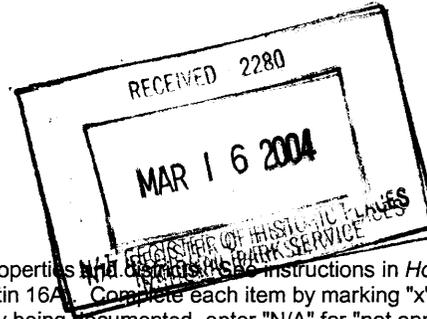


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties. 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 East Raymond Union Chapel

other names/site number East Raymond Chapel, U.C.C.; East Raymond Community Church

2. Location

street & number 394 Webbs Mills Road N/A not for publication

city or town East Raymond N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Cumberland code 005 zip code 04071

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. Fredrickson 2/24/04
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): _____

Wilson H. Beall 4/28/04
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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	
1	0	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

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION / Religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION / Religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN / Queen Anne

LATE VICTORIAN / Gothic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite

Concrete

walls Wood / Weatherboard

Wood / Shingle

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

EAST RAYMOND UNION CHAPEL

CUMBERLAND CO., MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

DESCRIPTION

The East Raymond Chapel is a small, wood-framed religious building set on a quarter-acre lot in the rural village of East Raymond, Maine. The most centrally located of the three villages in Raymond, the Chapel is located in a small town setting which currently, and historically, included a general store, the town offices, schools, fire station, several dozen residences and one additional church. The bulk of the village is clustered on either side of Webb's Mills Road, which runs from the northwest to southeast along a ridge overlooking Panther Pond to the west. Not far from the center of the village the residential houses give way to large farms which alternate with patches of hard wood forest. With the exception of the schools and town buildings most of the building in East Raymond were built in the nineteenth century, and the entire village retains a measured degree of historical character.

At the center of the village is the East Raymond Chapel. Built between 1888 and 1890, this moderately sized structure artfully combines Queen Anne styling with a Gothic aesthetic to create a cut a significant profile that does not overwhelm, but complements, the village landscape. The gable-fronted building faces the road to the northeast (for ease of reference it will be referred to as north facing in this document) and is comprised of a one-and-one-half story rectangular block with a highly pitched roof, in front of which is a three stage bell tower at the northwest corner. A small, single-story, shed roof addition is appended to the south side of the building. The white painted building is clad with a combination of clapboards and patterned shingles on the walls and asphalt shingles on the roofs. The original pink granite foundation has been replaced with concrete block on the northern elevation, and a field stone ramp paved with cement and lined with iron hand rails gradually marks the transition from the road to the front entry. Centered on the first floor of the north facade is a single bay which contains paired Queen Anne style windows under a projecting hood. The windows are comprised of a two-light bottom sash over which a large lavender colored field of glass is surrounded by twelve small panes of colored glass ranging in hue from rose to purple to yellow. Over the windows is a pedimented hood which rests on an oversized lintel that extends six inches beyond the window trim. The projecting roof of the Chapel terminates with cornice returns above narrow corner boards, however the clapboard cladding rises into the lower third of the gable before changing into a field of patterned shingles. Another single sash of similarly patterned colored glass is set into the midst of these shingles, and it is crowned by a simple arched pediment surrounding a frieze of vertical tongue-and-groove boarding. Both of the three bay east and west elevations are clapboarded. Frieze boards mark the eaves and corner boards articulate the edges of the building. Three windows, each similar in composition to the front windows, are equally spaced across the side walls. These windows are also capped with a pediment and field of horizontal siding. The rear, or southern, exposure of the main structure has an unbroken plane of clapboards on the main building. A small, recently constructed, shed roof addition containing a storage room, furnace room and chemical toilet, is lighted by five six-over-six sash and accessed by two doors from a small deck.

