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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maine
COUNTY:	York
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE:	AUG 14 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**William Pepperrell House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Pepperrell Cove on Me. 103**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Kittery Point**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**1st: Hon. Peter N. Kyros**

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	York	031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input 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 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:  
**Joseph W. P. Frost**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Pepperrell Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Kittery Point**

STATE:  
**Maine**

CODE:  
**23**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**York County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Alfred**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Alfred**

STATE:  
**Maine**

CODE:  
**23**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**HABS (ME-128)**

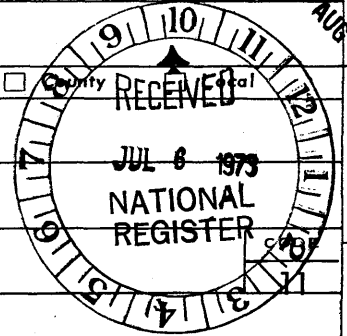
DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1st Street and Independence Avenue, S.E.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington**

STATE:  
**D.C.**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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 Pepperrell House is a fine Colonial mansion. Built in 1682, its grandeur surpassed that of all other houses in the province at that time. Set on one acre of land on Kittery Point, the mansion is oblong with a gambrel roof and two brick chimneys. Sometime between 1720 and 1723 the house was enlarged and remodeled by William Pepperrell the younger. It was again remodeled somewhat in 1848.

Facing the harbor is the nine windowed front with a paneled front door centrally positioned. The ground floor windows and this door are topped by pediments; the door is flanked by plain pilasters. Each corner of the house has paneled pilasters, the front and back of the house have plain cornices. On the back of the house, which faces the main road, a simple Palladian window sits directly above another pediment topped door with flanking pilasters. There are six double hung windows of twelve over eight lights on this side. The south end contains another pilaster flanked door with pediment and seven windows, two of which are smaller than the rest, six over six lights. The north end contains two of these smaller windows, and three of the larger; there is a small entrance shed on this end of the structure. The house is sided in dark brown shingles and has white door and window trim.

This building is of outstanding design for its period.



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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1682**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The name of Kittery first appeared on December 20, 1635; this settlement comprised of ninety-six square miles became incorporated on October 20, 1647 as one of the first towns in Maine. Around 1680, William Pepperrell, a fisherman, originally from Tavistock, Devonshire, England, came to Kittery Point from the Isles of Shoals and set up business. Connection with John Bray, a leading merchant and shipwright of the town, led to Pepperrell's marriage to the daughter, Margery Bray, and to the subsequent business partnership between Bray and Pepperrell. This shipping and mercantile business brought extensive trade and an increased number of wharves and warehouses to Kittery. Upon his marriage, Pepperrell was given by his father-in-law one acre of land upon which Pepperrell built, in 1682, the finest house in the province of Maine. Here he and Margery created a home that was noted for culture and hospitality and which for two generations would be synonymous with all that was successful and grand in colonial life. By 1695, William Pepperrell owned most of Kittery Point and much of the area extending up the coast as far as Saco, then known as Pepperrellboro. Pepperrell built many fishing and trading vessels, served as a justice of the peace for thirty-five years and as judge of the court of common pleas from 1715 until his death. He was

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Kittery Booklet Committee. Kittery, Ancient and Modern. Kittery: 1931.  
 Maine Writers Research Committee. Historic Homes and Churches of Maine.  
 Portland: 1937.  
 Maine Writers Research Club. Maine Past and Present. Boston: 1929.  
 Mitchell, Dorothy. Along the Maine Coast. New York: 1947.  
 Nason, Emma Huntington. Old Colonial Houses in Maine. Augusta: 1908.

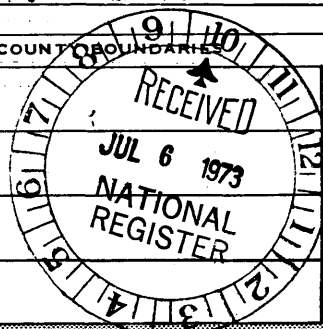
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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 ° 04 ' 58 "	70 ° 42 ' 12 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 Acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Richard D. Kelly**  
 ORGANIZATION  
**Maine Historic Preservation Commission**  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
**31 Western Avenue**  
 CITY OR TOWN:  
**Augusta**  
 STATE  
**Maine**  
 DATE  
**May 1973**

**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 James H. Mundy  
 Title State Historic Preservation Officer  
 Date July 3, 1973

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/14/73  
 ATTEST: Wm. J. Dunlop  
 Keeper of the National Register  
 Date 8 1 73



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

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perhaps the wealthiest man in New England and indeed the grandee of his community. Yet, it is not for him that his house is mainly famed; it is rather for this house being the life long home of his son, Sir William Pepperrell.

The son, William, was born on June 27, 1696. He attended the village school, had private tutoring and acquired a proficiency for surveyance and ship navigation. In helping his father with the business, he managed all the contracting for shipbuilding and conducted much trade with Boston and London. At twenty-one, he was commissioned a justice of the peace and was offered the captaincy of a company of cavalry. From this he was promoted to major and then colonel, making him commander of the militia of Maine. In 1726 he was chosen representative to the General Court from Kittery. In 1723 Pepperrell had married Mary Grove Hirst and had enlarged his father's house by adding a wing to either end (these were later removed). Both families lived in the Pepperrell House until the father's death in 1733.

From 1744 to 1759 William Pepperrell was certainly a leading figure in New England. Tension grew between France and England and when ultimately the war broke out, Pepperrell was placed in command of an expeditionary force and was commissioned to seize Ft. Louisbourg on Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, the most important French stronghold. This fort, known as the Gibraltar of the west, was attacked by men who possessed no military training and who utilized unorthodox strategy, yet, Louisbourg fell to Pepperrell. He was duly rewarded for this with a baronet's title from King George II

(See Continuation Sheet)

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

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of England. Pepperrell, now Sir William, continued to gain honors. In 1755 he was made major general and he became lieutenant governor in 1759; he was from 1746 through 1758 the acting governor of Massachusetts.

Sir William Pepperrell had two children, Elizabeth and Andrew. Andrew died in 1746 while still in his twenties. Elizabeth married Captain Nathaniel Sparhawk and their son, William, by the will of his grandfather, Sir William, was made heir to the Pepperrell estate (Sir William had died in 1759) on the condition that he change his name to Pepperrell. This was done through the Legislature of Massachusetts and in 1774 this William Pepperrell was also made baronet. Unfortunately, however, Sir William remained loyal to the King at the beginning of the Revolution and when he went to England, the vast Pepperrell estate was confiscated by Government officials in Boston. With no male heirs to carry on the name of Pepperrell in America, a name which had played such an important role in New England Colonial history, the William Pepperrell House stands today as one of the few tributes remaining to this name.

