

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0689718

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 7 1978
DATE ENTERED OCT 1 1979

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

St. Lawrence Church

St. Lawrence Wright Memorial Congregational Church

AND/OR COMMON

St. Lawrence Church (preferred)

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

76 Congress Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Portland

VICINITY OF

1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

005

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 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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 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

St. Lawrence Wright Memorial Congregational Church, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

76 Congress Street

CITY, TOWN

Portland

VICINITY OF

Maine

STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cumberland County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Portland

Maine

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Portland Historic Resources Inventory

DATE

May, 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

CITY, TOWN

Augusta

Maine

STATE

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 St. Lawrence Congregational Church in Portland is a unique and dramatic example of the Queen Anne style in an ecclesiastical context.

The building's first story and tower are of stone construction, while the is of frame construction with slate siding. The gabled roofs are covered with slate.

The exterior of the church is dominated by a circular tower at its west corner. This tower is entirely built of stone, and is two stories tall with an open belfry above. On the first story the north-west and south-west sides of the tower are encased by arched entrances below decorative peaks, the principal doorway lying on the north-west side. This doorway consists of two pairs of double doors with plate tracery in the arch above. The secondary doorway to the south-west is comprised of a double door with similar, though smaller scale, decoration above. The second story of the tower contains two tall arched windows. The belfry contains arched apertures, each with a decorative peak above. The tower roof is conical. Attached to the tower between the two entrances, and rising to a height of two stories, is a small circular turret with a conical roof. This turret contains two narrow arched windows at different levels and five rectangular windows just below the roof.

The principal sections of the North-west and south-west walls of the church are identical. These consist on the first story of three arched stained-glass windows with plate tracery above. These are flanked by a pair of smaller arched windows. As with the entrances, there is a decorative peak above the larger windows, while between the groups of peaks is crenellation. The upper level of both sides of the church is inset from the lower story, and lies in the gable ends. Decoration here features a large circular rose window flanked by miniature attached turrets. At the junction of roof and wall on each corner of the gable ends are additional miniature turrets.

To the left side of the north-west facade is the main entrance to the church. This is contained in a projecting gabled entry with an arched stained-glass window on each of the two sides. The doorway is arched, and above it in the entry gable end is a small rose window.

Beyond the main entrance, running to the north-east, is an attached parish hall in stone. Here decorative detail is more restrained in the seven-bay-wide two-story facade.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Portland City Guide, American Guide Series. Portland, 1940

Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects. Los Angeles, 1970

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 9	3 9 9 5 0 0	4 8 3 5 4 3 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Assessor's Map Reference: 3-L-1

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 October, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street 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 Eileen S. Fretterwood

TITLE S.H.P.O.

DATE 11/2/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Carol Shall DATE 10-1-79
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: Pauline M. Dwyer DATE 9/30/79
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER