

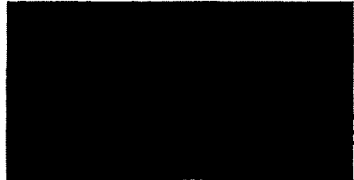
City of Biddeford
Historic Preservation Commission

May 13, 2026 at 4:30 PM
Site Walk of 29 Ferry Lane

1. Declaration of Quorum
2. Unfinished Business
 - 2.a 2026.01a HPC The Historic Preservation Commission will have a site walk at The John Tarr House at 29 Ferry Lane (Tax Map 49, Lot 4) in the SR-1 zone.
3. Adjourn

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



080

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

1. Name

historic John Tarr House
and/or common

2. Location

street & number 29 Ferry Lane not for publication
city, town Biddeford 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 Richard and Mary Guignard
street & number 280 Alfred Street
city, town Biddeford, vicinity of state Maine

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		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The John Tarr House of Biddeford, Maine, dating from c.1730, is among the State's earliest surviving dwellings. Its exterior displays characteristics typical of the low-posted Cape Cod style house, with central chimney, central entrance, and five-bay facade (which faces east). Another entrance of later indeterminate date faces south.

A one-story ell extends from the north end of the house. Except for the facade's northern two bays (which are 6/6), fenestration throughout is 2/2. Originally this would have been 9/6 or possibly of casement form.

Architecturally, the important features of the Tarr House are internal. Two principal first-floor rooms feature fully panelled walls typical of the 18th century. Most significant of all, however, is the kitchen which has completely wainscotted walls and ceiling and internal sliding wooden shutters. The wainscoting consists of wide hand-planed panel and stile boarding.

The only other example of a northern New England wainscotted ceiling which the Commission has been able to trace is in a room on display at the Museum of the Concord Antiquarian Society (Concord, Massachusetts). This room was originally from the second floor of an early 18th-century dwelling in Hampton, New Hampshire.

Given its early date and unique internal features, the John Tarr House of Biddeford is a rare survival. That its exterior has been modified through the centuries should not militate against its entry into the National Register of Historic Places.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input 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 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 c.1730

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The earliest deed to this property is one of 1654 from the original proprietor, Richard Vines, to Jane Andrews. Subsequent deeds carry the ownership to 1686 with William Dicer, father-in-law of Richard Tarr. Here a lapse occurs which coincides with the depopulation of the area during the early French and Indian wars. The next deed to appear is that from Richard Tarr to John Tarr in 1728, from which point the chain of title extends to the present.

Evidence indicates that this house was built by John Tarr shortly after his acquisition of the property, since it is mentioned in the next deed, dated 1730. Although alterations and additions have taken place, the most significant feature, a very rare panel and stile fully wainscotted (wall and ceiling) room remains. Preliminary research indicates few other examples. One exists with panelled ceiling only in the Museum of the Concord Antiquarian Society, transplanted from Hampton, New Hampshire, and one is said to exist in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum in New York, originally in a house in Kensington, New Hampshire. The panel and stile system and random width boards suggest an early date for the house.

9. Major Bibliographical References

York Deeds, Book XIII, Fol. 183; Book XIV, Fol. 86

10. Geographical Data UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property 1/2
 Quadrangle name Biddeford ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1 9	3 8 6 8 9 5	4 8 1 3 6 4 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 49, Lot 4

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

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, 1980

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 *Carle S. Feltworth*
 title S.H.P.O. date 2/27/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u><i>Annha Dwyer</i></u>	date <u>4/23/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u><i>Patrick Andrews</i></u>	date <u>4/22/80</u>
Chief of Registration	



Tarr, John, House

John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

FEB 29 1980

York Co.

APR 23 1980

View from E

(1 of 7)



Tarr, John, House

John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

FEB 29 1980

York Co

View from SW

APR 23 1980

(2 of 7)



Jarr, John, House
John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

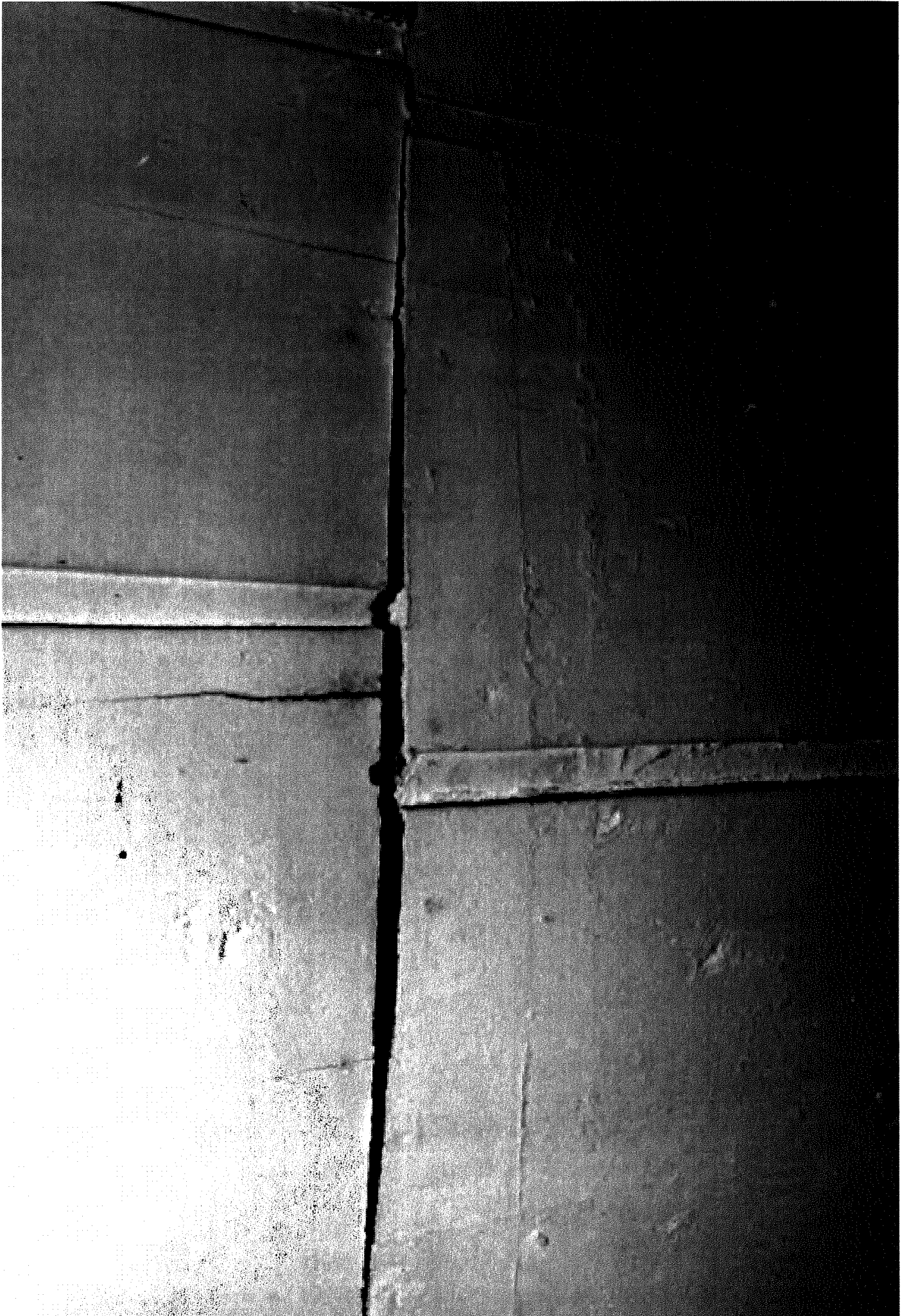
29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine *York Co.*

Frank A. Beard 12/79

Me: ~~APR 20 1980~~ Preservation Comm.

Kitchen Ceiling Panelling
(3 of 7)



Mrs. John Howard
John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine *York Co*

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

APR 23 1980

Detail of Stille and Panel

(4 of 7)



Tarr, John, House

John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

29 Ferry Lane

York Co.

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me, HIA ~~PR~~ & 3 ~~res~~ervation Comm.

Kitchen Wall Panelling

(5 of 7)



Mr. John Howard

John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

APR 23 1980

FEB 29 1980

Yodke Co

SE Chamber Panneling

(6 of 7)



Lure, John Howard
John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

29 Ferry Lane

York Co,

Biddeford, York, Maine

12/79.

Frank A. Beard

Me. Historical Preservation Comm.

NE Chamber Panelling

(7 of 7)



MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
10 WATER STREET
65 STATE HOUSE STATION
HALLOWELL, MAINE
04347

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

KIRK F. MOHNEY
DIRECTOR

February 11, 2026

Biddeford Historic Preservation Commission
PO Box 586
Biddeford, Maine 04005

RE: John Tarr House, parcel 49-4

Dear Commissioners:

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission has concluded that the John Tarr House has lost the integrity which qualified it for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, it is our responsibility to notify the National Park Service of this matter and request its removal from the National Register of Historic Places.

Federal regulations that guide the National Register program, 36 CFR 60.15 (d), dictate that the chief elected local official and the owner of the property be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed action. If you choose to comment, please send your comments to the S.H.P.O. before the Maine Historic Preservation Commission considers this action at its meeting to be held on April 24, 2026. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting, which will be held at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission office at 10 Water Street, Hallowell, Maine 04347, beginning at 10:30 a.m. If you cannot attend the meeting in-person and would like to attend remotely, please email lauren.swain@maine.gov or call (207) 287-2132 x0 to receive video or phone access links.

Sincerely,

Kirk F. Mohney
State Historic Preservation Officer

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Tarr, John, House
Name of Property
York County, Maine
County and State
80000263
NR Reference Number

State Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this ___ additional documentation X additional documentation: name
change ___ move X removal ___ other
meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date of Action

Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this ___ additional documentation ___ additional documentation: name change
___ move ___ removal ___ other
meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date of Action

National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ additional documentation accepted
___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Tarr, John, House
Name of Property
York County, Maine
County and State
80000263
NR Reference Number

Request for Removal from the National Register of Historic Places

Name of Property: Tarr, John, House (NR 80000263)

Legal Description: Biddeford tax map 049, lot 4. UTM's NAD27 Zone 19 easting 386899 northing 4813634.

Address: 29 Ferry Lane, Biddeford, York County, Maine

Reason for Removal: The property was moved and altered. The property has ceased to meet the criteria for listing because the qualities which caused it to be listed have been lost or destroyed (36 CFR 60.15 (a)).

