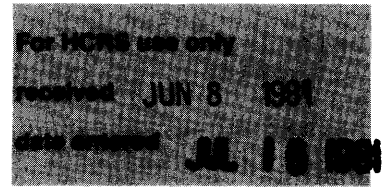


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Stetson Union Church

and/or common

2. Location

ME 222

street & number Route 22 _____ not for publication

city, town Stetson, _____ vicinity of congressional district Second

state Maine code 023 county Penobscot code 019

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Town of Stetson

street & number

city, town Stetson, _____ vicinity of state Maine 04480

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Penobscot County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Bangor, _____ state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date _____**102 21 11**

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Union Church in Stetson, Maine, built in 1831 from designs by the prominent Bangor architect Benjamin S. Deane, is an early and fine example of the Greek Revival style in an ecclesiastical context.

The church, which is of frame construction with clapboard siding, has one story and a central facade tower. The facade, which faces south, features a 3-bay-wide recess supported by Doric pilasters and Ionic columns. Above this recess is a broad pediment containing an inscribed panel, which reads:

"Erected by the Munificence of the Hon.
Amasa Stetson of Dorchester, Mass - A.D. 1843"

The tower which is square in plan, rises in two stages to a fluted, conical spire. In the upper stage each side contains an arched window flanked by Doric pilasters.

The sides of the church are four bays long, each bay being a stained-glass window flanked by exterior louvered shutters. Positioned centrally in the rear wall is an exterior brick chimney.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> /settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1843 **Builder/Architect** Amasa Stetson/Benjamin S. Deane

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

To find a church of such stylistic excellence and sophistication in such a tiny and remote community would be highly unlikely were it not due, in this case, to the beneficial and pervasive influence in the area, of Benjamin S. Deane. This early nineteenth century architect left his unmistakable mark over a wide region in the form of churches, courthouses, commercial buildings, and residences including the Wheelwright-Clark Block and the Pierce-Giddings House in Bangor, both on the National Register.

Amasa Stetson, a wealthy merchant of Dorchester, in 1801 became proprietor of a grant originally given to Leicester Academy by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1792. Out of this grew the Town of Stetson whose development he nurtured with utmost care. His most notable beneficence was the donation of funds in 1831 which made possible the erection of the Union Church.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Daniels, Lilla Wood, History of Stetson, Maine, 1800-1931. Bangor, 1932.

10. Geographical Data ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 1/4 a UTM NOT VERIFIED
 Quadrangle name Stetson Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A	1 9	4 8 1 9 0 1 9 1 0	4 1 9 7 1 0 8 1 7 1 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map #6, Lot 12

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian
 organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1981
 street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2133
 city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Earl S. Feltz* date 6/3/81
 title S.H.P.O.

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>for William H. Abraham</u>	date <u>7/15/81</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Patrick Andrews</u>	date <u>7/15/81</u>
for Chief of Registration	