United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. RECEIVED 2280 1. Name of Property AUG 2 2 2014 Historic name: (Appleton) Union Meeting House Other names/site number: HAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLAN Name of related multiple property listing: N/A NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing) 2. Location Street & number: 2875 Sennebec Road City or town: Appleton State: Maine County: Knox Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets \_\_\_\_\_does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide x local Applicable National Register Criteria: A xC D в Signature of certifying official/Title: MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of commenting official: Date Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

OMB No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900

United States Department	of	the	Interior
NPS Form 10-900			

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018

#### UNION MEETING HOUSE Name of Property

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4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
<pre> entered in the National Register</pre>	
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	10-8-14
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

# 5. Classification

# **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private	$\boxtimes$
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

# **Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)	$\boxtimes$
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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# Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>None</u>

## 6. Function or Use

## **Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.) RELIGION / Religious Facility

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\_\_\_\_\_

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# **Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE / Auditorium

- \_\_\_\_\_
- ----

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## 7. Description

## Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

## MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY / Greek Revival

- .
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: <u>Foundation: Stone bases, wood and concrete piers</u> <u>Walls: Wood.</u> Roof: Asphalt; Wood Spire

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Summary Paragraph

The Greek Revival Appleton Union Meeting House, on Sennebec Road in Appleton, Maine, is a key element in the Appleton Village landscape. The white clapboarded 3-bay building with integral tower and spire sits on a small 0.7 acre lot, and its front gable end with twin entrances faces the road. The true ridge orientation of the building is approximately eastnortheast by west-southwest, but for simplicity of discussion, this narrative will refer to the gable end facing Sennebec Road as west, the opposite end as east, and the other two sides as north and south. The tall square tower which rises behind and above the west gable is surmounted directly by a hexagonal spire. Greek Revival features include substantial corner pilasters springing from short plinths, and twin entrances with heavy entablatures topped by windows with similar entablatures. There is a central tall double window treated in similar fashion, and a heavy gable cornice with returns. There is a slight gothic touch in the presence of a gothic-arched false vent in the gable peak. All vertical door and window side-trim consists of plain pilasters, which spring from the substantial water table and which are capped by the prominent entablatures, with a panel below the window. The side walls are each topped by a formal entablature, carried on the massive corner pilasters. The tower, flush with the front wall of the building, is trimmed above the gable with corner pilasters and a cornice. The side walls each have a modest Italianate-style influence in their three sets of paired narrow windows

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surmounted by entablatures like those on the facade.<sup>1</sup> The structure sits on the original lot. Except for the replacement of a sill and a change in the steeple discussed in the following narrative, the frame appears to be intact. The original windows were replaced with Queen Anne style windows about 1880-1900. Some deteriorated interior plaster was replaced by plasterboard in the 1870s, but the original lines were kept. The pews retain their original painted finish. Any changes, inside and out, are as close as possible to the original.

## **Narrative Description**

The white clapboard meeting house sits on a small, relatively level, grassy lot surrounded on three sides by trees and shrubs, cut into and set partway down the steep hill which drops down from the plain above to the riverside village. (Photograph 1 of 15) Its closest uphill neighbor is the Federal period Archibald McLain House. Originally, a path from the parcel (running along the northern fence line of the old Archibald McLain property next door) led up the hill behind the Meeting House to the 1808 Pine Grove Cemetery. That path has since been supplanted by the current cemetery lane from Sennebec Road, on level ground further up the hill.

Across the road stands the National Register listed 1833 Almond Gushee, Jr., House ("Gushee Family House" NR# 98001235) and connected farmstead, just uphill from a modern saltbox house. Further down the hillside are the grey clapboarded Fire Station and 1929 Town Office building. In the village there are a number of cape-style structures that range from modest shingle examples to those with Greek Revival touches. The newly built library at the foot of the hill is modeled on a high-posted cape design with shed and barn. Diagonally across the St. Georges River from the library is the ca. 1790 Federal Fergus McLain house.

The exterior of the Meeting House is clapboarded, with a wood water-table providing the bottom course, and it has 17 1/2 inch wide, 2 inch thick wood corner pilasters and molding. At the west end facing Sennebec Road (Photograph 2.) there are two front doors, in the old New England Protestant tradition; one at either side of the front, with a large central art glass double window which rises up through the ceiling of the front vestibule and ends above the floor of the balcony. The entry doors and the doors from vestibule to the auditorium are apparently made for the building, and are of a unique 6-panel Georgian-influenced design that places two rails close together near the latch mechanisms. (Photograph 3.)

The two front doors are also each surmounted, first by prominent cornices; and then by art glass windows beginning at the floor level of the balcony. These windows reach halfway up the interior balcony wall and are themselves surmounted externally by prominent cornices which repeat those above the doors. A single broad set of two wood steps runs the width of the exterior front of the building, as it has from at least the 1890s. These steps have been replaced at intervals of time, most recently in 2009/2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> There are very few examples of Italianate architecture in Maine that predate 1850, and even fewer in rural areas. While it is known that the sash were replaced with colored glass at some point in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century there is no photographic or documentary evidence that indicates the elongated double sash are not original to the building. If so, the use of this feature is remarkable early and may have been necessitated by the size of the windows rather than by an awareness of the Italianate Style.

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On each side wall within the worship space (Photographs 4 and 15) there are three tall mullioned pairs of double-hung Queen Anne-style art glass windows, replacements from the 1880-1900 period for original clear glass windows. Inside as well as outside, these windows are framed by substantial moldings and surmounted by prominent cornices. The rear wall of the building (Photograph 5 of 15) is of plain clapboarding with narrower 7 inch wide corner pilasters and a water table, and contains in the gable one clear glass window, offset to the north to clear the kingpost in the gable, allowing light into the attic above the ceiling. This window is not surmounted by a cornice. The clapboarding immediately below the attic window was replaced recently due to localized rot. The tower is square, about 12 by 12 feet, external measure, and contains one window in its back wall above the peak of the roof. Surmounting the tower and its cornice, surrounded by a low railing, is a six-sided steeple cone that is vented on three sides by louvered openings. At the tip of the steeple is a bronze antique weather vane bearing the racehorse, "Smuggler."