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At the base of the bell tower a steep, pointed-arch cornice defines a recessed entry with double doors. The recess is lined with horizontal tongue and groove boarding, which also clads the exterior wall above the doors. These elements, and the clapboard siding surrounding them, comprise the first stage of the tower. Just above the peak of the arch the second stage of the tower commences with a slightly flared band of patterned shingles. This siding then gives way to a field of clapboards bounded by narrow corner boards and capped with an overhanging cornice and partially, hipped roof. A single nine-over-one narrow window with colored glass, is located amidst the clapboards, rising just above the shingle course. As with the window in the main gable of the chapel, this portal is capped with a simple pediment. The final stage of the tower consists of an open belfry topped with a pyramidal spire which in turn supports a wooden finial. Each facade of the belfry has two pointed arched apertures through which the cast steel bell is visible. The roof line of the spire is punctuated on each side by an arched gable dormer centered above the two pointed arch openings below. Although the spire is not exceptionally elongated, a strong sense of verticality is created through the repetition of the height of the bell tower, the pointed-arches, the narrow corner boards, and the ability to view the sky through the open belfry. These vertical features, when combined with similar decorative motifs on the main building, the relatively narrow foot print of the building, and the 18-pitch roof all combine to give this modestly decorated Queen Anne structure an exalted, airy feeling reminiscent of Gothic style structures that were more popular twenty years before this building was raised.

The interior of the East Raymond chapel is not complicated. An entry vestibule is located in the base of the bell tower. A tiny door in the vestibule leads to the bell tower above, while the sanctuary opens directly off the entryway to the east. The sanctuary contains three blocks of pine pews that face towards the south end of the building, wherein is located a raised platform. The altar furniture include three high upholstered chairs, a lectern and small side, table all executed in the Eastlake style. In the southwest corner of the room another set of pews are placed facing to the north, while in the southeast corner is a nineteenth century organ and a modern door leading to the addition. A floor length curtain behind the altar furniture provides a decorative backdrop to the ceremonial space. Built into the east corner of the north wall is a set of glass front cupboards which store the chapels offering plates, hymn books and communion set. Adjacent to the cupboard is an old chimney, with a plugged stove-pipe opening, that extends through the ceiling but has been removed above the roof. The floors of the Chapel are random width painted pine, and a drop ceiling has been installed just below the original plaster and lath ceiling. The plaster walls of the chapel are painted in a rosy-pink, which in combination with the colored glass in the windows infuse the room with a warmth that belies its simplicity. Each of the windows is nicely detailed with stock wooden molding and bulls-eye corner blocks, while the walls are detailed with a simple Victorian chair rail and baseboard. The cornice molding under the drop ceiling is more recent and not of the same ilk. The same molding are used on the built in cupboard as well as in the entry vestibule, however here there are not painted but stained and varnished. Each of the windows and doors retain their original Victorian hardware, but sadly, several panes of colored glass have been replaced due to vandalism. Although architecturally and stylistically simple, the East Raymond Chapel has an integrity of style, craftsmanship and materials little changed since its construction in 1890.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1890

Significant Dates

1890

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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:

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EAST RAYMOND UNION CHAPEL

CUMBERLAND CO., MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"In 1884 at East Raymond, nine ladies and five gentlemen of the town met to form a Benevolent Society which was variously referred to as the 'Ladies Benevolent Society' or 'Ladies Sewing Circle.'" So commences a history of the East Raymond Chapel that was prepared to celebrate the building's 100th year in 1990. Built by the above named group between 1888 and 1890, the Chapel is a relatively small building, but proportionate to the diminutive scale of the village at whose center it resides. It is a religious structure, today administered by the United Church of Christ denomination, and linked to another, larger, rural church in a nearby town. As such it is the architectural significance of this structure that must be examined in this nomination to the National Register. The Chapel is not a large, complex or ornate building, as are many historic churches, nor is it the work of a well known, or even known, architect or builder. The form of the building is not recognizable as representing trends in church architecture associated with specific denominations or faiths at the end of the nineteenth century, nor do its materials incorporate unique natural resource or its siting capitalize on a particular landscape or view shed. The Chapel is not now, nor ever was, the only church in town, but it is the only religious facility in the center of East Raymond village. Yet its architectural form reflects both its community and religious significance. As a small building, it accommodates the size of the community. As a non-denominational Chapel it was open and inclusive. As a Queen Anne style building it nurtured individuals with a sense of warmth and the intimacy of home. And through its strong vertical elements it elevated the spirit towards the heavens. The East Raymond Chapel is nominated to the National Register of the Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture, and Criteria Consideration A, as a building owned by a religious institution, as an example of a small, rural church which successfully combined Queen Anne and Gothic Revival style elements to create a religious structure that reflected the values, mores and aesthetics of its community.

Little is known about the history of the East Raymond Chapel. As mentioned above, it was built by the members of a Benevolent Society, the origins of which are obscure. There is no indication that the Benevolent Society was affiliated with any of the towns other churches or outside religious groups. The Maine Register never mentions the Chapel or ascribes any clergy to its edifice. Town historian Mira Dolley summarizes the Chapels origins as "[a] union chapel was erected at East Raymond by a parish society in 1891", although she does not state to which parish the society belonged. Another town chronicler stated that "[a]t about the turn into this century the church at Webb's mills, the chapel at East Raymond and the Bridgton Road Church were added for, as advocated in the grants of townships, "the publick worship of God". (Dolley). The construction of the Chapel was a community undertaking, as further described by the church history.

"Within three years membership had grown to forty men and women. Records of the Society show that, at a meeting held December 22, 1887, it was voted that the funds of the Society (collected by dues) be used for building a church, chapel or vestry at East Raymond. Appointed to the Building Committee were Henry J. Lane, Dr. Lester Jordan, Charles Cole, Thomas J. Brown jr., Daniel H.

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Chipman, and Edward C. Hall. On September 6, 1888 the Society's minutes report "a goodly number present—decided to have Chapel to consist of two rooms built on one floor if approved by Committee...On motion, voted that Mr. (I.) P. Jordan take charge of building the Chapel." The next day, members "met with Mrs. Jordan in the evening...only a few present...the threshers kept people at home." Those present looked over the plan of the new Church and collected 25 cents in dues.

During the following year, members contributed time and material for grading the lot obtained from Orrin and Henry Land and Lester Jordan on the present site. Interested citizens also contributed generously to building the Chapel. In August of 1889, "the usual exercises of a 'Circle afternoon' were varied by a visit to the new Chapel to see how it was progressing and give our advice, if any was needed." In order to keep the project moving, the Society held a "Chapel Association Fair" on December 10 to raise funds. A total of \$29.50 was added to the collections. The group officially voted to pay all money held by circle members - a sum of \$60 - to the new "Chapel Association."

The East Raymond Chapel was completed in 1890. In July of that year the Ladies Benevolent Society voted to become responsible for all debts incurred in furnishing the inside of the Chapel. "*East Raymond Chapel History*).

The Gothic Revival form was used in Maine churches from 1819 through the 1850s with a few examples found in the 1860s and 1870s. Drawing on medieval traditions, some of the earliest Gothic churches in Maine were commissioned in stone (Christ Episcopal Church, NR 73000129), although by the 1840s many of the defining features of the style, including buttresses, crenelations, spires and pointed arches of varied curves, had been executed in wood. Many earlier stoic meetinghouses or churches, were updated though the addition of Gothic features including towers, spires and arched elements. Roman Catholic churches continued to build using a Gothic vocabulary into the 1860s, and at the end of the century several Episcopal chapels with Gothic precedents were located in coastal communities and "built largely though the efforts of, and for, summer residents." (Thompson, p. 167.) In commercial architecture, Francis H. Fassett employed High Victorian Gothic styling to many of the buildings he designed in the 1860s and 1870s. Evolving away from, but none the less adapting Fassett's Gothic elements, one of John Calvin Stevens first commissions in Portland, the J.B. Brown Memorial Block, combined the "vertical format of ...Fassett's High Victorian Gothic work, but its overall conception reflects a simpler, more uniform mass. Gone are Fassett's embellished stone brackets and columns. In their place is an ornamental scheme which has been reduced to clean combinations of bricks and terra cotta panels. In both his preliminary and final designs for the Block, Stevens abandoned the symmetrical balance of Fassett's work in favor of the asymmetry of the Queen Anne style." (P. 188 Thompson.) This trend was to continue in Steven's work eventually evolving into his well known Shingle Style structures.

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It is not likely that the members of the Ladies Benevolent Society spent much time pondering the work of two of Maine's most influential architects when they were choosing a design for the East Raymond Chapel, rather it is more likely that they surveyed the local landscape and built based on the stylistic vocabulary that was familiar to them. In 1879 a church was built in Raymond Village: this structure combined, somewhat awkwardly, a Greek Revival style building topped with a low two stage belfry and shingled spire. The symmetrical facade had two entrances topped with thick overhanging pediments. At the center of the facade, and along the side elevations were narrow, paired windows which shared a pointed hood. While there is no doubt that this structure was referencing Gothic forms, the style was thus familiar to residents in town, if not well executed in this example.

Queen Anne architecture, was the most popular form of new residential architecture between 1880 and 1890, and was frequently seen in communities that attracted summer visitors. While Raymond was not among the state's top summer destinations, local historian Ernest Harmon Knight noted a change in the town during summers in the later decades of the century. "Many old farmhouses, built in the days of large families and hired help, were converted to this activity [summer guests], as were many of the early taverns...and stage stops. Almost any of the old houses you see in Raymond or Casco were used in this manner at one time or another..."(Knight, p. 84). By combining the domestic yet progressive feel of Queen Anne styling with the piety and sanctity suggested by Gothic features, the East Raymond Chapel is a structure that represented both the future and the past, and blended well in its established community.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

EAST RAYMOND UNION CHAPEL

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dolley, Mira. 150th Anniversary, Town of Raymond, Maine, 1803-1953. (Raymond, Me.), 1953.

East Raymond Community Church. "East Raymond Chapel, 1890-1990: A Brief History for the Centennial Year." History prepared by church members, 1990. Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.

Knight, Ernest Harmon. The Origin and History of Raymondtown. (Norway, Maine: Oxford Hills Press), 1974.

Maine Register, State Year-Book and Legislative Manual. (Portland, Maine: Greenville M. Donham), various years, 1888-1915.

Thompson, Deborah, ed. Maine Forms of American Architecture. (Camden, Maine: Downeast Magazine), 1976

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property .27

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 9 3 8 4 3 1 3 4 8 6 5 3 2 5
Zone Easting Northing

3 1 9
Zone Easting Northing

2 1 9
Zone Easting Northing

4 1 9
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title CHRISTI A. MITCHELL, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

organization MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION date 17 January 2004

street & number 55 CAPITOL STREET, STATION 65 telephone (207) 287-2132

city or town AUGUSTA state ME zip code 04333 -0065

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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EAST RAYMOND UNION CHAPEL

CUMBERLAND CO., MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is fully described by the Town of Raymond tax map number 10, lot 25.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The above described property includes all the land historically associate with the East Raymond Chapel since its construction in 1890.

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Continuation Sheet

EAST RAYMOND UNION CHAPEL

CUMBERLAND CO., MAINE

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
7 January 2004
Exterior, north facade; facing south.

Photograph 2 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
7 January 2004
Exterior, north and east elevations; facing southwest.

Photograph 3 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
7 January 2004
Interior, facing southeast.

Photograph 4 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
7 January 2004
Interior, facing northeast.