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DIVISION OF NATIONAL REGISTER PROGRAMS NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name West Quoddy Lifesaving Station

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number N. side W. Quoddy Head

[N/A] not for publication

city, town Lubec

[X] vicinity

state Maine

code ME

county Washington

code 029

zip code 04652

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- [X] private
[] public-local
[] public-State
[] public-Federal

Category of Property

- [] building(s)
[X] district
[] site
[] structure
[] object

Number of Resources within Property

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing:

Lifesaving Stations of Maine

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

2/27/90

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- [X] entered in the National Register.
[] See continuation sheet.
[] determined eligible for the National Register. [] See continuation sheet.
[] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[] removed from the National Register.
[] other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 4-20-90

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Defense/Coast Guard Facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education/Research Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood/Weatherboard

Wood/Shingle

roof Asphalt

other Wooden Porches on Front &
Rear of House

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The lifesaving station at West Quoddy is located on a 5.11 acre parcel of land at the north side of the peninsula facing Quoddy Roads. It is comprised of a Chatham-type dwelling and boathouse, a garage and a flat-roofed concrete building. There are three contributing buildings and one non-contributing building in the complex.

1. DWELLING, 1919 - C

Facing north, the dwelling is a two-story five-bay rectangular frame building covered by a gable on hip roof. It is sheathed in weatherboards and it rests on a concrete foundation. The centrally-located front entrance is sheltered by a porch whose hip roof is supported by a pair of square posts. Balustrades link the posts to the wall. Six-over-six double-hung sash windows are used on the facade and throughout the building. Both side elevations are equally divided into two bays. The rear elevation features an offset projecting vestibule and a bulkhead with flanking sheds at the southwest corner. Small windows flank the vestibule and bulkhead. The interior is very modestly finished with many of the plaster over lath walls covered by paneling probably installed during the 1970s.

2. BOATHOUSE, 1919 - C

The largest building of its type at Maine lifesaving stations, the boathouse is a spacious hip roofed, shingled building located some 500 feet northeast of the house. Its front elevation has three large openings (one of which has been enclosed) that provide access to the boat storage area inside. Centrally located above the center door is a gabled dormer with a semi-circular double-hung window. The five-bay side elevations contain symmetrically placed six-over-six double-hung sash windows and three dormers. An exterior wooden stair leads to a dormer on the east side. The rear elevation features a central entrance with sidelights and a narrow pedimented porch supported by two thin posts. Another large opening and its door is positioned to the right of the entrance. Inside, of the three original sloping ramps, only the center one is unaltered. The other two have been covered by removable platforms that have leveled the floor. Iron posts support the spacious attic which is reached through a stair located in the southwest corner.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

One of the most striking features of the boathouse is the system of concrete and iron pilings which support the house and wide boatways. The slip itself is over one-hundred feet in length. Its platform, which is considerably wider near the boathouse, contains a track system used to haul the boats to and from the launch point. The great tidal range in the Quoddy Roads and the severity of the climate were of prime importance in the design of this structure. Unfortunately, a number of the cast iron plates that encase the concrete are deteriorated resulting in increased exposure of the concrete to adverse environmental conditions.

3. GARAGE, 1920, - C

Standing to the southeast of the house is the small square garage. It is sheathed in wood shingles and covered by a low hip roof. The front (west) elevation has two large doors at the entrance to the stalls. There are a pair of two-over-two windows on both the east and south sides and a door at the northwest corner.

4. BUILDING, c. 1960 - NC

This low one-story non-historic building is of concrete block construction with a flat roof. A shed addition is attached to the east side.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Maritime History

Period of Significance

1919 - 1940

Significant Dates

1919

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Mendleheff, Victor, Architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Constructed in 1919 and utilized in its original capacity until 1972, the West Quoddy Lifesaving Station consists of a dwelling, a garage, a boathouse and slip, and a non-historic masonry building. It was established on the present site to replace the station erected in 1873-74 at Carrying Point Cove on the opposite side of West Quoddy Head. The complex retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It is eligible for nomination to the Register under criterion A as more fully explained in the multiple property submission "Lifesaving Stations of Maine."

In 1873 Congress authorized an expansion of the U. S. Lifesaving Service which included the establishment of five stations in Maine. One of these was located at Carrying Point Cove on West Quoddy Head where it was to have responsibility for Cobscook Bay. This site and the original 1874 Type station were used until 1919 when the existing facility was placed into operation. The precise reason for relocation has not been positively determined. However, it is reasonable to assume that a desire to avoid the exposed location of the 1874 station was of primary importance in choosing the new site.

The United States Coast Guard, into which the Lifesaving Service was absorbed in 1915, occupied the station until 1972. At that time it was transferred to the State of Maine where it was subsequently used as a boat building school for the Washington County Vocational-Technical Institute. Since 1980 it has served as the headquarters for the West Quoddy Biological Research Station.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

York, Wick. "The Architecture of the U. S. Life-Saving Stations." The Log of Mystic Seaport. V. 34, No. 1. Mystic, CT: Mystic Seaport Museum. 1982.

 "Maine Lifesaving Stations." Unpublished manuscript prepared for the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, 1987.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

National Archives

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of property 5.11

UTM References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies the Town of Lubec tax map 3, lot 10.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the buildings and entire property of approximately five acres historically associated with this lifesaving station.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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