PHOLES UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Hon. Peter N. Kyro	ıs
STATE:	
Maine	
COUNTY:	
York	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
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	1 6 1973

	INVENTORY -	- NOMINATION FORM	FOR NPS USE ON	
		•	ENTRY NUMBER	1 6 1973
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	AND/OR HISTORIC:	CMAN.		
	Agamenticus; Bristol:	Gorgeana: York		
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3.	CLASSIFICATION			ACCESSIBLE
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	(Check One)	Public Public Acquisition:	X Occupied	Yes:
	A District	Public Public Acquisition: Private In Process		Restricted Unrestricted
	1 3116	Both Being Conside	Preservation work	No No
	33/001		in progress	
	PRESENT USE (Check One or More	e as Appropriate)		
	☐ Agricultural X Gover	rnment X Park		Comments
	▼ Commercial Indus	≐	Other (Specify)	
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	Entertainment Muse	um Selenific		
4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY	<u> </u>	7110	3
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5.	LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRI	EDS, ETC:	REGISTER	/
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6	REPRESENTATION IN EXIST!	NG SURVEYS		
1000	LELTLE OF SURVEY			
	York Historical & In	nprovement Society Survey	State County X	Local
	DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY REC			
	York Historical & In			
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	Vank			

				(Check One)		
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	💢 Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
		(Check O	ne) "		(Che	ck One)
	☐ Alter	red	■ Unaltered		Moved	☐X Original Site

The York Historic District is situated in the extreme corner of southwestern Maine along the banks of the York River. The district actually comprises three distinct village areas; York Corner, York Village and York Harbor.

York Village is the older of the three, its history being that of the 17th and 18th centuries. York Corner is situated on U.S. Route 1 and its history is mainly 18th century. York Harbor is architecturally an 18th and 19th century area. It was this area that became the 19th century tourist attraction. These three tightly knit communities form an architectural and chronological history of York. Each area could stand by itself as a district but when cemented together they form a sweeping panorama of one of the most historically significant areas in our nation.

The York Historic District is described and bounded as follows:

Beginning at a point northwest of York Corner and south of the Maine Turnpike, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 43°09'13" and Longitude 70°40'06"; thence in a southeasterly direction to a point at the intersection of York Street and Roaring Rock Road, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 43°08'26" and Longtitude 70°37'43"; thence in a southerly direction to a point in York Harbor east of Western Point, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 43°07'38" and Longitude 70°37'50"; thence westerly crossing Harris Island and Indian Pond to a point on the Bartlett Road, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 43°07'47" and Longitude 70°40'10"; thence northerly to the point of beginning.

The above described boundaries encompass an area of 1700± acres of (See Continuation Sheet)

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7. DESCRIPTION

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high ground, tidal flats and water.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS WITHIN THE YORK HISTORIC DISTRICT

- 1. Lewis & Jonathan Bane House Route 1
- Bragdon Farm (Dr. John Swett House)
 Route 1
 Built ca. 1720
- 3. House Route 1
- 4. Daniel Simpson House Route 1-A Turn off Built in 1780
- 5. Lieut. Daniel Simpson House York Street Scituate Mens Row Built in 1720
- 6. Brig Gen. Jotham Moulton House York Street Scituate Mens Row
- Jeremiah Moulton House York Street Scituate Mens Row
- 8. Charles Bane House York Street Scituate Mens Row Built in 1815
- 9. Joseph Banks House York Street Scituate Mens Row Built in 1696
- 10. Abraham Preble House (Green Dragon Inn)
 York Street
 Scituate Mens Row
 Built in 1692



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7. DESCRIPTION

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- 11. York Public Library York Street Built in 1922
- 12. First Parish Church Parsonage York Street Built in 1861
- 13. First Parish Church York Street Built in 1747 by the First Parish Church, oldest religious society in Maine
- 14. First Parish Church Cemetery York Street
- 15. York Town Hall
 York Street
 Originally built in 1734
 Rebuilt in 1811
- 16. Benjamin Stone Tavern (Dr. Alexander Bulman House) York Street Built in 1719
- 17. Coventry Hall
 Longsands Road
 Built in 1794 by Judge David Sewall
- 18. Woodbridge Tavern Longsands Road Built in 1719
- 19. Powder House York Street Built in 1812
- 20. John Kingsbury House York Street Built in 1730

21. Old Gaol
York Street
Built in 1719 by order of the General Court of Massachusetts.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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7. DESCRIPTION

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Oldest English public building in the United States. It is a National Historic Landmark.

