

P110007211

STATE: Maine
COUNTY: Penobscot
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE AUG 30 1974

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Bangor Standpipe

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Jackson Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
2nd: Hon. William Cohen

STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23** COUNTY: **Penobscot** CODE: **019**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <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 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:
Bangor Water District

STREET AND NUMBER:
614 State Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Penobscot County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hammond Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: _____

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: _____

STATE: _____

CODE: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

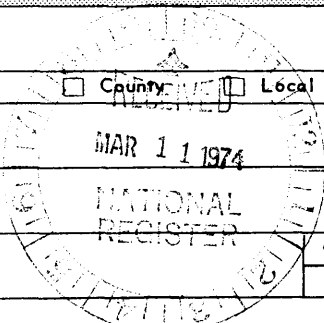
STATE

COUNTY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

The Bangor Standpipe is really two structures in one. The standpipe itself, consists of steel plates riveted one outside the other and is 75' in diameter and 50' high. The building which encloses it is 80' in diameter and 110' high. The entire structure has a stone foundation 9' high and 3½' thick at the base. The sill which sits atop the foundation is made of bent pine planks and is 14" thick. Along the inner wall of the exterior facade is a winding stairway which leads to a grand promenade deck, a feature that entirely circles the building. The deck is 12' wide and 280' in circumference. The deck itself, the ceiling, and the circular wall which separates the promenade from the center of the standpipe tank were all constructed of pine; while the entire framework of the outer structure consists of pine posts and spruce studding. The inner wall of the outer structure was treated with oil to protect it from moisture and condensation produced by the tank.

From the promenade deck a series of stairways lead to the roof. The roof is surrounded by a railing with 192 four foot bannisters; inside this railing is a smaller deck, 76' in diameter. The roof of the standpipe is covered with galvanized iron. The capacity of the tank as built was 1,654,000 gallons.

To erect the wooden part of the structure took 42,000 feet of hard pine and 220,000 cedar shingles. The shingles were furnished by Charles Woodman & Company, a Bangor firm; while the pine posts used in the building were supplied by another Bangor firm, Morse and Company. It is an interesting comment upon the state of the lumber industry in a city that once boasted with some justification of being the "Lumber Capital of the World"; that by 1898 the city went to a Portland firm to obtain its pine planking.

The architecture of the exterior structure is obviously in the shingle style, as denoted by the nature of the materials used and the small hooded windows which trace the rise of the winding staircase to the first promenade deck. Originally the exterior of the structure was painted dark gray with the pillars around the promenade deck and the lattice work above done in white. Today the entire structure is painted white.



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3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1898**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bangor Standpipe was constructed in 1898 by Major James M. Davis a well known Maine contractor who had his headquarters in Bangor. Davis erected the building according to plans and specifications provided by Ashley B. Tower of Tower and Wallace, New York and Holyoke, Massachusetts, architects and millwrights. For the construction phase of the project, Davis employed upwards of twenty-two men and erected a portable saw mill and blacksmith shop on the site. The entire project took about six months to complete.

Beyond its primary function, the standpipe was designed to be an observatory from which to view the entire city of Bangor; which spread out below Thomas Hill, the highest point in the city and the location of the standpipe. A contemporary account described the view as follows:

"The view...can give Bangoreans nothing but a feeling of pride at the beauty of our city, every part of which is in plain sight. It invariably strikes the visitor how the city is set down in a basin with mountains and hills on every side."

The use of the shingle style for the exterior of this structure made it an oddity even at the time of its construction. The same contemporary account made the following statement:

"Maine has some odd shaped buildings scattered around in different towns and cities...but perhaps the oddest shaped of all is the circular structure built to enclose the Bangor standpipe."

The Bangor Standpipe meets the criteria for the National Register because it is unique, but its true significance goes beyond that fact. The Bangor Standpipe was built to be a landmark in its own time; dominating as it does the skyline of the city. It is also an outstanding example of a time when people believed that even so simply functional a structure as a standpipe should be aesthetically pleasing as well.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Bangor's Standpipe", The Industrial Journal, Bangor, September 2, 1898, p4.
 "Ashley B. Tower Was a Famous Mill Builder", The Bangor Weekly Commercial,
 Bangor, July 19, 1901.
 "The Death of Maj. J. M. Davis", Bangor Whig and Courier, Bangor, July 22,
 1901.

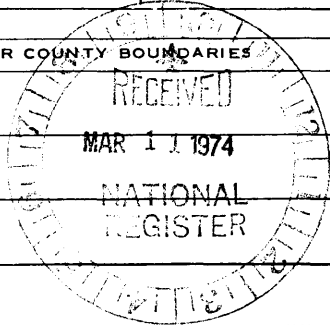
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	44°	48'	26"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	68°	47'	01"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
James H. Mundy, Director
 ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: February, 1974
 STREET AND NUMBER:
31 Western Avenue
 CITY OR TOWN: Augusta, STATE: Maine CODE: 23

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 March 4, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
A. A. Mortenson
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date 8/30/74
 ATTEST:
Charles W. ...
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 8-29-74