

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 11 1975
DATE ENTERED	APR 28 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Alna School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Alna Center

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Alna

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st Hon. David Emery

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Lincoln

CODE

015

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Town of Alna

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Alna

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lincoln County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Wiscasset,

STATE

Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey -HABS-ME-33

DATE

October 20, 1936

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

*Removal of
cupola
4-75*

The Alna School is a small square building with a low hipped roof which is topped by a delicate Federal octagonal cupola. A small one story addition has been added to the rear in recent years to serve the needs of the Town Office, which this old building currently houses. The school is of frame construction on a granite and brick foundation. The exterior is covered in clapboards and features a projecting, simply molded cornice. The whole structure is painted white. The windows, of which there are eight in the original portion, are rectangular with sash hung in a twelve over eight fashion. There are two per side, and the front elevation features the addition of a door near the right hand corner.

The cupola, which is of a slightly later date than the original 1795 fabric, is the building's most distinguished feature. It adds an architectural quality to the small building and is well scaled with the school's simple proportions. It is an open structure with its corners marked with posts. Each of the eight openings has a railing across the bottom and is capped with shallow elliptical arches. Above is a projecting cornice below an octagonal, bell-shaped roof which is topped with a short spire.

The interior has been much altered, the original school furnishings having been removed. The chief interest of the building lies in its original exterior, the general form of which resembles that of a contemporary (1794) schoolhouse in Bath now destroyed.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1795

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small frame structure of 1795 with its graceful little cupola is the second oldest surviving one room schoolhouse in Maine. The oldest at York, dates from approximately fifty years earlier. A comparison of the two reveals the crudeness of the earlier and served to illustrate a change in the way of life and building practices in Maine during the latter half of the 18th century. The earlier structure is indicative of an uneasy, frontier-type existence where expediency determined form and style; while the later, the Alna School, reflects a secure and increasingly prosperous era after the Revolution when buildings became more refined and more architectural in pretention.

It was voted in May of 1795, scarcely a year after Alna's separation from Pownalborough and incorporation, to build two new schoolhouses to augment the one existing structure. The job was given to Moses Carlton and Samuel Averill, each to raise one building before September for a cost not exceeding 50 pounds. It is unclear as to which was actually responsible for the construction of this the surviving one of the pair.

The cupola was added a few years after the initial construction. The building served as a school well into the twentieth century but was remodeled somewhat a few years ago to accommodate the Alna Town Office which it continues to house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey, HABS-ME-33, 1936

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM OK'D

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>19</u>	<u>450445</u>	<u>48180960</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Architectural Historian
Frank A. Beard, Historic Preservationist

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE April 4, 1975

STREET & NUMBER 31 Western Avenue TELEPHONE 207-289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta, Maine STATE Maine

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

James H. Mundy

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE April 7, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.

DATE 4/2/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE APR 24 1975

ATTEST:

James H. Mundy

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER