

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

MAY 23 1988

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 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 Veazie, Jones P., House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 88 Fountain Street N/A not for publication
city, town Bangor, N/A vicinity
state Maine code ME county Penobscot code 019 zip code 04401

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> | _____ buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district | _____ | _____ sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | _____ | _____ structures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | _____ | _____ 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.

Carol L. [Signature], S.H.P.O. 5/16/88
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:) _____

Alvina [Signature] Entered in the National Register 6-23-88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification.

(enter categories from instructions)

Second Empire

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls Wood/Other

roof Stone/Slateother Cast Iron Roof Cresting

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Jones P. Veazie House is an ornate and well preserved Second Empire style frame dwelling sheathed entirely in flush boards. Its symmetrically composed facade features a central tower flanked by porches. Located at the intersection of two residential streets, the house stands at the north end of a large sloping rectangular lot, much of which was originally a pasture.

Facing east, the front elevation is dominated by the projecting square tower that rises through a full two-and-a-half-stories. The tower base features long paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows on the front side, the main two-leaf glazed and paneled door on the south and French doors on the north. Both sets of doors are surmounted by transoms. On the second story the paired windows appear in each side beneath pedimented hoods with brackets. A narrow balcony featuring a lattice balustrade is located below the front set of windows. A wide bracketed cornice caps the second stage of the tower and introduces the tall pyramidal slate covered roof. Pedimented two-over-two dormer windows punctuate each of the four roof sides. The original wrought iron cresting survives on the tower cap.

Located astride the tower are two porches, both identical in detailing but somewhat different in function. On each side a lattice balustrade connects the four chamfered posts that support the porch roof. Thin wooden arched supports spring from each of the posts capitals. Widely spaced brackets are located below the porch cornice, itself surmounted by a lattice balustrade. A pair of round arched windows are located in the basement below the porches. The walls behind the porch contain paired one-over-one windows similar to those on the tower, and the ceiling is paneled. The shallow dormers on the mansard are positioned above the first story windows, contain paired two-over-two windows and are capped by flared gables. An undecorated cornice separates the steeply pitched slate covered sides of the roof from its low hipped cap. Two large paneled brick chimneys rise behind the dormers.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 2

Both the north and south side elevations are very similar in composition reflecting the symmetry of the interior plan. On the north side a pair of windows with flared gable hoods mark the front parlor. A wide bracketed cornice separates them from two dormers. Small basement openings are positioned below the windows and a wide paneled stringcourse that carries around the building. In the approximate center of the elevation is a broad projecting rectangular bay with an attached three sided bay window. Four narrow windows occupy the bay, a dormer is located on the roof and small openings punctuate the foundation. A second dormer is situated on the west face of this bay. The deeply recessed rear section of the house, which features a single chimney, has a door and two windows on the first story and a dormer above. A flat roofed garage, added about 1917 and covered in weatherboards is attached to the northwest corner. At the rear there are two first story windows and a centrally placed dormer. The south side varies from the north elevation in its use of coupled windows and a single dormer on the front section, a somewhat narrower bay window, and a recessed rear block that employs a pair of dormers. In addition, a porch originally carried across this section but it was substantially altered in 1952 and more recently a small greenhouse was added to the southwest corner. With the exception of the garage the entire building rests on a brick and granite foundation.

The interior is symmetrically and functionally ordered. Entrance is gained from the south tower side where the vestibule floor is decorated with multi-colored tile. A paneled and heavily molded two leaf door opens into the hall that contains the long open string stair. Its turned balusters and shaped handrail meet a very massive and handsome darkly stained newel post. Doors located in front of the stair open into the front parlors and a third round arched doorway is positioned at the end of the hall. Both parlors feature wide cornice door and window moldings, ornate plaster ceiling medallions and large white marble mantels. Similar treatments are used in the central two rooms, a dining room and living room respectively, although the mantels are composed of brown marble in the latter and polished granite in the former. The dining room also features paneled wainscot. Side halls separate the front rooms from the rear area of the house containing the kitchen, storage and work rooms. This order is preserved on the second floor as well with the servants' quarters at the back and owner's living areas in the main section. These rooms are more modest in their architectural adornment and three of them have had their mantels removed. Of additional note is the full basement in which two brick arcades act as the principal structural supports for the front two-thirds of the building.

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

Period of Significance

1874-75

Significant Dates

1874-75

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Orff, George W.

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

Constructed in 1874-75 from designs drawn by architect George W. Orff, the Jones P. Veazie House is a striking Second Empire style residence constructed of wood. It is one of only a handful of known residential commissions in Maine by the architect, and the most intact and elaborately detailed of those that are extant. It is eligible for nomination to the National Register under criterion C because of its architectural significance.

Jones P. Veazie (1811-1875) was a member of a prominent local family and had been active in a number of businesses as well as founding in 1842 the Bangor Gazette. On June 26, 1866, he acquired the parcel of land on which this house stands./1 Five years later he began to prepare the lot for construction, but it was not until May 31, 1874, that his neighbor John Edwards Godfrey noted that work had begun on the excavation of the basement./2 Godfrey continued to remark on the progress of the work as the year passed, and in September he stated that the frame was going up./3 The long construction delay can be blamed partially on Bangor's lingering economic depression of the early 1870s but perhaps more so on Veazie's health, which must have been in decline prior to his death on February 18, 1875. In his will Veazie left the:

...lot of land [on which] I have built a barn and am now constructing a house which I desire shall be completed at the expense of my estate in the manner designed by the architect... and shall be a house for my present wife and children./4

Shortly before Veazie's death the Bangor Daily Whig and Courier carried an article about building activity in the city that included a lengthy

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bangor Daily Whig and Courier, January 9, 1875.

Shettleworth, Earle G., Jr. "George W. Orff". A Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Maine. V. III, No. 1. Augusta: Maine Historic Preservation Commission. 1986.

Sawyer, Mrs. Charles H. and Orcutt, Mrs. Ivan, comp. The Journals of John Edwards Godfrey, Vol. 2, 1870-1877. Bangor. 1984.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1

UTM References

A

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 9 |
|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

 Zone Easting Northing

C

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

B

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

 Zone Easting Northing

D

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of 1 acre occupies the City of Bangor tax map 38, lot 7.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property embraces the city lot historically associated with this house.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian
 organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1988
 street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132
 city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

description of the house. It made reference to the use of some 15,000 to 20,000 bricks and the fact that it was to be completed "this season".⁵ Nearly a full year passed, however, before Godfrey recorded that "Mrs. Jones P. Veazie has taken possession of her house on Montgomery Street, the past week."⁶ She occupied it until her death. The house passed to her heirs who sold it in 1901. In 1917 the property was acquired by William McCrillis Sawyer whose daughter and her husband still make it their residence.

The Veazie house occupies a prominent place in the catalogue of known Maine designs by the architect. George W. Orff (1835-1908) was born in Bangor, but spent most of his active career in Minneapolis, Minnesota.⁷ Little is positively known about his architectural training although he removed to Boston in 1861 and remained there until 1870, presumably studying in one of the city's many firms.⁸ After his return to Bangor Orff was soon involved with a major commercial project, the Adams-Pickering Block (N.R. 5/2/74). During the next eight years Orff's commissions included additional commercial blocks, a town hall in Orono, a railroad station in Bangor and a variety of houses in the popular styles of the period. However, fully half of his eighteen known projects have been destroyed and a number of the others altered. Therefore, the remarkable integrity of the Veazie house combined with its status as one of the few extant Orff designs in Maine, lends the building a considerable measure of significance.

Endnotes

- /1. Penobscot County Deeds, Volume 359, p. 206.
- /2. Mrs. Charles H. Sawyer and Mrs. Ivan Orcutt, comp., The Journals of John Edwards Godfrey, Volume 2, 1870-1877 (Bangor, Privately Published, 1984), pp. 1, 179, hereinafter cited as Godfrey Journals, V. 2. Godfrey occupied the Godfrey-Kellogg House (N.R. 6/18/73), a remarkable Gothic Revival style house and outbuildings that stand a short distance to the west of the Veazie house.
- /3. Godfrey Journals, V. 2, p. 188.
- /4. Will of Jones P. Veazie, Penobscot County Court of Probate, recorded April 6, 1875.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3

- /5. Bangor Daily Whig and Courier, January 9, 1875.
- /6. Godfrey Journals, V. 2, p. 231.
- /7. Orff and his various partners apparently prospered. The firm gained national attention when examples of their work were published in the American Architect and Building News and the Inland Architect. For additional background on Orff's career see the George W. Orff architect file, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.
- /8. Boston city directories show that in 1867 and 1868 Orff resided with Calvin Ryder, one of Maine's important mid-nineteenth century architect/builders. George W. Orff architect file.