

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

For NPS use only

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

received **MAY 12 1986**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic A. A. Garcelon House

and or common

2. Location

street & number 223 Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Auburn, N/A vicinity of

state Maine code 23 county Androscoggin code 001

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 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 Garcelon Associates

street & number 217 Main Street

city, town Auburn, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04210

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Auburn, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maine Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maine Historic Preservation Commission

city, town Augusta, state Maine

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on an urban lot in the center of Auburn, the A. A. Garcelon House occupies a commanding site on terrain which rises well above the central business district and the Androscoggin River. The neighborhood is predominantly residential and consists of both single and multi-family homes dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Although there is no potential for an historic district, the area does contain a number of properties individually listed in the National Register.

The A. A. Garcelon House is a large Queen Anne style building constructed of wood and two-and-one-half stories high. Although predominantly sheathed with clapboards, the house also features novelty siding in the form of panelling, shingles, and sun-burst patterns. The windows are one-over-one double-hung sash.

The asymmetrical design of the Garcelon House includes an extremely complex combination of roofs. Several gable roofs project at different angles from a large central hipped roof. There is also a three story round tower with an onion dome roof at the southeast corner. On the principal (east) elevation, the central gable end is rounded in reflection of the bowed porch, which extends from the corner tower to the pedimented entry on the opposite side. Directly above is a second story porch engaged to the gable roof which provides a balance to the vertical thrust of the tower.

The interior of the house has not been significantly altered and contains much of the original woodwork. This includes decorative mantels, baseboards and trim around the doors and windows.

The only major alteration to the building is the destruction of the attached carriage house in 1985. A two story sleeping porch in the east side was enlarged in the early twentieth century, and remodelled in 1985.

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

Specific dates 1890 **Builder/Architect** Jefferson L. Coburn & Sons

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The A. A. Garcelon House is architecturally significant as one of the most outstanding examples of Queen Anne design in Maine. Located on a prominent site above Auburn's commercial district, the house is an important local landmark. Jefferson L. Coburn, who designed the Garcelon residence, was a leading architect in western Maine.

Arthur A. Garcelon, who belonged to a prominent local Franco-American family, constructed this house in 1890. Garcelon was a partner in the grocery and provisions firm of Peables and Garcelon. He hired the local firm of Jefferson L. Coburn to design what was probably the most distinctive example of Queen Anne style architecture ever to be constructed in the Auburn-Lewiston area,

Jefferson L. Coburn (1835–1917), had a thriving practice during the last two decades of the nineteenth century. The firm, which later became Jefferson L. Coburn & Sons, was responsible for the James C. Lord House of 1885, the Healy Asylum of 1893, the Osgood Building of 1893, and the McGillicuddy Block of 1895, all in Lewiston and nominated to or listed in the National Register.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lewiston Evening Journal, May 3, 1890, May 10, 1890.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property $\frac{1}{4}$
 Quadrangle name Lewiston

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 7, Block 1, Lot 73.

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 April, 1986

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 *Euler S. Feltz*

title S.H.P.O. date 5/7/86

For NPS use only

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

for Allouez Byer
 Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 6-13-86

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration