

DEC 9 1 1987

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Indian Island Light Station
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Indian Island, Rockport Harbor N/A not for publication
city, town Rockport, vicinity
state Maine code ME county Knox code 013 zip code 04856

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>3</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>4</u>	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Light Stations of Maine

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility 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. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Carol S. Pedersen 12/17/87
Signature of certifying official Date
Maine Historic Preservation Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Patrick Andrus 3/23/88
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Water-Related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Light Station

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

Wood-Shingle

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Indian Island Light Station is composed of a detached tapered brick tower, a one-and-a-half-story T-shaped keeper's house, an oil house, and a pair of frame ancillary buildings. Now privately owned, the tower no longer carries a navigational aid.

1. LIGHT TOWER - CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE

Indian Island's light tower, built in 1874-75, bears the distinctive square tapered shape typical of the 1870s. Its brick walls are punctuated by a door and window on the south elevation and a single opening on both the east and west walls. A small gabled brick workroom with a door and two windows projects from the south side. The tower is surmounted by a square iron walkway and railing. At the center of this platform is the octagonal steel lantern crowned by a spherical ventilator. This tower replaced the original light mounted atop the dwelling.

2. KEEPER'S HOUSE - CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

The keeper's house is composed of the original 1850 brick front block with a square frame ell added in 1874-75. It stands to the south of the tower. The five-bay facade contains a centrally located doorway flanked by double-hung sash windows. In the early twentieth century the door was sheltered by a narrow shed roofed vestibule. A trio of gable roofed dormers are located on the front elevation. There is a single window in the south gable end and two on the north side. The ell features a dormer on its north elevation and openings in each wall. Two brick flues punctuate the house's roof.

3. SHED - CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

A gable roofed shed, comprised of two connected buildings, stands to the northeast of the dwelling. The section nearest the house is covered in board-and-batten siding whereas the other is sheathed in wood shingles. Their date of construction is not positively known.

4. OIL HOUSE - CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

The stone oil house is located north of the light tower. Built in 1904, the building has a door and vent centrally placed in its south gable end.

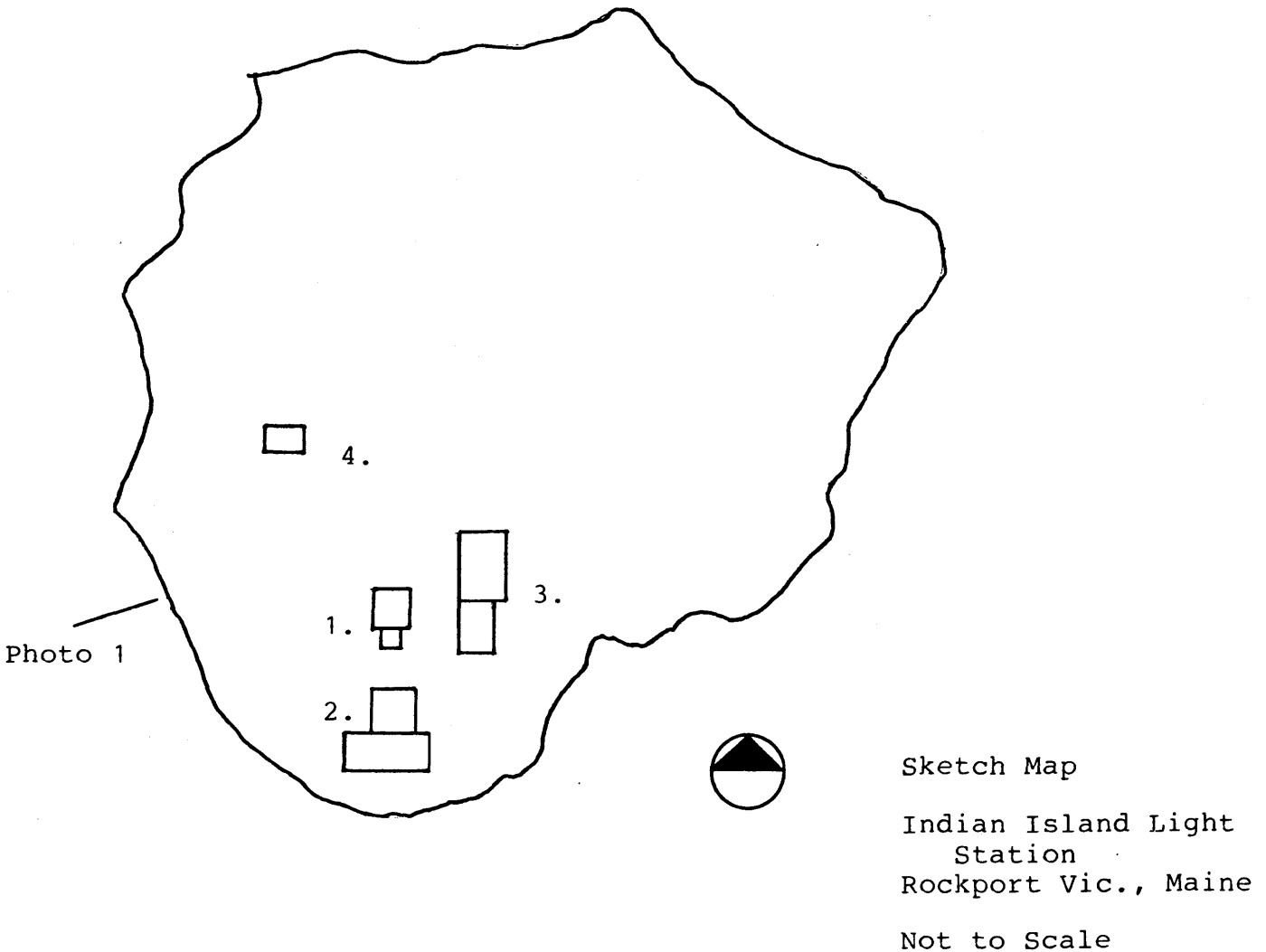
See continuation sheet

12/21/87

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2



8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Engineering
Transportation

Period of Significance

1850-1932

Significant Dates

1850
1874

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Designer

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Indian Island Light Station was established in 1850. Situated on the west side of Indian Island, the light marked the entrance to Rockport Harbor. It maintains integrity of design, materials, setting and association and meets the requirements for registration as outlined in the multiple property submission "Light Stations of Maine." The station's significance is more thoroughly discussed in the associated historic contexts in Maritime Transportation in Maine: ca. 1600-1917 and Federal Lighthouse Management: 1789-1939.

At the time of its initial construction in 1850 the Indian Island Light Station was the principal aid to navigation in and around Rockport Harbor. The well sheltered and deep harbor at Rockport was a principal reason for the community's development. Known in the first half of the nineteenth century for its ship building activities, Rockport was later the center of an important lime industry (see the Rockport Historic Kiln Area, NR 1/27/70), as well as assorted commercial enterprises including ice harvesting and shipping.

The light on Indian Island was originally exhibited from a lantern mounted on the present brick dwelling. However, prior to the publication of the 1861 Light List the station was deactivated for an as yet unknown reason. In 1874 an appropriation was made to reestablish the light, and on January 15, 1875, the rebuilt complex was put back into service. The station served for nearly sixty years thereafter until it was sold in 1932.

The Indian Island light derives significance under criteria A and C. Criteria A is satisfied by the association of the complex with Maine's critical reliance on maritime transportation and the aids that made navigation possible. Criteria C is met by the station's distinctive character that reflects design features of the third quarter of the nineteenth century.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Annual Report of the Light-House Board. Washington, D. C.: U. S. G. P. O.; various issues.

Maine State Year Book and Legislative Manual. Portland: various publishers and dates.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

National Archives

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 4.5 acres

UTM References

A

1	9
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4	9	5	0	7	5
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4	8	9	0	0	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of 4.5 acres occupies the Town of Rockport, tax map 26, lot 31.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Indian Island Light Station embraces the buildings and immediate setting historically associated with the light. This includes the entire land mass of Indian Island.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian	date	October, 1987
organization	Maine Historic Preservation Commission	telephone	207/289-2132
street & number	55 Capitol Street, Station #65	city or town	Augusta, Maine
		state	Maine
		zip code	04333