

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0682195

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RECEIVED	AUG 14 1978
DATE ENTERED	NOV 7 1978

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

Rankin Block

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

600-610 Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Rockland

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maine

CODE

023

COUNTY

Knox

CODE

013

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Future Housing

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Charles M. Carroll

STREET & NUMBER

Harbor Square, Bay View Street

CITY, TOWN

Camden

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Knox County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockland,

STATE

Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rankin Block in Rockland, Maine, built in 1853, is a large and well-preserved example of a late Greek Revival style commercial building. The 3½-story block is of brick construction with gabled roof, six chimneys, granite foundation, and granite trim. The block, which faces east, consists of four units, those on the ends being 4 bays wide, while those in the middle are 3 bays in width. Fenestration above the first story was originally 6/6, and this has survived in places; elsewhere it has been replaced with 2/2. All windows feature granite sills and lintels.

The half-story on the facade contains 4 gabled dormers with triangular pediments. A shed-roofed dormer above the northernmost unit contains two pairs of 2/2 windows; this presumably replaced a pair of gabled dormers as at the south end, and it is the only significant alteration to the building's exterior. The first story of the facade is framed in large granite posts and lintels. These define the four street-level stores. The store entrances consist of recessed double doors, flanked by display windows. In the center of the facade, between the second and third stories, is a carved granite panel with raised letters which reads: "RANKIN BLOCK 1853". The entablature is decorated with a pattern of slightly projecting bricks which mimic dentils. The 3-bay-wide gable-ends and rear elevation of the block typically lack the detailing of the facade, but the windows are trimmed in granite.

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

1853

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rankin Block is a well-designed Greek Revival commercial building built in 1853 by Samuel Rankin, a descendant of Constant Rankin, one of the first settlers in the region.

The building faces the harbor and was at the center of activity during Rockland's most prosperous years as a thriving seaport.

The present structure was erected on the site of an earlier commercial building, also called the Rankin Block, which was destroyed in the disastrous fire of 1853.

Symbolic of Rockland's remarkable recovery from this holocaust, the Rankin Block, now scheduled for rehabilitation and reuse as elderly housing, will long continue as a landmark on the waterfront.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shore Village Story, Rockland: Courier-Gazette, Inc., 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA 1

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	119	491160	4883760
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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, David E. Fortin, Robert L. Bradley,
Historian Student Intern Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE July, 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Carole S. Felt-Hewitt DATE 7/31/78

TITLE SHPO

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

William L. Brown
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 11/2/78
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: William L. Brown DATE Nov 6, 1978
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The ground floor facade of the Rankin Block is a prime example of the heavy trabeated granite construction so typical of Maine commercial architecture of the mid-19th century particularly in seaport areas.

During Rockland's primacy as a lime exporting seaport in the latter half of the 19th century the Rankin Block was used by various different businesses related to maritime commerce. These included a ship chandlery, shipping offices, and, in the top floor, a sail loft.

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ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION.

The Rankin Block is located on a rectangular lot running north and south along Main Street 150 feet and 145 feet east and west along Rankin Street.