

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED JAN 15 1980

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 Ora Blanchard House
AND/OR COMMON The Widow's Walk

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Main Street
CITY, TOWN Stratton VICINITY OF Eustis COUNTY Franklin STATE Maine CODE 023 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Second

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY: DISTRICT, BUILDING(S), STRUCTURE, SITE, OBJECT
OWNERSHIP: PUBLIC, PRIVATE, BOTH, PUBLIC ACQUISITION, IN PROCESS, BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS: OCCUPIED, UNOCCUPIED, WORK IN PROGRESS, YES: RESTRICTED, YES: UNRESTRICTED, NO
PRESENT USE: AGRICULTURE, COMMERCIAL, EDUCATIONAL, ENTERTAINMENT, GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRIAL, MILITARY, MUSEUM, PARK, PRIVATE RESIDENCE, RELIGIOUS, SCIENTIFIC, TRANSPORTATION, OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Jerome V. and Mary P. Hopson
STREET & NUMBER Main Street
CITY, TOWN Stratton VICINITY OF _____ STATE Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Franklin County Registry of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER _____
CITY, TOWN Farmington, STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE _____
DATE _____
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS _____
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 Ora Blanchard House of Stratton, Maine, built in 1892, is an elaborate and well-preserved example of Queen Anne style domestic architecture in a remote setting. The 2½-story house is of frame construction with hipped roof, window's walk, two internal brick chimneys, clapboard and shingle siding, granite foundation, and three-story facade corner tower.

The facade, which faces west, is dominated by the tower, of which the roof is of bell-cast, 8-sided form. The tower is octagonal in plan. Fenestration is 1/1 in the first and second stories and stained glass in the third. The shingling flares outward below each window, such that not only the cornice, but also slight overhangs between floors are bracketed. The other principal feature of the facade is a one-story ground level porch with treillage, supported by turned posts. The facade is 3 bays wide with a central double-doored entrance, above which is a second-floor door which provides access to the porch roof. Facade fenestration is 1/1, except for a gable-roofed half-story dormer, above a 3 window bay, which contains a small lunette.

The other principal elevation faces south. This is two bays wide, the bays to the left being 1/1, those to the right being a cluster of four 1/1 in the first story and two 1/1 in the second; the latter project slightly and are supported by brackets. A half-story dormer is equivalent to that on the facade.

Extending from the north side of the house is a 1½-story ell which faces west and is 4 bays long with 2/2 fenestration and a single door. In the half-story are two gabled dormers containing 1/1 sash.

A large two-story barn is attached to the north end of the ell and likewise faces west. This has a hipped roof with louvered ventilator covered by a pyramidal roof on the peak. The barn has been adaptively re-used as guest quarters and now features an enclosed porch over the entrance and 1/1 windows in the second floor, both recent modifications.

Aside from the barn alterations, the only significant change in the appearance of the house has been the loss of railings with latticework on the first story porch and roof above.

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

1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stratton, the largest village in the township of Eustis with a population of about 400, is still more or less a frontier town in a remote section of western Maine. The only residence of any distinction in the community is this remarkable and very unusual large Queen Anne house built in 1892 by Oramendal (always called Ora) Blanchard.

Blanchard was by all odds the most important figure in Stratton at the turn of the century. He owned the local sawmill in what was still a very heavily timbered area. He was also the proprietor of the local water and electric companies when these services became available. Such was his importance that the principal residential street was named after him.

This house is the landmark in the community and with its peculiar tower is a rare example of its style.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Representative Men of Maine. New York, 1897.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4

QUADRANGLE NAME Stratton

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 386400 4999540

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

E

G

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

F

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Assessor's Map U-7, Lot 30

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE October, 1979

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street TELEPHONE 207/289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta, STATE Maine 04333

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL ✓

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Carole S. Shelton

TITLE S.H.P.O. DATE 11/9/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 1/15/80

ATTEST: Sally Lyall DATE 1/19/80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION