

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	MAR 6 1979
DATE ENTERED	JUN 14 1979

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John Dunlap House (preferred)

AND/OR COMMON

Gilman Mansion

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

4 Oak Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Brunswick,

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maine

VICINITY OF

CODE

23

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

005

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul H., Peter W., and Dana F. Clark

STREET & NUMBER

9 Magean Street

CITY, TOWN

Brunswick,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cumberland County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Portland,

STATE

Maine

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Dunlap House of Brunswick, built between 1798 and 1800 on designs by Aaron and Samuel Melcher III, is a large dwelling in the Federal style. The building is rectangular in plan with a central hall. It is of frame construction, with gable roof, two large internal brick chimneys, clapboard siding, and granite foundation. Fenestration is 6/6.

The facade, which faces east, contains 2 stories and is 5 bays wide, with a central entrance. Subsequent to the building's original construction, a Greek Revival style, partially enclosed portico was added to the facade entrance. This portico is decorated by a fully entablatured cornice and is supported by a pair of fluted Ionic columns. The portico entrance contains a single door with overlight and sidelights.

The gable ends of the house are pedimented and rise 2½ stories. These are 3 bays wide, with 2 windows in the half-story.

Against the south side of the rear wall is a one-story addition with hipped roof, which postdates the Federal period. A 2-story ell is attached to the north side of the rear wall.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES                    1798-1800                    BUILDER/ARCHITECTS    Aaron and Samuel Melcher III

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Dunlap, a prominent citizen of Brunswick, served as chairman of the building committee which arranged for the construction of Massachusetts Hall (N.R. 7/27/71), the first building erected for Bowdoin College. Begun in 1798, it was first occupied in 1804.

At the same time, Dunlap apparently decided to have a new residence built for himself. The son of Brunswick's first minister, he had accumulated a considerable fortune in the fur trade, lumber, and shipping. Accordingly, he procured the services of Aaron and Samuel Melcher III, brothers then in their twenties and setting out on a career which gained them distinction as housewrights who set their mark on the community (see Federal Street Historic District - N.R. 10/29/76).

The Dunlap House, built between 1798 and 1800, was undoubtedly the finest residence yet constructed in Brunswick. Built on the crest of a hill one block west of Maine Street, the house enjoyed a commanding view of the town and the falls of the Androscoggin.

The interior window blinds and fireplace frames are delicate and well proportioned and suggest more attention to detail than was the case in earlier houses. The exterior of the house itself was rather plain until the addition of a gable pediment and a columned portico in the 1830's, also by the Melchers. But the scale of the house, and its floor plan utilizing a large central hall, were unprecedented. Construction of the Dunlap Mansion, as it was called, marked the beginning of a new chapter in Brunswick's architectural history.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shipman, William D., The Early Architecture of Bowdoin College and Brunswick, Maine. Brunswick, 1973.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 422220 4862920  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B                    
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                  

D                  

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Map U-14, lot 104

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE

January, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

242 State Street

TELEPHONE

207/289-2133

CITY OR TOWN

Augusta,

STATE

Maine

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*Charles S. Felt*

TITLE

S.H.P.O.

DATE

2/27/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles S. Felt*

DATE 6-14-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Mace*

DATE 6/13/79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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DUNLAP HOUSE

CONTINUATION SHEET

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The one story hip roof addition against the south side of the rear wall is a small porch added in the mid-19th century and later enclosed. The two story ell is of undetermined date, probably 1880's or 90's. Neither of these additions is of importance in any way to the significance of the house.