

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Jonathan Hamilton House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Vaughan's Lane and Old South Road

CITY OR TOWN:
South Berwick

STATE: **Maine** CODE COUNTY: **York** 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 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) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities

STREET AND NUMBER:
141 Cambridge Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Boston** STATE: **Massachusetts** CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Alfred** STATE: **Maine** 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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hamilton House is a large almost-square two-and-one-half frame structure with clapboarded walls, a hipped and dormered roof, and four tall end chimneys built within the walls. The house is approximately 49 feet by 46 feet in size. The north, east, and south elevations are each five-bays wide and the west, three bays in width. The north, east, and south elevations have central doors topped by pediments and flanked by pilasters; the door on the north facade also has sidelights and a second pair of beaded flanking pilasters. Above the central doors in the north and east elevations are tall round-headed Palladian windows. First-story windows on all four facades have 18 lights and are topped by flat cornices; second-story windows contain 15 lights and are set up against the modillioned cornice that extends around the building. The north and south elevations each have three dormers and the east and west ends one dormer each. These dormers are crowned by alternating triangular and broken arch pediments.

The north door opens into a wide central hall that extends through the building and divides the four rooms on the first floor into pairs. The staircase is located against the east wall in the north portion of the hall and a short distance to the south, beyond the halfway point, a large arch spans the hall. The upper half of the walls are covered by wallpaper with classic Greco-Roman arches, which is a 1900 reproduction of original paper found in the house. The kitchen and dining room are located to the left, or east, of the hall and these rooms are separated by a lateral side hall that leads to the east entrance. On the left side of the hall is the north and south parlors. The two parlors and dining room have deep mahogany window seats and carved arches besides the fireplaces. The fireplace chimney breasts are paneled and the tall window interior shutters fold into the reveals; the doors have large brass locks. The wallpapers in the dining room and south parlor were painted by George Porter Fernald in 1900. The kitchen contains a very large fireplace with an oven.

The second story has a floor plan similar to the first, with a central hall and four large bedrooms. These rooms also have paneled chimney breasts, inside window shutters, window seats, and arched niches besides the chimneys. The third floor has five more chambers which served as servants' quarters.

Restored in 1950, Hamilton House is in good condition. The structure is open to visitors during the summer months as a furnished historic house exhibit.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1787-88**

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1787-88 and still standing in its beautiful and undisturbed rural setting, Hamilton House is a magnificent and little-altered example of a large New England ~~frame~~ Georgian country house.

History

Colonel Jonathan Hamilton, a merchant of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, purchased this land at Pipe Stave Point on the Piscataqua River on January 13, 1783, and completed this large house in 1787-88. Hamilton House served as his residence until his death in 1802. The house stood vacant from 1815 until 1839 and in 1898 the residence and 110 acres of land were acquired by Mrs. Emily D. Tyson. The only structural changes to the house were made in 1900, when an original stairway leading from the east door was removed and the length of dining room was thereby extended, and two small latticed wings were built at the sides of the house. A door was also cut into the west wall of the north parlor to give the house four entrances instead of the original three.

In 1949, Mrs. Henry G. Vaughan, the daughter of Mrs. Tyson, willed Hamilton House and 50 acres of land, along with income from a trust fund, to the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. The Society at once undertook to restore the mansion. In this work the two small added wing and the door in the west wall were eliminated, and the dining room was restored to its original length.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Great Georgian Houses of America (2 vols., New York, 1933-37),
Maine, A Guide to "Down East" (American Guide Series) Boston, 1937), 338.
 Burton W. F. Trafton, Jr., "Hamilton House, South Berwick, Maine," Old-Time
 New England, Vol. XLVIII, No. 4 (1958).

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	43 ° 12' 53 "	70 ° 49 ' 02 "		43 ° 12 ' 47 "	70 ° 48 ' 57 "	
NE	43 ° 12' 54 "	70 ° 48 ' 36 "				
SE	43 ° 12' 45 "	70 ° 48 ' 35 "				
SW	43 ° 12' 44 "	70 ° 49 ' 01 "				

(Location of House.)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **50 acres.**

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: **7/13/70**

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

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

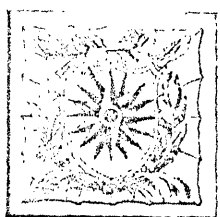
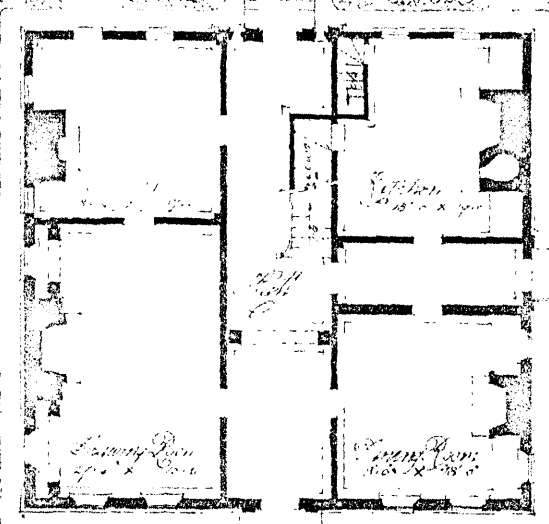
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Hill

1850



© **Hamilton House** ©
 Situated South Berwick, Maine
 Over the Kennebec river
 1850

