city, town

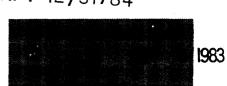
OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Machiasport,

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms



Type all entries—complete applicable sections Name historic John N. Brewer and/or common "Our School" and "The Four Elms" Location S/Routé street & number N/A not for publication Robbinston vicinity of city, town Maine code 23 county Washington 029 etate code Classification 3. Category **Present Use Ownership Status** _ public _ district _ occupied agriculture museum _X_ private X building(s) _X_ unoccupied commerciai _ park both _ work in progress educational _x_ private residence __ structure __ site **Public Acquisition** Accessibie entertainment _ religious N/A in process yes: restricted government _ scientific __ object X yes: unrestricted being considered industrial _ transportation no military other: Owner of Property name Mr. & Mrs. Harold Smith street & number P. O. Box 969 city, town __ vicinity of Bethel Island, state California 94511 **Location of Legal Description** courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Registry of Deeds street & number state Maine city, town Machias, Representation in Existing Surveys has this property been determined eligible? title Sunrise County Architecture state \underline{X} county $\underline{\qquad}$ iocal date federal 1979 depository for survey records Sunrise Research Institute state Maine

Condition	Check one	Check one	
excellent deteriorate	d X_ unaltered	X_ original site	
excellent deteriorate good G3 ruins	altered	moved date	
X fair unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7. Description

The Brewer House is a wood-frame, amphiprostyle, Greek Revival temple house of the Ionic order. Both colonyades have four columns, and five ionic pilasters separate the four window bays on the east side, facing the ocean. The gable ends are two bays deep, with the main hallway running along the west wall, and the doors placed accordingly. The door surrounds consist of Ionic pilasters with heavy entablatures. The broad (east) wall is clapboarded, but that of the gable ends and pediment is flush-boarded, and a triangular diamond-paned window (a common period feature in Washington County) occupies the pediment. Two chimnies stand at the roof ridge.

A two-story, pitched-roofed ell abuts the west wall of the house, its north wall on a plane with the north colonyade. The entablature of tolonyade continues uninterrupted onto the north wall of the ell. A one-and-one-half story pitched-roofed ell extends west from the gable end of the main ell.

All windows on the first story of the main section are French, with 9/9 sash and the original storms. Each is surrounded by a Grecian border. The second-story windows are 6/6.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1828-1830	Builder/Architect	Unknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John N. M. Brewer House in Robbinston derives particular significance from the fact that it is, in addition to being a particularly refined piece of architecture, the <u>only</u> example of amphiprostyle Greek Revival temple house in eastern or northern Maine; that is to say east of the Penobscot River and north of Bangor. In addition it reflects the prosperity which shipping and shipbuilding brought to the area in the early years of the 19th century.

John Nehemiah Marks Brewer was the son of General John Brewer, a shipbuilder and commander of the Washington County Militia during the War of 1812, who built the "Mansion House" nearby (N. R. 5/22/73). The younger Brewer, at first serving as a Captain on his father's vessels, became a highly successful shipbuilder himself and operated yards both in Robbinston and St. Andrews across the river in Canada.

Not long after his death in 1857 the property came into use as a local school and served in this capacity for many years. In the early 20th century it returned to private ownership and in recent years has been neglected to some degree. New owners have strongly indicated that they plan to restore this handsome structure for use as a summer residence.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Fernald, Anne, <u>Sunrise</u> <u>County</u> <u>Architecture</u>. <u>Machiasport</u>: <u>Sunrise</u> <u>Research Institute</u>, <u>1979</u>.

10. Geographic	al Data					
Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle name Robbinston UMT References			Quadrangle scale 1:24000			
A 119 641861610 419 Zone Easting North	9 13 5 18 10 hing	B	asting Northing			
C		D				
Verbal boundary description as	nd justification	- VIII dans				
Assessor's Map	7, Lot 21					
List ail states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries						
state	code	county	code			
state	code	county	code			
11. Form Prepa	red By					
name/title Frank A. Beard, organization Maine Historic			Architectural Historian July, 1983			
street & number 55 Capitol Str	eet	telep	phone 207/289-2132			
city or town Augusta,		state	Maine 04333			
12. State Histo	ric Prese	ervation O	fficer Certification			
The evaluated significance of this p	roperty within the s	tate is:				
national	state	local				
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89–665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.						
State Historic Preservation Officer s	ignature (2 S. Spett	seworthy /			
title 5. ×. P.		/	date 9/6/83			
For NPS use only			/ / '			
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register In the						
Colores Dyu Petitodal Register date 0/6/83 Keeper of the National Register						
Attest:			date			
Chief of Registration						