

PH0500968

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 12 1977

DATE ENTERED DEC 7 1977

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 Orono Main Street Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Main Street *400-410 Main Street, Orono, Me.*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Orono VICINITY OF 2nd Honorable William Cohen CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Maine CODE 23 COUNTY Penobscot CODE 019

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple Ownership (See continuation sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE

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

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE <u>1857</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Main Street Historic District is composed of a remarkable collection of 19-century and turn-of-the-century buildings, covering all of the major styles of a hundred year period: Federal (i.e., 28, George Read House), transitional Federal - Greek Revival (15, Nathaniel Treat House), Greek Revival (i.e., 2, Jeremiah and William Colburn House), transitional Greek Revival - Italianate (25, Gideon Mayo House), Italianate (i.e., 24, Charles Gould House), Gothic Revival (e, St. Mary's Catholic Church), Queen Anne (i.e, 1, Charles Nichols House), and Colonial Revival (11, St. Mary's School).

Of the 29 homes and buildings within the district, 7 are Federal, 1 is transitional Federal - Greek Revival, 11 are Greek Revival, 1 is transitional Greek Revival - Italianate, 2 are Italianate, 1 is Gothic Revival, 5 are Queen Anne, and 1 is Colonial Revival. Within each period, detail and construction is fine. The street is a microcosm of 19th-century architectural styles.

There is an equally diverse range in size and roof type, which the following figures will delineate:

- 2    1 story gable roof
- 4    1½ story gable roof
- 1    2 story Flat roof
- 1    2 story hip roof
- 18   2½ story gable roof
- 3    2½ story hip roof

Of the 29 homes and buildings, 2 are of brick construction, 2 are of stone, and 25 are of frame construction. Of the frame ones, 15 are clapboarded, 1 is shingled, 4 have a combination of clapboards and shingles, one has aluminum siding, 1 has a combination of clapboards, shingles, and stucco, and 3 have match - boarded facades with clapboards elsewhere. White is the predominant color.

Of the 29 structures in the district, 25 are residential, 2 are churches, and 2 are schools. There is no Federal property.

All of the buildings are presently being used for their original purposes. The residential environment has been completely preserved.

The District's buildings are in excellent condition, and have been consistently well maintained. There are no intrusions. No building less than fifty years of age is present.

INVENTORY OF STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN THE  
MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

Street      Map  
Number    Number

66            1            Charles Nichols House, 1905  
Charles Parker Crowell of Bangor, Architect

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	19th-century community expansion.
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

First settled in the 1770's, this community was originally called Stillwater after the western channel of the Penobscot River, which sets off part of the town as an island. Its present name, adopted at the time of its incorporation by the Massachusetts General Court in 1806, was chosen to honor Joseph Orono, chief of Penobscot Indian tribe who died in 1801. Orono, had long been a friend of the early settlers and was instrumental in keeping the Indians of eastern Maine favorably disposed toward the colonists during the Revolution.

The town grew very slowly at first, having only 77 inhabitants in 1800 and 415 by 1820. During the War of 1812 the infant lumber industry was deprived of its markets, particularly after the capture of Bangor by the British in 1814. During this period primitive conditions existed for the most part, there being no doctors or lawyers, marginal schooling, no churches, and roads which were little more than dirt tracks.

After 1820, however, rapid growth took place largely due to a dramatic boom in the lumber industry. Between 1820 and 1840 the largest population growth in the town's history took place and by the latter date it had become a thriving community including numerous professional men and prosperous mill owners and merchants. By mid-century the town could boast of its many lumber mills, an iron and a cant dog factory, a canal, bridges, schools, churches, and even a railroad.

The Main Street Historic District clearly reflects the tone of prosperity established during this era as a result of the great Penobscot River log drives and the lumber boom. The McRuer (14), Baxter(23), and Ricker(13) houses were built by early doctors in the community. Israel Washburn, Jr., one of the first lawyers and later governor of Maine built an impressive house (17). The Ludo Thayer House(15) and Babcock(18) houses were the homes of lumber mill owners. John Read and Thomas Whitney (houses #16 and #3) were both inn or hotel owners, and the Cony Foster House (20) was built by the owner of a large store.

In 1865 the Maine State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, later the University of Maine, was founded under the provisions of the Morrill Land-Grant College Act. This event, which provided a new and continuing stimulus for Orono, occurred at a fortuitous moment as the great lumbering days were drawing to a close. Over the years a number of faculty members have occupied various houses in the Main Street District.

Main Street is primarily significant, however, as it reflects Orono's emergence as a prosperous thriving community in the first half of the 19th-century. These generous homes mirror the achievement of dignity and permanence by what had been little more than a hard scrabble frontier village two decades before the great years of the log drivers.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clarence A. Day, Historical Sketch of the Town of Orono. (Orono, 1956)

Centennial Celebration of the Town of Orono, Address by Honorable  
Israel Washburn, Jr., pp. 20-144. (Portland, 1874)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 26

UTM REFERENCES

A	19	525635	49691610	B	19	525740	4969550
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	19	525335	4968825	D	19	525230	4968880
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southerly corner of the intersection of Main and Pine Streets, the district boundary line runs southeasterly along the southwesterly side of Pine Street to the easterly corner of the Charles Nichols House (#1) property. From this point it turns southwesterly and runs along the rear property lines of the houses on the southerly side of Main Street, crossing Juniper Street to the easterly corner of the Gideon Mayo House (#25) property where it turns northwesterly running along this property line and crossing

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES Cont. pg 2

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME ~~OF THE~~ Frank A. Beard, Historian

Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

January 7, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

31 Western Avenue

289-2133

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Augusta, Maine

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Earle S. Sheddworth, Jr. January 17, 1977

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

W. M. [Signature]  
Charles [Signature]

DATE

12/7/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12-6-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Main Street#	Map #	Present Owner
66 ✓	1	Mrs. Charles Nichols ✓
68	2	Mr. Edward Thomas ✓
72	3	Mrs. Lois LaBeau ✓
76	4	Dr. Robert Hunting ✓
82	5	Church of the Universal Fellowship ✓
84	6	Church of the Universal Fellowship ✓
88	7	Mr. Donald Dionne ✓
89	8	Roman Catholic Diocese of Maine 510 Ocean Avenue, Portland 04111 ✓
92	9	Dr. Terrance O'Callahan ✓
93	10	Roman Catholic Diocese of Maine 510 Ocean Avenue, Portland 04111 ✓
97	11	Roman Catholic Diocese of Maine 510 Ocean Avenue, Portland 04111 ✓
104	12	Mrs. Marceline Levesque ✓
105	13	Mrs. Harold Thurlow ✓
109	14	Col. John S. Gerety ✓
114	15	Mr. George Prescott (already on N.R.) ✓
115 ✓	16	Mrs. Wilfred Comeau ✓
120	17	Dr. Henry K. Woodbrey (already on N.R.) ✓
123	18	Mr. Theodore Curtis, Sr. ✓
124	19	Mr. Basil Smith ✓
133	20	Mr. John Madigan ✓
139	21	Mr. Carleton Guphill ✓
143 ✓	22	Mr. Harold Hamlin ✓
148	23	Mrs. Harriette Harris Sampson ✓
149	24	Mr. David G. Means ✓
158	25	Mr. William Ceckler ✓
169	26	Mr. Fred Otto ✓
175 ✓	27	Col. Lynwood Fisher ✓
193 ✓	28	Mr. Edward G. Bablek ✓
205	29	Mr. Frederick Bragdon ✓

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Street Map  
Number Number

Queen Anne, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded, shingled, and stuccoed exterior.

- |    |    |   |
|----|----|---|
| 68 | 2  | Jeremiah and William Colburn House, 1840<br>Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior.   |
| 72 | 3  | Thomas Whitney House, 1851<br>Greek Revival with Gothic Revival trim, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with match boarded facade, remainder clapboarded.   |
| 76 | 4  | Henry Rolfe House, C. 1840<br>Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with aluminum siding, C. 1900 first story porch.   |
| 82 | 5  | House, C. 1840<br>Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior.   |
| 84 | 6  | Universalist Church, 1843-44<br>Greek Revival, 1 story with tower, gable roof, frame with match boarded facade and tower, remainder clapboarded.  |
| 88 | 7  | School House #2, 1828, moved to present site from Bennoch street in 1857.<br>Federal and Greek Revival, 1½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded and wooden sided exterior, extensive mid-20th-century remodelling. |
| 89 | 8  | St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1905<br>Victor Hodgins of Bangor, Architect<br>Gothic Revival, 1 story with 2 facade towers, gable roof, stone with wood and metal trim.  |
| 92 | 9  | Alexander Rogers House, C. 1854<br>Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, enclosed Italianate portico and open Italianate side porch.  |
| 93 | 10 | Ludo Thayer House, 1835<br>Greek Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and stone trim, Queen Anne first story front porch.   |

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Street Map  
Number Number

- 97 11 St. Mary's School, 1914  
Victor Hodgins of Bangor, Architect  
Colonial Revival, 2 stories, flat roof, stone with wooden trim .
- 104 12 F.A. Fuller House, 1837  
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, Italianate first story porch and overhanging roof with brackets.
- 105 13 Dr. John Ricker House, 1834-45  
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, Colonial Revival first story front porch.
- 109 14 Daniel McRuer House, 1830  
Federal, 2 stories, hipped roof, frame with clapboarded exterior.
- 114 15 Nathaniel Treat House, 1837 (NR 9/20/73)  
Transitional Federal-  
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, brick with wood and stone trim.
- 115 16 John Read House, 1834  
John Read, Builder  
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, period first story front porch.
- 120 17 Israel Washburn, Jr., House, 1840 (NR 1/12/73)  
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with match boarded facade, remainder clapboarded, period first story front porch.
- 123 18 Asa Babcock House, 1829  
Federal, 1½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, Italianate portico and side bay window, 3 20th-century facade dormers.

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Street Number	Map Number	
124	19	Horace M. Estabrook House, C. 1891 Queen Anne, 2½ stories, gable roof with large corner tower, frame with clapboarded and shingled exterior.
133	20	Cony Foster House, 1830 Federal, 1½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, Italianate portico, side bay window and window trim, later central facade gable flanked on either side by a dormer.
139	21	Charles Wood House, C. 1900 Queen Anne, 2½ stories, hipped roof with two major projecting gables, frame with clapboarded and shingled exterior.
143	22	Elijah C. Parsons House, 1830 Federal, 1½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, Italianate window and cornice trim, C. 1900 first story front porch and facade dormer.
148	23	Dr. Elihu Baxter House, 1831 Federal, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, enclosed Italianate portico and first story stick style porch.
149	24	Charles Gould House, 1869 Italianate, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior.
158	25	Gideon Mayo House, C. 1854 Transitional Greek Revival-Italianate, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior.
169	26	Hamlin House, C. 1899 Queen Anne, 2½ stories, hipped roof with three major projecting gables, frame with clapboarded and shingled exterior, iron roof cresting.
175	27	James S. Stevens House, C. 1899 Queen Anne, 2½ stories, hipped roof with three major projecting gables, frame with clapboarded and shingled exterior, iron roof cresting.

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Street Map  
Number Number

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| 193 | 28 | George Read House, 1829<br>Federal, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with clapboarded exterior, two story Colonial Revival portico added to the facade in 1914 by John Homer Huddilston, a later owner. |
| 205 | 29 | Thomas Gilbert House, C. 1866<br>Italianate, 2½ stories, gable roof, frame with wooden siding.   |

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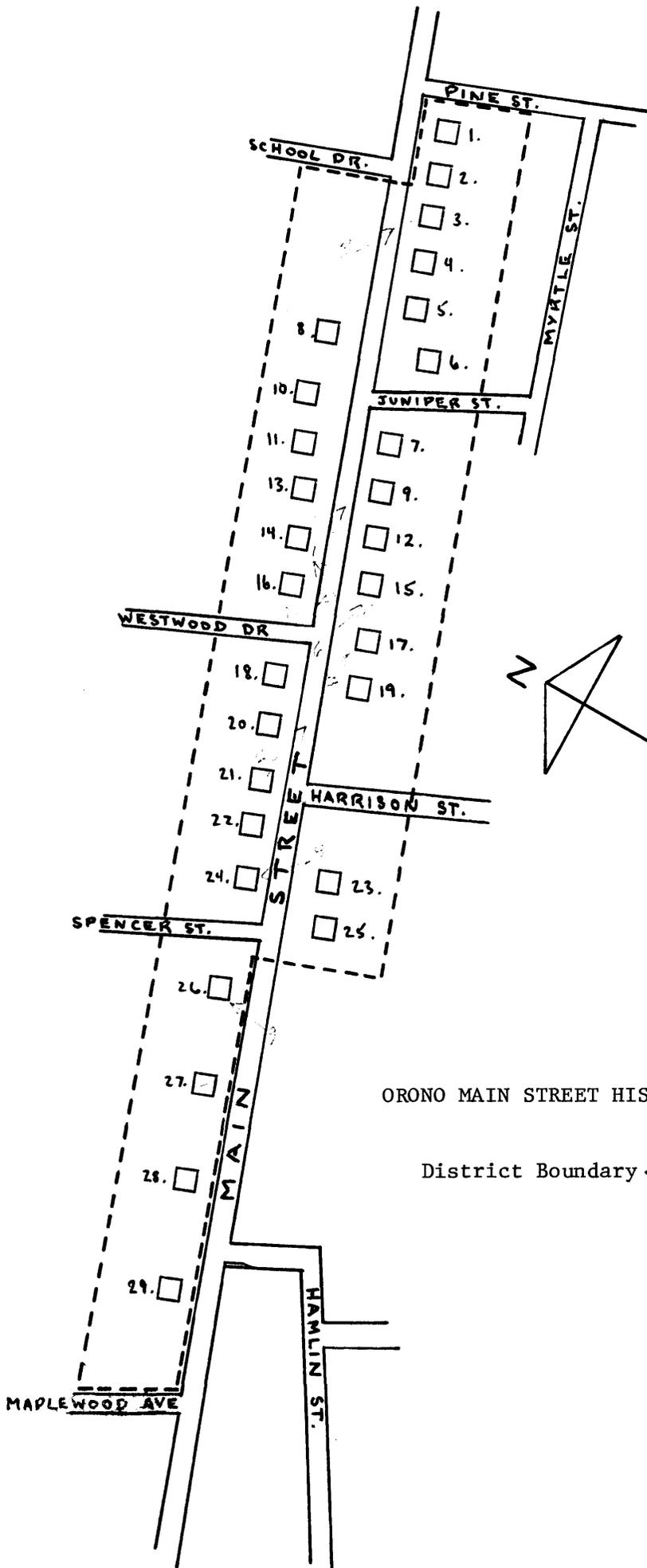
CONTINUATION SHEET

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to the north side of Main Street. Here the line turns southwesterly and runs along the north side of Main Street to the corner of Maplewood Avenue where it turns northwesterly following the east side of this street to the westerly end of Thomas Gilbert House (#29) property. The line then runs northeasterly along the rear property lines of the houses on the north side of Main Street, crossing Spencer Street and Westwood Drive to the west side of School Drive which it follows southeasterly crossing to the south side of Main Street. Running northeasterly on the south side of Main Street the line then returns to the point of beginning



JUL 12 1977



ORONO MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

District Boundary -----