

PH0004731

Hon. William D. Hathaway

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

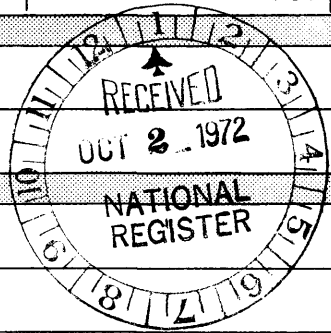
STATE:	Maine	
COUNTY:	Penobscot	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	OCT	DATE 26 1972

HB E 517750
Zn19 N4960475

1. NAME

COMMON:
Symphony House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Isaac Farrar House



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
166 Union Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

STATE <u>Maine</u>	CODE <u>23</u>	COUNTY: <u>Penobscot</u>	CODE <u>019</u>
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments <u>Northern Conservatory of Music</u> <u>Bangor Symphony of Music</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Bangor Symphony

STREET AND NUMBER:
166 Union Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Registry of Deeds, Penobscot County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hammond Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Maine
COUNTY:	Penobscot
ENTRY NUMBER	OCT 26 1972
DATE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The current Symphony House in Bangor was designed by Richard Upjohn as a residence for Isaac Farrar in 1833. It was the architect's first important commission. The house stands on the western corner of the intersection of Union and Second Streets, facing northeast toward Union Street.

As originally designed and built, the Isaac Farrar House had strong Greek Revival detailing. It was two and a half stories high, built of brick. The wall surfaces were slightly recessed behind corner columns and a narrow architrave. The center bay of the three bay facade was recessed, featuring a wrought iron balcony above the entrance way. The entrance projected slightly from the facade wall surface. An outer pair of semi-freestanding, flat pilasters and an inner pair of freestanding, fluted doric columns supported a wide entablature. One passed through the space behind this entrance to reach the entrance door. The narrow framed windows all had granite lintels.

The hipped roof of the house was hidden behind a solid parapet punctuated by flat pilasters located over the corner columns and windows of the house. Gable windows were added to the roof after the house was built. The house had five interior chimneys.

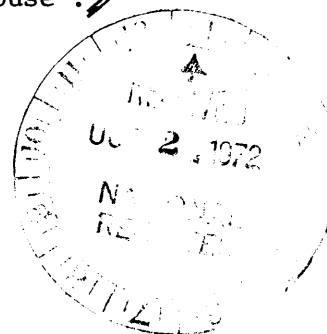
A low, solid wall was built around the lot line of the house. Double recessed panels occurred between columns of a slightly pyramidal shape.

The proportions of the Isaac Farrar House were exceptionally handsome and were reinforced by the treatment of the wall surfaces as massive panels and by the bold simplicity of the few exterior details. The house had a commanding presence.

On the interior, the Isaac Farrar House had a wide central hall with a double stair. To one side was a large elliptical room, planned as one room but divided into two when the house was built. On the other side were two rooms, one a circular salon with a domed ceiling which was finished in solid mahogany. Its simple detail emphasized the surface quality of the wood. This room is intact today.

The Isaac Farrar House was a private residence until 1911. Owner Isaac Merrill made many changes to the exterior and interior of the house. He removed the wall around the property line. He moved the entrance door forward and added a bay window above it. He added bay windows to the sides of the house. Another story was added. On the interior, Merrill refinished several rooms.

From 1911 until 1929, the house was occupied as a residency by the University of Maine Law School and called Stewart Hall. From 1929 until the present, it has been used by the Bangor Symphony as the Northern Conservatory of Music and called "Symphony House".



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Design, 1833; Construction, 1842-44.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Isaac Farrar House was the first major work of architect, Richard Upjohn, 1802-1878. It is important because it shows that Upjohn, well known for his Gothic designs, began his career by building in the Greek Revival style, the traditional style of the time. Handsomely proportioned and boldly detailed, the Isaac Farrar House shows Upjohn to be a talented designer in this style. The Symphony House today retains many of the features of the original house.

Richard Upjohn's other commissions in Bangor were the Samuel Farrar House, 1836, a two and a half story brick house with the end treated to look like a temple and St. John's Church, finished in 1837. The Samuel Farrar House is still standing, but the church burned in the fire of 1911. Other commissions by Richard Upjohn in Maine included "Oaklands", The R. H. Gardiner House in Gardiner, The Bowdoin College Chapel and Library in Brunswick, St. Pauls Church and The First Parish Church in Brunswick, and Berwick Academy in South Berwick. It was Upjohn's work in Maine which started him on a successful architectural career.

Isaac Farrar (1798-1860), for whom the house was built, came to Bangor from Dexter in 1836. He was a lumberman and merchant, and president of the Maritime Bank of Bangor. Charles B. Sanford, who lived in the house from 1865-1878, was proprietor of the Sanford Steamship Lines. Owen Davis, who lived in the house from 1882-1888, was the owner and manager of the Katahdin Iron Works and the father of Owen Davis, Jr., the author of the Pulitzer Prize winning play, Ice Bound.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Assessment and Valuation Books, City of Bangor, 1841-44.
Bangor City Directory, Bangor, 1869-1912.
Bangor Daily News, February 12, 1929.
Upjohn, Everard M. Richard Upjohn Architect and Churchman. New York, 1969.
 (1st ed., New York, 1939).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44° 47' 59"	68° 46' 32"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary-Eliza Wengren, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: August 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta STATE: Maine CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James H. Munday
 Title State Liaison Officer
 Date September 25, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/26/72

ATTEST:
William J. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 10-19-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS