

Hon. Peter N. Kyros

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

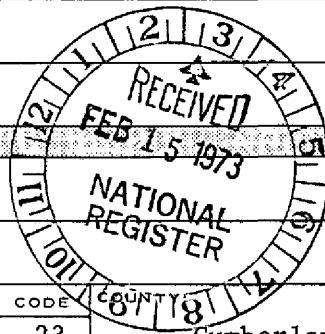
STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 24 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Portland Headlight
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Portland Head
CITY OR TOWN:
Cape Elizabeth
STATE:
Maine



CODE COUNTY CODE
23 Cumberland 005

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 checked="" 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 Public Acquisition: <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
U.S. Coast Guard
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE:
D.C.
CODE
11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Cumberland County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
142 Federal Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Portland
STATE:
Maine
CODE
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
H.A.B.S. - Coastal Maine
DATE OF SURVEY: 1965
 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
STREET AND NUMBER:
801 19th Street N.W.
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE:
District of Columbia
CODE
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maine	FOR NPS USE ONLY
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

Portland Headlight, completed in 1790, is located at Portland Head in the town of Cape Elizabeth. It sets high on a rocky promontory jutting into the sea at Casco Bay.

Within the complex of buildings at the site are the light tower, keepers' quarters, whistle house, paint locker and garage. The tower is constructed of random stone rubble from the base to a stone ledge. There is a brick course from the ledge to the metal light housing. The tower room and whistle house are also constructed of stone and brick. The keepers' quarters is a wood frame building finished in clapboards and shingles. All of the buildings set upon stone and brick masonry foundations.

The keepers' quarters is a two-and-a-half story duplex with a combination of gable and hip roof construction. There is a living room, dining room and kitchen on each side of the first floor. There are three bedrooms and both on each side of the second floor.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

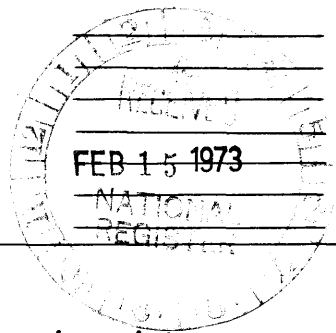
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Portland Headlight is one of the four lighthouses in existence whose construction was authorized by President Washington, and that has never been rebuilt. The main section of the tower remains today in the same form as when it was completed in 1790. It was first lighted on January 10, 1791. The tower was constructed of rubblestone taken from nearby fields and the shore. The builders were John Nichols and Jonathan Bryant, two local masons. Bryant also had his own lime kiln where he burned limestone from the quarries in Rockland.

The original structure was 72' high with a 15' lantern. In 1813, twenty feet was removed from the tower and in 1883 another 21 feet was removed. Due to public reaction, it was raised again with brickwork in 1885. In 1900, it was repaired using the original stones from the section that had been removed in 1813.

The first keepers' quarters was built in 1816 and was a 34' X 20', one story cottage. The present keepers' quarters was built in 1891 upon the foundation of the old cottage.

Portland Headlight has been and remains as an important part of the Maine scene and as an important part of her history. She has stood for nearly two centuries as a beacon for the commerce of the United States (See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

H.A.B.S. - Coastal Maine 1965

Holland, Francis R., Jr. America's Lighthouses; their illustrated History since 1716. Brattleboro, Vermont: Stephen Greene Press, 1972.

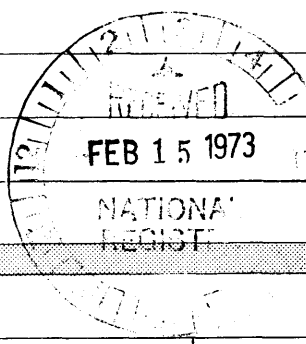
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	0 ' "	0 ' "		43 °	37 ' 23 "	70 ° 12 ' 30 "
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: APPROX 10 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Richard D. Kelly, Jr., Historic Preservationist

ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: Dec., 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta STATE: Maine CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: February 12, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert Van Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/73

ATTEST:
Antony V. ...
Keeper of the National Register
Date: 4/13/73

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

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and other nations. She is perhaps the most well known and most photographed lighthouse on the northeast coast, as well as being a significant part of Maine's history.

