

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAY 23 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Auld-McCobb House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Oak Street not for publication
city, town Boothbay Harbor, vicinity
state Maine code ME county Lincoln code 015 zip code 04538

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Eileen S. Hutchinson, J. H. P. O. 5/16/88
Signature of certifying official 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.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Patrick Andrews 6/28/88
 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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granitewalls Brick

roof Asphaltother Low Hipped Roof

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Auld-McCobb House is a two-story six-bay brick double house covered by a low hipped roof. Its double-pile configuration gives the building considerable bulk. The house stands on a prominent knoll in the central section of Boothbay Harbor and therefore commands a view of the harbor and adjacent residential and commercial areas.

The facade of the building faces southwest toward the central part of Boothbay Harbor. A symmetrical fenestration pattern is established by a pair of centrally located doors (covered by storm doors) flanked by twelve-over-twelve double-hung sash windows, two on each side. Six twelve-over-eight windows on the second story are located above the first story openings. A narrow cornice with typical Federal period moldings spans the top of the Flemish bond brick walls. This cornice carries around the four sides.

The east side elevation is punctuated by two widely spaced twelve-over-twelve windows on the first story, a trio of asymmetrically placed twelve-over-eight windows on the second story, as well as a six-over-six window and a door in the basement. This basement level, which extends across the rear, is made possible by a rapid change in the grade of the lot. On the west facade there are three windows, two twelve-over-nine sash on the second story near the corners and a twelve-over-twelve at the southwest corner. In addition, a pair of interior end chimneys rise through the roof on this side (their original east counterparts have been removed).

Like the front elevation, the rear wall is symmetrically divided into six bays on the upper stories. Small twelve-over-eight windows are arranged across the upper story; three twelve-over-eight sash accompanied by a trio of six-over-six windows are located in the middle story; and a doorway with entablature and wide paneled surrounds, a twelve-over-twelve and two six-over-six windows occupy the basement. The house rests on a rubble stone foundation, and similar material is utilized in landscape border walls.

The interior contains two separate but identical living spaces. In plan, they feature side halls with three rooms on each floor, although later partitions have modified the east side's plan. The principal rooms feature paneled wainscot, mantels and friezes which are of typical Federal period design.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1807

Significant Dates

c. 1807

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Leishman, John, Jr., Attributed

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Auld-McCobb House is one of the prominent landmarks in Boothbay Harbor, and the oldest residential building constructed of brick. Built, according to local tradition, in 1807, it was occupied by the families of merchant partners Jacob Auld and Joseph McCobb. Its nomination to the National Register is advanced under criterion C for its local architectural significance.

At the close of the eighteenth century, Boothbay Harbor had developed into a thriving community by virtue of its proximity to coastal trade routes and fishing grounds. Among its most important businesses were fishing, shipbuilding and general mercantile establishments. Of the latter, the firm of Auld and McCobb occupied a prominent position during the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

Joseph McCobb (1780-1825), the son of a merchant father, acquired his own business about 1797. Some three years later Jacob Auld (1781-1835) opened a general store. Soon thereafter the two men merged their separate businesses into the firm of Auld and McCobb, with both partners remaining active until their deaths. In 1807 McCobb married Auld's sister Margaret Auld, and the following year Auld wed Sarah Reed. It is thought that the brick double house was built about this time, an event which would clearly indicate the firm's prosperity in the period prior to the War of 1812.

Tradition credits the design and construction of the house to John Leishman, Jr., although no documentation is known to exist that would confirm or refute this. In any case the building occupies an important position in the community's architectural history. With only a handful of exceptions (most of which are limited to later nineteenth century commercial buildings) Boothbay Harbor's architectural fabric is limited to wooden frame buildings. While many of these exhibit Federal period stylistic elements, few have the window sash arrangement and door configuration which are characteristic of early to mid-Federal style architecture in Maine. Furthermore, the overall scale of the Auld-McCobb House, while evident in other communities throughout the state, is uncommon in Boothbay Harbor.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Author known only as "A.C.T.", The Brick House, 1959.

Greene, Francis B., History of Boothbay, Southport and Boothbay Harbor. Portland: Loring, Short and Harmon, 1906.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than 1

UTM References

A 19 449490 4855445
 Zone Easting Northing

C _____

B _____
 Zone Easting Northing

D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of less than one acre occupies the Town of Boothbay Harbor tax map 19, lot 154.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the lot and immediate physical setting historically associated with this building.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1988

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333