

PH 365513

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 2 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 21 1976

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

* * Thacher - Goodale House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

121 North Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Saco

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

1st Hon. David Emery

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

York

CODE

031

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

George and Rebecca Love

STREET & NUMBER

121 North Street

CITY, TOWN

Saco

__ VICINITY OF

Maine

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. York County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Alfred

STATE

Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Thacher-Goodale House of 1827-28 in Saco, Maine is an exceptional example of two architectural styles coming together to form one house. While this two-story, gable house has Federal style detail, it distinctly remains as an early example of Greek Revival architecture. Built during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, it shows the details of delicacy and lightness which mark the Federal or Adamesque style, as well as such Greek Revival forms as a temple front. The Greek Revival portico with a large pediment running across the entire front is given an Adamesque airiness by the widely-spaced, attenuated Doric columns which support it.

As was typical of the Federal style, the windows of this house tend to be of narrow proportions, and the front doorway is flanked by side-lights with a semicircular wooden fan above. This house is made even more interesting by its floor plan which has the stairway to the second floor against the right-hand wall. Usually, in both Federal and Greek Revival architecture, the stairway is in the center of the structure to accent the Palladian notion of symmetry in design. To the left of the stairway on the first floor is a double living room extending from the front to the back of the house. Behind the stairs is the dining room, which is attached to the kitchen in the front portion of the ell.

The ell extends through the kitchen to a shed and eventually to the barn. The sleeping quarters are contained in the upstairs portion of the main house, while a separate apartment now occupies the second floor of the ell. The walls of the main house are brick, 1½ feet thick with ceilings 9½ feet high. The ell is frame with much lower ceilings.

In the Federal manner, there is a greater height in proportion to the building's width. This allows enough room for a single window to punctuate the gable's extended pediment on the southerly facade. The rest of the facade has an entry door and two full length windows to its left on the ground floor, and a second tier of three smaller windows above. The west wall of the house has two tiers of four windows, each with a chimney located inside the house after the first and third bays. The north wall is similar but with a large window of small panes looking out from the kitchen. All windows have accompanying shutters, and, except for the two on the facade which extend down to the floor level, each window reaches only as far as the wainscoting. The woodwork, moldings, and mantelpieces have all been carefully maintained. Remodelling of the kitchen took place in 1959.

In its simple but elegant Federal detailing and its pervasive Greek Revival form throughout, the Thacher-Goodale House survives as a transitional piece significant in understanding the progression of early 19th century American architectural styles.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" 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 1827-28

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This fine brick Greek Revival temple style house was built by George Thacher, Jr., in 1827-27. The son of Judge George Thacher, the District of Maine's first Congressman (1789-1801) and a Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, he was also a lawyer but evidently of considerably less distinction. After selling the property in 1834, he repurchased it in 1836 and within two months sold it again to Samuel Hopkins. (One can gather from these transactions that Thacher was either in financial difficulties or engaged in involved business deals). Hopkins, in turn sold the house in 1841 to Stephen L. Goodale in whose family it remained until 1925.

Stephen Goodale and his son George Lincoln Goodale were both men of exceptional abilities and careers, whose ownership and occupation of the house render it worthy of historic recognition.

Stephen L. Goodale was a man of energy and rare ability. A trained chemist, a botanist, an enthusiastic horticulturist, a careful experimenter, a successful businessman, and an articulate writer, he became in 1856, at the prime of his life, Secretary of the Maine Board of Agriculture. His seventeen annual reports, 1856-72 inclusive, were crammed with honest, accurate information on a great variety of subjects from pomology to farm management. The first report, a survey of Maine agriculture, was so popular with farmers that it required a second printing, almost unheard of with government reports. In 1860 he published a treatise on animal breeding which was a standard for many years and used widely as a college textbook. The leadership which he provided for Maine agricultural development was second only to that of the great Dr. Ezekiel Holmes and his annual reports, used as models in many other states, form a fitting and detailed monument to his ability, zeal, and long and faithful service.

His son, George Lincoln Goodale, grew up in an atmosphere charged with intellectual interests and a tradition of endeavor in the field of applied science. Receiving his A.B. from Amherst in 1856, he remained there a year as instructor in chemistry. He then entered Harvard Medical School where in 1863, he took his M.D. with distinction, being awarded the same degree the same year from Bowdoin College.

After practicing medicine for a few years as well as travelling for his health, he was in 1868 appointed to the Josiah Little professorship of natural science at Bowdoin. In 1872 he was called to Harvard as (see continuation sheet)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Academy of Science, Vol XXI, Sixth Memoir, 1924
 Agriculture of Maine, 40th Annual Report, 1897
 Luce G. Carll, Early promoters of Maine Agriculture
 Clarence A. Day, A History of Maine Agriculture, Orono, 1954
 Harvard Magazine, March, 1976

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	9
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3	8	3	1	4	0
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4	8	1	7	4	8	0
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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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
Stephen Kaplan, Graduate Assistant
 ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE July, 1976
 STREET & NUMBER 31 Western Avenue TELEPHONE 207-289-2133
 CITY OR TOWN Augusta STATE Maine

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 Earle S. Shettleworth, Jr. DATE July 26, 1976

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE July 26, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 11/21/86

ATTEST: [Signature] DATE 10/15/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER Acting

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

university lecturer and instructor in botany, a field in which he had long conducted extensive independent study. In 1878 he was appointed to a full professorship.

While at Harvard he achieved great popularity as a lecturer in an era when this art was perhaps at its height as practised by the likes of William James and Charles Eliot Norton as well as Shaler, Farlow, Palmer and Royce. In 1879 he consented, at the request of Dr. Asa Gray, to become director of the Harvard Botanic Garden. This task was particularly difficult since the garden was unendowed and expenses constantly increasing. Nevertheless, under his leadership the garden was expanded and improved, the staff enlarged, and an endowment begun.

Gradually Dr. Goodale devoted less time to teaching and more to research and publishing. In addition he was peculiarly gifted in the art of fund raising. His largest single undertaking was the building of a botanical section for the university museum. The project was carried through in an amazingly short period of time and the building was completed in 1890.

He next turned his attention to the assembling of exhibits and in this regard is perhaps better remembered than for all his other significant accomplishments. While seeking solutions to the problem of preparing lifelike plant exhibits he became acquainted with the work of Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka, glass workers of Meissen, Germany. The Blaschkas had already reproduced in glass some exceptionally lifelike models of marine invertebrates. Eventually business details were arranged and a long term contract was agreed upon for the supply of models of plant structures in glass. Thus was assembled the unique collection of "glass flowers" which has never been successfully imitated and is still one of the popular "sights" for visitors to Harvard University.

In 1909, after many honors, Dr. Goodale resigned his position and was appointed by the president and fellows Fisher professor emeritus and honorary curator of the botanical museum. His death in 1923 ended a career of distinguished scholarship and scientific productivity.