

PH0005027

Hon. William D. Hathaway

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 11 1973	DATE APR 11 1973

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME

COMMON:
The Burnham Tavern

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Machias

STATE Maine	CODE 23	COUNTY: Washington	CODE 029
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <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 checked="" 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:
Hannah Weston Chapter, D.A.R.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Machias

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Washington County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Machias

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
H.A.B.S.

DATE OF SURVEY: March 22, 1937

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maine State Library

STREET AND NUMBER:
State Cultural Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Augusta

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maine

COUNTY: Washington

ENTRY NUMBER: 11

DATE: APR 11 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

HB E 621970
-749 N 4052 120

5-229-73

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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 Burnham Tavern is a two story, indented gambrel roofed building with central chimney, constructed in 1770 by Job Burnham. On the first floor facade, there are four 12 over 12 windows, two on each side of the door. On the indentation in the gambrel roof are five 8 over 8 windows, on the facade. The tavern sets on a stone foundation and is done in clapboard style painted colonial yellow.

Upon entering the tavern, there is a unique staircase which branches into two small flights, each of which leads into the north and south bedrooms on the second floor.

On the first floor, a large kitchen occupies almost the entire western side of the house. The interior wall of the kitchen is dominated by a large fireplace and brick oven. In the remaining space, there are two small rooms occupying the two outside corners. One is called the "spinning room" and the other is a pantry.

An ell which had been added to the tavern at some time during the Nineteenth Century has been removed. The building is in good condition and has been well cared for by its present owners.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

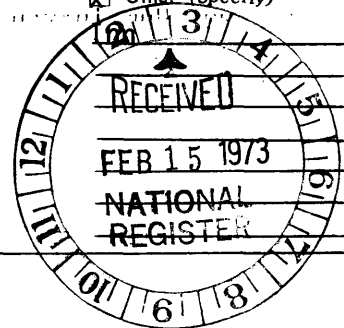
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" 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) **Built 1770**

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are several reasons that the Burnham Tavern is notable. In the first place, every care has been taken to maintain the building as it originally appeared. The tavern dates from seven years after the arrival of the first settlers in the Machias area. More importantly, the Burnham Tavern is the ~~only~~ building in eastern Maine connected with the American Revolution. The men of the town met at the Tavern to discuss the recent news of the battle at Concord and Lexington. They resolved to erect a liberty pole on the village green and made their plans to capture the British vessel, "Margaretta". They were successful and this encounter in Machias Bay was the first naval battle of the Revolution. The wounded sailors of the "Margaretta" were also cared for at the Burnham Tavern where the east room was turned into a hospital.

The Tavern also played a large role in the everyday life of the community. Starting in September, 1787, the house was the meeting place of the Masons and was locally called the "Mason Arms". During the First World War, the house was the center of activity for the Machias branch of the Surgical Dressing Work.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ahlin, John Howard. Maine Rubicon: Downeast Settlers during the American Revolution. Calais, Maine, 1966.
 Donworth, Grace. "Taverns of Machias." (typescript Maine State Library).
 Drisko, George W. Narrative of the Town of Machias. Machias, 1904.
 Lathrop, Elise. Early American Inns and Taverns. New York, 1926.
 Nason, Emma Huntington. Old Colonial House in Maine. Augusta, 1908.

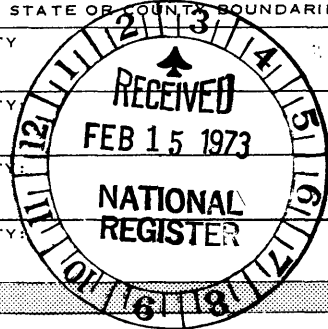
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		44 ° 42 . 51 -	67 ° 27 . 37 "	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 a.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Kenneth M. Morrison

ORGANIZATION: Department of History University of Maine DATE: August 18, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stevens Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Orono STATE: Maine CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: Jamieson Mundy
 Title: State Liaison Officer
 Date: February 12, 1973

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

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/11/73

ATTEST:
Wendy Mundy
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 4-3-73