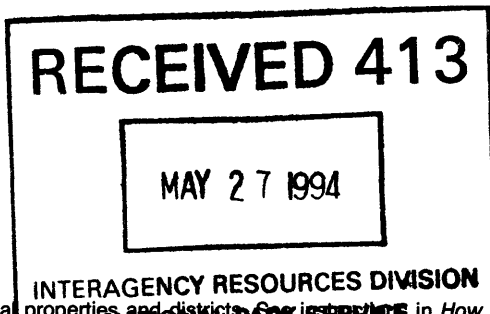


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. For instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Long, Zadoc, Free Library

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number South side of Rt. 117 at Jct. of Rt. 140 N/A not for publication

city or town Buckfield N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Oxford code 017 zip code 04220

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Eric A. Thibault Signature of certifying official/Title 5/18/94 Date
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the 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:)

for
Elson R. Beall Signature of the Keeper
Entered in the Date of Action
National Register 6/24/94

Long, Zadoc, Free Library
Name of Property

Oxford, Maine
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Maine Public Libraries

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/Library

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/Library

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Shingle Style

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Wood/Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Education

Period of Significance

1901-1944

Significant Dates

1901

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Stevens, John Calvin, Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository:

Maine Historical Society

Long, Zadoc, Free Library
Name of Property

Oxford, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 9	3 9 1 0 7 0	4 9 0 4 7 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1994

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333-0065

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

ZADOC LONG FREE LIBRARY

Section number 7 Page 2

The Zadoc Long Free Library is a one-story hip roofed frame building which is sheathed entirely in wood shingles and rests on a fieldstone foundation. Its broad central entrance on the three-bay facade is sheltered by a gabled overhang. The library occupies a terraced site in Buckfield's village center.

Facing north, the front elevation is symmetrically divided into three sections, with the irregular fenestration pattern reflecting the arrangement of the interior space. Access to the library is gained by ascending two flights of concrete steps, the upper one of which has a broad landing bordered by concrete block parapet walls (these are 1958 replacements of the original shingled walls and seats). The entrance is composed of a doorway flanked by wide diamond pane sidelights the upper portions of which have a segmental shape that correspond to the elliptical hood molding. The imposts of this arch meet a molded stringcourse which extends around the building intersecting windows at their sills, midpoints, or just above the center points. A pair of console brackets supports the gable overhang whose shingled surface is punctuated by a tablet bearing the inscription THE ZADOC LONG FREE LIBRARY. To the west of the entry are paired windows with multi-pane upper sash and two-pane lower sash. On the east side are a trio of multi-pane windows whose diminutive size indicate the internal presence of the book stacks at this side of the building.

The west side elevation contains a group of three large windows similar to the pair on the facade whereas the east side has only one window. At the rear, an asymmetrical fenestration consists of a door at the southeast corner (a 1977 replacement of the original window), a small square window to the west (added in 1979 when new stairs to the basement were built), a large window, and then two rectangular multi-pane windows flanking the fireplace. The presence of the fireplace is evident on the exterior by a tall brick chimney stack rising through the roof between these latter windows.

In plan, the library contains a vestibule which leads into a central delivery space at the south side of which is the circulation desk. To the right is the reading room and to the left is the stack room. The stacks are physically separated from the balance of the interior by a high wall supporting four thin posts and divided by a handsome door. Of further note in the stacks are the original bookcases which bear a plaque with the name of the donor and Craftsman style pedestals at the freestanding ends. A small librarian's office is located behind the circulation desk and adjacent to a closet which formerly led to the basement stairs. The reading room has a large brick fireplace centered on the south wall. It is flanked by window

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

ZADOC LONG FREE LIBRARY

Section number 7 Page 3

seats. Whitewood beaded wainscot with a dark stain decorates the walls in the reading room whereas the stack room is plastered. Similar woodwork is utilized for window and door surrounds. In addition to the alterations noted above, in 1986 suspended ceilings were added in the stacks and reading room. Installed for the purpose of energy conservation, they conceal the original hip shaped ceilings finished in a medium stained beading sheathing.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

ZADOC LONG FREE LIBRARY

Section number 8 Page 2

Erected in 1901 by then Secretary of the Navy John D. Long in memory of his father, the Zadoc Long Free Library is a modest but striking hip roofed shingled building. It was designed by Maine's foremost architect of the period, John Calvin Stevens of Portland. The library is eligible for nomination to the Register under criteria A and C as more fully explained in the Multiple Property Submission: Maine Public Libraries.

The creation of the Zadoc Long Free Library was apparently the first effort made in Buckfield (population in 1900 - 1,139 persons) to establish such an institution. Its history was described in the following way in the Finding List of the Zadoc Long Free Library (1904):

For several years Mr. Long had cherished thoughts of providing a library for his native town, and in the summer of 1900 he formulated definite plans for the realization of his contemplated project. He asked no pledges and exacted no conditions from the community, but the people met his liberality with hearty appreciation and cooperation. The old historic Parris lot was generously given for a building site by Mrs. Josephine Thomes. The town, at a meeting of its voters, held October 3, 1900, appropriated five hundred dollars for grading and foundations, and work on the same was begun that fall. The following year the building was erected and Mr. Long and his relatives liberally supplied it with books. The library was dedicated at the "Old Church on the Hill" on Buckfield's Old Home Week day, August 17, 1901, the occasion being a happy reunion of old friends and associations and a red letter day in the annals of the town.

The sketch concluded with the statement that: "From the first it has been well patronized, and its elevating and broad educational influences have become so fixed in the community that its future growth and prosperity are assured."

Surviving records from the Stevens firm indicate that a preliminary design proposal had been developed by mid 1900. In a letter dated July 19, 1900, to Stevens, Long commented on these sketches and stated his preference for remodeling the old school house associated with his own school days as well as those of his brothers and sisters. He went on to say, however, that if that is impractical "...can you not suggest some sketch for a wooden building, costing from two thousand to two thousand five hundred dollars." Stevens' initial ideas were for a brick building with a distinctively Romanesque style arched entrance sheltering a recessed doorway. This design also featured a bay window on the reading room's facade. Acting upon his client's request, Stevens proposed a virtually identical scheme that employed a redesigned entry and substituted a pair of windows for the bay window. The

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Continuation Sheet**

ZADOC LONG FREE LIBRARY

Section number 8 Page 3

most conspicuous difference, however, was the change in material from a brick structure to a shingled frame building. Interestingly, Stevens seems to have offset the reduced monumentality of the final design by specifying what contemporary accounts called red shingled walls and moss green roof. This coloration suggests, perhaps, that Stevens was attempting to convey the sense of brick walls and a tile or slate roof. In 1905 Stevens was again contacted to provide architectural services for the library in the form of a proposed addition to the rear. His two schemes offered a choice between a square room at the southeast corner flush with the east end and a rectangular one nearly centered on the rear elevation. Apparently, no further action was taken in this matter.

The Buckfield commission immediately followed Stevens' design for the Brown Memorial Library in Clinton (N.R. 4/28/75), a distinctive - if somewhat late - example of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. Several similarities exist between the two buildings, most notably the hipped roof, central arched entry and the multi-pane fixed sash of the windows. However, the Buckfield project seems to be more important as the predecessor to a pair of libraries he designed in 1903 for Rumford and Houlton. In these two masonry buildings (the former of brick, the latter of granite) Stevens recycled his preliminary thoughts for the entry at Buckfield using a broad round arch at Rumford and a rectangular opening at Houlton. Although the hipped roof had given way to gables, the relationship between the initial Buckfield proposal and the two as-built designs is striking.

Of interest in the history of library usage and access is the fact that in 1921 the trustees of the library took the not insignificant step of opening the stacks to the public. Prior to that time only the librarian or librarian's assistant were permitted in the stacks, the typical arrangement in the period.

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National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

LONG, ZADOC, FREE LIBRARY

OXFORD, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

Finding List of the Zadoc Long Free Library. Portland: Smith & Sale. 1904.

Minutes of the Zadoc Long Free Library Trustees' Meetings. On deposit at the Library. Buckfield.

Stevens, John Calvin, Architect File. Maine Historic Preservation Commission. Augusta.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

LONG, ZADOC, FREE LIBRARY

OXFORD, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies the Town of Buckfield Tax Map 13, Lot 3, Parcel 11.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary embraces the entire village lot historically associated with the library.