

PA 2006/17/2

HB
 Z-19
 N4960700
 E 5/8/100

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine
COUNTY: Penobscot
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 18 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Wheelwright Block

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Wheelwright-Clark Block

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
34 Hammond Street (Corner Hammond & Broadway)

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
2nd: Hon. William Cohen

STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23** COUNTY: **Penobscot** CODE: **019**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other, Specify: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

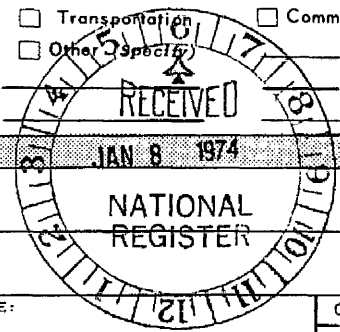
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. Henry H. Segal

STREET AND NUMBER:
136 Maple Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

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: **23**

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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
ENTRY NUMBER:	JUL 18 1974
DATE:	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 Wheelwright Block is located at the corner of Hammond and Broad Streets in the center of Bangor's business district. The building has a granite foundation, is of brick construction and possesses a modified L shape to conform to its location. On the first story, a cast iron arcade originally surrounded the facade. This series of handsome cast iron arches which enclosed shop windows and entrances has been replaced by modern store fronts.

The second, third, and fourth stories of the Wheelwright Block are divided from each other by horizontal projecting brick courses. Each of these stories has a series of the same number of windows on the facade. On the Broad Street wall, each story has two groups of three windows. The corner section displays two windows on each level, while the Hammond Street wall possesses five windows for each story.

On the second story the windows are arched and surmounted by intricately designed cast iron arched window caps. The third and fourth story windows have horizontal rather than arched tops which are capped by modified cast iron arches. The design of the third story cast iron arches is more ornate than those on the fourth. All of this window treatment is in the Italianate style and reflects the increasing trend in America during the 1850's to use cast iron architectural ornament. The cast iron elements on the Wheelwright Block are among the oldest of their kind in Maine.

A mansard roof with a pronounced curve comprises the fifth story of the Wheelwright Block. Originally, the roof was sheathed in slate, and there were three arched dormers on the Broad Street side and two on the Hammond Street side. Now the roof is covered with sheet metal, and only one dormer overlooks Broad Street. The ornamental wooden cornice survives below the overhang of the roof. The lower section is composed of a series of small blind arches, while the upper section has a dentil molding.

In spite of its first and fifth story alterations, the Wheelwright Block continues to have an imposing presence in Bangor. As the corner element in one of the city's last rows of nineteenth century commercial buildings and as the focal point for West Market Square, its visual as well as historical meaning cannot be overemphasized.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input 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) 1859

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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wheelwright Block in Bangor was Maine's first Second Empire style commercial building. Erected in 1859 from designs by the prominent local architect Col. Benjamin S. Deane, the building survived both the Bangor Fire of 1911 and Urban Renewal in 1968 and has become a major landmark in the city's business district.

The Wheelwright Block was built by the firm of Wheelwright and Clark, clothiers. When the store was about to open, the Bangor Whig and Courier for September 20, 1859, gave the following description:

Messrs, Wheelwright & Clark open their cloth and clothing warehouse on Thursday in the new and splendid five story block erected by them, and now about completed, on Taylor's Corner, West Market Square. They occupy the entire first floor as a salesroom - being an area of nearly sixty feet square, with a height of about 15 feet - having an elegant iron front with heavy plate-glass windows upon the west and north sides of the building - and being finished in a most thorough manner, and in handsome and commodious style throughout.

Messrs. Wheelwright and Clark are now located in the most elegant building for business purposes in the State - and have one of the most extensive establishments in their line of business.

The designer of the Wheelwright Block, Col. Benjamin S. Deane, was a major architect and builder in nineteenth century Maine. Deane was born in Thomaston on August 7, 1790, the first child of Capt. Jonas and Ruth Small Deane. His earliest known work was the Thomaston Congregational Church, which he designed and build in 1826 in the Federal style. It no longer survives. Another coastal Federal meetinghouse by Deane which has disappeared was North Church of 1831 in Belfast.

Benjamin S. Deane moved to Bangor in the early 1830's. In 1834 he joined the Bangor Mechanic Association, being listed as a housewright. Deane must have established a good professional reputation in the city, for in December, 1835, he was chosen by the building committee of St. John's Episcopal Church to erect the church from Richard Upjohn's plans.

Although Benjamin S. Deane directed the construction of one of the

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bangor Daily Whig and Courier, September 20, 1859.

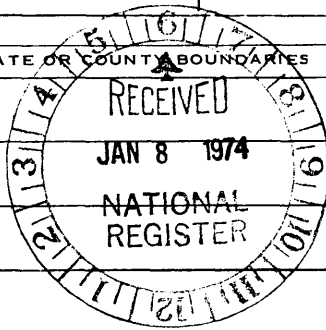
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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° 48' 05"	68° 46' 17"	
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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.

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

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 Historic Preservation Officer*

Date *January 3, 1974*

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

A. R. W. [Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date *7/18/74*

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date *7.17.74*

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

(Continuation Sheet)

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

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

most important early Gothic Revival churches in America, he seemed to prefer the Greek Revival from the 1830's through the 1850's when called upon for a design of his own. During this period, Deane planned a series of Greek Revival churches, the finest of which is the Sedgwick Baptist Church of 1837 (National Register, April 24, 1973).

By the 1850's, Benjamin S. Deane was being influenced by such architectural styles as the Italianate and the French. In 1851, he designed an Italianate house for Hayward Pierce at Broadway and State Street in Bangor (National Register, May 7, 1973). At the end of the decade in 1859, he planned the mansard roofed Wheelwright Block, the first Second Empire Style commercial building in Maine. Other urban centers in the state such as Portland and Lewiston did not have French roofed business blocks until the 1860's.

Benjamin S. Deane's long career ended in his death on December 2, 1867. With a lifespan of two-thirds of the nineteenth century, Deane designed important Maine buildings in styles ranging from the Federal to the French. He practiced during a period when professional architects in the state numbered less than a dozen.

Although the Wheelwright Block has been somewhat altered on its first and fifth stories, its very survival is remarkable. In 1911 it was spared in a great fire which destroyed much of Bangor's business district. Again in 1968 it escaped a large scale urban renewal project which leveled many of the city's nineteenth century commercial structures. Today the Wheelwright Block stands as it has for more than a century as a living landmark in the heart of downtown Bangor.

