

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

09
NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Wharf House

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number SE of Main & Smith Streets

NA not for publication

city, town North Haven

NA vicinity

state Maine

code ME

county Knox

code 013

zip code 04853

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Lucas S. Frederick
Signature of certifying official
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

9/3/91
Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.

- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Alfred Byers
Signature of the Keeper

entered in the
National Register

10/16/91
Date of Action

for

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Industry/Processing/Extraction/Manufacturing

Domestic/Single Family

Facility

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

(enter categories from instructions)

Shingle Style

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Wood/Shingle

roof Wood/Shake

other Two story Gallery & Lantern

Shaped Oriels

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located in part on granite piers that carry it over the water's edge, the Wharf House is a highly unusual two-story rectangular frame structure sheathed entirely in wood shingles. Constructed for use as a canning factory, the building was converted into a residence with distinctive architectural features that lend it an aspect of a seventeenth century galleon.

Slightly more than one-half of the building rests on granite crib piers that support not only the main structure, but also its encircling wooden deck and bridge that extends to a floating dock. The water or south elevation contains two ranks (one on each story) of large two-over-two windows. These are sheltered by a curved second story gallery whose composition of turned posts, balustrade and over-scale first story brackets create the image of a "poop deck." Above the gallery roof is a window in the gable peak framed by a surround in the shape of a hawser rope and a pair of multi-pane lamp-shaped windows in keeping with the nautical motif. The cornice, which is given a curvilinear shape at the gable peak, is decorated with another hawser and crowned by carved panels separated by an inverted anchor and an eagle. The multi-colored paint scheme employed here is, according to tradition, similar to the original which is said to have been adopted in 1920.

The long west side elevation, while less ornate than the front, nonetheless continues the motif. An asymmetrical fenestration pattern of single and grouped two-over-two windows is subordinate to the highly decorative lantern-shaped oriels jutting from two locations and the brief continuation of the "poop deck" at the southwest corner. In addition, a broad wooden stringcourse painted blue and yellow further delineates the first and second stories. Also visible on this side is a brick chimney towards the south end and a pair of eyelid dormers near the roof ridge. The building's east side is composed in a similar fashion to the west side, although variations include steps leading to the gallery, minor window alterations, and the use of three rather than two dormers. A short gabled wing projects to the rear of the building. It is offset from the northeast corner and features a shed dormer.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The building's interior is organized into two similarly composed levels with a large room occupying the south end and a narrow central hall flanked by bedrooms. Interior walls are comprised of tongue-and-groove boards whereas the ceilings reveal exposed rafters and joists. A kitchen is located in the ell.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1912

Significant Dates

c. 1912

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Wharf House, which juts out over water's edge near North Haven village, is among the most whimsical of Maine's historic summer cottages. Originally built for use as a canning factory, the building was transformed in 1912 into the likeness of a sixteenth or seventeenth century galleon by its owner John P. Reynolds, Jr. Family tradition holds that this remodeling was designed by architect H. Daland Chandler although this has not been confirmed. By virtue of its architectural distinction the property is eligible for nomination to the Register under criterion C.

Local histories of this property state that the site was acquired in 1879 by Lewis MacDonald who erected a fish processing and canning facility on it the following year. For what period of time it retained this function is uncertain, although other sources claim that it had been a sail loft prior to its acquisition by Mr. Reynolds in 1897. He subsequently converted it into a summer residence, but did not create the structure extant today until 1912.

Maine's rich legacy of historic summer homes is reflective of the many stylistic influences evident in domestic architecture of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These range from small Gothic buildings at former religious campgrounds to sprawling Queen Anne, Shingle Style and Colonial Revival "cottages" at exclusive retreats such as Bar Harbor. Within this broad spectrum, the Wharf House clearly stands out. In fact, its fanciful maritime image represents the singularly unique use in a summer home of such a decided nautical motif. Both the context of this design and the quality of its execution lend the building its special significance.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Chandler, H. Daland, Architect file. MHPC, Augusta.

Wharf House file. MHPC, Augusta.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1

UTM References

A

1	9	5	1	0	3	2	0
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4	8	8	5	7	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The Wharf House occupies the Town of North Haven Tax Map 30, Lot 86.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire village lot historically associated with this property in its manifestation as a summer cottage.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July, 1991

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