

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

For NPS use only

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

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Guilford Memorial Library

and or common Guilford Memorial Free Library

2. Location

street & number Library and Water Streets

N/A not for publication

city, town Guilford, N/A vicinity of

state Maine code 23 county Piscataquis code 021

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Guilford Memorial Library Board of Trustees

street & number P. O. Box 177, Water Street

city, town Guilford, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04443

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Dover-Foxcroft, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A 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

Standing on a hill overlooking the Piscataquis River, the Guilford Memorial Library is a one story brick building with hipped roof covered in slate shingles. The basement level, which is exposed above grade on the front and side elevations, is delineated by a stone belt course. The windows have stone sills and are square-headed double-hung aluminum sash at the basement level. The first story windows are segmental arched and have square-headed double-hung aluminum sash mounted below a fixed segmental arched sash with Renaissance-designed triangular muntins.

All four elevations have brick corbelling beneath a wood cornice supported on modillions and brick pilasters at each corner. The windows have segmental arched window caps. In addition, the principal (south) elevation has a central pedimented pavilion with a recessed round arched entry. The doorway is surmounted by a lunette filled with triangular muntins identical to those over the windows.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1908 **Builder/Architect** Frederick A. Patterson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Guilford Memorial Library is an important example of local cultural enrichment both because it represents the culmination of a long history of efforts to bring literary advantages to the community but also because the building placed on the landscape is a dignified and worthy architectural statement.

The following quotation from the "Bangor Commercial" perhaps best indicates the significant aspects of this important building:

This beautiful building, as well as the collection of nearly 3,000 volumes which will be so finely housed and which antedate the building by several years, are the outgrowth of many years of hard and diligent work by a little band of intelligent, cultivated, enthusiastic ladies who are most interested in behalf of literature in Guilford circles.

The library finds its origin in a circulating book club organized by these same ladies early in 1900. Between 40 and 50 members made up the club and enjoyed the rich benefits derived from good reading. New books were acquired as needed and soon the thought of a public library seemed indeed about to be realized - the books of the club having been kept from year to year, always with formation of a library, and possibly the erection of a library building, in view.

The library is architecturally significant for its unaltered condition and as a locally rare example of Renaissance design. As a center of culture in this relatively isolated industrial community, it was appropriate for the library building to exemplify what was the most up-to-date concepts in architectural design for public buildings. Although this is architect Patterson's only library, his work demonstrated a familiarity with current fashions. The library remains an important local landmark in this small community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Bangor Commercial", January 22, 1909.

Hobson, J. S., Guilford Yesterdays. Bangor, 1923.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property $\frac{1}{4}$

Quadrangle name New Guilford

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	9	4	6	9	8	6	0	5	0	0	1	6	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 16, Lot 11

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/Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1986

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Eric S. Stebbins*

title S.H.P.O. date 2/19/86

For NPS use only

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

Patrick Andrews

date 7/31/86

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration