

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



1982

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

1. Name

historic William M. Nash House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number River Road, N/A not for publication

city, town Cherryfield, N/A vicinity of congressional district

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 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 Mr. Jerry Richards

street & number River Road

city, town Cherryfield, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04622

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

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 federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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 William M. Nash House is a three-story, mansard-roofed structure with Queen Anne features, remodelled from a two and one-half story Greek Revival "temple" house. The Greek Revival house was in turn remodelled from a Cape Cod Cottage, although no traces of this original structure remain.

The house is a wooden structure with three facade bays, two bays on the south side, and four on the north side. The facade's central bay holds a three and one-half story square tower imbedded in the main portion for about half its width. The tower's first story is an entrance hall, its second is punctuated by doubled arched windows, and its third holds a large segmental cavity (surrounding a recessed doorway) which opens onto a balustraded balcony. An entablature and cornice support the tower's tall hipped roof, from which protrude three dormers. The facade dormer holds double arched windows, the others single round windows, and each is topped by a triangular pediment.

A one-story open porch stretches across the facade and envelops the tower's base. The porch's entablature, modillioned cornice, and shallow roof are supported by six pairs of turned spindles rooted in a balustrade. A shallow pediment stands over the entrance in the porch's central bay.

The left (rear) bay of the south wall is fashioned with a three-story pavillion. The first and second-story sections, separated by a cornice, each hold five windows in an oriel arrangement. Below the eaves of the second-floor section are "cut-away corner" embellishments. The lower slope of the third (mansard) story of the bay rises above the main roof to terminate in a heavy cornice. The pavillion's roof is fitted with a shallow dormer of doubled arched windows framed under a triangular pediment.

The second bay of the house's north side also holds a three-story pavillion, this one much narrower, with only one window to each story including a dormer. The pavillion's base is framed by a very shallow portico of Ionic columns and Grecian entablature, doubtless a remnant of the house's Greek Revival configuration.

The remaining first-story windows are rectangular (2/1) with simple cornices and shutters. The second-story windows are also rectangular but with peaked cornices and a 5/1 configuration (one large pane and four subsidiary ones in the upper section). The only exceptions are the four windows of the last two bays of the north side, which are 6/6 and possibly survive from the Greek Revival period. All of the doubled arched windows have multi-paned borders.

The walls below the eaves are clapboarded, and narrow rusticated panels surround the base of the porch. The front door and that of the north pavillion are surrounded by Greek Revival moldings, again remnants of the earlier period.

A modillioned cornice supports the cedar-shingled roof. The small, square shingles are interrupted by a middling band of scalloped shingles, originally painted a deviating color. The third story of the tower (adjoining the roof), is similarly shingled, but in a wide variety of cut patterns. The roof of the tower is shingled with scalloped butts. The corners hold rectangular windows (9/1, one large pane above surrounded by smaller ones) capped by triangular pediments, each displaying a "rising sun" motif.

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 1888 **Builder/Architect** William A. Allen

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William M. Nash House is one of Maine's finest and most distinctive late nineteenth-century dwelling houses. As a picturesque interpretation of the Mansard and Queen Anne styles, it is probably unrivalled in the state. The house also possesses a fascinating and perhaps unique architectural history, having been remodelled from a Cape Cod cottage to a Greek Revival "temple" house, then thoroughly redesigned in a High Victorian mode.

The dates of the house's original construction (as a Cape) and its Greek Revival conversion are unknown, but a post-Civil War photograph shows it as having a four-columned colonnade supporting an entablature and triangular pediment. James W. Moore was the owner of the Cape at the time of its conversion, and occupied the Greek Revival house until his death. Moore's son-in-law, William M. Nash, had the house remodelled in 1888 into its present configuration, from designs drawn by William A. Allen of Cherryfield. In addition to an extra (Mansard) story, Allen's design added a tower, porch, and two pavillions. As previously described, certain features of the Greek Revival house survived the last remodelling.

The house as it now stands is perhaps the most significant example in Maine of a Mansard-Queen Anne transitional work. It's also one of the most compelling late-Victorian houses in the state. The tower is markedly anthropomorphic with its gaping mouth-like balcony opening, the eye-like doubled arched windows in the dormer above, and the windows' arched lintel, which resembles raised eyebrows.

William A. Allen of Cherryfield was one of Maine's most imaginative small-town architects, and designed a score of flamboyant late-Victorian houses for the lumber-port of Cherryfield. At least two of his buildings - the Frank Campbell and Col. Samuel N. Campbell Houses (1875 and 1883, both in Cherryfield) - are already listed on the National Register. The Nash House is perhaps his major work.

William M. Nash was one of Washington County's principal timberland owners and lumber entrepreneurs in the late nineteenth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Fernald, Anne. Sunrise County Architecture. Machiasport, Maine: Sunrise Research Institute. 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1/2
Quadrangle name Cherryfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	9	5	8	5	0	6	0	4	9	3	8	9	2	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

Assessors Map U4, Lot 13

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gregory K. Clancey, Contract Assistant/Frank A. Beard, Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date September, 1982

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Eula S. [Signature]*

title S. H. P. O. date 11/23/82

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 11/4/83

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration