describes the physical setting and historic uses of the island. It notes five homes, one of which is the Baker House, and describes the presence of remnant rhubarb patches at each site. To date, no formal determinations of National Register eligibility have been conducted for the property.

Current Findings:

The enclosed CLI for the Baker-Biddle Property fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the property's landscape retains integrity to the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, Entertainment/Recreation, Exploration/Settlement, Industry, Law, Literature, and Politics/Government. As noted previously, none of the property's specific features compiled on the attached list have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register. The CLI identifies 23 features related to spatial organization, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features that contribute to the significance and historic character of the landscape.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, Boundary Description, National Register Information and the Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek your concurrence on the status of resources and features identified in this CLI:

- The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement for its association with multiple generations of the Baker family that settled in Wellfleet and Bound Brook Island during the Colonial period.
- The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation for its association with Cape Cod's transition to a tourism economy that focused on leisure and appreciation for the landscape's natural beauty, and as the residence of notable writers and artists who hosted gatherings of world-class poets and literary critics.
- The Baker-Biddle Property is nationally significant under Criterion B in the areas of Industry, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with Lorenzo Dow Baker (1840-1908). Baker was founder of the United Fruit Company, which is now Chiquita Brands International.
- The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion B in the area of Architecture and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with John "Jack" Hughes Hall (1913-2003). Hall designed several Modernist homes on the Cape.
- The Baker-Biddle Property is nationally significant under Criterion B in the areas of Law, Politics/Government, and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with Francis Beverly Biddle (1886-1968). Mr. Biddle was Attorney General for President Franklin Roosevelt and Lead Judge at the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 5 of 8.

- The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant under Criterion B in the areas of Literature and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with Katherine Garrison Chapin Biddle (1890-1977). Mrs. Biddle was an acclaimed poet and writer.
- The period of significance for the landscape at the Baker-Biddle Property is 1792-1968. The period begins in 1792 when David Baker Jr. purchased the land on which the Baker farm was developed. The time period includes the construction of the Baker House in the 1820s; the end of Baker family ownership of the property in 1935; an expansion of the house and relocation of additional buildings to the site by Jack Hall in 1937-1949; and modifications to the house and other buildings and installation of gardens and landscaping by Francis and Katherine Biddle in 1949-1968. The period ends with the death of Francis Biddle in 1968, after which the use and care of the property transitioned to the Biddles' son Edmund Randolph.
- The categorization of contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined landscape characteristics and features (see attached list).

If you concur with these findings, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator (Address: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 15 State Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02109). We would appreciate your response in **45 days**, if possible. Thank you for your attention to this inventory. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 617-223-5053.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Meade
Associate Regional Director
Resource Steward and Science

Enclosure

cc:
Superintendent, Cape Cod National Seashore

I concur with the National Park Service categorizations of the landscape resources and features for the Baker-Biddle Property, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.

_____ _____
Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer Date

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 6 of 8.

NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory – Baker-Biddle Property
Cape Cod National Seashore
List of Contributing and Non-Contributing Landscape Features
June 2019

Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places.

Spatial Organization
- North Flower Garden
- South Vegetable Garden

Vegetation
- North Flower Garden Plantings
- Foundation Plantings
- Evergreens along Driveway
- Grape Vines
- Lawns

Circulation
- Beach Path (Duck Harbor Road
- Driveway
- Brick Patios
- Flagstone Paths

Buildings and Structures
- Baker House (Main House)
- Studio
- Delight Cottage
- Barn Cottage
- Patio Retaining Wall

Views and Vistas
- View from Southwest Hill to Harbor and Bay
- View South from Baker House to Duck Harbor (blocked)
- View South from Baker House to Vegetable Garden (blocked)
- View from Studio to North Garden

Small-Scale Features
- Remnant Fence South of Baker House
- Granite Trough
- Granite Half Millstone Step

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 7 of 8.

Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Vegetation
South Vegetable Garden Successional Woody Plants

Circulation
Parking Area

Small-Scale Features
Garden Bench Remnants
Francis and Katherine Biddle Grave Markers
Edmund Randolph Biddle Grave Marker
Wayside "Land and History Preserved"
Wood Interpretive Sign

Undetermined Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Buildings and Structures
Privy

Small-Scale Features
Fences in South Vegetable Garden
Wooden Turnstile
Other Fences (Beach Path, Delight Cottage, east of the Baker House, north flower garden, south vegetable garden)
Clothesline
Light Post
Wooden Arbor
Water Tank
Drain in Lawn
Concrete Cap Southeast of House
Propane Tanks
Burn Pits

bcc:
Bonnie Halda
Bethany Serafine
Eric Breitkreutz
James Nyman
David Goldstein
Giles Parker
Robert Page

SHPO concurrence letter, August 7, 2019, page 8 of 8.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Massachusetts	Barnstable County

Size (Acres): 10.1

Land Tract Number(s)

25-4070 and 25-8604

Boundary Description:

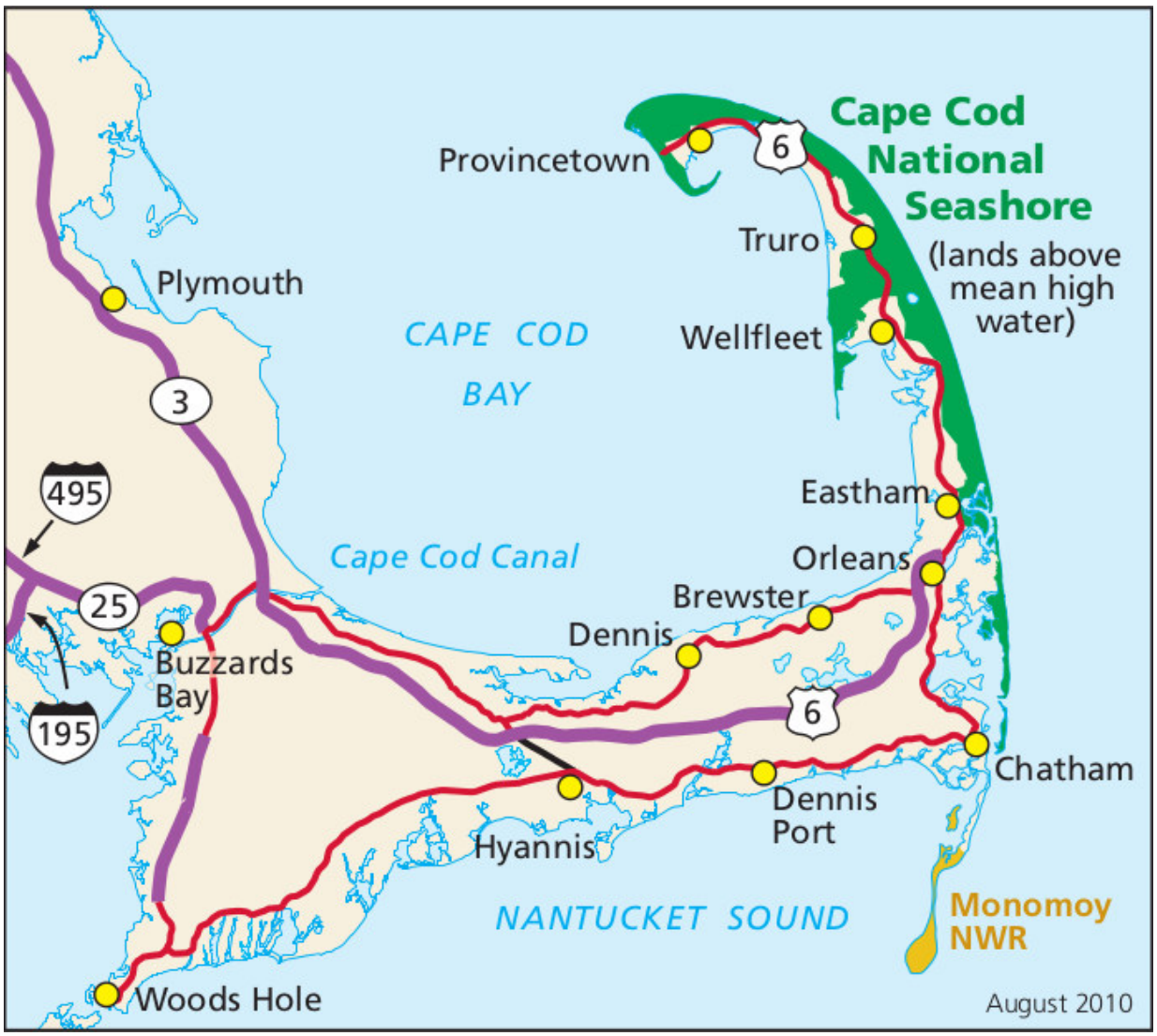
The boundaries of the 10.10-acre Baker-Biddle Property cultural landscape are coterminous with the boundaries of two tracts acquired by the park in 2011, and include the historic core of the Baker farm and the site's four primary buildings – Baker House, Delight Cottage, Studio, and Barn Cottage – as well gardens, lawns, and a portion of Duck Harbor Road.

Beginning at the northeast corner of the property where the division line meets the westerly side of Bound Brook Island Road, proceed south a distance of 658.79 feet along the westerly edge of Bound Brook Island Road to a concrete bound and from there proceed 395.91 feet along the northerly edge of Bound Brook Island Road to the southwest corner of boundary where marked by a concrete bound. Next, proceed northward the following courses and distances: N 06° 27′ 20″ E 62.12 feet to a concrete bound; N 23° 08′ 10″ W 100.20 feet to a concrete bound; N 19° 07′ 00″ W 150.59 feet to a concrete bound; N 10° 43′ 00″ W 101.31 feet to a concrete bound; N 04° 43′ 50″ E 145.38 feet to a concrete bound; and N 05° 19′ 00″W 232.28 feet to the property's northwest corner. From said point, proceed easterly S 89° 46′ 12″ E 612.79 feet to a concrete bound, and then S 30° 26′ 30″ E 137.90 feet to the edge of Bound Brook Island Road and the point of beginning. The bounds of the parcel contain 10.00 acres, more or less.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
	Area	41.95331	-70.07324	
	Area	41.95328	-70.07098	
	Area	41.95295	-70.07073	
	Area	41.95288	-70.07089	
	Area	41.95284	-70.07084	
	Area	41.95193	-70.07083	
	Area	41.9518	-70.07089	
	Area	41.95154	-70.07124	
	Area	41.95142	-70.07154	
	Area	41.95126	-70.07193	
	Area	41.95119	-70.07204	
	Area	41.95113	-70.07232	
	Area	41.95119	-70.07288	
	Area	41.95136	-70.07285	
	Area	41.952	-70.07316	
	Area	41.95228	-70.07322	
	Area	41.95268	-70.07317	

Location Map:



Cape Cod National Seashore (in green) is in eastern Massachusetts and southeast of Boston. (http://npmaps.com/cape-cod/)



The Baker-Biddle property is located northwest of Wellfleet, west of the Atwood-Higgins House on Bound Brook Island Road. Park lands are depicted in green. (Cape Cod National Seashore--hereafter CACO--www.nps.gov/caco/planyourvisit/maps.htm)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Beginning with the Wamponoag people prior to the 1600s, Cape Cod continues to attract settlement, exploration, and prosperity. The Pilgrims made their first landfall on the Cape in 1620, and by 1640 the first permanent settlements were formed by those attracted by the plentiful fish found in Cape Cod Bay. The land's relentless climate challenged early Cape Codders; these conditions, in turn, produced the nationally recognized Cape Cod style house. The style's characteristic low form and steep pitched roof allowed it to withstand snow and wind. Builders often situated these homes in hollows with full southern exposure.

In addition to fishing, settlers depended on subsistence farming, salt hay, and meager woodlots for their survival but were tested when severe erosion threatened both land and sea resources. When Wellfleet was founded in 1763, the regional economy relied on fishing, whaling, and shellfish; however, maritime commerce declined following the Revolutionary War and took many decades to rebound. In the eighteenth century, many found their livelihood whaling in the Bay; lookouts on hills and Bound Brook Island announced the arrival of whales passing through the harbor, where eager captains beached and harvested them for oil. In addition to producing oil, settlers along the shore set up saltworks and maintained wind-powered mills. Wellfleet also served as a port for many ships, including the fleet belonging to Lorenzo Dow Baker, the "Banana King" who helped establish the banana import industry in the United States.

Lorenzo Baker was a key figure in attracting seasonal tourists to the Outer Cape, building a hotel in Wellfleet in 1902. Vacationers, artists, and intellectuals began exploring the rural and solitary landscape in the years that followed, but after World War II and the construction of the Mid-Cape Highway (U.S. Rt. 6) in 1953, tourism on the Cape grew rapidly. In an effort to preserve the quintessential landscape character and way of life threatened by accelerating development, Cape Cod National Seashore was created in 1961. Within Wellfleet alone, 8,000 acres were designated within park's authorized boundary, which is approximately 61% of the town's land. Today, visitors reside for days, weeks, or even months in seasonal cottages, local inns, and campgrounds, where they experience the rustic beauty of coastal towns, the seashore, and tranquil scenery.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Cape Cod is the largest glacial peninsula in the world and the Great Beach on the Atlantic Side of the Cape is the longest expanse of uninterrupted sandy shoreline on the East Coast. Natural change on the Cape is pervasive and dramatic especially along the ocean shore. The natural systems and landforms found within Cape Cod NS were shaped almost entirely of material deposited by glaciers that retreated approximately 14,000 to 18,000 years ago.

The Baker-Biddle property is located on the south side of Bound Brook Island. The gradual shoaling of Bound Brook to the north and of Duck Harbor to the south left the island surrounded by marshland that drains into the Herring River and adjoins several other creeks. A string of hollows, northeast of the island, branch off from Bound Brook toward Truro. Merrick Island to the southeast and Griffin Island to the south, divide Bound Brook Island from the center of Wellfleet. Beaches and tidal flats on the west side of Bound Brook Island line Cape Cod Bay.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Bound Brook Island lies with the municipal boundaries of Wellfleet, Massachusetts, a town located between Eastham and Truro in the northern bow that encircles Cape Cod Bay. Wellfleet is one of six towns encompassed in Cape Cod National Seashore, and is located within Barnstable County. The town lies approximately 105 miles southeast of Boston, by land. During the summer season, the population of Wellfleet increases from 3,500 to some 17,000 people, most of whom travel by way of U.S. Route 6 to spend their time at the town's beaches, ponds, attractions, and village center. These growing numbers illustrate a trend seen over the recent decades, and most noticeable in the adult and senior citizen population. The entirety of Bound Brook Island exists within the administrative boundary of the Cape Cod National Seashore, and most parcels are under federal ownership.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 06/26/2019

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Baker-Biddle Property meets criteria for the “Should be Preserved or Maintained” management category because the site is compatible with the park’s legislated significance and the site meets National Register of Historic Places criteria. The property was included within the park’s boundary, authorized on August 7, 1961 (Public Law 87-126, 75 Stat. 284). The act authorized acquisition by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, condemnation, transfer, exchange, or otherwise of the lands described. The parcels that comprise the Baker-Biddle Property were conveyed to the NPS in 2011 (Tract 25-4070, 7.24 acres and Tract 25-8604, 2.76 acres). The findings of this report indicate that the site meets National Register criteria A and B in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, Entertainment/Recreation, Social History, Industry, Law, Literature, and Politics/Government.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: None

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: Cape Cod National Seashore acquired the property in 2011 from private owners, Stephen and Daniel Biddle, with assistance from Trust for Public Land to prevent the development of private subdivisions.

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park, which contribute to the significance of the property. The boundary defined as the Baker-Biddle Property adequately encloses extant historic resources. However, adjoining parcels that were once part of the Baker farm may include remnants of the saltworks, gristmill, windmill, and other structures, roads, and fencelines.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Undocumented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Cape Cod National Seashore was authorized on August 7, 1961 and established on June 1, 1966. The Baker-Biddle Property was included in the park's authorized boundary, but was not acquired until 2011. Documentation of the property's historic resources is limited to a Massachusetts Historical Commission inventory form for David Baker House (WLF.279) completed by Helen C. Purcell of the Wellfleet Historical Commission in March 1984. The form describes the house as Georgian Cape style dating to 1792, set on a cleared area within a locust and shrub woodland. The form also identifies the workshop studio, barn cottage, and "trying shed." The MACRIS cover sheet identifies the area of significance as "Architecture." Also in July 1984, Purcell completed an inventory form for Bound Brook Island (WLF.H). This form describes the physical setting and historic uses of the island. It notes five homes, one of which is the Baker House, and describes the presence of remnant rhubarb patches at each site. To date, no formal determinations of National Register eligibility have been conducted for the property.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and period of significance for the Baker-Biddle Property have not been documented. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Baker-Biddle Property is considered "Undocumented."

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 08/07/2019

Concurrence Narrative:

The Massachusetts SHPO concurred with the NPS that the Baker-Biddle Property was locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation and Criterion B for Katherine Biddle. The SHPO disagreed that the property was locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement because the house was not built until the 1820s, stating that it was instead locally significant in the area of Social History for the Baker family and especially the accomplishments of Lorenzo Dow Baker. The SHPO disagreed that the property was nationally significant under Criterion B for Francis Biddle because Biddle's career was complete when he and Katherine bought the house, stating that it was instead locally significant for the Biddles' association with the transition of the Cape and Wellfleet to a tourism and vacation economy. The SHPO disagreed that the property was locally significant under Criterion B for Jack Hall because it is not the property for which Hall is most associated. Lastly, the SHPO recommended the period of significance should be changed from 1792-1968 to 1820-2011, beginning with the construction of the house and ending when the property was transferred from the Biddle Family to the NPS. All resources within the period of significance would be considered contributing. The CLI has been revised to reflect all of the SHPO's recommendations.

Significance Level: Local

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The Baker-Biddle Property is significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Entertainment/Recreation, and significant under Criterion B in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation,

Law, Literature, and Politics/Government. Under Criterion A, the property is locally significant for its association with multiple generations of the Baker family who settled on Bound Brook Island, including Lorenzo Dow Baker, founder of the United Fruit Company and now Chiquita Brands International. It is also locally significant for its association with the Cape's transition to a tourism economy focused on leisure and the beauty of the natural landscape, and namely Francis and Katherine Biddle who owned the property as a seasonal retreat and frequently hosted gatherings of world-class poets and literary critics. Under Criterion B, the property was the home of several notable figures: it is locally significant for Francis Biddle, Attorney General for President Franklin Roosevelt and Lead Judge at the Nuremberg war crimes trials; and locally significant for Katherine Biddle, an acclaimed poet and writer.

The period of significance for the landscape at the Baker-Biddle Property is 1820-2011. The period begins in the 1820s when David Baker Jr. and his son David III constructed the Baker House. The time period includes the end of Baker family ownership of the property in 1935; an expansion of the house and relocation of additional buildings to the site by Jack Hall in 1937-1949; and modifications to the house and other buildings and installation of gardens and landscaping by Francis and Katherine Biddle in 1949-1968; the death of Francis in 1968 and Katherine in 1977; and the years when use and care of the property transitioned to the Biddles' son Edmund Randolph. The period ends in 2011 when the property was transferred to the NPS. As the end date of the period of significance is within fifty years of 2019, Criteria Consideration G (properties that have achieved significance within the past fifty years) would apply.

The property may possess additional significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture and Criterion D in the area of Archeology, but such determinations are beyond the scope of this CLI. To inform such evaluations, the park has requested funding to complete Historic Structure Reports for the site's four buildings and a National Register nomination for the entire 10-acre property. Pending completion of these reports, the areas and period of significance identified in this CLI may require revisions. The Baker House dates to the 1820s, and despite additions in the first half of the twentieth century retains much of its original character. The Studio is a former nineteenth-century barn relocated from another part of the site in 1937, while the seventeenth-century Delight Cottage and the c.1850 Barn Cottage were moved to the property in the 1940s. According to the 2013 "Archaeological Investigation of the Baker-Biddle Property," the site's prehistoric component is a significant archeological resource, while the historic archeological component is of lesser significance. (Torp et.al. 2013: 102)

CRITERION A

Social History:
The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant in the area of Social History for its association with multiple generations of the Baker family that settled in Wellfleet and Bound Brook Island. In 1644 European settlers established a community on Bound Brook Island because of its sheltered landscape and proximity to Cape Cod Bay, Duck Harbor, and adjacent rivers. This settlement became known as Nauset, but eventually shifted southeast off the island to the current site of Wellfleet. The new settlement was initially known as Billingsgate Parish and formed the northern part of the town of Eastham. One of the early residents was Isaac Baker, who moved to Billingsgate between 1670 and 1700 and established a home there for his young family. In 1718 Billingsgate separated from Eastham, but it was not until 1763 that it was formally incorporated as the town of Wellfleet.

Around 1763 Isaac Baker's grandson, David Baker I, established a small homestead on Griffin Island, located across Duck Harbor from Bound Brook Island. David I, like many early settlers on the Cape, cleared the land for farms. In time the exposed land caused windswept erosion and a decrease in soil fertility, and forced residents to refocus their livelihoods on marine-related occupations such as whaling, fishing, and salt production. Around 1792 David Baker I's son, David Baker, Jr. acquired land on the south side of Bound Brook Island that was part of an undeveloped salt meadow grant. Although the acreage and boundaries of the Baker farm are unknown, it was the first form of land ownership on the island during the early Colonial period. A 1799 property deed in the Wellfleet Town Books reports that David, Jr. was using his land, but whether it was for agriculture or other purposes is not known. In the 1820s David, Jr. and his son, David III, would construct the Baker House, a barn and other structures for salt and grain production, and pastures and gardens.

One of the eight children born to David Baker III and his wife, Thankful, at the family home on Bound

Brook Island was Lorenzo Dow Baker (1840-1908). As a young boy, Lorenzo and his siblings attended the Bound Brook School and tended to the family's saltworks and other domestic industries while their father was away at sea. At the age of nine he began working on his father's boat, and by the time he was 21 he had his own schooner. Throughout the 1860s, he made a living as a fisherman and transported goods between Wellfleet, Boston, and other port cities along the Atlantic coast and the Caribbean. In 1861 he married Martha Hopkins of Wellfleet and moved out of the family's Bound Brook Island home to a house that was closer to Wellfleet Harbor. (Noone 2015: 18-19)

On a return trip from transporting mining equipment to Venezuela in 1870, Baker brought bananas that he believed he could sell to Americans. Most of the bananas spoiled on the voyage, but he was able to sell enough of the fruit in New Jersey to justify another attempt. On a subsequent voyage to Jamaica, Baker bought 400 bunches of green bananas that ripened during the journey to Boston, where he sold them for a significant profit. Lorenzo Dow Baker thus became the first merchant to regularly bring large quantities of bananas to the markets of the Northeast, sparking a vast and lucrative American banana industry and earning him the nickname "Banana King." From 1885 to 1899, he was the founding partner and president of the Boston Fruit Company, which in 1899 became the United Fruit Company, the predecessor of the modern-day Chiquita Brands International. Although it is often claimed that Baker founded the United Fruit Company, he vigorously opposed the merger and subsequently stepped away from the banana business to pursue other interests. Baker is also credited with developing the first ships that were designed specifically to transport bananas. (Noone 2015: 19-20)

Lorenzo Dow Baker was also instrumental in developing Cape Cod's summer tourism industry, opening a hotel in Wellfleet Harbor in 1902 and purchasing and renting out other cottages in the area. In the decades that followed Wellfleet developed as a vacation destination, which in turn spawned new development in the village center. Meanwhile, the Outer Cape began to develop amenities that appealed to the expectations of summer residents, such as golf courses, public beaches, hotels, and restaurants. While life on the Cape had previously been focused on subsistence and survival, the new tourism economy shifted the focus toward leisure and appreciation for the landscape's natural beauty. (Noone 2015: 20; Stetson 1963: 59; Deyo 1890: 805)

Lorenzo purchased the Bound Brook Island property upon his father's death in 1882, but chose to reside in his homes in Wellfleet and Jamaica. When he died in 1908, the title to the vacant house passed to the L.D. Baker Estate Trust, where it remained until 1935.

Entertainment/Recreation:
The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant in the area of Entertainment/Recreation for its association with the Cape's transition to a tourism economy focused on leisure and appreciation for the landscape's natural beauty, and as the residence of notable writers and artists who hosted gatherings of world-class poets and literary critics. Lorenzo Dow Baker, born and raised on the Baker farm and the last member of the Baker family to own it, contributed to the development of Wellfleet and the Outer Cape as a seasonal vacation destination. Starting in the late nineteenth century, residents began moving closer to town centers, while retirees, attracted to the landscape's remoteness and solitude, began to buy the abandoned homesteads. However, it was Lorenzo Dow Baker's construction of the Chequesett Inn in Wellfleet in 1902 that pushed Cape Cod into a prominent vacation destination.

In the decades that followed, a counterculture of intellectuals and artists discovered the Cape's rural landscapes, attracted to their tranquility and ruggedness. Hundreds of notable artists, writers, and bohemian figures converged on the Cape during the warm months, especially in Provincetown, to socialize, relax, explore, and find inspiration. Others sought out seasonal cottages and creative studio spaces to live and work, including artist and novelist John Dos Passos and his wife Katharine who purchased the Baker farm in 1935. However, John felt the property was too secluded and spent little time there, and the couple sold it to Jack Hall in 1937.

Jack Hall's interest in modern architecture led him to visit Cape Cod in 1937, where a number of Bauhaus designers were beginning to practice, but Hall also admired the historic buildings and the folk-building styles that characterized early life on the Cape. Hall enlarged the Baker House with a kitchen addition, relocated the old Baker barn closer to the house for use as a stable, and moved an old whaling shed and another barn to the site for use as a guest cottage and studio/workshop, respectively. Except for service

during World War II, Hall lived on the property year round from 1940 to 1949, building and arranging his hobby farm, painting abstract pictures, completing handyman jobs around the island, experimenting with commercial fishing, and driving around the island in one of his two Rolls-Royces. He became well known throughout the Cape for his lively social gatherings, earning himself the nickname, the “Squire of Bound Brook Island.” He enjoyed life on the Cape as a way of dropping out of the “rat race.” (McMahon and Cipriani 2014: 56; Wilson 1986: 136,178,183)

Tourism on the Cape grew rapidly following World War II and the construction of the Mid-Cape Highway (U.S. Route 6) in 1953. In 1949 Francis and Katherine Biddle of Philadelphia purchased the Baker farm from Hall as a seasonal retreat from their busy professional lives in Washington, D.C. From 1950 until Francis’ death in 1968, the Biddles spent the summer and autumn months at the house on Bound Brook Island, appreciating the homestead’s solitude to work on writing projects, and enjoying opportunities for walks, swims, and tending the gardens.

Francis and Katherine frequently invited friends to their home for cocktail parties and literary readings. Depending on the weather, these gatherings often took place on the brick patios or on the lawn shaded by the large elm tree. Notable guests included poets Conrad Aiken and Saint-John Perse, essayist Edmund Wilson, historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and novelist Mary McCarthy. Katherine’s large, lavish parties also attracted well known artists and musicians. Some such as Perse frequently lodged with the Biddles and helped maintain the gardens and grounds.

While the Biddles enjoyed their time spent pursuing various intellectual and social interests on Bound Brook Island, they also worked to modify the property to suit their personal needs and tastes, converting the Baker barn into a writing space (now the Studio) and the Rose barn into a residence for their son (now the Barn Cottage). The Biddles supported the establishment of Cape Cod National Seashore and its mission to preserve the Cape Cod way of life and its rustic and secluded setting. In 1966 the family donated several parcels of the Baker farm to the park.

CRITERION B

Francis Biddle:
The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant in the areas of Law, Politics/Government, and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with Francis Beverly Biddle (1886-1968). By the time Francis and his wife Katherine purchased the property in 1949 to serve as their summer home, Francis had retired from a distinguished law career that had him serve as the first Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, a U.S. Court of Appeals judge, and the 24th U.S. Solicitor General before his appointment as the 58th U.S. Attorney General for Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1941-1945. Biddle was also appointed by Harry S. Truman to serve as the primary American judge at the Nuremberg war crimes trials in 1945-1946 – a portion of a documentary about the trials was partially filmed on the property in 1962. Biddle was an accomplished writer and authored several published works, including The Llanfear Patter (1927), a novel about Philadelphia society; Mr. Justice Holmes (1942), a biography of Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes; and The World's Best Hope (1949), which examined at the role of the United States in the post-war era.

Biddle largely completed two volumes memoirs – A Casual Past (1961) and In Brief Authority (1962) – at the Bound Brook Island property. The Biddles converted the former Baker barn that Jack Hall moved closer to the house into a studio to accommodate their writing and intellectual pursuits, with Francis occupying the building’s east room. The Biddles made numerous physical changes to the site’s other buildings, planted gardens and trees, and generally enjoyed the outdoors through walks, swims, and social events. Francis described Bound Brook Island as “the most contained, remote, and charming spot on Cape Cod.” He also remarked on the “untamed” land, sandy roads, and woodlands of the Outer Cape that were abundant with quail, deer, and red foxes.

Francis Biddle died in 1968 at the age of 82, upon which the ownership of 612 Bound Brook Island Road passed to his wife, Katherine. With completion of a memorial garden in 2003, the cremated remains of Francis and his wife and son were interred in the north flower garden.

Katherine Biddle:

The Baker-Biddle Property is locally significant in the areas of Literature and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with Katherine Garrison Chapin Biddle (1890-1977). By the time Katherine and her husband Francis purchased the property in 1949, Katherine was an admired poet, lecturer, and civil rights activist. Under the name Katherine Garrison Chapin, she wrote several highly-regarded volumes of poetry, including the poems “Bright Mariner” (1933) and “Lament for the Stolen” (1938), and her work appeared in national literary magazines such as Harper’s, Scribner’s, The Nation, and Saturday Review. During World War II, while her husband served in the Roosevelt administration, Mrs. Biddle received widespread acclaim for a number of her works, including “Plain-Chant for America,” a long, moving poem that she called her reaffirmation of democracy. It was set to music by the noted composer William Grant Still and performed by the Philadelphia Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic and London Philharmonic orchestras. Based on the strength of her work and reputation in the field, she was named one of the first Fellows in American Letters of the Library of Congress in 1944, a title she held for ten years, and also served as a judge for several elite awards, including Yale’s Bollingen Prize in Poetry, the Shelley Memorial Award, and the National Book Award in Poetry. (Noone 2015: 31; Shaffer 1977: np)

Biddle likely completed her last volume of poetry, The Other Journey (1959), at the Bound Brook Island property. The Biddles converted the former Baker barn into a studio to accommodate their writing and intellectual pursuits, with Katherine occupying the building’s west room. Katherine took the lead in planting gardens and flower beds, designing a formal garden north of the Baker House and creating a vegetable garden south of the house.

Katherine spent less time on the property after her husband’s death in 1968 and especially after suffering a stroke in 1973. She died in 1977 at the age of 87. In 1979 the ownership of 612 Bound Brook Island Road passed to her son Edmund and his wife and two children. With completion of a memorial garden in 2003, the cremated remains of Katherine and her husband and son were interred in the north garden.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATION G: PROPERTIES THAT HAVE ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN THE LAST FIFTY YEARS

In their concurrence letter recommending an end date for the period of significance that less than fifty years, the Massachusetts SHPO did not reference Criteria Consideration G. According to National Register Bulletin #15, a property can achieve significance within the last fifty years if it is of exceptional importance. The phrase “exceptional importance” does not require that the property possess national level significance. Rather, it is a measure of a property’s importance within the appropriate historic context, whether the scale of that context is local, state, or national. The Baker-Biddle Property reflects local-level significance for its associations with the Baker family, the tourism and vacation economy of Cape Cod and Wellfleet, and Francis and Katherine Biddle’s use of the property as a summer retreat.

National Register Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past

National Register Criteria Consideration:

G -- A property less than 50 years of age

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1820 - CE 1968

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Greek Revival (1820-1840)	

Time Period: CE 1937 - CE 1968

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Vernacular Architecture	

Time Period: CE 1949 - CE 1968

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Literature	Poetry	
Expressing Cultural Values	Literature	Non-Fiction	

Time Period: CE 1949 - CE 2011

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Creating Social Institutions and Movements	Recreation	Tourism	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Entertainment - Recreation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Law

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Literature

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Politics - Government

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Social History

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	WLF.279
Name:	Baker, David House
Listed Date:	03/01/1984

Identification Number:	WLF.H
Name:	Bound Brook Island
Listed Date:	07/01/1984

National Historic Landmarks:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
BCE 8000 - 6000	Inhabited	Paleoindians are present on Cape Cod.
BCE 5000	Naturalized	The vegetated landscape of Cape Cod includes red maple, black gum, and other shrubs.
BCE 3000	Inhabited	Archeological investigations find evidence that Native Americans use the site for intensive tool production as far back as 5,000 years ago.
BCE 2000 - 1600	Inhabited	The Punonakanits, a branch of the Wampanoag federation, live in the Wellfleet area.
CE 1620	Explored	Pilgrims explore the Cape Cod Bay area.
CE 1644	Settled	Settlers establish a community on Bound Brook Island, favoring its sheltered landscape. The original site for the town of Wellfleet (known then as Nauset) occupies the island until its shift southeastward to its present site.
CE 1763	Established	Wellfleet is established.
CE 1768	Conserved	Legislation passed by the General Court forbids the pasturing of animals on Bound Brook Island. This action is meant to prevent further sedimentation of Duck Harbor and the Herring River caused by land clearing and wind erosion.
CE 1792	Purchased/Sold	Around 1792, David Baker, Jr. (1766-1826) acquires hundreds of acres of land on Bound Brook Island. The use of this land is unknown but it may have involved the production of hay.
CE 1795	Inhabited	Bound Brook Island has 10 houses and a windmill.
CE 1795 - 1825	Mined	Salt making emerges as a local industry in creeks around Wellfleet and along the Herring River around this time.
CE 1820 - 1829	Built	In the 1820s David Baker, Jr. or his son David Baker III (1798-1882) constructs a house on the south side of Bound Brook Island. The house is a typical Cape Cod “house and a half” with a large central chimney, cedar clapboards and shingles, and low pitch roof.
CE 1820 - 1850	Altered	Between 1820 and 1850 the house is extended to the west to enlarge the first-floor bedroom.
CE 1826	Purchased/Sold	David Baker III inherits the Bound Brook Island property from his father.
CE 1830	Maintained	A map of Bound Brook Island from 1830 shows three large vats on the Baker property used in saltworks. By the 1840s, over 130 saltworks operate on Cape Cod during the industry’s peak.
CE 1840 - 1848	Maintained	By 1848 the Baker gristmill supplies Bound Brook Island residents’ cornmeal. The wind-powered mill is located to the southwest, between the house and the beach, on a hill.
CE 1840 - 1848	Built	By 1848 a small barn is constructed north of the house.
CE 1840 - 1848	Built	By 1848 Duck Harbor Road passes through the Baker property.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1840 - 1848	Cultivated	By 1848 the Bakers tended gardens on their property located southwest and north of the house.
CE 1850	Naturalized	By this time Duck Harbor fills in and becomes unnavigable.
CE 1870	Built	The Cape Cod Central Railroad extends service to Wellfleet.
CE 1880	Moved	David Baker III acquires the belfry from the Bound Brook Island schoolhouse when it closes. It resides on the property as a well house.
CE 1882	Purchased/Sold	David Baker III dies on June 22, 1882 leaving the title of the estate briefly to George (Balthasar Conrad) Baker, an adopted family member. Later in the year, Lorenzo Dow Baker assumes ownership of the Baker property; however, he does not live at the residence.
CE 1900 - 1937	Abandoned	The David Baker House is vacant and may have been used for bootlegging.
CE 1908 - 1936	Purchased/Sold	The title of the Baker property, following L.D. Baker's death in 1908, transfers to his estate, which holds it for several years.
CE 1908	Altered	The meadows south of Bound Brook Island are diked to protect the road to the island from tidal flooding.
CE 1935 - 1937	Purchased/Sold	John and Katharine Dos Passos of Provincetown purchase the Baker homestead. They are not included on the property's title and never occupy the homestead.
CE 1937	Purchased/Sold	John Hughes "Jack" Hall (1913-2003), a Modernist architect, purchases the Baker property for $3,500, which at this point in time includes the house, a barn, and 180 acres.
CE 1937	Moved	Hall moves the old Baker barn from north of the house to its current location and refits it as a stable for storage and to house cow, horse, and several sheep. He later adds a detached shed on its west side. This structure is now named The Studio.
CE 1937	Built	Hall converts the belfry into a piggery and acquires a granite water trough for his livestock.
CE 1940	Inhabited	Hall settles into the Baker House year-round and continues various improvements to the property.
CE 1940	Moved	Hall salvages a whaling shed in Provincetown and installs it west of the house. Hall names it "Delight" Cottage, which is its current name.
CE 1941	Built	Hall adds an ell on the east side of the house for a modern kitchen; the new construction uses historic, weathered materials.
CE 1941	Built	Hall builds a brick patio on the south side of the house and south and east sides of the new ell, part of which is supported by a stone retaining wall. Brick steps to the northeast of the house may date to this period.
CE 1942	Purchased/Sold	George Higgins purchases 38 acres of meadow and shore frontage from the L.D. Baker Estate on October 21. The parcel is southwest of 612 Bound Brook Island Road.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1947	Moved	Hall purchases a barn (c.1850) from Joe P. Rose to use as his primary workshop and studio. He deconstructs the structure, moves it to the property, and rebuilds the two stories to include a stove, 7-foot square window, and an attached garage.
CE 1949	Purchased/Sold	Francis Beverly Biddle (1886-1968) and his wife, Katherine Garrison Chapin Biddle (1890-1977), purchase the Baker property as a summer home on November 1.
CE 1950 - 1959	Altered	In the 1950s the Biddles alter the main house, adding a small addition on the west side and dormers on the south facing roof.
CE 1950 - 1959	Altered	The Rose barn that Jack Hall had previously used as a studio becomes a private dwelling, or Barn Cottage, for the couple's son, Edmund Randolph.
CE 1950 - 1959	Altered	The Biddles convert the old Baker saltbox barn that Hall had used as a stable into a two-room writing studio.
CE 1950 - 1959	Planted	The Biddles create an ornamental garden west of the Studio, which includes a circular garden area, as well as flower beds around the house and a trellis at the front door. They also plant ornamental trees on the property, a line of cedars along the driveway, and a screen of evergreens to the northwest.
CE 1950 - 1959	Built	Katherine Biddle constructs a brick-lined, pebble path to encircle the circular garden, which is marked at its center by the statue of a dog.
CE 1950 - 1959	Farmed/Harvested	The Biddles plant a large vegetable garden south of the house, and tend to a small herd of sheep.
CE 1950 - 1959	Planted	Perse plants grape vines next to the Delight Cottage, where he frequently stays.
CE 1961	Established	On August 7, 1961, Cape Cod National Seashore is authorized (Public Law 87-126). The Baker-Biddle Property is within the boundaries of the new park.
CE 1960 - 1969	Maintained	The Biddle family maintains the old beach path that runs through the western side of the property to the beach at the end of Bound Brook Island Road. Steve Biddle (grandson of Francis Biddle) recalls building boardwalks in the marshes south of the property.
CE 1962	Platted	Francis and Katherine Biddle consult a civil engineer to create a subdivision plan, resulting in: Tract 25-4070, 7.24 acres, includes the main house, Delight Cottage, and Studio (612 Bound Brook Road); and Tract 25-8604, 2.76 acres, includes the barn cottage (610 Bound Brook Road).
CE 1963	Purchased/Sold	Francis and Katherine Biddle gift Edmund Randolph Biddle, 610 Bound Brook Road on January 8 upon his marriage to Frances Disner. The parcel contains the Barn Cottage.
CE 1966	Established	Cape Cod National Seashore is formally established on June 1, 1966.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1966	Purchased/Sold	Francis and Katherine Biddle transfer ownership of Tract 25-4003, approximately 17.10 acres located north and west of the main house, to the park on September 12. Edmund and Frances Biddle transfer ownership of Tract 25-4024, approximately 0.84 acres located north of the Barn Cottage, to the park on November 29, 1966.
CE 1971	Cultivated	An aerial photograph from this year shows the homestead dominated by trees, except for areas next to buildings, the circular garden, and the vegetable garden.
CE 1974	Altered	Maintenance of the garden area north of the house decreases to mowing, while the vegetable garden south of the house is abandoned.
CE 1977 - 2011	Maintained	Katherine Biddle suffers a stroke in 1973, and then dies in 1977. Daughter-in-law Frances Biddle tends and maintains the garden north of the house. The circular garden features a brick border with low shrubs, wildflowers in the center, and narrow interior paths leading to statue of a dog in the center. The vegetable garden south of the house is not revived.
CE 1979	Land Transfer	The 612 Bound Brook Road parcel passes to Edmund R. Biddle, Frances D. Biddle, Stephen G. Biddle, and Daniel R. Biddle in 1979.
CE 1991	Damaged	Hurricane Bob lands on Cape Cod on August 20. The elm next to the patio suffers considerable damage, and the property eventually loses a number of locust trees in the lawn.
CE 1995	Land Transfer	Edmund and Frances Biddle transfer ownership of 610 Bound Brook Road parcel to Trustees of the Biddle Investment Trust.
CE 2002 - 2003	Built	Two local contractors design and plant a memorial garden within the boundaries of Katherine Biddle's previous garden area north of the house. The new garden includes the cremated remains of Francis, Katherine, and Edmund Biddle, and two government issued plaques commemorating Francis Biddle and Edmund Biddle's military service.
CE 2010	Purchased/Sold	The Biddles place the ten-acre property up for sale in 2010.
CE 2011	Purchased/Sold	In 2011 the property transfers to Cape Cod National Seashore through the Trust for Public Land.
CE 2014	Neglected	Portions of the Baker-Biddle House roof are replaced.
CE 2017 - 2018	Inhabited	The Baker-Biddle House is used as housing and research space for seasonal NPS employees.

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods.

CONTACT PERIOD (Pre-1620)

Cape Cod's formation occurred at the end of the Great Ice Age, during the Pleistocene Epoch. A large glacial lake occupied what is now Cape Cod Bay, and ice sheets extended south to as far as Long Island in New York. The glacier's last advance southward approximately 18,000 to 25,000 years ago transported the sediment that created the distinctive hook in the Cape's landform. Its retreat, approximately 13,000 years ago, left a rugged and pock-marked terrain. A broad terminal moraine formed around this glacial lake that, as a result of sea level rise, became a bay. Hills and depressions formed in the ice sheet's outwash plain: deposits of glacial till created hills (kames), circular kettle ponds, and the valleys and ridges running throughout the Cape known as eskers. Bound Brook Island, Griffin Island, and Great Island were created by deposits of glacial drift material – such as sand, gravel, boulders, and clay – and were initially separated from each other by narrow valleys. As the glaciers melted and sea levels rose these valleys filled with water, turning the glacially deposited landforms into islands with sheltered shallow marshes. (Newman 2001: np; McManamon and Borstel 1984: 96; Oldale 1976: 14; Noone 2015: 6)

As vegetation became established, a diverse collection of ecosystems emerged in the Cape's varied terrain and climate. Archeological evidence paints a picture of what life could be found on the land as early as 7,000 years ago. Where sufficient soil and fresh water existed, forests of red maple, black gum, and other shrubs took hold. (McManamon and Borstel 1984: 102)

Native Americans and Early Europeans:
Humans have inhabited Cape Cod for thousands of years. The first Paleoindians were present on the Cape approximately 10,000 to 8,000 years ago. Evidence of ephemeral encampments, dating back 5,000 years, indicates that the earliest inhabitants seldom settled permanently. Instead, they set up seasonal camps that followed available resources, food, and adjusted to the climate. Eventually, they formed more permanent settlements, as suggested by traces of large refuse deposits. The Punonakanit tribe, a branch of the Wampanoag federation, settled in what would become the Wellfleet region, the Nauset people occupied the land to the south around present day Eastham, and the Pamets settled to the north around present day Truro. (NPS 2010: 4; McManamon et.al. 1984: np; Holmes et.al. 1995: 222; Noone 2015: 9)

Bound Brook Island's sheltered harbor and fertile soil made it a desirable settlement location. Archeological investigations conducted at the Baker-Biddle site in 2011 uncovered evidence that Native Americans used the site for intensive tool production as far back as 5,000 years ago. Throughout the late Woodland period (3,000-4,000 years before present), the Punonakanits used the site as a base for hunting, gathering, fishing, harvesting shellfish, and possibly farming. By the time Europeans began exploring the Cape around 1600, the Punonakanits were living in sedentary villages that consisted of small dwellings made of bark and mat construction, known as "wetus." The Punonakanits had a subsistence economy based on cultivating crops such as corn, beans, squash, and tobacco in the summer, and harvesting the rich maritime resources of the bay, estuaries, salt marshes, ponds, and forests. (Noone 2015: 9)

EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT (1620-1840)

In 1620 the Pilgrims landed at present-day Provincetown Harbor and explored the eastern Cape Cod shore and Cape Cod Bay. Grounding on a mud flat off of Eastham, they investigated Wellfleet Harbor and the Herring River, and discovered Native American graveyards and the remains of Native American huts. After deciding the land was not suitable for their settlement, the Pilgrims set sail and made their way northward. They ultimately chose to settle across the bay at Plymouth, only to return to Bound Brook Island a few decades later. (Fader 1980: 7; NPS 2010: 41)

The arrival of European settlers brought diseases to Cape Cod that decimated the native population. An epidemic, possibly of yellow fever or smallpox, swept through the region between 1615 and 1620 and took a significant toll, so that by 1620, only 100 Punonakanits were reported living in the area around Wellfleet Harbor. (Noone 2015: 9)

In Plymouth, as the population increased and land fertility declined, men and women who had settled there began to return to Cape Cod in search of land to farm. In 1644 the first European settlers north of present-day Sandwich embarked on an expedition to find suitable land along Cape Cod Bay, hoping to establish permanent homesteads amongst the area's rich harbors, estuaries, forests, abundant plant species, and what they believed to be fertile soil. At Bound Brook Island, they discovered sheltered water around a small harbor that connected to the Herring River, and founded a small community known as Nauset. The settlement eventually shifted southeast off the island to the current site of Wellfleet. (Noone 2015: 11; Nye 1920: np)

The land that comprises the present town of Wellfleet was purchased from the Punonakanit tribe prior to 1644. The settlement was initially known as Billingsgate Parish and formed the northern part of the town of Eastham. In 1718 Billingsgate separated from Eastham, but it was not until 1763 that it was formally incorporated as the town of Wellfleet. The population grew steadily in the following years so that by 1765, 917 people lived in Wellfleet. (Deyo 1890: 788)

From Farming to Fishing:
The landscape of Bound Brook Island changed dramatically in the seventeenth century. When the Pilgrims first landed in 1620, it is estimated that 97 percent of Cape Cod was covered in forest. Native Americans had cleared small patches for crop cultivation and used controlled burning to clear underbrush. These clearances took place on a rotating basis, creating a landscape dotted with small open and cultivated areas bordered by dense vegetation. (Clemensen 1979: 18)

In contrast, the farming practices of the early European settlers had a significant effect on the landscape. English farmers who settled on Bound Brook Island began cultivating corn as their staple crop and kept cattle, sheep, and pigs. Many households also had their own orchard, vegetable garden, and tobacco yard. However, the strident clearing methods and intensive agricultural practices of these early European settlers led to widespread deforestation and soil degradation. The lower Cape's loamy topsoils, which had previously been sheltered by trees, dried up and blew away in the wind. The decline of soil fertility and decrease in suitable farming land forced the area's inhabitants to turn to other occupations to make a living. The sheltered waters of the inner bay held plentiful populations of cod and oysters, while whales swam in the deep sea waters off shore. Residents of Wellfleet and Bound Brook Island, who enjoyed easy access to streams and harbors, logically redirected their attentions to fishing and whaling. In 1770, 30 vessels were engaged in the whaling industry from Wellfleet alone. (NPS 2010: 41-43; MDLI 1922: 77-78)

After a century of occupancy, the Bound Brook Island community contained many homesteads and domestic industries. Duck Harbor, which separated Bound Brook Island and Griffin Island to the south, and the Herring River served as the inhabitants' primary connection to the surrounding settlements. But by the second half of the eighteenth century, local residents who relied on maritime activities in the harbor and river began to raise concerns about the wind-blown sediment and erosion filling the waterways. In 1768 the Massachusetts General Court passed legislation that forbade the pasturing of animals on Bound Brook Island in an attempt to preserve the remaining soil. The amendment also sought to prevent further shoaling of Duck Harbor and the Herring River caused by

wind erosion and land clearing. (Holmes et.al. 1995: 18)

During the Revolutionary War years, experienced captains from Wellfleet dedicated their time and service to the conflict, but by the end of the war very few of their vessels had survived. Undeterred by the loss, fishing, whaling, and trading returned to Wellfleet's harbor, a decision perhaps not based on choice, but rather on necessity. Fisher Ames, in 1789, described the harbor-man's predicament: "They are too poor to live there and are too poor to remove." (MDLI 1922: 10,12, no citation)

A historic map from 1795 depicts Bound Brook Island with a windmill on its western edge and ten houses (Figure 1). The windmill was associated with salt production, which began along the waterways around Wellfleet at the turn of the nineteenth century. This industry required a means to pump the brackish water into large vats for evaporation, usually constructed from broad pine boards and measuring nine inches deep and from twelve to twenty feet square in size. Salt production was labor intensive and involved tending, refilling, and gathering the salt that was produced during the operation. (Doane n.d.: 1b; Holmes et.al. 1995: 12-13,93; Deyo 1890: 143)

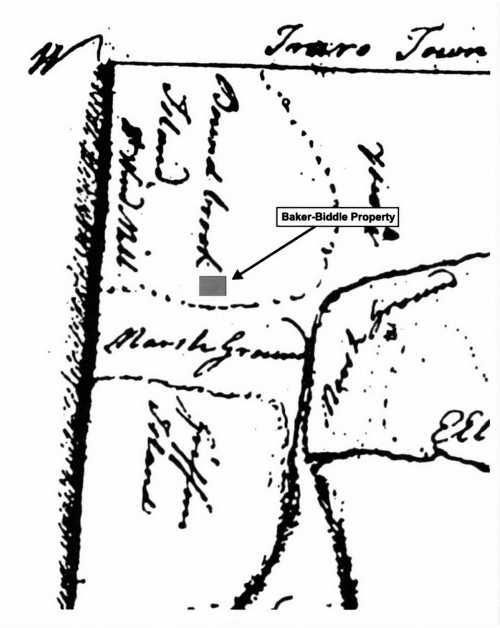


Figure 1. Approximate Location of the Baker-Biddle Homestead on a portion of the 1795 Waterman and Hamlin Plan of the Town of Wellfleet. The windmill is northwest of the site. (Torp et.al. 2013: 18)

BAKER FAMILY OWNERSHIP (1790-1935)

The Baker family originated in Herefordshire, England, and were among the earliest European settlers on Bound Brook Island. The family's history in North America began with Francis Baker (1611-1669), who sailed to Boston aboard the Planter in 1635 and eventually settled in Yarmouth. He was also granted ten acres in Eastham, which may explain why his grandson, Isaac Baker (1682-1712), moved to Billingsgate between 1670 and 1700 and established a home there for his young family. The area would become the home of three more generations of the Baker family.

Around the time Wellfleet was established in 1763, Isaac Baker's grandson, David Baker I (1739-1818) had established a small homestead on Griffin Island. No record survives of David Baker's occupation, but he is referred to as a yeoman in the Wellfleet Town Books, a reflection of the fact that many of the earliest English settlers came to Cape Cod to establish farms. David Baker and his wife, Deborah Rich, raised six children on Griffin, including David Baker, Jr. (1766-1826). (Albee, "Deed Research," 2017: np; Noone 2015: 12)

David Baker, Jr. and Captain David Baker III:
Unlike his father David Baker, David Baker, Jr. was a mariner. Upon his marriage to Rachel Hopkins in 1792, David, Jr. acquired a large parcel of land on the south side of Bound Brook Island, facing a small inlet off of Duck Harbor. While the acreage and boundaries of the parcel are unknown, it was initially part of an undeveloped salt meadow grant. Such grants were the primary sources of hay for the livestock of Eastham, and the first form of land ownership on the island during the early Colonial period. According to research by Historical Architect Peggy Albee, a deed in the Wellfleet Town Books from 1799 noted that David, Jr. was using his land, but whether it was for agriculture or other purposes is not known. (Wellfleet Town Book 1: 219; Albee, "Deed Research," 2017: 2-4; Noone 2015: 11-12)

David Baker, Jr. and Rachel had four children, including David III (1798-1882). Upon his father's death in 1826, David III inherited the land on Bound Brook Island. Like his father and many Cape

Cod men of his generation, he too was a mariner and known around Wellfleet Harbor as Captain Baker. David III was a fisherman and the captain of a packet ship called the Lilla Rich, which made weekly runs from Wellfleet to Boston, still the quickest means of transportation until the railroad reached Wellfleet in 1870. Baker also made a living as a "coaster," transporting people and goods such as fish up and down the Atlantic Coast. (Noone 2015: 15; Nye 1920: 12)

Baker House:
It is unclear which member of the Baker family began construction of the house that stands at the center of the Baker-Biddle Property today. While several sources have dated the house to 1792-1795, Albee has concluded that surviving fabric (nails) from the original section of the house suggests that it was built in the 1820s. Therefore, it could have been built by David Baker, Jr. but more likely David Baker III, as the 1820s date range coincides with David III's marriage in 1822 to Thankful Rich and the birth of the first of their eight children in 1824. (Holmes et.al. 1995: 14; Wellfleet Town Book 1: 219; Albee, "Deed Research," 2017: 2-4; Albee, "Biographical Sketches," 2017: 7; Email, Burke to Beagan, 20 November 2017; Email, Beagan to Killion, 29 March 2018)

The Baker House sat approximately 40 feet above sea level, in a level area between several low hills that protected it from the elements. The original house was a typical one-and-one-half-story Cape Cod style cottage with a rectangular plan, low pitch roof, central chimney, and a south-facing door flanked by two windows to the east and a single window to the west. Several of its architectural features were typical regional adaptations to the climate of Cape Cod. The massive central chimney and low-lying, framed structure helped the house retain heat during the Cape's windy, cold winters, while the cedar clapboards and shingles that covered the house's exterior helped it withstand the effects of salt spray. The chimney fed fireplaces in the rooms on the first floor and radiated heat to the children's rooms located in the upstairs loft (Figure 2). At some point in the early nineteenth century, the house was extended approximately ten feet to the west to enlarge the first floor bedroom. (Noone 2015: 13-14; Connally 1960: 51; Purcell, "Baker…" 1984: np; Torp et.al. 2013: 3)

Developing the Farm:
David Baker III's livelihood was not just tied to travelling on the sea. By 1830 he had built a saltworks to supplement his earnings as a sea captain and help ensure his family's self-sufficiency. A map drawn of Bound Brook Island by local resident, Nehemiah Hopkins, shows that three salt vats existed southwest of the house on the shore of Duck Harbor (Figure 3). Saltmaking on the Cape reached its peak at the height of the fishing and whaling industries, which relied on salt to preserve and store their products for market. By the 1840s there was an extensive network of more than 130 saltworks on Cape Cod. The Baker saltworks relied on a method of solar evaporation, which had been developed in Cape Cod around 1776. Each of the large, pine vats had a large, movable cover that could be rearranged to expose the salt solution to the sun or shield it from rainwater. The entire process took weeks to complete and required constant work and attention by the family to conduct the briny seawater into the vats, remove lime from the solution, rake out the salt crystals, and move them to a warehouse to dry. (Noone 2015: 14-15,24; Deyo 1890: 143-144)

By 1848 Baker had also built a windmill and a gristmill. The windmill pumped saltwater through the family saltworks and powered the gristmill, which was located on the high ground to the west of the house. According to historian Earle Rich, Baker's gristmill was an integral part of the community; "Every family [on Bound Brook Island] depended on the Baker grist mill to supply the meal" for staple food items, such as cornbread and Johnny Cakes. (Noone 2015: 15, citing Rich 1972: 10)

Access to the area of the saltworks and gristmill was by way of two roads. Duck Harbor Road, a north-south route that passed through the Baker farm and intersected with other roads that traced the island. It also served as the only route to Griffin Island to the south. The road appears on an 1848 map of the Baker farm, which shows it intersecting with Bound Brook Island Road that tracked east-west across the island at this time (Figure 4). The map shows the Baker House, an unknown structure just to the west next to Duck Harbor Road, and a saltbox barn to the north, also next to the road. Other structures are shown on the map; their purposes are not known but some are included within dashed lines that may delineate fenced pastures.

The Bakers were not the only Bound Brook Island residents to supplement their incomes. Many

engaged in subsistence farming, often tending orchards and harvesting hay from the nearby salt meadows. Each family typically had a cow, some sheep, and a kitchen garden. At the Baker farm, the cultivated gardens were located south of the house and possibly southwest of the house near the saltworks. Every member of the Baker family had to work hard on the family farm to provide for one another. While the men spent most of their time engaged in various maritime trades, the women tended the garden, cared for the children and livestock, cooked, made candles, and spun or wove new clothes. The children went to school and completed household chores, depending on their age. These included planting and weeding the garden, cooking, splitting wood, fishing and shellfishing, running the gristmill, and tending the saltworks. (Noone 2015: 16; Purcell, "Baker…" 1984: 2; Purcell, "Bound Brook Island" 1984: 3)

Soon after Thankful's death in 1846, David III married Elizabeth 'Betsy' Milner Smith, a widow from Truro. Betsy brought two additional children from her earlier marriage to live at the Baker House. In 1850 the family grew again when Betsy gave birth to a son, Walter Smith Baker, her first and only with David Baker III. (Noone 2015: 16; Purcell, "Baker…" 1984: 2)

It was around this time that the inlet to Duck Harbor bordering Baker's property, and eventually the harbor itself, shoaled in and became unnavigable. This had a dramatic effect on the Bound Brook Island community, where many of the residents were fishermen and saltmakers who relied on harbor access for their livelihoods. With the harbor essentially useless to sailors and saltmakers, the island experienced a gradual decline in population as families chose to abandon their homes or physically move them to Wellfleet center. In 1865 the first telegraph on the Cape communicated with Boston, and by 1882 the Cape had telephone service. These developments, along with the extension of the Cape Cod Central Railroad through Wellfleet in 1870, made village-living more attractive. By 1880 only 12 houses remained on Bound Brook Island (Figure 5). When the Bound Brook Schoolhouse closed the same year, the Bakers acquired its belfry and transported it to their property for use as a well house. (Noone 2015: 22; Deyo 1890: 128; Purcell, "Baker…" 1984: np; Nye 1920: 11)

David Baker III died in 1882. His children appointed George Baker with a right similar to power of attorney, giving him the power "to sell and convey all the Real Estate of David Baker deceased, and in our place to sign for us all conveyances of said Real Estate which is ours by the death of our beloved father." This George Baker appears to have been an adopted son to David III. Family research suggests that his birth name might have been Conrad Balthazar and that he was born in either France or Germany. He met David Baker III as a member of the crew of the Leonidas, which David III captained. David III brought the young man to Wellfleet, and in 1833 David III's uncle, Isaiah, took him into his household. As a young man, George Baker worked on fishing boats that were likely owned by the Baker family, until he became the captain of his own fishing vessel around the age of 20. George, David III, and his brother Nehemiah partnered on a number of investments, including fishing schooners, packet boats, and the River Wharf Company, which was a fishing schooner supply and outfitting business. Their livelihoods were largely based on mackerel fishing, oyster hauling, and coasting (hauling freight). At the time of David III's death, George Baker had retired from the sea and owned a lumber yard, cranberry bog, and wood lots. Regardless of the nature of his relationship to the Bakers, it is clear that the children and heirs of David Baker III trusted him enough to represent them in the sale of their father's real estate holdings. (Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Book 157: 150-151; Bowers n.d.; Albee, "Biographical Sketches" 2017: 8-11)

Lorenzo Dow Baker:
Lorenzo Dow Baker (1840-1908) was the last of the eight children born to David Baker III and his wife, Thankful, at the family farm on Bound Brook Island. Upon his father's death in 1882, he purchased the property from George Baker that contained the family home. It would be the first of several properties that Lorenzo purchased in the area.

Like generations of men in his family before him, Lorenzo Baker began life as a seaman. As a young boy, he and his siblings attended the Bound Brook School and tended to the family's saltworks and other domestic industries while their father was away at sea. At the age of nine, he began working on his father's boat Lilla Rich, and by the time he was 21 he had his own schooner, the Vineyard. Throughout the 1860s, he made a living as a fisherman and transported goods between Wellfleet, Boston, and other port cities along the Atlantic coast and the Caribbean. In 1861 he married Martha

Hopkins of Wellfleet and moved out of the family's Bound Brook Island home to a house that was closer to Wellfleet Harbor. (Noone 2015: 18-19)

While on a trip to transport mining equipment to Venezuela's Orinoco River in 1870, a bit of foresight and ingenuity changed Lorenzo Baker's life forever. Needing to find more sellable products to fill his ship for the return trip back to the United States, he brought along a load of bananas, believing them to be well-suited to American tastes. Although most of the bananas spoiled on the return voyage, Baker was able to sell enough of the fruit in Jersey City, New Jersey to prove that another attempt would be worthwhile. On a subsequent voyage to Jamaica, Baker bought 400 bunches of green bananas that ripened during the journey to Boston, where Baker was able to sell them for a significant profit. With that, Lorenzo Dow Baker became the first merchant to regularly bring large quantities of bananas to the markets of the Northeast, sparking a vast and lucrative American banana industry. (Noone 2015: 19-20)

Baker became a banana magnate and acquired the nickname, the "Banana King." From 1885 to 1899, he was the founding partner and president of the Boston Fruit Company, which in 1899 became the United Fruit Company, the predecessor of the modern-day Chiquita Brands International. Although it is often claimed that Baker founded the United Fruit Company, he vigorously opposed the merger and subsequently stepped away from the banana business to pursue other interests. Baker is also credited with developing the first ships that were designed specifically to transport bananas, the Freeman and the Baker. (Noone 2015: 19-20)

Lorenzo Baker and the Rise of Tourism on Cape Cod:
Lorenzo Dow Baker's influence extended beyond his role in developing the American banana industry; he was also instrumental in developing Cape Cod's next major economic driver. Wellfleet's traditional maritime industries were in decline after hitting their peak in 1870, and Baker became instrumental in reorienting the Cape's economy toward a new industry: summer tourism. In 1902 Baker opened the Chequesset Inn on the Mercantile Wharf in Wellfleet Harbor. The 62-room inn was one of the Outer Cape's first seasonal hotels and a pioneer in New England resort development. In addition to his hotel, Baker also bought and rented out a number of summer cottages along Chequesset Bluff in Wellfleet and on Corn Hill in Truro. (Noone 2015: 20; Stetson 1963: 59; Deyo 1890: 805)

In the decades that followed Wellfleet continued to develop as a vacation destination. By the 1920s the summer season brought an influx of over 1,000 tourists, which dwarfed the town's 850 residents. While life on the Cape had previously been focused on subsistence and survival, the new tourism economy shifted attitudes about the landscape toward leisure and appreciation for its natural beauty. A review of the town in 1922 described a "superb harbor, splendid bathing, many large and well-stocked ponds, fertile land and large meadows, abundant growth of hard and soft woods, and abundance of shellfish and good roads" – all the features a popular summer resort required. In addition to the Chequesset Inn, two other hotels operated in Wellfleet: the Curran House and The Wellfleet. There was also a large number of cottages that provided other lodging options for tourists. (MDLI 1922: 24,78, no citation)

Wellfleet's revival also led to new development in the village center. In 1920 citizens moved an old colonial church, Memorial Hall, from South Wellfleet to the new center and constructed a town hall and library. Meanwhile, the Outer Cape began to develop amenities that appealed to the expectations of summer residents, such as golf courses, public beaches, hotels, and restaurants. (MDLI 1922: np)

Also contributing to the Outer Cape's transition to a tourist destination was the improvement of transportation to the area. Packet boats that had transported people and goods between the mainland and the Cape had given way to the railroad, which in turn succumbed to the automobile in the early twentieth century. The increasing use of automobiles spurred the improvement of old town roads that had traditionally been carriage or cart routes used by local fishermen and farmers. In hopes of preventing the tides from flooding the old town road that led to Bound Brook Island, the shoals that had filled in Duck Harbor south of the island were diked in 1908. This allowed the meadow lands to be used for agricultural purposes, such as the production of fresh hay. (Higgins

1950: 53-54)

For most of his life, Lorenzo Dow Baker split his time between his 13-room estate, Belvernon, in Wellfleet and a second home in Jamaica, leaving the family farm and house on Bound Brook Island vacant. When Lorenzo died in 1908, the title to the Bound Brook Island property was conveyed to the L.D. Baker Estate Trust, where it remained for several decades. Over subsequent years, the farm was split into a number of subdivisions. (Torp et.al. 2013: 21)

Abandonment of Bound Brook Island:
Throughout the nineteenth century, the landscape of Bound Brook Island was almost entirely open, cleared for agricultural use, timber harvesting, saltworks, windmills, and home sites. At the peak of development, there were more than 20 structures on the island, mostly dedicated to fishing. But as the inlets and surrounding open water filled in, the island's landscape gradually assumed more of a land-bound character. When the population of the island began to decrease toward the end of the century and structures were abandoned, removed, or relocated, the landscape became even more barren. (Noone 2015: 22)

By 1900, the uninhabited Baker House was one of only six left on Bound Brook Island. There is little known about the house's use and occupancy after Lorenzo Baker's death in 1908, although reports state the Baker House and the five other homes on the island were still vacant in 1920. Oral histories – as well as subsequent owners, Jack Hall and Francis Biddle – maintained that the abandoned homesteads were used for bootlegging during the later years of Lorenzo Baker's ownership and during Prohibition. A photograph from 1924 shows the Baker House and barn, set in a mostly open landscape with scattered patches of vegetation. Fruit and shade trees fill the area between the house and barn, while a picket fence is visible on the south side of the house. Vegetation is considerably denser in the inlet-turned-meadow south of the house (Figure 6). (Higgins 1950: 53; Nye 1920: 11; Golding n.d.; Noone 2015: 24)

In subsequent years the sparsely populated and unused landscape of Bound Brook Island began to slowly recede back into its natural state. The houses that were left on the island became less prominent in the landscape as untended fields slowly turned into scrub meadows, and later into denser forests. Over time only remnants of orchards and agriculture fields would dot Bound Brook Island, along with the occasional cellar hole, trail, or fencerow.

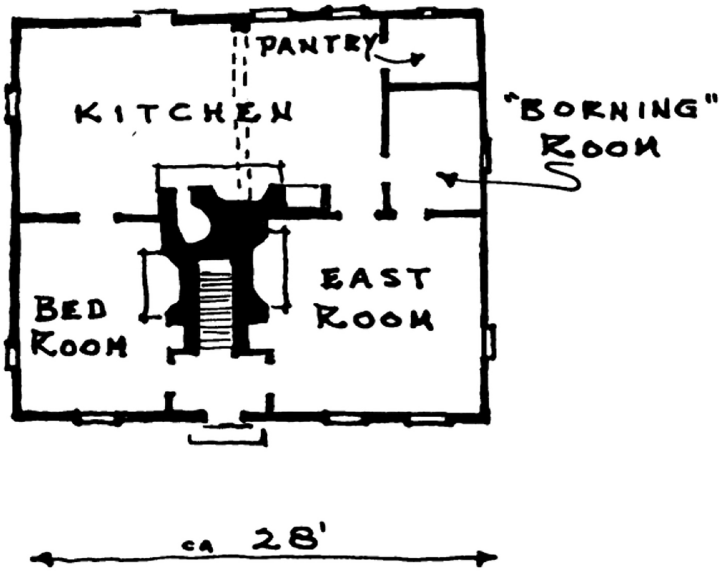


Figure 2. Partial sketch of the original floor plan of the David Baker house. (Noone 2015: 15)

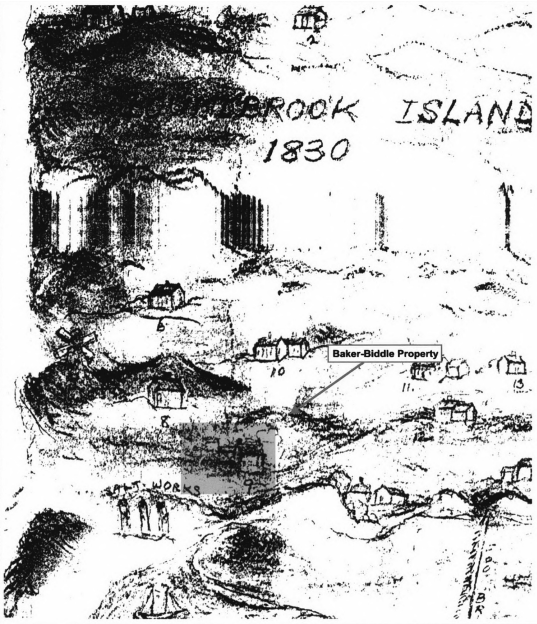


Figure 3. Bound Brook Island in 1830, from a 1939 map drawn by Nehemiah Hopkins. (Torp et.al. 2013: 22)

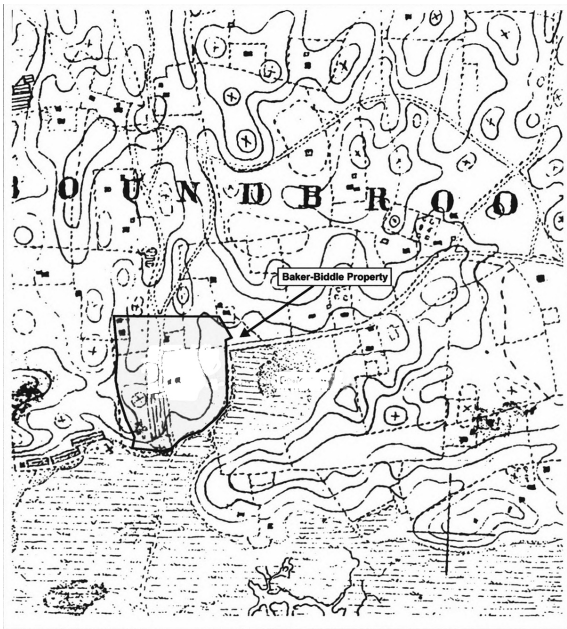


Figure 4. The Baker property as shown on a 1848 H.L. Whiting map of Cape Cod from Billingsgate to Pamet River. (Torp et.al. 2013: 20)

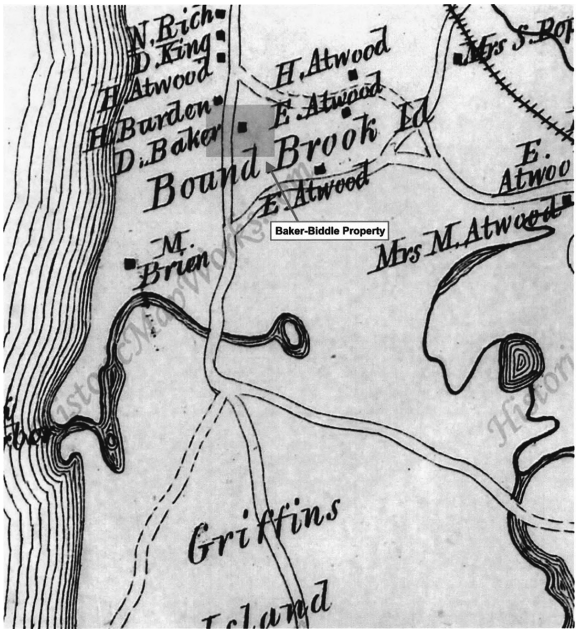


Figure 5. Portion of an 1880 "Map of Wellfleet Village" by George Walker. The Baker site is at upper left. Note the diminished size of Duck Harbor. (Torp et.al. 2013: 23)



Figure 6. View looking northwest at the Baker House (image center) and barn (image right), 1924. (Wellfleet Historical Society Museum)

DOS PASSOS OWNERSHIP (1935-1937)

Cape Cod tourism attracted not only wealthy, New England urbanites for whirlwind summers; in the 1920s and 1930s a community of bohemian artists, writers, and social figures began to arrive, lured by the promise of seclusion, freedom, and tranquility. Provincetown hosted much of this activity, but numerous rural residences throughout the Cape acquired new owners in search of seasonal cottages and creative studio space.

