

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received FEB 12 1987

date entered MAR 13 1987

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

1. Name

historic Archibald-Adams House

and or common

2. Location

street & number Route 193

not for publication

city, town Cherryfield, vicinity of

state Maine code 23 county Washington code 029

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mark and Jody Richmond

street & number P. O. Box 71

city, town Cherryfield, vicinity of state Maine 04622

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Machias, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Sunrise County Architecture: Significant Buildings has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1973 federal state county local

depository for survey records Sunrise Research Institute

city, town Machiasport, state Maine

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Archibald-Adams House is a restrained two-story Federal style dwelling nearly square in shape. It is five bays in width, two rooms deep and covered by a hip roof. Its clapboard covered walls rise from a granite foundation.

Facing south toward the commercial district of Cherryfield, the Archibald-Adams House stands about one-hundred yards from the east bank of the Narraguagus River. Its symmetrically composed front elevation contains a replacement Greek Revival style center entrance and twelve-over-twelve double-hung sash windows. The entrance has a six-panel door bordered by sidelights and a transom, and a surround of molded pilasters and an entablature. Each of the nine windows is capped by a prominent lintel.

The east facade of the dwelling faces the nearby road (ME 193). It too has a symmetrical five-bay fenestration pattern featuring twelve-over-twelve sash and the original center door surmounted by a pediment. Documentary photographs dating from the early twentieth century show that a long ell originally extended to the rear of the house. This accounts in part for the fact that there are only four widely spaced windows on this elevation. A short narrow wing attached to the west side of the building between the four windows is said to have at one time housed the Cherryfield Post Office. Two large chimneys rise through the hip roof.

As the exterior appearance of the house suggests, the interior plan is symmetrically arranged. A wide center hall divides the house into equal halves. Two open string staircases, separated by a partition wall and door, rise from the front and back sections of the hall to a wide inter-story landing. A second wall and door is located on this shared landing. The thin turned newel posts on the main stair feature urn-shaped finials. Sheathed dado paneling is employed in the front hall.

On the west side of the hall is the parlor. Its features include dado paneling, a wide molded cornice and the most elaborate of the seven mantels in the house. This mantel has narrow paneled pilasters, a frieze decorated with thin curvilinear intersecting bands and a cornice below the mantel shelf. A narrow pantry connects the parlor to the much more simply finished back room.

The original kitchen is located in the northeast corner of the first floor. It retains the large open cooking hearth and an adjoining beehive oven. The side (east) entrance opens into a narrow foyer with doors opening into the kitchen and the front room.

There are four large rooms on the second floor. One of these, the northwest room, has a Greek Revival style finish suggesting that it was completed at about the same time as the front entry was changed. The rear hall contains a wide stair leading to the attic.

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 checked="" 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 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 ca. 1795 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Notable as one of the oldest and most intact Federal period houses in Cherryfield, the Archibald-Adams House is also the most significant extant structure associated with these two locally important families. It is said to have been built in the mid-to-late 1790s by Thomas Archibald.

Cherryfield is a small village located astride the rapidly flowing Narraguagus River. Its nineteenth century prosperity is evident in the number of extant frame residential and commercial buildings which date to the period. In 1850 there were 1,648 inhabitants./1 The 1871 edition of the Maine State Year-Book shows that there were no fewer than twenty merchants in town including dealers in jewelry and millinery goods./2 Among the numerous manufacturers was the G. W. Wakefield and Sons Company producing castings and machinery and the firm of G. Wingate which produced doors, sash and blinds.

The occupants of the Archibald-Adams House, which stands some distance to the north of the business district, were prominent residents of Cherryfield. Tradition holds that the house was built for Thomas Archibald sometime during the 1790s./3 Archibald is said to have removed from Nova Scotia prior to when his name appears in the 1790 Federal census./4 At that time he was residing in the Village of Narraguagus, the area that later became known as Cherryfield. The earliest records of Cherryfield reveal that Archibald was appointed Town Clerk and Surveyor of Roads and Lumber at a meeting held on April 6, 1807./5 For what period of time he held these offices is not known, but he was named in a March 11, 1816, meeting as Constable and Collector.

On April 11, 1809, Elizabeth Archibald (1789-1811), the daughter of Thomas Archibald, married Joseph H. Adams (1784-1872). They apparently established residence in this house before her early death. Adams subsequently married Nancy Campbell (1792-1834), the daughter of Alexander Campbell and a member of a prominent Cherryfield family.

The Town records of Cherryfield make numerous references to Joseph Adams. In 1816 he was the Justice of the Peace and Town Clerk./6 Adams was also the J. P. as named in the minutes from an April 19, 1824, meeting, and in 1832 he was one of the Selectmen. In 1828 his name appears as one of the Trustees in the newly chartered Cherryfield Academy. Adams was active in local government as late as 1855 when his name is listed in the Maine Register as a Justice of the Peace, and as a Notary Public./7 Adams and his third wife, Abigail H. (Stone) Adams (1796-1878) occupied the house until they died. It descended to his son by his second marriage John Q. Adams. The property was subsequently passed to Edward Adams, the son of John Q. Adams, and to his son F. Prescott Adams. After the death of Prescott Adams the house was sold out of the family.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sunrise County Architecture: Significant Buildings. Machiasport: Sunrise Research Institute, 1973.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.3

Quadrangle name Cherryfield, Me, 1978

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	9	5	8	5	1	3	0	4	9	3	9	5	2	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 The nominated property of 1.3 acres is shown on Town of Cherryfield Tax Map #U-13, Lot 6.

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 Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1987

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 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 *Emilie S. Peterson*

title S.H.P.O. date 2/9/87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date 3-13-87

f. Alloway Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

ARCHIBALD-ADAMS HOUSE

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

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Endnotes

- ./1 Edmund S. Hoyt, comp. Maine State Year-Book and Legislative Manual for the Year 1871, (Portland: Hoyt, Fogg and Breed, 1871), p. 320, hereinafter cited as Maine State Year-Book with appropriate year.
- ./2 Maine State Year-Book, 1871, p. 321.
- ./3 There is some discrepancy among the sources as to who actually built and first occupied the house. One account suggests that Archibald had the house built at the time of his daughter Elizabeth's marriage to Joseph Adams when he gave it to them as a wedding gift. This, however, does not seem likely given that they did not marry until 1809.
- ./4 The Archibald and Adams family biographical information was provided by the owner.
- ./5 Willey, A. S., Historical Sketch of Cherryfield and Harrington, as Taken From the Records Together With the Intentions of Marriage From 1814 to 1842, (Machias, Maine: C. O. Furbuch, 1893), p. 4, hereinafter cited as Willey Historical Sketch.
- ./6 Willey, Historical Sketch, p. 4.
- ./7 George Adams, The Maine Register for the Year 1855 (Portland: Blake and Carvin, 1855), p. 101.