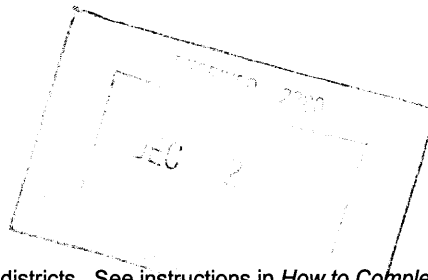


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Edward J. Hammond Hall

other names/site number Winter Harbor Town Hall

2. Location

street & number Main Street N/A not for publication

city or town Winter Harbor N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Hancock code 009 zip code 04693

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 S. Friedman 11/26/03
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 W. Beall 1/14/04
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL
Name of Property

HANCOCK CO., 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	0	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

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT / City Hall

RECREATION AND CULTURE / Theater

/ Auditorium

/ Music Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE / Theater

/ Auditorium

/ Music Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS / Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE / Granite

walls WOOD / Shingle

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

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

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

DESCRIPTION

The Edward J. Hammond Hall in Winter Harbor, Maine is a one and one-half story, north facing Colonial Revival building of modest proportions built in 1903 to serve the political and entertainment needs of the growing seaside town. Built on a raised stone foundation, the building is clad with unpainted wooden shingles under an asphalt roof. The rectilinear mass of the building is oriented along a north-south axis, and attached to the center of its gable facade is a raised and columned entrance porch. The hall is located on the south side of Main Street as it leads out of town towards the west, in a neighborhood of residential structures. Immediately to the west of the building is a narrow lane that runs several hundred yards to a town wharf on the Inner harbor. The current population of the town is slightly less than 1000 people, but the town's summer population is approximately 1/3 more than this figure.

The exterior styling of Hammond Hall is that of Colonial Revival, liberally peppered by Greek Revival influences. The three-bay facade consists of double doors surmounted by a decorative leaded glass transom, which is flanked by a single, large, six-over-six double-hung wooden window on either side. Directly in front of, and surrounding the double doors is a square entrance porch defined on each corner by paired, fluted square columns mounted on wooden paneled plinths. Broad wooden steps run from the elevated first story entrance, between the east and west pairs of columns, to the edge of main street. The rectilinear porch is further enhanced by a broad frieze above the columns and under the wide soffit of the flat, balustraded roof. Directly over the double doors and entrance porch is a large, three-part Palladian window behind the square balusters on the porch.

The corners of the facade are adorned by additional paired fluted pilasters, which again rest on paneled plinths decorated with applied moulding. The roof is detailed by an ovolo-molded fascia over the broad soffit, and with wide frieze board returns at the eaves in the characteristic Greek Revival method. The wooden returns are further accessorized by paired wooden brackets between the moderately-wide frieze and the soffit. The final decorative element on Hammond Halls' symmetrical facade is found on the foundation. Although the stone is covered by shingles on the other three sides, the rough-cut granite block foundation under the front of the building and the entry porch is finished with a prominently beaded mortar joint and capped with a wooden water table.

The cornice brackets, the frieze and the water table marking the top of the raised foundation continue on both the east and west elevations of the building. Originally each elevation contained three evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows, an exit door towards the rear of the building, and an elevated window in the south end that is raised higher than the others to illuminate the back stage area. Three dormers were also evenly distributed down each side of the roof, however these were removed in the 1950s. Currently, a diamond shaped window is located on the north end of the west elevation to provide light to an interior staircase, and on the east elevation the northernmost window has been

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 7 Page 3

replaced with a modern door and access ramp. Two smaller six-over-six windows and a loading door into the basement are located at foundation level on the west elevation. The rear elevation is extremely simple: a single door is located below the wooden water table, while on the first floor three six-over six sash are evenly spaced across the structure. A single bracket supports each of the cornice returns, however there are no pilasters on this side of the structure.

The imposing classical exterior of the Edward J. Hammond Hall is softened at once upon entry to the building. Immediately inside the double doors is a lobby clad entirely in varnished horizontal tongue and groove boarding. This boarding is interrupted on the east wall by a single small ticket window surrounded by wide varnished trim, while to the east a broad, winding staircase, again constructed of varnished wood, leads to the second floor. Immediately ahead to the south is the auditorium. The focus of this large, well lighted room is the stage at the southern end and the three-sided hanging balcony which hugs the northern, western and eastern walls. The walls of the auditorium are smooth plasterboard above varnished vertical tongue-and-groove boarding, which is also used to decorate the front of the balcony. Two levels of raked seating with folding wooden chairs are situated in the balcony area, and the back walls of this upper level are also clad in more varnished wood and plaster. A molded wooden belt course surrounds the room at the junction of the walls and a plaster cove which makes the transition to the flat ceiling, which consists of battens and fiber-board. Positioned in the center of the north side of the balcony is an asbestos-coated, free-standing projection and lighting booth. Doors on the south walls of the balcony lead to back stairs on either side of the stage. The balcony is suspended by iron rods attached to framed trusses in the attic, and light cans are affixed to the balcony front. The hard wood floor of the hall is open; no fixed seating was ever installed.