- 22. Emerson-Wilcox Tavern
 York Street
 Built in 1740 by George Ingraham
- 23. Old Burying Ground and Village Green
 The Green was a Revolutionary War Muster Site.
- 24. Jefferds Tavern
 Lindsay Road and York Street
 Built in 1750 by Capt. Samuel Jefferds.
 Moved to its present site from Wells, Maine in 1942 and restored.
- 25. Old Schoolhouse Lindsay Road Built in 1745 National Register - April 2, 1973
 - 26. Eastman House Lindsay Road Built in 1727 by Hugh Holman
 - 27. Nicholas Sewall House Lindsay Road Built in 1719 by Nicholas Sewall
 - 28. Capt. Daniel Bragdon House Lindsay Road Moved to its present site in 1747 by Capt. Daniel Bragdon.
 - 29. Gen. Jeremiah McIntire House Indian Trail Built in 1737 by Gen. John Harmon
 - 30. Job Lyman House Indian Trail Built in 1785 by Job Lyman
 - 31. Mrs. O. Perkins House Lindsay Road and Indian Trail
 - 32. Matthew Lindsay Tavern (Stephen Lovejoy House)



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(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

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Lindsay Road Built in 1751

- 33. Samuel Lindsay House Lindsay Road Built in 1794
- 34. George Marshall Store Lindsay Road Built in 1867
- √35. John Hancock Warehouse and Wharf Lindsay Road Built in 1787
 - 36. Maximillian Tenney House Lindsay Road Built in 1746
 - 37. Sewall's Bridge
 Organug Road
 Present bridge is a reconstruction (minus the drawbridge portion) of the first wooden pile bridge erected in the new world in 1761.
 - 38. Elizabeth Perkins House South Side Road Built in 1730 by Capt. Joseph Holt
 - 39. Elder Joseph Holt House Seabury Road Built in 1717
 - 40. Old Southside Cemetery (Beech Hill Cemetery) South Side Road
 - 41. Lasdell-Elmore House (Raynes House) Built in 1716
 - 42. Judge Jonathan Sayward House Off Route 1-A Built in 1719 by Noah Peck
 - 43. Richard Keating House



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7. DESCRIPTION

York River Built in 1782

- 44. Job Wells House (James Donnell House)
 York Street
 Built in 1755 and moved from the Isles of Shoals during the
 early years of the Revolutionary War.
- 45. Nathaniel Preble House York Street Built in 1751
- 46. Old Varrell House (Daniel Dill House) York Street Built in 1752
- 47. Joseph Tappan House Varrell Lane Built in 1754
- 48. Samuel Donnell Garrison & Tavern Route 1-A Built ca. 1700
- 49. Sea Urchin Bathhouses York Harbor Beach Built ca. 1900
- 50. Hillcroft Inn (Colligan Inn) York Street Built ca. 1870
- 51. York Harbor Reading Room York Street Built 1910
- 52. Hubbard Red Cottage
 York Street
 Built in 1885, oldest of the summer cottages in York Harbor.
- 53. Episcopal Stone Church York Street Built in 1901



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7. DESCRIPTION

54. Milbury House York Street & Norwood Farms Road

55. House York Street & Woodbridge Road

56. George H. Donnell House Woodbridge Road Built ca. 1770; moved from the Isles of Shoals during the Revolutionary War.



SIGNIFICANCE							
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)							
☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	X 18th Century	X 20th Century				
☐ 15th Century	▼ 17th Century	X 19th Century					
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known)						
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check	One of More as Appropri	iate)					
Abor iginal	▼ Education	▼ Political	Urban Planning ,				
☐ Prehistoric	▼ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)				
☐ Historic	▼ Industry	losophy					
Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	• • •				
X Architecture	☐ Landscape	Sculpture					
- Art	· Architecture ·	Social/Human-					
∑ Commerce	Literature	itarian					
Communications	☐ Military	Theater					
☐ Conservation	Music	Transportation					

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Town of York was formed from the land granted to Sir Ferdinando Gorges by the Plymouth Council in 1622. Gorges' grant was east of the Piscataqua River.

Edward Godfrey and Col. Walter Norton were the first two settlers of York, arriving there ca. 1630 and established the settlement upon a previously cultivated Indian settlement. A plaque in 1616 had decimated the Indian population of what is now the Eastern United States.

A patent of 24,000 acres was granted to the inhabitants with Edward Godfrey as their first governor. The settlement was called, by this time, Agamenticus. The other original settler of York, Col. Walter Norton, was killed in 1633 by Indians on the Connecticut River.

In 1641 the charter of Agamenticus was rewritten by Gorges and Agamenticus became Gorgeana. Gorges had great dreams of Gorgeana becoming capitol of all English colonies. All this, however, depended upon the victory of Charles I in his struggle with Parliament. Charles I, of course, was beheaded and the victorious Parliament was more sympathetic to the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Around 1640, more settlers came to increase the small population at York. In 1642 four settlers came from Scituate, Massachusetts and were

(See Continuation Sheet)

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9.	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES						
	Banks, Charles Edward. History Publishing Co, 1967.	of Yor	rk,	Maine.	Baltimore	e: Regional	
	Ernst, George. <u>New England Miniature</u> . Freeport, Maine: The Bond Wheel-wright Co., 1961.						
	Strawberry Banke, Inc. Architec N.H.: Strawberry Banke Print	t Shop,	near	r the Piso 964.	cataqua.	Portsmouth,	
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	FORM PREPARED BY						
	Richard D. Kelly						
ı	ORGANIZATION					DATE	
	Maine Historic Preservation Comm	ission				April, 19	73
	31 Western Avenue						
	CITY OR TOWN:		ST.	ATE			CODE
	Augusta STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION		1	<u>Maine</u>	MAL DECICT	ER VERIFICATION	23
	. 37ATE EIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION		-	NATIO	NAC NEOLO	LA TERITICATIO	
	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 Local			National Reg	ister.	roperty is included	
	Name James H. Mandy Title State Historie Preservation flice Date June 15, 1973			ATTEST:	peper of The I	undit	0

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granted land on what is now York Street. To this day however, this section of York Street is known as Scituate Mens Row.

Economically the little colony was prosperous. Fishing, grain and cattle raising were the main sources of profit for the settlers. A mill had been built as early as 1634 on Old Mill Creek but this first mill was gone by 1677. Other mills had replaced it and the settlers from about 1650 on went into the production of barrel staves and clapboards for export to France, Spain and West Indies. The nearest grist mill available to the settlers was on the Piscataqua and at times their grain was even shipped to Boston to be ground into flour.

In 1652 Massachusetts took over the Province of Maine. Whether this was done illegally or not, it was to become a blessing. During the Indian Wars to come, Massachusetts was obliged to defend the settlements on the Maine coast. With this takeover, Gorgeana was reduced to the status of a town and renamed York. It did, however, remain the county seat of Yorkshire, meaning at that time the whole of Maine.

The Indian Wars began in 1675 with King Phillip's War. On September 25 of that year, Cape Neddick Village, in the present day Town of York, was nearly wiped out by Indians. Two years later on April 7, 1677 seven York men were killed while clearing land.

In 1688 war again broke out with the Indians and only York escaped the wrath of the Indians. On January 25, 1692 however, York was subject to a massive attack. Many houses were burned, many of the citizens were killed (See Continuation Sheet)

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and many captives were marched off to Canada. Some of these captives were returned to their own people several years later. The Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 ended this period of warfare known as Queen Arne's War.

With the end of this war came a period of building and rebuilding in York. New roads, houses, wharves, warehouses, mills and lumber yards were springing up. Along with this economic growth came the need for new land to be placed under cultivation. In 1732 much of the inner commons, held by the town, was divided and allotted to the settlers. The outer commons was parceled out in 1750 so that by 1755 all of the common lands were in private hands.

Shipbuilding was another economic venture entered into by the citizens of York. It had certainly been well under way by 1730 when the 60 ton sloop "The Marys" was built. As early as 1685 however, Samuel Banks had built a brigantine at Cape Neddick.

In 1714 the first store was opened in York by Mrs. Phoebe Tanner who sold goods out of her home. This store was located next to the site of the present library.

By 1761 the population was beginning to overwhelm Samuel Sewall's ferry over the York River. The town appropriated funds and the first bridge in York was constructed. The original bridge was a drawbridge. The present bridge is a replica without the drawbridge section.

With the Indian Wars far behind and the Town of York in an era of

(See Continuation Sheet)

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economic prosperity, the war clouds were again seen on the horizon. These war clouds were coming from Europe and the colonies including York would be drawn into the fray. 1710-180

In 1745 med of York were among the first to volunteer for duty during the seige of Louisbourg. The men of York fought valiantly during the Seven Years War or French and Indian War which was concluded by the Treaty of Paris in 1763. This war gave the English dominion over all of the French colonies in North America.

It was because of these wars that York lost many of its young men. Many were killed but others who had traveled and seen new areas settled these areas. Many towns to the east of York such as Penobscot, Bath, Boothbay and Sullivan were settled by York men.

