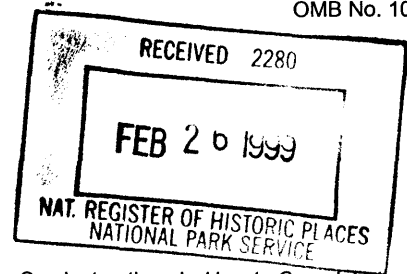


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). 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 Merrill, Captain Reuel and Lucy, House

other names/site number "Ridgeland"

2. Location

street & number 66 Winn Road N/A not for publication

city or town Cumberland Center Station vicinity

state Maine code ME county Cumberland code 005 zip code 04021

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.)

James S. Thompson 2/19/99
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): _____

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper
4/12/99 Date of Action

Merrill, Capt. Reuel and Lucy, House
Name of Property

Cumberland, Maine
County and State

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 _____ buildings
_____ sites
_____ structures
_____ objects

_____ 1 _____ 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

_____ 0 _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

_____ Domestic/Single Dwelling _____
_____ Agriculture/Agricultural Outbuilding _____

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

_____ Domestic/Single Dwelling _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

_____ Greek Revival _____

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ Stone/Granite _____
walls _____ Wood/Weatherboard _____

roof _____ Asphalt _____
other _____ One-Story Wing Connected To Barn _____

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

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MERRILL, CAPT. REUEL AND LUCY, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

The Merrill House is comprised of a one-and-a-half story, five-bay cape that is attached to a gable front barn via a long one-story ell. The house, ell, and most of the barn are sheathed in clapboards, whereas the barn's rear wall and a portion of its side elevation are clad in wood shingles. The main house and a portion of the ell rest on a granite block foundation. It is located along a rural section of Winn Road in the Town of Cumberland.

Facing southeast (for ease of description, the facade shall be referred to as the east elevation), the symmetrically composed facade is comprised of a Greek Revival style entrance that is flanked on each side by two six-over-six double hung sash windows. The door itself is framed by half-sidelights and a surround with paneled pilasters and a full entablature that nearly intersects the house's broad cornice. The design of the doorway appears to be based directly on Plate 28 of Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter* (1830). A brick chimney rises through the center of the roof.

The north gable end has an enclosed sun porch (initially added as a porch in the 1920s or 1930s, and fully enclosed in the 1970s) spanning the first story, and a pair of six-over-six windows in the gable peak. Short gable end returns and the broad cornice further articulate the upper level. On the south gable end, a second sun porch (added in the same period as the north porch) featuring a large picture window is located at the southeast corner, above which are paired six-over-sixes and two fixed-pane sash in the sidewall of a shed dormer that spans the rear elevation. There are three six-over-six windows on the first story of the rear elevation, and several windows in the dormer including a group of three long windows at the southwest corner in what was an early twentieth century sleeping porch. The east side of the ell contains one door and four asymmetrically placed six-over-six windows, whereas the rear wall has a number of large and small windows and a single door. A brick chimney rises through the ell's roof behind the door.

Inside, the house is organized around a traditional hall and parlor plan that employs a central staircase located in front of a recessed chimney stack. This configuration accommodates a steep stairway with one inter-story landing and a narrow L-shaped hall at the landing that provides access to three small rooms. Although portions of the balustrade appear to have been changed around 1900, it does not appear that the location of the chimney stack itself has altered. The hall is also noteworthy for the expansive curved ceiling that is unusual for a house of this size. The rooms to the north and south of the hall contain Greek Revival style mantelpieces, of which the one in the south room has reeded pilasters and a denticulated cornice. Built-in cabinets and boxed beams installed during the 1960s in the north room largely obscure the architectural finish. All of the window and door surrounds consist of symmetrically molded Greek Revival style surrounds with bulls eye corner blocks. A bedroom spans the first floor behind the front rooms. The ell contains a kitchen in the room nearest the main block, a modern kitchen on the opposite side of the chimney stack (which is believed to have originally been used as a summer kitchen),

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Continuation Sheet

MERRILL, CAPT. REUEL AND LUCY, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 3

One of the complex's most notable features, the Greek Revival style barn has a broad front gable that is highlighted by wide pilasters that rise to a frieze, gable end returns, and a pronounced raking cornice. There are two modern garage doors and a trio of windows on the lower level, whereas the middle level has three symmetrically located six-over-sixes, and the upper level has a single larger six-over-six (it may replace the original door to the hay loft). The south side elevation contains five windows and a track mounted door in the basement level, and four small rectangular windows in the main level that correspond to the former location of horse stalls. There are four windows on the barn's rear elevation.

