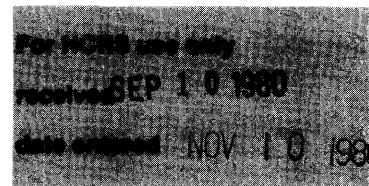


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Walker Memorial Library

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 800 Main Street  not for publication

city, town Westbrook  vicinity of congressional district 1st

state Maine code 23 county Cumberland code 005

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name City of Westbrook

street & number Westbrook, ME

city, town Westbrook  vicinity of state Maine

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Portland, Maine

street & number

city, town Portland  vicinity of state Maine

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maine Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maine Historic Preservation Commission

city, town Augusta  vicinity of state Maine

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved    date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Westbrook Library, built in 1894 and designed by Frederick Augustus Tompson, is an extremely rare example of the French Chateausque style in the state of Maine.

Consisting of three floors, the building has a hipped, slate covered roof with roof-line peaks and dormers topped with elaborate finials. The major facade faces north and consists of a recessed central entrance way approached by a flight of large granite steps. Above the entrance way in the spandrels above the arch is terra cotta richly decorated with scrolls and wreaths with the words "Memorial Library" above. The doorway located within the recessed arch is made up of two very large double doors. This entrance is flanked by two semi-circular towers with conical roofs. Each tower contains two windows flanked by Cornithian pilasters. Fenestration is 1/1 below stained glass panels. At the raised basement level there are windows in the 1/1 configuration resting on a granite foundation. On the north, east and west sides of the structure ornate gabled dormers are present continuing the 1/1 fenestration. The east and west sides lack the decorative terra cotta work of the main facade. Perhaps the most striking exterior feature is the use of yellow brick accented with red stone. This adds to the artistic flair of the structure.

The interior of the building features oak filigreed woodwork and exposed wooden beams.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1894 **Builder/Architect** Frederick Augustus Tompson

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Walker Memorial Library built in 1894 in Westbrook, Maine is significant as a splendid example of the work done by Frederick Tompson, a well known Maine architect of the late 19th century. As a library it has provided a valuable cultural service to the citizens of Westbrook, a 19th century mill town.

Frederick Tompson was a student and later partner of the great Maine architect Francis H. Fassett in the years from 1886 to 1891. Under Fassett's influence Tompson produced some of his greatest works which include: the Westbrook High School, the Union Mutual Life Insurance Building and the Wilde Memorial Chapel in Portland, and the Walker Memorial Library of Westbrook. The Walker Library is an excellent example of rare French Chateausque architecture seldom seen in the state of Maine. It was built with funds donated by Joesph Walker upon his death. Walker was a prominent businessman who made his fortune in the lumber industry. This gift to the people of Westbrook stands in tribute to two important men, the humanitarian Joesph Walker and the gifted architect Fredrick Tompson.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Rowe, E.R. Highlights of Westbrook History. Westbrook 1952

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property 1/4

Quadrangle name Portland West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	9	3	9	0	0	4	0	4	8	3	6	5	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 33 Lot #120

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/James Schimmer, Intern

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July, 1980

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Earle S. Hetherington

title S.H.P.O. date 8/29/80

For HCERS use only

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

Michael D. [Signature] date 11/10/80  
Keeper of the National Register

Patrick [Signature] date 11/3/80  
Chief of Registration