

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
JUL 17 1976
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

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 * * *

Kennebunkport Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Kennebunkport

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st Hon. David Emery

STATE

Maine

CODE
23

COUNTY

York

CODE

031

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Ownership

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Alfred

STATE

Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kennebunkport Historic District is comprised of a cohesive, homogeneous grouping of 18th, 19th and early 20th century architecture. The largest number of structures dates from the early 19th century Federal period when the town prospered as a shipbuilding center, as a port, and as the home of many seafaring men. Styles represented in the district include the Colonial (i.e. 2, Gideon Walker House), the Post Colonial (i.e. 85, Asa Hutchins House), the Federal (i.e. 114, John Andrews, Jr., House), the Greek Revival (i.e. 5, John Hovey Perkins House), the Italianate (i.e. 53, George W. Nowell House), the Mansard (i.e. 66, Wheeler House), the Queen Anne (i.e. 17, Harry F. Perkins House), the Colonial Revival (i.e. 91, Mrs. Edwin Robertson House), the Mission (i.e. 3, St. Martha's Catholic Church), and the Bungalow (i.e. 60). Of the 147 homes and buildings within the district, 6 are Colonial, 12 are Post Colonial, 53 are Federal, 22 are Greek Revival, 1 is Transitional Greek Revival-Italianate, 6 are Italianate, 3 are Mansard, 4 are Queen Anne, 34 are Colonial Revival, 1 is Mission, 1 is Bungalow, and 3 are Ranch type. In this span of more than two centuries of styles, the predominant characteristic has been a simple forthright interpretation of the current architectural mode. While many of the structures are well designed vernacular examples of their period, pretensions toward high style architecture are found in such landmarks as the Captain Nathaniel Lord Mansion (9), the South Congregational Church (57), the Eliphalet Perkins III House (76), and St. Martha's Catholic Church (3). Especially pleasing are the two story hipped roof Federal style homes by the local builder Samuel Davis (67, 82, 90, 115).

The scale, proportions, materials, color and design quality of the structures are in harmony throughout the Kennebunkport Historic District. The following figures delineate the similar scale of the 147 homes and buildings in the area:

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 5 | 1 story hipped roof |
| 7 | 1 story gable roof |
| 1 | 1½ story gambrel roof |
| 42 | 1½ story gable roof |
| 2 | 2 story mansard roof |
| 4 | 2 story gable roof |
| 20 | 2 story hip roof |
| 61 | 2½ story gable roof |
| 1 | 3 story gable roof |
| 1 | 3 story mansard roof |
| 3 | 3 story hip roof |

Most of the structures exhibit a traditional concern for symmetrical design and proportion. Of the 147 homes and buildings, 7 are of brick construction, while 140 are frame. Of the frame ones, 129 are clapboarded and eleven are shingled. White is the predominant paint color.

The Kennebunkport Historic District's 147 homes and buildings stand in close proximity to one another on 21 streets, South, Pleasant, Green, Ocean Avenue, Pearl, Elm Summer, Chestnut, Union, Dock Square, Cross, Spring, Temple, Maine, School, (See Continuation Sheet)

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Mast Cove Lane, North, Mill Lane, West, Oak, and Lock. Yet this close proximity should not be interpreted to mean the presence of a regularized pattern of structure location. Houses and buildings relate to the road at varying angles and distances. The streets retain their shade trees.

In front of the Captain Nathaniel Lord Mansion (9) is a park which extends from Pleasant Street to Ocean Avenue.

Of the 147 structures in the district, 119 are residential and 18 are commercial, while 6 are in church use (14,56,57,77,78,119), 2 are in public use (33,54), 1 is fraternal (59) and one is a library (71). The Post Office (54) is the only Federally owned building in the district.

Most houses and buildings are presently being used for their original purpose. Among the approximately twenty exceptions to this are St. Martha's Catholic Church, which is now an art gallery (3); Thomas Goodwin's Rope Walk, which has been converted into the Arundel Yacht Club (18); the Burleigh S. Thompson House, which has become the Kennebunkport Inn (51); the Kennebunk Bank, which has been adapted from a bank to a custom house to a library (71); and the Perkins Grist Mill, which now serves as a restaurant (123). The adapting of these and other structures in the district occurred as isolated instances over a long period of time. It represents a manifestation of the practice sense of reusing what was at hand. The result has been a remarkably well preserved community.

Most of the Kennebunkport Historic Districts' homes and buildings are in excellent condition. Most structures have apparently always been well maintained. There are no houses or buildings which can be classed as serious intrusions. Of the 147 structures located in the district, 24 were constructed within the last fifty years. With the exception of three unobtrusive Ranch Type homes (15, 130, 134), recent building has been carried out in a Colonial Revival manner with a style, scale, and choice of materials which successfully blends with the earlier fabric of the area. This is true of commercial (i.e.30), public (i.e.33), and church (i.e.119) architecture as well as residential (i.e.99).

The Kennebunkport Historic District represents the highest concentration of homes and buildings of architectural and historic merit within the town. The few adjacent streets have not been included because of their lower concentrations of quality structures and their larger number of intrusions. The composition of the district reflects Kennebunkport's greatest period of development as an early 19th century seagoing town with a distinct Federal flavor.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY JUL 17 1975 RECEIVED DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

Inventory of Historic Structures within the
Kennebunkport Historic District

South Street from Maine Street to Pleasant Street

Originally known as Cross Street, South Street was opened on July 7, 1807

South Side

1. ✓ Ralph Smith House: 1818, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded
✓ The Smith House was purchased in 1894 by the artist Abbott Graves for his home and studio. While in Graves' ownership, it was known as "Crosstrees" for two maple trees which stood at the doorway.
2. ✓ Gideon Walker House: 1745, Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded
The Walker House was remodelled by Mrs. Anson McKim of Montreal in 1910 from plans by John Calvin Stevens of Portland. Steven's alterations included the addition of front entry's second story.

North Side

3. St. Martha's Catholic Church: 1902-03, Mission Style, 1½ stories, shingled
4. ✓ Fred Campbell House: 1898, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, shingled
5. John Hovey Perkins House: 1857, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
The Perkins House was constructed by the Kennebunk master builder Bernard Littlefield. It was moved to its present location from the corner of Pleasant and Green Streets in 1901.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

Pleasant Street from South Street to Pearl Street

East Side

6. Ivory Goodwin House; 1808, Federal and Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories clapboarded
7. J. S. Murphy House: By 1853, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded
8. Captain Sylvester Brown House: By 1821, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded
- MC* 9. ✓ Captain Nathaniel Lord Mansion: 1812-1814, Federal, 3 stories, and cupola, clapboarded National Register 9/20/73

West Side

10. Edwin K. Robertson House: 1912-13, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, brick first story, frame second story with clapboarding

Green Street from Maine Street to Ocean Avenue

Green Street was laid out in 1806

South Side

11. Thomas Chisholm House: c.1854-57, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded
12. Oliver Walker House: c. 1809, Federal, Italianate, 2½ stories, clapboarded, rusticated corners, bracketed cornice
13. Thomas Maling House: c.1850, Greek Revival, Mansard, 2½ stories, clapboarded

The Maling House became Maling's Inn in 1893 and later the Old River House, its present name.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 5

Ocean Avenue from Green Street to Elm Street
Known as Water Street from 1812 to 1907

East Side

14. St. Martha's Chapel: 1932, Colonial Revival, 1 story, clapboarded
- NC15. B. F. Warner House: mid 20th century, Ranch type, 1 story, clapboarded
- NC16. Roger Deering Studio: 1954-55, addition 1963-64, Colonial Revival, 2 stories, clapboarded
17. ✓ Harry F. Perkins House: 1894, Queen Anne, 2½ stories, clapboarded and shingled

West Side

18. Thomas Goodwin Rope Walk; 1806, 1½ stories, shingled
Now used as the headquarters of the Arundel Yacht Club.

Pearl Street from Maine Street to Ocean Avenue

South Side

19. ✓ Daniel Walker House: 1799, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Italianate doorway overhang
This house was given in 1799 by Walker to his son-in-law Nathaniel Lord, who later built the mansion at Pleasant and Green Streets
20. ✓ William Jeffers, Jr., House: 1805, 1882, Federal, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories clapboarded
Jeffers built this house on land given to him by his father-in-law, Daniel Walker. Originally a two story hipped roof Federal style dwelling, the Agnew Family remodelled it in the Colonial Revival manner in 1882. Their additions included the front portico and the gable roof with its large facade dormer.
21. ✓ Dr. George P. Jeffers House: 1816, Federal, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded.

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 6

21. cont.

This house was probably extensively remodelled in the mid 19th century to its present Greek Revival appearance.

North Side

22. Josiah Linscott House: c.1790. Post Colonial, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories clapboarded.

Linscott came from York in 1790 and acquired his land from Daniel Walker. Linscott's house may have had its origin as a two room dwelling of the 1760's which was already on the property.

