

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

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

For NCRS use only  
received FEB 25 1980  
date entered APR 23 1980

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

**1. Name**

historic Peter Powers House

and/or common "Range 7"

**2. Location**

street & number Sunshine Road and State Route 15 ME not for publication

city, town Deer Isle vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Second

state Maine code 023 county Hancock code 009

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<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 Patricia L. and William A. Moffet

street & number Box 12

city, town Deer Isle vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Maine 04627

**5. Location of Legal Description**

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

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

city, town Ellsworth, state Maine

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title \_\_\_\_\_ has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Peter Powers House of Deer Isle, Maine, built in 1785, is a remarkably well preserved and rare example of the cape style dwelling with a gambrel roof.

The house is of 1½ stories with a central brick chimney, clapboard siding, and field-stone foundation. Fenestration throughout is 9/6, save for the second story of the east end which contains 6/6 windows.

The facade, which faces south, is three bays wide with a central entrance consisting of a single panelled door. But for the fact that bay enframements project slightly, detailing on the house is of the utmost simplicity. The ends of the house contain two bays in each story.

Projecting from the east end of the building is a one-story, gambrel-roofed entry. This was constructed around 1960, but was harmoniously designed and well built. East of the house is a gable-roofed barn of two stories with shingle siding.

Internally, the Powers House is likewise very well preserved, featuring two principal rooms on each floor and original fireplaces. As with the exterior, function dominates over decoration.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input 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                      1785                      Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In 1785 the First Congregational Church of Deer Isle, which had originally gathered in 1773, issued a call to Rev. Peter Powers of Newbury, Vermont, to become their first settled minister. Powers, New Hampshire born and a Harvard graduate, had been among the founders of Dartmouth College in 1769. The call included an offer of \$ 100 annual stipend, 100 acres of land from the 400 acre ministerial grant established by the General Court of Massachusetts together with a house, 20 X 32 feet to be built thereon "in such manner as such buildings are commonly finished in country towns".

Mr. Powers, a strong and outspoken supporter of independence who had largely alienated himself from his predominantly Tory parish in Vermont, accepted with alacrity. He moved into his snug new house and served his Deer Isle flock faithfully until his death in 1800.

This small dwelling, the oldest house in Deer Isle that has survived intact, is particularly unusual in having a gambrel roof, rare in Maine and especially on a Cape. The extreme simplicity of the interior attests to its authenticity as an early rural abode.

Significance is also derived from its first occupant, a man of no little achievement and distinction.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Hosmer, George L., An Historical Sketch of the Town of Deer Isle, Maine.  
 Boston, 1905.  
 Allen, Mildred Sellers, Deer Isle's History. Rockland, 1934.

# 10. Geographical Data UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property  $\frac{1}{4}$  **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**  
 Quadrangle name Deer Isle Quadrangle scale 1:62500

### UMT References

A	<u>19</u>	<u>526020</u>	<u>4895770</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 21, Lot 10

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

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, 1980

street & number 242 State 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 S. [Signature]*  
 title S.H.P.O. date 2/15/80

For HCERS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	date <u>4/23/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u><i>Patrick Andrews</i></u>	date <u>4/21/80</u>
Chief of Registration	