The men of York fought bravely and served their country in our Revolution even though the war was fought and concluded far from the Town of York. The citizens of York, in their town meetings, had always voted in favor of every act of the Sons of Liberty and The Continental Congress.

The War of 1812 saw many York men go into service. At York, cannon emplacements were raised on Fort Hill on Stage Neck. No record has ever been found however, that any action with the English took place at York.

After Maine became a state in 1820 and York lost its designation as county seat in 1832, the Town of York declined for a time. Newer areas of settlement were opening up in the west and Maine was no longer the eastern

(See Continuation Sheet)

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frontier. York became just another small Maine town with nothing to distinguish it from its neighbors except its ancient history and its contribution to the whole United States as an early leader.

After 1837, conditions improved slightly but then came the Civil War.

The men of York took up arms as their grandfathers and great-grandfathers had done before them. These men also fought bravely and many died for their country.

Even before the Civil War ended, York began to enter a new era in its history. At first, phenomenon began unnoticed. Summer visitors began to come to York and board at local farmhouses. A back to the land and back to nature movement had begun. Soon there were more visitors than the local people could put up in their houses. Hotels were built to accommodate this overflow. In the 1880's steamers made daily stops at York Harbor and York Beach.

This tourist industry which began during the Civil War has continued to the present day. It has become one of the greatest sources of income for the Town of York as well as the whole State of Maine.

The significance of the Town of York cannot be overestimated. This significance could rest upon its history alone, not only its importance to the State of Maine, but the early history of York is the early history of this nation. The Town of York, especially York Village and York Harbor, remain in essentially the same condition as they did in the 18th and 19th

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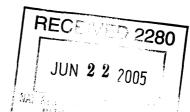
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centuries. The 17th century appearance of York has, of course, been changed.

Architecturally York is a surviving late 17th and 18th century town. Its buildings are not great mansions but are the homes of the pioneers of this country. These homes and also the public buildings are in a remarkable state of preservation because of the work of local people who realize their proud history and the contributions of their ancestors to the history of this country.

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See 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. 1	Name of Property								
histor	ric name <u>York Historic District (</u> A	dditior	nal Docum	entatio	n, Yorl	k Countr	y Club)		
other	names/site number Old Club Hor	ıse							
2. 1	ocation								
stree	t & number <u>York Country Club, 62</u>	Orgar	nug Road					N/A	not for publication
city o	r townYork		 					N/A	<u>vicinity</u>
state	<u>Maine</u> code	ME	_ county	York	·	_ code_	031	zip code _	03909
3. §	State/Federal Agency Certification						·		
	As the designated authority under the Natio request for determination of eligibility me Historic Places and meets the procedural as meets does not meet the National Regard nationally statewide locally. (Signature of certifying official/Title Maine Historic Preservation C State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets comments.)	eets the nd profesister criee cont	documentati essional requ iteria. I recom indation shee	on stand irements nmend thet for add 6 ate	ards for set for at this itional d	registerir th in 36 C property t comments	ng properti FR Part 60 pe conside	es in the National O. In my opinion, the significant of the significa	Register of the property
Ĺ	State or Federal agency and bureau								- .
4. N	lational Park Service Certification		por	-					
	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):	J	Signature of)	eper	H.	Ba	Date of Action	7/19/05

YORK HISTORIC DISTRICT (ADDITION Name of Property	YORK COUNTY, MAINE County and State					
5. Classification						
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) private Category of Property (Check only one box) building(s)		Number of Resor (Do not include pr Contributing	urces within Property reviously listed resources in the count.) Noncontributing			
□ public-local□ public-State□ public-Federal	□ district □ site □ structure	1	3	buildings		
	□ object	1		sites		
	*			structures		
		1		objects		
		3	3	Total		
Name of related multiple prope (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a mi	erty listing ultiple property listing.)	Number of co listed in the N	ntributing resource ational Register	es previously		
N/A		56 (approxim	nately)			
6. Function or Use			- 1			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Func				
SOCIAL / Clubhouse	SOCIAL / Clu	SOCIAL / Clubhouse				
RECREATION / CULTURE / Sports facility		RECREATIO	RECREATION / CULTURE / Sports facility			
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7. Description						
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories f	rom instructions)			
_ATE 19 TH /EARLY 20 TH C. AMER	RICAN MOVEMENTS /	foundation	BRICK			
Bungalow / Craftsman		walls WOOD) / Shingle			
		roof ASPH	ALT			
		other WOO	D			

