

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 18). 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 Hersey Plow Company Building
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Hill Street N/A not for publication
city, town South Paris N/A vicinity
state Maine code ME county Oxford code 017 zip code 04281

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
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.

Edward S. [Signature] 5/7/90
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. Entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet. 6/14/90
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:) _____

for [Signature] _____
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade/Warehouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Recessed frame wing

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This rectangular, two-story, three-bay brick building has a gable front orientation and a two-story frame wing projecting from the northwest corner. Modest Greek Revival style characteristics include granite lintels and sills and the narrow cornice and gable end returns.

The building's symmetrically composed front (south) elevation has a wide central doorway with modern replacement doors on the first story which are flanked by the original fifteen-over-fifteen double-hung sash windows. A trio of six-over-six windows occupies the second story on axis with the openings below. There are two six-over-six units in the gable peak.

Both the east and west side elevations are a symmetrical six bays wide. Each bay on the first and second story is defined by a single six-over-six window. The second story windows were evidently shortened after their original installation since evidence of brick infilling (five courses) is visible below the sills. There are two basement windows and a bulkhead on the west elevation. A shed addition at the rear is attached to the building at the first story between pairs of widely separated six-over-six windows. This fenestration pattern is repeated on the second story, but the gable peak repeats the arrangement found on the front. Additionally, a door to the east of the shed opens into the basement. Two brick flues punctuate the roof ridge at the front and rear respectively.

The two principal interior spaces were apparently open and unornamented when first built since there is no evidence of any type of decorative finishes. Although the first and to a lesser degree the second story have been partitioned, these have been installed within the existing framework and have not disturbed the significant fabric.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

The two-story frame wing, which is covered in wide aluminum siding, was standing here as early as 1880, but its precise date of construction is unknown. Its long front elevation has a shed enclosure across the first story and four windows above. There are a variety of windows on the west end and rear. The interior of this wing has been greatly altered by the insertion of new windows and a more substantial rearrangement of the floor plan than in the main block.

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)

Industry

Period of Significance

c. 1848 - c. 1862

Significant Dates

c. 1848

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

Thought to have been constructed about 1848, this Greek Revival style brick building functioned as a warehouse and sales room for the Hersey plow manufactory. Despite alterations to its later wing and the addition of reversible interior partitions, the building continues to represent an important part of Paris' early industrial development. For this reason it is eligible for nomination to the National Register under criterion A.

The manufacture of plows by the Hersey family began in 1835 when Simeon Hersey, Perez Record and Richard Morton established a small foundry where they manufactured cast iron mould boards. At the time, the village of South Paris was a modest settlement with a few houses and one or two small-scale mills located on Stony Brook. Although the county seat was situated at nearby Paris Hill, there was little apparent development at South Paris until after 1850 when a branch of the Grand Trunk Railway reached the village. By then, the plow company had undergone a dramatic transformation. The manufactory had been relocated to Stony Brook in the late 1830s where Simeon Hersey had erected a new dam. He was joined in partnership by his brother in 1837. They erected a compliment of new buildings at the Stony Brook site. Following a disastrous fire which destroyed the plant in 1842, a new dam was built along with another group of buildings. During the late 1840s the company name changed a number of times as various members of the Hersey family joined and then left the firm. As reported on the Industrial Schedule of the 1850 census, Tristram Hersey oversaw an operation that consumed 75 tons of iron in the production of 60 tons of castings valued at \$5,500. It was last operated as late as 1862 by Tristram Hersey who then sold the plant to F. C. Merrill. Merrill continued to manufacture plows, but by 1880 he was no longer using the brick storehouse.

Since few reminders of Paris' early industrial development survive, this building is particularly significant at the local level. With the exception of large scale brick woolen mills, the historic building stocks of Maine villages contain few industrial structures. Furthermore, as a number of recent fires demonstrate, including one in South Paris which destroyed the Paris Manufacturing Corporation, these are particularly vulnerable resources.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bennett, Randall H. Oxford County, Maine: A Guide to Its Historic Architecture.
Bethel, ME: Oxford County Historic Resource Survey, 1984.

Lapham, William B. and Silas P. Maxim. History of Paris, Maine. Paris, ME: By the
authors, 1884. Reprint: Somersworth, NH: New England History Press, 1983.

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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of property Less than 1

UTM References

A

1	9
Zone	

3	7	9	6	3	0
Easting					

4	8	9	7	4	6	0
Northing						

B

Zone	

Easting					

Northing						

C

Zone	

Easting					

Northing						

D

Zone	

Easting					

Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies the Town of Paris tax map U-11, lot 7.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the building and entire parcel historically associated with this property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian date 3/1990
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