The interior is simple; plaster walls are painted pale blue with off-white plaster ceiling and trim, and the auditorium is without pillars in the main floor seating area. Beneath the center section of the balcony is a semicircular wall, an incursion into the front vestibule previously mentioned, which provides room at the back of the room for a curved wooden bench affixed to the curved wall(see Figure 1, p. 25). That resultant space formerly made room under the balcony and at the rear of the auditorium - before the back row of pews begins - for the twin parlor stoves which provided the heat for the structure. It also provided a place for children and the infirm to sit near the heat.

On either side at the back wall under the balcony, is a doorway opening onto a steep stairway with a quarter-turn wind at the top, each stairway giving access to the balcony / choir loft. Under each of these stairways and opening into the sides of the front vestibule is a closet entered through a low custom-made paneled door. The southwestern closet contains the electrical panel. In this closet the plaster and lath of the interior wall have been partially removed, and back-plastering on vertical laths is revealed on the outside walls. Above, the front of the balcony consists of a wide paneled rail interrupted and supported by the three internal supports of the tower. The space between top rail and balcony floor is a solidly enclosed half-wall, 32 inches high on the balcony side. The 10 inch wide top rail rises one inch toward the nave to prevent objects from rolling off to the main floor. On the front of the balcony wall, the six wood-grained panels reflect a published Asher Benjamin detail<sup>2</sup>. Each stairway, at its top, is guarded by a simple open board railing, with a short bench seat built into the space between stair rail and balcony rail.

As previously mentioned, the tall side wall windows are surmounted even in the interior by substantial entablatures. Though there are four simple pendant electrical lights in the ceiling with a central cast iron electrified chandelier, and three more pendant fixtures in the balcony, there are also brackets bearing kerosene lamps along the walls. The handmade bench pews are boxed in under the seat front to allow room for the various foot-warmers, footstools, blankets, etc. that pew owners might keep there for their comfort, and also to block drafts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The elongated panels on the front of the gallery are similar to those depicted on plate 52 in <u>Practice of Architecture</u>" written by Asher Benjamin and published in Boston by Benjamin B. Mussey in 1839.

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along the floor. However, there were apparently never doors to these pews. It also appears that they are still finished in the original beige paints; quite possibly milk-paints. The wood-stained top rails and aisle armrests appear to have been enhanced by an original faux finish imitating tiger maple. Each set of pews is keyed into the floor, actually fastening to the subfloor. There are therefore "dutchmen" set into the floor in those few instances where pews have been removed, as at the stairway in the southwest corner. (The end of that pew is stored in the attic.) It is clear from their construction that the outer ends of the pews were added after the pew benches were built and anchored to the subfloor. The gray-painted hand-planed wide-pine floor, on a pine subfloor, is not insulated, and is freely open below to the unobstructed movement of air.

A three foot wide aisle runs straight from the back of the nave at each entry door to the front of the nave, giving way there to a wall-to-wall cross aisle 4 feet 2 inches deep in front of a low platform along the northeast wall. The pews on the wall side of each of those two aisles are engaged with the beige-painted pew-back-height wainscoting of the walls, and the center block of pews is divided, from the rear of the central pew-block to the front, by a barrier the same height as the pew-backs. At present there are 11 pews in the right-hand section, 10 pews in each side of the divided middle section, and 12 pews in the left-hand section. At 5 people per pew, this would provide seating for 215 people in the pews, with additional seating in the balcony on chairs or benches. The Gushee family pew contains a simple personalized music rack, with initials EDG (Edith D. Gushee).

A low platform (14 inches high, 6 feet 4 inches deep) stretches across most of the front. (Photograph 6 of 15.) On this platform at center is a moveable pulpit (not original) and a set of three chairs. On the left of the platform at main floor level is a set of three,4 foot wide pews facing the pulpit; and at the right, on the platform, is a melodeon, or parlor organ. It appears as though this platform may once have been shorter; and there once may have been another set of pews in the southeast corner, balancing those in the northeast. Changes in the wainscot boarding indicate that the wainscot height on the right-hand side was raised from its original level to match that behind the platform, and dutchmen in the floor clearly mark the holes where pews facing north once were fastened to the subfloor.

The ceiling of the auditorium, 17 feet high, meets the side walls of the building in a broadly curved cove, but squarely meets the wall above the pulpit and at the rear of the balcony. There is a 3 foot, 4 inch high painted wainscot of horizontal boards around the perimeter of the room. Many of the boards in the wainscot, the pews, and the floor are 18 inches wide. On the wall behind the pulpit is a large applied decorative frame which brings a focal point to the otherwise unadorned front wall of the auditorium. This gives an appearance of there once having been a tall window or door there, though there has not in fact been an opening at that location.

The Meeting House is post-and-beam framed with 6 bents, including the front and rear gable frames. Four of them include combination kingpost/queenpost roof trusses (Photograph 7 of 15), and the other two are integrated into the front gable and internal tower support structure, which braces the related queenposts. The tower is supported by the timber frame within the front wall and by three substantial cased timber pillars which rise the full height of

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the auditorium engaging, first, the front rail of the balcony then, at the ceiling, the timber crib supporting the inner three walls of the tower (Photograph 8 of 15). The outside building footprint measurement is 36.75 feet wide and 55.75 feet long on a relatively small 0.7 acre lot.

On the south side, short timber pillars rest on stone bases, supporting the sills of the structure about one foot to 18 inches above the soil. On the north side the new (1971) sill rests on short poured concrete piers set on the original supporting stones. The front wood piers supporting the tower were reported as replaced at the same time by concrete supports. There is no foundation other than the stone blocks that support the short pillars on which the frame rests.

At the 1990s reroofing, the original plaster ceiling with its broad lateral coves was found to be badly crumbling, and was replaced by a plasterboard ceiling that duplicated the lines and cove of the original.

There had once been a brick chimney rising from the attic frame through the peak of the roof east of the tower. It served the two large woodstoves which heated the Meeting House. At the 1990s restoration when the structure was re-roofed, the portion of the chimney above the roof was removed. In 2010, the remainder of that chimney was removed from the attic above the auditorium ceiling. Sitting on a platform above the ceiling, but not braced or supported laterally or at the top, it was deemed an imminent hazard. The now non-functional woodstoves remain in the building, placed in the front hallway, one on each side of the vestibule.

The Meeting House is not presently heated, and has never had plumbing. Other than introduction of minimal electrical service and the effect of the repairs noted above, it remains essentially as constructed, sitting in its original location on piers about 12 to 18 inches above the ground.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

## **Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
  - D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

## **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

<u>c. 1910</u>

Significant Dates 1848

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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Cultural Affiliation N/A

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Architect/Builder Carkin, William (1823-1890), builder

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#### Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.) (Refer to photographs)

Located in Appleton Village, in Knox County, Maine on the hillside road that leads from the old Indian trail (between Sennebec Pond and Quantabacook Pond) to the site of prominent mills on the St. Georges River, and surrounded by the agricultural town of Appleton, the Appleton Union Meeting House is a classic example of the double entry, double-aisle midnineteenth century New England Greek Revival style meeting house. It was built in the years before the Civil War, in the relatively prosperous time just before the peak of population was attained in the town, and just five years after this thriving village of McLain's Mills (now known as Appleton Village) was transferred from the Town of Hope to the Town of Appleton with attendant civic enthusiasm. It reflects a type of Protestant church being constructed in rural communities of the day; a simple rectangular post and beam framed structure with vestibule, auditorium, and rear balcony (or gallery), and a tower (incorporated within the rectangular building footprint), which is topped by a spire and centered within the front gable, flush with the front wall. Its twin entrances and double aisles reflect an aversion towards ecclesial processions and its simple but refined interior finish and modified box pews also reflect a conservative protestant tradition. The Appleton Union Meeting House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, Architecture; a locally significant example of a type of rural church architecture. The period of significance reflects the date, 1848, when the building was designed and erected. A second significant period is c. 1910, by which date alterations in the steeple and window sashes had taken place. As a building constructed as and still used on occasion as a church, Criterion Consideration A applies; however, the primary significance is as a locally significant example of a period and type of architecture.

## Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Appleton Union Meeting House (also known as the Union Church) was constructed in 1848, when the Greek Revival style was at its height in Maine (approximately from 1835 to 1850). However, the building also exhibits features more appropriately associated with the Italianate and Gothic Revival styles. This mixing of styles was not unusual in rural churches, but it was executed especially skillfully in Appleton. Denys Peter Myers writes in his chapter on Greek Revival architecture in *Maine Forms of American Architecture* that: "Greek, Gothic and Italianate styles were applied to the same basic structures." He further notes that "...in practice the [Greek Revival] style was used with great freedom and inventiveness." <sup>3</sup>

The Appleton Union Meeting House exhibits defining characteristics of the Greek Revival style as characteristically employed in rural Mid-coast Maine. The most prevalent features of the style in the inland communities of the region are the pilaster and entablature door surrounds, sometimes substituting columns for the pilasters. In residences the doorways

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Myers, 1976, p. 96.

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may have sidelights, often in combination with a rectangular panel of panes over the door. The principal entrance may be recessed, with *distyle in antis* in the more elaborate examples. There are usually prominent, even heavy, friezes where the roof meets the side walls; prominent corner pilasters; sometimes treatment of windows with pilaster-entablature frames; and gabled roofs with wide cornices, cornice returns or occasionally with a full pediment.

The Greek Revival features incorporated in the Appleton Meeting House include full entablatures on the external north and south sides at the tops of the walls, carried by prominent corner pilasters springing from plinth blocks, and a strong water table defining the base. Over doors and windows both outside and inside, are heavy, full, entablatures, supported by slimmer pilasters. On the side walls the external window trim includes wooden panels below the pairs of window sash. The building's overhanging eaves also feature a frieze and terminate in prominent cornice returns. It appears that the emerging Italianate style is reflected in the use of the large double window between the front entrances and in the three sets of paired windows on the north and south elevations. The single trace of the Gothic style in the building is the triangular arched fan in the gable. On the interior the windows are framed with full entablature and the prominent frame of the central front window is repeated in the interior of the church, forming the centerpiece on the otherwise un-ornamented east wall of the auditorium.

The Meeting House fits into regional trends in rural architecture of the mid-nineteenth century period. There are several larger communities in the Mid-coast area within thirty miles of Appleton in which much Greek Revival building took place during the same era in which the Appleton Union Meeting House was constructed. Prominent among these locations are the towns of Belfast, Camden, Rockport, Rockland, Thomaston, and Warren - coastal towns that exhibit both high and vernacular examples of the style. The major towns of the area particularly Thomaston, Rockport, Camden, and Belfast - still retain many churches and private residences of this school of design. Before fires and urban renewal there were elegant Greek Revival churches and other public structures in the nearby city of Rockland, which still retains many private homes in this style. In regard to structures in Thomaston, Meyers notes the "specific local character" of the Greek Revival buildings. In the smaller town of Appleton remain a number of one-story capes and a few two-story houses ornamented with a variety of Greek Revival features. Especially evident among these features, as discussed above, are the doorways (sometimes recessed in the front wall) with sidelights and heavy entablatures carried by pilasters, friezes and corner pilasters, and gable roofs with cornices and returns and - rarely - pedimented gables.

This meeting house was constructed by local carpenters led by William D. Carkin, who was born in 1823 and died in 1890. It was built for the Appleton Union Meeting House Company and funded by the purchase of pews, the pew-holders becoming shareholding members of the company. Carkin lived a short distance up the hill beyond the Meeting House. Little is known of Carkin; he is identified in the 1850, 1870 and 1880 censuses as a house joiner or house carpenter, and also listed this profession when he registered for the draft in 1863. (The 1860 census identified him as a "farmer".) His own Greek Revival style house has a side hall plan and a recessed front entrance with side and transom lights. His familiarity with the style may be a matter of relative proximity to the prosperous coastal towns that were

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building in the style, or he may have even apprenticed to a builder in one of those locales. It is apparent that the builder had the opportunity to be influenced by plentiful examples of the Greek Revival style in Appleton and the surrounding area. Indeed there were noted architects, including Calvin A. Ryder, Benjamin S. Deane, and Samuel Melcher working on high style commissions for homes and churches in Belfast, Rockland and Damariscotta respectively. At the same time, carpenter's pattern books that illustrated and explained the components of the style were available. That being said this building does not mimic another; the fenestration pattern, in combination with the use of very heavy entablature, does not have an identifiable precedent in any of the churches built in the nearby towns; rather it reflects what is probably a very localized expression of the style.

Greek Revival churches, in many variations, are found throughout Maine. Meyers notes, " In ... Greek Revival times, churches were built in greater numbers and far more varied forms than previously. Churches were one of the building categories contributing most significantly to both townscape and landscape in 19th-century Maine." Even in the present day, this Meeting House is the most prominent landmark in Appleton village.

The Appleton Union Meeting House is an excellent example of a local example of predominantly Greek Revival architecture, combined with a touch of Revival details Its generously proportioned entablatures and pilasters, corniced gable, and attention to the base are well executed features of the Greek Revival style. As noted earlier, the doubled windows are generally characteristic of Italianate style, (although these almost predate the popularity of the style in Maine), and the Georgian/Federal 6-paneled doors of somewhat idiosyncratic design and apparent local production reflect the past dominant styles of the region. The Queen Anne coloured glass sashes are clearly a later post-Greek Revival feature, but do not detract from the strong expression of the Grecian Revival style.

## Changes to the Steeple

A belfry, conspicuous in early photographs of the Meeting House, disappeared between the mid-1880s and 1910. A photograph taken likely in the 1870s shows - sitting on the presently extant tower - a square belfry having rectangular openings with doubled pilasters, and supporting a four-sided short spire. <sup>4</sup> This photograph, taken from the riverside below the Meeting House also shows (in the left foreground) oxen hauling logs, and (in the right foreground) the log-yard of the mills which produced lumber used in the Meeting House construction. Another photograph taken from the hillside to the east of the Meeting House, shows much of the village in the background, including other buildings whose presence and construction dates indicate that this earlier form of the steeple was still present in the early 1880s.<sup>5</sup> In greater detail than the previously-mentioned photograph, it clearly shows the tower with a railing around the bell house, and the bell house in turn surmounted by a short four-sided spire surrounded by a railing.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> From an 1850 stereopticon series by J. Henry Allen of Thomaston and F. W. Cunningham of South Liberty, given to Mildred Stevens Williams Library of Appleton, ME, by Mrs. Leon Morang Faxon of Liberty, Maine. However, in the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer, Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. the date of the image is probably from the 1870s.
<sup>5</sup> Photograph by J. Henry Allen of Union, provided by Earle Shettleworth to the author with permission to use in this Application. In the photograph are the Village Schoolhouse of 1876 and Carkin Hall (later, Riverside Hall) constructed in the 1880s. Not in the picture is the Odd Fellows' Hall constructed in the 1890s.

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However, later photographs from *circa* 1900 onward show the present form of the steeple: that is, the same tower, but now directly surmounted by a hexagonal spire, which has rectangular louvered openings in three of its six tapering sides, and a prominent encircling cornice immediately above the louvers. This spire-directly-on-tower dates from after the 1880s and before 1910, and is representative of the form the steeple has had since that time. The lead or iron weathervane original to the spire and visible in this photo was deemed hazardous and removed when the building was re-roofed, and "sold for five dollars". It was replaced in the 1970s restoration by an antique bronze weathervane representing the racehorse, "Smuggler."<sup>6</sup>

Aside from the weathervane note and the visual evidence of the photographs, nothing further is known about the apparent modification of the steeple. As to possible reasons for its modification, it is worth noting that:

(1) It is not known whether the original belfry ever contained a bell. The photograph purporting to be from the 1850s [but more likely from the 1870s] shows no bell present when the photo was taken. The 1880s photograph is not clear on this point. Without a bell, and with weathering problems, it may have been decided to remove the original belfry.

(2) The barn on the 1833 former Vendellyn O. Keller property immediately downhill from the Meeting House was **twice** struck by lightning (1910 and 1920) and burned each time. An earlier such event may also have been the fate of the original spire and belfry. However, it should be noted, that there is no evidence in the tower of any fire which might indicate a lightning strike.

(3) A spire-directly-on-tower similar to that now on the Appleton Union Meeting House exists on the nearby 1862 Hope Corner Community Church. In that steeple, a bell is mounted within arched openings in the tapering sides of the octagonal spire and there are no covering louvers on these openings. In 1874 and 1875 photographs of Rockport Harbor (Frank Claes, and Camden Public Library collection), a spire-on-tower construction with arched bell openings in the spire (identical to that of the Hope church) is visible on the Baptist Church of that day on the hillside above the Norwood-Carleton shipyard. The present-day St. Francis Roman Catholic Church in Belfast has a foursided spire which incorporates a squared belfry with louvered belfry openings partway up the tapered spire. These three Knox County structures and the one in Waldo County may possibly reflect a common local source of influence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See *Courier-Gazette* Tuesday, 15 January 1974, p.7.; also ms., "Memories of McLain's Mills" by Marie Keller Hammond in the collection of the Appleton Historical Society.

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## Developmental history/additional historic context information (If appropriate.)

At some time in these past 166 years there were two separate related outbuildings (probably built contemporaneously with the Meeting House) on the small Meeting House lot: a hearse house and an outhouse. The hearse was sold sometime after 25 May 1950,<sup>7</sup> and the hearse house was later taken down. The outhouse was removed at an indeterminate date.

In the 1870s through the very early 1900s there was a small building on the southwest corner of the Meeting House lot. A photograph in the Appleton Historical Society collections provides possible insight into its use: the photo shows a very young Marie Keller (daughter of Dr. Benjamin Keller, resident in the house formerly next to and north of the Meeting House) and is labeled "Photo taken in Chaples Studio, Union Church Yard." John E. Chaples is known to have worked in Appleton from 1904 through 1912, according to a list of Mid-coast Maine Photographers compiled for the Maine Historic Preservation Commission by Blaine E. Bryant. That small building at the front of the churchyard was very likely John Chaples' studio.

From about 1920 to1970, the Meeting House was maintained by the Appleton Memorial Association, local successor to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) in the maintenance of Civil War Veterans' graves, then later of all Appleton cemeteries. The Meeting House in those years sheltered Memorial Day ceremonies and the occasional wedding or funeral or church service.

After Town Vote<sup>8</sup> on 13 March 1971 conveyed the Meeting House to the Appleton Historical Society, the Society and the local community reroofed the building, replaced some underpinning (including the northern sill), and repainted the structure inside and out. Windows were re-glazed (that is, the sashes were puttied and a large pane was replaced). Some of the short piers on which the building rests were replaced.

### Historic Background - Overview

The Appleton Union Meeting House Company was established in 1848, following the construction of the 1845 Baptist Church. It was founded by non-Baptists to provide an alternative place of worship. The building construction was financed by sale of the pews;<sup>9</sup> and it was served by supply clergy of various denominations from Unitarians to Quakers. This Meeting House served its original purpose until about 1920, at which point its congregation dwindled and it sat unused. It was turned over to the Appleton Memorial Association, which maintained it and held annual Memorial Day exercises and occasional services there. From 1950 to 1968 the balcony of the Meeting House, with the addition of temporary walls separating it from the auditorium below, housed Appleton's Mildred Williams Stevens Library. After the library acquired the nearby building of the Georges' Valley Grange in 1968, the modifications made to the balcony were removed. The building was acquired by the Town of Appleton through a tax lien, and then conveyed in 1971 by voters (as noted above) to the Appleton

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Appleton Memorial Association *Minutes*, 25 May 1950.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Appleton Town Report for the Year Ending January 1971, p. 76. Article 17. "To see if the Town will vote to convey the Union Church to the Appleton Historical Society (a legal body) when it is acquired by a tax lien." [Tax lien was possible because of the multiple private ownership of the building through pew deeds, coordinated through a private company (the Appleton Union Meeting House Corporation).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 23 January Letter, Howe to Perry, previously cited; pews were sold by that date.

#### UNION MEETING HOUSE

Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

Historical Society for preservation and for use as headquarters for the Society and for community events.

#### **Historic Background - Detail**

Almost all of the records of the Appleton Union Meeting House Company have been lost. However, the original deed was registered with the Waldo County Registry of Deeds, and the 23 January 1848 letter of Orrin Howe to his cousin Henry Perry which describes the construction of the church and names the builder survives, as does an account of several early pew sales. Theodore L. Brown has summarized much of the available information in his manuscript, *History of the Union Church*. As well, the *Minutes* of the Appleton Memorial Association preserve some information about the Meeting House during the time of their custodianship. Town of Appleton Annual Reports record the 1947 permission to use the balcony of the Meeting House to house the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library and the later transfer of Meeting House ownership to the Appleton Historical Society after the Library moved to a new location. The annual newsletter of the Appleton Historical Society records work on the Meeting House undertaken by that group from its assumption of ownership in 1971 to the present. The narrative which follows draws from these sources of information.

Winter and Spring of 1847-1848. Subscription was conducted for sale of pews by the Appleton Union Meeting House Company. Most pews were sold by end of January 1848.

Summer of 1848: Meeting House constructed under local builder William Carkin by local labor from locally harvested (refer to Howe/Perry letter previously cited) and locally milled lumber.

23 August 1849 (nearly a year after beginning construction of the Meeting House building), the land on which it was built was conveyed from John Arnold to the Appleton Union Meeting House Company.<sup>10</sup> 1848-1920. Used as a church by members of the Appleton Union Meeting House Company (AUMC), and provided with visiting clergy of various denominations hired by the AUMC. Quoting from Ted Brown's summary manuscript, *History of the Union Church*: "...it is probable that visiting ministers conducted services occasionally through the 1880's and 1890's, and funeral services were held in the church in the 1900's and 1910's." Cynthia (Jones) Gushee notes services held in 1879 and 1891 by the Rev'd Flavius V, Norcross (Unitarian), J. Frye, Frank Estes, Jeruel Mitchell, Samuel O. Whitten (Baptist), and J. Shaw Gushee (Quaker).

"From 1920 on, it was taken care of by the Appleton Memorial Association and was used for Memorial Day services each May, with music and singing, a memorial address often by the Baptist minister of Appleton, and sometimes remarks by a minister from Union or Liberty. During the summer in the late 1920's and 1930 it was used by the Appleton Pentecostal Assembly/Appleton Pentecostal Association, until they erected their church building next to it in 1931 (That Pentecostal Association sold their building in 1934 to the Church of God)."

"In 1936 and 1937 the Memorial Association interviewed pew owners about transferring their deeds. From then on, repairs and shingling and painting could be and were done by the Association. In the summer of 1947 the Memorial Association, obviously then in full charge, offered the use of the balcony as a better location for the Mildred Stevens Williams Library, which had been in the [Appleton Village]

<sup>\*</sup> Asterisk indicates information from the Minutes of the Appleton Memorial Association.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Waldo SS. Deeds 66:440.

Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

school since 1945. The library raised money to do the necessary construction of shelves and painting, and the books were moved to the balcony...<sup>\*11</sup>

Town Meeting, 1948. Approving Article 22 of its agenda, the Town Meeting voted to allow use of the Balcony of the Meeting House to house the Mildred Stevens Williams Library, transferring the library from the nearby Appleton Village School.

Jan-Feb 1949\*- Correspondence regarding the Hearse House and the Hearse show them still to be present on the property.

15 May 1949 \*- John Jackson to haul "heavy Timbers and debris" (from Library modifications of the Balcony?) out of the Church. Arleen Collins to photograph the old hearse for possible sale.

24 October 1950. MSW Library opened in the balcony of the Meeting House.

25 May 1951\* - Voted another coat of tar for the belfry.

3 May-2 June 1954\* - Sale of Union Meeting House to Church of God discussed, then sale discussion "discontinued" Repairs to Meeting House estimated at \$500. Voted to repair it.

April 1968. St. George's Valley Grange closed and transferred the grange hall to Mildred Stevens Williams Library. The library subsequently moved from the Meeting House to the grange hall.

Again, quoting Ted Brown: "After long-time leader [pew-owner and Appleton Memorial Association member] Fannie Gushee died January 6, 1962, townspeople apparently forgot what had happened in 1936-37, even though the Memorial Association was still evidencing its authority by using the Stephen J. Gushee Trust Fund for upkeep of the church. At the March 13, 1971 Annual Meeting of the town, Article 17 was proposed, and approved, that 'the Town will...convey the Union Church to the Appleton Historical Society (a legal body) when it is acquired by a tax lien process.' When the lien matured in October 1971, the Selectmen transferred the land and building to the Appleton Historical Society. It has been maintained by the society since that time, and the ...restoration was possible because of the bequest under the will of Mrs. Hilda Paxman, who was the first president of the Appleton Historical Society."<sup>12</sup>

1971. The town of Appleton voted to transfer the Union Meeting House to the Appleton Historical Society, as previously noted. The Appleton Historical Society and the community embarked on restoration of the meeting house. This included painting, underpinning repair, replacement of one sill, some interior work; removal of the walls left from the library's use of the balcony; re-roofing; and removal of the exterior part of the chimney.

