

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maine
COUNTY:	Androscoggin
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JAN 18 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Maine State Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Poland Spring

CITY OR TOWN:  
Poland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
2nd: Hon. William Cohen

STATE: Maine      CODE: 23      COUNTY: Androscoggin      CODE: 001

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 type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Empty at present

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Hiram Ricker & Sons, Ind.-Saul Feldman, President and Owner

STREET AND NUMBER:  
RFD #1

CITY OR TOWN:  
Poland Springs

STATE:  
Maine

CODE:  
23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Auburn

STATE:  
Maine

CODE:  
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY



JAN 18 1974

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Maine State Building from the Columbian Exposition in Chicago now stands on the grounds of the famed Poland Spring House summer resort. Designed in 1891 by Charles S. Frost, the pavillion is a decorative example of the Queen Anne style.

The building is octagonal. It has a gray granite foundation and first story which are executed in rough stone. Like the other materials in the structure, the granite is native to Maine. It came from several quarries and was treated in different ways to exhibit how it could be dressed. The first story facade is approached by a short, broad finished granite stairway. Across the front is a series of three pointed arches supported by two freestanding columns in center and a semi-detached column at either side. The columns have gray granite bases, polished pink granite shafts, and ornamentally carved gray granite capitals. Beyond the arched columnade is an open loggia. The wall behind the loggia is divided into five bays, all of which display richly panelled wood. The central bay has a double entrance door with sidelights. On either side is an arched plaque giving the building's history and at either end is a window en-framed in paneling.

The two granite walls at either side of the facade are identical. The base is made of cobblestones, while the remainder of the wall is comprised of rough granite blocks. Into each of these walls is set four identical windows, each having a large rectangular section at the bottom and a small rectangular section at the top divided by a course of granite.

Beyond the two walls immediately at either side of the facade are two walls which contain side entrances. Each entrance has a central doorway with a semi-detached column and a larger rectangular window on either side. Above the door and each of the two windows is a small rectangular window. The two walls beyond the side entrances are identical to that at either side of the facade. The rear wall is identical to the side entrance walls.

The second story of the Maine Building is constructed of wood. The facade and the sections over the side and rear entrances are comprised of large projecting open porches with a series of windows on the back wall of each. The porch balconies are ornamented with decorative carved panels. The central panel on the facade bears the name "Maine", while the other panels display a diamond design surrounded by foliage. At each of the four corners of the building is a projecting wooden turrent which is part of both the second and third stories. Each turrent has two windows on the second story and three on the third. The turrets also share the characteristic of being ornamented with bands of wooden paneling, some of which have a half timbered effect found in Queen Anne style architecture. The turrets have cone shaped roofs which are slate covered.

The third story is contained within the large slate covered octagonal

( See Continuation Sheet )

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1893-Moved-reconstructed 1895.**

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 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

In 1892, an International Exposition was opened in Chicago to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. Maine's response to the Columbian Exposition was an irregularly shaped Queen Anne type structure the shape of which was dictated by the irregular lot assigned to it on the far eastern end of the exposition.

The architect chosen for the building was a Lewiston, Maine native by the name of Charles Summer Frost who had achieved a national reputation for his buildings in Chicago.

When its role as the Maine Exposition building had ended it was decided that it would be an advantage to the granite and slate industries of Maine to donate the building as a permanent fixture to the city of Chicago. The park commission subsequently informed the Maine representatives that all buildings in that section of the park were to be removed.

At this point several parties made offers to purchase the building. The committee considered all proposals and decided to sell the building to Hiram Ricker and Sons who were the owners of the celebrated Poland Spring summer resort at Poland Springs, Maine. The Rickers paid \$30,000 for the building and it cost them approximately \$5,000 to move it to Poland Springs. A sixteen car train was hired and the building was loaded piece by piece. It was finally reconstructed in front of an oak grove beside the Grand Hotel at Poland Spring. On July 1, 1895, the building was dedicated as a library and arts building and thereafter advertised as an additional attraction to this famous watering place of the turn of the century leisure class.

The building stands empty today although still in its original condition. With the great Poland Spring House and the rolling hills of Androscoggin County as a backdrop, the Maine State Building is a rare survivor because it was brought back to Maine for a second life as a cultural center for those who took the waters at Poland Spring. It is ironic that its second career would be cut short by the technological advance it was built to commemorate, for the development of the automobile would eventually spell the doom of Poland Springs itself.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Whitney, H.F. and E.R. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)., Los Angeles, Hennessey and Dugalls, Inc., 1970.

Poland Spring, Centennial Souvenir, 1895.

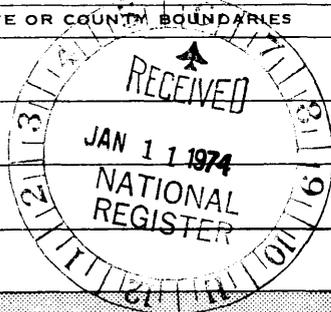
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	° ' "	° ' "		44° 01' 38"	70° 21' 44"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
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
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: December, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta, 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. Munday

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date January 7, 1974

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

A. R. Montrose  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/18/74

ATTEST:

Wm. Somers  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 7.17.74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 18 1974	

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

roof. A dormer window is found on the front, side and rear sections of the roof, while the corner sections contain large glass skylights. At the peak of the roof is a small wooden octagonal tower supported by brackets and open on all sides. Its slate covered octagonal roof ends in a peak with a flag pole.

The interior of the Maine Building is centrally planned with an open octagonal rotunda which extends from the first to the third floors. On the first floor, entrance halls come from the front, sides, and rear of the building, while reading and reception rooms are located at the corners. The space on the second floor is open and was used at the World's Fair for displays about Maine. The space on the third floor is also open and functioned as an art gallery with an elaborate glass ceiling lighted by the skylights in the roof. Highly ornamental Colonial Revival woodwork is found throughout the building.

The Maine State Building is a rare surviving example of a pavillion from one of the great nineteenth century expositions. Its unusual design and its rich materials suggested that it be preserved in the 1890's, and it has been treasured in the ensuing decades.

