

Hon. William Cohen

STATE: Maine  
 COUNTY: Hancock  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY  
 ENTRY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: JUN 10 1973

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

PHOTO 4734

HB  
 05 547450  
 N 0930450  
 N 4730300  
 N 4530550  
 N 4930700  
 547025  
 547500

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Stanwood Homestead ~~Museum~~  
 AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Birdsacre Sanctuary

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1 mile south of Ellsworth on <sup>Me.</sup> Route 3 (Bar Harbor Road)  
 CITY OR TOWN:  
Ellsworth  
 STATE: Maine CODE: 23 COUNTY: Hancock CODE: 009

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Sanctuary</u> <u>Wildlife &amp; Bird</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

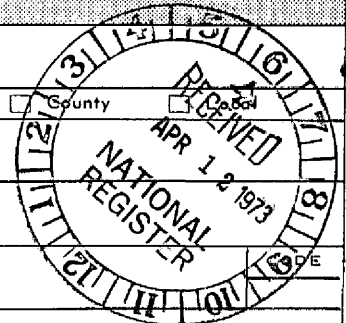
OWNER'S NAME:  
Stanwood Wildlife Foundation, Inc.  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
P.O. Box 485  
 CITY OR TOWN: Ellsworth STATE: Maine CODE: 23

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Hancock County Courthouse  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
State Street  
 CITY OR TOWN: Ellsworth STATE: Maine CODE: 23

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None  
 DATE OF SURVEY: \_\_\_\_\_  Federal  State  County  Other  
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY OR TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  Ruins  Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered  Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved  Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Captain Roswell Leland Stanwood built the Stanwood Homestead in 1850 on the cellar foundation of a previous smaller dwelling owned by his uncle, Peleg Stanwood, dating back to the 1830's. The present structure, typically Cape Cod in design, is maintained very much as it was when originally built. Much of the authentic furnishings and furniture introduced into the home better than a century ago is still there. In the dining room, one may view the brick Dutch oven much used in the earlier years. The parlor and living room are divided by the curved wall so characteristic of the homes of seafaring folk.

Gone with the wind and hanging lamps, scrolled whatnots, marble topped stands, commodes and bureaus, Lincoln and Bentwood chairs, platform rockers, original rugs, quilts, tablecloths, coin silver and old china are among the many items of historical significance to be found in the Standwood Homestead.

Birdsacre Sanctuary, nearly fifty acres of woodland maintained as a wildlife preserve, is an integral part of the Stanwood Homestead property. This was Miss Stanwood's outdoor workshop during her many years of research. Much has been done to broaden its value for both ecological study and pleasure. Ponds have been built, trees, shrubs and wildflowers planted, additional trails opened and name tags placed to provide ready identification. Each year the curator takes several hundred school children on nature walks to made them better aware of the physical world in which they live. The family history, the natural history exhibits and the sanctuary offer a memorable experience to the better than six thousand visitors who come to Birdsacre each year.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1850**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science  | <u>Ornithology</u>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>Ecological Experiment</u>                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture            | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>Natural History Exhibit</u>                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | <u>Wildlife Sanctuary</u>                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation |   |  |   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

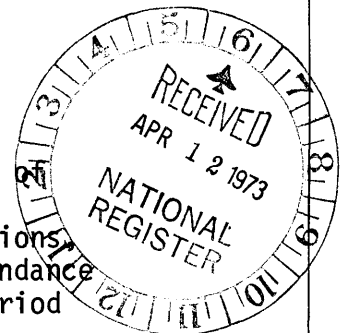
Cordelia Stanwood, pioneer ornithologist in Maine, was the first of five children born in this home to Captain Stanwood and Margaret Susan Bown in 1865. Her great-great-grandfather, Job, was a casualty of the French and Indian Wars, having lost his left arm at the siege of Louisburg in 1745. Another ancestor, Col. William Stanwood, who served on General Washington's staff during the Revolution, gave much of the land that forms Bowdoin College's campus in Brunswick. The first Stanwood, Philip, came to Gloucester, Massachusetts, in 1652.

Cordelia Johnson Stanwood was educated in Providence, Rhode Island, a graduate of the Girls' High School, the Teachers' Training School and the Normal Arts School of Boston. For seventeen years she was a successful classroom teacher in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New York.

Her most lasting achievements, however, were made as a self-educated naturalist who for fifty years contributed greatly to the pioneer ornithological study in Maine. Both as a writer and photographer, her material found its place in the published works of Forbush, Chapman, Bent, Palmer and many others. Even John Burroughs paid her tribute for her keenness and accuracy as an observer. Dr. Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin stated that her life histories of birds were the best any Maine person had written. Her portrait was placed in the Deane collection presented to the Library of Congress by the American Ornithologists' Union in 1934. Posthumously, the following citation was issued by the Department of Interior in 1961 in acknowledgment of her contributions:

THE BUREAU OF  
 SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
 UNITED STATES  
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 Gratefully acknowledges the faithful services of  
 MISS CORDELIA STANWOOD

in reporting for use in scientific investigations, observations on the distribution, migration and abundance of North American birds, for 32 years during the period 1910 to 1946.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bent, Arthur Cleveland. Life Histories of North American Birds. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.

Bolton, Ethel Stanwood. Stanwood Family. Boston, Mass.: Rockwell and Churchill Press, 1899.

Forbush, Edward Howe. Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1925.

Palmer, Ralph S. Maine Birds. Cambridge, Mass: Museum of Comparative Zoology, 1949.

"Stanwood Homestead Museum". Down East Magazine, August, 1965.

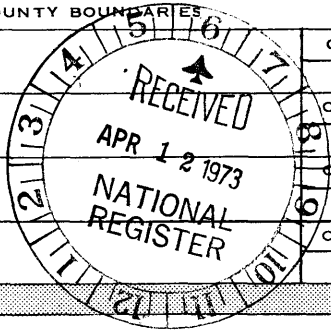
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	44°	31'	43"	68°	24'	28"			
NE	44°	31'	47"	68°	24'	20"			
SE	44°	31'	39"	68°	24'	10"			
SW	44°	31'	34"	68°	24'	21"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 40

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Chandler S. Richmond, Curator**

ORGANIZATION: **Stanwood Wildlife Foundation, Inc.** DATE: **Jan. 16, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**P.O. Box 485**

CITY OR TOWN: **Ellsworth** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: James H. Mundy

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: April 10, 1973

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

Robert H. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/19/73

ATTEST:

W. J. Mundy  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6 6 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS