

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

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

For NCRS use only
received SEP 16 1980
date entered NOV 14 1980

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

1. Name

historic Farnsworth House

and/or common Decker House

2. Location

street & number SR Route 17 ___ not for publication

city, town North Bridgton ___ vicinity of congressional district 1

state Maine code 23 county Cumberland code 005

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. Edgar H. Hemmer

street & number 161 Sheridan Road

city, town West Lafayette ___ vicinity of state Indiana

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town South Paris 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 _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Farnsworth House located in North Bridgeton Maine is an impressive example of the Federal Period of architecture.

The structure consists of 2 1/2 stories and is of post and beam construction on a granite foundation with a gabled roof and clapboard siding. There are two end chimneys. The main facade faces east. Basic fenestration is 12/12 with the main facade being five bays wide and the southerly side of the house three bays deep. There is a central doorway on the main facade of the structure with a delicate fanlight over the door flanked by sidelights. The southerly side of the house has what was once a full length first floor porch, supported by Doric columns. Part of this porch has been enclosed to enlarge the southwest room and now has two 3/3 windows. From the westerly or back section of the house extends a two-story ell with clapboard exterior and the same 3/3 fenestration. There is also an internal chimney in this section. This ell continues westerly back to a two-story, hipped-roof carriage house with clapboard exterior.

The interior of the Farnsworth House is characterized by particularly fine and delicately detailed Federal woodwork. This is exemplified by four unusually designed mantel pieces and a graceful front stairway.

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 type="checkbox"/> exploration/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 1825

Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This handsome late Federal residence, built by Dr. Samuel Farnsworth, Jr. (1791-1842) is particularly significant because of the extremely handsome interior woodwork. This includes four unusual mantels and surrounds, a delicate staircase with interesting paired newel posts at the upper end, and cornice moldings of great detail and grace. There is, in addition, throughout the house finely executed panelling.

Considering the relatively remote location of this house, the interior is particularly remarkable, being the equal, in many respects, of Federal mansions along the southern coast.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Eula M. Shorey, Ed., History of Bridgton, Maine, Augusta, 1968.
Matthias Farnsworth and His Decendents in America, privately printed by Claudius Buchanan Farnsworth in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, 1891.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property 1/2

ACREEGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Norway

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	9	3	6	13	9	19	10	4	18	8	12	8	18	10
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing					

C

Zone				Easting				Northing					

D

Zone				Easting				Northing					

E

Zone				Easting				Northing					

F

Zone				Easting				Northing					

G

Zone				Easting				Northing					

H

Zone				Easting				Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's map 19 lot 40

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/James Schimmer, Intern

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July

street & number 242 State Street telephone 207/289-2133

city or town Augusta state Maine

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 Eula M. Shorey date 9/5/80

title S.H.P.O.

For HCRS use only

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

Bruce MacDugal date 11/14/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Patrick Andrews date 11/13/80
 Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Farnsworth House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, Cumberland

DATE RECEIVED: 10/22/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/06/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80000229

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11.22.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Elsa Beall

DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE _____

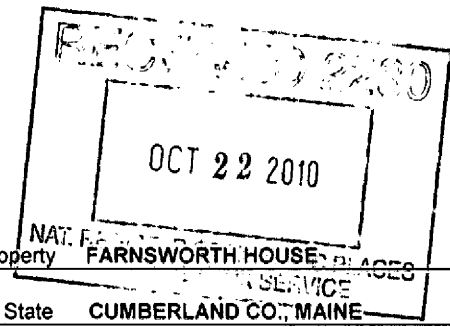
DATE 11.22.10

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet



Name of Property FARNSWORTH HOUSE PLACES
County and State CUMBERLAND CO., MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 1

COUNTY, Town	NAME	NR ID #	Correct UTM' s
Cumberland, Bridgton	Farnsworth House	80000229	19/364008/4882873

The above UTM coordinates replace the incorrect coordinates provided in the original nomination/registration form for this property.