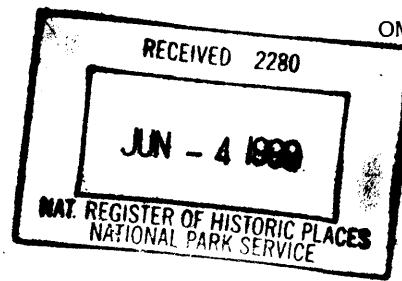


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Prince, Cushing & Hannah, House

other names/site number Trappan, Ruth, House

2. Location

street & number 189 Greely Road  N/A not for publication

city or town Yarmouth  vicinity

state Maine code ME county Cumberland code 005 zip code 04096

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Eileen A. Peterson 5/21/99  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson W. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

7-1-99  
Date of Action

Prince, Cushing & Hannah, House  
Name of Property

Cumberland, Maine  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)  
 private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)  
 building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)  
Contributing                      Noncontributing  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ buildings  
\_\_\_\_\_ sites  
\_\_\_\_\_ structures  
\_\_\_\_\_ objects  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**  
0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic/Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic/Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
Federal  
Greek Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation Stone/Granite  
walls Wood/Weatherboard  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof Asphalt  
other Center Chimney, One-Story Ell and  
Wing

**Narrative Description**  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PRINCE, CUSHING, & HANNAH, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

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The Cushing and Hannah Prince House is a two-story, five-bay, Federal style frame dwelling that is sheathed in clapboards and covered by a gable roof. It has a center chimney, granite block foundation, and a one-story ell that is connected to a long one-story wing that was used, among other things, for the storage of wood and carriages. The house is located in an area of Yarmouth that still retains its rural agricultural character, although modern development is rapidly changing this landscape.

Facing southwest (for the ease of description the front elevation will be referred to as the west elevation), the symmetrically composed facade is comprised of a central entrance that is flanked on each side by a pair of two-over-two double-hung sash windows. Five similar windows on the second story are aligned with the openings below. Each window has fixed louver blinds. The doorway features a six-panel door that is framed by a surround composed of narrow molded pilasters, sidelights that extend about two-thirds the height of the door (the balance of which is paneled), and a louvered elliptical fanlight. Narrow corner boards rise to an overhanging cornice of moderate depth.

The south side elevation contains a two-over-two window, a side entryway with sidelights and a Federal style entablature, and a small non-historic window on the first story, a pair of widely spaced two-over-twos on the second story, and a single two-over-two in the gable peak. The front and rear cornices make short end returns, and the raking cornice is flush with the endwall. Unlike those on the south end, the windows on the north gable end are symmetrically placed with two on the first story, two on the second story, and one in the gable peak. There are two historic windows and a pair of modern casements on the rear elevation: one near the northeast corner of the first story, the casements in the center, and the third centered on the second story.

The ell is attached to the main block at the southeast corner where it projects beyond the east endwall. There is one two-over-two on its narrow west side; two double hung windows, a modern bay window, and a door on the south side; three windows on the north side (including a modern triple casement); and one in the rear gable peak above a shed addition. There are no windows on the east side of the wing, but the south end contains two groups of three six-pane sash, and the west side has five six-over-sixes and a pair of segmentally arched garage doors.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

**PRINCE, CUSHING, & HANNAH, HOUSE**

**CUMBERLAND, MAINE**

**Section number   7   Page   3**

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The plan of the house is organized around the central chimney and staircase with a dining room located at the southwest corner, the parlor in the northwest corner, a back staircase at the southeast corner behind the side entrance, and a remodeled kitchen in the balance of the first floor (it appears that an earlier partition wall has been removed near the northeast third of the space). The main staircase, which rises through two inter-story landings, exhibits a mixture of Georgian and Federal styles with slender turned newel posts surmounted by tall square caps that match the depth and molding profile of the hand rail. The balusters are thin slats, and the outer string is decorated with an elaborate wave molding. Woodwork throughout most of the interior is generally from the Federal or Greek Revival period, suggesting that the house was either not entirely finished or it was subsequently updated with fashionable moldings. The parlor is especially noteworthy for the composition of its mantelpiece whose unpainted mahogany pilasters and architrave frame a broad frieze and rise to a deeply projecting cornice formed by thin layered moldings. The door and window frames in this room are symmetrically molded Greek Revival forms with corner blocks, and the window surrounds encase paneled shutters that fold back onto a narrow space on either side of the window. The mantelpiece in the dining room is of modest Greek Revival style design. Unlike many houses of this period in rural locations, the Federal style back stair has an open string (i.e. it is not enclosed), and features a single inter-story landing. The basement exhibits a pair of arched brick vaults that support the center chimney. The ell has been substantially remodeled, although its basic plan is probably similar to what it was historically.

Two historic photographs (one taken prior to 1913 and one taken after 1913 and prior to the 1960s) document several changes that have occurred to this house. The earlier view shows a mix of nine-over-six and two-over-two double hung sash in place in the main block and ell. In contrast, the later view reveals that all of the sash had been changed to a two-over-two configuration, and a porch had been added along the south gable end. It is not positively known when the porch was removed. The present owner plans to restore the nine-over-six fenestration pattern to the main house.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1785

c. 1830

Significant Dates

c. 1785

c. 1830

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PRINCE, CUSHING, & HANNA, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

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The Cushing and Hannah Prince House is a two-story five-bay frame dwelling which appears to have been substantially built about 1785, but was in all likelihood remodeled about 1830. In its overall form and exterior detailing, the house is representative of late eighteenth and very early nineteenth century rural farmhouses in Maine. It is located in a neighborhood of historic farmsteads along Greely Road whose contiguous agricultural landscape has, unfortunately, been altered by modern residential development. The Prince House is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion C for its local architectural significance.

According to research conducted by local historians, in 1785 Cushing Prince (1745-1827) purchased 122 acres of land from his father Paul Prince, consisting of Lot 5 and two acres of Lot 4 in the 120 acre division of [ancient] North Yarmouth west of the Royal River. It is presumed that the present house was built shortly thereafter. At the time that Cushing and his wife Hannah moved to their new home they had five children, and three more would be born on the Greely Road farm. Tax records show that in 1825 and 1826 the house was valued at \$420, whereas two barns on the property were valued at \$70.

After the death of Cushing Prince, the house and farm passed through a number of inter-family deeds until the various interests were acquired by his son Thaxter Prince and son-in-law Levi Blanchard (who had married Olive Prince in 1825). In 1832 Levi Blanchard obtained 82 ½ acres from the northern section of the original Lot 120 that included the house. The 1833 tax valuation on the house and a shed set the value at \$675 and two barns at \$125. The value of the house rose by \$25 the following year. Descendants of the Blanchards occupied the house until 1912 when it was sold out of the family. It changed hands a number of times in the twentieth century, and in 1959 the size of the associated parcel of land fell to its present twelve acres. In 1960 the property was acquired by Ruth Trappan, a retired educator from New Jersey, and upon her death in 1997 it was left to the Yarmouth Historical Society. The historical society plans to sell the house with preservation covenants.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PRINCE, CUSHING, & HANNAH, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

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The architectural history of the house has been the focus of some debate among historians who have studied the building. This debate centers on the difference in stylistic character of a number of the finishes in the main house, as well as on the substantial change in tax valuation of the building between 1826 and 1834 (at which point the size of the farm had been reduced by forty acres). In the absence of further information about how property assessments in Yarmouth changed over time and what outside factors influenced them, it is difficult to make a direct correlation between the assessed value of the Prince House and improvements that may have been made to it at any given time. On the other hand, the stylistic changes that are evident in the house are clear indicators that the building was either not completely finished on the interior until a generation after it was initially constructed, or that it underwent a substantial remodeling about 1830. It seems, for example, that the main staircase dates to the initial period of construction because of its late Georgian style. Similarly, the basic configuration of the house with its central chimney is typical of eighteenth and very early years nineteenth century farmhouses in Maine, and much of the Federal style woodwork dates from this period. However, the Greek Revival style trim in the downstairs rooms are probably contemporary with the occupancy of the house by Levi and Olive (Prince) Blanchard, whose ownership they assumed in 1832. Furthermore, the specific design of the front and side entrances is more typically found in the first quarter of the nineteenth century and not in the 1780s, suggesting that further changes might have been made in these areas to update the house's appearance. Perhaps a related change to the side entrance is the back staircase which is decidedly more Federal in form than the Georgian style front stair. In addition to the physical changes that are evident in the finishes, there has been some discussion about whether the ell may have been the earliest building on the site with the front block added sometime later, or whether the front block may have been raised. Unfortunately, the ell has been extensively remodeled over the years and there is little in the way of original fabric to test this theory, and there is no direct evidence to suggest the house was raised.

Although the precise construction history of the Cushing and Hannah Prince House is not known at this time, it nonetheless remains as an important local example of an early farmhouse which retains a high degree of integrity illustrating how such buildings evolved over time.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PRINCE, CUSHING, & HANNA, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number   9   Page   2  

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## Bibliography

“Home of Ruth Trappan.” Greater Portland Landmarks Advisory Service inspection report. November 4, 1995. Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

“The Cushing Prince House.” Yarmouth Historical Society, n.d. [1998]. Typescript copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.



Prince, Cushing & Hannah, House  
Name of Property

Cumberland, Maine  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 11

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 19 401655 4850120

Zone Easting Northing

2 19 401810 4849900

3 19 401460 4849630

Zone Easting Northing

4 19 401290 4849840

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1999

street & number 55 Capitol Street, 65 State House Station telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333-0065

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PRINCE, CUSHING, & HANNA, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

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## Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of eleven (11) acres occupies the Town of Yarmouth Tax Map 14,  
Lot 16.

## Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire rural lot that is historically and presently associated with the Cushing and Hannah Prince House.