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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1835

Significant Dates

c. 1835

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MERRILL, CAPT. REUEL AND LUCY, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

The Capt. Reuel and Lucy Merrill House is comprised of a one-and-a-half story Greek Revival style cape that is connected to a striking Greek Revival style barn. Believed to have been constructed about 1835, the building was the residence of Reuel and Lucy Merrill. The Merrill house is eligible for nomination to the Register under criterion C for its local architectural significance as a relatively intact example of a connected farm complex, and for the architectural finish of the barn and front doorway of the house.

Reuel Merrill (1808-1875) was the son of William and Lydia Merrill. Local historians refer to him as Captain Merrill, and the U.S. Census of 1850 and 1860 confirm the fact that he had a maritime career. For example, in 1850 his occupation was listed as "Sailor" and in 1860 it was given as "Shipmaster." Merrill married Lucy Knight (1815-1861), and they had four children, two of whom -- William and Louville -- served in the United States Navy during the Civil War. The Merrills occupied this house until their deaths, after which the property changed hands a number of times. During the 1920s or 1930s several modifications were made to the house, at which time it was named "Ridgeland." The present owner acquired it in the early 1970s.

Historic settlement in the Town of Cumberland followed a dispersed pattern along the three north/south "range roads" and numerous shorter roads that intersect with them. Although three small village clusters formed within this pattern, no major commercial center developed. The domestic architecture that accompanied these development patterns is one of relatively modest vernacular residences that reflect traditional building types including five-bay, gable roofed capes and more expansive two-story houses.

Although several alterations have been made to the building, the Merrill house fits squarely within this building tradition. In particular, the design of the main doorway illustrates the manner in which local builders were applying the ideas contained in architectural pattern books to the finish of the houses they were erecting. This doorway is based directly on Plate 28 from Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter* which was published in 1830. With only minor alteration, the doorway is a faithful replica of the published design including the decorative ribs in the pilasters and the composition of the entablature. Of further note is the architectural treatment of the barn. While a distinguishing characteristic of the connected farm complex in Maine is the effort that was made to embellish the front elevations of the barn, few exhibit the forthright vernacular Greek Revival style detail that is evident on this example. This striking feature is conveyed through the use of very broad corner pilasters, an equally wide cornice with full gable end returns, and the symmetrical fenestration pattern on its upper levels. This detailing envelops the front wall and anchors the building to the ground. The result is a barn that forcefully proclaims its stylistic ancestry.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

MERRILL, CAPT. REUEL AND LUCY, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Seventh and Eighth Census of the United States. 1850, 1860: Cumberland County, Maine. Population Schedule. Microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy. Maine State Archives. Augusta.

Sweetser, Phyllis Sturdivant, comp. *Cumberland, Maine in Four Centuries*. Cumberland, Maine: Town of Cumberland, 1976.

Merrill, Capt. Reuel and Lucy, House
Name of Property

Cumberland, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 37.8

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	9	3	9	8	8	0	0	4	8	4	7	9	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

1	9	3	9	8	0	9	0	4	8	4	8	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

2

1	9	3	9	8	5	9	0	4	8	4	7	7	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4

1	9	3	9	8	3	0	0	4	8	4	8	3	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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 Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1999

street & number 55 Capitol Street, 65 State House Station telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 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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National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

MERRILL, CAPT. REUEL AND LUCY, HOUSE

CUMBERLAND, MAINE

Section number 10 **Page** 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property of 37.8 acres occupies the Town of Cumberland Tax Maps U-8, Lot 19 and R-5, Lot 8.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary embraces the two rural lots that are historically and presently associated with the Capt. Reuel and Lucy Merrill House.