

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Rhode Island</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Providence</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Thomas P. Ives House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**66 Power Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Providence**

STATE: **Rhode Island**      CODE:      COUNTY: **Providence**      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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input 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 checked="" 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:  
**Mr. Robert H. Ives Goddard, Jr.**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**66 Power Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Providence**      STATE: **Rhode Island**      CODE: **02903**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**City Hall**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Kennedy Plaza**

CITY OR TOWN: **Providence**      STATE: **Rhode Island**      CODE:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Buildings Survey (1 photo) (7 data pages)**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1937-1962**       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Washington, 20540**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington, 20540**      STATE: **D. C.**      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

The Thomas P. Ives House is an oblong - shaped three-and-one-half-story brick structure with a low hipped and balustraded roof. The residence, as built in 1803-06, is 55 feet wide and 57 feet deep and had a projecting one-story curved bay or bow in the center of the east (side) elevation. By 1887 this bay had been increased to three stories in height and its roof crowned by a balustrade. The walls of the front and side elevations are built of imported brick laid in Flemish bond and the rear (north) wall is in American running bond. The foundations are of marble. The three-story rear service wing at the northwest corner and the rear portico and vestibule were added in 1884 and conform in style to the main structure.

The main (south) facade is five-bays wide and has a central semi-circular one-story entrance porch with Corinthian columns and a roof balustrade; this feature, designed in the Adamesque style, was also added in 1884. The center door has side lights and a wide elliptical fan light over it. In the second story above the entranceway is a wide triple window also topped by a wide elliptical fan light. The windows are symmetrically spaced and have marble lintels and sills. First and second-story windows have flat arch splayed lintels with double keystones; third-story windows are reduced in height and also the windows on the north (rear) elevation, have plain flat lintels. All windows are adorned by exterior louvered shutters. The main cornice is decorated with modillions and is crowned by an eave balustrade. Two dormer windows rise from the low-pitched hip roof on the front elevation. Three of the four chimneys are in the outside wall, two in the west side and one in the east; the fourth chimney, which has back-to-back fireplaces in the library and smoking room, is set back a few feet from the east wall.

The plan of the house is large and imposing in scale with a 10-foot wide central hall extending through the house. The hall is divided into front and rear sections by means of a partition with a doorway, which is located behind the stairs. The staircase, starting with a straight run against the west wall, spirals at the rear to the second story and the spiral from the second to the third story is free-standing. The floors are of wide boards; all of the rooms have fireplaces, and the wood finish throughout the house is simple and delicately molded in the Adam style. The principle rooms have elaborate plaster cornices adorned with Greek honeysuckle, carved modillions, dentils, complicated fret and basket patterns, interlaces, circles, and banded leaves.

To the west, or left, of the central hall are, in the southwest corner, the dining room, 20 by 28 feet, behind this a pantry, 16 by 10 feet, and in the northwest (rear) corner, the kitchen. The dining room was redecorated in the Colonial Revival style in the 1870's and this later paneling removed during the restoration to the Federal period in 1954. The room's present mantelpiece, an original marble mantel from a Philadelphia house of the same period, was put in the dining room in 1954.

To the east of the center hall, in the southeast (front) corner is the main parlor, 20 by 22 feet, in the center, the oval shaped library, 20 by 28 feet, and in the northeast (rear) corner, the smoking room, 13 by 20 feet.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**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) 1803-06

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input 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

Constructed by the master builder Caleb Ormsbee in 1803-06, the Thomas P. Ives House is a magnificent example of a large brick city house designed in the Adamesque-Federal style. The exterior of the house has undergone some additions that do not seriously alter its original appearance and on the interior two principal rooms were redecorated in the 1870's.

History

The Ives House was built by Caleb Ormsbee for the wealthy Providence merchant Thomas Poynton Ives in 1803-06. The residence has remained in the possession of the Ives heirs to this day and will eventually go to Brown University.

The mansion has undergone a series of exterior and interior additions and alterations over the years. About 1848 gas lights, central heating, and a built-in kitchen range were added. In the 1870's the original finish of the dining room and library was removed and these rooms were elaborately redecorated by Marcotte of New York City in the Colonial Revival style. The architectural firm of Stone, Carpenter, and Richards added the existing one-story elliptical Adamesque portico on the south (main) elevation, the rear service wing, the rear porch and vestibule, and the terraces on the side in 1884. By 1887 the two upper stories had been added to the original one-story bay or bow in the center of the east elevation. Around 1910 the architectural firm of Jackson, Robertson and Adams added the overmantel, the fireplace in the southeast parlor and also the French doors in the library. In 1954 the Colonial Revival woodwork was removed from the dining room and the room was restored by John Hutchins Cady to the Federal period. The existing dining room marble mantelpiece, an original period piece from Philadelphia, was installed as part of this work.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Antoinette F. Downing, Early Houses of Rhode Island (Richmond, Va., 1937), 327, 333, 350, 353, 355, 380, 382-83.

Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Rhode Island Architecture (Providence, 1939).

Rhode Island, A Guide to the Smallest State (American Guide Series) (Boston, 1937), 277-78.

Dorothy and Richard Pratt, A Guide to Early American Homes - North (New York, 1956), 91.

**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 ' "		41° 49 ' 22"	71° 24 ' 10"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

1 acre

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

7/20/70

STREET AND NUMBER:

801 19th Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE

D. C.

CODE

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Description (1) Thomas P. Ives House

The library was redecorated in the Colonial Revival style in the 1870's and the room still retains its elaborate wood panelling. The French doors, located in the curved bay of the library and leading out to the gardens, were added in 1910. The overmantel piece in the southeast parlor, or main drawing room, is built in two stories and is surmounted by a broken scroll pediment, decorated with reeding and with half vases of Adam detail. This feature was also added in 1910. The mantel itself is of Italian marble and is original, as are some of the mantels in the second floor bedrooms. The panelled mahogany doors of the principal rooms have silver hardware.

The Thomas P. Ives House is in excellent condition. The house is used as a private residence and is not open to visitors.

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9. Major Bibliographical References for the Thomas P. Ives House, Providence:

Wayne Andrews, Architecture, Ambition, and Americans (New York, 1955), 92.

Antiques, May, 1965