YORK COUNTY, MAINE

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

YORK HISTORIC DISTRICT (ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION, YORK COUNTRY CLUB)
Section number 7 Page 2

YORK COUNTY, ME

DESCRIPTION

The York County Club is located on a 184.49 acre site on the north side of the York River, in York, Maine. It is bounded on the south by the York River, the south and east by Lindsay Road and the York River, on the north by Indian Trail and Organug Lane. The north-south running Organug Road divides the property into an eastern third, containing the club buildings, tennis courts, parking lots, and holes One, Seventeen and Eighteen. The remaining two-thirds of the property lies to the west of Organug Road and contains holes Two to Sixteen. Several house lots line the western side of Organug Road and have been subdivided out of the original Club land holdings.

Club House, 1901. Contributing Building.

The original clubhouse is located at the south end of the property, on a high bluff looking over Lindsay Road to the York River to the South. Now referred to as the 'Old Clubhouse', it was designed an built by York architect E.B. Blaisdell in the spring of 1901. The building is a rectangular, two-sloop hipped roof building of one and one-half stories, with a continuous engaged porch that occupies the eastern two-thirds of the north and south elevations and covers the east elevation. The building sits on an elevated knoll that overlooks the York river to the south, and gradually drops away from the building on the east. Each broad plane of the asphalt roof hosts projecting hipped roof dormers. At the center of each lower roof plane is a three-faceted dormer with a diamond pattern leaded glass sash over a two-light sash. On the north and south elevations this larger dormer is flanked by smaller examples containing two horizontal rows of six window panes. On the east roof, an identical dormer has been added to the north of the center dormer. The upper slopes of the roof are only slightly inclined, and rise to meet the low stone chimney at the center. The junction of the two roof planes are marked by wood shingle-clad pedestals: four along the longer north and south elevations and three on the east and west. As originally built these pedestals provided the anchor and intermediary supports for a segmented wooden balustrade.

The clubhouse faces north, towards the tennis courts, parking areas, tennis shop, new clubhouse, and beyond towards the links to the north and west. On this facade is a wide set of wooden stairs that lead to the porch. The western third of this elevation is enclosed, and contains two six-over-one and a single six-light window sash set against the wood shingled wall. Large diamond-pane double doors lead directly into the interior ball room, and another set accesses the foyer to the west. On the west end of the clubhouse is the small, rectangular one-story, hipped roof kitchen addition which was appended to the building in 1916. The southern elevation of the building features a pair of six-over-one sash windows in the wall of the addition. The engaged porch on this side of the building was enclosed in the 1950s with sliding six-over-six windows placed above the original porch railing.

On the interior the clubhouse centers around a large ballroom. Constructed with a cathedral ceiling that exposes the common rafter ceiling framing, this room is approximately $30 \times 32'$ in dimension, and features an oversized stone chimney at the west end. The floors are hardwood, and

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the walls are plaster over matchboard. A pair of six-over-one windows set in flat stock molding flank the diamond pane double doors that lead to the north, east and south porches Built-in 'Inglenook' seating flanks the fireplace and continues along the outer walls of the room. In the northwest corner a wide mahogany staircase leads to the second floor balcony, which surrounds the ballroom below. Off the balcony, doors lead to finished dressing rooms and lounges to the north and west, and to attic storage on the south. Each of these rooms contain painted horizontal sheathing, and exposed (and painted) rafters. A small bathroom with a claw foot tub is located in the northwest corner of the upper floor, adjacent to a dressing room commonly used by bridal parties. Immediately behind the chimney stack on the ground floor is a small, formal dining and reception room with carpeted, built-in corner cupboards, and Colonial Revival trim details. The kitchen, which was updated in the 1970s, opens off this room and continues into the northwest corner of the building. At the far western end of the building, and opening into the southern porch, the reception room and the kitchen, is a bar room, which was also updated in the 1970s with carpeted floors, a drop ceiling that reveals exposed joists, and a wooden bar. Modern, handicapped accessible bathrooms are located off the foyer.

William Wilson Golf Course, 1901-02, 1927. Contributing Site.

The 18 hole golf course is named the 'William Wilson Golf Course', in honor of the organization's golf professional who served from 1902 to 1962. Both the design and the size of the course has evolved since the first nine holes were laid out in 1901. The following year an additional nine tees, greens and fairways were added. One set of holes was positioned on the west side of Organug Road. Five holes in the second set were on the east side of Organug Road and south of Indian Trail; the remaining four holes lay to the north of this road. These eastern fairways were distributed over old pasture and farm land and were bounded in places by stone walls and tree lines. The western side of the course included more varied terrain as the land on this side was interrupted by a north-south oriented inlet that branched both to the east and the northwest, creating water hazards and undulating topography.

