

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 28 1986

DATE ENTERED SEP 24 1986

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

United States Post Office

AND/OR COMMON

Camden Main Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Chestnut Street

N/A -- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

N/A VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First Congressional District

STATE

Maine 04843

CODE
1300

COUNTY
Knox

CODE
013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
 - BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

New England Field Real Estate and Buildings Office

STREET & NUMBER

1050 Waltham Street

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 02173

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Knox County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

62 Union Street, P.O. Box 885

CITY, TOWN

Rockland

STATE

Maine 04841

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AUG 15 1986

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Post Office is situated in a neighborhood where the buildings range in age from the mid 18th century to the late 19th century.

The building foundation to grade is brick and above grade it is solid granite. The exterior walls are grey tapestry brick laid in common bond with granite trimmings from the Vinal Haven Quarry (insisted upon by the local citizens). The regularly spaced 9/9 windows are well articulated with the prominent granite trim and are further emphasized by sculptured stone medallions. The center entrance features granite trim with an elaborate carved stone motif above; the original light standards and wrought iron railings remain in place. A stone frieze and cornice circumscribes the building which is capped with a red brick parapet and hipped roof with copper tiling. The rear windows have been replaced with new aluminum windows and circular metal transom panels. The rear loading dock has been expanded and a metal and fiberglass canopy added which greatly detracts from the otherwise pleasing aesthetics.

The public lobby has a terrazzo floor with marble borders and feature strips, marble dado and column bases, plaster walls with engaged columns, oak window casings and transoms over the service counter and mail boxes and the original plaster ceiling with moulded cornice. The interior is essentially original throughout with few modern alterations such as expanded box windows and new entry vestibule. The building is in excellent repair and the grounds are attractively landscaped and well maintained.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	Designed: 1912	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Oscar Wenderoth, U.S. Treasury
	Constructed: 1913		Supervising Architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Post Office was designed in 1912 and built in 1913, one of thirty-three (33) post offices built throughout the United States that year. The building was built under the provisions of the Tarsney Act (1893-1912) and the final Omnibus Building Act of 1912. The building was one of the first buildings designed by Oscar Wenderoth as he succeeded James Knox Taylor as Supervising Architect for the U. S. Treasury.

During Wenderoth's tenure (1912-1914), little change was made to Taylor's policy of designing "classical styles of architecture" and the use of fine, high quality, durable building materials and the use of symmetry and ornamentation. Wenderoth's buildings characteristically employed Renaissance Revival Stylistic Details and the post offices designed during this administration brought the ideals of the Beaux-Arts movement to small cities and towns. This fact is evidenced by the fact that this building contains many similarities to Taylor's Bar Harbor Post Office (1908) (size, proportion, massing, roof, balustrade, stone medallion ornamentation, etc.) yet built out of less expensive materials (i.e. brick vs. granite) at a cost of \$75,000.00. Although it is built at much less cost than the Bar Harbor Post Office, it contains considerable artistic merit and architectural integrity that is difficult to surpass. It has a timeless quality of restraint and appropriateness in its setting and is a stabilizing force in the community. This property illustrates the continuation of architectural development in a small town and is the only significant example of the eclectic periods of design in the areas.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Post Office Construction 1900-1940, July, 1982

Craig, Lois, ed., The Federal Presence: Architecture, Politics, and Symbols in the United States Government Building, Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1979

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .25 (10,779 square feet)

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 9	4, 9, 4, 8, 4, 0	4, 8, 9, 4, 8, 3, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The building is located in the business center of the town and the building faces Chestnut Street, where it has a frontage of 120 feet. The depth of the lot varies from 75 feet to 89 feet. The site has a 16'± difference in grade from front to back.

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

Richard P. DeCoste, Architect

ORGANIZATION

SULLIVAN DESIGN GROUP, INC.

DATE

August 30, 1985

STREET & NUMBER

44 Adams Street

TELEPHONE

(617) 848-1545

CITY OR TOWN

Braintree

STATE

Massachusetts 02184

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Paul B. Shepleworth Jr.
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

James T. Coe

TITLE Director, Office of Real Estate

DATE March 24, 1986

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Patrick Andrews

DATE 9/25/86

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Robert Savage*

DATE 9/25/86

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

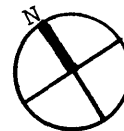
1895
business
block

shops

shops

Bay View Street

1. public lobby
2. postmaster
3. money orders
4. work room



122.50'

89.88'

75.66'

128.26'

bank

shop

44

Main Street

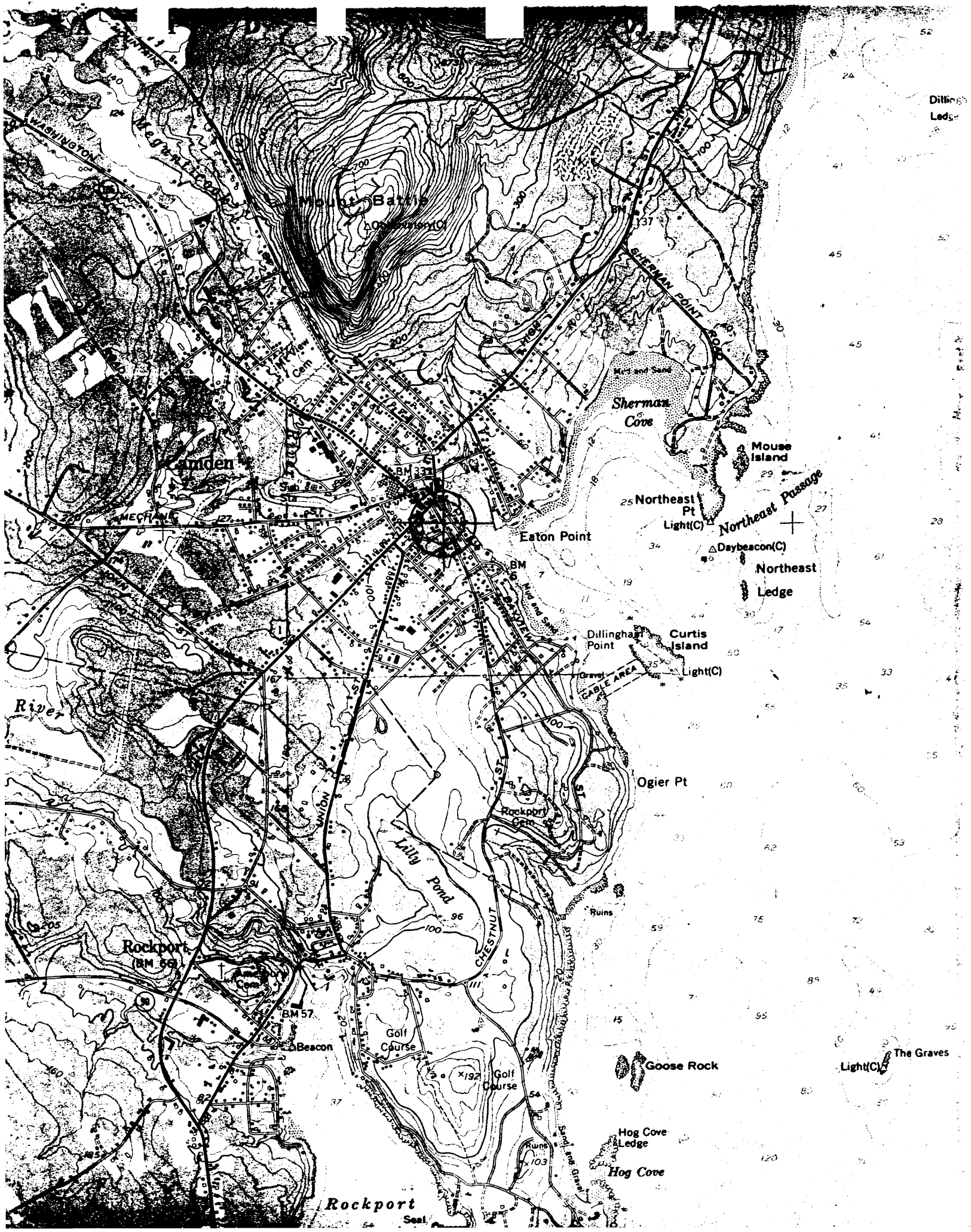
1880
business
block

Chestnut Street

park

church
CA 1880

residence
CA 1810



52

Dillingham
Ledge

41

45

45

41

28

51

54

33

35

55

59

84

120

WASHINGTON

Magnolia

Mt. Battie

Sherman Point

Sherman Cove

Mouse Island

25 Northeast Pt Light(C)

Northeast Passage

Daybeacon(C)

Northeast Ledge

Eaton Point

Dillingham Point

Curtis Island

Light(C)

River

Ogier Pt

Rockport (BM 56)

Golf Course

Golf Course

Goose Rock

Light(C)

The Graves

Hog Cove Ledge

Hog Cove

Rockport

Seal