

PH 001421

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

1. NAME

COMMON:
Park Street Row

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Park Street Block

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
88-114 Park Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Portland

STATE Maine	CODE 23	COUNTY: Cumberland	CODE 005
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum 	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: John E. Berry
Horace Morse

STREET AND NUMBER: 88-94 Park Street
114 Park Street

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Cumberland County Courthouse, Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
142 Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: H.A.B.S.
Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.

DATE OF SURVEY: H.A.B.S. 1965/GPL:1968 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic American Building Survey
Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER: Library of Congress
35 Pleasant Street

CITY OR TOWN: Washington
Portland

STATE: D.C.
Maine

CODE: 11&23

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maine
COUNTY: Cumberland
ENTRY NUMBER: _____
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Slightly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

LOCATION AND POTENTIAL THREAT

This red brick building is located on Park Street between Spring and Gray Streets, a residential and cultural area near the commercial district. The Park Street area lies within the Spring Street Historic District, and lies within the Neighborhood Development program of the Portland Renewal Authority and within the Model Cities boundaries. This nomination is designed to protect the integrity of the Park Street Row, and the neighborhood against future widening of Spring Street between High and State Streets, since such widening would require demolition of at least one unit of the remaining row houses.

Park Street Row was built in 1835 as fourteen attached single family units, running from Spring to Gray Streets. It was part of a larger complex which included a group of three more units on Spring Street and three on Gray Street. The Gray Street row has been demolished. An alley runs behind the Park Street Row separating it from the other arms of the complex and from the commonly-owned park area in the middle of the block.

BASIC STRUCTURE AND MATERIALS: The row is made of brick on granite foundations, with brownstone door frames, window sills and lintels. Each unit is four stories high with complete basement and useable attic with one front dormer and two rear skylights. The roofs were originally slate, although many have been converted to asphalt shingles. Each unit has two chimneys accomodating eight fireplaces. The rear of the buildings was originally uniform; subsequently ells have been added, primarily as garages.

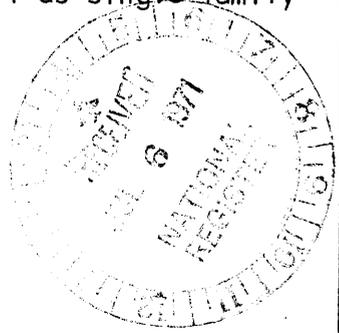
The facade of each unit has three windows across each floor except the ground floor, where the front door occupies the right-hand space. (Exception: the northerly unit's plan is reversed). The windows vary in size according to floor, with the major full length windows on the second floor. (Fenestration: first floor, 6/6; second 6/9; third 6/6, fourth 3/3.) Three units have been altered to accomodate Victorian bays or entries.

Running the length of the row at the second floor level windows is an iron balcony railing (except on those three units mentioned above). The street slopes toward the waterfront, and as a result, every second building is stepped down several feet, rendering a rhythmic repetition of facades.

Each building originally had a wrought iron fence enclosing a small area in front and forming a railing up the granite front steps. Much of the original iron work with its post finials still remains. The railing was set in granite blocks.

The architectural details are simple Greek Revival in character. Doric pilasters frame the front doors supporting an entablature and cornice of brownstone. The windows have plain lintels and sills of brownstone. The boxed plain cornice is of wood. Many of the houses, built as single family residences, have been converted to apartments.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1835

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

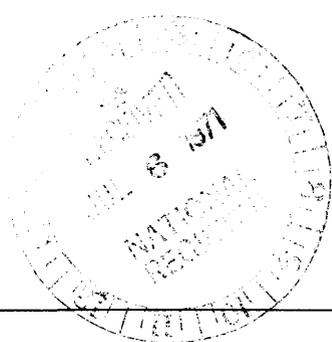
The Park Street block is the largest row house complex ever built in Maine. It also ranks as one of the state's most ambitious 19th century real estate projects. In 1835, Park Street was known as Ann Street. On April 14 of that year, the Ann Street company was formed to purchase a large lot of four acres extending from Gray Street almost to Congress. The group issued 44 shares of stock at \$450 each. A week later, on April 21, the stockholders agreed to reduce the amount of shares to 41 in order to conform to the number subscribed for and to increase the value of each to \$475; this resulted in a capital amount of \$19,475. Each owner gave a note for his share on April 25; upon payment of it, he became the holder of an equal portion. He was also liable for whatever assessments the company should make to improve the property.

In a short time, the land was bought from John C. Gray of Boston for \$15,000. The lots were laid out for 20 houses, 3 on Spring Street and 3 on Gray Street and 14 on Ann Street. The park behind the block (measured 80' by 148') was not to be used for any other purpose without consent of all the owners.

During the summer and fall of 1835, the 4½ story brick row was built, the street renamed Park Street, and the company became the Park Street Proprietary. Financial difficulties halted work after the walls and roofs were completed, leaving the interiors unfinished. On October 3, 1835, the proprietors sold their houses at auction. The house at the corner of Gray Street brought the highest price because of its harbor view, \$925. New owners finished the interiors to suit their tastes.

The Park Street block must have presented a dramatic appearance with its 20 tall units ornamented by brownstone doorways, sills and lintels as well as decorative iron fences and balconies, all elements of the Greek Revival style. Its scale reflects the urbanity which the city was acquiring in the 1830's. It continues to be the focal point of Portland's oldest and finest residential historic district.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Federal Writers Project W.P.A., Portland City Guide, Portland 1940, p.254.
2. Neal, Joh, Wandering Recollections of a Somewhat Busy Life, Boston, 1869 p.357-58.
3. Shettleworth, Earle G. Jr., The Architecture of Portland, Maine 1830 to 1870, Unpublished undergraduate thesis at Colby College Library, Waterville, Maine, pp.43-45.
4. Shettleworth, Earle G., Jr. "Park Street Block" Portland, Maine, Evening Express, August 21, 1965, p.16.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE							
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds			
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	43°	39'	07"	70°	15'	48"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 7/8 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John W. Briggs, Historian and Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. Advisory Trustee

ORGANIZATION: Greater Portland State Park & Recreation Commission DATE: May 21, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 33 Pleasant Street

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta 04330 STATE: Portland 04101 Maine CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Lawrence Stuart Title Director Date June 29, 1971

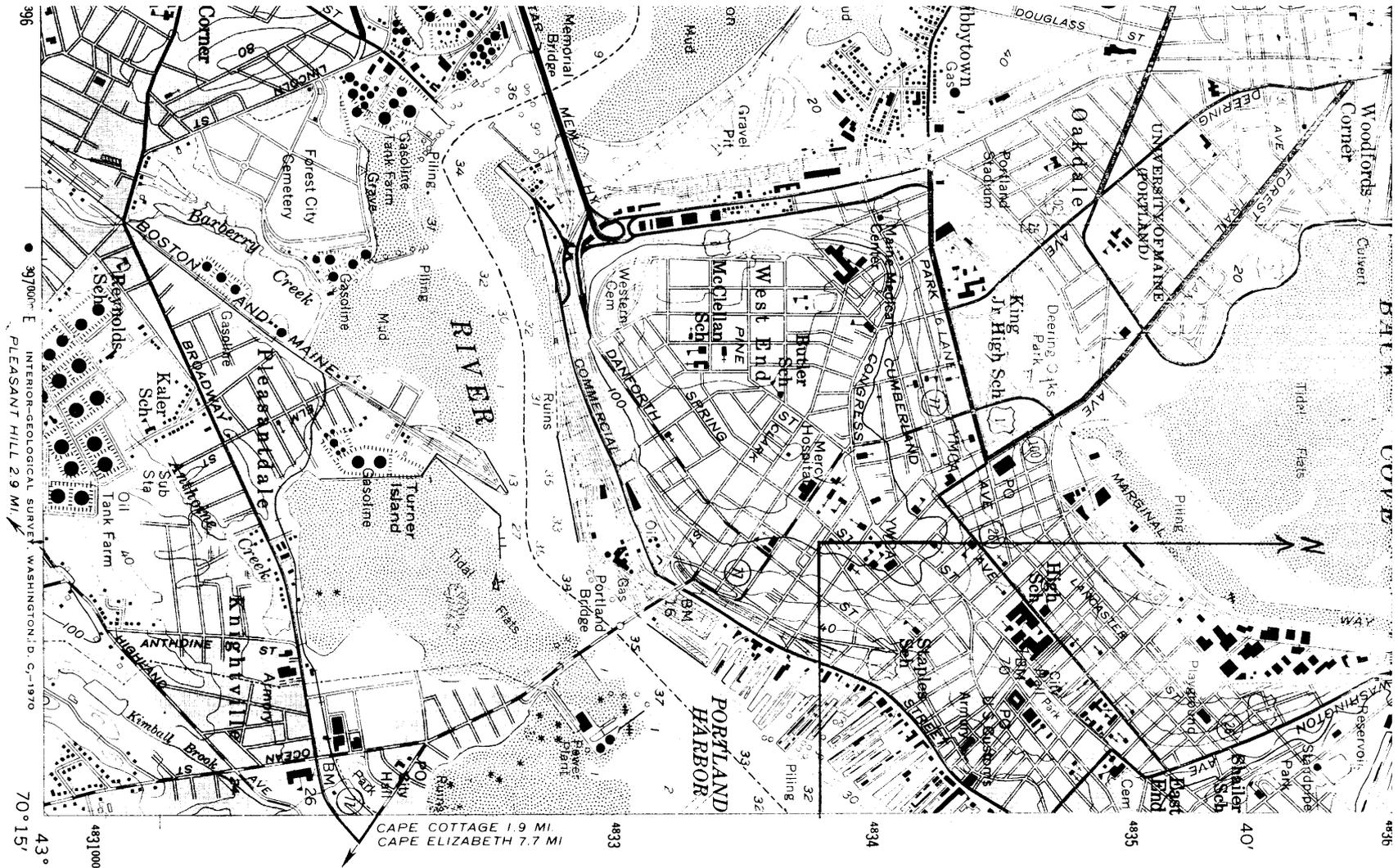
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date FEB 23 1972

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register
Date Jan. 12, 1972

19/298/60/4133760 SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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397000' E
 INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON, D. C. 1970
 PLEASANT HILL 2.9 MI.

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 70° 15'

4831000m N.

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