

PH0354502

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED NOV 11 1976
DATE ENTERED APR 13 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

**

Gen. Alexander Campbell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Campbell Hill

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cherryfield

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd. Hon. William Cohen

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John W. Brace

STREET & NUMBER

Campbell Hill

CITY, TOWN

Cherryfield

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

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

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input 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

Major General Alexander Campbell, built his wood frame home at Cherryfield, Maine in 1790. Passed from generation to generation, little is documented about the home's original condition. It is known, however, that the last major additions to this Post-Colonial house were made in the 1880's. Since then all but one of the out-buildings and the newest wing have been taken down.

The two-story L-shaped structure has a southerly orientation with a front door surmounted by a triangular pediment with pilasters on either side. Two nineteenth century Italianate bay windows frame the front door. Above this first level is a second tier of five windows. Of the side facades, the easterly is the more simple. This side has only three windows: two on the first level and one on the second. The much longer westerly facade is spanned across its length by a later Victorian porch addition. Entrance to the house can be gained through this side, which has four windows, one of which is a bay window. The second floor on this side has eight windows, six panes over six. Two stout chimneys emerge from opposite ends of the hiproof.

The General Campbell House is a home which combines many types of domestic architecture. Specifically, this architecture encompasses those additions and renovations which successive generations have made. As such, the Campbell house truly embodies what a home means to its inhabitants. It epitomizes the essence of what makes a building into a place.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input checked="" 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 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

1790

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Apart from its architectural merit, the Gen. Campbell House in Cherryfield provides added interest because of the distinction of its original owner, generally recognized as "the most distinguished man of his time in Eastern Maine."

Born in 1731 in Georgetown, Maine, of native Scotch parents, Alexander Campbell became involved in military affairs as a young man during the French and Indian War. In 1755 he served as a sergeant in Thomas Phillips Company of Rangers scouting "to the westward", and again, in 1757, in Capt. Jabez Bradley's Company at Fort St. George. As a member of the American Contingent under the command of Brigadier General Moncton, he participated in the siege and capture of Quebec in 1759. It was shortly thereafter that he and his wife's brother, Capt. William Nickels, discovered, on the streets of Quebec two of the daughters of the Preble family, who had been abducted from Day's Ferry by Indians in 1758 and sold to the French. (See Day's Ferry Historic District, N/R 2/20/75). Campbell and Nickels, borrowing money from their commanding officer, obtained the girls' release and returned them to their grandfather, Samuel Harnden, who repaid the loan.

Following the war, Campbell, with his wife, Elizabeth Nickels, whom he had married in 1759, moved to Newcastle where he appears as an innkeeper and ferryman. Between 1766 and 1768 he moved to Steuben where he built a lumber mill on the Tunk River. Evidently prospering in this effort, he moved his mill to the Narraguagus River in Cherryfield and built a house on Shipyard Point. By 1775 he had acquired over 200 acres of timberland in the Cherryfield region.

Campbell was closely involved with Col. John Allan in military operations in Eastern Maine during the Revolution. Early in 1776 he raised a regiment of militia which he commanded with the rank of Lieut. Col. At various times he provided drafts of militia for securing the St. John River and for the defense of Machias. He also travelled to Boston in 1777 to lay before the government "the true state of the Eastern Country and procure assistance." He was "wholly employed during the Penobscot Expedition and later enemy occupation defending the country and quieting the minds of the inhabitants, and keeping the representatives of the British emissaries from having the effect as was desired." In 1792 he was awarded £ 150 and 2000 acres in Whiting, Maine for his services.

Following the war he continued in the lumber business and, in 1790, built the fine house on the hill in Cherryfield. From this time until his death in 1807 he was engaged in public service in various capacities. In 1785 he was appointed Naval Officer for the District of Frenchman's Bay and, in 1789, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He served as a Massachusetts State Senator from 1791-98 and, in 1793, (See continuation sheet)

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was appointed to a three man commission to negotiate a treaty with the Passamaquoddy Indians. His interest in education is evidenced by the fact that he was a corporator of Washington Academy in Machias and was one of the original overseers of Bowdoin College in 1794. In 1798 he was appointed Major General of the Eighth Division.

He died while returning to Maine from one of his many trips to Boston. He was active until the very end and his career places him among the front rank of early Eastern Maine figures. His beautiful and substantial home in Cherryfield is fitting testimony to his useful and energetic life.