

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received **NOV 27 1987**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Saint Mary's General Hospital

and or common

2. Location

street & number 45 Golder Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Lewiston,

N/A vicinity of

state Maine

code ME

county Androscoggin

code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Medical

4. Owner of Property

name Society of Sisters of Charity

street & number 98 Campus Avenue

city, town Lewiston,

vicinity of

state Maine 04240

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Auburn,

state Maine 04210

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

STM-DES
NRN DISC #2

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

Saint Mary's General Hospital is a large three-story L-shaped brick building with sprawling modern additions at the rear. The unusual complex is distinguished by the trio of octagonal towers that dominate the corners of the front and west side elevations between which are two gabled pavilions.

Facing south, the principal elevation consists of a symmetrically composed thirteen-bay hip roofed main block that features a projecting three-story gabled pavilion. This is framed by the towers, the larger of which anchors the southeast corner. This tower consists of a tall basement level that rests on a granite foundation and features a trio of one-over-one double-hung sash windows in four of the eight sides. A wide ashlar granite watercourse separates this from the first story. The basement fenestration pattern is repeated on this story with the addition of a statue of Saint Mary located in a niche on the south side. This niche is flanked by decorative panels. A flat roofed vestibule with Gothic detailing is attached to the west face of the tower where it meets the main block. Each face of the tower's upper section contains long narrow pairs of multi-pane windows with Gothic tracery at mid-level and below the lancet arches. Corbeled hood moldings frame these arches. The bays in this tower are articulated by corbeled pilasters. A curved polygonal roof covered with slate and surmounted by a cross caps the tower and its broad cornice.

The hospital's southeast tower is much more modest in comparison to its larger counterpart. Its narrower bays allow the use of paired one-over-one sash only, and although the long narrow windows are retained on three of the sides, they do not contain the elaborate Gothic tracery or multi-pane configuration. A polygonal roof also caps this tower.

Bridging the distance between the towers is the recessed main block. The focal point of the horizontally composed facade is the gabled pavilion. A wide brick landing that replaces the original flat roofed porch spans the three bays and consists of a centrally located entrance (no longer utilized) framed by narrow sidelights and a broad transom. This is flanked by paired one-over-one double-hung sash. This pattern is repeated on the second story. A broad string course separates the second and third stories. Six drop arched windows joined by corbeled hood moldings punctuate the third story. The gable is further articulated with a decorative date medallion above the windows and finials at the two corners and peak. The recessed walls that flank the pavilion contain five pairs of one-over-one sash in the basement level and four paired units in the first and second stories. The latter flank two-story oriel windows. Five wall dormers with tall hipped roofs are located on the third story. The rear elevation of this principal block is much more modest in its design characteristics. Its four full stories contain paired double-hung sash windows that are virtually symmetrical in placement. A square two-story brick addition is located near the northeast corner and eleven wall dormers punctuate the slate covered roof.

The east side elevation of Saint Mary's features symmetrically composed and recessed eight-bay walls flanking a shallow projecting pavilion. Like its counterpart on the south elevation this pavilion has a gable roof, but it is one bay narrower and retains its original flat roofed porch with Tuscan columns linked by a

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1902 **Builder/Architect** William R. Miller; Fr. Paul Charland

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of Saint Mary's General Hospital lies not only in its unusual architectural statement, but also in its history of social and humanitarian endeavor in the field of medicine. From 1900, when construction was begun under the direction of the Sisters of Charity, until the present, Saint Mary's (still owned and operated by the Sisters) has provided quality medical care to the people of Lewiston and Auburn.

On October 11, 1871, Father Pierre Hevey arrived in Lewiston with the mission of founding a parish for Catholics of French-Canadian origin./1 the parish grew and in six years Father Hevey invited the Sisters of Charity of the Hotel-Dieu of St. Hyacinthe, Province of Quebec, to join him to take charge of the children of the parish. In November of 1878 four "Grey Nuns" arrived; by April of 1879 they had founded a school known as the Asylum of Our Lady of Lourdes. The Sisters gave up the school in 1892 when they opened the Healy Asylum for boys (N.R. 10/1/79).

Meanwhile, the population of the twin cities of Lewiston-Auburn had grown to nearly 30,000 people and, in 1888, there was no hospital or orphanage serving them./2 Prevailed upon by a Dominican pastor and two local doctors, the Sisters of Charity purchased a large house with thirty-six acres of land and created the first Catholic hospital in the State. After an addition had been built, the former Golder house was transformed into a 30-bed hospital, an orphanage for 40 girls, and a home for the Sisters.

By 1900 it was apparent that a new, larger facility was needed. In August of that year construction was begun from plans by the well-known Lewiston architect, William R. Miller, and an amateur architect, Father Paul Charland. Local masons and carpenters were employed at the construction site and work was completed in April of 1902.

William Robinson Miller (1866-1929) was born in Durham, Maine. After attending Bates College, Miller entered MIT./3 Sometime later he became a draftsman in the Lewiston architectural firm of Elmer I. Thomas, a practice he acquired in 1896 after Thomas' death. Miller developed a thriving business, not only in the Lewiston-Auburn area, but throughout the state. Among his numerous commissions for commercial, institutional, public, and residential buildings are the Jordan School (N.R. 3/22/84) and the Auburn Public Library (N.R. 3/22/84). Both the library and Saint Mary's Hospital reveal the flamboyancy that characterizes much of Miller's work. In 1906 Miller took Raymond Mayo into partnership, and the firm remained in Lewiston until 1908 when it relocated to Portland. Lester I. Beal joined the firm in 1926.

Over the years renovations, expansions, and modernizations have been accomplished making Saint Mary's a medical complex of some reputation. Included

9. Major Bibliographical References

Manuscript information on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 6.3

Quadrangle name Lewiston

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	9	4	0	3	9	0	0	4	8	8	3	5	6	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property of 6.3 acres occupies the City of Lewiston, Tax Map 24A, 45 Golder Street.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1987

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

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 *Carl S. Flettwood*

title S.H.P.O. date 11/24/87

For NPS use only

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

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

date 12-30-87

Keeper of the National Register

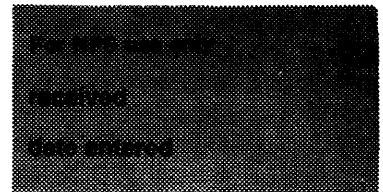
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



SAINT MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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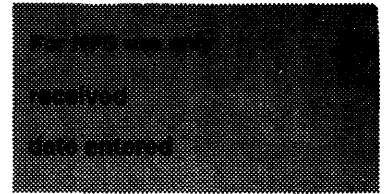
balustrade. The fenestration pattern employs a combination of single and paired one-over-one windows. Unlike the previously described towers, the tower located at the northwest corner of the building has paired windows through each of its four stories with those in the upper half somewhat smaller. It also does not have a dome-shaped polygonal roof; a feature that was never utilized here. The rear elevation of this block is eight bays wide. Paired windows and wall dormers are employed here and a tall brick exterior chimney rises near the intersection of the two wings.

Inside, Saint Mary's is without architectural embellishment. This is a result of both the utilitarian function of the building and subsequent remodelings. Nevertheless, its continuous use as a hospital has left the original floor plan largely intact.

Beginning in 1960 Saint Mary's began to greatly expand its facilities. The first four-story addition was made from the northeast corner of the 1902 building. Further expansion was undertaken during the 1970s.

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SAINT MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL

Continuation sheet

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within its bounds are a school of nursing, and a nursing home, along with the main hospital itself. The 1900-1902 building contains the chapel, three patients' departments (medical-surgical, psychiatry, and chemical dependency), plus various other services housed in its basement. Its period of significance terminates in 1937.

Endnotes

1

Historical background on Saint Mary's Hospital is taken from a number of articles that appeared in hospital publications. Copies of this material are filed at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

2

Maine Register or State Year-Book and Legislative Manual, (Portland: G. M. Donham, 1888), pp. 217, 227.

3

Biographical information on Miller's career is on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.