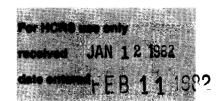
United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Na	me				
historic	Robert Reed Homes to	ouse <del>ead</del>			
and/or commo	on Robert P. Tristran	n Coffin Home			
2. Loc					
street & numb	Με Der Route 128 and Cho	op Point R <del>oa</del> d	NIA	not for publication	
city, town	Woolwich,	N/A vicinity of	congressional district	First	
state	Maine coo	le 23 county	Sagadahoc	code 023	
3. Cla	ssification				
Category  district X building( structure site object	•	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:	
4. Ow	ner of Prope	rty			
name	ne Kayda & Samuel Selby		erro Roman and North		
street & numb	per R.F.D. #1; Box 443	•		Mi	
city, town	Woolwich,	vicinity of	state	Maine 04579	
5. Loc	cation of Leg	al Descripti	on		
courthouse, re		agadahoc County Reg	istry of Deeds		
city, town	В	ath,	state	Maine	
6. Re	presentation		Surveys		
title	N /A	has this pro	operty been determined ele	gible? yes no	
	N/A	N/A		e county local	
	survey records N/A				
city, town	N/A		state	NIA	

condition  X excellent deteriorated  good ruins  fair unexposed	Check one unaltered altered	Check one _X_ original site moved date _	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7. Description

The Robert Reed House of Woolwich, Maine, dating from ca. 1765, is a well-preserved and classic example of later colonial vernacular architecture in a rural residential context.

The  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story house is of frame construction (post and beam), with large central chimney, gable roof, clapboard siding, and field-stone foundation. The facade, which faces south, is five bays wide with a central entrance. This entrance consists of a single door with transom below an entablatured lintel. Fenestration throughout is 9/6. A secondary entrance is located on the east end of the house.

Extending west from the west side of the house is a one-story gable-roofed ell with a three-bay facade facing south. This wall contains a door and two 6/6 windows. In the west end is a barn door.

Attached to the northeast corner of the house is a center-chimney cape with a five-bay facade facing east. This cape, moved onto the property at an early date, functions as an ell for the house.

## 8. Significance

<u>X</u> 1700–1799 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning	g landscape architectur lawX literature military music	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
		invention	,	other (specify)
Specific dates	c.1765	Builder/Architect Ro	bert Reed	

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Robert Reed House in North Woolwich, built c.1765, is a splendid and beautifully restored example of a rural colonial homestead. Although there is no record of the Cape which forms its ell and was moved there from another location, internal evidence indicates its being of nearly the same period. It is likely, indeed, that it was attached to the main house at an early date since Reed proceeded, after building the house, to sire twelve children in less than sixteen years!

The house is of further significance as the home, beginning in the 1930's of Robert P. Tristram Coffin, Pulitzer Prize winning poet and author, while a professor at Bowdoin College. Coffin, sometimes referred to as Maine's poet laureate, wrote fondly of the house in his book, <u>Kennebec</u>, <u>Cradle of Americans</u>:

"My house on Merrymeeting Bay, where I write these lines, is only one among many places waiting to flower again by the river that runs through the heart of Maine. A fireplace wide enough to take a family of twelve into its warm arms..a fireplace in every room, and cranes and S-hooks to hold porridge in them all. That is the kind of place a house ought to be. Bedrooms above, paneled in pine cut on the farm, golden brown and velvety with the sunshine and use of many years. Door latches made by hand and worn away by hands of many people who sprang from the loins of the maker. Eyehooks to hold the rug frames in the kitchen ceiling, and all the delicate wooden vitals of a hand loom stowed in the attic, waiting to be set up again and minister to a new family, each small reed and bobbin made by hand. A shad net hangs there too, high up so the mice cannot gnaw it, among the axehewn rafters that are pegged with wooden pins instead of nails. There are pantries with half doors and a sloping outside cellar door, waiting to lift up and let life in and out again. The walls of this house of mine are not merely paneled wood and plaster, they are the rhythms of life and love that went on inside them, they are the stuff of loyalties and fealties that could not be buried under six feet of cold earth in the little graveyard back of the grape arbor. The walls are alive, and they call out to the life of me and my children."

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Coffin, R. T. P., <u>Kennebec</u> , <u>Cradle</u>	of Americans.	Farrar and Rinehart, Inc., 1937
		ACCEPTED FOR THE LITTLE
10. Geographical Data		UM MOT VEREND
Acreage of nominated property	-	Quadrangle scale1:62500
A 119 4 315 11010 418 712 41710 Northing		sting Northing
	P	
Verbal boundary description and justification		· ·
Assessor's Map R14, Lot 35	# 1 € 1 <b>5</b> 1 € 1	
List all states and counties for properties overlap	pping state or count	y boundaries
state N code	county	code
state code	county	′ code
11. Form Prepared By		
name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robe	art I Bradlov	Anchitoctumal Historian
organization Maine Historic Preservation Co		July, 1981
street & number 55 Capitol Street	teleph	
city or town Augus ta,	state	Maine 04333
12. State Historic Preser		
The evaluated significance of this property within the sta		
national state	_ local	
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for 665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the	<b>National Register and</b>	certify that it has been evaluated
State Historic Preservation Officer signature	S. Shellew	ortz
title 5. A. P.O.	/	date /2/18/8/
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the	National Register Entered in the National Regis	AND CONTRACT COMMENT COMMENTS OF THE PROPERTY
Keeper of the National Register	MECTODAT VORTE	ter date 411/82