1971 – 2010 The Meeting House was used to store and exhibit the Appleton Historical Society's collections and archives, was a place to conduct Historical Society meetings, and provided a space for community events, reunions, etc.. Neither heated nor climate controlled, the Meeting House space did not prove appropriate during those 40 years for the archives and collections, and there was some deterioration of the archives, especially.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Brown, Theodore, mss. *History of the Union Church in McLain's Mills, now the Appleton Village section of town; (N.D.),2 pages.* Theodore and Nancy Brown Collection, Cat. No. 1000013, Appleton Historical Society Archives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Brown, Theodore, History of the Union Church., p. 2.

Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

Upon construction of the new Mildred Stevens Williams Library nearby at 2916 Sennebec Road, the Appleton Historical Society contributed \$25,000 to the cost of that building and thereby acquired climate controlled space in the new library structure for collections and archives, with year-round use capability, winter meeting space, sanitary facilities, and parking.

From 2010 to the present, the Meeting House has been used for seasonal meeting space and as a location for community events, including the Society's annual "Harvest of the Arts" festival. It is still owned and maintained by the Appleton Historical Society and is the official headquarters of the Society. It is nearing time for exterior repainting, structural resealing, and repair of the balcony ceiling from damage by a (now repaired) leak in the steeple. The old wooden piers supporting the sill on the south side will soon require replacement, as those on the north side and under the tower did in 1971. Within a few years it will likely require a new roof, repairs to the spire and its railing, and installation of French drains around the perimeter of the structure to prevent pooling of water beneath. The electrical system, simple as it is, needs updating to code.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Allen, J. Henry, Photograph provided by Earle Shettleworth, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine. [In the photograph are the Village Schoolhouse of 1876 and Carkin Hall (later, Riverside Hall) constructed in the 1880s. These establish the latest known dates for the presence of the steeple as originally constructed.]

Allen, J. Henry of Thomaston, and F. W. Cunningham of South Liberty. Photograph from a putative 1850s stereopticon series given to Mildred Stevens Williams Library of Appleton, ME, by Mrs. Leon Morang Faxon of Liberty, Maine. [The date of this photograph, though uncertain, appears to be earlier than the above-mentioned photo, though an 1850s date is unlikely, especially if taken by either Allen or Cunningham (as the latter was born in1850.)]

Appleton Historical Society Newsletter, Issues of 1974 through 2014, Appleton Historical Society Archives Catalogue No. 1000001, Newsletter Notebook.

Appleton Memorial Association *Minutes*, 25 May 1950. Typescript by Ted Brown when President of the Memorial Association. Appleton Historical Society, Theodore and Nancy Brown Collection, Notebook I, Section 7, Catalogue No. 1000013.

Benjamin, Asher, *Practice of Architecture* and *The Builder's Guide* (New York: Da Capo Press), 1994. Reprint. Practice of Architecture originally published in 1839 by Benjamin B. Mussey, Boston.

Benes, Peter, *Meeting Houses of Early New England* (Amherst and Boston, MA: University of Massachusetts), 2012.

UNION MEETING HOUSE Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

Brown, Theodore, mss., *History of the Union Church in McLain's Mills, now the Appleton Village section of town; (N.D.),2 pages.* Theodore and Nancy Brown Collection, Cat. No. 1000013, Appleton Historical Society Archives.

Bryant, Blaine [N.D.], "A List of Mid-Coast Maine Photographers, Compiled for The Maine Historic Preservation Commission." [Copy from the files of the Walsh History Center in the Camden, Maine Public Library]

Claes, Frank, Waldo County the Way it Was (Camden, ME: Down East Books), c. 1985.

Claes, Frank, Collector, John Pascal\_Launched\_in\_Rockport\_Harbor\_1874.jpg, From the collections of the Walsh History Center, Camden Public Library.

Hammond, Marie (Keller), mss., "Memories of McLain's Mills," in the collection of the Appleton Historical Society. [Appleton Historical Society, Hammond Papers, Catalogue No. 1000065]

Howe, Orrin P., 23 January 1848 letter to his cousin Henry Perry of Haverhill, MA. Typescript of letter taken by T. Brown, Theodore and Nancy Brown Collection, Cat. No. 1000013, Notebook I, Section 5; Appleton Historical Society Archives. [Also in Brown Collection, Cat. No. 13, Folder 42.]

Kidder, Frederic, and Augustus A. Gould, *History of New Ipswich, New Hampshire* From Its First Grant in MDCCXXXV1, to the Present...(Boston, MA: Gould & Lincoln),1852.

Knox County Registry of Deeds, Copies of Waldo County Deeds, Book 47, page 431. Certified copy of the Waldo County Deeds, Book 66, page 440, at Knox County Courthouse, 62 Union Street, Rockland, Maine, 04841.

Pitman, J. Asbury, *Historical Address Delivered on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Appleton, State of Maine 1829-1929,* (Rockland, ME: The Rockland *Courier-Gazette,* 24 August 1929.)

Rockland Courier-Gazette Tuesday, 15 January 1974, p.7. (Rockland, ME: Courier Publishing Company, 1974)

"Composite and Raised Bottom Chord Trusses," *Timber Framing 74*, December 2004, particularly page 6, Figure 4.

Meyers, Denys Peter, "The Greek Revival," *Maine Forms of American Architecture*, edited by Deborah Thompson. (Camden, ME: Downeast Magazine), 1976. Pages 95-140.

Town of Appleton, Maine, Annual Report for the Year Ending February 1948, (Appleton, ME: by the Town, 1948), p. 34, Article 22 (approved) authorized the Library to occupy the Meeting House balcony. Library actually moved to balcony from Appleton Village School and opened 24 October 1950.

UNION MEETING HOUSE Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

Town of Appleton, Maine, Annual Report for the Year 1971, (Appleton, ME: by the Town, 1971), p. 76, Article 17. (Approved) "To see if the Town will vote to convey the Union Church to the Appleton Historical Society (a legal body) when it is acquired by a tax lien." [Tax lien was possible because of the multiple private ownership of the building through pew deeds, coordinated through a private company (the Appleton Union Meeting House Corporation) which had ceased to be an active church more than 20 years previously.]

Waldo County Registry of Deeds, Book 66, page 440, at Waldo County Registry of Deeds, 137 Church Street, Belfast, Maine 04915.

