

# DATA SHEET

Hon. William Cohen

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| STATE:           | Maine       |
| COUNTY:          | Hancock     |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |             |
| ENTRY DATE       | APR 28 1975 |

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Bucksport Railroad Station

AND/OR HISTORIC:

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bucksport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
second

STATE: Maine      CODE: 23      COUNTY: Hancock      CODE: 009

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)   | OWNERSHIP   | STATUS  | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC   |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><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 type="checkbox"/> Commercial    | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial        | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational   | <input type="checkbox"/> Military          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious         |  |                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific        |  |                                   |

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Bucksport Historical Society, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bucksport

STATE:  
Maine

CODE: 23

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Hancock County Registry of Deeds, Ellsworth Maine

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Ellsworth

STATE:  
Maine

CODE: 23

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

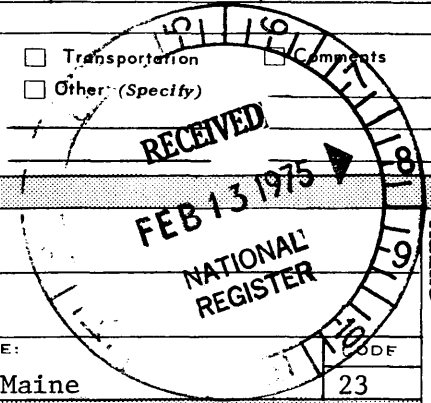
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Maine

COUNTY: Hancock

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 28 1975

DATE: APR 28 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 Bucksport Railroad Station is typical of the small nineteenth century stations which once stood in many Maine communities. Since the demise of passenger service in the state more than a decade ago, most of these structures have been demolished. However, in the coastal town of Bucksport, the historical society has successfully adapted its local station into a museum.

The Bucksport Railroad Station is rectangular in shape, stands one and a half stories high, and has a gable roof with a pronounced overhang supported by large brackets. The foundation is of granite, while the remainder is of frame construction.

The facade or north wall contains seven bays. From left to right, these bays consist of a double door and a window for the baggage room, a single door and three windows for the waiting room, and a single door for the ticket office. The doors are paneled and have a horizontal Italianate pediment above them, which is ornamented by dentil molding and supported by a bracket at either side. Identical treatment appears above each of the four windows. Each window has original six-over-six sash and the later addition of a window box below it. The roof is supported by a series of eight large brackets. At the center of the overhang is a sign reading "BUCKSPORT."

The east and west walls of the Bucksport Railroad Station are alike in design. Each first story has two symmetrically placed windows which are identical to those on the facade. Another identical window appears in the half story under the overhang. Each end of the roof is supported by four large brackets.

The south side of the station served as the point of boarding and leaving the trains. Its seven bays are arranged in a slightly different manner from the facade. From left to right, there is a window for the ticket office, three windows and a door for the waiting room, and a window and a double door for the baggage room. The Italianate window and doorway treatment of the facade and side walls is repeated on the south wall. There is also a series of eight large brackets to support this side of the roof.

The Bucksport Railroad Station is characteristic of good nineteenth century American commercial architecture. Compactly planned to serve specific utilitarian functions, it has at the same time a pleasing exterior design. The combination of these qualities with local sentiment probably resulted in the building's preservation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**4. 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) 1874

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

This building is a survival of the typical small town railway stations which sprang up in the latter third of the nineteenth century as railroad development mushroomed to include more and more relatively small communities with subordinate branches. The earliest rail lines in Maine connected only the larger towns on the coastal route from Boston to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. By the 1870's, however, more and more smaller towns which, like Bucksport, were centers of maritime activity were tied into the main routes.

In 1851 the Northeast American and European Railway Company was chartered and put forward the grand scheme of shortening the sea voyage from New York to Europe by transporting passengers by rail from that city to the port of Canso in Nova Scotia for their ocean departure. This would render the crossing about 1000 miles shorter. While this plan never received popular acceptance, the company did lay many miles of track and was responsible for the line running from Bangor to Bucksport.

On June 12, 1869 citizens of Bucksport held a "railway meeting" and decided in favor of rail service. A surveying party began operations on August 9 and the following spring a Board of Directors was chosen. In September of 1870 the town met again and voted to take stock and issue bonds to raise money for building the road. On September 17, 1874 the first locomotive arrived by sea and was landed near the spot where the newly built station stood at the foot of Mechanic Street. The delivery in this manner was occasioned by the fact that, typical of the period, the gauge of the Bangor to Bucksport road was different from that of the main line.

Within a year or two the N.A. & E.R. Co. passed out of existence and the line was run by the Bucksport and Bangor Railroad Co., a locally based group. In 1884 the Maine Central Railroad took over the road on a 999 year lease and changed the gauge to conform to the rest of its system.

The station at Bucksport, so typical in its utilitarian and yet pleasing design, also exemplifies a typical chapter in the development of the American railroad system.

(See Continuation Sheets)

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Eliza Cross Marshall, History of Bucksport, unpublished 1893  
 Charter of Northeast American & European Railway Co., 1851  
 Annual Reports of the Maine Central Railroad Co.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

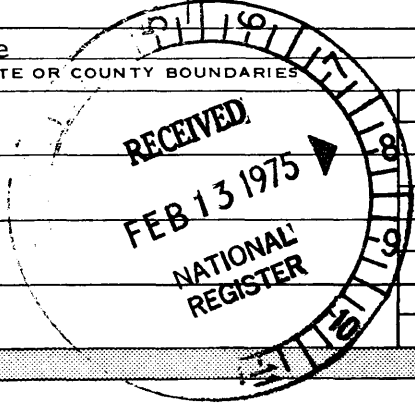
| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE               |  |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds   | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | 44° ' 20" N   | 68° 47' 51" W           |  |
| NE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |
| SE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |
| SW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |

19/516100  
 4935200  
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 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: Frank A. Beard - Preservationist  
 Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. - Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER: 31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta, STATE: Maine CODE: 23

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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: February 6, 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Robert M. Eastman  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/28/75

ATTEST:  
W. Mundy  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 APR 24 1975

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*(Continuation Sheet)*

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| STATE<br>Maine    |             |
| COUNTY<br>Hancock |             |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY  |             |
| ENTRY NUMBER      | DATE        |
|                   | APR 28 1975 |

*(Number all entries)*

8. Significance

The station is now a historical museum and the headquarters of the Bucksport Historical Society, Inc.

