

PH 051.4

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maine
COUNTY:	Lincoln
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JAN 18 1974

HB
 2 n 10
 NO USE - 2/10/74

1. NAME

COMMON: (Waldoboro Public Library) *use both names*

AND/OR HISTORIC: U. S. Custom House, Post Office

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Waldoboro CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1st: Hon. Peter N. Kyros

STATE: Maine COUNTY: Lincoln

CODE: 23 CODE: 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Library</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Waldoboro Public Library Association

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Waldoboro, STATE: Maine CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Lincoln County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Wiscasset STATE: Maine CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

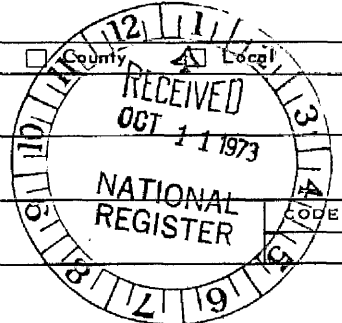
TITLE OF SURVEY: None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



STATE: _____

COUNTY: _____

ENTRY NUMBER: _____

DATE: JAN 18 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent
 Good
 Fair
 Deteriorated
 Ruins
 Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered
 Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved
 Original Site

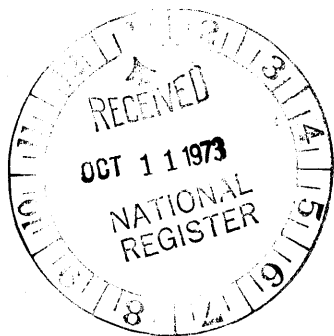
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Waldoboro Public Library is a well-preserved example of a small mid-nineteenth century Custom House by Ammi B. Young, supervising architect of the U. S. Treasury Department erected between 1855 and 1857. The building is Italianate in style. The structure is rectangular and has a granite foundation, two stories of brick, and a hipped roof. The facade is the most ornamental part of the building. A flight of granite stairs leads to three arched doorways on the first story. Above these entrances is an intricately designed cast iron balcony supported by four decorative cast iron brackets. On either side of the balcony is a projecting horizontal brick stringcourse. The middle section of the stringcourse is a dentil molding executed in brick. Directly above the balcony and in line with the three first story entrances are three arched windows with six-over-six sash and a bracket below either end of the sill. Attached to the balcony in front of the middle second story window is a flag pole. Across the top of the facade runs a projecting brick cornice with a simple brick dentil molding below and a more elaborate one above.

Each side of the Waldoboro Public Library has three arched windows on the first story and two on the second. Like the second story facade windows, these have six-over-six sash and a bracket below either end of the sill. The first and second story sides are divided by the continuation of the projecting brick stringcourse which begins at either side of the facade balcony. The projecting brick cornice of the front is also continued to the sides. The building is surrounded by a small lawn which has a mid-nineteenth century cast iron fence with a granite base.

The Waldoboro Public Library was part of a series of custom houses which Ammi B. Young designed during his tenure as supervising architect of the U. S. Treasury Department between 1852 and 1862. Young's aim was to create durable and fireproof structures which would express the dignity of their governmental functions. For this he usually chose stone, brick, and cast iron executed in the Italianate style. The Waldoboro Public Library is among the smallest of Young's works during this period and reflects the results of his good design on a modified scale.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1855-57**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Former U.S.</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Custom-House</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This fine building, situated in the heart of Waldoboro village, was at one time the hub of all commercial activity in the Customs District of Waldoboro.

The town of Waldoboro, situated at the head of Muscongus Bay, was the trade center for the Lincoln and Knox County area and all of the towns drained by the Medomak River. It was one of the important shipping and shipbuilding ports of 19th century Maine.

The District of Waldoboro was created by an act of 1799 with Waldoboro as the headquarters port. Waterman Thomas became the first inspector of revenue. The original customs building was of wood and was destroyed by fire in 1854. In 1855, the government purchased a lot of land 70' x 107' on the corner of Main and Middle Streets for the sum of \$2,000. Plans were furnished by Ammi B. Young, supervising architect of the U. S. Treasury Department. Cost of the construction was \$22,424.68 and the building was completed and ready for occupation in 1857. It was a combined Post Office and Custom House. The Post Office occupied the first floor.

On July 15, 1913, the District of Waldoboro was abolished. The building has since that time been used as a public library. A new post office was built shortly after 1913.

The custom houses of Maine reflect a great part of the history of Maine. In many cases they are all that is left to remind us of the maritime heritage of this state. The fact that this custom house, like so many of the others, has survived is that it has found an excellent adaptive use. As a library, the building not only survives, but continues to serve the people of the Waldoboro area as it has always done. A building such as this certainly deserves recognition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Three Centuries of Custom Houses, National Society of Colonial Dames p.116

History of Public Buildings under the Control of the Treasury Department, United State Treasury Dept., Washington D. C. Government Printing Office, 1901, pp.250-251

"Annie Burnham Young, Wodehouse, Lawrence, Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, December, 1966. 1798-1874"

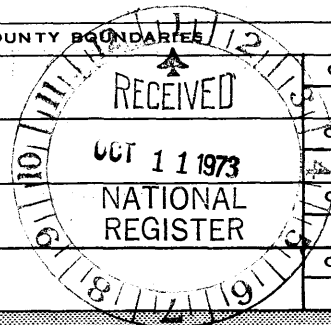
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		44° 05' 44"	69° 22' 33"	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Patricia A. Potvin, Secretary

ORGANIZATION: **U.S. Customs Service** DATE: **August 8, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
312 Fore Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Jane Mundy*
 Title: *State Historic Preservation Officer*
 Date: *October 9, 1973*

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

A. B. ...
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *11/18/74*

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: *11/17/74*