Dates and Nature of Change: The building was dismantled and removed from its original location between May 2016 and May 2018. Between May 2018 and October 2021 the exterior of the building was reassembled on a new foundation on the same location. The interior paneling, one of the most prominent character defining features noted in the original nomination documents, has not been reinstalled. The interior is exposed framing with no interior partitions or finishes. The central chimney was demolished during demolition. A new larger central chimney has been rebuilt. A door on the south elevation that was present in 1980 has been replaced with a window, and a window on the west elevation has been replaced by a door. The six-over-six and two-over-two windows present in 1980 have been replaced with nine-over-six windows. The basis for these alterations is unknown.

Comments: The property was listed on April 23, 1980, under Criterion C for Architecture with a period of significance of ca. 1730, the approximate construction date. The property was moved from its original location through disassembly. A building moved without prior approval from the Keeper must be removed from the National Register per 36 CFR 60.14(b). After the move, the building was partially reassembled on the original location; however, the historic interior was not reconstructed. In the National Register documentation for the property, the interior wall and ceiling paneling is repeatedly stressed as the most important feature of the house. The house no longer retains the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association). As a result of the disassembly of the house, the removal of the paneling and all interior finishes, and other alterations, the property no longer has integrity or the qualities that caused it to be listed originally and should be removed from the National Register.

References:

Frank A. Beard and Robert L. Bradley. "Tarr, John, House," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1980. Maine Historic Preservation Commission. NR 80000263

Google Earth aerial photos, May 2016, May 2018, October 2021.

Photographs of the building taken on November 13, 2025.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Tarr, John, House
Name of Property
York County, Maine
County and State
80000263
NR Reference Number



Figure 1 John Tarr House in a May 2016 aerial photograph.



Figure 2 Location of the John Tarr House in a May 2018 aerial photograph with the ell present but the house moved.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Tarr, John, House

Name of Property

York County, Maine

County and State

80000263

NR Reference Number



Figure 3 John Tarr House in a October 2021 aerial photograph.



Figure 4 Biddeford tax photo ca. 2018 showing the house moved from the lot.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Tarr, John, House
Name of Property York County, Maine
County and State 80000263
NR Reference Number



Figure 5 John Tarr House November 13, 2025 with door on the gable side replaced with a window.

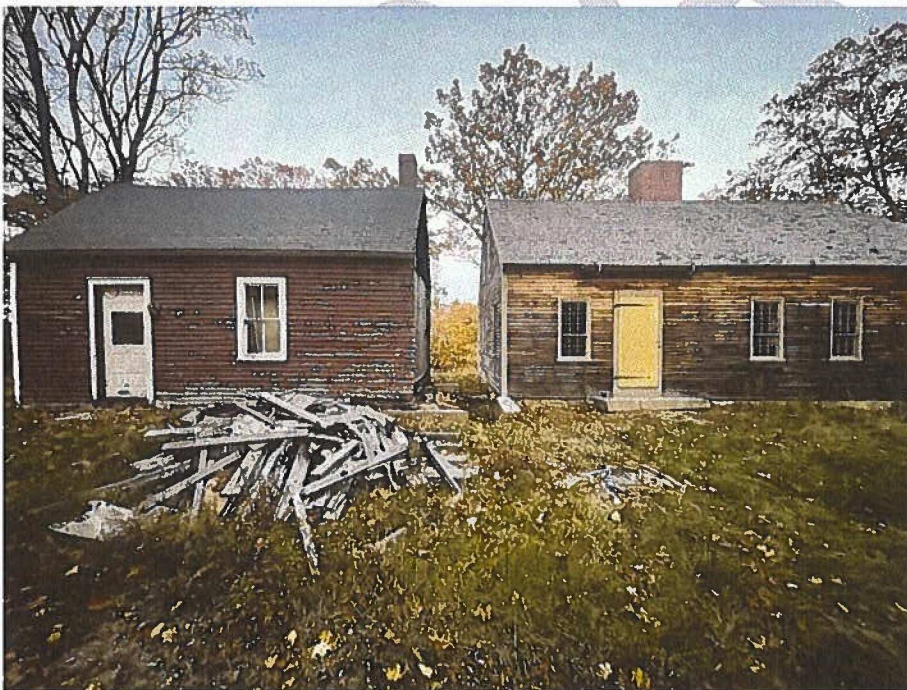


Figure 6 John Tarr House November 13, 2025, with ell no longer attached and altered door/window.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Tarr, John, House

Name of Property

York County, Maine

County and State

80000263

NR Reference Number



Figure 7 Interior of John Tarr House November 13, 2025, no interior finishes or partitions



Figure 8 Interior of John Tarr House November 13, 2025

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Tarr, John, House
Name of Property
York County, Maine
County and State
80000263
NR Reference Number

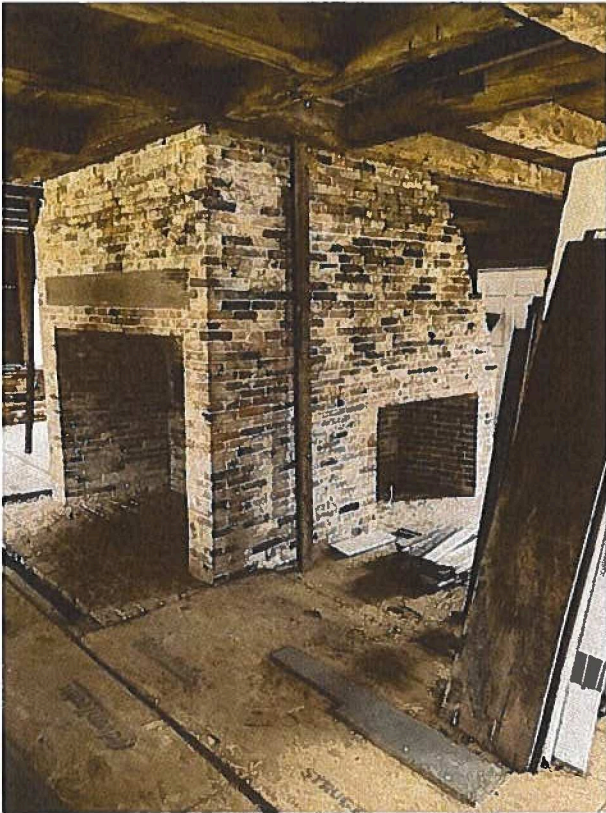


Figure 9 New central chimney John Tarr House November 13, 2025



Figure 10 Attic of John Tarr House November 13, 2025

John Tarr House

The **John Tarr House** was an historic house at 29 Ferry Lane in Biddeford, Maine. Built about 1730, it is one of the oldest houses in the state of Maine, with a well-preserved interior that has unusual features. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.^[1]

Description and history

The John Tarr House stands facing east toward the Saco River at the end of Ferry Lane, roughly midway between downtown Biddeford and the Biddeford Pool area at the river mouth. It is a 1½-story Cape style timber-frame structure, five bays wide, with a side gable roof, large central chimney, and clapboard siding. The original front entrance is in the center of the east facade, with a secondary entrance (probably a 19th or 20th-century addition) on the south side. The rear facade, facing the street, has five windows. A 1½-story ell extends to the north.^[2]

The house is estimated to have been built about 1730, making it one of Maine's oldest surviving structures. In addition to its great age, its significance lies in the original condition of its interior. This includes complete original wall paneling in the parlor spaces, and an unusually finished kitchen space in the rear. The kitchen features completely wainscoted walls and ceiling, something that is only known from two other chambers from New England (one is now in a museum in Concord, Massachusetts, and the other is at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City). The wainscoting panels are hand-planed.^[2]

John Tarr House, circa 1730

Listed on the
National Register of Historic
Places

April 23, 1980

**John Tarr House,
2014**

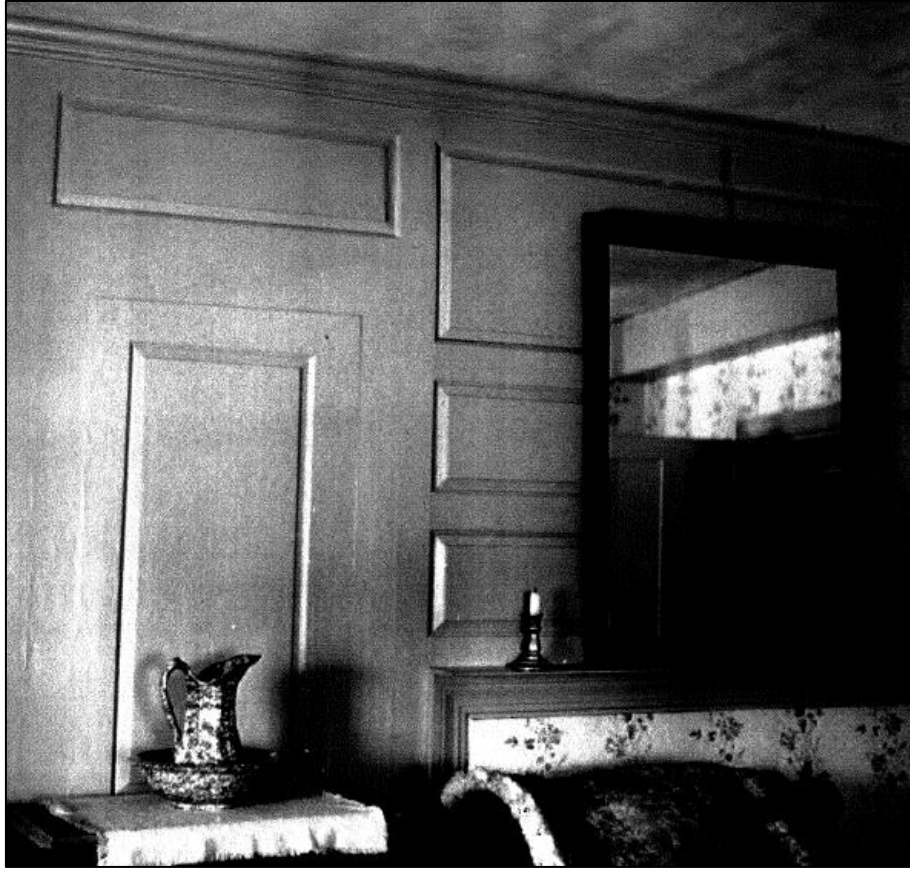


**John Tarr House,
Circa 2018**



**John Tarr House,
2025**





Original Interior Wood Paneling



Wood Paneling Removed from Interior

John Tarr House - 29 Ferry Lane

Things to Consider:

1. Applicability

Does the property meet the legal, technical, and procedural grounds to justify removal from the National Register?

2. Impacts to:

- a. Local preservation
- b. Educational programs
- c. Planning (Zone SR-1)
- d. Economic development

3. Public Comment

A Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Maine



William E. Barry
1846-1932

In the literature of the Colonial Revival, a nostalgic movement that arose around the time of the centennial of American independence, Maine became renowned for her well-preserved, picturesque villages and for her people whose lives recalled a simpler, pre-industrial past. Embracing this vision, some Maine authors joined in the literary side of the Colonial Revival, while a number of the state's native sons took their knowledge of Maine's early buildings to Boston to begin careers with some of the best-known architectural firms participating in the revival. William Edward Barry, a Kennebunk native, is a significant figure in the movement as both a chronicler of Maine's past and as a draughtsman who creatively incorporated eighteenth and early nineteenth century forms into new designs.

William Barry was the son of Sarah Lord and Charles Edward Barry, a ship's captain who was lost

at sea in 1851.¹ Educated in local schools and at Jacob Abbott's "Little Blue" school in Farmington, Maine,² Barry began his architectural career in the office of William Ralph Emerson, a distant relative who had spent part of his childhood in Kennebunk. The two shared an interest in colonial architecture; in 1869 Emerson delivered a lecture on the destruction of older New England houses and was involved during the same year in renovating the Old Ship Church in Hingham, Massachusetts.³ While under Emerson's tutelage, Barry learned perspective drawing and made plans for mantelpieces and other details from Emerson's sketches.⁴

Barry left Emerson's employ in 1866 and after a brief return to Kennebunk joined the firm of Martin and Thayer as a draughtsman in their office at Pemberton Square, Boston.⁵ Samuel J. F. Thayer was the architect responsible for the Dartmouth College Library and the Providence, Rhode Island City Hall.⁶ Abel C. Martin, a graduate of the Scientific School at Harvard College, dissolved his partnership with Thayer in 1867, thus ending Barry's brief tenure with the firm.⁷

In 1869 Barry went to work for the firm of Hartwell and Swasey (also located at Pemberton Square) and helped to prepare plans for a number of "picturesque" country houses.⁸ A trip to Philadelphia and Washington interrupted his employment with Hartwell & Swasey and was followed by a longer tour of the South in 1871. In frequent letters to his family in Kennebunk, Barry told of visits to sites of architectural and historical distinction, including Mt. Vernon, which he called "a noble location" and "the fit home of such a character as Washington".⁹

Returning to Boston, Barry joined Peabody and Stearns as one of the first two draughtsman hired by the young architectural firm.¹⁰ The earliest Peabody and Stearns project with which Barry is thought to have helped is the Nathan Matthews house of 1871-72 at Newport, Rhode Island,¹¹ a picturesque structure based on the Norman architecture which Robert Peabody studied while at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris.¹² In 1877 and 1878 Barry is thought to have contributed to the design of Pierre Lorillard's "Breakers" at Newport, Rhode Island and to that of



Figure 1. Coventry Hall, York (top), William Lord House, Kennebunk (bottom) from *Pen Sketches*, Boston, 1874 (Courtesy The Brick Store Museum).

the Dickinson School at Deerfield, Massachusetts. While both "Breakers" and the Dickinson School share with the earlier Matthews house an unorthodox use of forms drawn from the English Queen Anne, the school building incorporates two freely-interpreted Palladian windows, marking the emergence of Peabody's (and Barry's) "colonial" sensibility.¹³ The Dickinson School also anticipates John W. Denny's house at Brush Hill in Milton, Massachusetts as well as the "Cliffs", a house which was the first independent commission of Arthur Little. A fellow draughtsman in the Peabody and Stearns office, Little is believed to have been assisted by Barry in the development of the "Cliffs" design.¹⁴

Robert Peabody continually admonished his draughtsmen to sketch and may have encouraged Barry to publish drawings he had made of primarily Federal-period building in the mid-Atlantic region, the southern ports and the Boston area. Barry also included sketches of his grandfather's house in Kennebunk and of "Coventry Hall" in York, Maine (Figure 1) in *Pen Sketches of Old Houses* which was privately printed in a small edition by James R. Osgood in 1874. Osgood was the publisher of the *American Architect and Building News* and also published books by Henry W. Longfellow and Sarah Orne Jewett as well as Robert Peabody's *Note Book Sketches* in 1873.¹⁵



Figure 2. Robertson House, 1874, Kennebunkport, Perspective View (Courtesy The Brick Store Museum).

Yet William Barry's architectural knowledge was not limited to American buildings. In 1872 he embarked on a voyage to Europe where he visited the most distinguished architectural monuments on the continent and in Great Britain. Barry remarked upon the ongoing vernacular revival in England where "much of the new...was built in the style of the old."¹⁶

In 1875 Barry married Florence Wallingford Hooper of Kennebunk. For the following seven years the couple lived in Melrose, Massachusetts where their two children, Ernest Lord (1877-1886) and Helen Wallingford (1880-1907) were born. Barry thought constantly of Kennebunk, and in 1883 he purchased his wife's ancestral home there, "Wallingford Hall", and moved his family back to Maine.¹⁷ Barry continued to spend part of the year in Boston where he worked for the architectural firm of Cabot and Chandler. Although little is known of Barry's work for the firm, Cabot and Chandler produced a number of Queen Anne houses in the Back Bay section of Boston during the late 1870s and early 1880s.¹⁸

Working alone in his Kennebunk home, William Barry had few clients who were willing to indulge his architectural fancy that is so apparent in surviving sketch books. Yet the development of the Kennebunks as a summer resort brought new building to the area and provided some important commissions for the architect. Barry's spirited designs for seaside cottages reveal much about his architectural sensibilities and reflect an interest in both European and American buildings, combining elements of the Shingle, Colonial Revival and Queen Anne styles. Most clearly patterned after earlier forms is Barry's design for the Robertson house (Figure 2) of 1894 at Kennebunkport. With its monitor modelled after that on his grandfather William Lord's house (Figure 1), Barry's plan recalls Federal-period architecture, while an encircling deck adapts it for summer residency. Built about five years later, the Frank Harris cottage (Figure 3) at Kennebunk Beach is one of Barry's most



Figure 3. Frank Harris Cottage, c. 1890, Kennebunk Beach (Author).

successful compositions. A simple rectangle, the house receives a dramatic embellishment through a secondary gabled pavilion which projects at a right angle from the principle facade, with a first story semi-circular bay composed of a series of arched windows. Barry is also thought to have designed a cottage for his cousin Kate Lord, which was built on Lord's Point, Kennebunk Beach during the 1890s (Figure 4).¹⁹ This playful composition features stick elements that enliven the wall surfaces, a seahorse and dolphins that decorate a dormer, and a bird-shaped weathervane that flies above the long roof. A more sedate work is the cottage Barry designed for Dr. Nott on Parsons Beach in 1901. In contrast to the use of the playful detailing Barry favours elsewhere, this Shingle Style house rests calmly under a broad gambrel roof punctuated by massive dormers.

Like his plans for domestic structures, Barry's designs for commercial, religious, civic, and educational buildings often represent curious hybrids of Queen Anne and Shingle Style forms. Yet Barry's work can also wax classical as is demonstrated by the Thornton Academy Library (Figure 5) in Saco which he designed in 1903.

Despite his active architectural career, the pursuit to which Barry devoted much of his attention, particularly after returning to Kennebunk, was recording local history. In numerous publications, *A Stroll by a Familiar River* (1909), *Chronicles of Kennebunk* (1923), *A Stroll Thro' the Past* (1933) and others, Barry presents a romanticized picture of the lives of the early settlers and in all of his literary works uses old buildings to symbolize "bygone days and ways". So too, Barry believed the architectural heritage of Kennebunk should be preserved as a tangible reminder of the past. His most significant preservation effort was the restoration of Jefferds Tavern in Wells, Maine which he undertook in 1922 (Figure 6). Believing the building should be maintained for its associational value — a group of Revolutionary War soldiers was thought to have camped on its grounds — Barry had the building structurally stabilized and sheathed in new clapboards.²⁰ Until his death in 1932 he operated Jefferds Tavern as an informal historical museum, fill-



Figure 4. Kate Lord Cottage, 1890s, Kennebunk Beach (c. 1900 Photo Courtesy The Brick Store Museum).

ed with "relics" of frontier Maine. After Barry's death, Miss Elizabeth Perkins had the Tavern moved to its present location in York Village. At the same time, Edith Cleaves Barry, William Barry's niece, founded The Brick Store Museum in Kennebunk as a tribute to this work as an antiquarian and historian and as a permanent repository for his collections.

Kevin Murphy
Boston University
September, 1984



Figure 5. Thornton Academy Library, 1905, Saco (c. 1910 Postcard View, MHPC).

Notes

- ¹ Norman E. Borden, Jr., *Dear Sarah*, (Freeport, 1966), passim.
- ² William E. Barry, *Reminiscences of Little Blue*, (manuscript Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum, 1916), n.p.
- ³ Cynthia Zaitzevsky, *The Architecture of William Ralph Emerson, 1833-1917* (Cambridge, 1969), pp. 3-4, 88-89.
- ⁴ William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, Sunday, February, 1865, and William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, Sunday, October, 1865 (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).
- ⁵ William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, December 14, 1866 (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).
- ⁶ Obituary of Samuel J. F. Thayer, *American Architect and Building News*, Vol. 39 (March 4, 1893), p. 130.
- ⁷ Obituary of A. C. Martin, *American Architect and Building News*, Vol. 6, No. 8 (November 8, 1879), p. 145.
- ⁸ William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, February 7, 1869 (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).

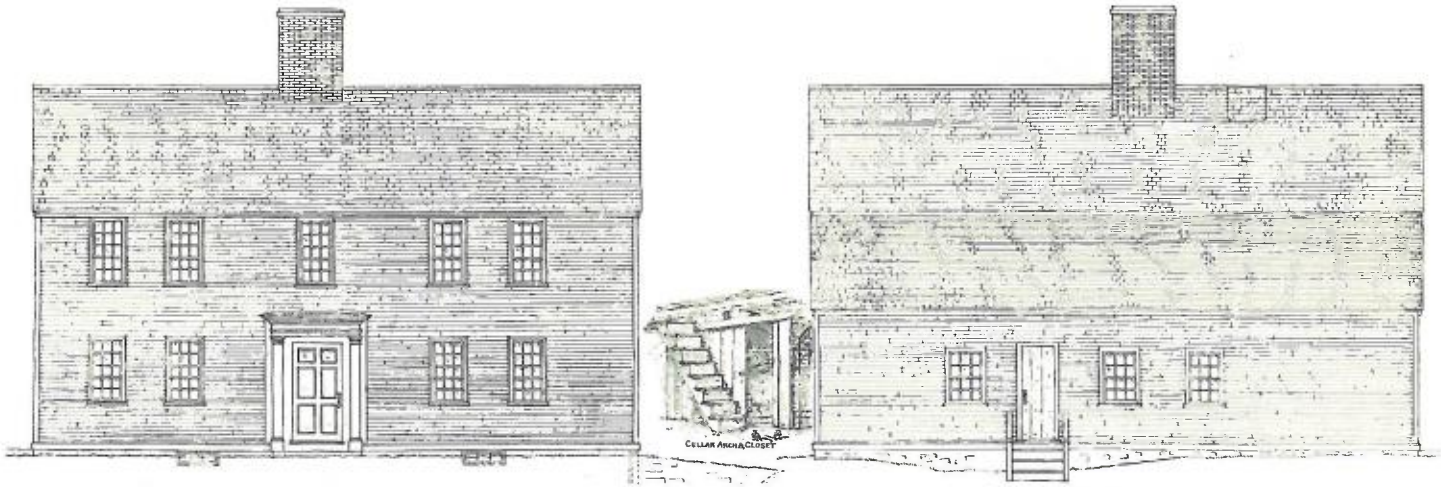


Figure 6. Jefferds Tavern, Wells. Elevations and Interior Details, 1922-23 (Courtesy Old York Historical Society).

- ⁹ William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, February, 1871 (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).
- ¹⁰ Wheaton A. Holden, *Robert Swain Peabody of Peabody and Stearns in Boston, The Early Years (1870-1886)* (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Boston University, 1969).
- ¹¹ William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, August, 1871 (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).
- ¹² Sara Bradford Landau, "Richard Morris Hunt, the Continental Picturesque and the 'Stick Style'", *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. XLII, No. 3, October, 1983, p. 287.
- ¹³ Wheaton A. Holden, "The Peabody Touch: Peabody and Stearns of Boston, 1870-1917", *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. XXXII, No. 2 (May, 1973), p. 114, fn.
- ¹⁴ Walter Knight Sturges, "Arthur Little and the Colonial Revival", *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. XXXII, No. 2 (May, 1973), pp. 151-152.
- ¹⁵ Holden, *The Peabody Touch...*, p. 117.
- ¹⁶ William E. Barry to Sarah Cleaves Perkins, May 14, 1872 (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).
- ¹⁷ Joyce Butler, "Chronology of the Life of William E. Barry" (manuscript, Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum). Barry's uncle, Hartley Lord, built a large summer home in Kennebunk in 1884-85 and Barry may have assisted architect George Meachum in its construction.
- ¹⁸ Brainbridge Bunting, *Houses of Boston's Back Bay* (Cambridge and London, 1967), pp. 233-235.
- ¹⁹ This attribution is based on sketches in Barry's notebooks.
- ²⁰ William E. Barry, hand-written account of the history of Jefferds Tavern (Barry Collection, The Brick Store Museum).

List of Known Commissions in Maine by William E. Barry

- Portico and Piazza for Taylor-Barry House, 24 Summer Street, Kennebunk, 1872-73, Extant.
- Receiving Tomb, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, 1885, Extant.
- Frank Harris Cottage, Kennebunk Beach, c. 1890, Extant.
- Renovation of William Bartlett House, Portland Road, Kennebunk, 1890s, Extant.
- Dr. Ross Apartment Building, Grove Street, Kennebunk, 1890s, Extant.
- Additions to Hartley Lord House, 26 Summer Street, Kennebunk, 1890s, Extant.
- Kate Lord Cottage, Kennebunk Beach, 1890s, Demolished.
- Robertson House, Main and Spring Streets, Kennebunkport, 1894, Extant.
- Interior Renovations of Baptist Church, Main Street, Kennebunk, 1894, Extant.
- Addition to Park Street School, Kennebunk, 1899, Demolished.
- Addition to Glen cottage (Bonnie Brig Tea Room), Kings Highway, Kennebunkport, 1901, Altered.

- Third Story Addition to Ross Block, Main Street, Kennebunk, 1901, Extant.
- Dr. Nott Cottage, Parsons Beach, 1901, Extant.
- Remodel Facade of Lunge's Store, Kennebunk, 1903, Demolished.
- Renovations to the Glen House, Kennebunkport, 1903, Demolished.
- Seavey House, Chestnut Street, Kennebunkport, 1903, Extant.
- Thornton Academy Library, Saco, 1903, Extant.
- Roberts House, Portland Road, Kennebunk, 1904-05, Extant.
- Thornton Academy Headmaster's House, Saco, 1905, Extant.
- St. Monica's Catholic Church (now Lutheran Church), Storer Street, Kennebunk, 1905, Extant.
- Addition to the Columbia Hotel, Kennebunkport, 1905, Demolished.
- Addition to Cliff House, Kennebunkport, 1906, Demolished.
- Calderwood and Sons Store, Biddeford, 1908, Unknown.
- George Stevens House, Grandview Avenue, Kennebunkport, 1909, Extant.
- Addition to Weinstein's Store, Dock Square, Kennebunkport, 1909, Extant.
- Addition to Edward I. Downing House, Pleasant Street, Kennebunk, c. 1910, Extant.
- Wells Town Hall, Wells, 1910-11, Demolished.
- Renovations and Additions to Almira McArthur House, Middle Street, Saco, 1915-1917, Extant.

Architectural Drawings

Drawings for the Additions to the Cliff House are in the possession of The Brick Store Museum. The McArthur House drawings are owned by the York Institute in Saco. Measured drawings for the Hartley Lord House, the Roberts House and the Downing House are privately owned. Barry's plans, elevations and interior sketches for the restoration of the Jefferds Tavern belong to the Old York Historical Society.

Sources:

Much of the information about William Barry's architectural commissions on which this article is based was gathered by Sandra Hubka and Joyce Butler in preparation for an exhibit on Barry mounted at The Brick Store Museum in 1982. This museum is the repository for the Barry Papers, which include several volumes of the architect's sketchbooks and his account book.

Photograph of William E. Barry
Courtesy of The Brick Store Museum.

Volume I, Number 6, 1984

Published by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission
55 Capitol Street
Augusta, Maine 04333
Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Editor

John Tarr House

The **John Tarr House** was an historic house at 29 Ferry Lane in Biddeford, Maine. Built about 1730, it is one of the oldest houses in the state of Maine, with a well-preserved interior that has unusual features. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.^[1]

Description and history

The John Tarr House stands facing east toward the Saco River at the end of Ferry Lane, roughly midway between downtown Biddeford and the Biddeford Pool area at the river mouth. It is a 1½-story Cape style timber-frame structure, five bays wide, with a side gable roof, large central chimney, and clapboard siding. The original front entrance is in the center of the east facade, with a secondary entrance (probably a 19th or 20th-century addition) on the south side. The rear facade, facing the street, has five windows. A 1½-story ell extends to the north.^[2]

The house is estimated to have been built about 1730, making it one of Maine's oldest surviving structures. In addition to its great age, its significance lies in the original condition of its interior. This includes complete original wall paneling in the parlor spaces, and an unusually finished kitchen space in the rear. The kitchen features completely wainscoted walls and ceiling, something that is only known from two other chambers from New England (one is now in a museum in Concord, Massachusetts, and the other is at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City). The wainscoting panels are hand-planed.^[2]

John Tarr House, circa 1730

Listed on the
National Register of Historic
Places

April 23, 1980

**John Tarr House,
2014**

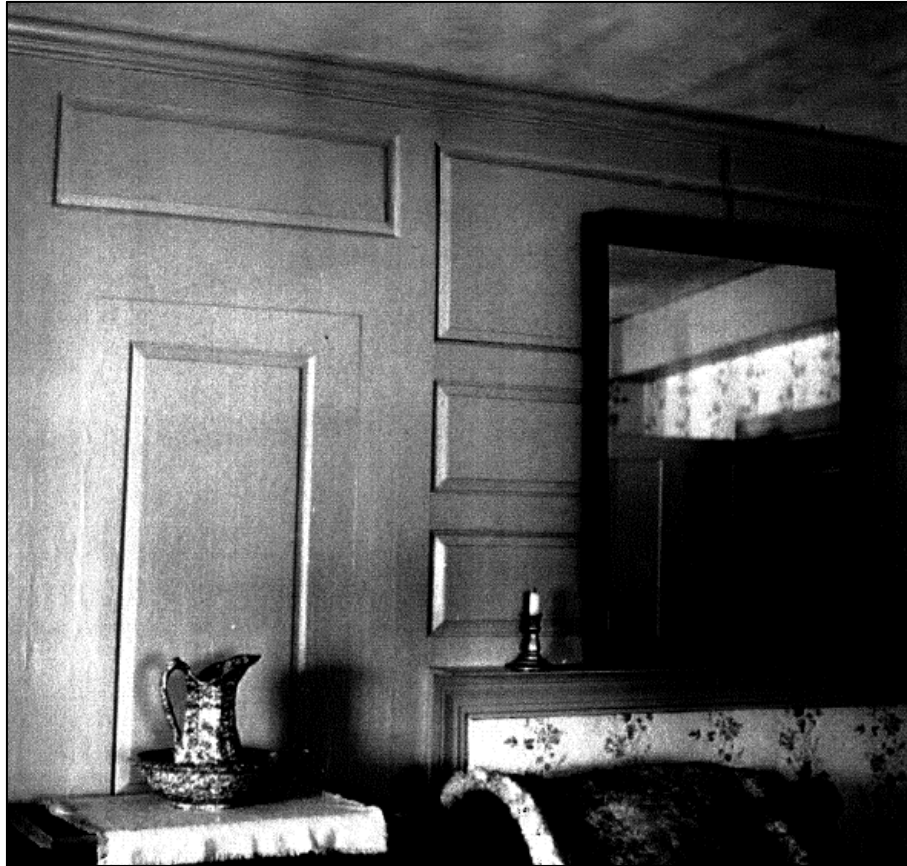


**John Tarr House,
Circa 2018**



**John Tarr House,
2025**





Original Interior Wood Paneling



Wood Paneling Removed from Interior

John Tarr House - 29 Ferry Lane

Things to Consider:

1. Applicability

Does the property meet the legal, technical, and procedural grounds to justify removal from the National Register?

2. Impacts to:

- a. Local preservation
- b. Educational programs
- c. Planning (Zone SR-1)
- d. Economic development

3. Public Comment

Justine Tanguay
1317 Churchill Downs Drive
Waxhaw, NC 28173
justinetanguay@gmail.com
(207)730-2267

March 10, 2026

To:
City of Biddeford Planning Board
City of Biddeford
P.O. Box 586
Biddeford, ME 04005

Cc: John McCurry – Chair; Roch Angers – Member; Matthew Dubois – Member; Leah Schaffer – Member; and Kayla Lewis – Associate Member

Dear Mr. Chair and Members of the Board,

I am submitting this letter to express my intention to renew a permit for restoration work at the property located at 29 Ferry Lane, Biddeford, Maine. My sister (Renee Guignard) and I respectfully request a 24-month extension to complete this restoration project. Our mother, (Mary Guignard), who initiated and deeply cared about this project as part of her vision for preserving the property, passed away. As co-executors of my mother's estate, we have been navigating the complex process of settling her affairs and administering her estate, which has taken considerable time and attention. Despite these challenges, we remain fully committed to carrying forward our mother's legacy to complete the restoration of this home, in accordance with approved plans. The additional time will allow us to properly manage the estate matters, coordinate necessary resources and ensure the project is completed thoughtfully and responsibly. We are respectfully seeking a 24-month extension so that we may honor our mother's intentions and see through restoration through to completion.

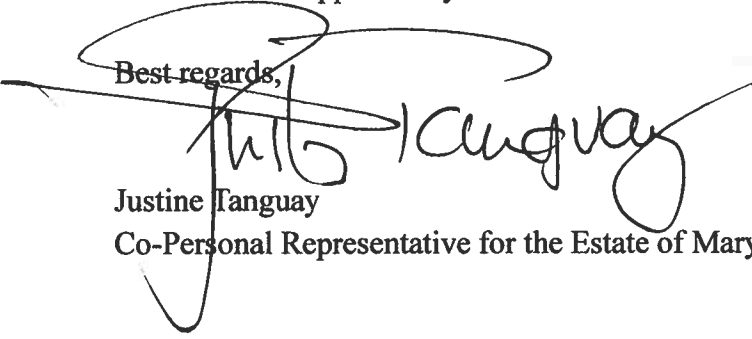
Enclosed with this letter, you will find the following materials as part of this renewal submission:

1. **Applicant's Notice of Intent to File an Application** – a copy for your records
2. **Municipal Tax Maps 49 and 50** – with the relevant lots highlighted, representing each landowner who will receive notification in accordance with the Saco River Corridor Commission's requirements.

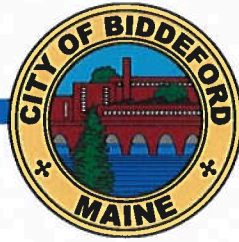
The restoration project will continue to follow the previously approved scope of work. Should this renewal permit be approved, we will also be seeking additional approvals for the remaining portions of the project, including plumbing and electrical work, to ensure the full restoration complies with all applicable regulations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information or clarification. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Best regards,



Justine Janguay
Co-Personal Representative for the Estate of Mary Guignard



April 22, 2026

Mr. Kirk F. Mohney
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
10 Water Street
65 State House Station
Hollowell ME 04347

Dear Mr. Mohney,

The Biddeford Historic Preservation Commission has reviewed the documents regarding the removal of the John Tarr House (29 Ferry Lane, Biddeford, Tax Map 49 Lot 4) from the National Register of Historic Places and does not concur with the evaluation made by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission for the removal of this resource from the Register.

The Tarr House is one of Maine's oldest surviving structures and is evidence of Biddeford's colonial history. The Biddeford HPC has examined the evidence and found the property does not meet the following criterion for removal from the Register:

The property has ceased to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register because the qualities which caused it to be originally listed have been lost or destroyed, or such qualities were lost subsequent to nomination and prior to listing;

The action to remove this property from the National Register of Historic Places was discussed at the March 11, 2026, and April 8, 2026, meetings of the Biddeford Historic Preservation Commission. The commission found statements made by contractor Jeremie Berube compelling and unanimously voted in favor of the following motion:

"Motion not to endorse the removal of the house at 29 Ferry Lane from the National Register of Historic Places based on documented evidence as presented by contractor Jeremie Berube of Arundel, Maine."

For example, The National Register of Historic Places Continuation sheet states that one reason for removal from the NRHP is that the structure was moved from its original foundation. This, according to Mr. Berube, is not correct. As demonstrated by Mr. Berube, the north-facing ell was cut back from the main house, giving only the appearance that the main house was moved.

Further, Mr. Berube presented evidence that other changes to the appearance of the house were based on pictorial evidence or evidence discovered during the course of dismantling the house. For example, a door was relocated to the west side of the house based on evidence in the framing and sheathing, as well as drawings made during the 1930s by Maine architect and historian William E. Barry. Mr. Berube also presented to the HPC field drawings and photographs made during the dismantling process that indicate his team systematically documented sheathing, wood trim, paneling, etc. with a numbering system. Materials that have not yet been reassembled are located at the property.



This project was stopped due to the owner's sudden death, and the Biddeford Planning and Development Department received a letter dated March 10, 2026, from the estate of the Owner of Record stating the intention to continue the work begun by Mr. Berube.

Removing this resource from the Register would be a loss for the Biddeford Historic Preservation Commission, actual as well as symbolic, as it diminishes the perception of preservation efforts here. While this commission works hard to maintain the character of the historic downtown core in Biddeford, this property, nearer to the coastal neighborhoods of Biddeford, was deconstructed without HPC oversight and the City is working to improve permit coordination. The removal of the Tarr House from the NRHP is a real upset for our commission and the community.

From a planning perspective, this action may result in additional sprawl here in Biddeford. The area of the lot on which the house is situated is 3.5 acres and fronts the Saco River. The house is in the Suburban Residential (SR) zone, which prioritizes larger homes on large lots. With the removal of the Tarr House from the National Register, such a desirable site will likely be placed under additional pressure by developers to demolish the existing structures to construct new single-family home(s), intensifying sprawl here in Biddeford. Potential redevelopment of the site would also create environmental impacts, whether by increased construction waste, or by increasing the overall energy used in Biddeford.

Aside from the loss of potential Federal and Maine State tax credits, because of the house's location approximately three miles from downtown Biddeford, there would likely be no noticeable economic development ramifications to this action, except to possibly exacerbate ongoing gentrification Biddeford is now experiencing.

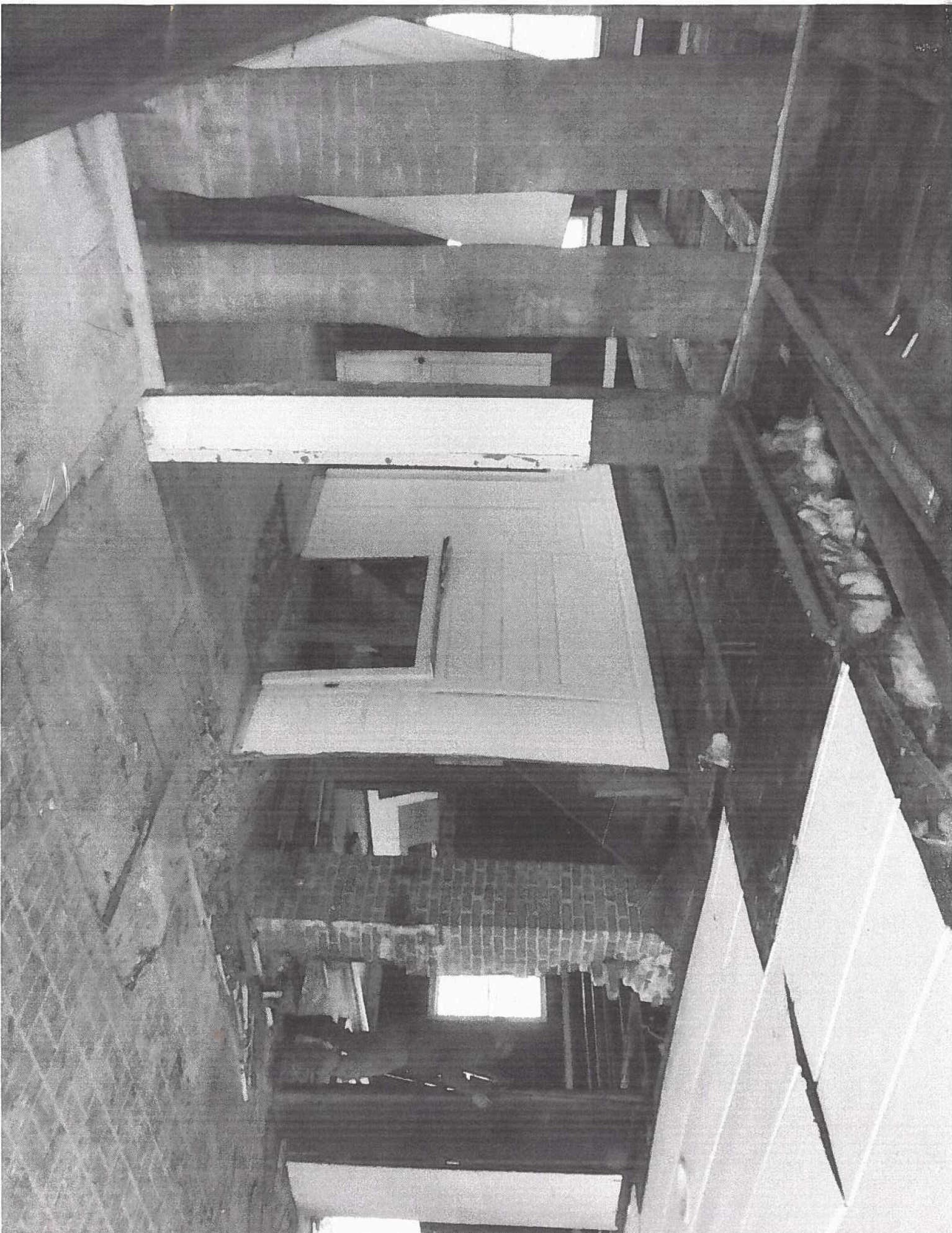
No one from the public stepped forward to provide comments on this matter at either of the two meetings where it was discussed. However, it is the contention of the Biddeford Historic Preservation Commission that the John Tarr House remains on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Favreau".

Brad Favreau, Staff Liaison for
The Biddeford Historic Preservation Commission







Notes and Observations on the Restoration of 29 Ferry Lane, Biddeford, ME (John Tarr House)

The Door to the Rear

1. Newer sawn lathe around side door
 2. Mortise pockets at side door originally narrower in width. Same width as windows everywhere else.
 3. Original, missing walls from tavern room to hallway, the swinging wall and door
 4. Ceiling boards in the hallway are shorter in length, not matching longer tavern ceiling boards
 5. Small mortise in upper plate beam cut for ceiling plank (photo) which anchors the wall to the hallway across from the swinging wall
 7. Shadow, gray lines on exterior wall boards showing long marks
 8. A granite step was found 8 inches under the soil (under door)
 9. September 24, 1931 - A William Barry (1846-1932 important architect and historian) drawing in tavern room, showing outer back door, end of hallway and just outside swinging wall, "The Smoking Gun".
 10. **The rear door matches the original floor plan perfectly.**
-

The Center Chimney, Location and Size

1. All 3 original fireplace mantles are still in place
 2. The large stone base still in place
 3. The complete brick base is still in place
 4. The fireplace outlines in original brick were still in place
 5. Beams frame the opening to 2nd floor
 6. The original roof boards are spaced for the chimney size through roof
 7. The original ridge pole is spaced for the chimney size
-

The Ell

1. The ell was cut back from the original house because it was rotten. This section could be rebuilt with vintage material.
 2. The main house is on the original foundation and has not been moved.
-

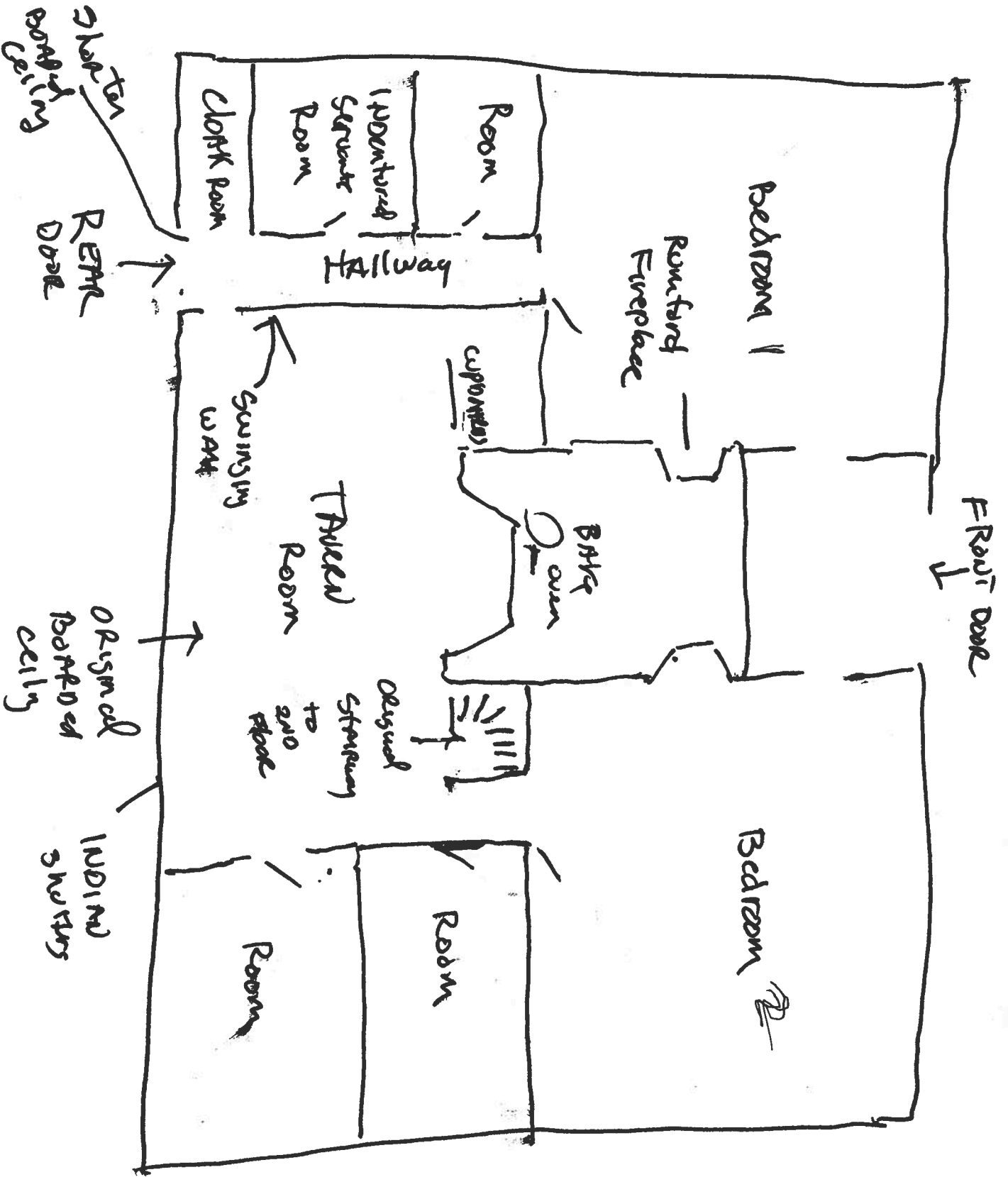
The Stone Foundation

1. The stone foundation is original and has not been moved.
-

The door to the rear, the swinging wall, the large center chimney (replaced with small chimney), and side door added, were probably all changed around 1890 or 1900 when the new ell (present ell) was constructed.

The interior paneled walls, the tavern room ceiling, Indian shutters, and other trim were all labeled, photographed, and meticulously removed. They are not damaged, lost, or destroyed. Each is safely stored in the building awaiting being put back

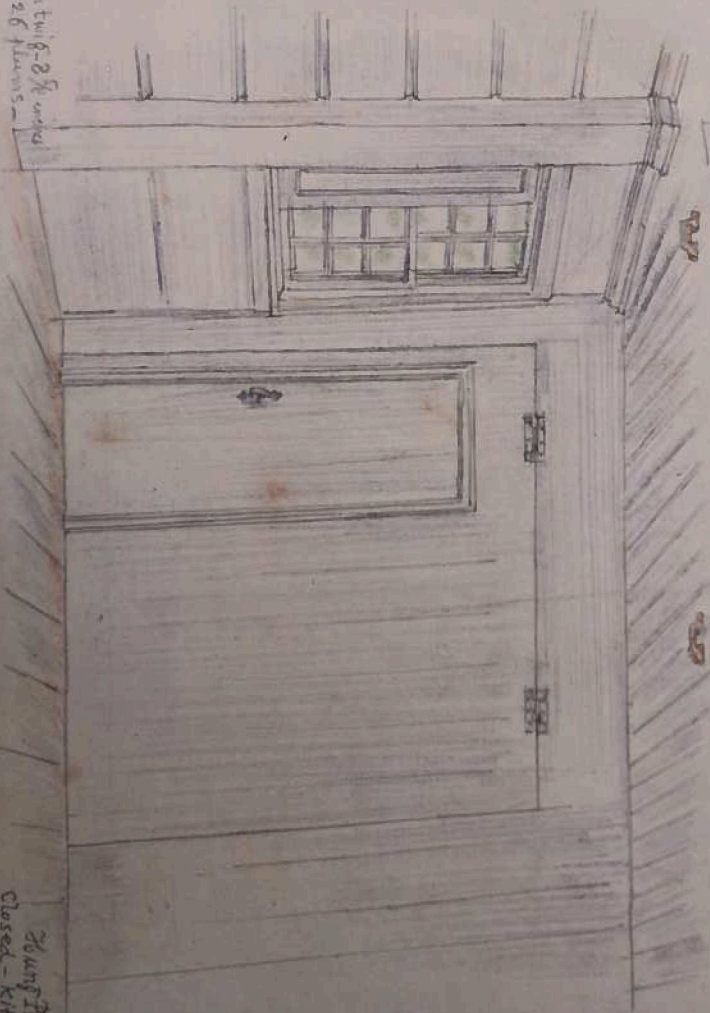
Jeremie Berube Preservationist



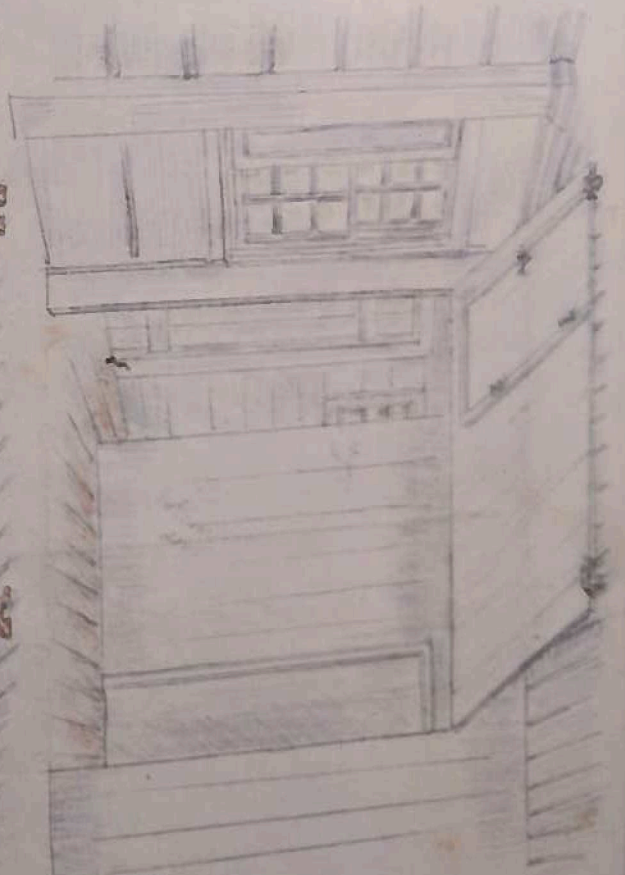
24 Perry in
 B. Method in
 Terence B
 Original F
 Plan



