Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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ш S UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MAINE COUNTY: Kennebec FOR NPS USE ONLY

			<u> </u>	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	=
(Type all entries	·	70.10.18.004	0 10/6/	70		
1. NAME				$\sqrt{12}$	T_{i}	
Vaughan Hom	estead			RECEN	JED C	
AND/OR HISTORIC:				AUU 3	1970	
2. LOCATION				= NATIO	1	
STREET AND NUMBER:	th off Litch	field Road	(Nor	number REGIST	AL (S.)	
CITY OR TOWN:				2/2/11/	110	
Hallowel STATE	1 04,547		OUNTY:		COL	DE
Main	е	018		Kennebec	01	
3. CLASSIFICATION		1		.,,		
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBL	1
☐ District ☒ Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisition:		✓ Occupied	Yes:	
Site Structure	□ Private	☐ In Process	5	☐ Unoccupied ☐ Restricted		
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Cor	sidered	Preservation work	Unrestricte	d
				in progress	K N∘	1
PRESENT USE (Check One or M.	Iore as Appropriate)	 		<u> </u>		
Agricultural Go	overnment	Park	Г	Transportation	Comments	
	_	Private Residence		Other (Specify)		
	litary	Religious				_
Entertainment Mu	seum	Scientific				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY						
OWNER'S NAME:						s s
Vaugha	n Homestead (Corporation				
STREET AND NUMBER:						₹
						Maine
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	Maine	CODE	0		
	Hallowell				18	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC	RIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF D						⊼ 8
	nebec County	Courthouse				Kenn
STREET AND NUMBER:	ate Street					neb
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE			8
CITY OR TOWN:			SIAIE		CODE	''
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVETS					
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DATE OF SURVEY:		☐ Federal	State	County	Local	1
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RE	CORDS:				Local	O NUMB
STREET AND NUMBER:						C ER USE
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CONDITION	☐ Excellent	X Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deter	riorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION	(Check One)					(Che	ck One)
	☐X Alter	red	☐ Unaltered			☐ Moved	→ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

LOCATION, SETTING AND GROUNDS:

This mansion house stands on an eminence commanding a fine view of the Kennebec River, which lies about 1100 feet below and to the east. This location is set off from the residential area of Hallowell. The scene is pastoral. To the south of the house is a stream bordered with stands of virgin white pine. For purposes of protection, this nomination will concern only 25 acres of land about the house. A line beyond the stream, Vaughan Brook, will form the south boundary. To the east, downhill toward the river, is the Maine Central Railroad right-of-way; this will form the east boundary. The north boundary is the Litchfield Road and the west boundary lies across the fields in back of the house, summer house and barn complex. There are, interspaced on the lawns and between terraced garden areas, huge elms, oaks, pines and one very old sycamore tree. This is a landscape of surpassing beauty.

BASIC STRUCTURE AND BUILDING MATERIALS:

The house was built as a square two-story hip roof edifice. It had, and still retains, four chimneys which provided large fireplaces for each of the four spacious rooms on each floor. The building was sheathed in hand-split cedar clapboards which are in place today. At some point in the past, during the early 19th century, a two-story wing was added to the west side or rear of the house. A long veranda was added to the east or front side of the building. These additions were probably made during the active life of Dr. Benjamin Vaughan. At a later time, a second two-story addition in the form of an octagon was added to the west end abutting the wing. There are chimneys for both this addition and the wing. Later again, a two-story addition was built on the wing. Between the octagon addition and the wing's addition there is a small court yard enclosed by a lattice fence. The original and the additions are sheathed with clapboards. The mansion house is, today, painted white with black painted window shutters. The roof is, today, covered with asphalt shingles. The overall condition of the building is good, and it is properly maintained. It is, due to its age, a member of the landscape.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	🔀 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) 1797	7	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropr	riate)	
Abor iginal	∠ Education	▼ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	 Engineering 	Religion/Phi-	Other (sparify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
★ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	() o
X Architecture	🖄 Landscape	Sculpture	3, [2]
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	F S 3 F
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	1 000
Communications	☐ Military	Theater	1 P P P
☐ Conservation	Music	Transportation	700
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The names of Benjamin Vaughan, M.D., LL.D., and Charles Waughan, Esq., must ever stand preeminent on the list of the founders of the town of Hallowell. Charles came to Hallowell in 1791; Benjamin in 1797; and the two brothers settled upon a large estate which they had inherited through their mother, Sarah Hallowell Vaughan.

Dr. Benjamin and Charles Vaughan were English gentlemen. They came to Hallowell to make permanent homes, and they devoted all their energies and resources to the material, social, intellectual, and religious upbuilding of the place. To the Vaughans, more than to any other one family, Hallowell owes its early commercial prosperity, and the high social, mental, and moral standards that were at once established in the town. Their names stand out prominently in the records of the church, the schools, the libraries, and all public business enterprises.

Benjamin Vaughan, born in Jamaica on April 19, 1751, was the oldest son of Samuel Vaughan, a London merchant with interests in the colonies. married Miss Sarah Hallowell, daughter of Benjamin Hallowell, one of the proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase, for whom the town of Hallowell was named.

Benjamin Vaughan was educated in the Academy at Warrington and resided with and was totored by Dr. Joseph Priestly, the writer of Unitarian Theology. Dr. Priestly was the scientist who discovered oxygen. Benjamin later studied at Cambridge and became the private secretary to Lord Shelburne. At this point he fell in love with Miss Sarah Manning, the daughter of William Manning one of the wealthiest merchants in England. Manning would not consent to the marriage until Vaughan mastered a profession. Vaughan then undertook studies at Edinburg and obtained the degree of M.D. He married Sarah Manning in 1781, and the merchant Manning made Vaughan a partner in his lucrative businesses. Vaughan soon entered the social circle of the best in English life. Benjamin Vaughan's father, Samuel, was an admirer of George Washington and Benjamin developed an affinity for the democratic ideals as espoused by John Jay and Benjamin Franklin. Franklin and Jay were the United States' Peace Commissioners sent to Paris in 1782 to resolve a formal peace with Great Britain following the American Revolution.

Vaughan went to Paris to consult with Franklin and Jay in regard to peace negotiations, and spent a whole year engaged in this mission. England, at this critical period, was insisting on treating with our country as colonies, while Jay declared that peace could not be made until the colonies were

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Nash, Charles E., <u>History of Augusta</u> , pp. 71, 192, 496												
North, Joseph, <u>History of Augusta, Maine</u> , 1870, pp. 71, 192												
	Nason, Emma H., <u>Old Hallowell on the Kennebec</u> , Augusta 1909, pp. 36, 76-81, 94, 282, 284.							76-81,				
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1.	tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law					National Register.						
1	89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion						National Register.					
í ·	in the National Register and certify that it has been					F 1 6 (1)						
(evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set						William Committee					
forth by the National Park Service. The recommended					1	Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation						
level of significance of this nomination is:							A -		-			
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

F HISTORIC PLACES	COUNTY							
IOMINATION FORM	Kennebec							
TOMINATION FORM	FOR NPS USE ON	LY						
- Chard	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE						
on Sheet)	20.10.18.0040	10/6/70						

STATE

Maine

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

recognized in the treaty as the United States of America. No progress was therefore made in the negotiations until Dr. Vaughan returned to England and by his personal efforts convinced Lord Shelburne of the necessity of accepting the terms proposed by the American commissioners. The treaty was then completed; and Dr. Vaughan, at Lord Shelburne's request, again set out for Paris, taking with him the royal messenger who bore the new commission recognizing in its wording the independence of the United States of America. Our country therefore owes to Dr. Benjamin Vaughan a perpetual debt of gratitude.

From 1783 to 1794 Dr. Vaughan resided in London and became a member of Parliament. Dr. Vaughan was "opposed to any attempt to disturb the existing form of government in his own country, but as the French revolution developed, the popular tide in England set strongly against those men who had shown sympathy with its earlier stages, and more rigorous laws were demanded against those suspected of sympathy with what were called Revolutionary ideas. Vaughan, from his place in Parliament, was well known to Pitt as one of the active opponents of his administration. Under these circumstances, he decided to leave England for the continent until times had become settled, and accordingly in 1794, he went to France and afterwards to Switzerland. While in France, he was several times suspected of being an English spy. In Switzerland he devoted himself to political correspondence and literary pursuits. He was assured by Pitt that he could return to England with safety, but he had become so much interested in republican principles that he determined to live in the United States.

Charles Vaughan, now active in Hallowell, had the mansion house built in anticipation of Dr. Vaughan's arrival. Dr. Vaughan sent his family to Hallowell in the care of Mr. John Merrick. The family was reunited in Hallowell in 1797.

Charles Vaughan proved to be an activist in the public life and development of Hallowell and the region. In the meantime, Dr. Vaughan devoted his time to the pursuits of husbandry, scientific research and the arts. He collected a notable library, second only in New England to Harvard College. Dr. Vaughan was one of the founders of the Maine Historical Society. He continued his correspondence with the leading figures of the world at that time.

But Dr. Vaughan was not only learned in the works of others; he was, himself, a thinker and writer. He was the author of numerous political, philosophical, and scientific papers, and of several historical treatises which he wrote at the special request of President Adams. His most important work was entitled "The Rural Socrates." Mr. Vaughan also collected and published "The Political, Miscellaneous, and Philosophical Essays of Dr. Benjamin Franklin"; and edited a memoir of Dr. Franklin.

Dr. Vaughan did not practice as a regular physician. However, in 1811 an epidemic of "spotted fever" prevailed in New England, and Hallowell did not escape the dread disease. Dr. Vaughan used his utmost efforts to check its progress and did save the lives of many people.

Dr. Vaughan, closing his life at the golden age of Eighty-Five, died in December 8,



