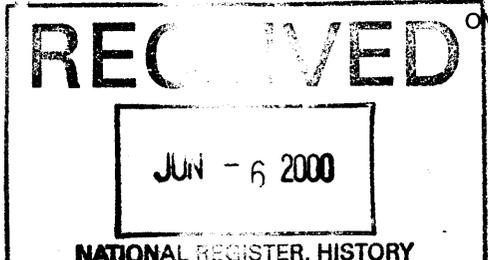


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

764



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 68). 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 Maple Grove Friends Church

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

West Side of Route 1-A, .25 Miles North of

street & number Junction with Upcountry (Fairmount Road) N/A not for publication

city or town Maple Grove X vicinity

state Maine code ME county Aroostook code 003 zip code 04742

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.)

Evelyn S. Thompson 5/26/00  
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 H. Beall 7/5/00  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Maple Grove Friends Church  
Name of Property

Aroostook, 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  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ buildings  
\_\_\_\_\_ sites  
\_\_\_\_\_ structures  
\_\_\_\_\_ objects  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 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/Religious Facility \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ Religion/Religious Facility \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mid-Nineteenth Century \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Late Victorian \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
  
foundation \_\_\_\_\_ Stone \_\_\_\_\_  
walls \_\_\_\_\_ Wood/Weatherboard \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Wood/Wood Shingle \_\_\_\_\_  
roof \_\_\_\_\_ Metal/Tin \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**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**

1863

1906

**Significant Dates**

1863

1906

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Maple Grove Friends Church  
Name of Property

Aroostook, Maine  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than 1

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	9	5	8	6	3	7	0	5	1	7	2	8	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing				Zone					

2 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

3 

Easting						Northing								

4 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

#### 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 April, 2000

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 Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MAPLE GROVE FRIENDS CHURCH

AROOSTOOK, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

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Maple Grove Friends Church is a modest gable roofed frame building with a three-stage bell tower attached to one corner. The main body of the church and the upper and lower stages of the tower are clad in weatherboards, whereas wood shingles cover the tower's middle stage. The building stands on a stone foundation.

Facing east, the front elevation is dominated by the tower at the northeast corner, which was added in 1906. The lower stage of this tower contains a two-leaf paneled door that is sheltered by a pedimented hood supported by large Italianate style brackets. The shingled middle stage has a pyramidal shape, and the upper stage features broad round arched openings with balustrades. A pyramidal roof capped by a weathervane crowns the tower. Centered on the facade is a large rectangular opening that contains a stained glass window composed of a pair of round arched panels within a single round arch. This window was installed in 1906. A shallow pediment surmounts this opening, and it is repeated above the six-over-six double hung sash located in the gable peak.

The three-bay north side elevation contains a trio of twelve-over-twelve double hung sash, one of which is positioned on the lower stage of the tower. They are capped with shallow pediments similar to those on the facade. There are two twelve-over-twelves on the south elevation. An exterior brick flue is attached to the rear elevation.

Inside, the church is virtually unchanged from the 1906 period when substantial remodeling and expansion of the original building was carried out. The interior is divided longitudinally into two unequally sized rooms, of which the main worship space or auditorium occupies about two-thirds of the area and a vestry takes up the balance. The auditorium contains oak pews and a raised platform in the southwest corner on which there is a lectern and piano. Two pairs of folding doors in the partition make it possible to separate the activities in the two rooms, and this fact suggests that the smaller room may have originally been used for Sunday school classes. An enclosed stairway (accessed from the vestibule) at the northeast corner of the vestry leads to a partial basement, and an adjoining door opens into the vestibule located in the tower. A second door opens into the auditorium. The walls below a high chair rail are covered in what a 1906 newspaper article described as "tinted paper of the most substantial quality." Decorative steel panels cover the upper two-thirds of the walls and the ceilings.

The aforementioned newspaper account reporting on the rededication of the church indicates that in addition to constructing the tower and reconfiguring the interior, the entire area presently occupied by the vestry was built. Evidence of this building episode, which substantially increased the size of the original church, is visible in the framing of the floor. The roof framing, on the other hand, is uniform which reveals that this entire portion of the building was enlarged and replaced. Unfortunately, no historic photographs of the pre 1906 church have been discovered, but they would show a considerably narrower building with perhaps a more steeply pitched roof and probably the same windows with their pedimented lintels.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MAPLE GROVE FRIENDS CHURCH

AROOSTOOK, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

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Originally built in 1863, and extensively remodeled in 1906, the Maple Grove Friends Church is a modest vernacular frame building that features a three-stage corner tower. It is believed to be the oldest religious building in the Fort Fairfield area. The church is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criteria C for its local architectural significance. Criteria Consideration A also applies by virtue of its historic religious function.

[The following history of the Maple Grove Friends Church is adapted from a brief narrative prepared by Frontier Heritage.]

Plans to build a meeting house began when several Quaker families from Kennebec County moved to the Maple Grove area in 1859. They joined the first Quakers in the region, Joseph Wingate Haines and his wife Mary Briggs Haines and family, who arrived in 1844 to the virtual wilderness, where Haines had received a 1000 acre land grant. The meeting house was completed in 1863 when Miles Hilton, with his Quaker wife, arrived to complete the building.

According to local tradition, the Haines family was instrumental in the development of the Maple Grove area. They were also actively involved with other Maple Grove Friends in Underground Railroad activity. After the Civil War, some of the Quakers left to continue work on behalf of the Freedmen in the West.

In 1906, with encouragement from Pastor O.J. Hoffman, some physical changes were made to the building. The bell tower and vestry were added along with new oak pews, raised platform, and a memorial window dedicated to the memory of William Penn Varney and his wife Lydia Cook Varney who led the meetings for 30 years. This remodeling is reported to have cost about \$1,300, and the church was rededicated on December 7, 1906.

As the Maple Grove section of Fort Fairfield grew, the church became more of a community church with pastors from the Methodist and other traditions assisting at times. During the Depression and World War II, it was sometimes only open during the summer and subsequently closed. By 1972, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church had purchased the unused property from the Society of Friends. The Rev. Charles Stanton served as minister of a small congregation there until he retired.

Realizing the value of the historic church, Rev. Stanton obtained the property and gave it to Frontier Heritage in 1995. Frontier Heritage saved the stained glass window from complete deterioration by having it completely restored. The church remains as it was in 1906.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

MAPLE GROVE FRIENDS CHURCH

AROOSTOOK, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

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In the context of local architectural history, Maple Grove Friends Church is an important example of a mid nineteenth religious building that was remodeled in the early twentieth century to reflect contemporary fashions in church design and the availability of modern finish materials. As originally designed and built, the rectangular gable front building with its clapboard siding was not -- in a very basic way -- unlike numerous other small churches in rural Maine communities. The particular stylishness and scale of such buildings was related to a number of factors including the size, age and denomination of the congregation, as well as the resources of its members. Consequently, the architectural detailing of these churches range from modest references to popular styles, such as the shallow pedimented window lintels on the Maple Grove Friends Church, to more ornate Greek or Gothic Revival style compositions. The work carried out in 1906 resulted in a building that was about half again as large as the original building, and more outwardly church-like with its new corner tower. Although the 1863 church was both narrower and its roof perhaps more steeply pitched (or lower), the essential character of that earlier building is still in evidence. Furthermore, the 1906 remodeling illustrates a pattern of updating and adapting nineteenth century meeting houses to incorporate popular architectural features, and to meet changes in religious practices or community needs.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MAPLE GROVE FRIENDS CHURCH

AROOSTOOK, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

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## Bibliography

“Brief History of Maple Grove Friends Church.” Prepared by Frontier Heritage. No date or author.  
Typescript copy on file at Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Typescript copy of an article dated December 9, 1906, from a Fort Fairfield newspaper (probably the *Fort Fairfield Review*), contains information relating to the remodeling of the church.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

MAPLE GROVE FRIENDS CHURCH

AROOSTOOK, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

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### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property occupies the Town of Fort Fairfield tax map 2, lot 13.

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary embraces the entire rural lot that is historically associated with the Maple Grove Friends Church.