23. Benjamin Coes House: c.1791, Colonial, Federal, 3 stories, clapboarded

The present house is comprised of at least three local dwellings. The ell is probably the two-room house built by Paul Shackford before 1740.

24. Jonathan Stone House; 1821, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded

25. Daniel Walker House: By 1799, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded

Walker sold this house to his brother-in-law Benjamin Stone in May of 1799.

26. John Davis House: c.1797, Post Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway

Elm Street from Maine Street to Ocean Avenue

Elm Street was laid out in 1801 by Aaron Hovey

South Side

27. Thomas King House: after 1842, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded
28. Thomas Lord, Jr., House: by 1805, Federal, 1½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway
29. Dr. Thatcher Goddard: 1799, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded, Italianate side porch and cornice brackets, Colonial Revival portico

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 17 1975

DATE ENTERED

MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 7

- N* 30. Ocean National Bank: 1958, Colonial Revival, 1 story, brick with wooden trim
Designed and constructed by the local master builder Arthur Hendricks

North Side

31. House: by 1790, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival and Italianate detail added
32. Aaron Hovey House: c.1805, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway and window and corner trim
- N* 33. Kennebunkport Town Office and Fire Station: 1960, Colonial Revival, 1½ stories, brick with wooden trim. Designed and constructed by the local master builder Arthur Hendricks.
34. Oliver Davis House: 1827, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded

Summer Street from Elm Street

East Side

35. John Miller House: c.1806 - 1813, Federal and Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
36. Methodist Parsonage: 1893, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

Chestnut Street

North Side

37. John Bourne House: early 19th century, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded, fine facade doorway and modified Palladian window

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 8

Union Street from Maine Street to Ocean Avenue

South Side

- 38. Moses Howard House: c.1801-1803, Federal, salt box, 2½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney, Greek Revival doorway
- 39. Thomas Wiswell House: 1786-89, Post Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway

North Side

- 40. Aaron Hovey House: c.1798-1801, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Italianate porch on west wall, Colonial Revival porch on the east wall
- 41. Benjamin Dorman House: c.1812, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway and window and corner trim

Dock Square

East Side from Union Street to Cross Street

- 42. Bell and Torrey Stores: 1899, 1 story, clapboarded
- 43. Benjamin Mason Store: c.1813-17, Federal, 3 stories, and cupola, clapboarded

Cross Street from Union Street to Spring Street

West Side

- 44. Benjamin Mason House: c.1812, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 17 1975

DATE ENTERED

MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 9

Spring Street from Maine Street to Dock Square

South Side

- 45. Aaron Hovey House: c.1797-1800, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded
- 46. Benjamin Mason House: c.1797, Post Colonial, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
- N*47. New England Telephone Company Building: 1957-58, enlarged in 1958-59 and 1973, Colonial Revival, 1 story, brick with wooden trim

North Side

- 48. Perkins House: after 1807, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney
- 49. Eliphalet Perkins II House: c.1790-92, Post Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded
- 50. Block of four stores: mid 20th century, 1 story, clapboarded
- 51. Burleigh S. Thompson House: 1899-1900, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

Temple Street from Spring Street to Maine Street

East Side

- 52. Goodwin House: 1900, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
- 53. George W. Nowell House: c.1856, Italianate, 2½ stories, clapboarded, rusticated corners, bracketed cornice
- N*54. U. S. Post Office: 1941, Colonial Revival, 1 story, brick with wooden trim

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 10

West Side

55. Port Laundromat: mid 20th century, 2 stories, clapboarded
56. Olympian Club: 1929, Colonial Revival, 1½ stories, clapboarded

North Side

57. South Congregational Church: 1824, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded, fine Federal steeple with clock made and installed by Aaron Willard, Jr., of Boston, Doric portico added in 1912.
58. J. H. Jeffery House: 1896, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
59. Masonic Temple: 1929, Colonial Revival, 2 stories, clapboarded

South Side

60. House: early 20th century, Bungalow, 1 story, shingled

Maine Street from South Street to North Street

East Side

61. Daniel Walker House: c.1795, Post Colonial, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway and window and corner trim
62. Agnew House: mid 19th century, Greek Revival, 1½ stories, clapboarded, gable ended facade.

