

PH 0666190

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 1978
DATA SHEET	
DATE ENTERED	JUL 21 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

James C. Lord House

AND/OR COMMON

Callahan House

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

497 Main Street

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lewiston

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
2nd

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Androscoggin

CODE

001

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Jane and David Smith

STREET & NUMBER

497 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Lewiston

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Auburn,

STATE  
Maine

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Lewiston Historic Commission Survey

DATE

1975

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

Lewiston

STATE  
Maine

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James C. Lord House in Lewiston, designed by Jefferson L. Coburn and built in 1885, is a dramatic example of eclectic architecture. The mansion's windows and cornices are Italianate in detail, the half-story of the facade tower is influenced by the second Gothic Revival, while the stable is of Queen Anne style form.

The 2½ story house is of brick with granite trim on a granite foundation. The roofs are covered with slates (grey and red) and are of hipped and gabled form on the house, hipped on the stable. There are three internal brick chimneys present.

The facade, which faces westerly, is dominated by a central projecting tower of 3½ stories. This tower is square in plan and is capped by a pyramidal roof with a slight bellcast profile. A gabled dormer with dentils protrudes from each of the four sides of this roof, and contains a 2/2 window with triangular top. The three stories of the tower contain tall 1/1 windows with granite lintels and sills which are paired in the third story, single in the lower two stories. The main entrance lies on the ground floor of the tower, and consists of large double doors.

To either side of the tower the facade rises 2½ stories with a pair of 1/1 windows in each story. The half story contains a gabled dormer to each side of the tower; each of these contains a pair of 1/1 windows. A screened porch of frame construction covers the first story.

The northern and southern ends of the front of the house are 2½ stories in height. On the first story is a three-sided bay containing 1/1 windows. Above this a pair of slightly projecting 1/1 windows is surmounted by a bracketed shelf lintel. In the half story's gable end is a pair of 1/1 windows slightly recessed within a brick arch with a granite keystone.

A large 2½ story ell extends easterly from the rear of the house. This features a dormer of each side of the half story (facing north and south); these dormers are as on the facade. Fenestration consists of 1/1 windows grouped in pairs. A secondary ell continues eastward to an attached 2-story building originally designed as servants' quarters. The secondary ell contains an entrance on its north side, while the servants' quarters has a south doorway.

The detached stable and carriage-house is a square brick building of 1½ stories with a louvered cupola atop its hipped roof. Large gabled dormers protrude on the north and south sides, and contain second-story doors above large barn doors. Fenestration is simple, consisting of 2/2 windows with granite lintels and sills. The northern carriage door is framed by a graceful brick arch.

All of the cornices of the house and stable are decorated with ornate paired brackets at the corners.

The interior of the Lord House has lost most of its original furnishings, but the ornate oak woodwork of Eastlake style survives in an excellent state of preservation.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input 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 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

1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Jefferson L. Coburn

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This substantial and interesting example of late 19th century eclectic architecture, combining elements of the Italianate, ~~Queen Anne~~ and High Victorian Gothic styles, is important as one of the few known works of architect Jefferson Lake Coburn, in addition to the basic merit of its design. It further stands as a classic example of a prosperous merchant's house of the period conveying as it does the feeling of dignity and security so important to the rising Victorian middle class.

As early as 1872, James C. Lord had established a grocery and provision business in Lewiston at the corner of Lisbon and Cedar Streets. From this time until 1885 he resided at 491 Main Street, one lot from the corner of Mountain Avenue. Lord had acquired both lots in 1850 and it was on the empty corner that he built his new house (497 Main Street) in 1885.

From Lord the house passed to John N. Wood in 1890 and Wood's widow in turn sold it in 1920 to Timothy F. Callahan, for many years prominent in Lewiston political circles.

Born in 1835, Jefferson L. Coburn, after an honorable military career in the Civil War as a lieutenant in the 1st Maine Cavalry, established himself as an architect in the Lewiston-Auburn area. He became well known in central Maine and executed commissions in Presque Isle and Vassalboro as well as in his local area.

