

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



1983

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

1. Name

historic Alfred Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number U.S. Route 202, Kennebunk, and Saco Roads N/A not for publication

city, town Alfred N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Maine code 23 county York code 031

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (See Continuation Sheet)

street & number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Alfred, 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		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" 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>1951</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Alfred Historic District is situated in the center of Alfred Village, York County's shiretown. It is located southwest to northeast on Route 202 and 4 (Oak Street) and along Kennebunk Road and Saco Road. These three streets embrace the village green. Alfred has two other villages; North Alfred, called Alfred Gore, and Alfred Mills, but it is in Alfred Village that the town hall, elementary school, library, and general store are located, as well as the Parish Church. The community grew rapidly in the years following the Revolutionary War until the turn of the century when, in the early 1900's, there was a decline in population. During the past ten years the village has had another period of rapid growth although most home construction has been outside the village proper. Buildings within the historic district are in good or excellent condition and most represent 18th and 19th century construction. During the 19th century, before the advent of the automobile, lawyers found it expedient to reside near the court house. Their affluence, and the pride which they had in their homes greatly influenced the character of the village. Alfred is also the geographical center of York County and in the last century has become a busy cross roads for traffic between Sanford, Biddeford, and the coastal villages.

Buildings and sites contributing to the character of the district:

1. Old York County Jail, 1872.
Designed by Gridley J. F. Bryant.
Victorian-Italianate, 2½ stories, brick. Has separate carriage house^{14.}
with mansard roof.
2. Tripp House, c. 1846.
Cape Cod, with Greek Revival alterations, 1½ stories, with clapboarded exterior.
3. Parish Church Parsonage, 1871.
Transitional Greek Revival, 2½ stories, with clapboarded exterior and attached barn.
4. Goodenow House, c. 1860.
Transitional Greek Revival, 1½ stories, with clapboarded exterior, ell and attached barn.
5. Daniel Goodenow House, c. 1826.
Federal with Italianate porches, 2½ stories, with clapboarded exterior and attached barn.
7. Lander House, c. 1900.
Dutch Colonial with mansard roof, 2 stories, with clapboarded exterior.

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

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

ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT
Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 2

Buildings and sites contributing to the character of the district (continued):

8. George Rogers Cabinet Shop, c. 1829.
Greek Revival, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
9. George Rogers House, c. 1829.
Federal Transitional with Greek Revival details, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
10. Thomas Rogers House, c. 1860.
Italianate, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior and detached carriage house.
11. J. N. Stinson House, 1862.
Italianate, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior and attached barn/carriage house with cupola.
12. Alfred Town Hall, 1862.
Italianate, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
13. Alfred Parish Church, 1834.
Greek Revival, remodelled in 1889, steeple added with Thomas clock, frame with clapboarded exterior. Revere bell in tower.
14. Conant Chapel, 1871.
Italianate, 1 story, frame with clapboarded exterior, enlarged in 1904 and 1977.
15. William Roberts House, c. 1890.
Blacksmith shop early 1900's, 1½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
16. James Griffin House, c. 1829.
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior with blacksmith shop built 1867, brick and stone.
17. Joseph Emerson House, 1838.
Cape Cod, altered, frame with clapboarded exterior.
18. Benjamin Chadbourne House, c. 1850.
Greek Revival, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior and attached ell and barn.
19. Benjamin C. Jordan House, c. 1878.
Italianate, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior, separate barn.
20. Conant House, 1795.
Post-Colonial, Greek Revival door surround, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior, cupola.

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

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

ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT
Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 3

Buildings and sites contributing to the character of the district (continued):

21. Joseph Sayward House, c. 1812.
Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior, cupola.
22. County House, c. 1833.
Neo-colonial, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior, incorporated on stone jail, which had been built on site of an 1806 log jail.
23. Ebenezer Sayward House, 1808.
Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
24. John Holmes, "Bow and Arrow" House, 1812. (N. R. 4/24/75)
Raised from Cape house (1802).
Federal, columns on 2 sides, decorative bows and arrows on roof balustrade.
25. Frank H. Littlefield Store, c. 1869.
Mansard, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
26. "Beehive", c. 1770, John Knight.
Colonial central building, oldest section. North section, Federal, c. 1809. Dr. Abiel Hall, Sr. South section, Homestead style, c. 1915. Alonzo Roberts. Frame with clapboarded exterior.
27. Alfred Fire Station, c. 1911.
Late Victorian, frame with clapboarded exterior.
28. Frank Littlefield House, 1893.
Tri-gabled Queen Anne, attached barn, built by Herman Sayward. Frame with clapboarded exterior.
29. William Cutler Allen House, c. 1820.
Raised from 2 story to 2½ stories, 1875. Italianate, frame with clapboarded exterior and attached barn.
30. William G. Conant House, before 1842.
Federal, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior and attached barn.
31. Stephen Holmes House, c. 1830.
Federal, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
32. Elwin K. Jordan, c. 1919.
Colonial Revival, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
33. Joanna Perkins House, c. 1909, built by Herman Sayward.
Homestead style, 2½ stories, with clapboarded exterior.
34. Richard Stanley House, c. 1850.
Greek Revival with Italianate influence, 2½ stories, with clapboarded exterior.

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

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



ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT
Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 4

Buildings and sites contributing to the character of the district (continued):

35. Josiah Brown House, c. 1821.
Federal with Victorian modifications, 2½ stories, with attached ell and barn, frame with clapboarded exterior.
36. "Barn Knight's Barn", c. 1770.
Main House, Dr. Abiel Hall, 1801.
House Colonial with Italianate porch.
Barn and ell, John Knight, early hostelry, frame with clapboarded exterior.
37. Dr. Abiel Hall's Office, before 1829.
2 story frame, clapboarded exterior, moved 2952 from original site facing village green, altered at same time.
38. "Alfred Country Store" (originally built as William G. Conant's Store), c. 1841.
Greek Revival with contemporary modifications, 2½ stories, frame.
39. David Hall's Goldsmith Shop, before 1841.
Greek Revival, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
40. "Berry Shop", c. 1856.
Greek Revival, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
41. "Berry Tavern", cl. 1804.
Original owner Daniel Holmes.
Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
42. Porter Lambert House, c. 1814.
Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded exterior.
43. "Conant House", c. 1809. Built by Thomas Keeler.
Federal, 2½ stories, frame with clapboarded exterior and attached ell.
44. "Brick Ends", John Conant built for Alvah Conant, before 1828.
Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboarded front and back, brick ends, wood quoins.
45. Parsons Memorial Library, 1903.
Colonial Revival, native granite, 1 story with mezzanine.
47. Usher A. Hall House, c. 1864.
Greek Revival, 1½ stories, frame with clapboard, attached barn.
48. York County Court House.
Colonial Revival, 2½ story brick center section, originally 1807; rebuilt after fire 1933; wings, Italianate, 1856.

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

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

ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT
Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 5

Nonconforming intrusions detracting from the integrity of the district:

6. Sayward House, 1926.
Lawton and Herman Sayward, Builders.
American Foursquare, 2 stories, with clapboarded exterior.

46. G. Burton Chadborne House, c. 1927.
Bungalow.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

N/A

Builder/Architect

N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Simeon Coffin, the first white man to arrive in Alfred, came in November of 1764 and dwelt in an Indian wigwam on the northwest side of what is now called Shaker Pond. Members of the Coffin family and several of the other early settlers were later converted to Shakerism. For many years, Alfred was associated with the Shaker community which was built on the hill overlooking that same pond. Daniel Gile built the first two story home in Alfred. Some of the first cultivated cranberries grown in Maine were planted by the Giles on the shores of Shaker Pond. Today the Giles have extensive orchards in the same area of the village as that settled by Daniel.

The proposed historic district is located in the center of Alfred Village, which was incorporated February 4, 1794. The Conant and Knight families settled here during the 1760's and they and their descendants built many of the homes and shops around the village green. John Knight built a barn and ell (#36) where he entertained early travellers, earning for himself the nickname, "Barn Knight". During the revolutionary period, meetings to examine articles in the new form of government took place in Knight's barn. Here early church meetings were held which were apparently somewhat disrupted by the Merry Dancers, a group of early celebrants whose activities seem to have shocked the more staid inhabitants of the community. Across the street from the barn is the oldest residential home in the village center, now called "The Beehive" (#26). It is actually three buildings joined together with construction evolving over three centuries. John Knight began the first and oldest portion, the middle, c. 1770, in the colonial style. Although this is the most altered portion of the Beehive, many original features remain such as the raised panelling in the front room. In 1801 Joshua Conant, an early Alfred entrepreneur, purchased the 100 acre Knight holdings in the village center which he sold one month later to Dr. Abiel Hall, Sr. Dr. Hall lived in the Beehive, adding the northern section in the Federal style. Finally, the third and last section was built facing south, c. 1915, by Alonzo Roberts in the homestead style. At one time the Beehive housed multiple families, hence the name.

Alfred's best known citizen, John Holmes, arrived in 1799. He was a young lawyer who became an expert in real estate law. Titles to Alfred land were in an unsettled state with squatters making improvements on land they did not own. Holmes was employed to secure good title in these cases. An example is the tract of land in Alfred Village for the jail. Thomas Hutchinson of Devon, England, deeded two acres to York County for the jail through John Holmes. The site of this original jail (#22) is located next to John Holmes' dwelling (#24). Called the "Bow and Arrow House", the Federal house of John Holmes was originally a Cape designed with a flair reminiscent of the Southern hospitality he must have experienced in Washington where he was one of Maine's first two senators. Notable are the two story

9. Major Bibliographical References

Parson, Usher, Centennial History of Alfred. Philadelphia, 1872.

Papers of Henry Sayward. MSS owned by widow in Alfred.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 15

Quadrangle name Kennebunk

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	19	3	610	91715	418	114	51010
Zone		Easting			Northing		

B

1	19	3	611	81715	418	114	81215
Zone		Easting			Northing		

C

1	19	3	610	71510	418	114	41510

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the southern corner of the Old York County Jail (1) property, the district boundary runs northerly along the east property line to Saco Road, easterly along said road to the southwest corner of the Tripp House (2)

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

organization Me. Historic Preservation Comm. date January, 1983

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2133

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 *Lucas S. Shepard*

title S. H. P. O. date 3/22/83

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 4/28/83

for *Delores Ryan*
Keeper of the National Register

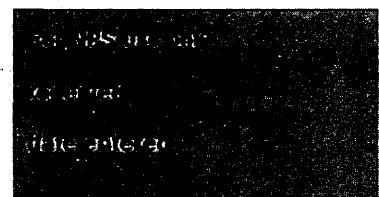
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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



ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT
Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

columns and the roof balustrade with bow and arrows pointing downward, a sign of friendliness toward the Indians, as well as tall Palladian windows centering the second story.

John Holmes provided the impetus for locating the York County Court House here. Presence of the Court House significantly affected the character and ensured the growth of the village center. Completed in 1807, fireproof wings were added in 1854. Fire destroyed the original center section which was rebuilt in 1933. Berry Tavern (#41) facing Alfred Green, provided meals and lodging during court sessions in the mid-19th century. The Tavern was originally built for Daniel Holmes. It was here that Holmes developed one of the several local early 19th century potteries producing the much admired and collected Alfred redware. This home retains original 12/12 windows, Indian shutters, and stands almost touching the Porter Lambert house (#42). Both have the low profile hip roof and high double end chimneys typical of a large and stately Federal home.

Stylistic change provides visible evidence of changes in attitude and growth spurts experienced in the village. During the pivotal year of 1829, Dr. Abiel Hall, Sr. died and his land holdings in the village were divided. After this time, a profusion of Greek Revival homes, storefronts, and churches suggest the labor of local carpenters constructing on a less opulent scale with demands of living and intended use forcing adaptations in design to accommodate a more popular perspective.

Construction after 1860 assumes the Victorian sensibility reflected in increased sense of scale and proportion. Notable is the Italianate house built by J. N. Stinson (311) next to the Town Hall (#12) which was constructed in the same year. Both were built on sites of buildings burned in 1860. It is easy to understand the allure of the Italianate style in this country village. Porches and increased window size achieve an integration of interior and exterior space. Victorian infatuation with Italian architectural detail such as quoins, bay windows, rows of roof line brackets, and ornamental cupolas provide a setting for living and entertaining enhanced to elegant sophistication. Many homes in the village reveal the changing fashion. Italianate porches abound on earlier buildings (Daniel Goodenow House [#5], Abiel Hall House[#36], etc.). The quoins and other embellishments on the distinctive "Brick Ends" house (#44) bespeak of neighborly influence from across the street coupled with an effervescent individualistic application of the current stylistic trend.

The Alfred Historic District presents a rural village situated in the center of a well-populated county. The village continues to maintain its 19th century flavor despite the area's rapid growth. Although there is a diversity of architectural style within the village, there is also a sense of continuity with and pride in the past.

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

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



ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

property, and thence northerly along the east property line to the northeast corner whence it turns westerly and northerly following the rear property lines of the buildings on the north side of Saco Road and the east side of Waterboro Road to the northeast corner of the Conant House (20) and then runs westerly along the north line of said property to Waterboro Road. From here the line runs southerly along Waterboro Road to the northern property line of the Joseph Sayward House (21) which it follows westerly to the northwest corner where it turns southerly and runs along the rear property lines on the Waterboro Road and the northwest side of Oak Street to the west corner of the William Cutler Allen (29) property and thence southeasterly along the southwest property line to Oak Street. The line then follows Oak Street southwesterly to the southwest property line of the William G. Conant House (30) which it follows southeasterly to the southern corner and thence northeasterly along the rear property lines on the southeast side of Oak Street, the southwest and west sides of Kennebunk Road to Court Street which it follows easterly to said Kennebunk Road. From here the line runs north on said Kennebunk Road to the southeast property lines of the Parsons Memorial Library which it follows northeasterly to Saco Road, thence southeasterly along said road to the northwest property line of the Old County Jail (1), southwesterly along said line to the west corner and from there southeasterly to the point of beginning.

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

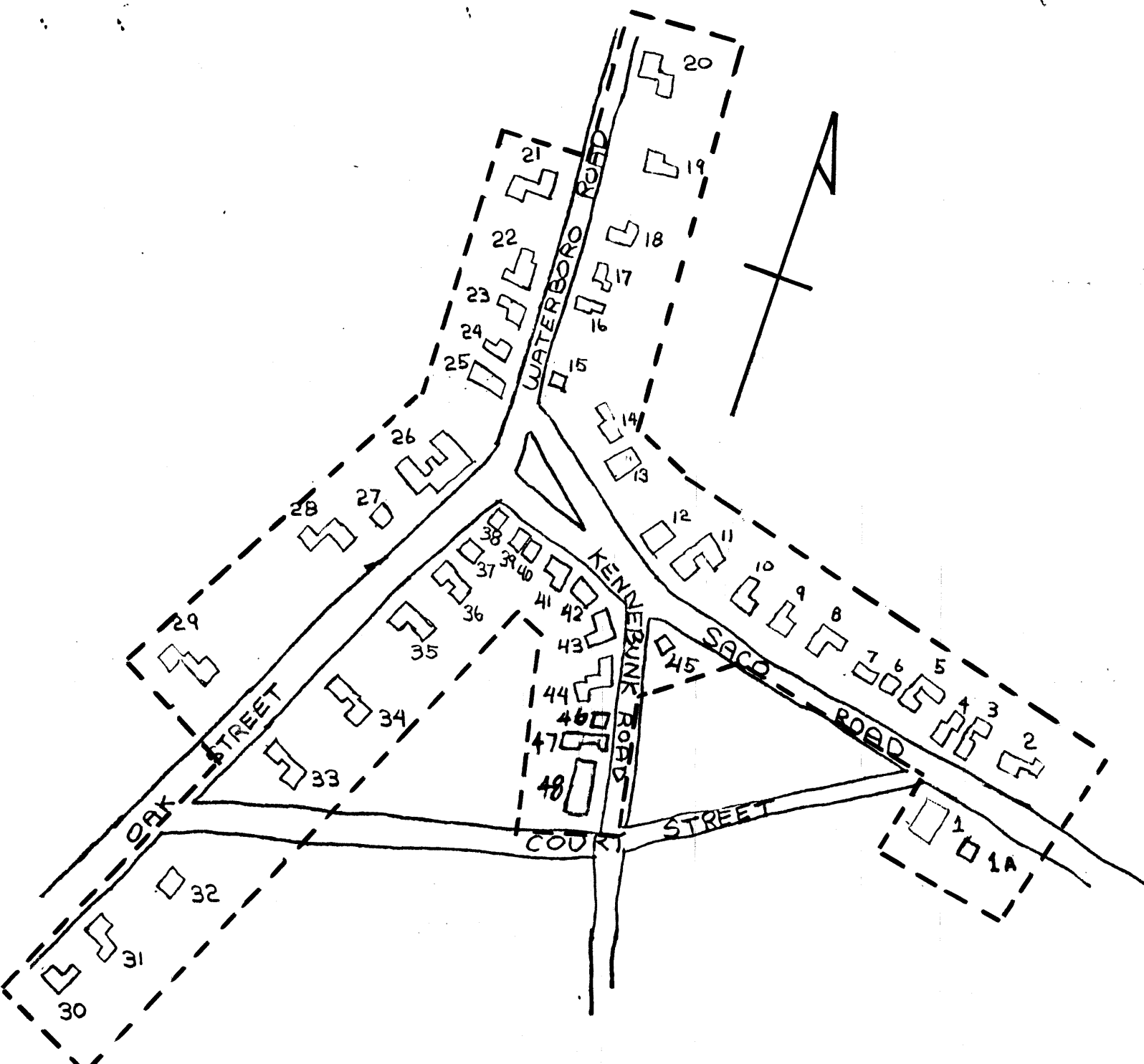
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT
Continuation sheet

Item number 4

Page 2

1. York County Alcohol Shelter, Alfred, Maine 04002
2. Thomas and Joanne Chapais, Saco Road., Alfred, Maine 04002
3. Alfred Parish Church, Alfred, Maine 04002
4. Charlotte and Robert Jones, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
5. Joseph and Joyce Wagner, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
6. Maude Sayward, Woods Edge, Alfred, Maine 04002
7. Frances and William Sullivan, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
8. Sarah and Douglas Jowett, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
9. Ernestine Sayward, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
10. Jane and Michael Kucsma, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
11. Pamela and James Georgitis, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
12. Town of Alfred, Alfred, Maine 04002
13. Alfred Parish Church, UCC, Alfred, Maine 04002
14. Alfred Parish Church, UCC, Alfred, Maine 04002
15. Carroll Hussey, Alfred, Maine 04002
16. Frederick Miner, Box 55, Kingston, New Hampshire 03848
17. Barbara and Robert Leslie, Alfred, Maine 04002
18. Ria and Russell Sillivan, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
19. Kathleen and John Vigneaux, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
20. Elsie Davis, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
21. John Folsom, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
22. Ann and John Kustron, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
23. James Folsom, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
24. Marjorie and John Gunther, Main Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
25. Constance and Robert Canney, Alfred, Maine 04002
26. Dwayne Smoot and John Morningstar, Alfred, Maine 04002
27. Town of Alfred, Alfred, Maine 04002
28. Karen and Lawrence Kennedy, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
29. Helen and Joseph Farnsworth, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
30. Vivian Levya, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
31. Deborah and Louis Lander, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
32. Dr. Carl Richards, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
33. Elizabeth and Earland Morrison, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
34. Peggy and Frederick Price, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
35. Minna Thompson, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
36. Patricia Benson, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
37. Lona and Henry Reilly, Oak Street, Alfred, Maine 04002
38. Joanne and Thomas Chapais, Saco Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
39. Constance Briggs, Alfred, Maine 04002
40. Norman Rich, Kennebunk Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
41. Katherin and Lloyd Gallagos, Kennebunk Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
42. Mary Strayer, Kennebunk Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
43. Elizabeth and Emery S. Littlefield, Kennebunk Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
44. Gloria and William Keating, Kennebunk Road, Alfred, Maine 04002
45. Town of Alfred, Alfred, Maine 04002
46. Bernard H. and Pauline deHaven, Alfred, Maine 04002
47. Herbert Lanny Hobbs, Alfred, Maine 04002
48. York County, Alfred, Maine 04002



ALFRED HISTORIC DISTRICT

District Boundary - - - - -