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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Concord Haven

other names/site number J. Leon Williams House

2. Location

E Side of
street & number Route 16 , 1.7 mi N of Junc w/Berry Rd. N/A not for publication
city or town Emden vicinity
state Maine code ME county Somerset code 025 zip code 04958

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.)
Evel S. Thibault SHPO 8/27/92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State of 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 the 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): _____

For Signature of the Keeper 10/2/92 Date of Action
For Mr. Lapsley

Concord Haven
Name of Property

Somerset, Maine
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
1		objects
3	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Domestic: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

foundation Stone

walls Wood: Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

Concord Haven
Name of Property

Somerset, 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.

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 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

Health/Medicine

Period of Significance

1915-1932

Significant Dates

1915

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Williams, James Leon

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Stevens, John Calvin and John Howard,
Architects

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Concord Haven
Name of Property

Somerset, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 50

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	19	4305110	4980900
Zone	Easting		Northing

3	19	4310000	4980000
Zone	Easting		Northing

2	19	4310000	4980910
Zone	Easting		Northing

4	19	4304700	4980000
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 Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July, 1992

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 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 Mrs. A. F. Thorndike

street & number Rt. 16, Box 55 telephone 207/643-2424

city or town Solon, state Maine zip code 04979

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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CONCORD HAVEN

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

Concord Haven, the J. Leon Williams summer home, occupies a commanding site on the west side of the Kennebec River on the town lines of Emden and Concord. The area is a mixture of farmland and woodland with scattered residences. On the east side of the house the land drops away down to the river, whose banks are heavily wooded.

The principal elevation of the house faces Route 16 to the west. The main section is a two-story rectangle with a hip roof surmounted by a catwalk with a balustrade. Single gable roof dormers are located in the center of the east and west elevations. This symmetrical treatment of the main block is balanced on the north and south sides by brick chimneys. Set back from the plane of the main section, is a two-story wing. Extending from the north side of that section is a one-story wing. A long, one-story sun room extends from the south side of the main block. These appendages also have hipped roofs. The siding on the house is clapboard and the foundation consists of quarry-faced ashlar. There are six-over-six double-hung sash except for large tripartite first floor windows and multi-pane casement windows on the sun porch.

The principal Colonial Revival style ornamentation on the west elevation consists of the two-story portico supported on paired Tuscan columns. Beneath the portico is a federal style doorway with leaded glass sidelights and a segmental arched lunette. Directly above is a second story balcony supported on four large console brackets and featuring a balustrade with turned balusters. Other Colonial Revival style ornamentation includes corner pilasters, paired brackets under the roof cornice, and pilasters enframing panels under the windows on the sun porch.

The east elevation, overlooking the river, also has a two-story portico. At the second floor level of this portico is a porch with a balustrade consisting of a railing linked by square posts. That railing is duplicated on the first story level as well. The basement level of the ell is above ground on this side due to the change in grade, thus providing an above-ground entrance to the basement.

The interior has undergone no major changes in the main section of the house. Of particular significance are the hall and living room, both of which run the full length of the house, and the dining room. The architects selected a variety of delicately fashioned Federal style woodwork for the door and window trim. The living room mantel and over-mantel is Georgian style in configuration but with Federal style wood carvings and ornamentation, such as urns and garlands, in bas-relief. A smaller Federal style mantel is in the dining room. The hall has a grand staircase with a balustrade railing that extends up into the large second floor hall. At either end of that hall are doorways providing access to the west balcony and

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CONCORD HAVEN

SOMERSET, MAINE

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the east porch. On the north and south sides of the hall are symmetrically arranged bedrooms.

Alterations to the house are largely confined to the north wings which contain the service areas of the house. The kitchen and pantry have been modernized, although original fabric, such as cupboards, remain. The former woodshed has been gutted and remodeled into a family room with a massive stone fireplace on the north wall. The present owner also added three Gothic stained glass windows to the west wall.

The only other contributing building on the site is the carriage barn, which has also been completely remodeled on the interior. New garage doors were added as well as horse stalls, a tack room, and other small rooms. Except for the garage doors, these changes are not apparent from the exterior.

Also contributing is the lily pond opposite the main entrance, which includes a cast stone fountain. Behind is a statue of Dr. Williams daughter, which was added before he died.

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Continuation SheetCONCORD HAVENSOMERSET, MAINESection number 8 Page 2

The retirement home of Dr. Leon Williams is significant as the only major architect-designed landmark in the Town of Emden. It is also significant for its association with Dr. J. Leon Williams, a pioneer in the scientific study of dentistry. The property is, therefore, eligible for nomination to the National Register under criteria B and C.

James Leon Williams was born in Emden on April 21, 1852 in a farmhouse still standing directly opposite the subject property. He apprenticed to be a dentist in North Vassalboro as a young man, establishing his own practice there in 1871. It is recorded that he acquired a microscope at that time, beginning his own research in dental pathology. In 1882 he moved his practice to New York City, and later relocated to New Haven and Philadelphia. While in the latter city he acquired a DDS at Baltimore Dental College. In 1888 Dr. Williams settled in England, having taken the exam of the Royal College of Dentistry, Dublin.

Although his practice was quite successful (he was the dentist to Queen Victoria), Dr. Williams' real interest was scientific research. One account states that, "perhaps no man of his generation surpassed him in providing dentistry with a grounding in scientific method". He published the first of many scientific papers in 1882, and is chiefly known for establishing how enamel is formed and attacked by bacteria. Dr. Williams also developed an improved technique in manufacturing false teeth and, at the same time, made anthropological studies which contributed to the understanding of the theory of evolution. As a result of these studies he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

Dr. Williams was also a painter and photographer, a writer on literary subjects and world disarmament. Retiring from practice in 1913, he returned to America to build his retirement home in 1915 on his family farm. It was there that he spent the remaining seventeen years of his life, writing articles and painting landscapes. He died in 1932.

Dr. Williams hired the leading architectural firm in Maine, John Calvin and John Howard Stevens, to design his house. This firm was responsible for a great many large Colonial Revival style homes for wealthy individuals all over the state. As originally built the house dominated the surrounding landscape for the land was cleared of trees except where it sloped down to the river. With its monumental portico on the principal elevation facing west, the house looked across the road toward his childhood home and thus provided a striking contrast between the opposing structures. The house itself was designed to take full advantage of the site with its porches, large windows and long sun room.

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CONCORD HAVEN

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

After the house was completed, Dr. Williams made improvements to the landscaping that included flower gardens and a circular drive. The driveway encircled a lily pond with a fountain on axis with the main entrance to the house. This may have been built in conjunction with a statue of Dr. Williams' daughter, who pre-deceased him. The figure is enframed by an arbor on the other side of the lily pond. Evidence of early landscaping also survives in the stone steps which descend into the ravine along the river.

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CONCORD HAVEN

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The National Cyclopedia of American Biography, Vol. 29, pp. 232-233.

The Life and Work of James Leon Williams by George Ward Clapp, New York, 1925.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

CONCORD HAVEN

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property containing 50 acres occupies the Town of Embden Tax Map 12, Lot 38 (30 acres) and the somerset County Taxation Map 081, Plan 02, Lot 41.1 (20 acres). The latter is a Land Use Regulation Commission property designation for its jurisdiction in Concord Township.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary embraces the entire parcel of property acquired by Dr. Williams for his retirement home and still maintained by the present owner of the dwelling.