

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

UTM19 A 438250/4907110 B _____
C _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: Whitehouse Block
3. Street or rural address: 188 Water Street
City Augusta Zip 04330 County Kennebec
4. Parcel number: Map 34, Lot 67
5. Present Owner: Ronald P. Moody Address: 188 Water Street
City Augusta Zip 04330 Ownership is: Public _____ Private XX
6. Present Use: Commercial Original use: Commercial

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Italianate
- 7b. Briefly describe the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The Whitehouse Block is three stories high and constructed of brick with stone and metal trim. Italianate style features include an over-hanging cornice, decorative metal window caps and stone quoins for the second and third stories. The storefront has been extensively altered with plate glass and only two cast iron piers, which are shared with adjoining stores, survive. The windows are one over one double hung sash.

Attach Photo(s) Here

See Photo No. 3

8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1865-66
9. Architect Attributed to Francis H. Fassett of Portland.
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage $\frac{1}{2}$ acre
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
12/85

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good X Fair ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: First story storefront remodeled with metal, wood, and plate glass.
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up XX
Residential ___ Industrial ___ Commercial XX Other: _____
16. Threats to site: None known XXX Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___
Public Works project ___ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? XX Moved? ___ Unknown? ___
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This building is architecturally significant as part of a group of four Italianate stores which are the most important surviving concentration of buildings constructed immediately after the disastrous 1865 fire which destroyed most of the commercial district. O. C. Whitehouse, the dry goods merchant who built this block, put his store on the second floor. The first floor was occupied by the Augusta Savings Bank and the office of the United States Pension Agent, while the third floor was reserved as a hall for fraternal societies. Francis Fassett, the Portland architect who designed several major structures after the 1865 fire, can be attributed as the architect based on stylistic similarities to his other work.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
Architecture XX Arts & Leisure _____
Economic/Industrial ___ Exploration/Settlement _____
Government ___ Military _____
Religion ___ Social/Education _____
Other (describe) _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Maine Farmer (Augusta)
February 8, 1866

22. Date form prepared January 1986
By (name) Roger Reed
Organization MHPC
Address: _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone: _____

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):

