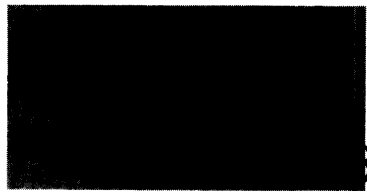


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



82

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

1. Name

historic James Smith Homestead

and/or common N/A

2. Location

ME 35

street & number Route 35, Alewife

N/A not for publication

city, town Kennebunk

N/A vicinity of

congressional district First

state

Maine

code

23

county

York

code 031

3. Classification

Category

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

Ownership

- public
- private
- both
- Public Acquisition**
- in process
- being considered

Status

- occupied
- unoccupied
- work in progress
- Accessible**
- yes: restricted
- yes: unrestricted
- no

Present Use

- agriculture
- commercial
- educational
- entertainment
- government
- industrial
- military
- museum
- park
- private residence
- religious
- scientific
- transportation
- other:

4. Owner of Property

name Arthur V. Boyce

street & number Alewife Road

city, town Kennebunk

N/A vicinity of

state Maine 04043

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town

Alfred,

state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

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

date N/A

N/A
 federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town

N/A

state

N/A

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 James Smith Homestead of Kennebunk, Maine, built in 1753, is a large well preserved example of a rural dwelling in the Georgian style.

The 2½-story house is of frame (post-and-beam) construction with gable roof, large central chimney, clapboard siding, 12/12 fenestration, and field-stone foundation. The facade, which faces south-west, is five bays wide with a central entrance. This entrance consists of a single door beneath an arch, framed by pilasters and a broken triangular pediment.

The gable-ends of the house are two bays wide. Attached to the south-east end of the building is a 1½-story ell with small 6-light casements at the second-story level. An additional entrance to the house faces southwest. The ell is five bays long and contains a small brick chimney.

Southeast of the house and ell is a large, gable-roofed, two-story barn of c.1880, with shingled siding on its sides and clapboards on its ends. The end facing the house contains a large sliding door with ornate panels. A wing with shed roof is attached to the northwest side of the barn. A secondary doorway faces south-west.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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 1753 Builder/Architect James Smith

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This plain but more than ample Georgian farmhouse dates from a period of marked prosperity which occurred in southwestern Maine between 1750 and 1760. Most of the towns in the area had, like Kennebunk, been depopulated during the Indian uprisings of 1690 and after. Resettlement began about 1715 but, for a number of years, growth was slow. By 1750 established roads and beaten paths from house to house and town to town facilitated travel and trade. Good farming land was especially sought for and many lots were purchased for improvement by industrious and energetic men, who at once began the work of clearing, cultivating and erecting dwelling houses.

Such a one was James Smith of York who purchased in 1753, 50 acres of a 600 acre grant held by Caleb Littlefield and Company on the north side of Alewife Brook. This lot, with the house thereon, which was erected shortly after its purchase, was the homestead of Smith during the remainder of his life, as well as the lifelong home of his son, grandson and great granddaughter.

The main house, set far back from the road, stands today virtually unchanged, an important survival from the early years of Maine's colonial emergence.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Remick, Daniel, History of Kennebunk. Portland, 1911.

Bourne, Edward E., History of Wells and Kennebunk. Portland, 1875.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Kennebunk

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	9	3	7	3	3	4	0	4	8	0	9	7	8	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 52, Lot 9

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1981

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2133

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Charles B. Felt*

title J.H.P.O. date 12/18/81

For HCERS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 2/4/82

for acting *Melva Byers*
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration