

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 14 1993

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 Duck Cove School

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number East Side of ^{ME} Route 46 at Junction with Stubbs Brook Rd. not for publication

city or town Bucksport vicinity

state Maine code ME county Hancock code 009 zip code 04416

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.)

[Signature] 6/9/93
 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:)

Signature of the Keeper *[Signature]* **National Register** Date of Action 7/15/93

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/School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social/Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite Piers

walls Wood/Weatherboard

Wood/Shingle

roof Asphalt

other Engaged Porch and Gable End

Ornament

Narrative Description

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

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Education
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1895-1943

Significant Dates

1895

1926

1927

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Smith, Uriah A., Builder

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:

DUCK COVE SCHOOL
Name of Property

HANCOCK, ME
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less Than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 9	5 2 0 4 4 0	4 9 3 7 5 9 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 April, 1993

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 _____

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

DUCK COVE SCHOOL

Section number 7 Page 2

The Duck Cove School is a modest one-story, gable roofed frame building which is sheathed in weatherboards and wood shingles. Unlike most other rural one-room school buildings in Maine, this example features an engaged porch and entrance vestibule on its front elevation. The school rests on stone piers.

Facing northwest, the front elevation is divided into three bays, two of which are occupied by the porch and the other by the vestibule which contains a single six-over-six window. A pair of turned porch posts with braces support the overhanging roof. Beneath this roof on the north wall of the vestibule is the entry door.

The building's northeast gable end contains a pair of symmetrically placed six-over-six windows, decorative wood shingles in the gable peak, and a truss-shaped gable ornament to which is attached the flagpole. There are five windows arranged along the east side, whereas the south gable end has been altered by the addition of a pair of shed additions. One of the sheds was added in 1926 to provide toilet facilities and the other is a woodshed.

Inside, the single classroom features vertical tongue-and-groove wainscot, blackboards, and metal ceiling added in 1927, and wall brackets which held the original oil lamps, several of which survive. Modern paneling has been placed over the plaster walls, but consideration is being given to the restoration of the historic finish.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetDUCK COVE SCHOOLSection number 8 Page 2

Located in a rural part of Bucksport, the Duck Cove School was erected in 1895 to replace an earlier but much deteriorated building. It served as the school in what had been District 6 until 1943, after which the building was transferred to the Duck Cove Community Club which has used and maintained it since then. The schoolhouse is eligible for nomination to the Register under criterion A for its association with public education in Bucksport and criterion C as an architecturally unusual and well preserved example of a nineteenth century one-room educational facility.

The Duck Cove School represents a common theme in the educational patterns of Maine towns; patterns which persisted in many instances well into the twentieth century. From the earliest period of schoolhouse construction, utilitarian one-room frame (in some cases brick or rarer still, stone) buildings were erected throughout a community's several districts to accommodate the instructional needs of children. In Bucksport, this process had led, by 1859, to the construction of twenty-two schoolhouses in the town's eighteen school districts (Coolidge and Mansfield, p. 79). This number had diminished somewhat by 1881 and fallen to fifteen by the time the subject building was erected (School Report). One factor in the decline in this number was undoubtedly the dramatic population drop which Bucksport, like most rural areas of the State, experienced during the second half of the nineteenth century. From a population of 3,381 persons in 1850, the town had lost more than 1,000 persons or about a third of its inhabitants by 1900. The resultant consolidation of the numerous schools and their ultimate closure in the twentieth century has greatly reduced the number of unaltered, extant examples which survive. As an illustration of this point, the Duck Cove School is the last standing rural schoolhouse in the town of Bucksport.

Research in the town records has revealed the lengthy debate which took place prior to the school's construction in 1895. As early as 1878 it had been suggested that the schools in districts 6, 8, and 18 should be consolidated in a new building thereby avoiding the need to repair the existing facilities in the separate districts. No action was taken although the subject was apparently raised at each subsequent annual town meeting. In 1890, the town finally agreed to accept the present building site from Reuben Page, but further action continued to be tabled until 1894 when it was agreed that work should begin in the spring of 1895. Sometime thereafter the local builder, Uriah A. Smith, was awarded a \$550 building contract for the school and an additional \$83.52 was spent on other materials. With the addition of an attached shed for toilets in 1926 and a metal ceiling in the classroom the following year, the building remained in use as a school until 1943.

Several one-room Maine schoolhouses have been listed in the Register since the inception of the program in 1966. The majority are gable roofed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

DUCK COVE SCHOOL

Section number 8 Page 3

frame buildings although four are of brick construction (Aurora, Cumberland, Dresden, and Winslow) and two are stone structures (Fryeburg and Georgetown). The earliest is thought to be the mid-eighteenth century schoolhouse in York whereas the most recent one currently listed is the 1908 Greer's Corner School in Belmont. Most of these buildings are very simply detailed. However, the 1795 Alna Schoolhouse features a handsome six-sided belfry on its shallow hip roof and the 1846 Winn Road School in Cumberland has a full pediment on its facade. Within the present group, the Duck Cove School does illustrate a departure in the traditional pattern of design particularly in its use of an engaged porch and vestibule along one side and the resultant absence of windows on this side wall.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

DUCK COVE SCHOOL

Section number 9 Page 2

Coolidge, A. J. and Mansfield, J. B. A History and Description of New England.
Boston: A. J. Coolidge. 1859.

"Duck Cove School House." Undated Narrative History on file at the Maine
Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

Varney, George J. A Gazetteer of the State of Maine. Boston: B. B. Russell.
1881.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

DUCK COVE SCHOOL

Section number 10 **Page** 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies the Town of Bucksport Tax Map 3, Lot 33.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary embraces the entire rural lot historically associated with the Duck Cove School.