

Hon. William Cohen

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Paris Hill *Historic District*

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Various Main St. and Hannibal Hamlin Dr. E. to Mt. Mica
and Christian Ridge Rds.

CITY OR TOWN:
Paris Hill

STATE: Maine CODE: 23 COUNTY: Oxford CODE: 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Various

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Oxford County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:
South Paris Maine 017

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

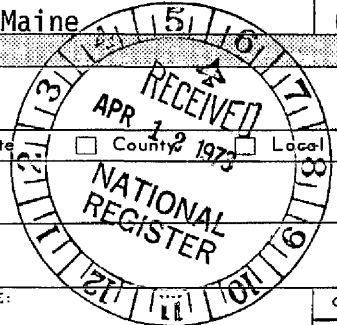
TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



STATE: Maine

COUNTY: Oxford

ENTRY NUMBER: JUN 19 1973

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PH 605 4512



7. DESCRIPTION

RECEIVED
APR 12 1973
CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

7. DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Paris Hill is one of two villages, the other is South Paris, which comprise the township of Paris in Oxford County, Maine. Located along the Little Androscoggin River, the land is very hilly. Paris Hill is 831 feet above sea level. The village of Paris Hill occupies the top of the hill, laid out mainly north to south along Paris Hill Road and extending slightly east along Lincoln and Tremont Streets. The village has a panoramic view of the White Mountains to the west.

The land grant which was to become Paris, Maine, and West Paris, Maine, was settled around 1780. The settlement grew, probably numbering 300 to 400 people in 1792. A request for incorporation was granted by the Great and General Court of Massachusetts in 1793; the Town of Paris was formed. The outer boundaries were altered slightly during the nineteenth century. In September, 1957, West Paris broke away and became a separate township.

The village of Paris Hill grew up on Lot 13 in Range 5 of the original township, sold to Isaac Jackson. Various members of the Jackson family owned the surrounding lots. The hill was first called "Jackson's Hill". One early house remains: The Lemuel Jackson, Jr. House, 1789. Beginning in 1800, Lot 13 was divided into smaller parcels and sold; the village grew rapidly. In 1805 Oxford County was established and the county seat was located in Paris Hill. The county buildings - the courthouse, the records office, and the jail, grouped around the county common which is now a part of Hannibal Hamlin Drive - remain. Practically all of the residences built at this time remain. They are all handsome examples of Federal period architecture; particularly outstanding are the Cyrus Hamlin House, the Hubbard House and the Samuel Rawson House. Paris Hill continued to grow steadily. Most of the Greek Revival residences remain today. The Baptist Church on the Common was built in 1838, replacing an earlier church. From 1833 to 1895, the Oxford County Democrat was published on Paris Hill. The Paris Hill Academy was built in 1856. During the second half of the nineteenth century, the growth of Paris Hill slowed. Some Italianate residences were built on the eastern edge of the village along Lincoln and Tremont Streets.

Because it was not near any waterpower, Paris Hill had virtually no industry or manufacturing. Lemuel Jackson built the first saw mill in 1783 and the first grist mill in 1784 on Stony Brook to the south in what is now the village of South Paris. These and subsequent mills served Paris Hill. There was a small tannery located in Paris Hill from about 1830 to 1850. There were at least three small potash works. In 1847 the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad was built. Its route to Montreal ran through South Paris and along the Little Androscoggin River. South Paris became the business center of the Town of Paris. From 1871 to 1874 there was a furniture shop on Paris Hill; it moved to South Paris to be near the railroad. The Paris Hill Manufacturing Company Factory was built on

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

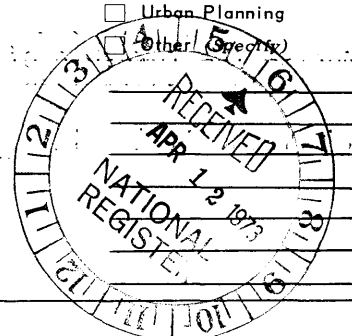
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Because it was the seat of government for Oxford County from 1805 to 1895, Paris Hill attracted many outstanding families. Over the years four Maine Governors, three Speakers of the Maine House, three Presidents of the Maine Senate, twelve United States Representatives, two Senators and one Vice President have been born or have lived on Paris Hill. Hannibal Hamlin (1809-1891) was born on Paris Hill in the Cyrus Hamlin House; he served in the United States Senate, was elected Governor of Maine (1856), and served as the Vice President in Abraham Lincoln's first administration. Albion Keith Parris (1788-1857) practiced law on Paris Hill from 1809 to 1817 or 1818 in the small office beside the Hubbard House; he served in the United States Senate and was elected Governor of Maine five times (1821-25). Enoch Lincoln and Sidney Perham each served three terms as Governor of Maine. Hamlin, Parris, Lincoln and Perham all served as United States Representatives; as did Rufus Goodenow, who was for sixteen years the clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Oxford County, and Timothy J. Carter, who was an attorney of Oxford County. Thomas Crocker, who ran a grocery on Paris Hill, was on the first board of directors of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad.

The buildings which stand on Paris Hill today are living monuments to the vigorous nineteenth century shire town of Oxford County. Most of the buildings were constructed between 1800 and 1860. The community was compactly settled. A few later nineteenth century buildings were constructed on the eastern edge of the village. Because the railroad bypassed Paris Hill, these buildings represent the last growth period of the village. Few of the nineteenth century structures have been torn down; only five modern residences have been constructed. As a result, Paris Hill looks and feels today essentially as it did in the nineteenth century.

The buildings of Paris Hill, particularly the Federal and Greek Revival buildings which comprise the bulk, are of a high architectural quality. They are tightly knit. Together they present continuous and harmonious street scenes. They set off the more outstanding structures - The Hamlin House, The Hubbard House, The Samuel Rawson House, The Baptist Church and The Academy. The spacious common, enclosed now by Hannibal Hamlin Drive, focuses the village on the Baptist Church and the Oxford

(See Continuation Sheet)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lapham, William B. & Maxim, Silas P. History of Paris, Maine from Its Settlement to 1880. Paris: 1884.

Sunday Telegram. September 1, 1968, pp. 1D, 3D.

Supplement to The Oxford County Citizen, An Illustrated Edition of Paris, Maine. November 26, 1908.

Waterman, Charles E. A City On A Hill (Paris Hill). Auburn: 1931.

19/380520/4902500
 1-19 76
 DM Ref wnw

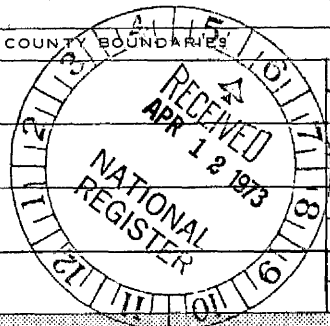
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	44 °	15.	51"	70 °	30	29"			
NE	44 °	16.	07"	70 °	29	49"			
SE	44 °	15.	38"	70 °	29	27"			
SW	44 °	15.	22"	70 °	30	07"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 250 acres ±

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



19/380110/4901190
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary-Eliza Wengren, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: **Maine Historic Preservation Commission** DATE: **February, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Augusta** 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

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

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

Name: *James H. Munday*
 Title: *State Liaison Officer*
 Date: *April 10, 1973*

Date: *6/19/73*
 ATTEST:
W. Smith
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: *6 12 73*

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maine	
COUNTY Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 19 1973	

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

2

Tremont Street in 1871. Sleds, wagons, carriages, ladders and tables were manufactured by steam power. In 1883 the company also relocated to South Paris.

In 1895 the county seat moved to South Paris. Paris Hill has virtually stood still in time since then. Very few modern residences have been built in the village. An active group of summer residents has aided the year round residents in maintaining the community. The vacant county buildings have been preserved: The county courthouse and records office are now private residences, the county jail is a library. The Paris Hill Academy has been renovated into a community center. The original burial ground, Pioneer Cemetery, has been restored. Today the county buildings and residences appear as they did in the first half of the nineteenth century at the height of the village of Paris Hill. The elm lined streets frame an extraordinary hilltop community.

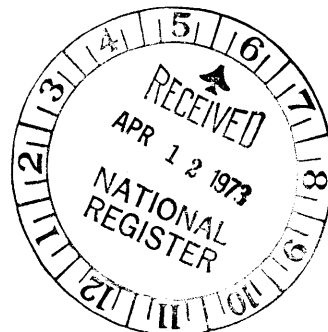
The Paris Hill Historic District is bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point west of Paris Hill Cemetery, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 44°15'51" and Longitude 70°30'29"; thence northeasterly to a point west of Cole Brook, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 44°16'07" and Longitude 70°29'49"; thence southeasterly to a point south of Christian Ridge Road, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 44°15'38" and Longitude 70°29'27"; thence southwesterly to a point south of the Old County Road, which point is at the intersection of Latitude 44°15'22" and Longitude 70°30'07"; thence northwesterly to the point of beginning.

The boundaries herein described encompass an area of 250± acres of woods and open fields.