As with the rest of the room, the stage apron and breastwork are decorated with varnished vertical boarding. The proscenium arch is defined by beveled walls angling inward from the edges of the stage: no mouldings or other decorations are present. The large, painted drop curtain featuring a Venetian canal scene and faux red velvet grand curtains is a contemporary copy of the original curtain installed when the Hall opened in 1903. The mechanism for raising the curtain into the tall fly loft is a simple wooden winch with removable wooden handle. Twin staircases on either side of the stage lead from the hall and the back stage area to bathrooms and dressing rooms in the basement. A fly gallery, for controlling lighting and rigging is located in the southwest corner of the stage. As with much of the building, the back stage area is thoroughly clad with varnished boarding, although the quality of this cladding dissipates in the upper reaches of the fly loft.

At the northeast end of the building a small kitchen occupies the space behind the ticket window, while on the second floor a meeting room is located over the lobby (lit by the Palladian window) and a small storage room is over the kitchen. A single chimney is located in the kitchen to which a cookstove was connected historically. The building was originally heated by a furnace in the basement, however the grates in the hall floor and stage apron appear to date to the hot air system that was installed by 1935. The building

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 7 Page 4

was lighted by acetylene gas initially and although no longer attached, several of the original light fixtures remain in the building.

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)

- Architecture _____
- Politics / Government _____
- Entertainment / Recreation _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1903 - 1953

Significant Dates

1903 -1953

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Grover, Charles E. (Builder)

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

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edward J. Hammond Hall is a building that has hosted both governmental and social functions for the Town of Winter Harbor since its construction in 1903. Built a year after a devastating fire leveled much of the commercial center of town, the Hall is a building that also reflects the town's growth as a result of tourism at the end of the 19th century. Architecturally, is a remarkable building both for its material integrity, which has remained intact with very few exceptions, and as one of the only classically inspired public buildings in the town. The Edward J. Hammond Hall is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in recognition architectural significance as an early 20th century example of Colonial Revival public architecture, and under Criterion A, for its role as the Town Hall for fifty years, and for its continual use as a venue for the performing arts and public events.

Winter Harbor, Maine is located near the southern end of the Schoodic Peninsula in Hancock County, Maine. This rugged, craggy section of the coast supports numerous small communities hovered about isolated harbors and inlets. Until 1895, Winter Harbor was a part of the Town of Gouldsboro, which was centered around the settlement at Prospect Harbor. Throughout most of the 19th century the town's livelihood was based around the marine and lumber resources at hand. This started to change in the last decades of the 19th century, as Winter Harbor was 'discovered' by the rusticators and summer people who had colonized Bar Harbor and Mount Desert Island just across the Frenchman's Bay from the Schoodic. Believing that Bar Harbor was becoming too crowded and in danger of losing its status as a retreat for the elite, a Winter Harbor native, who had moved to Boston, joined with two partners to build 'The Beacon Hotel' in 1887. As the principals of the Winter Harbor Land Company, Edward J. Hammond and his partners also subdivided Hammond's substantial land holdings in town for sale as cottage developments. While the hotel burned in 1891, and the lots sold slowly, Winter Harbor did draw elites from Philadelphia and other east coast urban areas due to the formation of the Grindstone Neck Land Company, a rival outfit that started construction on their own hotel and summer colony in 1890. Although ultimately the Inn at Grindstone Neck and associated cottages were significantly more successful, the course that Hammond envisioned for Winter Harbor resulted in significant changes for the settlement.

Both sets of resort construction projects had the effect of strengthening the economy for the residents and merchants of Winter Harbor, and the population of the town was inflated by the crafts, trades and service people associated with the hotels and cottages. By mid-decade, Winter Harbor had obtained the size, desire and necessary political savvy to separate from Gouldsboro, and in 1896 the Town of Winter Harbor was incorporated.

For the first six years, the Town did not have a formal Town Hall. In July of 1902, a devastating fire destroyed many of the commercial establishments in the center of town; subsequently discussion occurred regarding how and where to rebuild the town. The beginnings of Hammond Hall were recorded in the Annual Report for the Town of Winter Harbor in February 1903 as follows:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

“ In the autumn of 1902, the selectmen received from Mr. E. J. Hammond, of Boston, a proposition to present the town with a desirable lot of land on Main Street, and material for a town hall. At a subsequent special town meeting called for that purpose, the town voted to accept the offer of Mr. Hammond, and authorized the selectmen to make a temporary loan to cover the cost of construction until the next annual meeting, and instructed the committee in charge to procure plans and commence work on the proposed hall at their earliest convenience.

The structure now already commenced, when completed according to plans and specifications, will have a ...room 48 by 75 feet, a large basement, town hall, offices for the town officials, and will be fitted with all modern conveniences. The exterior will be of pleasing architectural design, and the building will be an ornament to the town for many years to come.

With no permanent place for our town books, records and other town property, a town hall and offices have ben a long-talked-of necessity; and the beneficent gift of Mr. Hammond to his native town will not only be a source of pride, but will also be a great public convenience to the resident and non-resident inhabitants of the town.” (*Eighth Annual Report of the Town Officers of Winter Harbor, Maine, p. 8-9*).

The land that Hammond donated to the town was across the street from his own stately residence and away from possible conflagration in the commercial core of the town. The town hired Charles E. Grover, a Winter Harbor contractor and builder to raise the structure. The process took only a year, and according to the Annual Reports, made liberal use of local craftsmen and suppliers. From the beginning the building was designed to accommodate both the town offices, (in the meeting and storage room on the second floor) as well as provide a venue for town meetings and public performances. Many towns had the use of a pubic hall or grange hall for town meetings, performances or social activities, and indeed, in Winter Harbor the Old Globe Hall had been such a place for the town, but it went “out of business after having become a roller skating rink when E.J. Hammond donated the land and the lumber and Hammond Hall was built in 1903.” (Smallidge, p. 58.)

There are at least three other examples of combination municipal buildings and performance venues being constructed in Maine between 1900 and 1909. In the industrial cities of Skowhegan and Waterville large multipurpose civic buildings were built downtown. The Waterville Opera House, (NR: 76000097) is an imposing three story Colonial Revival structure built by George G. Adams of Lawrence, Mass in 1902, while the Skowhegan Municipal building / Opera House (Skowhegan Historic District, NR: 82000781) was built by John Calvin Stevens of Maine, also in the Colonial Revival style. In Monmouth, Cumston Hall was designed by architect Harry Hayman Cochrain and donated to the town by Dr. Charles M. Cumston in 1900. This Romanesque structure (NR: 73000130) contained both performance space and the town library, and was connected by a covered walkway to a small hexagonal building that housed the Town offices. Although a significantly smaller town than Skowhegan or Waterville, the population of Monmouth in 1900 was 1236 compared to Winter Harbor’s 571 residents. Reflecting this

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 8 Page 4

difference in residential scale, so too was Hammond Hall much smaller than its functional colleagues. Indeed, most small towns building new municipal offices at that time constructed much simpler and smaller buildings. At the time Hammond Hall was designed only a few of the cottages and the inns in town had been architecturally specified; rather it was a community of traditional and vernacular architecture. By choosing the dignified formality of the Colonial Revival style, the patron and designer of the Hall infused the new town's most public building with a sense of respect and propriety representative of the community's emergence in the twentieth century.

Two additional factors may have worked hand in hand to create Hammond Hall. The first was Edward J. Hammond's desire to be remembered for his role in helping the town to develop as a summer resort, although ultimately he was significantly less successful than his rivals on Grindstone Neck. Secondly, due to the success of the inns and cottages on the Neck, there was a significant number of people in town during the summer months. While the Inn offered some entertainment, the town too could benefit by building a first class performance space. From the beginning the floor was designed to support dances, and soon after the building opened a projection booth was installed to show silent movies, accompanied on the piano by Miss Ardell Parker. (Jellison, p. 204). Indeed, to this day the acoustics at Hammond Hall remain terrific.

Between 1903 and 1958 Hammond Hall was home to the Winter Harbor Town Hall, as well as host for numerous movies, plays, vaudeville acts, dances, orchestras, proms, graduations and town meetings. In 1958 the town offices relocated to the old high school, and while the building continued to be used for performances and meetings, its main function was as the gymnasium and basketball court for the school until 1987, when the town sold the building to the Winter Harbor Historical Society. Currently the building is home to Schoodic Arts for All, an organization that brings exhibits, music, lectures and theater to the Hall on a regular basis.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

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EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL
Name of Property

HANCOCK CO., MAINE
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .14 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 9 5 7 2 4 9 5 4 9 1 5 5 0 4
Zone Easting Northing

3 1 9
Zone Easting Northing

2 1 9
Zone Easting Northing

4 1 9
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 CHRISTI A. MITCHELL, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
organization MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION date 8 July 2003
street & number 55 CAPITOL STREET, STATION 65 telephone (207) 287-2132
city or town AUGUSTA state ME 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

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is fully described by the Town of Winter Harbor tax map number 18, lot 11.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries as described by tax map 18, lot 11 in the Town of Winter Harbor represents all the property historically associated with the Edward J. Hammond Hall, as first represented by deed of Edward J. Hammond to the Town of Winter Harbor, recorded at the Hancock County Registry of Deeds in Ellsworth, Maine, book 387, p. 444.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

EDWARD J. HAMMOND HALL

HANCOCK CO., MAINE

Section number _____ Page _____

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
10 June 2003
North elevation; facing southeast.

Photograph 2 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
10 June 2003
Interior, hall; facing south.

Photograph 3 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
10 June 2003
Interior, hall; facing northwest.

Photograph 4 of 4
Christi A. Mitchell
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
10 June 2003
Interior, balcony; facing south.