



1643

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Wentworth, Mark F. And Eliza J., House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 9 Wentworth Street N/A not for publication

city or town Kittery Foreside, N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county York code 031 zip code 03904

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Carol S. Peterson SHAPO 12/4/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- 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): _____

Edson H. Beall 1/7/98
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Wentworth, Mark F. and Eliza J., House
Name of Property

York, Maine
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		_____ buildings
		_____ sites
		_____ structures
		_____ objects
1	0	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

_____ N/A _____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

_____ 0 _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood/Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other Two-Story Ell

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

c. 1866-1897

Significant Dates

c. 1866

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Wentworth, Mark F.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WENTWORTH, MARK F. AND ELIZA J., HOUSE

YORK, MAINE

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The Mark F. and Eliza J. Wentworth House is a two-story, five-bay frame dwelling with Italianate style detailing overlaid on what appears to be an earlier Greek Revival style building. It has one and two-story ells as well as a pair of bay windows on the south side elevation. The house, which is located in Kittery Foreside, is sheathed in wide clapboards, and it stands on a brick foundation.

Facing east, the symmetrically composed front elevation is comprised of a center doorway that is flanked by two-over-two double hung sash windows with wide, flat surrounds. The doorway itself appears to be a mid twentieth century replacement unit that employs a six-panel door framed by sidelights and panels. There are five two-over-two windows on the second story that are positioned on-axis with the first floor openings. Corner boards of moderate width rise to a broad entablature that is adorned with five pairs of brackets supporting the broad overhang of the roof. A pair of modern skylights are located on the front plane of the roof.

The south side elevation of the main block is a single bay deep and has a three-sided bay window on the first story, a single two-over-two on the second story, and a six-over-six in the gable peak. Single brackets support the gable end returns, and the raking cornice has a notched molding that indicates where brackets were located. The ell is divided into three bays in which the first story has a center door surmounted by a transom, a three sided bay window to the east, and a four-over-four window to the west. There is a very narrow one-over-one window in the center bay of the second story and flanking two-over-twos. The roof is punctuated by a pair of gabled dormers with six-over-six windows. On the north gable end, single two-over-two windows occupy the first and second stories, a six-over-six is located in the gable peak, and paired brackets decorate the cornice. A shed roofed addition at the northwest corner of the rear elevation features a window on the north side, and a door at the rear. This shed meets the principal ell that contains a pair of small modern windows on the first story and a trio of two-over-twos on the second story. A one-story ell extends from the west (rear) elevation of the two-story ell. It has several small windows on its three sides.

It is believed that the house was converted into apartments in the 1920s, although it also housed a physician's office until the 1960s. However, the historic configuration of the interior in the front block appears to be largely unaltered. Its most notable feature is the handsome main stairway which is located in the vestibule behind the front entrance and winds in a tight spiral to the second floor. Its handrail, which is supported by thin turned balusters, ends in a volute and bulbous newel post. Doors with two long panels and symmetrically molded surrounds with corner blocks are located at the sides of this vestibule and open into the front rooms.

Family tradition holds that the house originally had a one-story porch on its front elevation, as well as a one-story hipped roof addition and porch attached to the north end. This addition was said to be Dr. Wentworth's waiting room or office. It is not known when this section of the house was removed.

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WENTWORTH, MARK F. AND ELIZA J., HOUSE

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Probably constructed during the second quarter of the nineteenth century and remodeled in the 1860s or 1870s, the Mark F. and Eliza J. Wentworth House is a two-story wooden frame building that has Italianate style exterior features. The house is notable as the residence of Mark Fernald Wentworth, a physician, distinguished Civil War officer, and state politician who occupied the house with his family from the late 1860s until his death. By virtue of its association with a significant person, the house is eligible for nomination to the National Register under criterion B.

The following biography of Wentworth is excerpted from a 1903 publication entitled *The 32nd Maine Regiment of Infantry Volunteers: An Historical Sketch*:

Mark Fernald Wentworth was born in Kittery, York County, Maine, on March 14, 1820. He was the son of William and Mary (Fernald) Wentworth.

In boyhood, and until he was about twelve years of age, the subject of this sketch attended the schools in his native town for four months in the year, and worked on his father's farm the remainder of the time. His father having died in 1832, he worked on the farm half of the year, from that time forward, and attended the high school and the academy the other half. At the age of twenty-one, he began the study of medicine with Dr. Trafton of South Berwick, and during the years 1842 to 1844, attended medical lectures at Dartmouth College. In 1845 he was appointed as chief clerk to the naval store keeper at the Portsmouth Navy Yard, in which position he continued to serve until 1849, when he accepted a clerical appointment to the State Valuation Commission at Augusta. Upon the completion of his work there, he went to Philadelphia, where he finished his medical studies, and received his diploma from the University of Pennsylvania. He first began to practice his profession in South Boston, but subsequently moved back to his native town. Here he soon established a large practice, which he continued to enjoy for many years.

