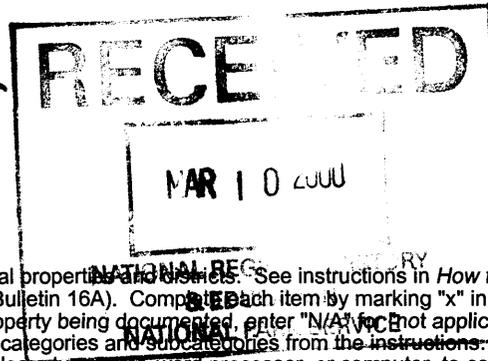


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

372



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 (Former) Bremen Town Hall
other names/site number Bremen Town House

2. Location

street & number East side of Route 32, 0.2 miles North of Junction with Medomak Road Not for publication
city or town Medomak vicinity
state Maine code ME county Lincoln code 015 zip code 04551

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.)

Ernest Fred [Signature] 3/6/00
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 4/14/00
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

(Former) Bremen Town Hall
Name of Property

Lincoln, 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)

_____ Social/Meeting Hall _____

_____ Government/City Hall _____

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

_____ Social/Meeting Hall _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

_____ Late Victorian _____

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ Stone _____

walls _____ Wood/Weatherboard _____

roof _____ Asphalt _____

other _____ Two Story Ell Addition _____

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) BREMEN TOWN HALL

LINCOLN, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

The (former) Bremen Town Hall is a two-story L-shaped frame building which is sheathed in clapboards. It has a gable roof and is supported by wooden posts which stand on fieldstones. The vernacular building is located in a rural setting along State Route 32.

Facing west, the front elevation is comprised of two distinct blocks: the original 1874 three-bay front gable section to the north, and a lower two-story addition to the south -- which matches the nineteenth century building in its detailing -- that was added in 1938. The original block has a centrally located four-panel door with a molded hood flanked by a pair of six-over-six double hung sash windows. Two similar windows are located on the second story above those on the lower story, and a single six-over-six occupies the gable peak. A single six-over-six window is positioned on each story of the addition near its southwest corner.

The building's north side elevation features a trio of symmetrically placed six-over-sixes on the first story, and a center door (leading to a metal fire escape, both of which are twentieth century additions) and two six-over-sixes on the second story. The west gable end of the original section contains a single window centered on the first story, whereas the addition has a pair of symmetrically placed six-over-sixes on each story. There are two six-over-sixes on each story of the main block's south side elevation (originally a third bay of windows was located where the wing is attached). The wing's south elevation has a door and one window on its first story and two windows on the upper story.

As originally configured, the interior of the 1874 block was comprised of a large meeting space on each story, the upper one of which has a stage at the east end. Only the second story meeting hall was plastered; the lower room retains its unfinished open stud appearance. The original staircase was located in the southwest corner of the first floor meeting room, but it was relocated to the wing at the time of its construction in 1938. Partitions were added to the northwest quadrant of the first story in 1944 to accommodate the newly formed town library. After the town hall was leased to the Patriotic Club in 1959, the library partition was reduced in size and a bathroom was created in the remaining space. In addition, the present tile ceiling was installed in the first story meeting area. The existing wooden benches are original to the building's use as a town hall. The plaster walls and ceiling on the second floor were covered with wallboard in the 1940s. Of particular note in this meeting space is the painted landscape scene which hangs behind the stage. Signed in one corner by H. F. Hunt and dated 1899, the backdrop is believed to have been made for the Ocean Grange, which used the second floor starting sometime after 1884 and until 1910. In contrast to the first floor of the 1874 block, the first floor of the addition -- which contained the Selectmen's office -- is finished in narrow tongue and groove sheathing. The second floor, which houses the kitchen, is similarly finished.

(Former) Bremen Town Hall
Name of Property

Lincoln, Maine
County and State

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.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Social History

Period of Significance

1874-1949

Significant Dates

1874

1938

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) BREMEN TOWN HALL

LINCOLN, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

Erected in 1874 and enlarged in 1938, the (Former) Bremen Town Hall is a two-story vernacular frame building that has played an important role in the community's history as a meeting hall for a number of organizations. Originally constructed for the Good Templars, an international temperance organization, the building began to be used in part for town meetings beginning in 1877. It is still owned by the town, but has been leased to the Patriotic Club since 1959. The former town hall is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion A for its association with Bremen's town government and social history.

According to published histories, Bremen was first settled by Anglo-Americans in 1735 when the William Hilton family moved here from Plymouth, Massachusetts. However, sustained settlement did not take place until after the cessation of hostilities with the Native American population. Bremen was incorporated on February 19, 1828, and by mid century its population stood at 819 persons. The brief entry on Bremen that appeared in *The History and Description of New England* (1858), stated that the "occupations of the inhabitants are farming and fishing." At that time there was one church and seven schools.

By the time the original portion of the town hall was constructed, the town's population was already in decline (by 1930 there were 322 residents, a figure which has doubled since then). Nonetheless, the membership and activities of the Good Templars apparently warranted the erection of a suitable meeting hall. It may be that the original expectation was that the town would utilize the first floor for town meetings, but it was not until 1877 that the first such meeting took place here. At that time the town rented the meeting space for \$12. In 1884 the Good Templars deeded the building to the town which continued to use it for governmental functions until 1959. The Patriotic Club raised the funds to add the wing in 1938 -- primarily for the purpose of improving the second floor kitchen facilities -- and with the establishment of a town library in 1944, a portion of the first floor meeting space was partitioned off for the collection. The library remained here until 1954 when it was moved to larger quarters. Throughout this period, the upper floor was used for a variety of purposes. Sometime after 1884 and until 1910, the Ocean Grange held its meetings and community events in this space, which contained a kitchen (subsequently relocated to the wing). Thereafter, it hosted a number of local events such as public suppers, shows, Red Cross training, Vacation Bible School, rummage sales, and Silver Teas. Between 1954 and 1959 it was also used as a classroom for 4th grade students. Since town government vacated the building, it has been leased to the Patriotic Club which continues to maintain the former town hall and make it available for public functions.

In small rural towns such as those found throughout Maine, it is not uncommon for a building like the (former) Bremen Town Hall to be the focal point of community events and activities. Sometimes, there may be several historic buildings that have fulfilled this role, such as church parish halls, grange halls, or perhaps the town hall. In Bremen, the events which have defined its social and governmental history have been largely centered in this building. For this reason, the old town hall, now known as the Bremen Town House, is an important local landmark.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) BREMEN TOWN HALL

LINCOLN, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

Bibliography

“Bremen Town House.” Unpublished compilation of information relating to the history of the Bremen Town House. April 3, 1999. Copy on file at MHPC.

Coolidge, A.J., and Mansfield, J.B. *A History and Description of New England*. Vol. I. Boston: Austin J. Coolidge. 1859.

(Former) Bremen Town Hall
Name of Property

Lincoln, 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	4	6	6	2	0	10	4	8	7	3	1	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

3

Zone	Easting				Northing									

2

Zone	Easting				Northing									

4

Zone	Easting				Northing									

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. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date December, 1999

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) BREMEN TOWN HALL

LINCOLN, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies the Town of Bremen tax map 7, lot 24.

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire rural lot that is historically associated with the (Former) Bremen Town Hall.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Bremen Town Hall, (Former)

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, Lincoln

DATE RECEIVED: 12/08/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/22/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000372

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Jason Beal

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 12/28/00

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

National Register of Historic Places DEC - 8 2000
Continuation Sheet

(FORMER) BREMEN TOWN HALL

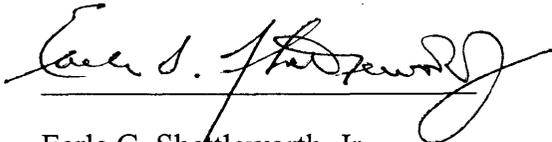
Section number _____ Page _____

LINCOLN CO., ME

AMENDMENT TO SECTION 8, PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH 1

The original nomination stated that the Patriotic Club began to lease the building in 1959 and continues to do so. New information indicates that the lease agreement ended about 1990.

00-372



Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer
December 1, 2000