

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0699934

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RECEIVED MAR 6 1979

DATE ENTERED JUN 14 1979

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Gilmore House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

316 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Calais

VICINITY OF
CODE

23

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maine

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

039

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

Maurice E. Marden

STREET & NUMBER

316 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Calais

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

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

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Alexander Gilmore House of Calais, designed by an M. Stead and built c. 1850 by a B. Bassford, is a remote and charming example of the early Gothic Revival style in a domestic context.

The 2½-story house is of frame construction with cross-gabled roofs, two brick chimneys, and clapboard siding. A first-story porch, supported by slender posts (connected by Gothic arches in wood), covers all of the southeast-facing facade and most of the southwest side of the dwelling.

The facade is 3 bays wide with a central entrance. To either side of the doorway is a 6/6 window. The second floor features a central balustraded balcony and doorway, flanked by narrow 4/4 windows. This balcony is covered by a projecting gable, which is ornately decorated with a carved barge board, finial, and pendant.

The southwest side of the house is hardly less important than the facade. This is dominated by two gable-ends flanking another central entrance. Here again, elaborate bargeboards, finials, and pendants are present. Penetration is 6/6, with labelled moldings in the first and second stories. The single window in the half-story of each gable is 4/4. The central bay over the north entrance consists of a cluster of three 4/4 windows.

The northwest and northeast sides of the building, which face the St. Croix River, are of secondary significance, but here too the trim is ornate. A two-story ell extends northeastward from the northeast wall of the house.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input 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

c. 1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

B. Bassford/M, Stead

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gilmore House is the finest of an unusual row of three intricately detailed Gothic Revival houses evidently constructed contemporaneously in the early 1850's. The sophistication displayed in the design of this house by M. Stead is most unusual considering the fact that Calais in this period was basically a frontier town just beginning to emerge as a commercial and industrial center.

The earliest known and probably original owner of the house was Alexander Gilmore, born in Belfast, Ireland in 1821, who emigrated to New Brunswick, in 1838 and shortly thereafter appeared in Calais where he rapidly established himself as a highly prosperous merchant. His first wife, for whom the house was very likely built, died in 1854 and Gilmore remarried in 1856. Two children were born in Calais. At some later time he moved to New York where he died, date unknown.

The steep pitched double gable arrangement with recessed tripartite window between on the southwest facade is very similar to the 1849 Henry ~~Boody~~ House in Brunswick (N. R. 2/24/75) designed by Gervaise Wheeler and published in Andrew Jackson Downing's The Architecture of Country Houses.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Perley, M. V. B., History and Genealogy of the Perley Family, Salem, Mass., 1906
 Knowlton, L. C., Annals of Calais. Calais, 1875.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 63,63,7,9 5,010,416,0,0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City Assessor's Map 4, lot 12

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, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

242 State Street

TELEPHONE

207/289-2133

CITY OR TOWN

Augusta

STATE

Maine

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Carle S. Feltworth Jr.

TITLE

S. H. P. O.

DATE

2/27/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles Adams
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

6-19-77

ATTEST:

Roger Van Dyke
 CLERK OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

RECEIVED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

1/13/79

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GILMORE HOUSE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The two other Gothic houses, while interesting in detail, are more vernacular and do not reflect the sophistication of the Gilmore House. Whether or not they were designed by M. Stead, they are not considered to be of National Register quality.