He possessed a taste for military matters, to gratify which he was instrumental in the organization, in 1854, of a company of militia, known as the Kittery Artillery. Of this company he was chosen as captain and retained that position until 1862. During this time he was appointed Chief-of-staff to Governor Hamlin, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. But the holiday service of the militia was soon to be exchanged for sterner and more serious duties. In the turbulent days which preceded the outbreak of the Civil War, Dr. Wentworth was an

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WENTWORTH, MARK F. AND ELIZA J., HOUSE

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active and ardent member of the Republican party. And he took much pleasure in his selection as one of the delegates from Maine to the National Convention in 1860, at which he cast his vote for Lincoln and Hamlin. When the war came, at the first call for troops, in April of 1861, Captain Wentworth with the Kittery Artillery was ordered to Fort McClary at Kittery Point. They were stationed here until June, when he received the appointment of store keeper at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

Desiring active service, however, when President Lincoln, in 1862, called for troops to enlist for nine months, he assisted in raising the Twenty-Seventh Maine Regiment, of which, at its organization, he became Lieutenant-Colonel, and later was promoted Colonel. After having served its full period of enlistment, and when about to return home and be mustered out. Lee's invasion of the North threatened serious danger to the Union cause. And at the request of the President and the Secretary of War, Colonel Wentworth and a large portion of his command, volunteered to remain for the defense of Washington, although their time was expired. They continued in service until after the battle of Gettysburg, and when finally permitted to return to Maine, their homeward journey was a continuous ovation from Washington to their native State. And subsequently the survivors of the regiment received a medal of honor, by vote of Congress, in recognition of their patriotism.

Soon after his return home from this service, Colonel Wentworth, at the urgent solicitation of Governor Cony, accepted the Colonelcy of the Thirty-Second Maine Regiment, then about to be raised. The regiment was recruited, organized, equipped and officered under his personal supervision, early in 1864. As is well known, the regiment was sent to the front in two detachments, the first leaving the State under command of Major Deering. Colonel Wentworth accompanied the second battalion, which joined the detachment which had proceeded it, at the North Anna River, in May, 1864.

[Seriously wounded at Petersburg in July, 1864, Wentworth returned to Kittery], and in November, 1864, he resigned his commission. In 1865, he was brevetted Brigadier-General of Volunteers, "for gallant and meritorious services during the war."

After returning to civil life, General Wentworth served his State and country in various official positions. He was re-appointed as store keeper at the Navy Yard, and held the office for a considerable time. He was representative in the State Legislature in 1873-74 and 1880-81. In 1887 he was made a member of the Board of Inspectors of State Prison, and in 1891 he was appointed by President Harrison as Surveyor of Customs at Portland, in which capacity he served for four years. He was a delegate in 1868 to the National Convention which nominated General Grant for President, and in 1873 made an unsuccessful contest for Representative from the First District, coming within a few votes of winning the honor.

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Wentworth died at his home in Kittery on July 12, 1897, and is buried in a tomb that is now on a separate parcel of property no longer associated with the house. His wife, Eliza (1820-1883) and daughter Annie (1847-1862) are buried with him. Although the house has been altered somewhat from its nineteenth century appearance, it remains as the most significant property associated with the life and career of Mark F. Wentworth.

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Bibliography:

Chase, Henry. *Representative Men of Maine: A Collection of Portraits with Biographical Sketches of Residents of the State who have Achieved Success and are Prominent in Commercial, Industrial, Professional and Political Life, to which is added the Portraits and Sketches of all the Governors since the formation of the State.* Portland, Maine: The Lakeside Press, 1893.

Houston, Henry C. *The 32nd Maine Regiment of Infantry Volunteers: An Historical Sketch.* Portland, Maine: Press of Southworth Brothers, 1903.

Pullen, John J. *A Shower of Stars: The Medal of Honor and the 27th Maine.* Philadelphia and New York: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1966.

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WENTWORTH, MARK F. AND ELIZA J., HOUSE

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Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies the Town of Kittery Tax Map 4, Lot 90.

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the remaining village lot that is historically associated with the Mark F. and Eliza J. Wentworth House.