## 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 #
	_recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #
Pr	imary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University

⊠ Other

Name of repository: Appleton Historical Society

## Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 014-0008

## **10. Geographical Data**

## Acreage of Property 7/10 acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

## Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018

UNION MEETING HOUSE Name of Property		KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State
1. Latitude:	Longitude:	
2. Latitude:	Longitude:	
3. Latitude:	Longitude:	
4. Latitude:	Longitude:	

Or

## **UTM References**

Datum (	(indicated	on	USGS	map	):

NAD 1927 or

1. Zone: 19	Easting: 480273	Northing: 4903861
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:

X

NAD 1983

## Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

- The boundary of the nominated property conforms to the current and historic lot as described by the original deed referenced below. (The road referenced below is now known as Sennebec Road.)
- "Beginning at a Stake & Stones at the Southerly corner of David R. Gushee's house lot on the road thence North 69 degrees 40 minutes East eight rods and three links on the line of said Gushee's land to a stake & Stones thence South 27 degrees 45 minutes East Six rods & nine links to a Stake & Stones, thence South 64 degrees 10 minutes West Eight rods & one link to the road aforesaid, thence North 26 degrees 30 minutes west Seven rods & four links on said road to the place of beginning. Containing fifty four & 14/25ths rods according to the Survey made by M.F. Hanley." This set of bounds is excerpted from the original 1849 deed in the Waldo Registry of Deeds in Book 66, page 440. There is a certified copy in the Knox Registry of Deeds, Copies of Waldo County Deeds, book 47, page 431.
- The bounds of the nominated property are also depicted on the Town of Appleton tax map number 27, lot 6.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

Boundaries above were selected because they delineate the extent of the deeded property related to the Appleton Union Meeting House, being the original parcel purchased for construction of the Meeting House, and not enlarged nor reduced since that purchase.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title:	Donovan A. R. Bow	ley, Pl	h. D., Trustee		
organization:	Appleton Historical	Societ	¥		
street & number:	2916 Sennebec Roa	ad			
city or town:	Appleton	state:	Maine	_zip code:	04862-6421
e-mail:	brdaidan@aol.com				
telephone:	207-785-3075				
date:	20 May 2014				

## **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Appleton Union Church

- City or Vicinity: Appleton Village, Appleton, Maine
- County: Knox State: Maine

Photographer: Donovan A. R. Bowley

Date Photographed: See descriptions below.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 15 ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0001.TIFF Site view of the Meeting House in its setting, from across the road, looking east. 31 May 2014.
- 2 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE Principal Front with paired entrances and custom doors on west facade, facing East). May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 3 of 15 *ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0003.TIFF* The entry doors (and the doors from vestibule to auditorium) are of a 6-panel Georgian-influenced design that places two rails close together near the latch mechanisms. West front, looking east. July 3, 2014.
- 4 of 15 *ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0005.TIFF* On each side wall, within the auditorium, are three tall mullioned pairs of double-hung Queen Anne-style art glass windows. These 1880-1900 windows replaced the original clear glass windows. South wall, looking south. August 3, 2012.
- 5 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE Rear Wall showing offset window and reduced pilaster width on this wall, from

UNION	MEETING HOUSE	
ontion	MEETINGTIGOOL	

Name of Property

KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

southeast corner, looking northwest. May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.

- 6 of 15 ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0006.TIFF Interior, east wall, showing choir, platform, frame on center wall echoing that of front central window. May 31, 2014.
- 7 of 15 ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0007.TIFF Combination kingpost/queenpost roof trusses; shot from tower hatch into attic, looking East. April 22, 2014.
- 8 of 15 *ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0008.TIFF Three substantial cased timber pillars rise the full height of the interior space; engaging, first, the front rail of the balcony; then, at the ceiling, the timber crib supporting the inner three walls of the tower; looking west. August 3, 2012.*
- 9 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE North side, from northwest corner. May 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 10 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE Site view along south wall to 1833 Almond Gushee, Jr., house across the road, from southeast corner. May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 11 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE Steeple and tower, showing window in east (rear) wall of the tower, from southeast corner. May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 12 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE South wall, from southwest corner. May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 13 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE Detail of door and frame in the west wall, looking east. May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 14 of 15 UNION MEETING HOUSE Detail of principal window in the west wall, looking east. May, 2014, negatives at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.
- 15 of 15 ME\_KNOX COUNTY\_UNION MEETING HOUSE\_0015.TIFF Interior, north wall looking north across pews from south aisle. August 3, 2012.

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018

#### UNION MEETING HOUSE

Name of Property

#### KNOX COUNTY, MAINE

County and State

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

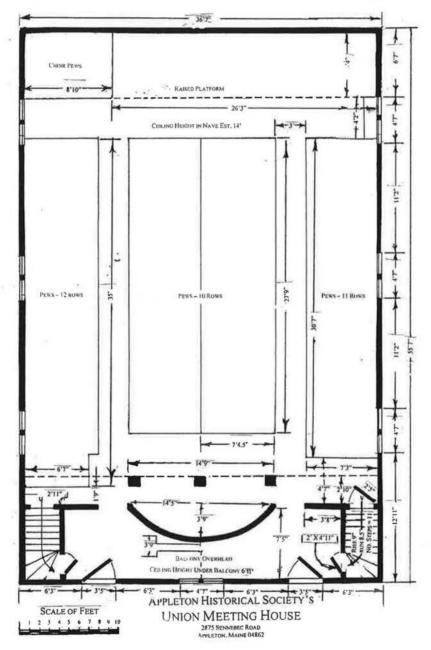
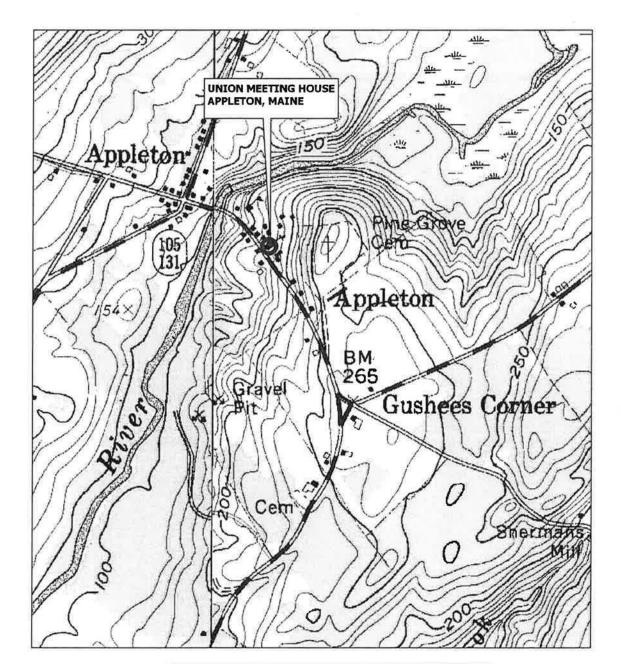


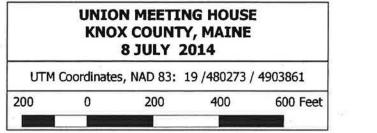
Figure 1: Interior plan of Union Meeting House, Appleton, Maine.