During the 19th century, this house may have been the sail loft on Maling's Wharf. In 1902 it was moved to its present location and converted into a residence.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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JUL 17 1975
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 11

63. Daniel Walker House: 1784, Post Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded central chimney, rustication at the corners and above the windows.
64. Hannah Burbank House: 1864, Italianate, 2 stories, and cupola, clapboarded
Aaron M. Mellon, Master Builder
65. George Little House: 1901, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
66. Wheeler House: 1886, Mansard, 2 stories, clapboarded
67. Captain Nathaniel Ward, Jr., House: 1812, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded
Samuel Davis, Master Builder
68. Silas Moody Store: 1811, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded
The artist and amateur architect Abbott Graves moved this building from Ocean Avenue to its present site in the 1900's and converted it into a house.
69. Mrs. B. F. Eldridge House: 1891, Late Italianate, 2½ stories, clapboarded
70. Smith Bradbury House: c.1793, Post Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded
The Bradbury House was the home of Charles Bradbury, author of the 1837 History of Kennebunkport
71. Kennebunk Bank: 1813, Federal, 2 stories, brick with wooden trim
The Kennebunk Bank operated a branch office here from 1813 to 1831. In 1832 the building was purchased by the U. S. Government for a custom house. It was acquired by Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Graves in 1920 and given to the Kennebunkport Free Library as a memorial to their son Louis T. Graves. An addition was constructed in 1956 under the direction of the local builder Arthur Hendricks.
National Register 1/18/74

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 12

72. Davis-Ward House: 1805, c.1851-53, Federal, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded.

Samuel Davis, a local master builder, erected the rear section of this house adjacent to his intended store. (See 73 below) The front of the house was probably added by Daniel Ward

73. Samuel Davis Store: c.1805-10, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival window and corner trim

Davis intended this building to be a store, but it has always been used as a residence instead.

74. Samuel Davis House: 1805, c.1876, 1966, Federal, Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

Davis constructed a traditional 2½ story, central chimned house in 1805 which became remodelled in the Gothic Revival style about 1876 by Mrs. Felicia Cleaves. Known as 'Aunt Felicia's Folly' and 'The Witch House' This Victorian cottage was remodelled again in 1966, this time into a Colonial Revival Salt box. Arthur Hendricks directed the recent renovation.

75. Samuel Lewis House: c.1805, Federal, 3 stories, clapboarded

The ell of the Lewis House dates from 1762. A cabinet maker, Lewis arrived in Kennebunkport in 1775. The early 19th century front section was originally a two story structure which contained a flying staircase that ended in a skylight. Thus, the house was known as "Samuel's Stairs." The third story was added in 1850.

76. Eliphalet Perkins III House: c.1851-53, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded and match boarded, monumental Doric columnade on the south and west walls.

77. Baptist Church: 1838, enlarged 1852, late Federal and Gothic Revival, 1½ stories, clapboarded

78. Baptist Vestry: 1839, Greek Revival, 1½ stories, clapboarded

79. ~~Reuel~~ Norton House: c.1896-1901, Queen Anne, 2½ stories, clapboarded and shingled.

80. Mrs. H. F. Hodgkins House: 1913, 1½ stories, clapboarded

Mrs. Hodgkins built this house from part of James H. Tripp's blacksmith shop which was on the site by 1872.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 13

West Side

81. Mrs. William Warner House: 1880, Italianate, 1½ stories, clapboarded
Horace Smith, builder

82. Andrew Smith House: c.1807-1812, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded

This house may have been constructed by Samuel Davis, who sold the lot to Andrew Smith in 1807.

83. Slevins House: after 1872, Italianate, 2 stories, clapboarded

84. Captain Henry Ward House: 1883, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

85. Asa Hutchins House: 1795, Post Colonial, 2 stories, clapboarded, central chimney

Hutchins was a blacksmith from Portsmouth, N. H. His home occupies the site of the first house in the village built by Paul Shackford about 1740.

86. William H. Goodwin House: 1885, Mansard, 3 stories, clapboarded

The rear portion of this house may date from the early 19th century.

87. Joseph Kingsbury House: c.1793-1803, Post Colonial, 2 stories, clapboarded

88. Samuel Davis House: c.1800-1803, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Colonial Revival doorway.

Davis is believed to have built this house for Alexander Gould, who purchased it from him in 1803 and owned it until 1849.

89. Amos Hutchins House: c.1813, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival portico

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 14

90. Samuel Davis House: c.1805, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded

Davis is believed to have built this house for Simon Nowell, who purchased it from him in 1805 as a "new house to be clapboarded and glazed." Nowell was a Brigadier General in the militia and commanded the fortifications at Kittery during the War of 1812.

91. Mrs. Edwin Robertson House: 1891-92, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, shingled

This house was built as a summer residence for Mrs. Robertson by her grandfather, Charles E. Perkins. The local firm of Hutchins and Bears were the contractors.

92. Olaf Dwinel House: 1930's, Colonial Revival Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

NC 93. Mrs. Shotwell House: c.1940, Colonial Revival Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

School Street from Maine Street

South Side

94. Shop: early 19th century, Federal, 1 story, clapboarded

95. House: early 19th century, Federal, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

96. House: early 19th century, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, Greek Revival doorway

North Side

97. House: early 19th century, Federal, 2½ stories, first two stories clapboarded half story shingled in a Queen Anne manner, Queen Anne portico

Mast Cove Lane From Maine Street to the Mill Pond

South Side

NC 98. House; before 1972, Colonial Revival, 1½ stories, clapboarded and shingled

Royal Barry Wills of Boston, Architect; Arthur Hendricks, builder

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 15

*N*99. House: before 1972, Colonial Revival, salt box, 2½ stories, clapboarded

Arthur Hendricks, builder. This house is a copy of the Solomon Richardson House built at North Brookfield, Mass, and now at Sturbridge Village.

North Street from Temple Street

East Side

100. Robert Stone House: c.1811, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded

*N*101. House: mid 20th century, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

102. House: early 19th century, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded, fine Greek Revival portico ornamented with carved wreaths.

103. Jeremiah G. Jeffrey House: c.1855, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

104. Thomas Perkins House: 1760, Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded

105. Bourne House: by 1851, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

106. House: mid 19th century, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

Converted to a bungalow in the early 20th century.

107. House: by 1853, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

108. House: c.1875, Italianate, 1½ stories, clapboarded

109. ~~Tuman~~ House: early 19th century, Federal, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

110. "River Bank" The Merrill House: mid-19th century, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

111. House: mid-20 century, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

112. "Blueberry Hill Farm", Stephen Perkins House: c.1790-1799, Post Colonial, 2½ stories, clapboarded

113. "The Manse", Stephen Perkins, Jr., House: c.1819, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney

West Side

114. John Andrews, Jr., House: c.1808, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded, fine Federal style doorway

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DATE ENTERED	MAY 6 1976

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 16

115. Samuel Davis House: c.1811, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded

Davis constructed this house and then sold it to John Bell.

116. John Perkins House: c.1803-07, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded

117. James Tripp House: by 1852, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

118. C. O. Wormwood House: 1855, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

119. St. Martha's Catholic Church: 1966, Colonial Revival, 1 story, brick with wooden trim

The complicated history of this building began in 1887 when it was constructed as the town hall at the corner of Arundel Road. Moved to its current location in 1953, it housed the Arundel Opera Company. After this disbanded in 1964, the Catholic parish used the basic structure to create its present church.

120. Cemetery

121. Maling House: mid 20th century, Colonial Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

Arthur Clough, builder

122. Otis K. Clough House: c.1875, Transitional Greek Revival -Italianate, 2½ stories, clapboarded

Mill Lane from North Street to the Mill Pond

South Side

NC-123. Perkins Grist Mill: 1749, Colonial, 1½ stories, and cupola, shingled
National Register 9/7/73

North Side

124. Thomas Perkins House: 1800, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded

125. Clement Clark House: by 1900, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded

This house was moved to its present location from Mountain Road in Arundel about 1900.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 17

West Street from North Street to the Kennebunk River

South Side

- 126. Tarbox House: early 19th century, Federal, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded
- 127. Garey House: by 1856: Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, Clapboarded
- 128. House: mid-19th century, Greek Revival, gable ended facade, 1½ stories, clapboarded

North Side

- 129. Oliver Huff House: c.1814-19, Federal, 2 stories, clapboarded
- 130. House: mid-20th century, Ranch type, 1 story, shingled.

Oak Street from West Street to Lock Street

East Side

- 131. William Rounds House: 1904, Queen Anne, 2½ stories, clapboarded first story, remainder shingled
- N* 132. Raymond Seaward House: c.1947, Colonial Revival, 2 stories, clapboarded
- 133. Perley Perkins House: 1904, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded
- 134. House: mid 20th century, Ranch type, 1 story, shingled
- 135. House: early 20th century, Queen Anne, 2½ stories, clapboarded and shingled
- 136. George F. Perkins House: by 1872, Greek Revival, gable ended facade, 1½ stories, clapboarded
- 137. Horace Smith House: 1885, Mansard, 2 stories, clapboarded

West Side

- N* 138. Perkins House: 1973, Colonial Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded
- 139. Hugh Boles House: by 1872, Greek Revival, gable ended facade, 1½ stories, clapboarded

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
JUL 17 1975
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED
MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

18

140. Frost House: mid-19th century, Greek Revival, gable ended facade, 1½ stories, clapboarded

141. Thomas Perkins House ,c.1730, Colonial, salt box, 2½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney.

This house is believed to be the oldest dwelling now standing in Kennebunkport.

142. House: mid-20th century, Cape, 1½ stories, shingled

Lock Street from North Street to the Kennebunk River

South Side

143. Joshua Perkins House: 1820, Federal, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

144. John Hill House: c.1856, Greek Revival, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

North Side

145. Abner Perkins House: c.1750, Colonial Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded, central chimney

146. Smith House: by 1872, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, clapboarded first story remainder shingled in a Queen Anne manner.

147. James Blunt House: 1814, Federal, Cape, 1½ stories, clapboarded

148. James Perkins House: 1810, Federal, 2½ stories, clapboarded

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The years between the close of the American Revolution and the Embargo of 1807 witnessed a dramatic growth in the maritime oriented communities of the Maine coast. While many of these towns were later transformed into commercial centers, Kennebunkport retained its character as a Federal Period seagoing town.

Much of the evidence of Kennebunkport's once thriving docks and shipyards no longer exists. However, the community's 19th century success remains apparent through the many handsome homes and buildings which constitute the historic district. Although styles range from the Colonial Period into the 20th century, the predominant architectural theme is the Federal with more than a third of the structures in the district (53 of 147) in this mode.

Little has been found as yet concerning the architects and builders who created Kennebunkport's Federal architecture. Only one architectural figure of this period has emerged, Samuel Davis. A local master builder, Davis is responsible for at least eight structures in the district (67,72,73,74,82,88,90,115). Of these, his series of four similar two story hipped roof houses are his most successful designs (67, Ward House of 1812; 82, Smith House of c.1807-12; 90 Nowell House of c.1805 and 115 Bell House of c.1811). Regretably, no biographical information about Davis has been discovered to date.

While Kennebunkport's greatest period of development took place in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, its history, has its roots in the 17th century.

The area now known as Kennebunkport was first incorporated as a town named Cape Porpoise in the year 1653 by the Massachusetts Commissioners. The inhabitants were driven off by the early Indian wars and when they returned in 1719 they resettled along the river under the name of Arundel. In 1820 when Maine became a state, that name was changed to its present one.

The first permanent settlement in Kennebunkport was established in the south-eastern part of the town around a natural harbor by William Scadlock and Morgan Howell, about 1630. The site is reported to have been named Cape Porpoise by Captain John Smith because he encountered many porpoises off the cape.

The name Scadlock appears in the early court records twice - once when he was brought before the grand inquest for allowing a man to get drunk on his premises and once as a complainant against a Mr. John Baker for inappropriate remarks against the local minister and for "prophesying to the hindrance of (see continuation sheet)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bradbury, Charles, History of Kennebunk Port, Kennebunk, 1837

Coolidge, A. J. and J. B. Mansfield, A History and Description of New England, Boston, 1859, pp 176-181

(See Continuation Sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 95 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	19	38,073,0	48029,5,0	B	19	38,070,0	48013,5,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	19	38,000,0	48013,6,0	D	19	38,003,0	48029,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The southwestern boundary of the Kennebunkport Historic District begins at the eastern corner of the Daniel Walker House (61) property and follows the southeastern property line to the junction of Maine and South Streets. It then follows South Street to the northern corner of the Ralph Smith House (1) property and along its northeasterly and southeasterly property lines and continues on this last line straight to Ocean Avenue. Following Ocean Avenue northwesterly, (See continuation sheet)

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, Historic Preservationist
Jasper Wyman, Student Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE

July, 1975

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

James H. Mundy

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

July 15, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ACCEPTED

James H. Mundy

DATE

5/6/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles A. Berry

DATE

5/11/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8 PAGE

2

public assemblies." The church at Cape Porpoise appears to have been an independent group. When the Massachusetts Commissioners attempted to organize the town in 1653, they were opposed by the church and the commissioners subsequently declared the church dissolved.

From 1689 to 1719, there are no records of Kennebunkport, the town having been depopulated by Indian raids. In 1689 there was a fort built upon Stage Island and garrisoned at the direction of Governor Andros. When Andros returned to Massachusetts, however, the troops deserted. Indians soon organized an invasion, and the inhabitants of the town either removed to the fort or to the nearby town of Wells.

The fort was besieged until the provisions were nearly exhausted, when Nicholas Morey, a lame innkeeper in the town, escaped from the island one dark night in a broken canoe. Two days later the distressed prisoners saw an approaching ship. The Indians upon seeing a swivel gun mounted on the deck of the ship, abandoned the siege and fled the area. The lame Morey had reached Portsmouth in safety and had obtained help just in time. The ship took off the survivors and the town was abandoned.

