

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

JAN 29 1988

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 Lubec Channel Light Station
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Lubec Channel N/A not for publication
city, town Lubec, X vicinity
state Maine code ME county Washington code 029 zip code 04652

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Light Stations of Maine

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.

James L. Fleet
Signature of certifying official
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

12/17/87
Date

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

Robert A. Quinn
Signature of commenting or other official
U.S. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
State or Federal agency and bureau

1/25/88
Date

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:)

Andrew Byron Entered in the National Register 3/14/88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Water-Related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Water-Related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Light Station

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete Covered by Cast Iron
walls Metal: Cast Iron

roof Metal: Cast Iron

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

One of the three extant late nineteenth century "spark plug" lights, the 1890 Lubec Channel Light Station is composed of a wide round base clad in cast iron that supports a tapered three-stage tower. The base, which is of concrete construction embedded directly into the river channel, rises to a wide deck formerly covered by a roof. The deck is supported by a flared concave neck at the top of the tower base and is reached by attached iron ladders. Its iron railing has been removed. A door opens off of the deck into the interior quarters, and a trio of two-over-two double-hung sash windows punctuate the first level. A second pair of openings provides light to the second level and a row of bullseye windows are positioned below the bracketed walkway of the short third stage. This walkway is framed by a perimeter railing. The third stage of the tower is punctuated by a door and one small window. An octagonal lantern with a spherical ventilator crowns the structure. A solar panel has been added to the gallery since the station's automation.

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)

Engineering
Transportation

Period of Significance

1890-1937

Significant Dates

1890

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Designer

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

Erected in 1890, the Lubec Channel Light Station occupies a strategic navigational location in this broad but shallow waterway. It is one of three surviving "spark plug" lights in Maine. Despite the removal of the gallery roof, the station maintains integrity of design, materials, setting and association and meets the requirements for registration as set forth in the multiple property submission "Light Stations of Maine". The evaluation of significance has been made with reference to the associated historic contexts Maritime Transportation in Maine: ca.1600-1917 and Federal Lighthouse Management: 1789-1939.

An effort to establish a light station in the Lubec Channel was made following the completion of a dredging project. The 1883 Annual Report of the Light-House Board mentions the need for a light in order to make the channel of value to commerce at night. Throughout this period the river ports at Calais, Eastport and Lubec were thriving commercial centers much of whose livelihood was dependent upon navigation on the Saint Croix River and Lubec Channel. By 1888 Congress had appropriated a total of \$52,000 for construction of the station. It was put into service on December 31, 1890, and automated in 1939.

Lubec Channel Light Station derives significance under Criteria A and C. Criteria A is satisfied by the association of the complex with Maine's critical reliance on maritime transportation and the aids that made navigation possible. Criteria C is met by the station's distinctive character reflecting an important engineering solution to the problem of erecting a light station at this site.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Annual Report(s) of the Light-House Board. Washington, D.C.: U.S.G.P.O., various dates.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

- Primary location of additional data:
- State historic preservation office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other

Specify repository:
U. S. Coast Guard

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1

UTM References

A

1	9
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6	5	9	8	6	5
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4	9	6	7	1	7	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

This nominated property occupies a submerged rock ledge in the Lubec Channel. The boundary, therefore, extends so as to include this ledge and the existing structure.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Lubec Channel Light Station embraces the entire foundation and supporting ledge historically associated with this structure.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1987

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333