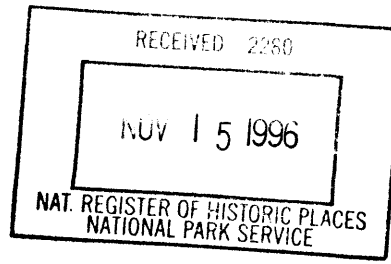


1476

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sargent - Roberts House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 178 State Street N/A not for publication

city or town Bangor N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Penobscot code 019 zip code 04401

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Eileen Fitzpatrick 11/8/96
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
12.13.99
**Entered in the
National Register**

Sargent-Roberts House
Name of Property

Penobscot - ME
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | | buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Residential Architecture
of Bangor

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Second Empire

Materials.
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Wood/rustic matchboard

roof Slate

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1814

1866

Significant Dates

1814

1866

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Sargent-Roberts House
Name of Property

Penobscot - ME
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

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| 1 | 9 |
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|---|---|---|---|---|---|

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Deborah Thompson, PhD, Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date 9/08 8/96

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone (207) 287-2132

city or town Augusta state Maine zip code 04333

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

SARGENT-ROBERTS HOUSE

PENOBSCOT, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

The Sargent-Roberts House is a large, suavely finished, three-story mansard which superficially appears to be one of the opulent early mansards built in Bangor in the late 1850s. It has a graceful curved roof and rusticated matchboard siding. Its five bays and the resultant "busyness" of design are a puzzle when it is compared to others of the type, for example the David Bugbee House. Actually, its mansard form and the two quite unusual one-story flankers on either end are the result of a remodeling in 1866 (it is just possible that the flankers were added after 1866 and before 1875, but the shortness of this interval makes this unlikely). The five facade bays of a Federal house, which was under construction in 1814, determined the form of the mansard. Two-over-two light sash were inserted in the windows, however, and crosssetted window trim with sill brackets replaced the earlier Federal trim. A lambrequin (arcuated) frieze interrupted by large single brackets ornaments the cornice. Paired segmental dormers are found on each side of the mansard roof, those in the facade flanking the bell-shaped gable.

Much Federal trim remains in the house including door and window surrounds, wainscotting, and a splendid chimney piece in the former master bedroom. The interior was partly altered in Greek Revival taste, and trim, moldings, and a handsome chimney piece are found in the ground floor of the ell.

The flanker on the left (seen from the street) carries an enclosed porch on its facade with six-over-six light sash; the inner room of the flanker and the one the right side of the house was replaced by a handsome heavy Italianate one at the time of the remodeling, of which all parts survive.

The Sargent-Roberts House is intact in many details, but its conversion after World War II into a 15-unit apartment house has taken a toll. The portico parapet has been removed and the paired windows with Italianate cap formerly over the portico have been replaced by a single fire exit. Fire escapes festoon the building at various points. Some of the first-story portico parapet is missing, and the stair has been tightly enclosed by a partition for reasons of fire prevention.

The granite coping and posts of the house are still in place.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSARGENT-ROBERTS HOUSEPENOBSCOT, MAINESection number 8 Page 2

The Sargent-Roberts House is important as a document of the historic preference for the remodeling of important Bangor houses in the newest styles, and because it incorporates within its mansard transformation much of what was apparently a very large, well built, Federal house of good style. (Preserved examples of the Federal style are rare in Bangor.) Although the name of the architect of the house's 1866 remodeling is not documented, stylistic evidence suggests that it was Benjamin Deane. The Sargent-Roberts House meets criterion C registration requirements for both Federal and Mansard houses as described in the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled "Historic Residential Architecture of Bangor."

Edward Sargent was one of a family of builder-architects active in Bangor from the beginning of the nineteenth century. His house was under construction in 1814, during the British occupation of Bangor. By the early 1830s, Sargent had turned from building to farming on the Dutton Road and his house passed to Amos M. Roberts, an important lumberman who was later a banker. Sargent seems to have become prosperous and served as a community leader in the few years remaining before his death.

The Greek Revival alterations in the house were made by Roberts, probably shortly after he bought the house, and it is interesting to see that the same man felt the house needed further upgrading to current style right after the Civil War.

The 1866 remodeling was partly a response to the wave of mansard construction that began just after the Civil War. A mansion-size house became the mark of the successful man (usually lumberman) in Bangor. Roberts must have taken pleasure in the Federal detailing of the rooms of his house and chose to keep it intact although he had the hall and stair done over. Thus, the busy facade which results from retaining five bays, now appears to have been the choice of the owner. Benjamin S. Deane was probably the architect of the remodeling because of the presence of the bell-shaped gable, which originated in his work (the Thomas N. Egery House, formerly on Broadway, 1859-60, burned in 1911) and the generally simple classicizing effect of the design. The curved roof was out of style, but often appears in Bangor mansards of the 1860s in imitation of the earlier mansards in the city; high style mansards, however, would use the currently fashionable straight mansard roof profile. The features mentioned typical of Deane, together with the lambrequin cornice frieze, the placement and type of brackets, type of dormers, design of portico, choice of window surrounds, design of granite steps, are virtually *identical* with the same features of Deane's Connors-Crosby House at 277 State Street, which was the architect's last known work (he died in 1867 and the plan for the Connors House is listed as a debt in his probate records).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

SARGENT-ROBERTS HOUSE

PENOBSCOT, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

The unusual flankers were probably Amos Roberts' idea. Their actual date is not certain, but they were in existence by 1875 and can be seen on the Stoner bird's-eye-view and in somewhat confused form on the 1875 Comstock & Cline atlas map. They also contribute to the rather busy effect of the facade elevation. State Street at the time consisted of a boulevard of great houses looking over the Penobscot River and surrounded by green lawns, greenhouses, and landscaped grounds. The big houses all had cast-iron fences or formal granite copings and posts. Two additional reception rooms that penetrated this landscape would have been an attractive idea.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

SARGENT-ROBERTS HOUSE

PENOBSCOT, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

Bangor Tax Records. University of Maine Fogler Library, Special Collections, and Bangor Public Library.

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Harlow, Thomas. In [J. E. Godfrey, ed.] *The Centennial Celebration of the Settlement of Bangor, September 30, 1869.* Bangor, 1870.

Penobscot Registry of Deeds.

J. J. Stoner. *Bird's-Eye-View of the City of Bangor.* Madison, Wisconsin, 1875.

Thompson, Deborah. *Bangor, Maine 1769-1814: An Architectural History.* Orono, Maine: University of Maine Press, 1988.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

SARGENT-ROBERTS HOUSE

PENOBSCOT, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

Verbal Boundary Description

The Sargent-Roberts House occupies Bangor Tax Map 48, Lot 241.

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire urban lot historically associated with this house.