#### UNION MEETING HOUSE

Name of Property

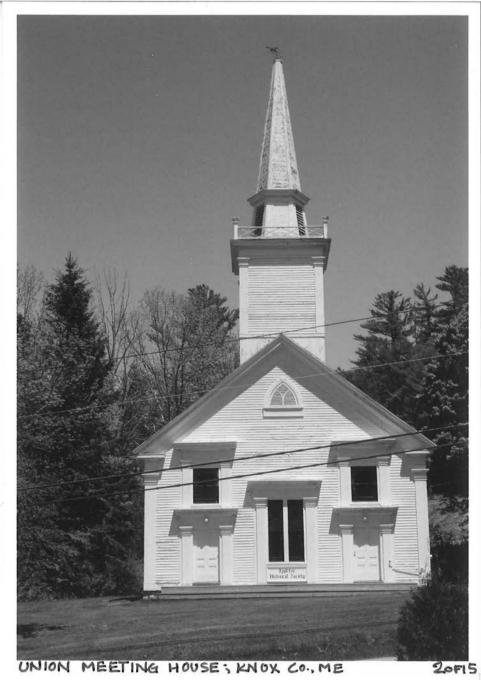
KNOX COUNTY, MAINE County and State

















UNION MEETING HOUSE: KNOX CO., ME

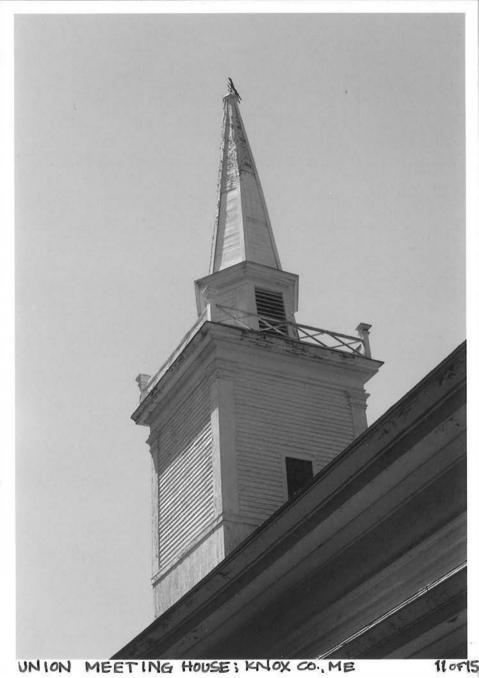


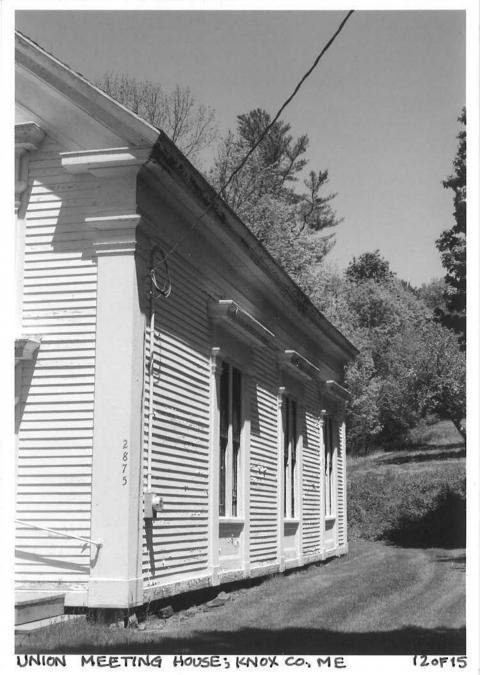




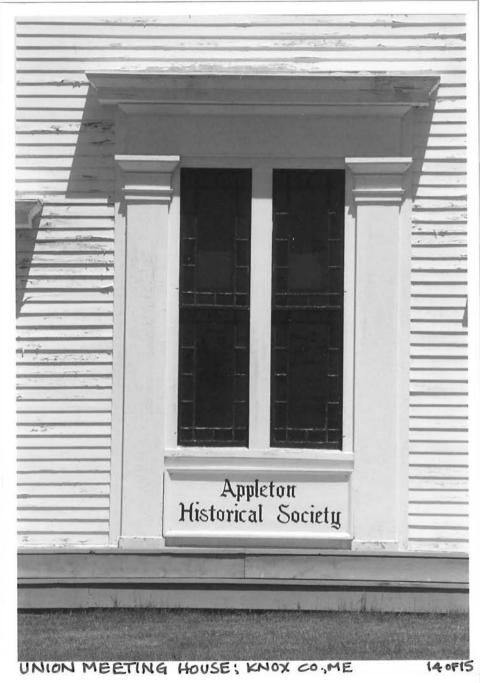














#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Union Meeting House, (Appleton) NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, Knox

DATE RECEIVED: 8/22/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/23/14 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/08/14 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000836

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N COMMENT WAIVER: N ACCEPT \_\_\_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_\_\_REJECT OCT - 8 2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA\_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER\_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



#### MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 55 CAPITOL STREET 65 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



18 August 2014

Keeper of the National Register National Park Service 2280 National Register of Historic Places 1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20005

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find five (5) new National Register nominations for properties in the State of Maine:

Brewer High School, Brewer, Penobscot County Colonial Theater, Augusta, Kennebec County Winthrop Mills Company, Winthrop, Kennebec County Union Meeting House, Appleton, Knox County Sprucewold Lodge, Boothbay Harbor, Lincoln County

Please note that some of the photographs for the Union Church in Appleton were shot on film and others were made by digital media. Only the photographs shot with the digital camera have files on the accompanying CD. The negatives for the remaining images are filed in our office. If you have any questions relating to these nominations, please do not hesitate to contact me at (207) 287-2132 x 2.

Sincerely,

Curisti C. Witchell

Christi A. Mitchell Architectural Historian

Enc.