

PH0354317

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 12 1976
DATE ENTERED	OCT 8 1975

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

**\*\* HISTORIC**  
 Sen. William P. Frye House  
 AND/OR COMMON

## LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
453-461 Main Street

CITY, TOWN  
Lewiston

STATE  
Maine

VICINITY OF  
2nd Hon. William Cohen

CODE  
23

COUNTY  
Androscoggin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
2nd Hon. William Cohen

CODE  
001

## CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Emile and Blanche Rodrique

STREET & NUMBER  
192 Pine Street

CITY, TOWN  
Lewiston

STATE  
Maine

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Auburn

STATE  
Maine

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED			

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

George M. Coombs designed the William P. Frye House as a grand example of the Second Empire style. It is a three story rectangular building with a characteristic Mansard roof. A matching two story wing extends from the east side. An emphatic cornice runs around the entire house. A smaller cornice tops the upper roof line. The house stands on a stone foundation and is sheathed with clapboards.

The west wall is comprised of a two bay facade. On either side, a two story bay window is divided at the second floor level by a wooden cornice. The windows are rather narrow with recessed paneling decorating the borders of the panels. In line with the bay windows are two gabled dormer windows in the roof.

The south wall displays a roofed porch on the west end. It extends across the two bays on the left. Slender wooden piers with recessed panels rise from a lattice railing to support the roof. Sheltered under the porch roof is a double hung window to the left of a door in the center bay. On the second floor a bay window identical to those on the facade occupies the left bay. A double hung window is in the center bay. To the right, the final bay projects out to end in a bay window flush with the porch. Both the first and second stories have a bay window, but they lack the elaborate enframing that is found on the facade windows. Instead carved corner supports embellish the second floor windows. The side of the projection facing the porch contains a double-hung window on each floor. Gabled dormers with decorative relief carvings were placed in each bay on the third floor. The side ell continues along this elevation in an easterly direction. It is smaller in height and has three gabled dormers and an emphatic wooden cornice. On the first floor, the ell has six bays, occupied by three double-hung windows with a fourth small square window between two doors at either end. The overhangs surmounting the doors have open-work carving. Beyond the ell is a double-decker glassed-in sunporch.

The north wall is also three bayed with the left bay receding back into the house. The right two bays have a single sash window on each floor. A small square window is situated between the second floor windows. The roof has pedimented dormers aligned with the windows below. The left bay displays a large bay window beneath a double-hung window on the second floor and a gabled dormer on the third. To the east, the two story wing continues the elevation design, joined by a sunporch.

Four brick chimneys project from the main part of the house, completing the effect of a boldly modeled, emphatically three-dimensional building.

# 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 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                      1874                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      George M. Coombs

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William P. Frye House, designed in 1874 by George M. Coombs of Lewiston, is one of the finest examples of the Second Empire style of architecture in the city of Lewiston. One of Coombs' early works, the house was owned by William Pierce Frye, United States Senator, representing Maine in that capacity from 1881 to his death in 1911. An outstanding citizen of Maine during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, Frye served as a State Representative from Lewiston, Mayor of Lewiston, State Attorney General and as a trustee of Bowdoin College. Frye also served Maine in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Born in Lewiston, Maine on September 2, 1830, Frye attended public schools in Lewiston and graduated from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine in 1850. Frye studied law, was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Rockland, Maine in 1853.

Frye's political career began when he returned to Lewiston to practice law and was elected to the State Legislature in 1861. He was re-elected in 1862 and 1867. He served as Lewiston's mayor from 1866-67 and as the Attorney General of Maine from 1867-1869. He was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket of Lincoln and Johnson in 1864.

Frye became involved further in national politics as a delegate to the Republican National Convention at Philadelphia in 1872 and at the Chicago Convention in 1880. He was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1870, where he served until 1881. It was during this period that Frye succeeded James G. Blaine as the foremost Republican leader in Maine. He also replaced Blaine as chairman of the Republican State Committee in November, 1881.

On March 18, 1881, Frye succeeded Blaine as Maine's United States Senator, since the latter had resigned that post to become President Garfield's Secretary of State. In his thirty years in the Senate, Frye spoke out on many national and international issues, although he assumed a traditional position of Republican party loyalty.

On February 7, 1896, Frye was elected President pro-tempore of the Senate, serving in that capacity until April, 1911. In September, 1898 Senator Frye joined the peace commission which met in Paris to adjust the terms for settlement of the Spanish-American War. Senator Frye died in Lewiston, Maine on August 8, 1911.

(See continuation sheets)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Paul, Jean, Senator Frye of Maine

White, W. H., Jr., Senator William P. Frye, Extract from Just Maine Folks  
National Cyclopedia of American Biography, Vol. 1, p.290

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>19</u>	<u>403075</u>	<u>4884170</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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 Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Architectural Historian  
Frank A. Beard, Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE 4/2/76

STREET & NUMBER 31 Western Avenue TELEPHONE 207-289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta, STATE Maine

# 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 Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE April 8, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
Acting	DATE <u>10/8/76</u>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>9/29/76</u>
ATTEST:	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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OCT 8 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

William Frye epitomized the Maine Republican politician of the Gilded Age in American history. Conservative in both his life-style and his politics, he found it much easier to vote the party line than to allow conscience to enter into political consideration. There is evidence enough, however, to suggest that for William Frye, the Republican party and all that it embraced and adhered to was his conscience. The time eventually came when his intense party devotion (what critics charged was blind loyalty) was an embarrassment, even for the Republican party. Nonetheless, Frye must be considered along side of Blaine, Sewall and Reed as an outstanding political leader of his day.