

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Hampshire	
COUNTY: Rockingham	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Moffatt-Ladd House (William Whipple House)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Moffatt-Ladd House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
154 Market Street, between Hanover and Deer Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Portsmouth

STATE: New Hampshire CODE: COUNTY: Rockingham CODE:

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 Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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 checked="" 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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of New Hampshire

STREET AND NUMBER:
154 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN: Portsmouth STATE: New Hampshire CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Portsmouth STATE: New Hampshire CODE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

Built in 1763, this imposing three-story late Georgian house stands on a slight elevation overlooking the old harbor. About 42 feet square, the structure has a wood frame, clapboarded walls, quoins at the corners, and three end chimneys. The main facade in five bays wide; first-story windows are topped by segmental pediments, second-story windows by elaborate swan's neck pediments, and third story windows, reduced in size, are set up against the elaborate cornice. Windows on the rear or garden elevation have flat arches with rusticated voussoirs as caps, their keystone lengthened. The end or side windows have no pediments.

The hip roof is cut off to form a flat deck and this captain's walk is enclosed by a handsom balustrade that is topped with urn finials. These urn finials are repeated again, in slightly different and larger form, atop the four posts of the street-front fence. To the right of the house is a small office or counting house that was erected in 1810.

The center door opens into a hall of unusual spaciousness (26 by 21 feet): more than half of the floor space of the front of the house is given to this great stair hall, which is one of the finest in 18th century New England. To the right, set against the exterior end wall, rises and a exceptionally handsome and elaborately carved flight of stairs, which is lighted by a fine roundhead window set in the rear wall above the landing. The ceiling of the hall has a well-proportioned denticulated cornice with carved modillions. On the walls is a rare Vue d'Italie paper, printed by Joseph Dufour in Paris between 1815 and 1820.

Directly opposite the front door and behind the stair hall is the drawing room, which is of generous proportions, but of surprising simplicity in contrast to the stair hall. Its chief adornment is the delicately carved festoon of flowers on the mantel. To the left of the front door is the dining room, richly embellished in contrast with the simple drawing room. The dining room doorway has a pair of simulated pilasters with reed consoles supporting the overpanel. The room has a sideboard set in an arched niche and the fireplace is faced with English tiles. The kitchen, located to the rear of the dining room, is entered through the pantry and has an ornate arched door leading into a cupboard.

The second floor central hall has a coved ceiling and three of its four bedrooms have richly carved overmantels. The third floor contains five more chambers.

The house and its large formal garden are maintained in excellent condition. Carefully restored, the Moffatt-Ladd House is finely furnished with period pieces and is open to visitors.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1768-1785

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/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(This site was declared eligible for the Registry of National Historic Landmarks under Theme XX, subtheme Architecture, Part I-Colonial Architecture, in November 1968).

This house was the residence from 1768 to 1785 of William Whipple, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, sea captain, merchant, politician, general, and jurist. The house is also an outstanding example of a Late Georgian three-story frame mansion with elaborate exteriors and interiors.

Brief Sketch of the Life of William Whipple, 1730-1785. 1785

William Whipple was born January 14, 1730 at Kittery, Maine (then a part of Massachusetts). After receiving a common school education, he went to sea at a early age and while still in his early twenties became master of a vessel. He was engaged for a time in the slave trade. About 1760 he gave up the sea and formed a successful mercantile partnership with his brother at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. About 1767 he married his cousin Catherine Moffatt of Portsmouth, the daughter of a wealthy merchant. Their only child died in infancy.

In 1775 Whipple retired from business and entered public life. He was prominent in the early provincial Congresses, a member of the New Hampshire council in 1776, and of the state committee of safety. He served in the Continental Congress from 1776 to 1779 and signed the Declaration of Independence. In July 1777 he was appointed a brigadier-general in command of the First New Hampshire militia brigade. In late September 1777 Whipple led four regiments of New Hampshire militia, 1353 men, to upper New York Stat, helped encircle and besiege the British army at Saratoga (Schuylerville), October 10-17, and was present at Burgoyne's surrender. In 1778 Whipple led another contingent of New Hampshire militia in the Rhode Island campaign. From 1780 to 1784 he was a member of the New Hampshire legislature. From 1782 to 1785 he was Associate Judge of the Superior Court of New Hampshire and from 1782 to 1784 the receiver of finance for Congress in New Hampshire. Whipple died at Portsmouth on November 28, 1785 and was buried in the Union Cemetery of that town.

History of the House

Constructed by ship's carpenters in 1763 for Captain John Moffatt,

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Elizabeth Fields and Dr. J. E. Fields, "The Signers Lived Here," Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine, May, 1951, 4.
Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. XX. 71-72. Article by Wm. A. Robinson.
New Hampshire, A Guide to the Granite State (American Guide Series) (Boston, 1938), 240-41.
 Dorothy and Richard Pratt, A Guide to Early American Homes-North (New York, 1956), 49-50.
 Fiske Kimball, Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and of the Early Republic (New York, 1922), 206, 207, 208, 210, 211, 291.

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	0 ' "	0 ' "		43 0 04	70 45 33	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Charles W. Snell, Survey Historian

ORGANIZATION: **Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service** DATE: **2/25/71**

STREET AND NUMBER:
801-19th Street, N. W.

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D. C.** CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Title _____</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
New Hampshire	
COUNTY	
Rockingham	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Significance: (1) Moffatt-Ladd House

a wealthy merchant, he presented the house to his son Samuel as a wedding gift in 1764. After his son's failure in business, Captain Moffatt repurchased the house in 1768 and lived there until his death in 1784. William Whipple, Moffatt's son-in-law, and his wife Catherine lived in the house with the old sea captain. The Moffatt-Ladd House is still owned by descendents of the Moffatts, the Ladd family, but has been leased and maintained by the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New Hampshire since 1913.

9. Major Bibliographical References:

Mary H. Northend, Historic Houses of New England (Boston, 1914).
Architecture Near the Piscataqua (Strawbery Banke, Inc., Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1964), 19-21.

Mrs. A. T. Dudley, The Moffatt-Ladd House (Society of Colonial Dames in New Hampshire, booklet, n.d., n.p.).

ight, to Historic Houses

P Municipal Parking

- (C) City Hall and Postoffice
- (CP) City Police Station
- (D) Portsmouth Athenaeum
- (E) Public Library
- (F) North Church
- (G) Olde Harbour vicinity
- (7) Moffatt-Ladd House
- (8) Jackson House
- (9) John Paul Jones House

- (10) Langdon Room (Rockingham Hotel)
- (H) Whipple Coach House Library
- (11) Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion
- (12) Portsmouth Hospital
- (13) Lady Pepperrell House, Kittery Point, Maine
- (14) Hamilton House, South Berwick, Maine
- (P) Denotes Municipal Parking

line does NOT lead to locations (11), (12), (13) or (14), but they are numbered on map.