Recommended golf course design at the turn of the century dictated that the links begin and end near the clubhouse. As originally designed the distance from the clubhouse to the first hole was considerable. This, and other considerations (including the prosperity of the club during the 1920s) led the York Country Club to purchase additional land adjacent to the west side of the inlet, and commission golf course design Donald Ross to update the course. Ross added seven holes on the new parcel, and renumbered and rearranged much of the original configuration. When his plan was fully implemented in 1927 the facility contained 24 holes, numbered 1 to 18 and 1 to 6. (See map). Holes 1 to 6 east were discontinued by the 1940s and some of the land north of Indian Trail was sold to the Town of York. The remainder of the course, as designed by Ross, retains a high degree of integrity today.

There are three additional frame buildings on the property, located north of the club house.

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They include new clubhouse, the tennis shop and the maintenance shed. Due to either their recent construction dates, or loss of original integrity, none of these buildings is considered as a contributing resource.

New Clubhouse, 1963. Non-contributing.

The New Clubhouse is a L shaped one-and-one-half story vernacular building located north of the tennis courts and parking area. Built in 1963 as the old clubhouse was deteriorating, this building sites on a concrete foundation, has smooth wood siding under an asphalt clad combination gable and hip roof. This structure, which faces west, contains the golf pro-shop, locker rooms, and dining facilities. A wood deck provides outdoor seating on the north elevation.

Maintenance Shed, 1974. Non-contributing.

The maintenance shed is a 30' x 102' long board and batten sided building with a 30' x 50' attached addition. This addition provides office space, while the remainder of the building, which dates to 1974, contains equipment storage bays and workshop space.

Tennis Shop, c. 1945. Non-contributing.

Originally built by 1945 this structure first served as the York Country Club's locker rooms. Although the footprint of the building has remained constant, the structure received considerable renovations in the 1960s when it was converted to the tennis pro-shop. Facing south, the seasonal building is roughly rectangular, with a projecting, square, open porch on the south flanked by wood decks to the eat and west. Both the porch and shop building are covered with asphalt clad hipped roofs, and the main structure is sided with wood shingles.

Tennis Courts, 1901. Contributing Object

To the east of the new buildings, and due north of the Clubhouse lie eight tennis courts ringed with a tall chain link fence. Originally constructed with a clay surface, two of these courts now have an all-weather hard surface, while the remainder feature a Har-tru clay surface. Immediately to the northwest of the tennis courts is a parking lot.

YORK	COUNTY,	MAINE	
County	and State		

8. Sta	atement of Significance		
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)		Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)	
⊠ A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ENTERTAINMENT / RECREATION	
□ 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.	Period of Significance	
	en e	1900 - 1955	
	Considerations in all the boxes that apply.)		
Property	y is:	Significant Dates	
□ A	owned by a religious institution or used for	1901-02	
	religious purposes.	1927	
□В	removed from its original location.		
□ C	a birthplace or a grave.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
□ D	a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation	
□E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.		
□ F	a commemorative property.		
□G	less than 50 years of age or achiéved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder	
		E.B. Blaisdell (1845 - 1925), Architect	
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)		Donald Ross (1872- 1948), Golf Course Architect	
9. Maj	or Bibliographical References		
Bibliogr			
	ooks, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or	more continuation sheets.)	
Previou	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 #	Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office ○ Other State agency ○ Federal agency ○ Local government ○ University ○ Other Name of repository:	
	Record #		

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YORK COUNTY, ME

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The York Country Club in York Maine is among the oldest surviving private golf clubs in Maine. First organized in the fall of 1900, the course was laid out and the clubhouse and tennis courts constructed in time for the July opening of the summer season the next year. The club house was designed by York architect E. B.Blaisdell, and the first nine-holes were laid out by local resident Charles Bragdon. By the end of the first season a croquet lawn was added, a pier had been built on the River to service patrons arriving by canoe, and plans were already underway for a small expansion to the Clubhouse and the development of an additional 9 holes of golf. In 1927 the course was redesigned and expanded again by noted golf professional Donald Ross. The York Country Club is located within the York Historic District, which was placed in the National Register of Historic Places on July 16 1973. Although the period of significance (18th, 19th and 20th century) and geographic boundaries of the district both include the property, it was neither described in Section 7 nor referenced in the Section 8 Statement of Significance. The following information on the history and significance of the York Country Club is offered as additional information to update the original nomination, to which the area of significance under Criterion A, 'Entertainment/Recreation' should be added.

The history of golfing in Maine has been explored in a book entitled The Maine Golf Guide. In it, the authors state that the first recognizable golf course did not appear until the 1890s in association with the rapid development of the state's numerous summer cottage enclaves and tourist resorts. Bar Harbor's Kebo Valley Club, organized in 1888, is generally considered to be the earliest association of its type in Maine, with its original six-hole course having been laid out in 1891. Prior to 1900 there were fifteen courses in existence in the state. Organized golfing made its mark in York by 1898 (and possibly one year earlier), with a rough course laid out on the private property of Thomas Moore in the Seabury section of town, and another set of greens at the Passaconoway Inn. Both of these facilities yielded their patrons to the York Country Club after it commenced operation.

York Country Club is one of only 14 private golf courses in the state, and is the second oldest in continuous operation on the same site, after the Megunticook Golf Club in Rockport, organized one year earlier, but not opened until 1902. More importantly, after the second nine holes were added in 1902, York was "one of the first eighteen-hole layouts in the country" (Labbance & Cornwell, p. 187). In Maine, most others did reach this size until the second decade of the twentieth-century. In 1927 Donald Ross, a well-known member of the Amercian Society of Golf Course Architects, added six more holes, bringing the total to 24. The following description of the course expansion was printed in the *Old York Transcript* on June 13, 1927.

"Donald G. Ross, the well-known golf architect, laid out the seven new holes on land along the river. The first new hole, No. 6 was 450 yards long, and No. 7, which was 196 yards in length called for a "carry over a water hazzard." No. 8 was 448 yards long and the second shot on this hole called for a "carry over a water hazzard," leaving a mashie shot for the green; number 9 is 386 yards in length and the drive is from an

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Section number 8 Page 3

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elevated tee—the second shot calling for great accuracy as the green was closely trapped. Number 10 was 385 yards long, the second shot on this hole called for a high ball to an elevated green. The elbow hole, 412 yards long, was number 11 where the drive was from an elevated tee and the second shot carrying a hazzard fifty yards short of the green. Number 12, considered a classic by Donald Ross, was 360 yards long and the second shot required a carry of 150 yards over a water hazzard to an elevated green. From this hole, number 13 is joined and the course completed on the former grounds." (Bardwell, page 46.)

E[dward].B. Blaisdell, (1845-1925) was an architect and contractor who worked extensively in the York area during the last decades of the 19th century and the early years of the 20th century. Although little has been written about his training or practice he was known to have undertaken at least 16 commissions in the York area (and possible upwards of five more) as well as several in the seaside enclave at Biddeford Pool. His work includes examples of rather pure Queen Anne and Gothic Revival style dwellings and churches, but he also readily combined these influences with the emerging Shingle and Colonial Revival styles that were popular in developing seasonal communities. Among his known commissions are the Lancaster Block, the Hawkes Block, the Passaconaway Inn, Hotel Abracca, the Union Church in York Beach, the York Street Baptist Church, and cottages known as 'River Coral', 'Stonecroft', and 'Langile'. An advertisement he ran in the *Old York Transcript* in 1901 stated "Sea Shore Cottages A Speciality". Serving as the architect of choice for summer residents establishing cottages in the York villages thus would have made Blaisdell known to the founders of the York Country Club, who initially were all summer residents or visitors to the town.

The following history of the York Country Club is adapted from the book <u>A History of the Country Club at York, Maine.</u>

In the 1890s, York Harbor was a flourishing summer resort that attracted affluent vacationers from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Providence and other winter retreats. It was during this period that the country club movement began in the United States. The yacht club, the social club and the country club were manifestations of a movement to provide private facilities where the socially prominent could interact without interference from the locals.

In the interest of providing better golf facilities in York, a group of gentlemen, lead by noted author Thomas Nelson Page, met in 1900 and founded The York Country Club "for social purposes, including the promotion and advancement of the game of golf and other athletic sports, and the maintenance of a Club House and grounds in the Town of York, in the County of York and the State of Maine, for the use of the members of the Club, and all others who may from time to time be admitted to its privileges". That same year land was purchased on the York River, golf links were laid out and construction began on the Club House.

