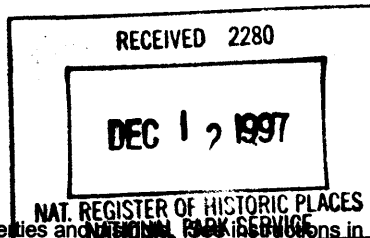


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



1691

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 15A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Traip, Robert and Louisa, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 2 Wentworth Street N/A not for publication

city or town Kittery Foreside N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county York code 031 zip code 03904

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 12/4/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

[Signature] 1/7/98
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Traip, Robert and Louisa, House
Name of Property

York, Maine
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | | buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Wood/Weatherboard

Wood/Other/Flushboard

roof Asphalt

other Peripteral Porch, Cupola

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1839

Significant Dates

c. 1839

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Traip, Robert and Louisa, House
Name of Property

York, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

2

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4

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1997

street & number 55 Capitol Street, 65 State House Station telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333-0065

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

TRAIP, ROBERT AND LOUISA, HOUSE

YORK, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

The Robert and Louisa Traip House is a two-and-a-half story Greek Revival style frame dwelling with a tripteral (three sided) two-tier engaged porch, and an octagonal centrally located cupola. Its exterior surface is clad in flush sheathing and clapboards, and it stands on a granite foundation. The house occupies a small corner lot adjacent to the commercial district in Kittery Foreside.

Facing west, the front elevation is dominated by the double colonnade of Doric columns (four in each level) that support the second story porch deck and the pediment with its broad entablature. With the exception of the center entrance bay on the first story, the columns are linked by a slat balustrade. On the first story, the porch shelters a central doorway containing a replacement paneled door (probably early twentieth century), a one-over-one double hung sash to the south (this window opening, like all those behind the porch, originally extended nearly to the floor), and a second door at the northwest corner that opens into a stairway to the upper floor. There are three one-over-one windows in the second story and a pair of six-over-six sash in the tympanum. All of the window and door surrounds feature Greek Revival style symmetrically molded surrounds with corner blocks. In addition, the corners of the recessed wall are framed by wide corner boards. The side porches terminate at enclosed bays whose sheltered west elevations contain windows on the south side, a window on the second story of the north side, and a relatively recent enclosed addition on the first story of the north side.

Two-thirds of the south side elevation is occupied by the porch behind which are three windows on each flush sheathed story. There are two columns on each tier of the porch, and wide pilasters at the corners of the two-bay wall whose clapboarded surface projects out to the edge of the porch. Like the windows in the remainder of the main block, the windows in these two bays consist of one-over-one double hung sash. The configuration of the north elevation is similar to that of the south side, except that the original first story porch windows have been removed and the enclosure of one porch bay has been made. A chimney projects through the northeast corner of the roof. The hip roofed cupola contains six-over-six double hung sash windows, and there are two additional windows in the gable peak of the rear elevation. A two-story addition extends across most of the rear elevation. It has a window on each story of the north side, several windows and a door on the rear (east) elevation, and four windows on the south side.

In plan, the first story contains a small vestibule and two rooms in the front half of the house, as well as the separate hall that leads to the upper floor. There are two additional rooms in the rear half that are separated from the front two by a small L-shaped hall. The second floor plan is similar, although two apartments now occupy the front and rear sections. Interior trim consists of Greek Revival style symmetrically molded window and door surrounds, paneled shutters on the front and side windows, and wide baseboards. There are no mantelpieces.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

TRAIPL, ROBERT AND LOUISA, HOUSE

YORK, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 3

There are three known historic photographs of the Traip house, although each one is taken from a distance and it is difficult to observe some of the detailing (such as sash pattern, etc.). However, in one view it is evident that the present central entryway on the front elevation was originally a window, and that the principal entrance was apparently through the door that now leads to the upper floors. These photographs also show that the front elevation of the house originally faced south, but at some time early in this century it was rotated ninety degrees on the lot into its present orientation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

TRAIP, ROBERT AND LOUISA, HOUSE

YORK, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

Constructed about 1839, the Robert and Louisa Traip House is an architecturally important Greek Revival style dwelling which is distinguished by its three sided engaged porch that is supported by a double colonnade of Doric columns. It is one of a very small group of houses in Maine that deviate from the more common prostyle forms by employing a colonnade on side or rear elevations. The Traip house is eligible for nomination to the National Register under criterion C.

Deed records indicate that Robert W. Traip (1800-64) acquired the land on which this house stands from his father in 1838. It is presumed that he built the house shortly thereafter, although no records have been discovered to substantiate this conclusion. To date, very little biographical information about Traip has been uncovered, although he was a member of an old Kittery family whose surname was traditionally spelled Tripe. His name does not appear in the 1850 U.S. Census of Maine, but in 1860 he is listed with his wife Louisa (age 36), and two other persons whose occupations were given as "Domestic" and "Servant", respectively. Traip's own occupation was listed simply as "Gentleman". Although his real estate holdings were valued at a relatively modest \$2,000, his personal estate was well in excess of \$20,000 (it is difficult to determine whether the enumerator wrote \$25,000 or \$28,000). Traip's recorded personal estate was the most valuable in Kittery at that time. In his will, Traip designated that after providing for the maintenance of his brother and two sisters during their lifetimes, the balance of his estate was to be used for an endowment to establish an academy in Kittery. This bequest became available in 1897, whereupon a lot was purchased and a substantial brick building subsequently constructed. The house itself descended to his widow and then to her son and granddaughter. It appears to have left the family in 1920, and has changed hands several times since then.

Greek Revival style houses in Maine exhibit a seemingly endless variety of forms and details. They range from traditional capes with pronounced Greek Revival trim to high style buildings that have monumental colonnades in the prostyle. However, domestic buildings with colonnades in the amphiprostyle (front and rear), tripteral (three sides), or some combination of these classical forms are far more rare. Examples of dwellings in the amphiprostyle include the Nathaniel Hatch House (1832, NR 5/23/74) in Bangor, the Nathaniel Lord House (1842, NR 9/20/73) in Kennebunk, and the John N. M. Brewer House (c.1850, NR 10/6/83) in Robbinston. There are no known surviving examples of buildings with peripteral (four sided) colonnades, although one historian of the Greek Revival in Maine (Myers, in *Maine Forms of American Architecture*) uses the term pseudo-peripteral to describe variations of this configuration. Most of these examples, such as the Charles Q. Clapp House (1832, NR 2/23/72) in Portland, utilize colonnades along a portion of two side elevations. Buildings like the Traip house that have two-tier porches or colonnades along the front and side elevations are perhaps the most under represented of this group. The only other known example is the William O'Brien House in Portland, a building in which the colonnade extends along one bay of each side wall. In this context, therefore, the architectural significance of the Traip house is self-evident.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

TRAIP, ROBERT AND LOUISA, HOUSE

YORK, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

Eighth Census of the United States. 1860: York County, Maine. Population Schedule.
Microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy. Maine State Archives. Augusta.

Kittery Kaleidoscope. Kittery, Maine: Kittery Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Myers, Denys Peter, "The Greek Revival: from about 1835 to 1850," in Thompson, Deborah, ed.
Maine Forms of American Architecture. Camden, Maine: Downeast Magazine, 1976.

Stackpole, Everett S. *Old Kittery and Her Families*. Somersworth, New Hampshire: New
England University Press, 1981.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

TRAIP, ROBERT AND LOUISA, HOUSE

YORK, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of less than one acre occupies the Town of Kittery tax map 4, lot 82.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the entire village lot that is historically associated with the Robert and Louisa Traip House.