

5-29-73

MAINE 11

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Hon. William D. Hathaway

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

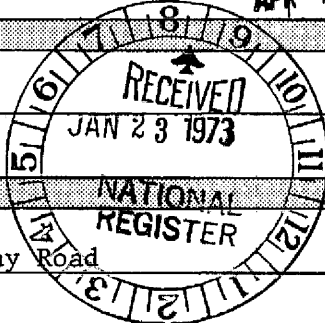
STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Franklin	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE APR 26 1973

MAINE 402700  
02003662

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Holmes-Crafts Homestead

AND/OR HISTORIC:



**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Jay Hill Intersection Rt. 4 and Old North Jay Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
North Jay

STATE: Maine      CODE: 23      COUNTY: Franklin      CODE: 007

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

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**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Jay Historical Society, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Macomber Hill

CITY OR TOWN: North Jay      STATE: Maine      CODE: 23

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Franklin County Court House; Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Farmington      STATE: Maine      CODE: 23

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

STATE: Maine

COUNTY: Franklin

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 26 1973

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DATE

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story, hipped roof, Federal style dwelling sits on high ground just north of Jay Hill in the Town of Jay, Maine. The structure is in fair condition and has been used as a residence since its construction (ca. 1820) until just recently. The year 1820 is as far back as the house can be traced and verified. Some old newspaper clippings in the town state that the house was built in 1803 but so far no corroborating evidence of this fact can be found.

The main house and the attached ell are done in clapboard style with many of the original feathered clapboards remaining. All of the original windows remain on the house as also most of the original panes of glass in the windows. The windows are 12 over 12 on the first floor, and 12 over 8 on the second floor. There are five windows on the second story facade and four windows on first floor facade.

The main entrance is a single door trimmed with a hand carved panel over the door and the sidelights. The sidelights at the door are actually double hung 8 over 8 windows that can be opened.

There are two chimneys on the main house towards the rear.

Upon entering the house one finds <sup>one</sup> himself in a large entrance hall with a staircase leading to the second floor. On each side of the hall is a large room. The room to the left has a fireplace with bake oven and warming oven. The chimney on this side of the house is the original chimney. In the room to the right of the hallway, one sees the original mantle but the fireplace was closed up when the chimney was rebuilt. The kitchen was originally in the ell of the house but ceased being used for that purpose many years ago. What was the borning room in the main house has been converted into a kitchen, and the cupboards were built from the paneling that was in the Meeting House on Jay Hill. This Meeting House was built in 1807 and was demolished about thirty years ago.

The second floor of the house consists of one small, and two large bedrooms. The two large bedrooms have fireplaces that have been closed up. Through the closet in the left bedroom, one enters the attic which is over the ell of the house.

Some of the timbers used in the construction of this house were hand hewn. The floors are made of wide pine boards and much of the original hardware remains on the house.



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**5. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) ca. 1820

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          | itarian                                       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military            | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Holmes-Crafts House is a fine example of a piece of sturdy Federal style architecture that has managed to survive to the present day. This is a simple rendering of the Federal style in a house that was built to withstand the rigors of a Maine winter and yet be comfortable for the occupants.

James Starr, who bought the property on Nov. 13, 1820, was one of the area's most prominent citizens. He was not only a lawyer and judge but was one of the most capable surveyors in the area. He was the first settler of Jay Hill, having arrived there in 1802. He was owner of the tavern in the village of Jay Hill which served as the stopover for the stagecoach heading north from Portland and Hallowell. He also operated the Town's first Post Office which opened in 1814. Mr. Starr was a representative to the Massachusetts General Court, having been first elected in 1804.

On April 14, 1833, the property was bought by Aruna Holmes, the husband of Starrs daughter, Louisa. Aruna Holmes was a well known cabinet maker in the Jay area. Mr. Holmes had a two story cabinet shop which was attached to the ell of the present house. Attached to the shop was a barn. These two portions of the structure have since been removed. The evidence for their existance is an early photograph of the property.

At the death of Aruna in 1876, the property was inherited by his son, Henry, also a cabinet maker. Delia Holmes inherited the property in 1912 and sold it to Leroy Crafts in 1928.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lawrence, Benjamin F. (Rev.). History of Jay, Maine. 1912  
 Cushman, Helen Caldwell. Horizons Unlimited; A History of Jay. 1967

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44° 31' 08" N	70° 13' 28" W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE AND COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Florence M. Raymond**

ORGANIZATION: **Jay Historical Society, Incorporated** DATE: **Oct. 17, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Macomber Hill**

CITY OR TOWN: **North Jay** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23**

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name James H. Mundy

Title State Liaison Officer

Date January 15, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/26/73

ATTEST:

W. Mundy  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 4 20 73