

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

For NPS use only

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

received JAN 10 1985
date entered FEB 8 1985

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

1. Name

historic Captain Merritt House

and or common

2. Location

street & number 619 High street not for publication

city, town Bath, vicinity of

state Maine code 23 county Sagadahoc code 023

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Curtis B. Henderson

street & number 619 High Street

city, town Bath, vicinity of state Maine 04530

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Bath, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This large square Italianate style residence is two stories high with a shallow pitched hipped roof. Constructed of wood, it is sheathed in shiplap siding with wood quoins at each corner. All three principal elevations (north, south and west) have three bays with double-hung sash containing six-over-six lights. At the attic story level are small bull's-eye windows. Small wooden dormers with hipped roofs are located directly above the center of each elevation. Attached to the south facade is a square two story bay window. A two story wing with clapboard siding extends from the rear (east) elevation

The front (west) entrance is enframed by a classical portico supported on paired Doric columns. Directly above at the second story level is a bay window with a denticulated cornice. The frieze and over-hanging cornice have recessed panels. The use of classical motifs includes Italian Renaissance architrave trim which brings each window into sharp relief.

Original interior woodwork survives throughout much of the main section of the house. This includes a heavily molded cornice and shouldered architrave trim in three of the four rooms flanking the central hall. The staircase features a massive newell post and turned balusters. The dining room was remodelled circa 1900 in the Colonial Revival style. This room contains a panelled wainscot and a mantelpiece in the Adamesque mode.

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

Specific dates 1851 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This handsome and lavishly appointed house is not only architecturally significant but is also important as a symbol of the wealth generated by ship-building and shipping in this busy seaport during the 19th century.

The first owner of the house was Captain Isaac Merritt, a prosperous ship-builder and owner. He was also the brother of the very wealthy and famous Dr. Samuel Merritt who died in California in 1890 leaving an estate of over \$2 million which was left in trust to his sister and later used to build the Samuel Merritt Hospital in Oakland and to establish the Merritt-Garcelon Bequest to the Maine Medical School and Bowdoin College for scholarships.

Captain Merritt joined his brother in California about 1880 and the house came into the hands of William Rogers, also a shipbuilder. Since the 1930's it has been used for an antique business with a private apartment on the third floor.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brunswick Times Record, Spetember 20, 1984.

Cummings, George O., M.D., The Merritt-Garcelon Bequest. Typed manuscript, 1984.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property $\frac{1}{2}$

Quadrangle name Bath

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	9	4	3	14	1	10	10	4	8	6	11	9	11	0
Zone			Easting					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 28, Lot 20

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 Frank A. Beard, Historian / Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1984

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

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 *Carol S. Felton*

title S.H.P.O. date 12/12/84

For NPS use only

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

for Deborah Byer Keeper of the National Register date 2-8-85

Attest: Chief of Registration date