

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89002345

Date Listed: 02/09/90

Upper Dallas School  
Property Name

Franklin  
County

ME  
State

N/A  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Barbara A. Savage*  
Signature of the Keeper

02-09-90  
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance--Areas:

Architecture was intended as a an applicable area of significance: it is justified in the text and indicated by applicability of criterion C. It was inadvertently not indicated as such.

This information was confirmed by Kirk Mohny, National Register Coordinator, MESHPO, by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Upper Dallas School  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number Saddleback Road N/A not for publication  
city, town Dallas Plantation N/A vicinity  
state Maine code ME county Franklin code 007 zip code 04970

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: [Signature] Date: 12/13/89  
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.

Signature of commenting or other official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. 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      02-09-90 Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government/City Hall

Education/School

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government/City Hall

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Wood/Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Upper Dallas School is a tall one-story gable roofed frame building sheathed in weatherboards. It has a low ell projecting from the rear elevation. The former school stands on the north side of Dallas Hill Road in a rural setting.

Facing southeast, the school's front elevation features a pair of widely separated doors and a centrally-located six-over-six window on the first story as well as a hinged door in the gable peak. A thin cornice with returns complements the narrow corner boards. The south side has a single window near the front corner. This pattern is repeated on the opposite side except that an additional seven, long four-over-four units occupy much of the remaining wall surface. These windows appear to be early twentieth century additions. Paired four-over-four windows flank the ell whose walls are punctuated by a variety of window openings. A brick interior flue stack rises through the roof of the main block at its north end and a rubble stone foundation supports the whole.

The interior floor plan is comprised of narrow entrance vestibules with sheathed wainscoting and pressed metal on the walls and ceiling. The small side windows illuminate these spaces. Between these two rooms is an open raised platform, presumably for the teacher's desk, that affords a view over the main space. This latter area features a twentieth century hardwood floor, a long blackboard on the south wall, a pressed metal ceiling, and a stove at the rear. Doors flanking the flue open into the ell which has a sink, storage for town records and pit toilets at the rear.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Education  
Politics/Government

Period of Significance  
c. 1888 - 1929

Significant Dates  
c. 1888

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Probably constructed during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century, the Upper Dallas School is a well preserved example of the type of educational facility once found throughout rural Maine, but that is now quite rare. In addition to its use as a school the building historically served as the town hall, as it does today. It stands not only as a reminder of the Plantation's educational and governmental history, but is also one of its most significant architectural landmarks. For these reasons it is eligible for nomination to the Register under criteria A and C.

Dallas Plantation was organized in 1845 from portions of four unorganized townships. As noted in an historical sketch prepared in 1939 by the WPA Historical Records Survey, little is known about the early life of the community. Census returns indicate that in 1870 there were a mere 159 people occupying the plantation's 23,040 acres, a figure that stood at only 172 in 1900. Although the abundant timberlands represented a valuable resource the difficulty of removing it to market centers was a barrier that was not surmounted until the early twentieth century. Limited agriculture and sheep raising was carried on, but apparently not on any commercial scale. The low margin of income of the residents is indicated by valuation statistics. These show that the value of real and personal property was \$11,148 in 1866 and \$33,981 in 1899. It is within this context that the local significance of the school can be understood.

The 1861 Topographical Map of Franklin County reveals the existence of a district schoolhouse which was apparently on or near the site of the existing building. According to the 1939 WPA history the two buildings are one and the same. However, it seems more likely, based on the architectural features, that the present school is a later replacement. It may be that the school was erected after 1888 when a deed was made between School District #2 and Asa K. Perry for a lot on the northeast side of the County Road. The map of Dallas that appears in the 1894-5 State Atlas of Maine indicates that the location specified in the deed matches the present one. This information

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Maine. Historical Records Survey  
WPA, #4, Vol. V & VI, Franklin County. Portland, 1939.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Specify repository:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than 1

**UTM References**

A 

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

C 

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B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property of less than one acre occupies the Dallas Plantation tax map 2, lot 50.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary embraces the building and immediate grounds historically associated with this property.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian  
 organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date 10/89  
 street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone (207) 289-2132  
 city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333

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is partially confirmed by the author of the 1939 history who states that the original school was known as the Perry School and was located next to A. K. Perry. Perhaps an adjacent lot was obtained in 1888 for a new building. In any case, a second schoolhouse is reported to have been erected in Dallas in 1895. Known as the Lower Dallas School, it also survives but has been converted into a residence.

For what period of time the Upper Dallas School was utilized for educational purposes is not certain. Its use as a town hall, however, continued from the date of construction until at least 1929 when the WPA history notes the termination of this function. Local tradition holds that it has always been the space used for town meetings, as it is today. The discrepancy between the two accounts has not as yet been resolved. Nevertheless, it is evident that the school building has served for much of its historic period as the center of plantation government.

Given the sparse settlement and economic condition of Dallas Plantation in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries it is not surprising that this modest but little altered building is one of the community's most significant architectural resources. Many of the other nineteenth century buildings that do survive have been altered. There are also a considerable number of more recent structures that reflect the plantation's position near recreation areas that have increasingly drawn non-native residents to the region.