

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 Moore, Henry D., Parish House and Library

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 3 Rogers Point Road N/A not for publication

city or town Steuben N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Washington code 029 zip code 04680

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 L. Fitzgerald 10/10/01
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 R. Beal
Signature of the Keeper

11.29.01
Date of Action

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)

Education/Library

Recreation & Culture/Auditorium

Social/Meeting Hall

Recreation & Culture/Sports Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/Library

Recreation & Culture/Auditorium

Recreation & Culture/Museum

Recreation & Culture/Sports Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Nineteenth & Early Twentieth Century

American Movements

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Wood/Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other Front Entrance Vestibule

Narrative Description

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

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MOORE, HENRY D., PARISH HOUSE AND LIBRARY

WASHINGTON, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

The Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library is a two-story, rectangular wood frame building that is covered by a low hipped roof that has a broad overhang supported by rafter tails. It is sheathed in clapboards, and it stands on a granite quarry faced ashlar foundation that is laid in a random range pattern. The building is located in a small village setting.

Facing northwest (for the ease of description the front elevation shall be called the west elevation), the asymmetrically composed facade contains a centrally located entrance porch whose pedimented flared roof is supported by short projecting walls and two columns that stand on a low balustrade. Due to the topography of the site, the entrance is elevated above the exposed basement level and is accessed by a tall flight of steps. To the south of the entrance and on both stories are paired two-over-two double hung windows, whereas the bay above the porch is occupied by a single one-over-one that is flanked by sidelights exhibiting a pattern of triangular panes of glass. The north end features a pair of small one-over-ones and a single two-over-two on the first story, a trio of staggered two-over-twos between the levels that mark the location of the stairs, and a pair of two-over-twos at the northwest corner of the second story.

The first story on the south end elevation contains three two-over-twos and a door sheltered by a bracketed hood, whereas the second story has four two-over-twos. The north end features a pair of two-over-twos located slightly west of center, as well as two other two-over-twos on the first story, as well as a door and two windows on the second story. A tall brick chimney punctuates the north roof slope. The rear elevation contains five pairs of two-over-twos and a paneled door below a large transom window on the first story, in addition to four pairs and two single windows on the second story. An exterior chimney is located north of center on this elevation.

Inside, two doors lead from the vestibule to the transverse stair hall at the south end of which is a small classroom and beyond it an office/store room. A second pair of doors in the hall provide access to the auditorium which features a stage at the north end. The auditorium is further distinguished by its boxed beam ceiling. Doors at its south end lead into two office/storage rooms. The kitchen with built-in cabinets occupies the northeastern portion of the first floor. The second floor is occupied principally by the town library, although the historical society has two rooms in the northeast portion of the floor. One of its rooms (and a second one in the northwest corner) have fireplaces on short, diagonal interior walls. Narrow tongue and groove wainscot with a varnished finish is utilized throughout the first and second floor rooms with the exception of the those used by the historical society. Door and window surrounds, as well as the staircase is varnished. Several of the rooms also contain original electric and gas lighting fixtures.

Moore, Henry D., Parish House & Library
Name of Property

Washington, 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

Social History

Period of Significance

1911-1951

Significant Dates

1911

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Parsell, Isaac, Architect

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MOORE, HENRY D., PARISH HOUSE AND LIBRARY

WASHINGTON, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

Erected in 1911 from designs by the Philadelphia architect Isaac Parsell, the Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library is a two-story, hip roofed frame building that is sheathed in clapboards. It was given to the town by Steuben native Henry D. Moore, who was a successful businessman and financier in New York and New Jersey. The building is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the community's social history, and Criterion C for its local architectural significance.

Initially settled in 1759-60, and incorporated in 1795, the Town of Steuben's residents were, according to George Varney's 1881 profile of the town, chiefly engaged in seafaring, farming and lumbering. Historically, its population peaked in 1860 when the census enumerated 1,191 persons, but by 1910 this figure had declined to 890.

Among those who were born in Steuben but left to pursue their careers elsewhere was Henry Dyer Moore (1842-1930). After his service as a corporal in the 2nd Maine Cavalry, Moore went to work as a bookkeeper with W. E. Garrett and Sons of Philadelphia, a manufacturer of snuff. In 1893, Moore bought the business, and over the next eighteen years he was closely associated with the development of the American Snuff Co. During this period he also financed the construction of the 160 mile Montana Railroad, and his biographies in the *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography* and *Leading Philadelphia Firms and Institutions* make reference to numerous other business ventures in which he was involved.

Moore's gift of a memorial building to his native town illustrates a common pattern of philanthropy in the period from the late nineteenth century up to the Great Depression. In Maine, such donations were frequently made through library buildings, although in some cases -- as in Steuben -- a multi-purpose facility that included a library and community meeting space was provided. The Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library includes a large assembly room, completely furnished kitchen, and a classroom on the first floor, whereas the second floor contains the library and reading rooms, as well as two rooms that house the historical society. There is also a single lane bowling alley in the basement. Testimony to the building's importance as a community social center is contained in a letter dated December 26, 1911, to Henry Moore from his cousin (and the first librarian) Susie Moore, in which she wrote:

I wish you could look in on us here, sometimes when there are things going on in different parts of the Parish House, some reading, some getting books, others playing in the game room or basement, you would see what a centre of life this place is, to the people.

The building continues to serve in its original capacity.

Although modest in design, the Parish House and Library is distinguished in the local building context by its hip roof with broad eaves supported by exposed rafters, the asymmetry of its fenestration pattern on the facade, and the flared eaves of its entrance portico. It stands in marked contrast to the nearby Greek Revival style Steuben Union Church with its projecting portico and three stage tower. Little is known about the building's architect, except that information on file at the Parish House and Library indicate that his offices were located at 119 S. 4th St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This is Isaac Parsell's only known commission in Maine.

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MOORE, HENRY D., PARISH HOUSE AND LIBRARY

WASHINGTON, MAINE

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Bibliography

“Henry Dyer Moore,” *Leading Philadelphia Firms and Institutions*. Citation unavailable; copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

“Moore, Henry Dyer,” *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, v. 41. New York: James T. White & Company, 1945.

Susie Moore to Henry D. Moore, December 26, 1911. Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 9 5 8 2 5 2 0 4 9 2 8 9 1 0
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing
4
 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. Mohney, Architectural Historian
organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July, 2001
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.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies the Town of Steuben, Tax Map 11, Lot 24.

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire village lot that is historically associated with the Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MOORE, HENRY D., PARISH HOUSE AND LIBRARY

WASHINGTON, MAINE

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Photographs

1 of 3

Amy Cole Ives

June 28, 2001

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

West Facade, looking east

2 of 3

Amy Cole Ives

June 28, 2001

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

West Facade and north side elevation, looking southeast

3 of 3

Amy Cole Ives

June 28, 2001

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

Interior view of auditorium and stage, looking north