Young Tree
Geach Plum twig 8 2 1/2 inches
26 flowers



Young Partition
Closed - Kitchen

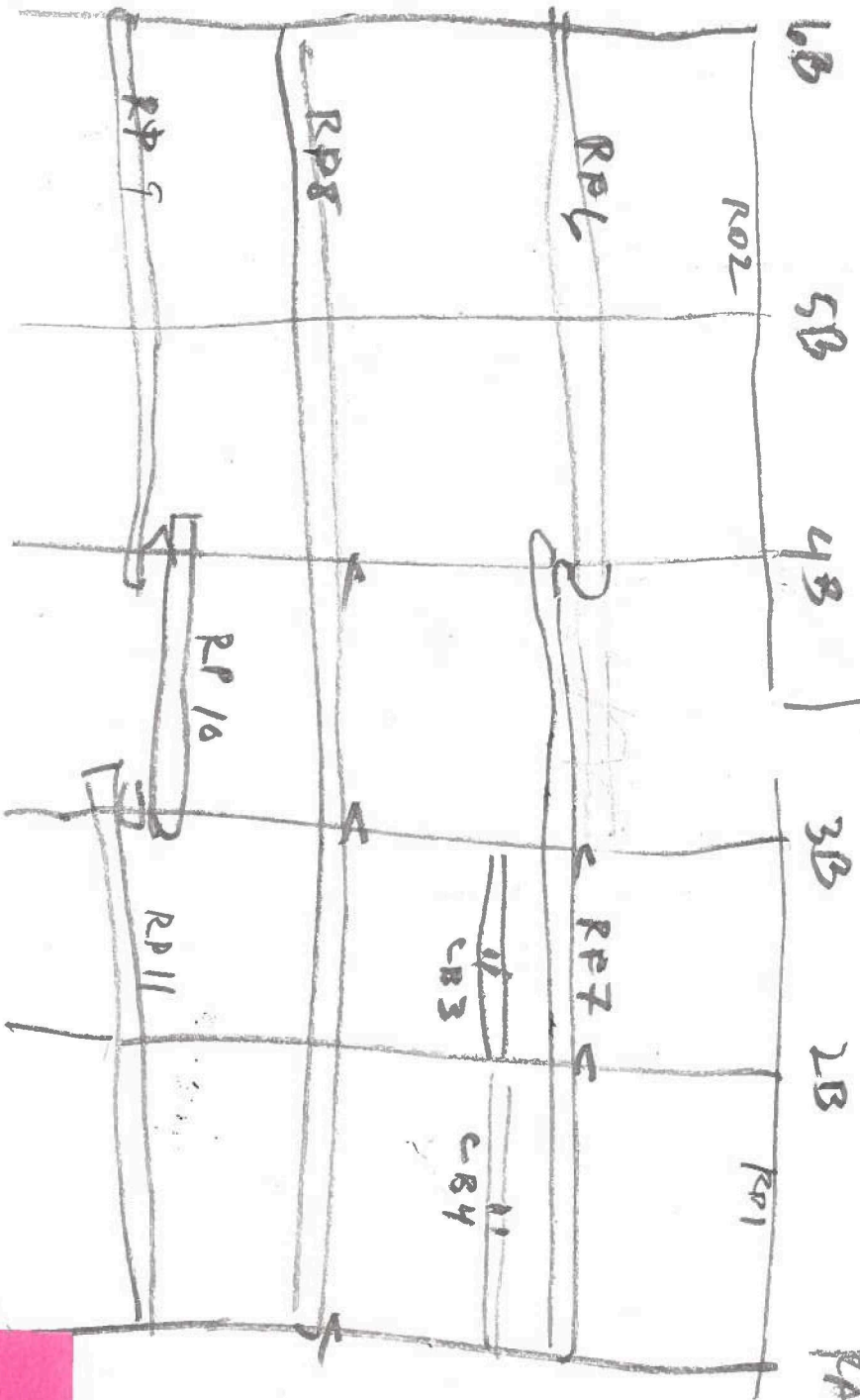


Young Partition
Open, Kitchen

5. TOP OF CHIMNEY FRAME

ROOF / BACK

4 1/2" over.



PART-1B

TONGUE

SIDE ON

RAFTERS

ROOF RAFTERS + PURLINS

CENTER CHIMNEY IN RIDGE

OPENING INDICATES WIDTH OF CHIMNEY

Look →







J. BERUBE
PHOTO
800-711-1111

Whitten, Nan

From: Larry, Julie
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 2:33 PM
To: Favreau, Brad
Subject: Re: John Tarr House 29 Ferry Lane Biddeford
Attachments: Tarr House 1980s NRHP photos.pdf

Brad,

Not sure if I mentioned in my previous email that the vote was unanimous to postpone, but I don't think we have much support for not removing it from the National Register. As I mentioned to Brad this week, since 2020 I usually listen-in on all their meetings and the Commission members usually vote to uphold the staff recommendation. The staff emphatically thinks it needs to be removed from the register and indicated it would not likely be eligible for re-listing for another area of significance based on what they see for its building integrity.

Notes from the MHPC meeting:

They are calling the project a moved project, in large part because all the pieces were 'moved' even if the foundation was not. They stated that the Parks Service standards for reconstruction aren't really meant for reconstructing existing buildings, rather they are meant for recreating a building that once existed, like in a museum/living history/historic district setting (farm, industrial complex, building complex, etc.) so those don't really apply in this case. As a 'moved' resource they said it should be automatically removed from the NRHP and they are responsible for telling the NPS about the building's condition as soon as they know about it.

They are very concerned that the contractor based all his decisions on recreating a typical or 'ideal' 1730s house rather than the authentic 1730s version of this house following preservation standards which require basing restoration decisions on historic images, structural evidence, drawings, etc. They are basing their assessment of his decisions on the visual changes of the moved door, what they thought was the recent dismantling of the center chimney, the new siding, new gable end attic opening, and the door and window sizes and details.

No one from MHPC came down to visit the site this winter/spring. They based their assessment on aerial images and the photos provided by one of the perspective buyers.

Here is a link to the 2020 image Erin took that is on the Maine Historic Preservation website so you can zoom into the sheathing details around the new door and the windows.

https://www.maine.gov/mhpc/sites/maine.gov/mhpc/files/images/1897_2099996_IMG_8703.JPG

Their questions:

1. Why was dismantling chosen over lifting the house or other methods of repair?
2. What was the existing interior layout at the time of the dismantling? What is the planned layout (how does the new plan impact the historic wall locations, structural framing, paneling sizes, and interior trim and material locations)

3. How were materials documented during the dismantling? How were changes documented that were discovered during the dismantling process?
4. Was the foundation repaired or replaced? What materials were used if so?
5. How much of the chimney base was present? What materials were used to rebuild it? How were the new fireplace openings determined and constructed?
6. What was the evidence that indicated the side door was not original, is there any documentation that might date the period the side door would have been added?
7. What was the evidence for moving the rear window and replacing it with a door? Is there any evidence that it was an exterior door, or did it go to an ell that is no longer extant?
8. Why were the windows resized/replaced and what was the reasoning for the 9/6 configuration vs. the 2/2 windows that were present in 1980s? If you look at the 2020 photo you can see the window heads appear to have been closer to the eave and maybe larger? You can see the infilled piece of sheathing in the 2020 photo above each window.
9. Why was the gable end attic window added? Ventilation for an insulated attic space?
10. What was the evidence for the change in the front (facing the river) door detailing?

We or the client would need to provide them with evidence to answer these questions to their satisfaction. In my 30+ years of dealing with the staff, once they have an opinion on something, it takes a lot to move them to reconsider. This is a big hurdle.

I think a first step for our commission would be to make sure the family is willing to have this stay on the National Register and/or as a local landmark. If they support removing it from the NRHP, this will be a lost cause - it still might be even if they want it on the NRHP. Could we ask them to join a meeting via zoom Brad? I think you said they were out of state?

Secondly, I think we need to really understand what the removal from the National Register means within our local ordinance. Not being an attorney, I think it is a little unclear from rereading the text. The house was designated as a local landmark because it was on the NRHP when our ordinance was put in place. Does de-listing invalidate its designation as a local landmark? Or would it still be a local landmark until the Biddeford HPC invokes Section 19 of the ordinance? *"Parcels/structures/buildings may be removed from the list upon recommendation by the Historic Preservation Commission and approval of the Planning Board, at which time it shall be recertified by the Mayor and re-attested by the City Clerk."*

Does the city have an attorney that could give us an opinion? I know Sandy Guay, a local attorney and former member of Saco's HPC. I would be willing to reach out to her for her informal thoughts.

If it's still a local landmark even if removed from the NRHP, and the client is okay with that and wouldn't challenge it, then I am not sure we need to do much more with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. We would just carry on with our process if and when the project progresses.

We might want a letter from the owner stating that they support it remaining a local landmark or maybe we could reaffirm it as a local landmark by renominating it, if that made it more legal since the ordinance, to me anyway, is kind of ambiguous on whether a building no longer on the NRHP is no longer a local landmark.

Locally we discussed it has multiple areas of significance, other than architecture. We could renominate it based on that. CLGs can nominate landmarks and districts without them being on the National

Register. For example in Portland they have designated individual local landmarks that have not been listed in the National Register, including a half dozen thematically related buildings on Forest Avenue, and similarly some resources on House Island related to its use as an immigration and quarantine station.

If we want to pursue keeping it on the NRHP in cooperation with the owner, then I think we would quickly need to meet with Mr. Berube to get additional information from him as it will be a lot of work. I would be willing to meet with Mr. Berube and any others that wanted to help to go thru his materials, if that was appropriate to do outside of a public meeting, to help pull this together but I will have limited time in late June, so the sooner the better. Their next commission meeting would be the end of July I believe.

Those are all my notes and thoughts. Sorry it so long! I look forward to our next meeting to discuss. I apologize if any of this seems too much information to share outside a public meeting, but I will never remember all this by then! Brad if you think it is okay to share with everyone I can forward it, or you can. I wasn't sure if this was breaking any outside public meeting conversations.

Julie

From: Favreau, Brad <Brad.Favreau@Biddefordmaine.org>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 12:40 PM
To: Larry, Julie <Julie.Larry@biddefordmaine.org>
Cc: Wesley Painter <barringerhill@gmail.com>; Ware, Erin <Erin.ware10@gmail.com>; Mayo, Catherine <cathmg45@gmail.com>; Dan Boucher <dpdraft54@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: John Tarr House 29 Ferry Lane Biddeford

Thank you, Julie. Hope we can answer the MHPC's concerns satisfactorily.