BUILDINGS AND SITES WITHIN THE PARIS HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. Edward Chase House
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1865
2. Jarius K. Hammond House
Old County Road
Built in 1853
3. John C. Prince House
Paris Hill Road
Built by Moses Hammond



(See Continuation Sheet)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

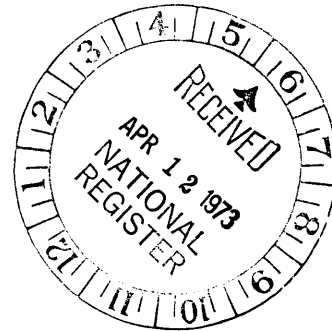
STATE Maine	
COUNTY Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

3

4. Alvah Shurtleff House
Paris Hill Road
5. Henry Howe House
Paris Hill Road
6. Albert M. Hammond House
Old County Road
Built by Moses Hammond
7. Paris Hill Academy
Old County Road
Built in 1856
8. Charles T. Mellen House
Old County Road
Built before 1816
Built by Isaac Fuller
Extensively remodeled to Greek Revival style by Mellen ca. 1851.
9. Stephen Emery House
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built ca. 1818
10. Oxford County Courthouse
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built in 1815 and is now a private residence.
11. Brick Office Building
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built in 1827 and is now a private residence.
12. Oxford County Jail
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built in 1828
The jail was purchased by Dr. Augustus C. Hamlin and converted into a library. He gave the building to Paris Hill.
13. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin House
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built in 1805
Dr. Hamlin was the first Clerk of Courts for Oxford County and the father of Vice President Hannibal Hamlin.



(See Continuation Sheet)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

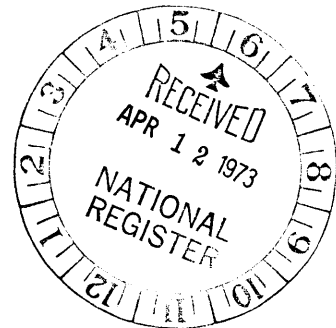
STATE	Maine
COUNTY	Oxford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

4

- 14. Deacon John Willis House
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built in 1810
- 15. Benjamin S. Doe House
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
This is the only house with a mansard roof on Paris Hill.
- 16. Simeon Cummings House
Hannibal Hamlin Drive
Built ca. 1818
- 17. Simeon Cummings, Jr. House
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1808
This building was originally a store built by Simeon Cummings and converted to a house by his son.
- 18. Baptist Church
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1838
- 19. Andrews-Bates House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1853
- 20. Hubbard House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1807
- 21. Nathan Woodbury House
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1802-04
- 22. Albion K. Parris' Law Office
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1809
- 23. Jacob Daniels House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1808
- 24. Thomas Crocker House
Paris Hill Road
Built after 1808



(See Continuation Sheet)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Maine
COUNTY	Oxford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 10	1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

5

- 25. Judge Joseph C. Cole House
Lincoln Street
Built ca. 1827
- 26. Joel B. Thayer House
Lincoln Street
Built after 1825
- 27. Nathan Ryerson House
Lincoln Street
Built ca. 1825
- 28. Elmer H. Marble House
Lincoln Street
Built in 1887
- 29. Jarvis C. Marble House
Lincoln Street
- 30. Isaac Harlow House
Lincoln Street
Built ca. 1834 and raised to a two story Italianate by George B. Crockett.
- 31. Orlando Thayer House
Lincoln Street
Built in 1879
Built by Jarvis C. Marble
- 32. Ransom Dunham House
Lincoln Street
Built ca. 1821 and remodeled to Greek Revival by Thomas M. Crocker.
- 33. Silas P. Maxim House
Tremont Street
Built in 1871
- 34. Hardy House
Tremont Street
Built by Thomas Crocker
- 35. Hiram Hubbard House
Tremont Street
Built ca. 1858



(See Continuation Sheet)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

6

- 36. Jonas Cummings House
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1816
- 37. Col. Simon H. Cummings House (1)
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1830
- 38. Col. Simon H. Cummings House (2)
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1830
- 39. Charles Cummings House
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1832
- 40. G. W. Cooke House
Paris Hill Road
- 41. Emerson Colburn House
Paris Hill Road
Moved from the corner of Lincoln and Tremont Streets
- 42. Jesse Cummings House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1812
- 43. George Ryerson House
Paris Hill Road
Built ca. 1818
- 44. Amos Armsby House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1812
- 45. Lemuel Jackson, Jr. House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1789
This is the oldest house remaining on Paris Hill.
- 46. Captain Samuel Rawson House
Paris Hill Road
Built in 1813



(See Continuation Sheet)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

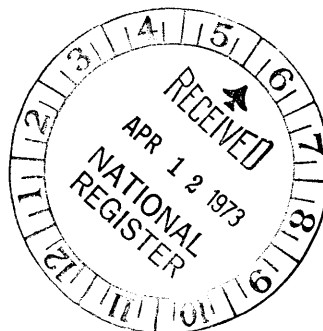
STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 19	1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

7

- 47. Pioneer Cemetery
Paris Hill Road
Before 1802
The cemetery has been restored and is maintained by the village residents.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maine	
COUNTY Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 19 1973

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

2

County buildings.

The fields, woods and orchards, which ring the village of Paris Hill, insulate it from the encroachments of the modern world. The open land sets the village apart in time, preserving its unique character and wholeness. The magnificent natural setting of the village on the broad height of Paris Hill is timeless. The continuous view of the surrounding countryside and the White Mountains supports the monumental feeling of the village architecture.

