

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Patch, Edith Marion, House

other names/site number "Braeside"

2. Location

street & number 500 College Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Old Town N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Penobscot code 019 zip code 04468

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.)

Carol Anderson 10/16/01
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): _____

for
Elsa M. Beall Signature of the Keeper
11-29-01 Date of Action

Patch, Edith Marion, House
Name of Property

Penobscot, 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	Non-contributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	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)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not In Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Wood/Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

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PATCH, EDITH MARION, HOUSE
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PENOBSCOT, MAINE

House, c. 1835, 1850, 1900

Braeside, the Edith Marion Patch House is a three bay one-and-a-half-story cape with a two-story gabled projecting entry on the front facade and a four bay, one-and-a-half-story, pitched roof rear ell with one-story enclosed porch. A two-story, three bay, shed roof, early twentieth-century addition projects east and north from the main block of the house and also has a two bay one-story enclosed porch. Located in a mixed residential/agricultural neighborhood close to the University of Maine's central campus, the building faces west on College Avenue in Old Town adjacent to the Old Town/Orono town line. It is bordered on the south by a large open field and on the north by a brook and wetland that drain into the Stillwater river across the street.

The west (front) facade has three symmetrically disposed bays in the main block of the house and a single bay of the early twentieth-century addition projecting north from the main block and stepped back from the front facade. The main block has a two-story gabled projecting entry with a central doorway capped by heavy, distinctive hood molding consisting of a half round over a cove. Two later wooden blocks under the molding have electric junction boxes for light fixtures now missing. A paneled door is flanked by sidelights of five single lights and a molded panel at the bottom. One modern concrete step leads to the doorway. A single window above the door has double hung sash of six-over-one and is capped by the same distinctive hood molding. The two bays flanking the central entrance contain two six-over-one double-hung sash also capped with the hood molding. The single bay projection of the twentieth-century addition has a doorway with a paneled door with large single light. Two modern concrete steps lead to the entrance. A two-over-one double-hung sash in the second story is located on axis with the doorway.

The south facade of the house is divided into two blocks: the gable end of the cape and the rear ell. The gable has on each story a six-over-one double-hung sash located on axis with the roof ridge. These windows have the same distinctive hood molding as the windows and entry on the west facade. A modern louvered ventilator is located in the gable peak. A doorway, capped by heavy, distinctive hood molding consisting of a half round and cyma molding (similar to but not identical with the molding on the main block of the house) is located at the juncture of the rear ell and the building's main block. A single wooden block under the western edge of the hood molding contains an electric junction box for a light fixture now missing. The one-and-a-half-story rear ell has two gable dormers symmetrically disposed on the ell with two-over-one double-hung sash. The first story has three evenly spaced two-over-one double-hung sash and a fourth two-over-one double-hung sash between the third window and the facade end. The western-most first story ell window is located off center from the western-most dormer. The next window is located between the dormers; the third is on axis with the eastern-most dormer, and the fourth is centered between the dormer and the end wall. All are capped by the hood molding with half round and cyma. The rear ell ends in a single-story enclosed porch with shed roof. A modern brick flue sits astride the ell roof ridge at the juncture with the main block of the house. Three concrete window wells containing 3 light wood fixed sash light the basement of the main block and ell.

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PENOBSCOT, MAINE

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The east (rear) facade is characterized by two blocks: the east gable end of the ell and the east facade of the early twentieth century addition, stepped well back from the ell's gable end facade. The east gable end of the ell has a central two-over-one double-hung sash window with flat architraves in the second story and a modern louvered ventilator in the gable peak. The first story enclosed porch with shed roof has an off-center two-over-one double-hung sash with a flat architrave and an open doorway at the southeast corner. Evidence indicates the historic existence of a door now missing. The early twentieth century addition has a central projecting, two bay, shed roof, enclosed porch along its east facade with a hinged board and batten door leading to a rear entrance of the twentieth century addition. This porch also has an open doorway (door missing) on its north facade. Flanking the porch on the north is a one-over-two double-hung sash with opaque lights in the lower sash and a flat architrave. Above this window, the second floor has a pair of two-over-two double-hung sash also with flat architraves. To the south of the porch, on the first floor, is a short two-over-one double-hung sash and above this is a two-over-two double-hung sash with flat architraves. A brick flue stack is located approximately at the center of the addition.

The north facade of the house consists of four distinct blocks: the rear ell porch bay, the rear ell, the early twentieth century addition, and the main block of the house with projecting entry. The rear shed bay projects north from the rear ell facade and has a single fixed six light sash. The rear ell has two gable dormers aligned with those on the south facade of the ell. The eastern-most gable has a two-over-one double-hung sash and the western-most has two-over-two. The twentieth century addition incorporates the western slope of the dormer gable into its roofline and butts up against the architrave. The first floor has a pair of one-over-one replacement windows with flat architraves on axis with the eastern dormer. The north facade of the enclosed porch has an open doorway with flat architraves (door missing) and a modern light fixture above. The north facade of the early twentieth century addition has a pair of second story symmetrically disposed, two-over-one double-hung sash on axis with a pair of two-over-one double-hung sash on the first story. A flat trim piece with molded edge serves as a belt course. Two symmetrically disposed window wells light the basement. The eastern well has a three light fixed wooden sash; the sash is missing from the western well. The northern gable end of the main block of the house contains, on the second floor, a two-over-one double-hung sash and, on the first story, a six-over-one double-hung sash. Both are on axis with the roof ridge and capped with the coved hood molding. There is a modern ventilator in the gable peak.

The building is sheathed in clapboard and roofed with a modern asphalt tile. There are modern aluminum combination storm and screen windows throughout. There is a poured concrete foundation in front of an older granite foundation under the entire structure. The interior of the building retains some historic fabric from each successive period of occupation and has experienced a great number of alterations and decorative campaigns over the years of occupancy.

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PENOBSCOT, MAINE

Barn, c. 1900

The one-and-a-half-story gabled barn faces south and is sheathed in clapboard. The south, long facade has two bays each with an entrance and a flat fascia. The western bay has an internally mounted sliding board and batten door and the eastern bay has an external track mounted board and batten door. The east, gable end facade has a six-over-six double-hung sash in the top one-half-story on axis with the roof ridge. The west facade has a six-over-six double-hung sash in the top half story and a recently replaced six-over-six double-hung sash in the first story all with flat architraves. The north facade has a single six-over-six double-hung sash located in the center of the eastern bay. The barn rests on a modern poured concrete foundation.

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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Science _____

Education _____

Period of Significance

1913-1951 _____

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Patch, Edith Marion _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Unknown _____

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: _____

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PATCH, EDITH MARION, HOUSE

PENOBSCOT, MAINE

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Braeside, the Edith Marion Patch House, in Old Town, Maine is a one-and-a-half-story vernacular domestic structure originally built c. 1837, expanded shortly thereafter, and expanded again c. 1900. From 1913 to 1954, Braeside was the home of the internationally recognized scientist, Dr. Edith Marion Patch who taught entomology at the University of Maine and served as director of entomology at the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station from 1903-1937. Patch was the first woman to head a state agricultural experiment station department and was honored for her scholarship and educational leadership in 1930 by being elected president of the American Entomological Society, a distinction that came at a time when many scientific societies refused to admit women as members. Braeside is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion B for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1876, Edith Marion Patch arrived at the University of Maine in 1903, at the age of twenty-seven. A graduate of one of the first coeducational universities in America (University of Minnesota), Patch was one of the few women of her day to hold an academic specialization in entomology. For two years after college graduation she had struggled to find work in her scientific discipline, facing at every turn the admonishment that entomology was not a woman's work. At last, after two years of supporting herself by high school teaching, Patch was invited to come to Orono by Charles D. Woods, Director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES). Though his critics scoffed that Miss Patch wouldn't be able to climb trees or catch grasshoppers, he hired her anyway, to start an entomology department at MAES. No funds were approved for her position, however, so Patch had to work a year without salary to prove herself. The next year, having created an entomology department and mapped out its research agenda, Patch was granted the paid position of entomologist. She thus became the first woman in the nation to head an experiment station and she devoted the rest of her professional life to the University of Maine.

Patch earned her Master's degree from the University of Maine in 1910, and her Ph.D. from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York in the following year. During the course of her career, she published more than eighty technical reports and scientific articles, some of which still stand as central to the literature in systematic entomology and involve some of the most important and troubling entomological questions of her era. The focus of her research was on an extensive group of insects, the aphids, which cause enormous damage to potato, timber, and other economically important plant species in Maine, the nation, and the world. Her efforts served not only Maine's potato growers, foresters, farmers, and landscapers, but also the Sunkist lemon farmers of Florida and California, Michigan bulb growers, Heinz pickling cucumber farmers in Pennsylvania, rose importers of Argentina, sugar beet farmers in Denmark, and hundreds of other individuals, companies, and academic institutions around the world.

In addition to her contributions to scientific research, Patch was a renowned educator and author of numerous books and articles for children and the general public. Her writings were popular among families and also adopted for use as textbooks in elementary schools around the country during the earliest and most vibrant period of elementary science education reform. Her work as a writer and educator was honored by her election, twice, to the presidency of the American Nature Study Society, the nation's leading science education organization at the time. Patch's effort to integrate scientific research and public education are evident in her early calls of ecological awareness. A generation ahead of Rachel Carson, she warned of the dangers of chemical pesticides, and used both her popular writings and her work with farmers to demonstrate more ecologically appropriate forms of pest control.

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Patch retired from the University of Maine as Entomologist Emerita in 1937, but continued to participate in important entomological educational and environmental work for more than a decade. Though her work is still known and respected around the world, few people in Maine and the United States are aware of her importance as a woman scientist, educator, and pioneer environmentalist.

Braeside was built around 1837 possibly by Corvis Doe of Orono. It was located on a site of 94 acres laid out according to the c. 1831 Park Holland survey of Marsh Island in the Stillwater River. The Park Holland survey roughly divided Marsh Island down the middle with a line running North-South. From that center line lots were laid out to the river on each side. The largest lot contained approximately 132 acres, while the smallest had only 79 acres. Ownership of the Braeside lot turned over quickly in the mid-nineteenth century and the ownership history of the property from 1858 to its purchase in 1913 by Dr. Edith Marion Patch is not yet known.

When Patch purchased the house and lot, the property stretched from the Stillwater River to the center of Marsh Island, and included a house, a barn, and a small screen house on a stone foundation close to the water's edge. Patch called her home Braeside and, inspired by the view over the fields and down to the river, she did most of her popular and scientific writing in the second floor room above the house's projecting entry. She eventually sold off the part of the lot between College Avenue and the river, but maintained the remainder of the property where she and her sister Alice, who lived with her, tended both wild and cultivated gardens in order to provide cover and feeding grounds for wildlife. The Patch sisters often hosted garden teas for student societies at the University of Maine such as the Delta Delta Delta sorority and the education honor society, Kappa Delta Gamma of which Edith Patch was a founding member.

Edith Marion Patch died on September 28, 1954, a few years after her sister. Shortly thereafter, the property came into the possession of the University of Maine which used it as student housing until the mid-1990s, when it was slated for demolition as a fire-fighting training site. In response to urging from the faculty and the local community, the University allowed the Friends of Dr. Edith Marion Patch, a nonprofit, volunteer consortium of university and community leaders to undertake the property's preservation.

Braeside, is an important landmark in the history of women, science, and education in Maine and the nation. At a time when women were actively dissuaded from pursuing careers in the sciences, Edith Marion Patch found a home at Braeside and the University of Maine. From there she published both rigorous entomological research and popular environmental non-fiction. As the American agriculture industry was being transformed by an international industrial economy, scientists began to recognize the role of science in both environmental degradation and environmental protection. At the same time, educators were suddenly realizing the importance of science in children's lives. Through her research, writing, and teaching Dr. Edith Marion Patch bridged these two worlds and established herself as a leading national and international scholar.

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PATCH, EDITH MARION, HOUSE

PENOBSCOT, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

Penobscot County Registry of Deeds, Bangor, Maine.

Tax Records, Town of Old Town.

Park Holland Survey, 1837, Bangor Public Library.

Tax Maps, Town of Orono.

Woodford, Map of Old Town, 1855.

Day, Clarence Albert. *Historical Sketch of Orono*. Orono, Maine: 1956.

Norton, David. *Sketches of Old Town and Orono*. Orono, Maine: 1898.

Rogers, Hanna. *A History of Orono, Maine*. Orono, Maine: 1926.

Smith, David C. *The First Century: A History of the University of Maine, 1865-1965*. Orono: University of Maine Press, 1979.

Patch, Edith Marion, House
Name of Property

Penobscot, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 2.3 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	9	5	2	5	5	3	0	4	9	7	2	8	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

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

Zone Easting Northing

2

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

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 Dr. Martha McNamara, Ph.D.

organization University of Maine date April, 2001

street & number 5774 Stevens Hall telephone 207/581-1917

city or town Orono, state Maine zip code 04469

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.

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PENOBSCOT, MAINE

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Boundary Description

The boundary of the Edith Marion Patch property is shown as the solid line on the accompanying sketch map entitled "Edith Marion Patch House."

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the house, barn, and adjacent gardens, a total of approximately 2.3 acres. After Patch's death her property was sold to the University of Maine; other than the land immediately adjacent to the house (as indicated on the sketch map) the remainder of the property has lost its historical association with Patch through use and development.

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PATCH, EDITH MARION, HOUSE

PENOBSCOT CO., ME

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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Martha McNamara

April, 2001

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

View from SW

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Martha McNamara

April, 2001

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

View from N

