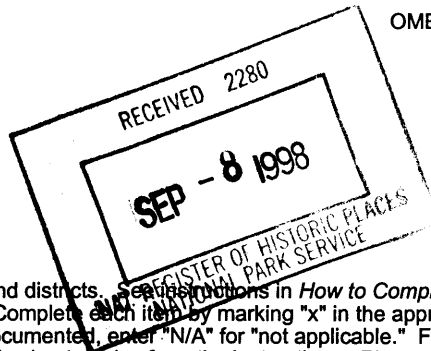


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



1237

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name (Former) St. Edward's Convent

other names/site number Bar Harbor Historical Society

2. Location

street & number 33 Ledgeawn Avenue N/A  not for publication

city or town Bar Harbor N/A  vicinity

state Maine code ME county Hancock code 009 zip code 04609

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Ernest H. Peterson* 8/20/98  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Edson A. Beall* 10/8/98  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

(Former) St. Edward's Convent  
Name of Property

Hancock, Maine  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)  
 private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)  
 building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)  
Contributing                  Noncontributing

_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**  
0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Church-Related Residence

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation & Culture/Museum

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Jacobethan Revival

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Stone/Slate

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) ST. EDWARD'S CONVENT

HANCOCK, MAINE

Section number   7   Page   2  

---

The (Former) St. Edward's Convent is a two-and-a-half story, three-bay brick dwelling that is designed in the Jacobethan Revival style. Its rectangular footprint is somewhat disguised by a slightly projecting bay and two-story bay window on the front elevation and the multiple gables along the side elevation. The building is covered by a slate roof that is punctuated by a pair of chimneys, and it stands on a concrete foundation. It is located on a small residential lot in Bar Harbor village.

Facing east, the asymmetrically composed facade contains a doorway at the northeast corner and the three-sided bay window on the southern half of the wall. The door is set within a four-centered (or Tudor) arch and the enframing is comprised of rusticated cast concrete surmounted by a drip molding (this style of surround is utilized on all doors and windows). A window comprised of a pair of narrow double hung sash, the upper sash of which utilizes diamond panes, is located between the door and the bay window. A similar window is located on the second story and a single window is positioned over the door. The bay window's lower story has five window units with fixed lower sash and diamond pane transoms, the whole of which is set within a unifying surround. In contrast, the upper level, whose windows illuminate the chapel, contains diamond pane stained glass in a Tudor arch sash. The bay window is capped by a flat roof above which is a small window located in the peak of the front gable. This gable, like those on the rear and side elevations, has a short raking parapet with a double step at the lower corners and a cast concrete cap.

The north side elevation has an asymmetrical fenestration pattern that is ordered within three principal bays by the cross gables that articulate the roof line. In the easternmost bay there are single windows on the first and second story as well as a double window in the gable peak. The middle bay features two windows on the first story -- one of which is immediately beneath a triple window that marks the inter-story landing of the stairs -- a single window in the second story, and a pair in the gable. Triple windows occupy the first and second stories of the west bay with the double window repeated in the gable.

There are two gables on the south elevation. The east gable frames a door and window on the first story, a trio of paired windows on the second story, and a single window (that has been enlarged since the original date of construction) in the peak. The door, which has diamond pane glazing, opens onto a concrete deck with a concrete balustrade featuring Tudor arched openings. Structural evidence on the brickwork of the house indicates that this deck originally extended to the front elevation and appears to have been covered by a roof. It is uncertain when this alteration was made. The middle bay contains a trio of windows on the first story, and two windows each on the second and upper stories. There are three windows on the wall surface at the southwestern corner including a pair on the first story and one on the second.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) ST. EDWARD'S CONVENT

HANCOCK, MAINE

Section number   7   Page   3  

---

A two-story hip-roofed block extends across the rear elevation below the pair of windows that occupy the gable peak, and slightly recessed from the plane of the side walls. The lower story is of brick construction whereas the upper level was originally an open porch supported by short concrete columns that has since been enclosed with wooden sash. There is a single window on the south side, three windows and a door on the west wall, and a cellar door in a small brick enclosure that is attached to the north side.

The front door opens into a narrow vestibule from which entry is made into the hall containing the open string staircase featuring square newels and balusters. The door and window surrounds in this room and throughout most of the interior are varnished. A door at the south side of the hall opens into the front parlor which is connected to the dining room by a broad opening. To the north of the dining room is an office and behind it a back staircase. The kitchen and laundry facilities are located in the rear section of the first floor. Several bedrooms are located on the second floor along with the chapel in the southeast corner. This space has a coffered, arched ceiling. There are additional bedrooms in the third story.

(Former) St. Edward's Convent  
Name of Property

Hancock, Maine  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1917

**Significant Dates**

1917

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Stratton, Milton, Architect

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) ST. EDWARD'S CONVENTHANCOCK, MAINESection number 8 Page 2

---

The (Former) Saint Edward's Convent is a Jacobethan Revival style brick building that was built in 1917 and dedicated early the following year. Its construction was made possible by General and Mrs. Edward de Veau Morrell of Philadelphia, who were summer residents of Bar Harbor. The convent was designed by Bar Harbor architect Milton Stratton. It is eligible for nomination to the National Register under criterion C. Criteria Consideration A also applies by virtue of the building's original use by a religious institution.

Construction of Saint Edward's Convent marked the culmination of a substantial building campaign by Bar Harbor's Catholic congregation. Begun in 1913 with the erection of Holy Redeemer Church (which stands several lots to the north of the convent at the corner of Eden Street and Ledgelawn Avenue), this undertaking continued with the building of a parochial school in 1914 (located behind the convent), and the convent in 1917 which was named in honor of its benefactor's name saint. Site preparations for the construction of the latter building included the relocation of an existing house. The building remained in use as a convent until the early 1970s, after which it was sold by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland to a private individual. It was subsequently used as a law office, health center, Zen Buddhist center, and a private residence, and in 1997 was acquired by the Bar Harbor Historical Society to house its museum.

Substantial financial support for the entire building program was provided by Edward de Veau Morrell (1863-1917) and his wife Louise Bouvier (Drexel) Morrell of Philadelphia. A native of Rhode Island, Morrell was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania where he studied law. He subsequently entered the Pennsylvania National Guard eventually rising to the rank of Brigadier General in command of the First Regiment. He at one time also served as the Guard's Judge Advocate General. In 1900 he was elected to fill a vacant seat in the 56th Congress, and was reelected to three terms thereafter. Mrs. Morrell was the daughter of Francis A. Drexel and the sister of Anthony J. Drexel, the founder of Drexel Institute (now University). The Morrell's had a summer residence in Bar Harbor named "Thirlstane."

From an architectural standpoint, St. Edward's is noteworthy as a virtually intact example of a residential building designed in the Jacobethan Revival style. Characteristics of the style as described in *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles* (Whiffen, 1969) include the use of brick for walls and stone [or a substitute such as concrete] for window frames, parapets, quoins, and ornament, as well as steep sided triangular gables and bay windows. All of these elements are present in the design of the convent as developed by the local architect Milton Stratton.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) ST. EDWARD'S CONVENT

HANCOCK, MAINE

Section number   8   Page   3  

---

Milton W. Stratton, was born in Hancock, Maine in 1871. According to a biographical sketch which appeared in the 1906 *Bar Harbor Record Souvenir Edition*, Stratton had studied architecture in the Boston firms of Little, Brown, and Moore and that of Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson. In 1892 he came to Bar Harbor and entered into a partnership with Fred L. Savage, an association which lasted for six years. The sketch notes that much of his work was for residential properties including "recently erected fashionable residences in Brookline, Mass." Although a complete accounting of his work is yet to be made, Stratton is known to have designed many commercial, public, and residential buildings on Mount Desert Island, as well as several structures elsewhere in Maine including Ellsworth and Bangor. Four years before obtaining the commission for St. Edward's Convent, Stratton had designed the modest Loudville Church (N.R. 12/14/95) on Louds Island, one of a handful of projects -- including St. Edwards' -- which he undertook for religious institutions. Stratton died in Bangor on June 17, 1938.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

**(FORMER) ST. EDWARD'S CONVENT**

**HANCOCK, MAINE**

**Section number   9   Page   2**

---

### **Bibliography**

Bar Harbor Historical Society "Histonews." Vol. 8, No. 4, Winter, 1997.

Mohney, Kirk F. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Loudville Church, Louds Island, Lincoln County, Maine. September, 1995.



(Former) St. Edward's Convent  
Name of Property

Hancock, Maine  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** Less Than 1

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

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

3 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

2 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

4  See continuation sheet 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July, 1998

street & number 55 Capitol Street, 65 State House Station telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta state Maine zip code 04333-0065

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) ST. EDWARD'S CONVENT

HANCOCK, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

---

## Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of less than one acre occupies the Town of Bar Harbor tax map 4, block 9, lot 7.

## Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire village lot that is historically associated with the (Former) St. Edward's Convent.