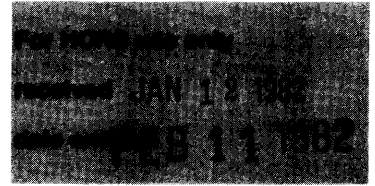


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Tappan-Viles House

and/or common N/A

**2. Location**

street & number 154 State Street N/A not for publication

city, town Augusta, N/A vicinity of congressional district First

state Maine code 23 county Kennebec code 011

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Robert G. Stubbs

street & number 2 Pleasant Street

city, town Hallowell, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04347

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kennebec County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Augusta, state Maine

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes  no

date N/A N/A federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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		

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Originally built in 1816 in the Federal style with major Italianate and Colonial Revival trim added in c.1865 and c.1915 respectively, the Tappan-Viles House of Augusta, Maine is a large and unusually impressive building now used for professional offices.

The 2½-story house is of frame construction with hipped roof, cupola, brick internal end-chimneys, bracketed and denticulated cornices, clapboard siding, wooden quoins, and granite foundation.

The facade, which faces east, is five bays wide with a central entrance. This entrance consists of an arched doorway with side- and overlights, covered by a balustraded portico with paired columns in the Corinthian order. The central bay in the second story is a Palladian window. The facade's half-story contains three gabled dormers with arched windows. The other sides of the half-story each contain one dormer.

The north and south sides of the house each contain a maximum of five bays in each story. Here as elsewhere fenestration is 4/4 with entablatured lintels. Fenestration enframing in the first story is more elaborate than in the second story, with denticulation and consoles beneath the lintels. On the north side of the house at first-story level is a three-sided bay with arched windows. The first floor of the south side has an attached wing with a hooded entrance facing east and arched windows on each of its three sides.

A 1½-story ell is attached to the rear (west side) of the house. Here detail is of equivalent elaboration to the house proper.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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** 1816, c.1865, c.1915 **Builder/Architect** John Calvin Stevens (c.1915)

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This large handsome structure is a noted landmark in central Augusta and particularly interesting as a felicitous blending of three architectural styles applied consecutively over a span of one hundred years.

The residence was originally built in 1816 by Reverend Doctor Benjamin Tappan, an 1805 Harvard graduate who became pastor of the South Parish Church in 1811. In its original state the house appears to have been a fairly traditional square hip roofed Federal house of ample proportions.

Upon Tappan's death in 1862 his widow sold the property to Col. Alanson B. Farwell, a lawyer and member of Gov. Hubbard's staff. Upon acquisition, Col. Farwell brought the house "up to date" in the Italian style which included the addition of an ornate lantern, brackets and quoins among other architectural adornments.

Dr. William Graves, who purchased the property upon the Colonel's death in 1874, maintained a long and successful practice in the city. About 1915 he retained the services of John Calvin Stevens, Maine's most noted architect to revitalize his residence. Stevens set to work, not to dismantle what was in existence, but rather to apply Colonial Revival features then in vogue. This he succeeded in doing in a manner which further enhanced the charm of this notable structure.

The last owner to use the house as a residence was Blaine S. Viles, a lumber merchant who served as Mayor of Augusta in 1915-16 and also State Forest Commissioner. He acquired the residence in 1923. In recent years this handsome structure has been used largely as a professional office building.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Beck, Joseph T., Historical Notes on Augusta, Maine. Farmington, 1962.

*ACROSS NOT RECORDED*

# 10. Geographical Data

*DATA NOT RECORDED*

Acreage of nominated property 1/2

Quadrangle name Augusta

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

### UMT References

A 

1	9	4	3	7	8	0	0	4	9	0	6	5	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 33, Lot 135

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A 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, 1981

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2133

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Edward S. Flettkerwood*

title S.H.P.O. date 12/18/81

For HCERS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.	
<u><i>Delores Byers</i></u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>2/11/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	