

PH 365271

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 3 1977

DATE ENTERED SEP 15 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

NAME

HISTORIC Westbrook College Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

716 Stevens Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Portland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

1st - Hon. David Emery

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

005

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input 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: |

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of Westbrook College

STREET & NUMBER

716 Stevens Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Portland

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cumberland County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

142 Federal Street

CITY, TOWN

Portland

STATE

Maine

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"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" 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 Westbrook College Historic District is composed of a cohesive, homogeneous grouping of 19th and early 20th century architecture. The earliest period represented is the Federal (#5, Westbrook Seminary Building, now called Alumni Hall), followed by the Gothic Revival (#1, Universalist Church, now the college library), the Italianate (#2, Goddard Hall), and the Colonial Revival (#6, McArthur Gymnasium). Of the six buildings in the district, one is Federal, two are Italianate, one is Gothic Revival, and two are Colonial Revival. Each of these styles is represented by a fine period piece.

As can be expected with a historic college, some of the buildings here are quite large, while others are of more modest scale. The combination is very effective aesthetically. The following list will indicate scales and roof forms:

- 1 - 1 story gable roof
- 1 - 1½ story gable roof
- 1 - 2 story hipped roof
- 3 - 4 story hipped roof

The buildings are well-designed and built. All are of brick with wood and stone trim, with one exception: the Gothic Revival church (#1) which is of wood frame construction with typical board and batten exterior.

The six buildings of the Westbrook College Historic District are grouped pleasantly and cohesively around a green. All of the structures are educational facilities and were originally built for this purpose, except for the Westbrook College Library which was originally a Universalist Church. There are no Federally-owned buildings.

The structures in the Westbrook College Historic District are in excellent condition and are well maintained. There are no intrusions.

The Westbrook College Historic District is a fine example of a 19th century rural college with architectural styles ranging from the Federal to the Colonial Revival. It is well preserved and deserves to remain so in the future.

Inventory of Structures Located Within the
Westbrook College Historic District

1. Universalist Church (now Westbrook College Library), 1867
Francis H. Fassett, Architect.
Gothic Revival, one story with corner tower, gable roof, frame with board and batten exterior.
2. Goddard Hall, 1857
Italianate, four stories, hipped roof, brick with wood, stone and metal trim.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

3. Hersey Hall, 1869
Italianate, four stories, hipped roof, brick with wood, stone and metal trim.
4. Proctor Hall, 1952
Colonial Revival, four stories, hipped roof, brick with wood, stone and metal trim.
5. Westbrook Seminary Building (now Alumni Hall), 1833
Federal, two stories with tower, hipped roof, brick with wood and stone trim. The tower, which was placed on the building in 1833, came from the Portland Market House of 1825, which stood in Market Square, now Monument Square.
6. McArthur Gymnasium, 1900
Francis H. Fassett and Edward F. Fassett, Architects.
Colonial Revival, one-and-a-half stories, gable roof, brick with wood and stone trim.

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 checked="" 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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At the time the only coeducational boarding school in the country, Westbrook College was established as the result of a proposal put forward at a meeting of the Kennebec Association of Universalists in 1830. It was then determined that a "classical school" be founded at Stevens Plains in Westbrook, later separated as Deering and still later annexed as part of the City of Portland.

The charter for Westbrook Seminary, as it was called for nearly a hundred years, was signed in 1831 by Maine Governor, Daniel E. Smith, and the first term of classes began in June of 1834. The first building occupied by the Seminary was the present Alumni Hall, newly built with a tower taken from the Portland Market House which stood in the present Monument Square in Portland. The opening of the institution was duly announced in the Portland Eastern Argus as follows:

WESTBROOK SEMINARY

At a legal meeting of the Board of Trustees of "WESTBROOK SEMINARY", held May 1st, 1834, a system of rules and regulations for the government and instruction of the Seminary was unanimously adopted; the terms of tuition were fixed at \$3 for common English studies, and \$4,50 for the Languages and higher branches of the Mathematics. Rev. SAMUEL BRIMBLECOM, A.M. was elected Principal. It was unanimously resolved that the Seminary should go into operation as soon as may be.

S. B. STEVENS, Secretary

N.B. June 9 has been fixed for the opening of the school. Males and females will be admitted to equal privileges.

Among notable alumni of the Seminary was Edwin Ginn, 1855, who later founded Ginn and Company, the famous publishing house. Mr. Ginn was always a generous benefactor of his Alma Mater.

In 1925 Westbrook Seminary became Westbrook Seminary and Junior College for women only and, in 1933, Westbrook Junior College. Since 1974 it has operated under the name of Westbrook College with a four year extension program in certain fields and a limited number of male students.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Westbrook Junior College Alumnae News, March, 1964

Westbrook Seminary and Female College Catalogue, 1915-16

Portland City Guide, Maine Writers' Project (Portland, 1940)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------|---------|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|----|---|---|------|---------|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| D | A | 1,9 | 39,5 | 4,3 | 15 | 4,8 | 3,7 | 3,7 | 0 | A | B | 1,9 | 39,5 | 6,7 | 15 | 4,8 | 3,7 | 3,2 | 15 |
| | | ZONE | EASTING | | NORTHING | | | | | | | ZONE | EASTING | | NORTHING | | | | |
| B | S | 1,9 | 39,5 | 6,6 | 15 | 4,8 | 3,7 | 2,3 | 15 | C | R | 1,9 | 39,5 | 4,3 | 15 | 4,8 | 3,7 | 2,4 | 15 |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the junction of College Street and Stevens Avenue, the district boundary runs southerly along the west side of Stevens Avenue to a point 20 feet south of the Universalist Church (now the Westbrook College Library). From this point the line turns west running along the rear property lines of Goddard, Hersey and Proctor Halls, then north along the rear property lines of Alumni Hall and the McArthur Gymnasium to College Street and then east along the south side of College Street to the point of beginning.

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 Frank A. Beard, Historian
Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE January, 1977

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:

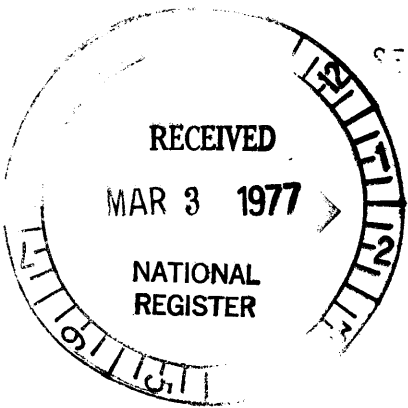
NATIONAL STATE X LOCAL

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.

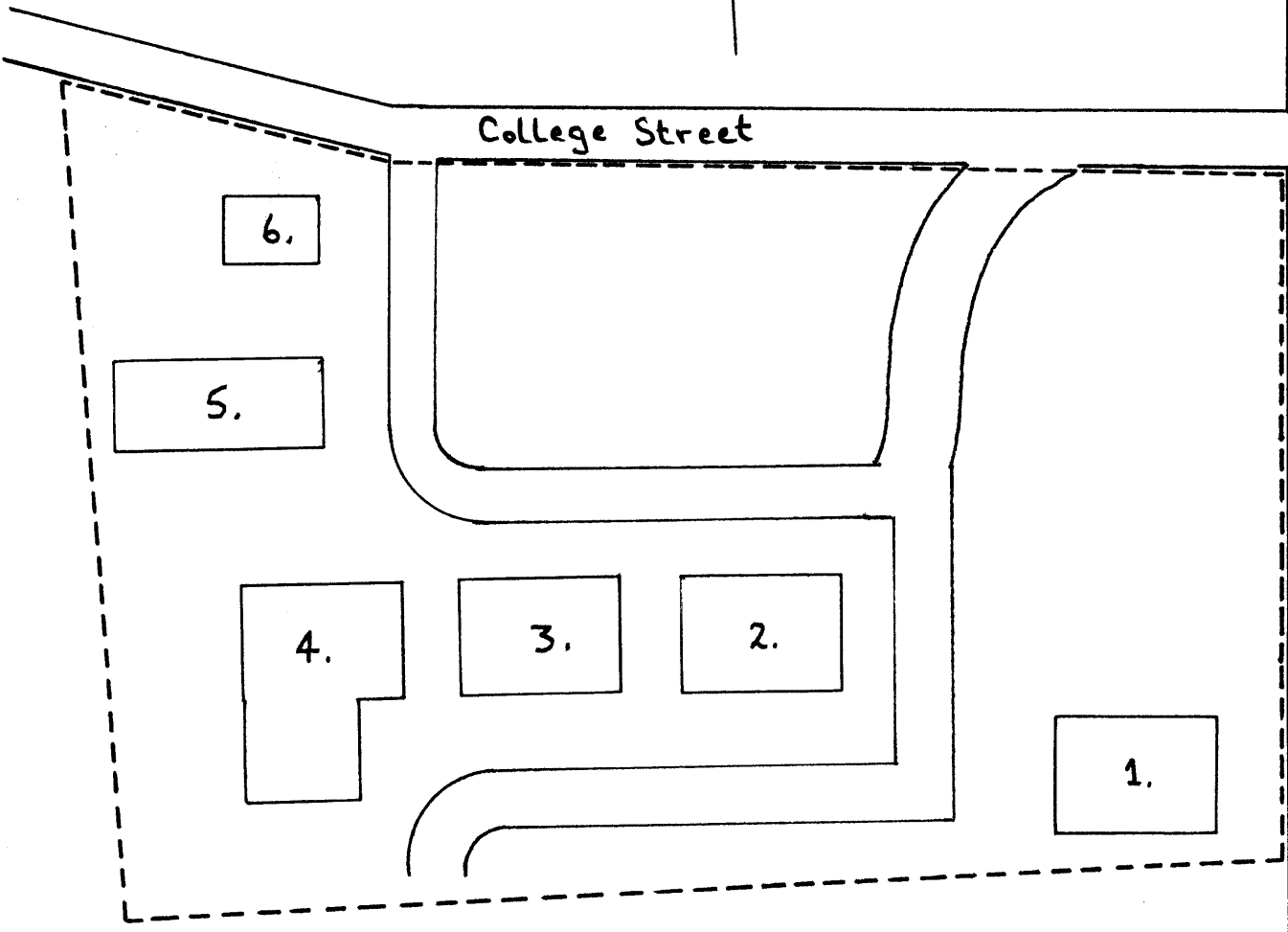
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE Carle S. Sheddsworth, Jr.

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE February 24, 1977

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER | |
| DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION | DATE <u>9/15/77</u> |
| ATTEST: <u>Charles A. [Signature]</u> | KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER |
| KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER | DATE <u>7.15.77</u> |



SEP 15 1977



WESTBROOK COLLEGE HISTORIC DISTRICT

District Boundary - - - - -