

PH0682101

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 14 1978
DATE ENTERED OCT 9 1979

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 Saco City Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 300 Main Street
CITY, TOWN Saco VICINITY OF 1st
STATE Maine CODE 23 COUNTY York CODE 031

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE
_DISTRICT _PUBLIC _OCCUPIED _AGRICULTURE _MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S) _PRIVATE _UNOCCUPIED _COMMERCIAL _PARK
_STRUCTURE _BOTH _WORK IN PROGRESS _EDUCATIONAL _PRIVATE RESIDENCE
_SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE _ENTERTAINMENT _RELIGIOUS
_OBJECT _IN PROCESS _YES: RESTRICTED XGOVERNMENT _SCIENTIFIC
_BEING CONSIDERED XYES: UNRESTRICTED _INDUSTRIAL _TRANSPORTATION
_NO _MILITARY _OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME City of Saco
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Saco VICINITY OF Maine

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. York County Registry of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Alfred STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Saco Historic Resources Inventory,
DATE 1977 _FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY XLOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Saco City Hall
CITY, TOWN Saco STATE Maine

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The City Hall in Saco is an impressive transitional Greek Revival-Italianate style building designed by Thomas Hill and constructed in 1855. The central tower which projects from the facade was added later in the 19th century, but is sympathetic to the original building.

The building is of brick construction with granite trim, gabled roof, and granite foundation. Its facade, which faces east in the gable-end, is 3 bays wide, and the sides of the building are 5 bays long. A small one-bay addition with a roof-line slightly lower than the rest of the building is attached to the rear, and was added at the same time as the facade tower.

The cornice and facade pediment are denticulated and Ionic pilasters in brick separate each bay on all sides of the building. First-story windows are paired 1/1 with simple granite lintels and sills. At street level on the south side are a series of granite-framed double doorways. Second-floor fenestration is paired 1/1 windows below semi-circular arches containing 6 panes. The arches have granite keystones.

The facade tower is 3 stories tall and contains the principal entrance. This entrance consists of modern glass and metal fire doors framed by Ionic pilasters and capped with an Ionic entablatured lintel. The third floor of the tower has paired arched windows, 6/4, with granite lintel and granite keystones. Above the bracketed cornice is an ornate wooden belfry. This is capped by a denticulated and bracketed cornice and contains 2 apertures on each side, separated by Corinthian pilasters; above each aperture is a blind arch containing a medallion and floral motifs in carved relief. Above the belfry, set in each side of the tower roof is a clock face crowned with a semi-circular arch.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1855

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Thomas Hill

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the mid-19th century, the town of Saco had become an important industrial center. From 1830 to 1860, the population of Saco had doubled.

For years the residents held their town meetings in the old meetinghouse on the commons; then they moved to the vestry of the Congregational Church. As the number of citizens sharply increased, the need for a larger town hall became evident. After discussing the pros and cons of building, the citizens voted, 460 to 231, to construct an adequate hall.

The new city hall was completed in 1855. Thomas Hill was the architect and carpenter, and two local masons, Abraham and Barnabus Cutter, did the brick work.

Besides being an impressive transitional Greek Revival-Italianate style building the Saco City Hall reflects the growth and progress of this important industrial center in the mid-19th century.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fairfield, Roy P., Sands, Spindles and Steeples, Portland: House of Falmouth, 1956.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4
 UTM REFERENCES

A | 19 | 383140 | 4817040 |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C | | | | |

B | | | | |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Assessor's Map #38, Lot 114

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Frank A. Beard, Historian , David E. Fortin, Student Intern
Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE July, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street

TELEPHONE (207)-289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Carle S. Feltstewart Jr.

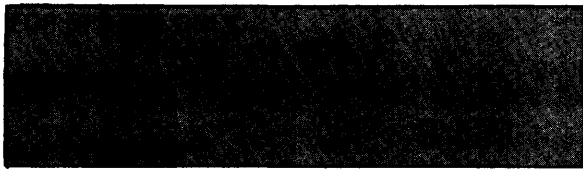
TITLE SHPO

DATE 7/31/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<u>Carol Skell</u>	DATE <u>10-9-79</u>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <u>Tommy Ann Dwyer</u>	DATE <u>10/6/79</u>
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

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The recessed bays separated by heavy pilasters with a broad entablature above are typical of institutional and commercial Greek Revival brick architecture (see Portsmouth Company Cotton Mills: Counting House, South Berwick, York, Maine - N.R. 10/10/75). The round arched windows and the ornate tower, a later addition, are, of course, Italianate.

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By far the most impressive structure of its kind in the city, this interesting transitional building ranks among the best of the smaller city municipal buildings in Maine and clearly expresses the ambitious and optimism of Saco at mid-century. The elaborate clock tower is unmatched in the state. This tower, incidentally, replaced an octagonal cupola located on the center of the gable, in 1867. There have been no significant modifications since that date.