In the mid-1930s two Provincetown residents, John Dos Passos and his wife Katharine, found themselves looking for a rural residence. Author Ernest Hemingway had introduced Katharine to John in 1929. Dos Passos, himself, was an accomplished author, poet, critic, and painter, and it was rumored that Katharine wanted to purchase a house in a rural area in order to remove her husband from the wild parties of Provincetown. In 1935 Katharine purchased the Baker farm on Bound Brook Island, but the Dos Passos' ownership was short and fleeting. The couple never spent a summer at the house, and because John had little interest in living a secluded lifestyle, they sold the property in 1937 to John "Jack" Hughes Hall for the same price they had paid two years earlier. (Noone 2015: 24; Albee, "Biographical Sketches" 2017: 11-12)

HALL OWNERSHIP (1937-1949)

Jack Hall (1913-2003) was born into a wealthy family in New York City and enjoyed a privileged upbringing. He graduated from Princeton University in 1935 with a degree in English, but never settled on a career and spent several years as a self-trained architect, carpenter, painter, and writer. Hall summarized his life story in "Visible Ghosts:"
"He was the only child of Helen Hughes and Henry J.S. Hall II. Despite his mother's assurance that it would never be necessary, he discovered after her death, when he was thirty-three, that he would have to earn a living. Up until that time, he had done some writing and some painting, married several times, served briefly in the army, had a tiny farm on Cape Cod and three children, and had stopped drinking, but it had never occurred to him to make any money. He became a carpenter, then a designer-builder on Cape Cod, then a designer in New York, without benefit of special schooling, and much to his astonishment earned a modest living for the next forty-off years. His fourth marriage was happy. In his sixties and seventies, having returned to Cape Cod, he spent more time painting, and painted, among other pictures, a series of imaginary portraits of his forebears [sic]." (Hall 1992: np; McMahon and Cipriani 2014: 54)

Hall's interest in modern architecture led him to visit Cape Cod in 1937, where a number of Bauhaus designers were beginning to practice. Hall was an educated and urbane man of many contradictions, who liked to blend innovation and patrimony. Although he was a modernist architect, Hall was "deeply invested in the idea of Bound Brook Island as a rural paradise" and had a passion for historic buildings and the folk-building styles that characterized early life on Cape Cod. His most well-known work would later be the Hatch Cottage, built in 1960 a short distance away on the island. The building's minimalist arrangement of cubic forms displayed Hall's reverence for the island's landscape that was also evident in his changes at the old Baker family homestead. (Noone 2015: 25-29, citing McMahon and Cipriani 2014: 62; McMahon and Cipriani 2014: 57,62)

At the time of the purchase, the Baker farm contained the family house, a small barn that was built in the 1800s, and 180 acres of land that stretched across the southwestern portion of Bound Brook Island. Hall believed that the house had been vacant for over 40 years when he bought it. The property may have included a privy, possibly northwest of the house, but the history of this structure is unknown. The landscape was partially open and clear of trees; however, in the hollows and abandoned fields, shrubs and young trees had begun to grow and obscure views to Duck Harbor and Cape Cod Bay. Nevertheless, Hall found the homestead's New England charm intact (Figure 7). (Noone 2015: 24; Hall 2003: 32)

Expanding the Homestead:
Hall did not move into the Baker House year-round until 1940, but immediately after purchasing the Baker farm in 1937 he began making changes. One of Hall's first projects was to move the deteriorated remains of the Baker's old saltbox barn next to a hill northwest of the Baker House to its current location, 75 feet northeast of the house (Figure 8). Hall refitted the one-and-a-half-story structure to store vehicles and carriages and later as a stable to house a cow, horse, and several sheep. Later, he built a detached shed just to the west, connecting it to the barn with a covered breezeway. This combined structure is now called the Studio. Around this period Hall converted the belfry that the Bakers had acquired into a piggery. He also purchased a large, granite trough for his livestock, which according to Hall had been one of three such objects in the town of Wellfleet and originally came from the intersection of Brian Lane in front of the post office. (Noone 2015: 26; Hall n.d.: 33; Purcell, "Baker…" 1984: np; Hall 2003: 33; McMahon 2014: 57)

By 1940 Hall salvaged a "trying shed" in Provincetown, and moved the structure to his property. At the height of the whaling industry on the Cape, trying sheds were used to render, or "try," whale blubber into oil. They were often located in harbors, close to the docks, and sometimes on piers. Hall placed the small shed 15 feet to the west of the Baker House, on the eastern edge of Duck Harbor Road (Figure 9). Archeologist Lyle Torp suggests the building may date to the 1700s, which would make it the oldest structure at the Baker-Biddle Property; however, closer study is needed to establish a date of construction. Hall modified the one-and-a-half-story shed to accommodate a summer kitchen, loft, and skylight. On the south façade he added a final artistic touch: a wooden

sign that read “Delight,” which he had salvaged from a Provincetown brothel. The structure became known as the Delight Cottage. (Noone 2015: 27; Torp et.al. 2013: 4)

Hall undertook several significant alterations to the Baker House. In 1941 he added a sizeable one-story ell to its east side in order to accommodate a new kitchen. While introducing modern amenities to the kitchen, Hall used weathered materials so that it would blend with the existing house. The ell included a cinder block basement attached to the house’s original cellar, which was accessed by an exterior entrance on the ell’s east façade. Taking advantage of the ground that had already been cleared to construct the ell, Hall built a brick patio that extended along the south elevation of the house and the south and east elevations of the ell. The patio’s bricks were laid in a variety of patterns, including running bond and herringbone. Hall retained the east side of the patio with a two- to three-foot high brick wall. A short set of brick steps at the end of the retaining wall likely dates to this period. (Noone 2015: 28; Purcell, “Baker…” 1984: np)

Hall enlisted in the army during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1946. In what would be his last major project on the property, Hall erected a two-story barn with an attached garage, located directly to the east of the previously relocated Baker barn (Figure 10). Hall purchased the barn in 1947 from Joe P. Rose, a neighbor on Bound Brook Island. The c.1850 barn was originally part of the Tanner Freeman property on Pamet Point Road, and was built using salvaged lumber from a dismantled eighteenth-century house. Hall deconstructed the Rose barn and rebuilt it on his property for use as a workshop and studio. He then added a seven-foot-square window in the front (south side). This building later became known as the Barn Cottage. (Noone 2015: 27; Hall n.d.: 33; Purcell, “Baker…” 1984: np)

Little is known about the changes Hall made to the larger Baker farm landscape. During his time on the island, Bound Brook Island Road that tracks along the current property’s south and east boundaries evolved into the primary route through the southern half of the island, making Duck Harbor Road obsolete. However, by this time that road had been minimally used for decades and was essentially a rutted trace (see Figure 9). In 1942, George Higgins purchased a parcel of the Baker farm that was located to the southwest of the Baker House, along the bay. This parcel consisted of 38 acres of meadow and shore frontage, which Higgins added to his own expansive holdings on Bound Brook Island. (Higgins 1950: 3)

Life on the Cape:
Hall spent his years at the Baker farm building and arranging his hobby farm, painting abstract pictures, completing handyman jobs around the island, experimenting with commercial fishing, and driving around the island in one of his two Rolls-Royces. Hall became well known throughout the Cape for his lively social gatherings, earning himself the nickname, the “Squire of Bound Brook Island.” He enjoyed life on the Cape as a way of dropping out of the “rat race.” (McMahon and Cipriani 2014: 56; Wilson 1986: 136,178,183)

The Baker farm served as a laboratory for Hall, a place where he experimented with and developed his interests in history, design, carpentry, and the landscape that would later inform his architectural designs, such as the Hatch Cottage. Toward the end of the 1940s, Hall began his first major design project: a new, modern house for himself and his family, located on a parcel of his extensive land holdings on Bound Brook Island. He built the new house, section by section, while living at the Baker House. (Noone 2015: 29; McMahon and Cipriani 2014: 57)



Figure 7. Close up view looking east-northeast at the Baker House, 1930s. (Noone 2015: 25)



Figure 8. View looking north at the saltbox barn after it was rebuilt by Jack Hall northeast of the house, 1948. (CACO Archives)



Figure 9. View looking east-northeast at the "Delight" Cottage and Baker House, c.1940. The roadbed of Duck Harbor Road is visible in the foreground. (CACO Archives)

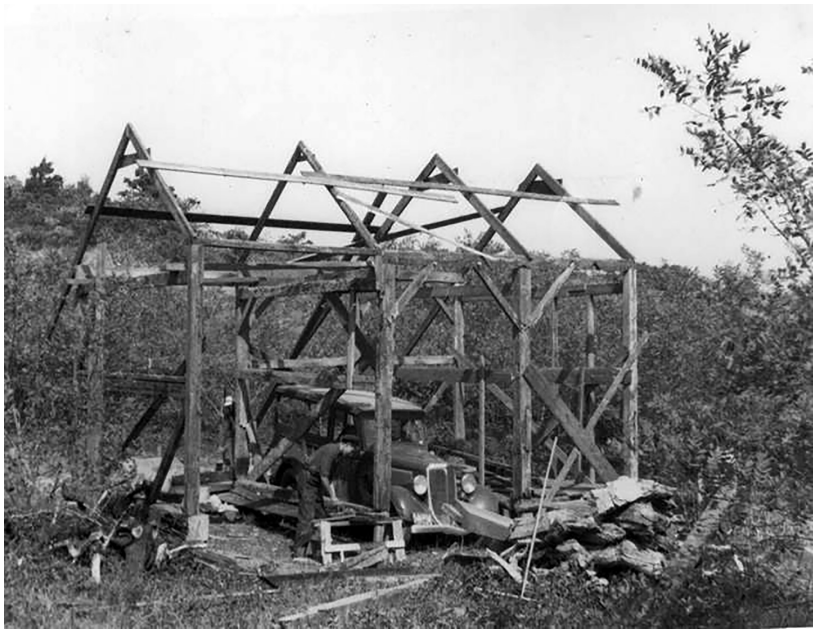


Figure 10. View looking northeast at the studio barn relocated to the site in the late 1940s by Hall. (CACO Archives)

BIDDLE OWNERSHIP (1949-2011)

With the completion of his new house, Jack Hall no longer needed the Baker House. On November 1, 1949, he sold the property (acreage unknown) to Francis Beverly Biddle (1886-1968) and his wife, Katherine Garrison Chapin Biddle (1890-1977). The couple purchased the property to serve as their summer home, while their primary home remained in Philadelphia. Francis' brother, painter and

muralist George Biddle, and his wife, Belgian-born sculptor Helene Sardeau, lived nearby in South Truro, and introduced Francis and Katherine to the idea of spending summers on the Cape. Helene was part of the artistic and intellectual renaissance developing in the Outer Cape to which the Biddles would soon contribute. (Noone 2015: 32)

Francis and Katherine Biddle:
Francis and Katherine Biddle were one of the most prominent and accomplished couples in the United States at the time they purchased the former Baker farm. Francis had a distinguished law career, serving as the first Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, a U.S. Court of Appeals judge, and the U.S. Solicitor General before his appointment as the U.S. Attorney General during World War II, a position he held from 1941-1945. After the war Biddle served as the primary American judge at the Nuremberg war crimes trials in 1946. He was also an accomplished writer and authored several published works, including The Llanfear Patter (1927) and Mr. Justice Holmes (1942), a biography of Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, who had once been Biddle's boss. (Noone 2015: 66)

Katherine Biddle was an esteemed poet, lecturer, and civil rights activist. She wrote several highly-regarded volumes of poetry, including Bright Mariner (1933), Lament for the Stolen (1938), and The Other Journey (1959), and her work appeared in many national literary magazines, such as Harper's, Scribner's, The Nation, and Saturday Review. Based on the strength of her work and reputation in the field, she was named one of the first Fellows in American Letters of the Library of Congress in 1944, a title she held for ten years, and also served as a judge for several elite awards, including Yale 's Bollingen Prize in Poetry, the Shelley Memorial Award, and the National Book Award in Poetry. (Noone 2015: 31)

Francis and Katherine married in 1918 and had two sons, Edmund Randolph Biddle and Garrison Chapin Biddle, whom they raised in Philadelphia (Garrison died in 1930 at the age of seven). As Biddles' careers, reputations, and commitments grew throughout the 1930s and 1940s, their lives were full of ceaseless work. After the Nuremburg trials, Francis resigned his position as Attorney General, and it was around this time that the Biddles made their first trip to the Outer Cape. They had previously summered in Harvey Cedars, New Jersey, but after spending time with George and Helene they were drawn into the Outer Cape's rustic and secluded setting. Looking for a place to relax and escape from their busy professional lives in Washington, D.C., the Biddles purchased the Baker farm from Jack Hall, who was an acquaintance of George Biddle. (Noone 2015: 31-33)

The Biddles' attraction to the property also aligned with the Colonial Revival movement that had emerged in the 1930s and 1940s as a celebration of early American history and traditions in the face of World War II. The Biddles were a patriotic couple with a long-standing interest in history and appreciated the Baker farm's connections to the past. (Noone 2015: 34)

The Biddles on Bound Brook Island:
From 1950 until Francis' death in 1968, the Biddles spent the summer and autumn months at the Baker House. They hired Alfred and Louise Mijion, French refugees who had previously worked for the Ambassador to the Soviet Union, to serve as live-in housekeepers, as well as a caretaker named Douglas Park, a retired submarine captain who worked for the Biddles until 1974. There was also a groundskeeper named Stewart Peck who worked on the buildings. It is not known if any of these individuals lived on the property. (Noone 2015: 34)

Francis and Katherine enjoyed the seclusion. In his 1962 memoir, In Brief Authority, Francis described Bound Brook Island as "the most contained, remote, and charming spot on Cape Cod." He also remarked on the "untamed" land, sandy roads, and woodlands of the Outer Cape that were abundant with quail, deer, and red foxes. The Biddles spent their time on the island taking long walks through the scenic landscape, and reading and working on various writing projects. The beach was easily accessible via a short walk down Duck Harbor Road, referred to as the "Beach Path" by the family, where the couple spent time swimming in the ocean. Having retired from public life, Francis focused more on his writing, completing the much of A Casual Past (1961) and In Brief Authority (1962) while at the house on Bound Brook Island. (Biddle 1962: 487, no citation; Biddle, "Interview" 2017)

When not enjoying the island solitude, Francis and Katherine frequently invited friends to their home for cocktail parties and literary readings. Notable guests at these private gatherings included poets Conrad Aiken and Saint-John Perse, essayist Edmund Wilson, historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and novelist Mary McCarthy. Katherine's large, lavish parties also attracted well known artists, poets, and musicians. Depending on the weather, the parties often took place on the brick patio or on the lawn shaded by the large elm tree. During the poetry readings hosted by Katherine, guests would configure their lawn chairs in a circle and take turns, reading prose of their choice; the only requirement Katherine made was that they must not read any of their own work. A portion of a documentary about the Nuremberg trials was also partially filmed on the property in 1962. (Noone 2015: 35-36)

Creating a Summer Retreat:
While the Biddles enjoyed their time spent pursuing various intellectual and social interests on Bound Brook Island, they also worked to modify the property to suit their personal needs and tastes through the 1950s. Many of these alterations centered on redesigning the Baker House, to which the couple hired a local Wellfleet architect. The renovations included the construction of an eight-foot extension on the west side of the house, which enlarged the living room that originally served as the house's kitchen. The Biddle's also added two south-facing dormers to accommodate the bedrooms on the second floor and refined the interior design to complement the home's historic fabric. Changes to the house were documented in a Historic American Buildings Survey in 1960 (Figures 11 and 12). (Noone 2015: 34; Purcell, "Baker…" 1984)

The Biddles altered the two buildings northeast of the Baker House. The Rose barn that Jack Hall had previously used as a studio was turned into a private dwelling, called the Barn Cottage, for the couple's son, Edmund Randolph. To accommodate their writing and intellectual pursuits, the Biddles converted the old Baker saltbox barn that Hall had used for storage and as a stable into the Studio, a two-room writing space. Saint-John Perse referred to this as the "garden-house studio." Katherine occupied the room that faced west, which had a view of the gardens, while Francis occupied the room that faced east and looked out on the driveway, allowing him to monitor the comings and goings of visitors. Small brick patios at each building may have been built at this time, or possibly earlier by Jack Hall. (Noone 2015: 36)

The Biddles improved the landscape in the spaces surrounding the Baker House, Studio, and Barn Cottage. Katherine took the lead in planting gardens and flower beds, designing a formal garden located north of the Baker House and west of the Studio. Here, beds of flowers and perennials followed existing fencerows, and a circular bed, approximately 20 feet in diameter, occupied the center of the garden. In the summertime, colorful phlox, wildflower, and lilies characterized the garden. Nearby, a hand pump added a small point of interest to the hedgerow between the garden and house. Katherine established flower beds around the house, which were outlined with bricks set on end in a diagonal pattern (see Figure 12). At the front door, she also installed a trellis for climbing vines, and had vines attached to the kitchen ell. Meanwhile, in the field below the Baker House, located on what may have been part of the silted in harbor, was a large garden with berry bushes, asparagus, tomatoes, squash, pumpkins, and other vegetables (Figure 13). During these gardening sessions, Katherine recalled occasionally finding arrowheads in the beds of September lilies. A historic photograph shows new trees and shrubs planted between the house and vegetable garden. Elsewhere, the Biddles added a number of ornamental trees, such as catalpas and locusts, around the property; planted a line of cedar and spruce along the entrance drive; and installed a separate line of evergreens on the northwest ridge of their property – likely to serve as a windscreen and create privacy. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017; Biddle 1962: np)

Accounts from the family's summers on Bound Brook Island speak of days spent clearing brush and gardening. Frequent guest Saint-John Perse spent many summers with the Biddles and often helped Katherine care for the gardens. He planted a number of grape vines next to the Delight Cottage, where he stayed. Many of his letters to Katherine express fond memories of the grounds and the landscape of Bound Brook Island. (Noone 2015: 30; Biddle, "Interview" 2017; Biddle 1962: np)

The Biddles introduced a number of personal touches to the landscape. Reflecting their patriotism

and service to their country, they installed a flag pole on the patio southeast of the kitchen. They also had a ship bell from the USS Biddle on the patio, which was rung ceremoniously before meetings. The bell was from the 1907 warship commemorating Captain Nicholas Biddle, a Revolutionary War hero. A split rail wood fence and picket gate marked the transition between the patio and the south vegetable garden. The granite trough that Hall had brought to the property was transformed into a planter and filled with flowers. In a spruce grove just off of the Beach Path (Duck Harbor Road) overlooking the vegetable garden, Katherine placed a wooden bench where she could take enjoy quiet moments. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017)

Throughout this period the wider landscape of Bound Brook Island was also changing. As noted earlier, the family spent time clearing brush. The view from the hill at the southwest corner of the property was maintained in the 1950s and 1960s, but much of the island's previously open landscape had filled in with oak, pine, and black locust trees. Views of the hills, salt marshes, and Cape Cod Bay became increasingly obscured by vegetation. (NPS 2010: 66)

Cape Cod National Seashore:
Efforts to protect the Atlantic coastline of Cape Cod began as early as 1939, but it was not until 1955 that protection of the Cape interior areas were considered:
"…NPS began an 18-month detailed survey to evaluate the biological, geological, archaeological, historical, and scenic resources of the six towns that make up the Outer (also called the Lower) Cape – Chatham, Eastham, Orleans, Wellfleet, Truro, and Provincetown. The results showed that it was not just the beach that needed protection but upland areas as well. The NPS proposed a park that would encompass, for example, half of Wellfleet and 70% of Truro. Unlike other national parks, a "national seashore" on Cape Cod would include large numbers of commercial and residential properties." (Albee, "Biographical Sketches" 2017: 16-17)

In 1959, concerns about the rapid growth of tourism and development on Cape Cod led Congress to introduce legislation to protect the Cape's natural and cultural resources as part of the new national seashore park. The preservation of the Cape Cod "way of life" and traditional recreational pursuits were goals from the start. On August 7, 1961, President Kennedy signed the legislation authorizing the creation of Cape Cod National Seashore (Public Law 87-126). In introducing the bill to Congress, Senator John F. Kennedy stated:
"Each of us has felt that a national park on Cape Cod was justified only on a strong showing that this was the most effective means of maintaining the historic way of life and scenic integrity on the Cape…Particularly since there are residents whose roots on the Cape reach back far into the past, it seems important to adapt a bill in such a way as to meet the legitimate interests and sentiments of existing residents." (GMP 1998: 9)

The Biddles were initially opponents of the park but eventually became proponents. Their property was within the authorized boundaries of the new park (Review comments, Burke, June 2019).

