

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

For HCRS use only

received FEB 25 1980

date entered APR 23 1980

1. Name

historic Abbott Graves House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Ocean Avenue _____ not for publication

city, town Kennebunkport _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district First

state Maine code 23 county York code 031

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
		<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 Ann Fales (Mrs.)

street & number Ocean Avenue

city, town Kennebunkport, _____ vicinity of _____ state Maine 04046

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. York County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Alfred, _____ state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? 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 Abbott Graves House of Kennebunkport, designed by Graves himself and built in 1905, is an early example of the Prairie Style, extremely rare in Maine. The two-story building is of frame construction with a low-hipped metal roof (originally red tile) and three internal brick chimneys. The exterior is covered with a simulated stucco finish.

Facing west (the house was named "Westlook" by Graves), the facade is divided into three parts, a central section with entrance covered by a one-story porch, flanked by projecting sections. Fenestration is varied. The north section of the facade contains just two diamond-paned windows, both in the second story, while the southern section features two windows in the first story and three in the second; these windows are double-hung, the upper sash containing diamond-panes, the lower containing a single pane. This is equivalent to the windows elsewhere in the building.

One story wings project from the north and south ends of the building. These contain three windows in each of their three exposed walls.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 1905

Builder/Architect Abbott Graves

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

An extreme architectural rarity for Maine, the Abbott Graves House is one of only two known examples of the Prairie Style existing in the state. The other is the Ward Hinckley House (N.R. 12/16/74) in Blue Hill. It is also a very early transplant of Wright's idea, having been built in 1905 only five years after the first Prairie houses in Kankakee, Illinois. Another remarkable fact is that it was designed by its first owner, Abbott Graves, a widely recognized and respected artist who had received a partial training in architecture.

Born in Weymouth, Massachusetts, in 1859, Graves began architectural studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1867 but was forced by financial problems to leave before completing the program. For a few years he supported himself by working in a florist's establishment where he earned a reputation as an arranger of flowers for interior decoration. An amateur painter since early youth, he began in earnest to develop this talent, concentrating on floral still life. He was eventually able to support himself in a small Boston studio and in 1884 and 1887 studied in Paris under George Jeannin, Cormon and Gervais. He exhibited in the Paris Salon in 1887 and received the first of five medals he was to be awarded by that illustrious institution. Returning to Boston in 1889 he opened his own school and established himself as a distinguished painter of floral scenes and genre works. He brought his family and some students to Kennebunkport for the first time in the summer of 1891 staying at one of the first hotels in that newly emerging resort.

Graves fell in love with the community spending more and more time there each year until eventually he became a year round resident. Over the years he owned and refurbished several houses in the town and also participated actively in local affairs. In 1905 he designed "Westlook", as he named it, the white Prairie Style stucco finished house where he remained until his death in 1936.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Butler, Joyce, "Abbott Graves - Artist and Citizen of Kennebunkport", Down East, January, 1975.

Robinson, Frank T., Living New England Artists. Boston, 1888.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property 1/2

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Kennebunkport

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	9	3	8	0	6	4	0	4	8	0	0	9	6	5
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 8, Block 2, Lot 3

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 Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1979

street & number 242 State Street 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Earle S. Stewart*

title S.H.P.O. date 2/15/80

For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Bruce Van Orge date 4/23/80
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Fatrick Andrus* date 4/21/80
Chief of Registration

Property Graves, Abbott House

State NY - York

Working Number 2-25-80541

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 2

Maps 1

HISTORIAN

This house is eligible for architecture as one of only two known examples of Prairie Style architecture existing in the state. The two story frame building covered in simulated stucco was built by the well-known artist Abbott Graves. Built in 1905 (making it a very early example of the style) the house served as the artist's home until his death in 1936.

*accept
Patrick Andrews
4/21/80*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered APR 23 1980

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____



GRAVES, Abbott, House

Abbott Graves House APR 23 1980

Ocean Avenue

Kennebunkport, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard 11/79

Maine Historic Preservation Comm.

View from NW

FEB 25 1980

(1 of 2)



Graves, Abbott, House APR 23 1980

Abbott Graves House

Ocean Avenue

Kennebunkport, York, *County* Maine

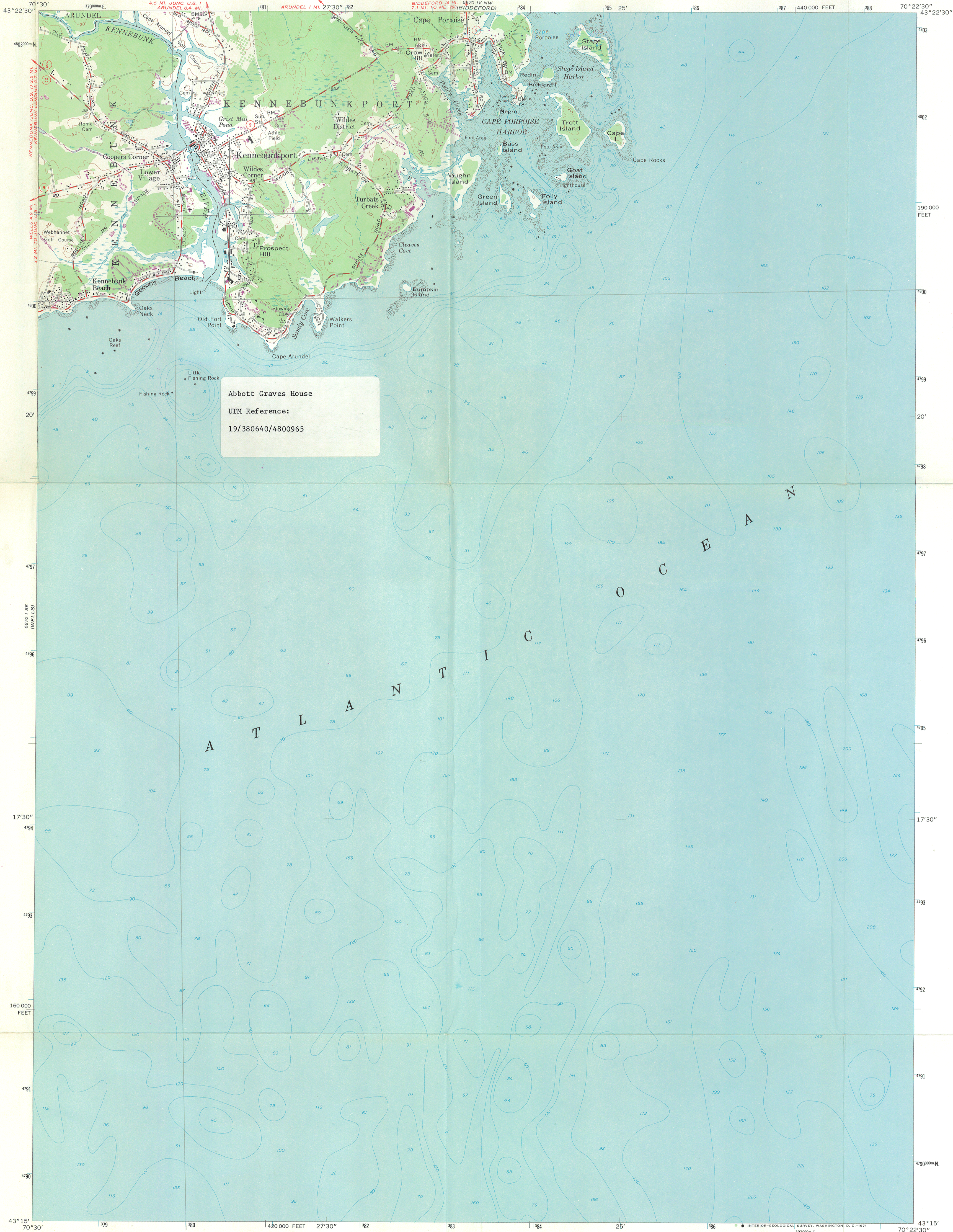
Frank A. Beard 11/79

Maine Historic Preservation Comm.

View from SW

FEB 25 1980

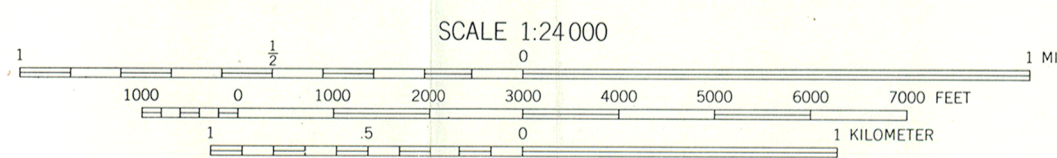
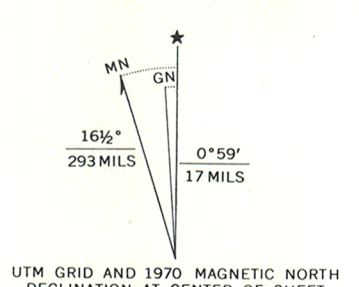
(2 of 2)



Abbott Graves House
UTM Reference:
19/380640/4800965

Abbott Graves House
19/380640/4800965

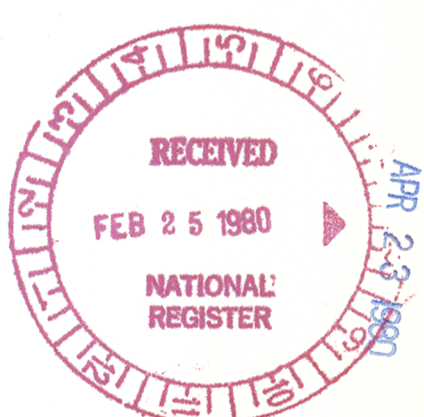
Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial
photographs taken 1941. Topography enlarged from
1:62 500-scale map of Biddeford quadrangle,
15 minute series. Original map by planetable surveys
1941. Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1956
Hydrography compiled from USC&GS chart 1205 (1954)
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maine coordinate system,
west zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
Survey from aerial photographs taken 1970. This
information not field checked



SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 8.7 FEET
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Unimproved dirt ———
State Route
KENNEBUNKPORT, ME.
SW/4 BIDDEFORD 15' QUADRANGLE
N4315—W7022.5/7.5
1956
PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 6970 IV SW—SERIES V811



John
Correct address

Dean A. Fales, Jr.

Drawer F

Kennebunkport, Maine 04046

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Acting Keeper
The National Register
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
Washington, D.C. 20240

3

March 13, 1980

Dear Ms. Shull,

Regarding your correspondence number 661, regarding the Abbott Graves house in Kennebunkport, Maine, being nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, your letter was sent to the wrong person. Mrs. Dean A. Fales and I are joint owners of this property (and have been for over thirty years), and I wrote Earle Shettleworth several months ago that, due to the age of my mother, all correspondence concerning the house should be sent to me. I do not know how such an egregious error could have been made so that your letter was sent to Mrs. Ann Fales of Kennebunkport, but I assure you she has absolutely nothing to do with the ownership of the property. I trust you will correct your records to show that it is owned by Lenabel C. Fales and Dean A. Fales, Jr.

*

We are quite thrilled at the nomination, but I call your attention to my letter written on January 1, 1980 to Earle Shettleworth of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission in which I requested anonymity as to listing ownership of the house, due to the age of my mother. Little did I know that would result in a seeming change of ownership!!

If I can be of any further help, please let me know. Whoever looked up mother's address for you looked only at the phone book and not at the tax records.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature: Dean A. Fales, Jr.]
Dean A. Fales, Jr.

[Handwritten signature]

P.S. Your letter mentioned enclosed material referring to standards for rehabilitating old buildings. Nothing was enclosed except a mimeographed 4-page listing of state historical agencies. If the intended enclosure was to be "Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings," a 12-page illustrated pamphlet, don't bother sending one, as I already have it. If it was to have been another publication, I would like it. Thanks.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

MAR 17 1980

DATE REC'D _____

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFO. LOCAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MAINE

STATE

Date Entered **APR 23 1980**

Name

Location

Graves, Abbott, House

Kennebunkport
York County

Also Notified

Honorable William S. Cohen

Honorable Edmund S. Muskie
Honorable Olympia J. Snowe
Honorable David F. Emery

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
Director, Maine Historic
Preservation Commission
242 State Street
Augusta, Maine 04333

NR Byers/bjr 4/29/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.