

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

For NPS use only

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

received **AUG 13 1985**
date entered **SEP 12 1985**

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

1. Name

historic Old Fire Engine House

and or common

2. Location

street & number North Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Orono N/A vicinity of

state Maine code _____ county Penobscot code 019

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Town of Orono

street & number Town Hall

city, town Orono _____ vicinity of state Maine 04473

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Bangor, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maine Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Maine Historic Preservation Commission

city, town Augusta, state Maine

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Old Engine House is built into the side of a hill directly above the Stillwater River in the Town of Orono. The river is located behind the building to the south, while to the east, west and north are nineteenth century residential buildings on North Main Street. The engine house is one and one-half stories high at grade with an additional floor exposed above ground on three sides where the station is constructed into the side of the hill.

Built of wood with clapboard siding, the rectangular-shaped engine house has a gable roof with the narrow end facing North Main Street. The building has paneled doors and original sash with small-pointed lights. Each gable end forms a full pediment which has dentils. At the north end of the roof is a bell tower with a hipped roof, and at the south end is a hose tower with a flat roof.

The interior of the building contains original woodwork on the floors, walls and ceilings. The walls have tongue and groove paneling while the windows have molded architrave trim with corner blocks.

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1892 **Builder/Architect** --

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Old Fire Engine House is historically significant as a virtually unaltered example of a late nineteenth century fire station. The building is also locally important to the northern half of the Town of Orono which was separated from the rest of the community by the Stillwater River. This area developed in the post Civil War period as an industrial center with factories and working class housing.

Although a volunteer fire department was organized in the late 1830's, an engine house was not built until the 1860's. Known as Monitor Hall, this structure served the town center south of the Stillwater River. The area north of the river, known as Webster, had its own engine but it was stored in buildings not specifically designed for that purpose.

At a town meeting on July 2, 1892, it was voted to appropriate \$2,000 to build an engine house. The completed structure, designed in a modified Colonial Revival style, contained a large hall at grade level to house the engine. Below grade, where the structure was built into the side of a hill, were the horse stalls. A bell tower located at the front of the building called the volunteer firemen. In the rear is a hose tower.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Town Records, July, 2, 1892
Historical Sketch of Orono, Clarence Day, Orono, 1956

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Orono

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UTM References

A

1	1	9
---	---	---

 Zone

5	2	6	4	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Easting

4	9	7	0	0	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Northing

B

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

C

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

D

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

E

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

F

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

G

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

H

--	--	--

 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 7, Lot 130

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date June, 1985

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone (207)289-2133

city or town Augusta, state Maine

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Ernest S. Fitzpatrick*
title S.H.P.O. date 8/5/85

For NPS use only

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

J. Malone Byers Entered in the National Register date 9/2/85
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration