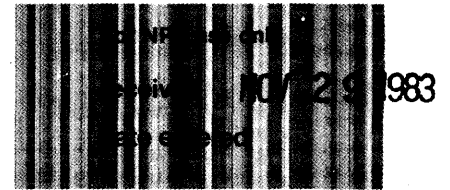


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Jeremiah Fowler House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 35 School Street N/A not for publication

city, town Lubec, N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Maine code 23 county Washington code 029

3. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A 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:

4. Owner of Property

name Ryerson Johnson

street & number 35 School Street

city, town Lubec, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04652

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Machias, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes no

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 Fowler House is a two-and-one-half story Greek Revival style building with a gable roof and clapboard siding. The principal (south) facade is three bays wide and is enframed by Doric corner pilasters supporting a pedimented gable end. In the tympanum is a triangular window with small panel lights which is a typical feature of Washington County architecture of this period. Full pediments are also employed in the east and west gable ends at the rear of the house. Flanking the main (south) entrance are Doric pilasters supporting an entablature. Attached to the west side of the house is a one-story wing which may be original.

The Colonial Revival style veranda was probably added in circa 1900. It extends across the front of the south facade and continues along the east side of the house. The windows consists of six-over-one double-hung sash and may also be an alteration from the same period.

The interior of the house retains much of the original woodwork. Windows and doors are ornamented with molded architrave trim. This woodwork is varied in design, ranging from simple Doric pilasters to fluted trim with symmetrical corner blocks. Many rooms contain Greek Revival cornice moldings and there is a floral ceiling medallion in the parlor. Evidence of early interior alteration is also present. The staircase and newell post, for example, date from the circa 1900 period. One of the most unusual features in the house is the bathroom. This small room contains a zinc-lined wood bathtub, a marble sink, tongue and groove wainscot and an over-head flush toilet.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1840 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Jeremiah Fowler House in Lubec is a handsome reminder of the town's long association with the sea and a time capsule of mid-victorian interior decoration and furnishing. The lives of its owners in the nineteenth century and the house that they lived in speak of the rapid pace of progress in the nineteenth-century along the coast of Maine; almost overnight the wilderness of the Lubec area was transformed into an active center of commerce and industry. As towns such as Lubec have in this century become quiet once more, it is well to remember the likes of Simeon Ryerson and Colonel Sumner, two of Lubec's leading citizens in the nineteenth century.

The Lubec region (originally part of Eastport, then called Moose Island) was first settled in 1776. One of the first white men to arrive was Captain John Allen, a personal friend of George Washington who, as Superintendent of the Eastern Indian Tribes, attempted to keep friendly relations with the Indians during the Revolution. As the War of 1812 approached the still sparsely populated area became a hotbed of smuggling between the equidistant American and British territories. Eastport's capture by the British in 1814 was a spur to the development of tiny Flagg's Point, as Lubec was then known. Between 1815-20 the town built a post office, hotel, schoolhouse, church, and started a stagecoach route to East Machias. As the town grew, lead and copper mines were sunk, a brickyard was opened, and the smoked herring and shipbuilding industries flourished.

It was some time in this period (probably 1841) when the Fowler House was built. The first owner was Jeremiah Fowler, a local merchant who sold the house to Simeon Ryerson in the 1850's. Ryerson was a leading citizen whose career is characteristic of the time. He owned a general store but soon expanded his interests, becoming involved in the smoked herring industry and starting a shipbuilding company with the next owner of the house, A. B. Sumner.

Colonel A. Baker Sumner was a clerk in Simeon Ryerson's general store until he enlisted as a private in the Sixth Maine Regiment of Volunteers. He saw quite a lot of action: at Antietam, Frederickson, Rappahanock, and in the Shenandoah Valley under General Sherman. He was mustered out in 1865 a Lt. Colonel by brevet. After the war he married Ryerson's daughter Adelaide and became a partner in the general store. He also became active in the growing shipbuilding industry with Ryerson when they formed A. B. Sumner and Company. They owned the Addie Ryerson (1865) and at least five other vessels.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Johnson, Ryerson, Ed., 200 Years of Lubec History 1776-1976.
Lubec Historical Society, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property $\frac{1}{2}$

Quadrangle name Lubec

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 15, Lot 160.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic preservation Commission date October, 1983

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

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. Feltz*

title S.H.P.O. date 11/18/83

For NPS use only

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

Shelley Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 12/29/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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JEREMIAH FOWLER HOUSE

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

Sumner was the great uncle of the present owner, Ryerson Johnson. The Johnsons have taken care to preserve the home and some of the belongings of their ancestors.