

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

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



2

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

1. Name

historic George Washburn House

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 318 Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Calais vicinity of _____ congressional district Second

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 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<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 Robert L. Treworgy

street & number 318 Main Street

city, town Calais, vicinity of _____ state Maine 04619

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 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 George Washburn House of Calais, Maine, dating from 1855, is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style in a vernacular residential context.

The 1½-story house is of frame construction, with gable roof, two internal brick chimneys, clapboard siding, and granite foundation.

The facade, which faces southwest, is three bays wide with a central entrance. This entrance, dating from the turn of this century, is of colonial revival form, with a single panelled door flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a fan. The bays to each side of the doorway each consist of paired 2/2 windows with elaborately-carved projecting lintels. Fenestration throughout the rest of the house is paired 1/1 with the same distinctive lintels as on the facade.

At the half-story level of the facade are a pair of gabled dormers with elaborate barge-boards and finials. Between these, forming the central bay is a gabled projection containing a doorway which provides access to small balustraded balcony at the second-floor level. This projection carries ornate detail equivalent to them on the flanking dormer.

A one story porch, added at the rear in 1947, was enclosed as a den in 1962.

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/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Specific dates 1855 Builder/Architect *Unknown*

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This house is one of a group of three distinctive Gothic Revival residences built side by side over a two year period by different owners. One, the Alexander Gilmore House, is already listed on the National Register and the third has been so altered as to render it ineligible for nomination. No explanation has been found for this grouping of stylistically similar and urbane structures in what was in the mid-19th century a fairly primitive mill town.

George Washburn, like Gilmore, was evidently a successful local businessman and it appears likely that he, together with his brother Charles who built the third house, joined with Gilmore in the purchase of this choice piece of property on what was then the outskirts of Calais high on the bank overlooking the St. Croix and Canada on the other shore.

Whatever the reason, these houses reflect an originality and sophistication unusual for their time and place.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sun Rise County Architecture. Ellsworth, 1979.

Pickering, Ernest. Homes of America. New York, 1951.

ACR/REG NOT RECORDED

10. Geographical Data

DATA NOT RECORDED

Acreage of nominated property 1/4

Quadrangle name Calais

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	9	6	3	6	4	0	5	5	0	0	4	5	3	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 13, Block 1, Lot 1

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

Ernest B. Speltz

title S.H.P.O.

date 12/15/81

For HCERS use only

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

Entered in the National Register date 2/11/82

Keeper of the National Register

Melores Byers

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration