

Hon. Peter N. Kyros

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 23 1973

1. NAME:
COMMON:
Mariner's Church
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Mariner's Church

2. LOCATION:
STREET AND NUMBER:
368-374 Fore Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Portland
STATE: Maine CODE: 23 COUN: Cumberland CODE: 005



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"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
Frank G. & Nancy B. Akers
STREET AND NUMBER:
384 Fore Street
CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Maine CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Cumberland County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
142 Federal Street
CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Maine CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.
STREET AND NUMBER:
Station A, Box 4197
CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Maine CODE: 23

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HS
E 394000

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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5-205-23

7 DESCRIPTION

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

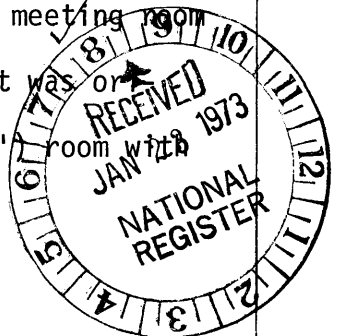
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mariner's Church is a Greek Revival structure of brick and granite trapezoid in shape, with the facade on an angle to the sides to conform to its Fore Street building site. The building's appearance now is very much as it was originally, and stands three and one half stories high. The front on Fore Street is 82' 6"; the side on Moulton Street: 70' 6"; the Market Street side; 54'; and the rear: 61' 6". The building has an unusual amount of light on all stories largely attributed to the front two rows of twelve each of large arched windows on the second floor and large rectangular windows on the third floor, and a large fan window in the pediment. The front sides have unusual granite rounded corners, and the entire front is built of Thomaston granite.

The brick sides have windows of twelve over eight panes and there are three rows of eight each on one side and three rows of six each on the other side, plus a row of daylight basement windows, all with granite lintels and sills. At one time prior to 1858 and the construction of Commercial Street, the back of the building faced the water with the rear almost on the wharfs, and the rear basement contains a sea wall.

The split level basement, completely restored, houses brick and stone walls and exposed beams, including one unbroken seventy foot beam. The first floor consists, ^{ok} as it was designed for, many small shops and businesses. The second floor consists of a large central front meeting room surrounded by shops and offices. On the third floor is what was originally the room of worship, or chapel -- a large (40' x 65' room with cathedral ceiling and smaller rooms on either side.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1828-29

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"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input checked="" 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 Old Mariner's Church is modeled after Fanuel Hall in Boston and East India Hall, Salem, Massachusetts; and was the first Greek Revival building in Portland. It also for many years was Portland's largest building, built in 1828-29 at a cost of \$18,000 for the site and \$33,000 for the construction. Its concept was that of a place of worship and education for seamen of the port city. The ground floor was designed to house shops for merchants whose rent would support and maintain the building. The building became, and remains still, an important center of activity in the Old Port area of the city. It does in fact retain many of its original functions, containing a meeting room for area merchants, besides store front shops including a learning center and show-room for the handicapped, a local food cooperative and a shop displaying and selling crafts of local artists. The completely restored basement houses a fine restaurant which has taken away none of the original decor.

The church was one of the few commercial buildings in the city to survive the fire of 1866 which destroyed much of Portland. The church has been significant historical, religious, political and social activity as many of the seamen's and ship associations, unions and clubs (See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Portland City Guide. Works Project Administration, p. 252. Portland: 1940.

Shettleworth, Earle G., Jr. "Portland's Heritage... 'Mariner's Church, Built in 1828-29, Town's Largest Building, Still Stands'." Portland Evening Express, August 7, 1965.

Sleeper, Frank. "Ancient Mariner's Church Is Going 'Into Trade' Here" Portland Evening Express, June 1970.

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° 39' 23"	70° 15' 10"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 ac

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:
Frank G. Akers, Jr., President

ORGANIZATION: **Akers Association** DATE: **9/27/72**

STREET AND NUMBER:
386 Fore Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** 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 Liaison Officer
 Date: January 15, 1973

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

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

Date: 4/23/83

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 9/16/73

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

were organized and met there, as well as the founding of Portland's first Marine Museum. Many social welfare programs began there as did various non-religious community organizations such as the present day Portland Boys Club. The structure remains physically unchanged and is actively functioning in a way not unlike the concept of its original purpose and design.

