

PH0692689

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED DEC 5 1978
DATE ENTERED MAR 2 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Jacob Randall Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Lawrence Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Pownal

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

005

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

X YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert and Elsie Whidden

STREET & NUMBER

Lawrence Road

CITY, TOWN

Pownal

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cumberland County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Portland

STATE
Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Jacob Randall Homestead in Pownal, Maine, built between 1796 and 1804, is a very fine rural example of early Federal style domestic architecture. The 2½ story house is rectangular in plan and is of brick construction with gabled roof, internal chimneys, and granite foundation.

The facade, which faces east, is 5 bays wide with a central entrance. This entrance consists of a recessed single door with fan-light. First-story fenestration is 6/6, while the second story contains 12/8 windows -- an unusual arrangement. The gable-ends of the house are 2 bays wide.

A 1½-story brick ell is attached to the south end of the building. This was a later addition, but its date has not been established.

The Jacob Randall Homestead is in good condition and well represents the middle class prosperity in Maine of the early Federal period.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1800

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In addition to its significance as an excellent and extremely well preserved example of rural Federal architecture executed in brick, the Jacob Randall Homestead is closely tied to the early history of Pownal.

In 1796, Jacob Randall, originally from Weymouth, Massachusetts, purchased 105 acres in North Pownal from a North Yarmouth man whose name is unknown. This land included the site of the house as well as several hundred feet on both sides of the Chandler River across the road. There Randall erected a dam about 1800 and began operation of a saw and grist mill. The dam is largely in place and still holds a fairly sizable head of water.

At the first town meeting held in 1808 in the newly incorporated Town of Pownal, Jacob Randall was elected selectman, indicating his stature in the community. He continued to hold this office almost continuously until his death in 1836.

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This house typifies the rural Maine version of Federal architecture in several respects. The front door has no side lights but does carry above it a semi-circular rather than elliptical fan. The second floor rooms are low ceiled as indicated by the close proximity of the windows to the very simple cornice. The 12/8 windows on the second floor are original and would have been matched on the ground floor. The sturdy but roughly hewn granite blocks used for the foundation and exposed above ground for nearly two feet are also typical. The two interior chimneys near the ends of the house on the front part of the roof supplied fireplaces in the end walls of paired front rooms on both floors. The kitchen which stretched nearly the length of the house in the rear was supplied by a single chimney (not visible in the photograph) in the rear portion of the roof. The rear chambers on the second floor were unheated.