

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received NOV 29 1983  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic J. & O. Irish Store

and/or common

2. Location

street & number State Route <sup>ME</sup> 140 N/A not for publication

city, town Hartford, N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Maine code 23 county Oxford code 017

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Hartford Heritage Society, c/o Lorraine Greig

street & number R.F.D. #1, Box 41

city, town Canton, \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Maine 04221

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Oxford County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town South Paris, \_\_\_\_\_ state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The J. & O. Irish Store is a large rectangular structure with an attached barn. Both buildings are two-and-one-half stories high with a gable roof and clapboard siding. Constructed in the tradition of Maine's late nineteenth-century vernacular architecture, the two structures lack any notable ornamentation. The windows are all six-over-six double-hung sash, although they vary in size. Most are located on the second floor of the store, which contains living quarters.

The interiors of the buildings are as unaltered as the exteriors. In the store itself there are simple wood counters and shelves, as well as a wood icebox and a desk for sorting mail. Both the store and the living quarters have original wood floors and door and window trim. None of the woodwork, however, is ornamented.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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** 1887–8 **Builder/Architect** Orlando Irish

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Located in a remote town in northern Oxford County, the J. & O. Irish Store, now a museum, has been virtually untouched by time since it was built in 1888 by Orlando Irish, a prosperous farmer who decided to go into commerce. The interior, totally unchanged, is a time capsule revealing the ambiance of a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century general store and post office with furnished rooms on the upper floors where the Irish families dwelt.

The building was given in the Bicentennial year by a descendent of the original owners, James Irish, to the Hartford Heritage Society which maintains and has improved the structure. In the barn are the collections of the Society, being a great variety of artifacts, all indigenous to Hartford in terms of last ownership.

To enter the Irish Store is to step back in time nearly a century.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Love, John Irish, Descendents of James Irish, Boston, 1936.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property  $\frac{1}{2}$

Quadrangle name Buckfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 2, lot 17

### 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 Frank A. Beard, Historian/Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1983

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

# 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 *Earle S. Pittman*

title S.H.P.O.

date 11/18/83

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 12/29/83

*Melrose Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration