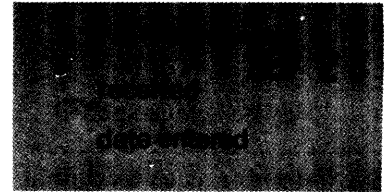


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



1983

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

1. Name

historic Cobe Estate

and/or common "Cariad"

2. Location

street & number *N of North part on* Bluff Road. N/A not for publication

city, town Northport, *vic.* N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Maine code 23 county Waldo code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name John K. Evans

street & number 3005 Normanstone Drive, N.W.

city, town Washington, *N/A* vicinity of state D.C. 20008

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Waldo County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Belfast, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? *N/A* yes  no

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 Cobe House is a very ambitious example of Colonial Revival architecture. The main section is a long and broad pitched-roofed rectangle of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, with full two-story colonnades on both broad sides. The south-west colonnade, facing a circular drive, consists of eight square columns with entablature, capped by a neo-Colonial fence. A low monitor provides access from the roof-story to the deck atop the portico, and is flanked by prominent chimnies.

The <sup>NE</sup> northeast colonnade, looking toward the ocean, supports the roof overhang, and consists of eight round, unfluted columns.

Two smaller, 2 story wings extend from each of the gable ends of the main section, the longer ones in turn sprouting one-story sunporches with neo-Federal fences. The larger ells are anchored by chimnies.

All windows are large and multi-paned, and have neo-Georgian lintels. The porticos and sunporches are of wood, and the main structure and wings of red Harvard brick.

The interior is lavishly furnished throughout, with marble, molded plaster, and carved wood predominating. A long and broad hallway extends along the first-story front wall. Perpendicular to this hall a wide central hall runs to the rear elevation. This hall is flanked by two wooden staircases sharing a common landing. The ceilings and walls, here and throughout the house, consist of decorative panels in wood and plaster. The white ceiling plasterwork is particularly fine. The hall floors are squares of white marble. Statues and busts are strategically placed. The long hall is flanked by rooms at either end, the large openings being capped by broken pediments.

Each first-story room has a different decorative and color motif, all Colonial Revival. Particularly noteworthy is the music room, with marble floor and plaster ceiling which incorporates musical instruments into its raised design. The room also contains a built-in pipe organ.

Only the Gothic library departs from the Colonial theme of the rest of the house. Bookcases and wainscott are of dark wood (probably mahogany), and the cove ceiling is a Gothic quatrefoil design in plaster.

The second floor consists of a long hallway running the length of the main section with eight bedrooms off it including the master bedroom with an outside cast iron balcony at one end and a lavishly decorated guest bedroom at the other.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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** 1912-14 **Builder/Architect** Marshall & Fox, Chicago

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This mansion overlooking Penobscot Bay is by far the largest and most lavish Colonial Revival summer residence in Maine and certainly rivals any similar dwelling in that style on the east coast. Beyond this, the quality of the interior decorative features is remarkably high and in unusually fine taste.

The house was designed by Marshall & Fox, one of Chicago's leading firms, for Ira Maurice Cobe (1866-1931), a lawyer who founded the highly successful investment firm of Cobe & McKinnon, also of Chicago. Originally from Boston, Cobe had married Anne Watts of Belfast and chose Northport as a location for their summer house so she could be near her family and friends during that season.

The present owners are carrying out a complete and technically correct restoration which is nearly finished.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

"Industrial Journal", Bangor, September, 1913.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1

Quadrangle name Islesboro

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	19	5	0	1	2	5	1	1	0	4	1	9	1	1	3	2	1	3	1	0
Zone	Easting			Northing																

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

C 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

D 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

E 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

F 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

G 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

H 

Zone	Easting			Northing																

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 23, Lots 17 and 18

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Gregory K. Clancey, Architectural Historian

organization Me. Historic Preservation Comm. date July, 1983

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state 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 signature *Earle S. Fretwell*

title S.H.P.O. date 7/16/83

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u><i>Shelona Byers</i></u>	National Register date <u>10/20/83</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	