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By the summer of 1901, the golf course and the Club House were open for business. The membership was drawn from distinguished Boston, Providence and New York families, who expected the best, and the club was modeled after the better clubs of the period. A York, Maine Bureau of Information brochure by Henry E. Evans states that "The York Country Club has just completed a fine club-house on a bluff overlooking the York River, about a mile from the river entrance. It is a well-appointed club-house, with spacious verandas, and with a fascinating view in all directions. The club has purchased several farm properties, and has laid out golf links that are not only exceptionally well situated, but are destined to become famous. They are over as pretty a bit of country as one can see in a month's travel. The outlook for this club for the present and future years is very promising."

The club house became a popular place for lunches, snacks, dances and parties. Mary Noble was in charge of refreshments. "Many golfers depended on her for their lunches and from 3-5 in the afternoon the green porch tables were filled with ladies in broad hats. Mrs. Noble's honey cakes were popular with them. In hot weather, numerous orders for "horses' necks" kept the waitresses running."

Prior to World War II the York Country Club boasted twenty-seven holes of golf, twelve clay tennis courts, a golf pro shop, a locker room, a croquet ground and a club house. The golf course has been named for William "Willie" Wilson, a colorful import from Scotland who served as the club professional for the sixty of the club's first 62 years.

The fortunes of the club house closely followed the fortunes of the country clubs in general in the United States, from grand beginnings in 1900 to a zenith in the 1920s. The club struggled through the '30s and '40s and only began a slow, gradual recovery in the '60s. The old club house had suffered neglect over the years, and was in serious danger of being demolished after the smaller and simpler "no-frills" new club house was constructed closer to the golf course in 1963. "Local residents made several attempts to save the historic building which symbolized the turn-of-the-century social status enjoyed by York Couritry Club members. In August 1964, one stockholder wrote to the president, "As a stockholder, I can't justify just letting the old club house rot away." Fortunately, funds were at such a low point that the club officials could not afford to pay to have the building razed and there were no buyers for the property.

The history of the club reflects the changes that have taken place in a community that was the rural home of farmers and fisherman when the club was founded. The depression, World War II and international travel combined to change the vacation habits of summer visitors, and local residents began to find their way on to the golf course and into the club house. In 1971, the club reorganized itself as two entities: the York Country Club, which owns the buildings and grounds, and the York Golf and Tennis Club, which leases and operates the facilities. A strong new membership

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embraced both summer and local residents and a solid financial base enabled the facilities to be improved. "The old clubhouse was gradually repaired and restored to its former glory. The porches were replaced, the roof repaired and the interior redecorated. The jungle of trees and bushes was removed, revealing a beautiful view of the river. Dances, wedding receptions, banquets and private parties brought new life to the old building. Conceived in wealth and preserved by poverty, the club house was once again the social center for the community."

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bardwell, John D. <u>A History of the Country Club at York, Maine</u>. (Portsmouth, NH: Peter Randall), 1988.

"Historical Groups researching life and work of E.B. Blaisdell" in *York Weekly*, March 3, 1982. (York, Maine). Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Klein, Bradley S. Discovering Donald Ross. (Ann Arbor, MI: Clock Tower Press), 2002.

Labbance, Bob and Cornwell, David. <u>The Maine Golf Guide.</u> (Stockbridge, Vermorit: New England Golf Specialists), 1991.

"The Lancaster - focal point for years". In *York County Coast Star*, March 4, 1981. (Kennebunk, Maine). Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property 184.49	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	NGE FROM ORIGINAL DISTRICT
1 119	3 119
Zone Easting Northing 2 1 9	Zone Easting Northing 4 [1 9] [
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	☐ See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title CHRISTI A. MITCHELL, ARCHITECTURAL HISTOrganization MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSING Street & number 55 CAPITOL STREET, STATION 65 city or town AUGUSTA state Maintain St	ON date 24 November 2004 telephone (207) 287-2132
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the prope	erty's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having la	arge acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the prop	erty.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
namestreet & number	telephone
city or town	state zip code

YORK COUNTY, MAINE

YORK HISTORIC DISTRICT (ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION: YORK COUNTRY CLUB)

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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property described in this nomination, the York Country Club, is most fully described on the Town of York tax map 0061, lot 0017.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The property described in this nomination lies fully within the boundaries of the York Historic District, which was placed in the National Register of Historic Places on July 16, 1973 (NR # 73000249).

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
24 January 2005
Clubhouse, east and north elevations; facing southwest.

Photograph 2 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
24 January 2005
Clubhouse, east elevation; facing west.

Photograph 3 of 4 Christi A. Mitchell Maine Historic Preservation Commission 24 January 2005 Golf course, 18th fairway; facing north.

Photograph 4 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
24 January 2005
Golf course, 4th and 13th fareways; facing southwest.