Grants of fifty acres of land to new settlers was offered in 1719. A Mr. Stephen Harding received his lot on the condition that he and his heirs maintain a ferry on the Kennebunk river and transport all passengers free of charge.

In 1727, feeling some degree of security from the Indians, the citizens of Kennebunkport commenced construction of a meeting house, but the work went very slowly. In 1728 occurred the fourth great earthquake experienced since the settlement of the regions. The alarm that resulted brought about a great spiritual revival and the reformation of many. As a consequence, the church building was speedily completed!

The news of the battle of Lexington reached Cape Porpoise three days after its occurrence. Many citizens flocked to the army at Cambridge; and at home, many measures were taken to insure a supply of ammunition. A committee of safety was established and a representative was sent to the Provincial Congress.

The town received just one "visit" from the enemy during the war. It was in August, 1782 when an armed English brig came into the harbor and captured a schooner and sloop hailing from Newbury, Massachusetts. A citizen named Samuel Wildes, who partially deranged, went out to them in a small canoe and ordered them to give up the vessels and leave the port! He was fired upon, wounded in several places and nearly killed before he managed to escape back to shore. The citizens banded together and engaged the enemy victoriously at Great Island. Although a number of the English were killed, only one American, Lieutenant James Burnham, (see continuation sheet)

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED JUL 17 1975

DATE ENTERED

MAY 6 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

was lost during the battle.

During the war of 1812 a fort was built at Cape Arundel and a battery erected at Butler's Rock, commanding the entrance of the Kennebunk River. Several privateers were fitted out some under Danish colors, but most of them were captured by the enemy.

The war temporarily halted an already burgeoning shipbuilding industry which, however, resumed at its conclusion and became the major activity in the town during most of the 19th century. Kennebunkport ships and sea captains became known all over the world and Clark's Shipyard on the river near the South Congregational Church (57) turned out dozens of vessels. Before the Civil War these were mostly full rigged ships, brigs and brigantines but in the latter years the production was devoted almost entirely to schooners for the coasting trade.

Kennebunkport's major reputation today is as a summer resort. Beginning in the 1870's people from Boston and Sanford, Maine, attracted by the natural beauty of the area began to build summer cottages, some of considerable size, along the shore both at Cape Porpoise (now a village within Kennebunkport) and at Cape Arundel. By the turn of the century a large summer colony had emerged which still exists and provides an important economic base for the town as does a thriving transient tourist business.

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

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Howes, Christine.T., Rambles In the Port, Kennebunkport, 1973

Varney, George J., A Gazetteer of the State of Maine, Boston, 1882, pp 299-301

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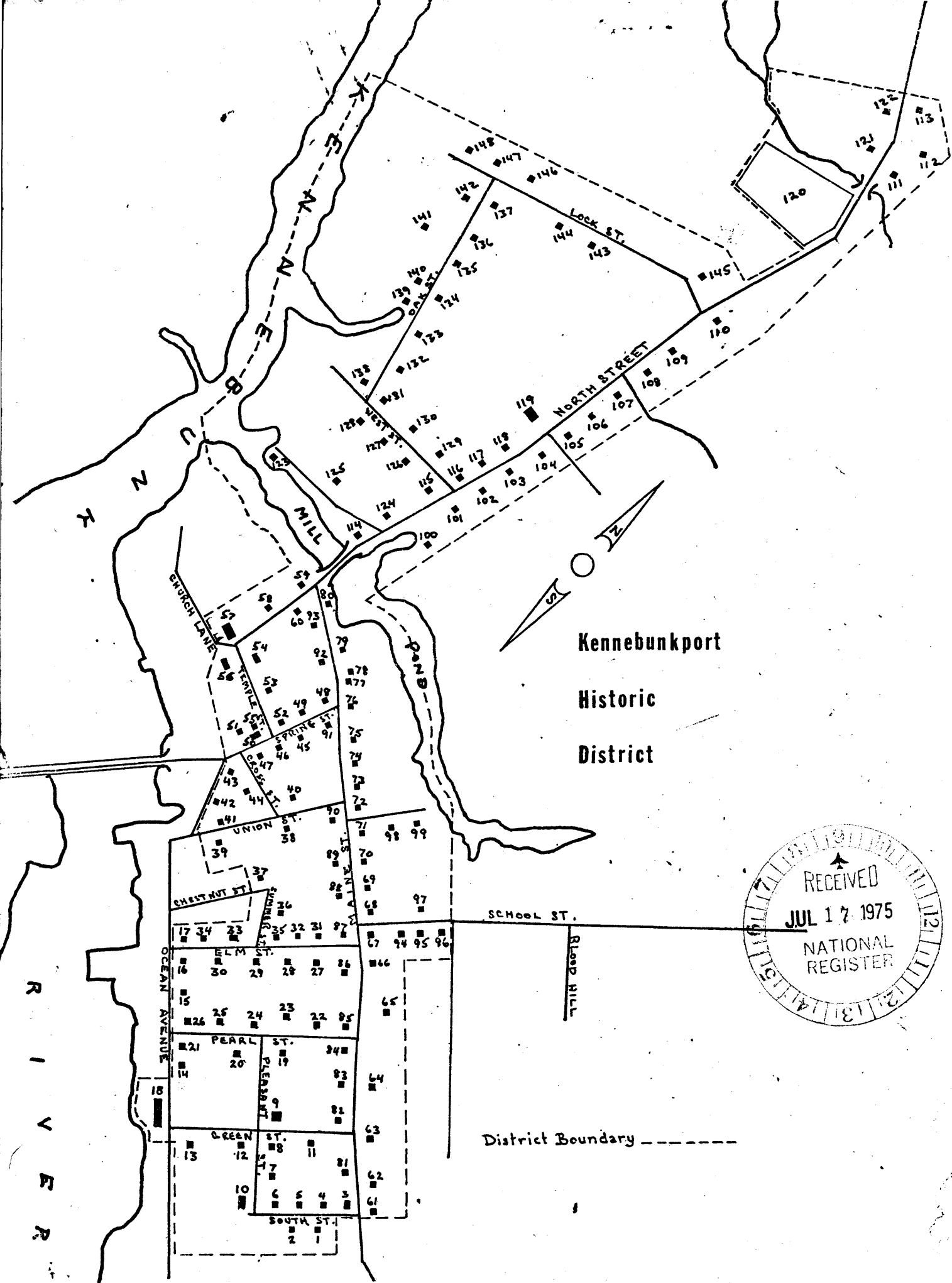
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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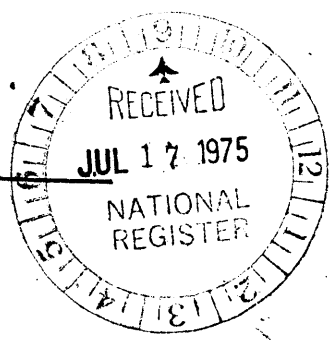
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

the line swings southwesterly around the property lines of the Thomas Goodwin Ropewalk (18) and back to Ocean Avenue. Continuing northwesterly on Ocean Avenue, the boundary turns northeast beyond Elm Street and follows the rear property lines on the northwesterly side of Elm Street to a point 50 feet from Summer Street where it turns northwesterly crossing Chestnut Street to the southerly corner of the John Bourne House (37) property. The line then follows the southwestern property line of this house to the rear property line of the Thomas Wiswell House (39) property then southwesterly along this line to the southern corner and northwesterly to Union Street at the junction of Ocean Avenue. The boundary continues northwesterly on Ocean Avenue across Dock Square and through the public parking lot along the southwestern boundary of the Burleigh S. Thompson House (51) property and the Olym'pian Club (56) property to Church Lane which it follows westerly to a junction with the rear property line of the South Congregational Church. The boundary follows this line and other rear property lines on the west side of North Street to a point 100' south of the Mill Pond where it turns westerly along a line 100' south of and parallel to the Mill Pond to the town line in the center of the Kennebunk River. The District boundary follows the town line northerly up the river to a point opposite the northern property line of the James Perkins House (148) and follows this line and other rear property lines on the north side of Lock Street to North Street. Continuing north on North Street, the line turns west along the southern boundary of the cemetery (120) and north along its western boundary until it reaches a tidal creek. It then follows the creek northwesterly to the northern property line of the Otis K. Clough House (122) which it follows easterly to North Street, across North Street along the northern boundary of "The Manse" and thence along the rear boundaries on the east side of North Street to the Mill Pond. The boundary continues easterly up the center of the Mill Pond and along the northeastern property lines of House (99) and House (97) to School Street. On the other side of School Street it runs southeasterly along the northeast property line of House (96), southwesterly along the rear property lines on the southeast side of School Street and southeasterly along the rear property lines on the northeast side of Maine Street to the point of beginning.



Kennebunkport
Historic
District



District Boundary - - - - -

R I V E R