Land Subdivisions and Donations:
Around 1962 Francis and Katherine Biddle consulted with a local civil engineer to subdivide the Baker farm. The core of the homestead was separated into two parcels, as shown on a 1964 survey plan (Figure 14):
-- Tract 25-4070, 7.24 acres, included the Baker House, Delight Cottage, and Studio
(612 Bound Brook Island Road)
-- Tract 25-8604, 2.76 acres, included the Barn Cottage
(610 Bound Brook Island Road).

These two parcels comprise the current 10-acre Baker-Biddle Property. Adjacent parcel divisions shown on the survey plan may have been created around this time, or perhaps earlier by Lorenzo Baker or Jack Hall; more research is needed on this matter. The survey map also shows a parcel west of the homestead, which was acquired by Columbia University at an unknown date and may have included the site of the old Baker saltworks and gristmill. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017; NPS LandsNet)

Cape Cod National Seashore was formally established on June 1, 1966. In September of that year

Francis and Katherine donated a parcel north and west of the Baker House (Tract 25-40003, 17.10 acres) to the NPS. In November Edmund and Frances also donated a small parcel north of the Barn Cottage (Tract 25-4024, 0.84 acres) to the NPS. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017; NPS LandsNet)

On October 4, 1968, Francis Biddle suffered a heart attack at his Bound Brook Island home and died shortly afterwards at the age of 82. Katherine continued to spend the warmer months on the Cape, but use of or changes to the property are unknown. According to an aerial photograph from 1971, the vegetable garden south of the house was still open and maintained, but trees covered much of the rest of the property except for immediate areas around the buildings, the lawn, and the circular garden. In 1973 Katherine suffered a stroke. Caretaker Douglas Park left in 1974, after which maintenance of the garden area north of the house was limited to mowing, and use of the vegetable garden ended. Katherine passed away in Philadelphia on December 30, 1977, at the age of 87, and in 1979 ownership of 612 Bound Brook Island Road passed to Edmund and Frances, and their sons Stephen and Daniel. (Noone 2015: 37; Deed, Tract 25-4070; NETR Aerial, 1971)

Edmund Randolph Biddle and Family:
Francis and Katherine Biddle's son, Edmund Randolph Biddle (1921-2000), married Frances Disner on January 8, 1963. As an engagement gift, Francis and Katherine gave the new couple the Barn Cottage and surrounding land at 610 Bound Brook Island Road. Edmund and Frances would later bring their two sons, Stephen and Daniel, to Cape Cod during the summers. Katherine, not wanting her grandsons to squander their time out of school, hired tutors. Stephen Biddle recalls reading Shakespeare and memorizing the U.S. Presidents in the Barn Cottage as a young child. In the summers family and friends used the lawn between the house and north flower garden to play crochet and ball, and to watch meteor showers. They also set up hammocks between the trees. For a period of time, an open area east of the Baker House held a small herd of sheep (Figure 15). (Biddle, "Interview" 2017)

After Katherine's death, Frances tended and maintained the garden north of the house. Frances preferred a more informal design and planted wildflowers, which include black-eyed-Susan, zinnia, gladiola, and butterfly bush. In the center of the circular garden, the Biddles placed a small dog fountain, named 'Percival,' that stood around three feet tall. A photograph from this time shows low shrubs and a brick path surrounding the edge of the circular bed, wildflowers in the center, and narrow paths crossing into the bed. Lawns surrounded the circular bed and extended to planting beds filled with a variety of flowering shrubs that defined the edges of the garden area (Figure 16). By the 1980s catalpa trees shaded portions of the garden, a few apple trees grew along the edges, and trained wisteria vines grew over an arbor between the garden and the lawn. An aerial photograph from 1994 shows a tree canopy over the north flower garden and successional vegetation taking root in the south vegetable garden. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017; Purcell, "Baker…" 1986; NETR Aerial, 1994)

As noted earlier, Duck Harbor Road, without regular use, had transitioned into a grass path known as the Beach Path. Neighbors from South Truro to the north used the trail to access Bound Brook Island Road and Duck Harbor Beach. The Biddle children spent countless hours exploring the marshes and swimming in the bay, and also working on boardwalks, but returned home by way of the trail at dinnertime when summoned by the USS Biddle bell on the patio. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017)

On August 20, 1991, Hurricane Bob struck as a Category 2 hurricane and caused extensive damage across the Cape Cod landscape. Sustained winds in Wellfleet reach nearly 100mph with higher gusts. The buildings on the property were not damaged but significant storm damage was incurred on the trees. The large elm next to the patio suffered considerable damage, and although it was broken and maimed, Frances argued to keep the tree. The tree recovered, but many locust trees on the property did not fare well. The Biddles removed several locust trees from the lawn and nearby areas. (Biddle, "Interview" 2017)

In 1995 Edmund and Frances Biddle transferred the ownership of the 610 Bound Brook Island Road property to the Biddle Investment Trust, established for Stephen and Daniel and their children. Edmund Randolph Biddle died in 2000, at which time sole ownership of both properties passed to Stephen and Daniel Biddle. In 2002 Frances and her sons met with two local contractors to design

and build a memorial garden for Edmund and his parents. The design retained the circular pattern and added an underground irrigation system. The project also included two government issued veterans plaques that commemorated the military service of Francis Biddle and Edmund Biddle. Upon its completion in 2003, the family buried the cremated remains of Edmund, Francis, and Katherine in the garden. (Biddle, “Interview” 2017)

In 2010, the Biddle family decided to place the 10-acre property on the market. In preparation, Stephen and Daniel Biddle improved the “Beach Path” and a connecting trail to the lookout on the southwest hill where they placed two wooden lounge chairs. The listing included photographs of the view from the hill. At this time, there was interest in developing the land as a private subdivision with several large homes. (Biddle, “Interview” 2017; PMIS 198472)



Figure 11. View looking south in 1960 at the south elevation of the Baker House after the Biddles' 1950s renovations. (Historic American Building Survey 1960: MA-709-1)



Figure 12. View looking west at the east elevation of the Baker House and the south elevation of the Hall-era kitchen, 1960. Note the brick patio and adjacent flower beds. (Historic American Building Survey 1960: MA-709-2)



Figure 13. View looking north at the new trees and the gardens planted by the Biddles in the hollow south of the Baker House. This photo dates to the 1950s, prior to the addition of the two roof dormers. (CACO Archives)

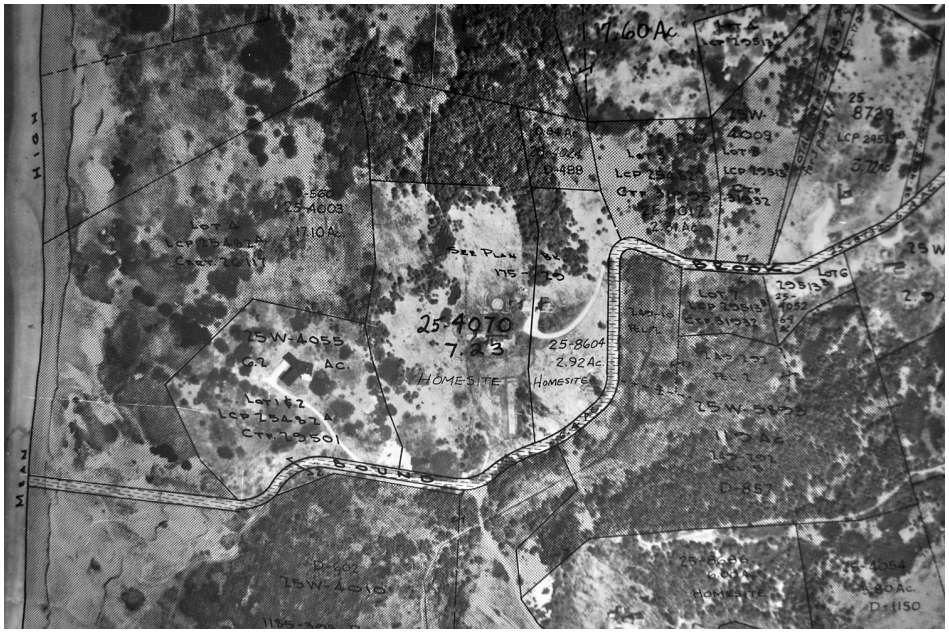


Figure 14. Subdivision plan for the Baker-Biddle property, 1962. (Denver Service Center, Dwg. CACO 609-80080, 1964)



Figure 15. View looking north at pastured sheep, with the studio and barn cottage in the background, likely in the 1960s. (CACO Archives)



Figure 16. View looking at east-northeast at Frances Biddle next to the circular garden, sometime after 1977. The Studio is visible in the background. (CACO Archives)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OWNERSHIP, 2011-2019

The Biddles worked with the Trust for Public Land to purchase and convey the property to the NPS, using funds secured by the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation. The acquisition occurred on January 3, 2011 (recorded February 28, 2011), and in September of that year a celebratory luncheon was held on the property, attended by the Biddle family, park staff, local historians, and Wellfleet residents. Photographs from the occasion showed successional vegetation in the vegetable garden and wisteria on the arbor leading to the memorial garden area (Figures 17 and 18). One of the first NPS projects at the site was an archeological study in 2011-2012, which revealed evidence of Native Americans use around 5,000 years ago. (Noone 2015: 4,37)

The Baker-Biddle Property is currently vacant, and is not promoted by the park for visitation. The lawns are maintained and mown, but locust trees in these areas are in decline. The south vegetable garden continues to fill in with shrubs and trees that obscure remnant fences. In the north flower garden, only three clumps of ornamental grass remain in what was the circular garden, while surrounding planting beds are overgrown. The memorial garden's paths are barely visible and the arbor is heavily weighed down by vines. Overgrown plants also obscure other planting beds and fence lines. The section of the Beach Path (old Duck Harbor Road) from the Delight Cottage to Bound Brook Island Road is mowed; but the section heading north from the Delight has become overgrown. Katherine's wooden bench, along the Beach Path and under the spruce trees, has disintegrated, and patios and flagstone paths are increasingly covered by grasses.

The park is currently undertaking a project to make repairs to the four primary buildings at the site that are quickly deteriorating: Baker House, Delight Cottage, Studio, and Barn Cottage (PEPC 80284). When complete the project will preserve the exteriors of these buildings, and include replacement of 3500 s/f exterior cedar shingles and 950 s/f of clapboard; 1500 s/f of cedar roof replacements or repairs in multiple locations; repair, repaint and re-glaze 70 exterior windows & screens; repair 9 entrance doors and their accompanying screen doors; and replace one failing garage door. These improvements may allow the park to use some or all of the buildings to house park employees and visiting researchers, and to provide the opportunity for the public to experience a backcountry experience in a rural and agrarian setting.



Figure 17. View looking north-northwest at the vegetable garden south of the house in 2011. (Wellfleet Historical Society Museum)



Figure 18. View looking northwest at the arbor leading to the north garden, 2011. (Wellfleet Historical Society Museum)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Agriculture/Subsistence	Livestock	Livestock	Yes	No	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Processing	Processing	Yes	No	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Outbuilding	Barn	Yes	No	No
Industrial/Processing/Extraction	Manufacturing Facility (Mill)	Manufacturing Facility (Mill) - Other	Yes	No	No
Vacant (Not In Use)	Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)	Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)	No	Yes	No
Education	Interpretive Landscape	Interpretive Landscape	No	Yes	No
Funerary	Grave/Burial	Grave/Burial	No	Yes	No
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Ornamental Garden	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Natural Area	Forest	No	Yes	No
Transportation	Pedestrian-Related	Hiking Trail	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Leisure-Passive (Park)	No	No	Yes
Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	No	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: With Permission

Public Access Narrative:

Visitation of the Baker-Biddle Property is not actively promoted by the park; although, a number of interpretive programs were hosted at the site between 2011 and 2013. The park's website does not include the property or any historical interpretation. Vehicular access requires prior permission, and the property is unmarked on Bound Brook Island Road.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The landscape characteristics identified for the Baker-Biddle Property include natural systems and features, land use, spatial organization and topography, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features. The most significant characteristics on the site are spatial organization and topography, vegetation, buildings and structures, and views and vistas. The contributing features on the site were present during the period of significance. The site also includes a number of features that do not contribute to the site's historic significance or are undetermined pending future research.

INTEGRITY

The National Register of Historic Places identifies seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Understanding that all places experience change over time, it is not necessary for retention of all seven qualities of integrity; nonetheless, the features present provide a sense of past time and place. The cultural landscape of the Baker-Biddle Property retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, and association. However, the property's integrity of materials is diminished and integrity of feeling is lost.

Location:
Location is the place where the historic event occurred or where the historic property was constructed. Although several features at the Baker-Biddle Property have been abandoned, the location of its character-defining elements has not changed since 1947 when the last of the site's current buildings was moved to the site. The location of the house next to the Bound Brook Island Road and the former Duck Harbor Road is intact.

Design:
A site's design is composed of the elements that create the place's form, plan, space, structure, and style. The spatial relationships of the Baker-Biddle Property remain largely intact from its period of significance. The position and design of the Baker House in relation to the surrounding landforms and roads demonstrate typical nineteenth-century Cape Cod settlement patterns. The layout of the buildings and spaces around the house demonstrate the twentieth-century vernacular adaptions of structures by architect Jack Hall and subsequent uses by the Biddles. The Delight Cottage relays its purpose of providing guest accommodations close to the house. The Studio, the former Baker barn, still exists as the Biddles' writing space and retains its views to the north flower garden and the driveway. The Barn Cottage, formerly the Rose barn, maintains its appearance as the seasonal home of Edmund Randolph and his family. Various patios, walls, and steps associated with the buildings remain, especially at the Baker House, but their original layouts are increasingly hidden by the expansion of groundcovers. The north flower garden now displays the simplified design implemented by Frances Biddle and her sons, but the overall layout still gestures to the more elaborate vision of Francis and Katherine. Numerous specimen trees and tree lines, including a large shady elm, dot the maintained lawn areas. A few remnant fence lines and a granite watering trough are all that remain of the site's former agricultural uses. Successional vegetation cloaks the abandoned south vegetable garden, but old fences here relay its former use. Revegetation also obscures open areas of the former Baker farm beyond the current property boundaries.

Setting:
Setting is the combination of the property's physical environment and the place's general character. The Baker-Biddle Property is set amongst the rolling hills of Bound Brook Island, and represents a small portion of the larger Baker farm that once raised crops, produced salt, and milled grain. These land uses disappeared long ago, allowing the once open landscape transition to successional forests. By the time Jack Hall and the Biddles owned the site, the property evoked a rural and secluded character that remains today. Centered around the Baker House, Hall and the Biddles created an intimate landscape, adding new structures, creating garden spaces, and planting trees and lawns. Although some vegetation in and around these areas is no longer maintained or is missing, the overall setting is intact.

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during the period of significance in a

particular pattern or configuration to give form to the property. The buildings at the Baker-Biddle Property likely include materials dating to their original construction, but further research is needed on this matter. Some exterior materials at the Baker House have been replaced-in-kind by the park for stabilization purposes, but less attention has been bestowed on the other three buildings. Original bricks and flagstones still comprise the patios, retaining wall, steps, and paths, but some are hidden by groundcover vegetation. Wood and wire fence materials dating to the Hall and Biddle periods also remain, as does a remnant of Katherine Biddle's wood bench, but they are increasingly obscured by vegetation. The granite water trough and millstone are extant, and the driveway still features a gravel/shell surface. Trees and shrubs planted throughout the grounds remain, but some have been lost to storms or are in declining condition. Other plant materials are gone, including vegetables in the south garden, flowers around the house and in the trough, and some of the ornamentals planted in the north flower garden by Katherine Biddle. Overall, the integrity of materials at the property is diminished.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of craft and construction methods used during the period of significance. As with integrity of materials, this aspect requires further research regarding the buildings. Workmanship is evident in the hand tooled designs of the Baker House front door, and in the appearances of Jack Hall's kitchen addition to the house and his reconstruction of the Studio, Delight Cottage, and Barn Cottage. In the landscape, workmanship is most evident in the design and patterns of bricks that comprise the patios, retaining wall, and steps. The rough yet distinctive forms of the millstone step and the watering trough reflect their unique hand-tooled construction. Remnant fence posts and rails also reveal hand-cut construction techniques.

Feeling:
Feeling is the expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time resulting from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey a property's historic character. The buildings and grounds that define the core of the Baker-Biddle Property no longer evoke the feeling of the maintained seasonal Cape Cod residence created by Jack Hall and Francis and Katherine Biddle in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. The Baker House itself continues to convey its historic character, but the partially obscured patios, missing flower beds, and blocked views of the south vegetable garden convey a sense of abandonment. The lack of maintenance in the north flower garden has reduced the legibility of its design and its ability to portray an occupied summer residence. Overgrown vegetation along former fence lines also portrays a neglected landscape. The site's other buildings appear unkempt and worn, adding to a feeling of abandonment. The composition of the homestead, between the house and surrounding buildings, remain unaltered; however, the

Association:
Association is the direct link between the property and an important historic event or person. The extant Baker House retains its association with David Baker Jr. and David Baker III, as well as additions made by them, Jack Hall, and the Biddles. The grounds surrounding the house no longer reflect agricultural or industrial uses associated with early homesteading on Bound Brook Island by the Bakers. The Delight Cottage, Studio, and Barn Cottage are linked to architect Jack Hall, and their subsequent modifications date to the Biddles. The south vegetable garden and north flower garden also reflect connections to the Biddle period, although the north garden was modified by their daughter-in-law after the historic period. Aside from a wayside and sign near the driveway, there is little interpretation of the property's historic use and significance.

The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding Historic Structures Inventory names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1820-2011), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is noncontributing, it is evaluated as "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape).

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic Condition (to 2011):
Natural systems and features encompass the landscape's large physical forms that have influenced patterns of development and use. Bound Brook Island is situated on the Wisconsinian glacial sheet's terminal moraine. The retreat of this glacier 15,000-20,000 years ago left behind rich, well-drained soils and rolling topography rising up to 100 feet above mean sea level. It also created sheltered landforms on the island's that were particularly attractive for habitation and use by Native American groups and European settlers. From here Cape Cod Bay could be readily accessed via Bound Brook, the Herring River, and Duck Harbor waterways. The Baker farm occupied the southern part of the island, bordering the harbor.

The rolling hills that characterize Bound Brook Island were covered in scrub forest until cleared for agricultural fields and home sites beginning in the seventeenth century. However, by the mid-nineteenth century such activities exposed the island's erodible soils, which transformed the waterways into salt meadows and marshes. With the waterways essentially useless to sailors and saltmakers, the population of Bound Brook Island gradually declined, allowing native vegetation to reclaim abandoned fields and home sites. Historic aerial photographs show that by the mid-twentieth century around half of the island had reverted back to forests, and around one-third of the 10-acre Baker-Biddle Property was wooded. The forest hosted a variety of wildlife; these included, as noted by the Biddles, red fox, deer, and quail.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The growth and expansion of successional vegetation has continued since the end of the historic period, and today much of Bound Brook Island is forested, including most of the Baker-Biddle Property. The existing woodlands feature a mixture of coniferous and deciduous secondary growth trees, understory shrubs, and dense herbaceous cover in open areas. Duck Harbor, the Herring River, and Bound Brook are primarily forested wetlands, making Bound Brook Island indistinguishable as an island landform.

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic Condition (to 2011):
Land use activities create, alter, and define the landscape as a response to historic processes and traditions. Bound Brook Island's habitation pre-dates the arrival of Europeans on Cape Cod, and the area contains prehistoric occupancy from the Late Archaic through Late Woodlands periods. In 1644 European settlers established a community on the sheltered and forested landscape of Bound Brook Island. Known then as Nauset, this settlement was the original site for the town of Wellfleet until it shifted southeast off the island to its present site. Island farmers planted corn, raised livestock, and tended orchards and gardens, but excessive land clearing associated with these activities increased soil erosion and decreased soil fertility, forcing residents to turn to fishing and whaling in the mid-eighteenth century. By 1800 Bound Brook Island's growing community, which then included some twenty families, was tied to marine-centered activities like cod and mackerel fishing, oyster harvesting, salt making, and commercial shipping. (Torp et.al. 2013: ii)

Among the island's landowners at this time was David Baker, Jr., who in 1792 bought several hundred acres of land on the south side of the island that faced a small inlet off of Duck Harbor owned by his father, David Baker. David, Jr. likely grew hay on his farm, and in the 1820s he or his son David III built what is now the Baker House. The Baker family's subsequent use of the land reflected their occupations as farmers and mariners: by 1830 there was a three-vat saltworks to the southwest of the house on Duck Harbor, and by 1848 there was a windmill-powered gristmill on high ground to the west of the house. Both operations lasted until around 1880, just before David III's death. The family also tended gardens located south of the house and possibly near the saltworks, as well as an orchard north of the house. Livestock was raised around the barn north of

the house.

By the mid-1800s, the unnavigable conditions of Duck Harbor and the Herring River began gradual depopulation of the island as residents moved away and home sites and fields were abandoned. Lorenzo Dow Baker, the last family member to own the homestead, acquired the property after his father's David III's death in 1882 but spent little time there after his formative years, choosing to pursue his marine transportation and trade interests at Wellfleet's harbor. It is unknown when the saltworks, windmill, and gristmill were removed or gone, but by 1900 the vacant Baker House was one of only six left on Bound Brook Island. Lorenzo held the property until his death in 1908, and it remained in the family until 1935. At this time the Baker farm, like many of the Cape's early home sites, changed from year-round subsidence uses to seasonal occupancy by artists and vacationers. Portions of the farm may have been subdivide around this time, but more research is needed.

After a brief period of ownership by John Dos Passos and his wife Katharine, the Baker farm was owned by architect and industrial designer Jack Hall, from 1937-1949. Hall enlarged the house with a new kitchen and built a brick patio on its south and east façades. Hall also moved the Baker barn closer to the house to accommodate a small hobby farm, relocated an old whaling shed from Provincetown to just west of the house to use as a guest cottage, and moved neighbor Joe Rose's barn to a spot just east of the relocated Baker barn to house his studio and workshop. Pastures for animals extended around this core area.

The next property owners were Francis Biddle, U.S. Attorney General during World War II, and Katherine Biddle, a successful poet, lecturer, and civil rights activist, from 1949-1977. Through 1968 the Biddles spent their summers and falls at the site, setting out a vegetable garden south of the house and a flower garden north of the house, and planting new trees and shrubs throughout the grounds. These outdoor spaces, and the patios around the house, were the scenes of many social gatherings. The Biddles also modified the Baker House to suit their needs, and converted the Baker barn into a writing studio (now the Studio) and the Rose barn into a guest house (now the Barn Cottage).

Around 1962 Francis and Katherine the core of the Baker farm into two parcels that comprise the current boundaries of the Baker-Biddle Property: Tract 25-4070, 7.24 acres, included the Baker House, Delight Cottage, and Studio (612 Bound Brook Island Road), while Tract 25-8604, 2.76 acres, included the Barn Cottage (610 Bound Brook Island Road). In 1963 they gifted the Barn Cottage parcel to Edmund Randolph Biddle and his wife Frances. In 1966 both of the Biddle families donated adjacent parcels to the newly established Cape Cod National Seashore. Francis Biddle died at the homestead in 1968, after which Katherine spent less time on the Cape.

Little is known about changes that may have been made to the landscape in the years after Francis Biddle's death. After Katherine suffered a stroke in 1973, maintenance of the north garden was limited to mowing and use of the south vegetable garden ended. Katherine died in 1977, and in 1979 ownership of 612 Bound Brook Island Road passed to Edmund, Frances, and their sons Stephen and Daniel. Frances maintained and simplified the north flower garden, but left the south vegetable garden untended. In 1995 Edmund and Frances Biddle transferred the ownership of the 610 Bound Brook Island Road property to the Biddle Investment Trust, established for their children and grandchildren. Edmund Randolph Biddle died in 2000, at which time sole ownership of the 610 and 612 parcels passed to Stephen and Daniel Biddle. Frances and her sons completed a redesign of the north flower garden into a memorial garden in 2003, where they interred the remains of Francis, Katherine, and Edmund. They graves are marked with plaques attached to large rocks (see Small-Scale Features below).

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The Biddle family maintained the north flower garden, lawns, and buildings for summertime occupancy, but in 2010 placed the 10-acre property on the market. The Biddles worked with the Trust for Public Land to purchase and convey the property to the NPS, which officially occurred on January 3, 2011. Since that time, buildings have been stabilized and the lawns are mowed, but the site is not currently open to the public. The Baker House has been recently used as seasonal housing and office space, but the other buildings are vacant.

Landscape Characteristic: **Spatial Organization**

Historic Condition (to 2011):
Spatial organization is defined as the way in which physical forms and visual associations articulate areas, volumes, and boundaries in the landscapes. A site's topography is characterized by the three-dimensional configuration of features and orientation, which interact to produce a unique expression of slope, articulation, elevation, and solar aspect. Generations of Bakers owned hundreds of acres of land on the south side of Bound Brook Island beginning in 1792. The Baker House, constructed in the 1820s, was sited along an inlet of Duck Harbor and soon after was proximate by two important island roads: Duck Harbor Road ran just to the west of the house and Bound Brook Island Road ran a little farther to the south and east of the house. The house was core of the farm, with adjacent Duck Harbor Road providing direct access to the family's saltworks and possibly a garden along the harbor to the southwest, a wind-powered gristmill on a hill to the west, and a saltbox barn and pastures to the northwest.

The house itself sat on a level area of land overlooking a meadow associated with a small finger of the inlet. Like other Cape Cod homes at this time, the Baker House was oriented with its front door facing south to receive direct southern exposure. Open spaces immediately around the house hosted the family's day-to-day activities, including a vegetable garden just to the south on the slopes the meadow. As there was little vegetation other than a few shade and orchard trees on the island, roads and fencelines served to delineate the landscape. One such fence appears in a 1930s photograph of the property, which shows a weathered fence surrounding a small yard area on the south side of the Baker House.

During Jack Hall's ownership from 1937 to 1949, the core of the old Baker farm was retained when Hall relocated three buildings near the Baker House to accommodate guests, a small farm operation, and studio/workshop space, all of which supported his work as an architect and local socialite. Hall also enlarged the house with a kitchen addition and used the fill from this project to create a level area for a patio built supported by a retaining wall and accessed by a set of steps. During this period Duck Harbor Road was abandoned, and a driveway off of Bound Brook Island Road became the primary access into the site. The end of the driveway, the three moved buildings, and the Baker House essentially created the boundaries of a broad area of open space that is now a lawn.

From 1949 to 1968, Francis and Katherine Biddle maintained Hall's organization of buildings on the site and planted the intervening spaces with new trees, shrubs, and flower beds. In the area north of the lawn, Katherine created the north flower garden, defined by linear planted beds and highlighted by a circular bed divided with paths. The Biddles also planted a vegetable garden in the meadow to the south of the house and installed a row of evergreens along the south side of the driveway. Spatial relationships were also influenced by the growth of successional vegetation beyond the core area, which filled in formerly open areas of the landscape. This vegetation obscured the boundaries of the 10-acre Baker-Biddle Property that were established in the early 1960s.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition:
The spatial relationships and topographic characteristics within the Baker-Biddle Property established during the Baker, Hall, and Biddle periods are intact, but are less pronounced today due to the abandonment of several lands uses and the growth of successional vegetation. The Baker House and the three buildings added by Jack Hall are extant, which has preserved the center lawn space (Figures 19, 20). The patios that defined the outdoor spaces around the Baker House, as well as the patios at the Studio and Barn Cottage, are unused and increasingly obscured by groundcovers. However, the retaining wall and steps associated with the house patio remain visible. The abandoned south vegetable garden is currently overgrown; the garden's successional vegetation obscures the connection between the house, the two roads, and Duck Harbor (Figure 21). The north flower garden is extant, but paths within it are now overgrown and maturing shrubs in the perimeter beds have isolated this area from the rest of the property (Figure 22). Beyond the current property boundaries, previously open fields and industrial sites remain shrouded in successional woodlands.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
North Flower Garden	196961	Contributing					No
South Vegetable Garden	196962	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 19. View looking west into the core of the Baker-Biddle Property. The Baker House and Delight Cottage are at image left and the Studio is at image right. (OCLP, DSC-0423)



Figure 20. View looking east into the core of the Baker-Biddle Property. The Baker House is at image right and the Studio and Barn Cottage are at image left. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1721)



Figure 21. View looking northeast from the trace of Duck Harbor Road towards the former south vegetable garden and the Baker House. (OCLP 2017, DSC-0355)



Figure 22. View looking south-southeast at the north flower garden, with the Baker House in the background. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1737)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition (to 2011):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen shrubs and trees, vines, and herbaceous plants, of which were either indigenous or intentionally established. European settlement on Cape Cod from the mid-1600s through the 1700s altered the vegetation pattern from scrub forests to open land. On Bound Brook Island, intense pasturing practices quickly converted land to bare soil and led to erosion. Legislation in 1768 prohibited the pasturing of animals on the island; when the Bakers arrived in 1792, typical land cover included woodlots, agriculture fields, kitchen gardens, and salt meadows. The landscape at this time featured predominately open conditions.

A photograph of the Baker farm in 1924 depicts a mostly open landscape with scattered trees, namely a wooded area south of the Baker House and fruit and shade trees between the house and barn to the north. By this time Cape Cod's transition from agricultural uses to tourism and recreation activities was underway, with abandoned fields reverting to forests. During Jack Hall's ownership of the former Baker farm from the late 1930s through the 1940s, the Baker House was enlarged and three buildings were placed nearby, but little is known about alterations to the site's vegetation.

In contrast, well-documented vegetation changes occurred during the Biddle family's ownership beginning in 1949. The Biddles planted a large vegetable garden in the meadow south of the Baker House and planted grape vines south of the Delight Cottage. Katherine Biddle created and maintained an ornamental garden north of the house, which featured perimeter planting beds and a 20-foot diameter circular bed in the center criss-crossed with narrow paths. In the summertime, colorful phlox, wildflower, and lilies characterized the garden, while to the north of the garden were remnant apple trees. Katherine also set out flower beds defined by angled bricks set on end between the patios and house foundation. The lawn area was planted with scattered locust and spruce trees. Historic photographs also show lawns between the house and Delight Cottage and around the Studio and Barn Cottage. Perhaps the most dominant vegetation feature was an elm tree southwest of the house, under which the Biddles often entertained. The Biddles also planted a row of spruce and cedar along the driveway and spruce trees along the north boundary.

After Katherine's death in 1977, her daughter-in-law Frances Biddle tended and maintained the garden north of the house, but with more of a focus on wildflowers such as black-eyed-Susan, zinnia, gladiola, and butterfly bush. A photograph from this time shows low shrubs surrounding the edge of the circular bed and wildflowers in the center. Lawns surrounded the circular bed and extended to planting beds filled with flowering shrubs that defined the edges of the garden area. By the 1980s catalpa trees shaded portions of the garden, a few apple trees still survived to the north, and trained wisteria vines grew over an arbor between the garden and the lawn. Hurricane Bob damaged but did not kill the large elm southwest of the house in 1991, but did force the removal of several locust trees in the lawn and elsewhere on the property. An aerial photograph from 1994 shows a tree canopy over the north flower garden and successional vegetation in the south vegetable garden. In 2002 Frances and her sons constructed a memorial garden for her husband Edmund Randolph and his parents. The design retained the circular bed and added an underground irrigation system, and when completed in 2003 included the cremated remains of Edmund, Francis, and Katherine in the garden.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition:
Today, maintained lawns are the predominant groundcover throughout the core of the property, but grass is encroaching upon ornamental beds in the north flower garden and the various patios; the patio at the Barn Cottage has a large tree growing in it. Black locust, tree-of-heaven, blue spruce, and black cherry still grow in the lawn areas, and cedar and spruce still line the driveway, but several trees are in poor condition (Figure 23). The elm still stands southwest of the Baker House, and a few plants remain in the foundation beds but the brick borders are gone (Figure 24). Successional woody vegetation continues to fill the south vegetable garden and obscures most traces of it (Figure 25). The north flower garden features river birch, catalpa, apple, ornamental grass, shrub roses, ivy, and wisteria (Figure 26, see also Figure 22). Naturalized grape vines remain around the Delight Cottage.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
North Flower Garden Plantings	196963	Contributing					No
South Vegetable Garden Successional Woody Plants	196964	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Foundation Plantings	196965	Contributing					No
Evergreens along Driveway	196966	Contributing					No
Grape Vines	196967	Contributing					No
Lawns and Shade Trees	196968	Contributing			Asset	1277887	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 23. View looking southwest from the driveway toward the lawn and locust trees, and spruce and cedar trees along the driveway. The Barn Cottage is at image right. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1753)



Figure 24. View looking west at the elm tree next the Baker House and remnants of the foundation beds. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1715)



Figure 25. View looking northwest from the edge of overgrown south vegetable garden. (OCLP 2017, DSC-2103)



Figure 26. View looking south at wisteria engulfing the arbor in the north flower garden. (OCLP 2017, DSC-2125)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition (to 2011):
Circulation is comprised of spaces, features, and applied material finishes that establish and organize movement in the landscape. Duck Harbor and the Herring River provided water transportation for early settlers, but by the mid-1800s these waterways had shoaled in and became unnavigable. Duck Harbor Road and Bound Brook Island Road passed through the Baker farm as early as 1848 and possibly earlier; the north-south Duck Harbor Road connected the harbor to the island's western homesteads, while the east-west Bound Brook Island Road tracked along the southern half of the island. Both wagon roads intersected with other roads that extended into Wellfleet's center. The two roads also provided access to sites on the Baker farm: the saltworks and gristmill to the west and southwest of the Baker House, the saltbox barn to the north, and the farm's other outlying areas. A topographic map from 1944 indicates the presence of a new road, Bound Brook Way, to the north of the homestead, after which the section of Duck Harbor Road that passed through the homestead was abandoned and reverted to a trail known by the family as the Beach Path. An aerial photograph from 1938 shows a slightly curving driveway extending southwest from Bound Brook Island Road to just northeast of the house. Soon after, Jack Hall relocated the Baker barn (Studio) and later the Rose barn (Barn Cottage) near this terminus. Based an aerial from 1971, the driveway curve was lengthened slightly southward sometime after 1938.

No information has been found regarding pedestrian circulation features around the farm's saltworks, gristmill, or barn, nor around the Baker House. After building the kitchen ell addition in 1941, Jack Hall constructed a brick patio on the south and east sides of the Baker House, along with a small set of brick stairs. Nearest to the ell, the brick was laid in a herringbone pattern, but the section extending the entire length of the house featured a running bond pattern. Smaller brick patios with running bond patterns were built either by Hall or later by the Biddles on the west side of the house, in the breezeway between the Studio and Shed, and on the north side of the Barn Cottage. The Biddles installed flagstone paths in the north flower garden, from the north and northeast sides of the house to the driveway, between the house and Delight Cottage, and on the south side of the Studio.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Several historic circulation features are extant within the Baker-Biddle Property. The Beach Path (formerly Duck Harbor Road) is a mowed grass trail as it heads south from the house to its intersection with Bound Brook Island Road at the south property boundary, but the path is more narrow and overgrown as it heads north from the house to the north boundary. An earthen trail extends from the trail to a hill at the southwest corner. The earthen and gravel-surfaced Bound Brook Island Road defines borders the south and east sides of the property, but lies outside the property boundary. The driveway heading southwesterly into the site from Bound Brook Island Road remains the homestead's primary entrance. Today it exists as a two-track driveway with gravel/shell surface, and ends at a parking area defined on its west and south sides with dimensional wood timbers (see Figures 19, 23). The parking area features a gravel/shell surface interspersed with grasses, and extends north to the garage door on the west side of the Barn Cottage.

The brick patios around the house and next to the Studio and Barn Cottage are extant, but in some areas are overgrown by groundcover (see Figure 24). The brick steps northeast of the house are in fair condition but no longer appear connected to the patio because of the encroaching grasses (Figure 27). Portions of the flagstone paths that extend in various directions from the Baker House and the Studio are visible, but many stones have sunk below the grade of the surrounding lawns, and others may now be hidden. In the north flower garden, some of the paths were modified by Frances Biddle. Today the garden has a pebble path outlined in brick circling an ornamental planting bed, while flagstone paths radiate from the circle toward the outer edges of the garden. These paths are increasing obscured by encroaching groundcovers.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Beach Path (Duck Harbor Road	196969	Contributing					No
Driveway	196970	Contributing					No
Parking Area	196971	Contributing					No
Brick Patios	196972	Contributing					No
Flagstone Paths	196973	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 27. View looking southwest at the brick steps and brick retaining wall associated with the patio. (OCLP 2017, DSC-2115)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition (to 2011):
The constructions intended for sheltering any form of human activity are defined as buildings, while the constructions that house all other functions are structures. The Baker House, later known as the “main house,” was constructed by either David Baker Jr. or David Baker III in the 1820s, based on a recent analysis of nails by Historical Architect Peggy Albee. The wood-frame house originally measured 27 by 28.5 feet, but was expanded at some point in the early nineteenth century with a

ten-foot addition on the west elevation to enlarge the first floor bedroom. Heated by a large central chimney that pierced the low pitch roof, the house sat on a shallow brick foundation and was sided in cedar clapboards and shingles. Like many early Cape Cod houses, the main entry of the house was on the south elevation. In 1941 Jack Hall constructed an addition measuring 17 by 21 feet off the east side of the house to accommodate a kitchen, which sat upon a full, cinderblock cellar accessed via a wood bulkhead on the eastern exterior wall. In the 1950s the Biddles remodeled the house's interior, built an eight-foot addition on the west side to expand the living room, and added two south-facing dormers.

The Baker farm included a windmill, gristmill, and saltworks, but to date no specific details are known about these structures. They were likely removed between the 1880s and 1930s. However, there is information regarding the Baker saltbox barn that was located northwest of the Baker House. Constructed sometime in the 1800s, the barn supported agricultural activities. After purchasing the farm in 1937, Jack Hall reassembled the barn around 75 feet northeast of the house to store his vehicles and carriages, and later to house a cow, horse, and several sheep. The one-and-a-half-story building measured approximately 24 by 26 feet and was set on a concrete block foundation. Soon after, he built a one-story shed to the west of the barn that was connected to the barn by a covered breezeway. The shed measured 10 by 16 feet and featured a large garage bay on its west façade. In the 1950s the Biddles converted the Baker barn into a writing studio, dividing the first floor into two spaces – one for Francis that faced the driveway and one for Katherine that overlooked the north flower garden. Two separate entrances opened onto the lawn between the Studio and the Baker House. This structure is now named the Studio.

Although not original to the site, the oldest structure at the Baker-Biddle Property may be the Delight Cottage, a former whaling shed located in Provincetown and possibly dating to the 1600s. Also known as trying sheds, such structures were often situated in harbors and housed equipment to process, heat, and extract whale oil. The Provincetown structure was salvaged and moved to just west of the Baker House by Jack Hall in 1940. The building measured around 14 by 28 feet and stood on a concrete foundation. Hall modified the building to accommodate a loft, bath, and skylight, and attached to the exterior a wooden sign taken from a Provincetown brothel that read 'DELIGHT.' A short retaining wall along the western façade allowed the structure to sit on a slight rise. Both Hall and the Biddles used the Delight Cottage to accommodate guests.

In 1947 Jack Hall added the Barn Cottage to the homestead. Originally a c.1850 barn at neighbor Joe P. Rose's property on Pamet Point Road, Hall deconstructed and moved the two-story wooden structure to a site approximately 120 feet northeast from the Baker House for use as a workshop and studio. The Rose barn measured approximately 31 by 20 feet and sat on a concrete block and brick foundation. During the reconstruction, Hall altered the building to include a stove, additional windows, and a garage addition on the north elevation that measured 16 by 21 feet. The Biddles in turn renovated the building to serve as a guest cottage, and later as a dwelling for their son Edmund Randolph and his family. Improvements included updating the five room cottage to include three bedrooms, two baths, central heat, a kitchen, and fireplace. It is now called the Barn Cottage.

Other structures dating to the historic period include a privy and a brick retaining wall. The location of the homestead's original privy is unknown, but sometime in the twentieth century a privy was built approximately 75 feet northwest of the Baker House. The small wood structure measured 4.5 by 4.5 feet, but there is no mention of it in any Baker, Hall, or Biddle documents. There is also lack of documentation for the brick retaining wall at the Baker House, but it presumably dates to Jack Hall's construction of the brick patio because it supports the fill from the kitchen ell project that made possible the construction of the patio in this area. The wall measured around 35 feet in length and ranged between 2 and 4 feet in height.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Extant buildings and structures at the Baker-Biddle Property date to the historic period, but their construction dates and historic integrity need to be confirmed with additional research and documentation. Since its transfer to the NPS in 2011, the c.1820s Baker House has been vacant except for 2017 when it was used as seasonal housing for researchers. The building recently received a new roof. The site's other buildings – the Baker barn (now Studio), Delight Cottage, and

Barn Cottage – are currently vacant and maintained in stable condition (see Cover and Figures 19, 20, 24, 27). The twentieth-century privy is engulfed in vegetation and is not maintained (Figure 28). The brick patio wall is in stable condition (see Figure 27). For detailed descriptions of the site's buildings and structures, see the 2013 report, "Archaeological Investigation of the Baker-Biddle Property," pages 26-30.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Baker House (Main House)	196974	Contributing			Location	237939	Yes
Studio	196975	Contributing			Asset	237940	Yes
Delight Cottage	196976	Contributing			Asset	237941	Yes
Barn Cottage	196977	Contributing			Asset	237942	Yes
Privy (site)	196978	Contributing					No
Patio Retaining Wall	196979	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 28. View looking northwest at the privy. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1472)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition (to 2011):
These components include the range, extent, focus, and composition of other landscape features in prospect. Views are expansive and panoramic, allowing a broad range of vision, while vistas are controlled and deliberately composed viewsheds. Around the time David Baker, Jr. purchased land on Bound Brook Island, the landscape had been mostly cleared of vegetation and would have offered panoramic views to Duck Harbor and Cape Cod Bay. Historical accounts make note of the use of the surrounding hills as lookouts for whales in the bay. When the Baker House was constructed in the 1820s, there were open views looking south across a meadow to the harbor. Duck Brook Road and Bound Brook Island Road, and the saltworks and gristmill, were likely visible from the house as well.

The abandonment of homesteads and agricultural fields in the early twentieth century resulted in the emergence of successional vegetation that began to constrict and reshape views. The composition of the views also changed, especially looking south from the Baker House where the former open water conditions of the harbor changed to vegetated wetlands. Nonetheless, there was likely still a view looking south from the house in the 1940s, which may have inspired Jack Hall to build a brick patio in this area. In the 1950s and 1960s the Biddle family installed gardens and planted shade trees and tree screens, thus creating new vistas. The view overlooking the south vegetable garden from the patio was likely a favorite amongst the Biddles' many guests. Katherine Biddle noted in letters to friends of the view she enjoyed from the Studio into the north flower garden. The relatively low height of vegetation in and around this garden likely made it at least partially visible from other areas of the site.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The continued growth of successional vegetation has for the most part blocked the panoramic views of Duck Harbor and Cape Cod Bay from the hills beyond the Baker-Biddle Property. Within the current property boundary, there is a partial view from the hill at the southwest corner. Vegetation also blocks views looking south from the Baker House to the harbor, the former Duck Harbor Road, and Bound Brook Island Road. The view from the south patio to the abandoned vegetable garden is obscured by vegetation within the garden itself. There is a partial view of the north garden area from the Studio, but as the surrounding shrubs beds continue to grow and mature this view may be lost in the future. Such growth has already visually isolated the garden from the rest of the property. The current condition of all of these views can be reversed with a program of selective cutting and removal.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
View from Southwest Hill to Harbor and Bay	196980	Contributing					No
View South from Baker House to Duck Harbor (blocked)	196981	Contributing					No
View South from Baker House to Vegetable Garden (blocked)	196982	Contributing					No
View from Studio to North Garden	196983	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition (to 2011):
Small-scale features provide insight into the functional needs and aesthetic concerns of the landscape. Little is known about small-scale features associated with the Baker farm in the nineteenth century, but there were presumably fences around the farm's various pastures and gardens. The exception is the acquisition of a belfry in the 1880s from the Bound Brook Schoolhouse, which was repurposed as a well house. Evidence of fencing appears in a 1920s photograph, which shows a picket fence on the south side of the Baker House and possibly a split rail fence running north of the house. The picket fence also appears in a photographs from the 1930s, prior to Jack Hall's ownership of the property.

In addition to adding three buildings to the property and enlarging the Baker House, Hall erected split rail fences for his livestock and a woven wire fence for chickens, and used the belfry as a piggery. He also placed a granite water trough at the east of the house, which was acquired during the destruction of an old schoolhouse where it had been used within the structure's foundation. Originally, the 4-ton trough had been stationed at the intersection of Briar Lane in Wellfleet until an unknown date. Either Hall or the Biddles placed a half, granite millstone at the front door of the house for use as a step. The origin of the millstone is unclear, but could relate to the gristmill that operated on the property during the Baker's ownership.

The Biddles embellished the property with various antiquities and decorations, installing a flag pole on the patio southeast part of the Baker House patio, and a ship bell from the USS Biddle. The granite trough that Hall had brought to the property was transformed into a flower planter. In a spruce grove just off of the Beach Path (Duck Harbor Road) Katherine built a wooden bench overlooking the south vegetable garden. Just south of the house, a split rail fence and picket gate marked the boundary of the south vegetable garden. Photographs from 2011 show wood and wire fences in the garden itself. During the Biddle's occupancy, there was a hand-pump in the south planting bed of the north flower garden.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Remnants of fence lines are present at the Baker-Biddle Property, including a fence just south of the house associated with the south vegetable garden. This fence features an opening now occupied by a wood turnstile, but the date of this feature is unknown (Figure 29). Fence lines within this garden may still be intact but were obscured by vegetation during field work for this report. The histories of other extant fences at the site – along portions of the Beach Path (Duck Harbor Road), adjacent to the Delight Cottage, near the granite trough, and in the south planting bed in the north flower garden – are not presently known.

The granite trough and granite millstone step remain in their original locations, but the flagpole and ship bell are no longer present on the Baker House patio (Figure 30). Only the end posts of Katherine's garden bench remain next to the Beach Path (Figure 31). In the center of the circular garden, the Frances Biddle placed a small dog fountain, named 'Percival,' that stood around three feet tall, but it is no longer there. The hand-pump well and the belfry (well house) are also gone, but the well cap is present. In the northwest corner of the north flower garden is a stone with two plaques that marks the cremated remains of Francis and Katherine Biddle. Nearby is another stone and plaque that memorializes the grave of Edmund Biddle. The remains were interred in 2003 (Figures 32, 33).

Other small-scale features at the site may be historic but require future research. A clothesline is situated behind the Barn Studio, a light post (lamp missing) stands northeast of the Baker House, and a wooden arbor marks an entrance into the north flower garden (see Figures 26, 27). The origins of various utilities – a water tank, a drain in the east lawn, a concrete cover southeast of the house, and two propane tanks on the east side of the house – are unknown. Three open burn pits are located on the eastern side of the property in the vicinity of the driveway.

Following the property's transfer to the park, a typical 24x36-inch fiberglass NPS interpretive wayside sign – "Land and History Preserved" – was installed in the lawn east of the parking lot. Nearby is a slightly larger vertical wood interpretive sign. Neither signs are contributing features, but they do not appreciably detract from the landscape (see Figure 19).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Remnant Fence South of Baker House	196984	Contributing					No
Fences in South Vegetable Garden	196985	Undetermined					No
Wooden Turnstile	196986	Undetermined					No
Other Fences (Beach Path, Delight Cottage, east of the Baker House, north flower garden, south vegetable garden)	196987	Undetermined					No
Granite Trough	196988	Contributing					No
Granite Half Millstone Step	196989	Contributing					No
Garden Bench Remnants	196990	Contributing					No
Francis and Katherine Biddle Grave Markers	196991	Contributing					No
Edmund Randolph Biddle Grave Marker	196992	Contributing					No
Clothesline	196993	Undetermined					No
Light Post	196994	Undetermined					No
Wooden Arbor	196995	Undetermined					No
Water Tank	196996	Undetermined					No
Drain in Lawn	196997	Undetermined					No
Concrete Cap Southeast of House	196998	Undetermined					No
Propane Tanks	196999	Undetermined					No
Burn Pits	197000	Undetermined					No
Wayside "Land and History Preserve"	197001	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	244205	Yes
Wood Interpretive Sign	197002	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 29. View looking southeast at the wood turnstile just south of the Baker House. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1710)



Figure 30. View looking northwest at the granite water trough and split rail fence. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1727)



Figure 31. View looking northwest at the remnants of Katherine Biddle's garden bench. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1557)



Figure 32. View of the grave marker plaques in the northwest corner of the north flower garden. (OCLP 2017, IMG-1740)



Figure 33. View of the grave marker plaque on the north side of the north flower garden. (OCLP 2017, DSC-0225)

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

This characteristic includes traces, ruins, and deposited artifacts in the landscape, that are present in surface or subsurface occurrences. The property does not contain any discernable evidence of the Baker's windmill, saltworks, barn foundation, and belfry. The Beach Path corresponds to the previous alignment of Duck Harbor Road along the western boundary of the property. The agricultural fields south of the house, in use during the Biddle's residency, are reforested. Archaeological surveys confirm the existence of prehistoric sites on Bound Brook Island and the long history of occupancy on the property. For more information on archeology, see the 2013 "Archaeological Investigation of the Baker-Biddle Property."

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 8

Next Assessment Due Date: 06/25/2027

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 06/25/2019

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The landscape at the Baker-Biddle Property is in “Fair” condition. A fair condition assessment indicates that the property shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the property to degrade to a poor condition.

Successional vegetation has consumed the south vegetable garden and blocks the historic view looking south from the Baker House. This vegetation has also covered the privy and portions of the Beach Path (old Duck Harbor Road), and continues to envelop formerly maintained planting beds along remnant fence lines and in the north flower garden. Numerous shade trees in the lawns display signs of stress, decline, or imminent failure. Grasses and groundcovers are creeping into the various patio areas, flagstone paths, and garden walkways. The Baker House is in stable condition, but the exteriors of the Delight Cottage, Studio, and Barn Cottage appear neglected; the park has received funding to address issues with the buildings (PMIS 236728).

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Construction of buildings on a parcel just west of the property impedes on the site's rural landscape character. The structure is visible looking west from the Beach Path (former Duck Harbor Road).

Date Identified: 08/26/2019

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Maintenance of the site has been reduced to seasonal mowing and preservation of the main house. Without attention across the property, its legibility as a historic site is diminished and the landscape's character may be lost.

Date Identified: 08/26/2019

Type of Impact: Neglect

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Small-scale features – wooden fences, an arbor, and a wooden benches – are deteriorated or have collapsed.

Date Identified: 08/26/2019

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Structural Deterioration

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Insufficient maintenance to the outbuildings on the site threatens the structures' integrity and longevity on the site. The privy's construction is already compromised, and the exteriors of the Studio and Barn Cottage display decay, animal damage, and broken doors and fixtures. The park has received funding to correct these issues.

Date Identified: 08/26/2019

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: A significant portion of ornamental vegetation has been lost since the end of the historic period, and the remaining vegetation is impacted by lack of maintenance and crowding from invasive species. The spread of non-native and naturalizing plants is noticeable in the abandoned south vegetable garden, and around the north flower garden.

Date Identified: 08/26/2019

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Undetermined

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: General Management Plan

Document Date: 1998-04-06

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

Cape Cod National Seashore, as outline in the 1998 General Management Plan (GMP), commits to its purpose to “preserve the nationally significant and special cultural and natural features, distinctive patterns of human activity, and ambience that characterize the Outer Cape, along with the associated scenic, cultural, historic, scientific, and recreational values.” The plan contains goals and objective to implement resource management, including natural and cultural resources. Cultural landscapes within Cape Cod National Seashore are best characterized as “historic vernacular landscapes” and illustrate cultural values and attitudes toward the land, and settlement patterns, use, and development over time. (GMP 1998: 8,45)

The GMP was published before the acquisition of the Baker-Biddle Property and therefore does not include a prescriptive treatment. However, management of the site can be derived from the plan’s delineation of management zones, and their corresponding treatment. The two management zones that overlay the property include the Natural Zone and the Historic Zone.
-- Natural Zone: The experience of the area is that of being immersed in nature, such as in a forest or along a beach.
-- Historic Zone: The areas defined as such occur in designated pockets within the seashore’s boundary, including archeological remains, historically significant districts, sites, and cultural landscapes. (GMP 1998: 120)

Bound Brook Island is mentioned directly in ‘Dispersed Use Subzone’ of the Natural Zone; therefore, resource management on the island should intend “to minimize resources damage within moderate use limits.” While not mentioned specifically, the Baker-Biddle Property can be aligned with management objectives in the ‘Structures and Landscape Subzone’ of the Historic Zone. These settings are generally formal and contain housing clusters, manipulated landscapes, and groupings of historic elements. All sites are eligible or are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and follow prescribed management. Under this zone, intensive management is required to protect the resource and to ensure safety of visitors. The GMP states: “cultural landscapes will be managed to perpetuate a particular historical, cultural, or agricultural scene,” and that “modifications in these areas will have to be in harmony with the period of significance.” (GMP 1998: 121,124)

The park has requested funding to complete a Cultural Landscape Report (PMIS 199453) for FY 2021. The CLR will include site history and existing conditions chapters that document the physical evolution of the landscape through the present time, and an analysis and evaluation chapter that provides a concise discussion of the landscape’s historical significance according to National Register criteria and an evaluation of the landscape characteristics and associated features that contribute to the property’s significance. The CLR will also include treatment recommendations aimed at improving and preserving the property’s historic character.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

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Supplemental Information:

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Whiting, H.L.

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