From: Larry, Julie <Julie.Larry@biddefordmaine.org>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 12:23 PM
To: Favreau, Brad <Brad.Favreau@Biddefordmaine.org>
Cc: Wesley Painter <barringerhill@gmail.com>; Ware, Erin <Erin.ware10@gmail.com>; Mayo, Catherine <cathmg45@gmail.com>; Dan Boucher <dpdraft54@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: John Tarr House 29 Ferry Lane Biddeford

All,

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission has voted to table their vote on the Tarr House until their next commission meeting in three months to give us an opportunity to talk more with the contractor to answer their questions they brought up regarding why they believe it cannot be on the register anymore and to speak with the family.

They believe they will ultimately vote to remove it, they gave weight to the circumstances of Mary Guinard's passing, the work progressing without our oversight and the overall lack of information available to them to answer questions.

They have some legitimate concerns about the windows, materials used, and the period the building to which the building is being restored.

I will type up some additional notes to email around after the meeting is over.

From: Favreau, Brad <Brad.Favreau@Biddefordmaine.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 3:41 PM

To: Larry, Julie <Julie.Larry@biddefordmaine.org>

Cc: Wesley Painter <barringerhill@gmail.com>; Ware, Erin <Erin.ware10@gmail.com>; Mayo, Catherine <cathmg45@gmail.com>; Dan Boucher <dpdraft54@yahoo.com>

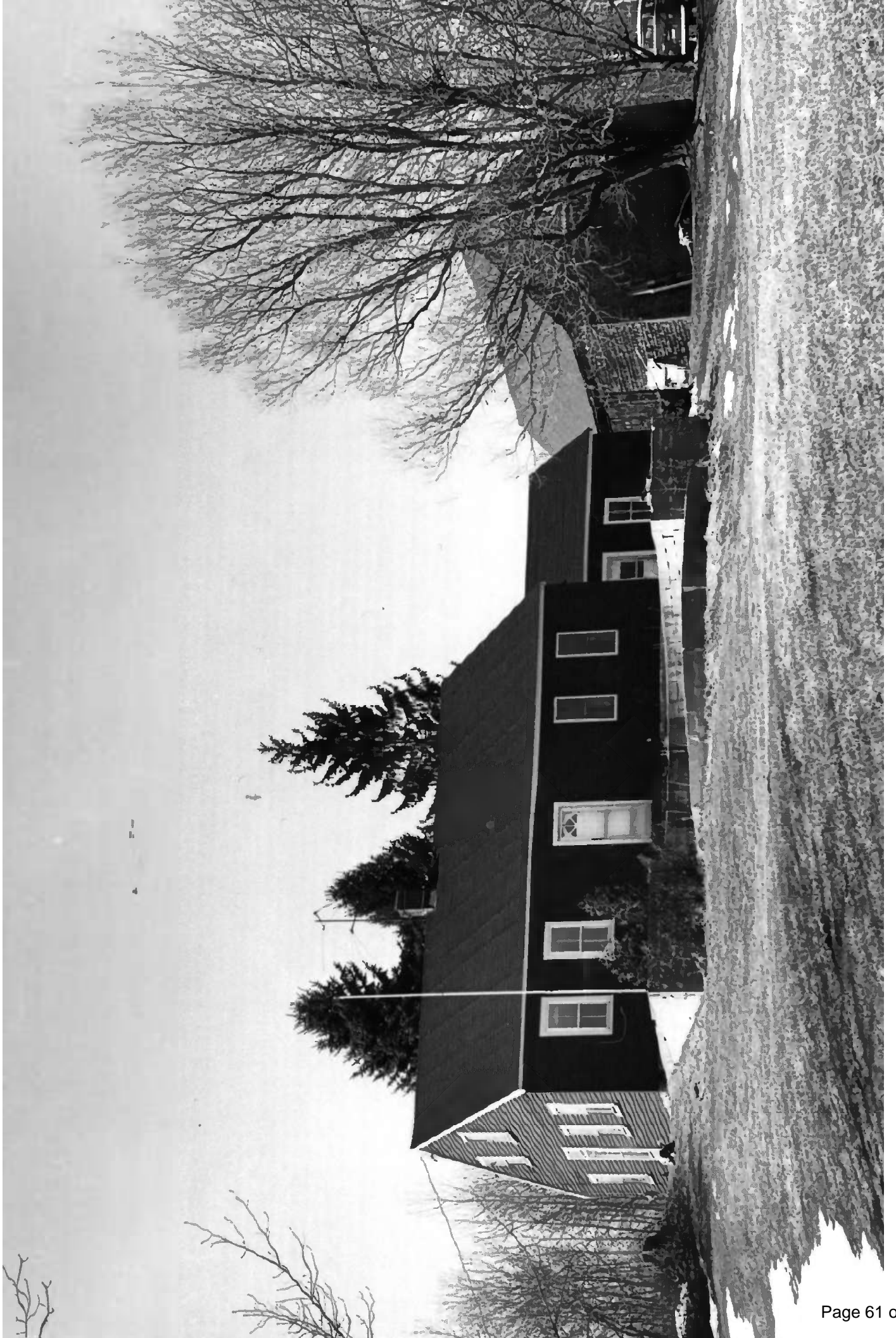
Subject: John Tarr House 29 Ferry Lane Biddeford

Hi Julie,

Here's the images and notes we talked about earlier about the John Tarr House. I will send the signed required letter to Kirk and copy the commission.

Thank you for attending the MHPC meeting on Friday.

Brad Favreau
Development and Sustainability Coordinator
(207) 571-1612



Tarr, John, House

John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

FEB 29 1980

York Co.

APR 23 1980

View from E

(1 of 7)



Tarr, John, House

John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

FEB 29 1980

York Co

View from SW

APR 23 1980

(2 of 7)



Jarr, John, House

John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

29 Ferry Lane

York Co.

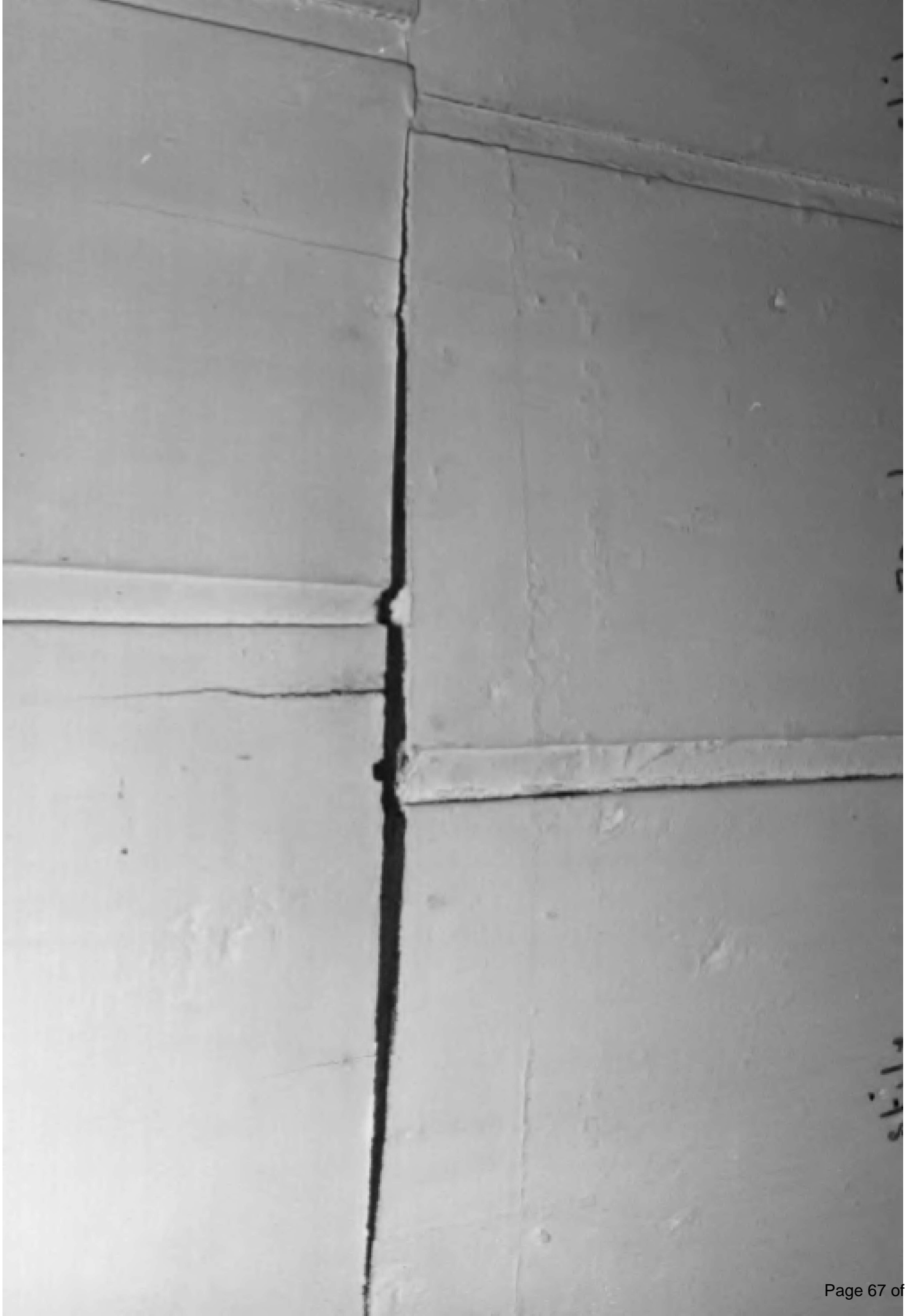
Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard 12/79

Me: ~~Historic~~ **Historic** Preservation Comm.

Kitchen Ceiling Panelling

(3 of 7)



Mr. John Fernal
John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

APR 23 1980

Detail of Stile and Panel

(4 of 7)

FEB 29 1980

York Co.
12/79



Turr, John, House

John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

29 Ferry Lane

York Co.

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me, HIA ~~ARR~~ & 3 Reservations Comm.

Kitchen Wall Panelling

(5 of 7)



Mr. John Houde

John Tarr House

29 Ferry Lane

Biddeford, York, Maine

Frank A. Beard

12/79

Me. Historic Preservation Comm.

APR 23 1980

SE Chamber Panneling

(6 of 7)

FEB 29 1980

Yodke Co



Lunt, John Howard
John Tarr House

FEB 29 1980

29 Ferry Lane

York Co,

Biddeford, York, Maine

12/79

Frank A. Beard

Me. Historical Preservation Comm.

APR 23 1980

NE Chamber Panelling

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