#### 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 Blue	Hill Histori	<u>c Distri</u>	ct		<b>.</b>	·.	• • • • • •
and/or common					_		
2. Loca	ation		. ει Με 17	a ME	176 and M	<u>E 17</u>	7
street & number	<u>in irregul</u>						_ not for publication
city, town	Blue Hill			cinity of	congressional di		Second
state	Maine	code	023	county	Hancock		code 009
3. Clas	sification	on					
Category X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquis in process being cons		Accessib	cupied in progress <b>le</b>	Present Use agriculture _X_ commercia educationa entertainm _X_ governmen industrial military	al al Ient nt	museum park X private residence X religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Pr	oper	ty		elesson provid		
name Mu	Iltiple owner	ship			الراجير وجهره الم	Cashin	V 7.73
street & number	4 . •	1. 				• • •	
city, town			vi	cinity of		state	
5. Loca	ation of	Lega	l Des	criptie	on		
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc	· Hanc	ock Count	ty Registr	ry of Deeds		
city, town		Ells	worth,			state	Maine
6. Rep	resenta	tion i	n Exi	sting	Surveys		
title				has this pro	perty been determi	ned eleg	ible? yes no
date					federal	state	county local
depository for su	irvey records						
city, town						state	

## 7. Description

Condition		Check one
X_excellent	deteriorated	X unaltered
X_ good	ruins	X altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one \_\_X\_ original site \_\_\_\_ moved date \_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Blue Hill is a remarkably unspoiled survival of a 19th century Maine coastal community containing excellent examples of prevailing architecutral styles of the period. The district is comprised of over seventy historically significant buildings both residential, commercial and public located at the head of Blue Hill Harbor. Most of the buildings have undergone little change so that the streetscapes maintain in homogeneity and cohesiveness the flavor of the area as it was a century ago. There are no known or recorded archaeological sites within the boundaries of the district.

Buildings and sites contributing to the character of the district:

- - 2. Moses P. Clough House, 1832 Federal,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 3. Samuel Baker House, 1822 Federal with Gothic Revival trim and gazebo, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - George Pillsbury House, 1889 Mansard, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 5. Congregational Church, 1843 Greek Revival, 1 story with tower, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by Thomas Lord from plans by Benjamin S. Deane.
  - Nathaniel Hartford House, 1803 Federal, 2 stories with clapboard exterior. Built by Ezra Briggs.
  - 6a. Daniel Spofford House, 1800 Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior, attached barn of late 19th century.
  - 7. American Legion Hall, formerly Blue Hill Academy, 1833 Greek Revival,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories with tower, brick with wood and stone trim.
  - Judah Chase House, 1840
     Greek Revival, 2½ stories with clapboard exterior.
  - John Arnold House, 1829 Federal, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories with temple fronted addition, brick with wood and stone trim.
  - 10. Union Trust Company, 197-Colonial Revival, 1 story frame with clapboard exterior.

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- Map #11. Parsonage of Congregational Church, c.1800 Federal, 2 stories with clapboard exterior. Built by Theodore Stevens
  - 12. Blue Hill Public Library, 1938 Colonial Revival, 1½ stories, brick with wood trim.
  - Florist Shop, ca.1928
     Vernacular Commercial, 1 story frame with clapboard exterior.
  - Candage Hardware, 1969
     Vernacular Commercial, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> story, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - Robert W. Gray Insurance, 1970
     Vernacular Commercial, 1 story with shingled exterior.
  - 16. "The Weekly Packet", 1850 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Architect: Eben M. Garland
  - Bar Harbor Banking & Trust Company, 1960
     Colonial Revival, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 18. "The Old Red Store", c.1830 Vernacular with Stick Style ornamentation, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Probably built by Andrew A. Fisk
  - 19. The Town Hall, 1895 Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Architect: George A. Clough, built by George W. Butler
  - 20. "The Dunn Block:, 1856 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Probably built by John Classon
  - 21. And rew Witham, 1796 Federal,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 22. Blue Hill Department Store, 1876-1877 Vernacular Commercial, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by Henry B. Darling

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- Map #23. "Sea Gull Restaurant", before 1859 Greek Revival, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior and Italianate brackets. Built by Augustus Stevens
  - 24. Edwin Schneider Law Office, before 1859 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by William Hopkins
  - 25. Merle B. Grindle Agency, 1847 Greek Revival, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by John Stevens
  - 26. The Holt House Blue Hill Historical Society, 1815 Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboards. Built by Jeremiah T. Holt
  - 27. The Pendleton House, before 1826 Federal, 4 stories, brick with Mansard roof. Built by Jeremiah T. Holt
  - Partridge Drug Store, 1895
     Vernacular Commercial, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by Foster of Ellsworth.
  - 29. Madeline's Fashions, c.1855 Vernacular Commercial, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Probably built by Judah Chase and Jesse Hinkley
  - 30. "The Blacksmith Shop", after 1884 Vernacular Commercial, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard and shingle exterior. Probably built by Clarence Snowman.
  - 32. I. O. O. F. Hall, 1896 Mansard, 3 stories, frame with clapboard exterior and brackets. Built by O. W. Horton
  - 33. Babson & Duffy Building, 1890-1892 Italianate, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by Isthma Stanley
  - 34. Jerry Faulkner House, 1824 Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior.

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- Map #36. Barber Shop, 1950 Vernacular Commercial, 1 story, frame with shingle exterior.
  - 37. Edmund Herrick House, after 1881 Italianate,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 38. Clark Osgood House, before 1851 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 39. Senaca Parker House, 1833 Federal,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, brick with wood and stone trim.
  - 40. Faulkner House, before 1873 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - Osburn Bowden House, before 1900 Stick Style, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 44. Ellsworth Builder's Supply, 1933 Vernacular Commercial,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 45. Herrick Corporation, c.1960 Mid-20<u>th</u> century Commercial, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 46. Tucker House, 1840-1860 Greek Revival, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 47. Jarius Osgood House, 1835-1836 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 49. Benjamin Clay House, c.1835 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 50. Sargent House, by 1819 Federal,  $l_2$  story, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 51. William Hopkins House, c.1850 Greek Revival, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame, clapboard exterior with Gothic Revival Porch.
  - 52. Joseph Wiscott House, before 1860 Greek Revival, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame, clapboard exterior with Gothic Revival Porch.

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- Map #53. Octavius Stover House, 1878 Italianate,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 54. Percy Moore House, 1930 Bungalow, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with shingle exterior.
  - 55. "Village School", 1848 Transitional Greek Revival-Italianate, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 56. Rodney Osgood House, after 1881 Vernacular,  $l_2$  stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 57. Baptist Chapel, 1880 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 58. Baptist Church, 1817 Greek Revival, 1 story with tower, clapboard exterior. Remodelled 1856 by Thomas Lord.
  - 59. Nathan Osgood House, 1840 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 60. Clough House, 1929 1½ stories, frame with shingle exterior.
  - 61- Marshall Harding House, before 1866. Robert Clay House, c.1850
     61a. Greek Revival, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Originally two separate single gable houses, now connected.
  - 63. Joseph Mann House, 1830 Federal,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, brick with clapboard facade.
  - 64. Merrill & Hinkley Store, 1880 Mansard, 3 stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by Melatiah Chase
  - 65. "George Stevens House", 1814 Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by George Stevens
  - 67. George Stevens Academy Building, 1898 Colonial Revival, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame, clapboard exterior with tower.

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- Map #68. Thomas Lord House, 1847 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 69. Joseph P. Thomas House, 1839 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 70. The Chase House, 1842 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior. Built by Joseph and T. Y. Davidson
  - Rev. Albert Cole House, 1839
     Greek Revival, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 72. Dr. Lyman Hall House, 1836 Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 73. Gillis House, 1950 Colonial Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 74. Freeman Hardin House, c.1820 Federal, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 75. Rowantrees Pottery, c.1830 Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard exterior.
  - 76. Blue Hill Inn, c.1830 Federal, 2½ stories, frame with brick ends and clapboard exterior. Built by Edward Vernon Stevens

#### Nonconforming intrusions detracting from the integrity of the district:

- Exxon Filling Station, c.1950
   Mid-20th century Commercial, 1 story brick.
- 35. Blue Hill Garage Addition, c.1949 Mid-20<u>th</u> century Commercial Block, 1 story.
- Sunoco Garage, mid-20<u>th</u> century l story wood frame.
- 42. Blue Hill Garage, 1915 1 story wood frame.

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- Map #48. Gas/Appliance Store, 1969-1974 1 story wood frame, one room.
  - 62. Rachinski House, 1960 1½ stories, stucco with clapboarded half story.
  - 66. Classroom Building, 1954 1 story, brick exterior.

# 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art X commerce communications	<ul> <li>community planning</li> <li>conservation</li> <li>economics</li> <li>A education</li> <li>engineering</li> <li>exploration/settlement</li> </ul>	Iandscape architectur Iaw X literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates		Builder/Architect		

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Originally settled in 1762 by settlers from Andover, Massachusetts, Blue Hill emerged in the 19th century as a thriving diversified community with important maritime ties. With the arrival of its first settled minister, the remarkable Jonathan Fisher, in 1796 (see Jonathan Fisher Memorial, N.R. 12/30/69) and the chartering of Blue Hill Academy, the community early became a remarkably cosmopolitan center in a then remote area.

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Lumbering became the first major industry following the erection of the earliest sawmill in 1765 and easy access to the sea resulted in large scale export of the product to Boston and other ports. Shipbuilding was also an important part of the economy for almost exactly a century between 1792 and 1891. In 1790 a potash works at the town landing began production. The early 19th century saw the development of varied industry along Mill Brook including a very early cotton mill, a carding and fulling mill, a tool shop, grist mill, furniture mill and a cooperage. Granite quarrying for export began in 1816 and in 1836 eighteen large cargoes were shipped for use in construction at Charlestown Navy Yard in Massachusetts.

In 1876 copper was discovered in the area and a mining boom of significant proportions began with many companies formed and large numbers of outside workers brought in. Boarding homes and more primitive dwellings sprang up and Joseph Holt's early brick block (#27) was refurbished as a mining exchange and fine hotel called the Pendleton House. Speculation was rampant and the boom collapsed in 1881 with unstable copper prices and poor management. Of 39 companies only six survived and the last of these closed in 1919. The Pendleton House remains as the sole reminder of this brief episode.

Against this economic background is set the village of Blue Hill today with many fine residences reflecting commercial and industrial prosperity as well as some built by the numerous sea captains produced by this active port. Since the 1870's, Blue Hill has lured large numbers of summer visitors and residents who have built homes largely along the shore. The intellectual flavor of Blue Hill has been carried on by individuals such as composer Ethelbert Nevin, who built a summer house in the area, and noted Maine author Mary Ellen Chase who was born in the Chase House (#70).

As an intact 19th century Maine midcoastal community, Blue Hill conveys a remarkable sense of time and place and retains the same scale and balance in proportion between building types as it did a century ago.

(see continuation sheet

<b>9. Majo</b>	r Bibliograph	cal Referen	ces	
Clough, Annie	L., <u>Head of the Bay</u> .	Woodstock, Vt., 19	953	
Hinckley, Wil <u>Packet</u> , B	liam, "Bits of Blue H lue Hill, March 6, 19	ill History". Artic 75 - July 5, 1979.	les appearing in <u>1</u> PC NOT VEDIEICO	he Weekly
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Architecturally, most major 19th and 20th century styles are represented, such as: Federal, e.g., #1, 26, 27, 34, and 65; Greek Revival, e.g., #5, 6, 20, 25, 47, 59, 69, and 70; Gothic Revival, e.g., #3, 51, and 52; Italianate, e.g., #33, 37, 53, and 55; Mansard, e.g., #4, 32, and 64; Stick Style, e.g., 18 and 34; and Colonial Revival, e.g., #19 and 67.

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follows east crossing Pleasant Street to the north property line of the Baptist Church (#58) which it follows to the northeast corner. From this point the line runs south along the rear property lines on the east side of Pleasant Street and the north side of Main Street to the northeast corner of the Sargent House (#50) property and then southerly along its east line across Main Street and along the east property line of the Senaca Parker House (#39) to its southeasterly corner. From here the line runs westerly along the rear property lines on the south side of Main Street to Water Street, south on this street to the south property line of the Pendleton House (#27), westerly along this line to the southwest corner and thence northerly and westerly along the rear property lines on the west side of Water Street and the south side of Main Street to the southerly corner of the Samuel Baker House (#3) property. The line then runs northwesterly along the southwesterly line of this property, crossing Main Street, and along the westerly line of the Hosea Kittredge House (#1) property to its northwesterly corner where it turns easterly running along the rear property lines on the north side of Main Street, the west side of High Street and the south side of Union Street to the southwest corner of the Old Cemetery property whose westerly line it follows to Union Street. The line then runs westerly along Union Street to the west property line of the Freeman Hardin House (#74) and northerly along this line to the point of beginning. This boundary in general encompases the major portion of Blue Hill village as it was during the late 19th century and includes those historically significant structures whose location is in keeping with the proper cohesiveness of a historic district.

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The following will replace the first two sentences of the verbal boundary description as originally written:

Beginning at the northwest corner of the Freeman Hardin House (#74) property, the district boundary runs east following the rear property lines along the north side of Union and Main Streets and the west side of Bucksport Road to High Street which it follows east crossing Bucksport Road to the north property line of the Baptist Church (#58) which it follows to the northeast corner. From this point the line runs south along the rear property lines on the east side of Bucksport Road and the north side of Main Street to the northeast corner of the Sargent House (#50) property and then southerly along its east line across Main Street and along the east property line of the Senaca Parker House (#39) to its southeasterly corner.

