

Hon. William Cohen

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Penobscot	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

HB E 525400  
 ZNH N 4970400

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
William Colburn House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
William Colburn House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
91 Bennoch Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Orono

STATE Maine	CODE 23	COUNTY: Penobscot	CODE 019
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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"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments Oldest home in Orono.

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Norman R. Ness

STREET AND NUMBER:  
91 Bennoch Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Orono

STATE:  
Maine

CODE:  
23

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Hammond Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bangor

STATE:  
Maine

CODE:  
023

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  
 State  
 County  
 Local

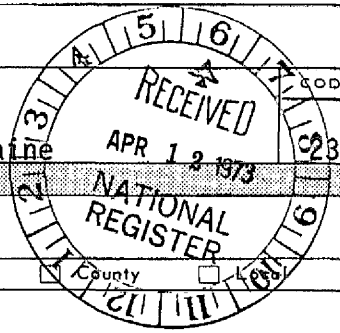
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



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7. DESCRIPTION

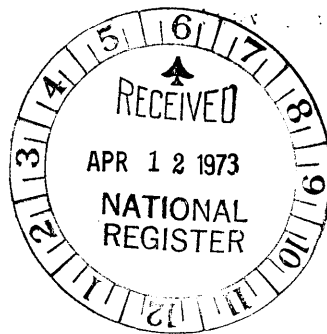
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Colburn House is a one and a half story Cape Cod Colonial farmhouse of wood with granite foundation. It is approximately 32' by 42'. There are two windows on each side of the front entrance which is extra wide to allow for the removal of a casket. The double panelled or Christain door has side lights and a wooden fan over head. The fan and side lights are surrounded by a semielliptical arch. The windows are regular with six over six panes of old glass. There are shutters. White narrow clapboards cover the house. The corners of the building are plain. The ridge roof is covered with wood deck and asphalt shingles. The two chimneys are offset left and right. A third chimney is on the ell. An apartment was built in the ell in 1954. The original owner was the architect of the house which he began in 1780.

The interior of the house contains the original wide softwood flooring and wainscoting. The original kitchen fireplace, now in the family room, has the crane and built-in ovens. There are fireplaces in the front parlor and in the dining room. These are narrow as well as those that are located in the two slant roof bedrooms at the front of the house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

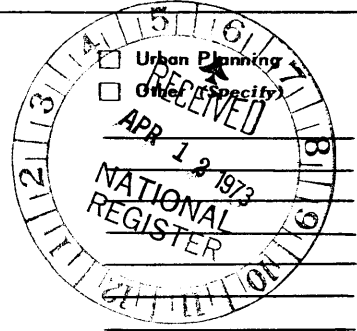
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1780**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

William Colburn, who built this house, was the son of Jeremiah Colburn who came to Orono in 1774. A second son, Jeremiah, Jr., came when the three arrived just before the American Revolution. They had only been in Orono one year when the war broke out and they buried their belongings near the site of this house and returned to the Kennebec River to be under the protection of the forts there. Jeremiah's brother, Major Reuben Colburn, who lived at Pittston on the Kennebec, built the bateaux for Benedict Arnold's march to Quebec in the Fall of 1775. At the end of the war the father and two sons returned to the settlement which later was named for them, "Cobentown Plantation". They found their belongings unharmed and began to build two houses on this location. The other was later destroyed by fire. William Colburn's sister, Sarah, married John Marsh, another early settler from whom Marsh Island is named. The present City of Old Town and the Campus of the University of Maine are located on Marsh Island.

This fine restored dwelling is an excellent example of a late Eighteenth Century Cape Cod house. It is also one of the very few such houses existing so far north of the coast.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rogers, Hannah Lord. History of Orono. Orono Public Library.

Webster, Maud Bartlett. Orono, A Brief History of the Town from Its Early Settlement to the Present Time. 1909-10 to 1919.

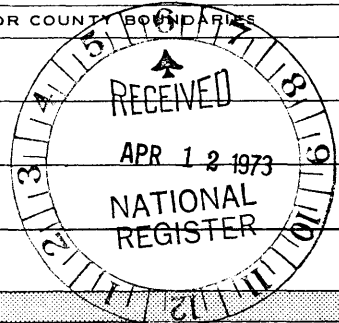
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	44	°	53'	18"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	68	°	40'	41"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"				
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One Acre

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:  
Mrs. Edwin L. Giddings

ORGANIZATION: Orono Historical Society DATE: June, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
28 College Heights

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 James H. Mundy

Title State Liaison Officer

Date April 10, 1973

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

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

Date 6/19/73

ATTEST: [Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 6 6 73