UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 3 0 1975

DATE ENTERED

JAN 1 1976

SEE INS		TO COMPLETE NATIONA COMPLETE APPLICABLE		S
NAME	TTPE ALL ENTRIES	COMPLETE APPLICABLE	SECTIONS	
LAVIATE				
HISTORIC	Weren Herre			
AND/OR COMMON	Town House			
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION				···
STREET & NUMBER				
Rte 13	33		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	RICT
Wayne		VICINITY OF	1st. Hor	n. David Emer
STATE		CODE		
Maine		23	Kennebec	011
CLASSIFICA	TION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS PRESENT US		ENT USE
DISTRICT	_XPUBLIC	X.OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
_XBUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	_XGOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
-	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF I				
STREET & NUMBER	Town of Wayne			
STREET & NOTABLE				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	***
	Wayne	VICINITY OF		Maine
LOCATION (OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION		
COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS ETC	. Vanach as Country	Designation of Design		
STREET & NUMBER	Kennebec County	Registry of Deeds		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
STREET & NOWIDER	Chata Chasat			
CITY, TOWN	State Street		STATE	
	Augusta,			Maine
PEDDESENT	ATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
l	ATION IN LAID!	INGUCKTLIU		
TITLE				
DATE				
<u></u>		FEDERALST	ATECOUNTYLOCAL	-
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

X_UNALTERED __ALTERED X_ORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED

__€00D __FAIR __RUINS __UNEXPOSED

DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Wayne's 1840 Town House is a representative example of a public building type popular in rural Maine during the first half of the nineteenth century. Although several communities have retained their town houses, few of these structures have survived in as original condition as Wayne's.

The Wayne Town House reflects Greek Revival architecture in its simplest form. The building is rectangular in shape with one of its gable ends serving as the facade. It is a one and a half story frame structure with a granite foundation and a clapboarded exterior.

The facade or south wall is symmetrically designed with a first story central doorway flanked on either side by a window. The door is enframed with broad, flat Greek Revival molding displaying the corner block motif at the top. Directly above the doorway hangs a sign which reads "Wayne Town House 1840." Over the sign is located a half story window. The three facade windows are composed of twelve-over-eight sash. With Greek Revival sash usually having six-over-six panes, these smaller paned sash represent a holdover feature from the previous Federal period.

The side or east and west walls each contain three symmetrically placed windows with twelve-over-eight sash. The rear or north wall has one twelve-over-eight window and a twentieth century door.

The interior of the Wayne Town House is comprised of an open meeting room. A large floor space in the center is flanked on the east and west walls by original plank benches which are placed in a graduated elevation from the floor like modern bleachers. While the bench arrangement has survived, practicality has dictated the replacement of oil lamps with electricity and a wood burning stove with an oil heater. In addition, the plaster walls and ceiling have been covered with wall board and matched boarding.

The simplicity of the Wayne Town House design has allowed the building to adapt to changing needs over the last one hundred and thirty-five years. In doing so, this initially utilitarian structure has become an object of historical interest and pride for its community.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION		
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE		
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE		
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER		
ൂ_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	_xPOLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)		
A CONTRACTOR OF A LINVENTION						

SPECIFIC DATES

1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Peter Fifield

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The town house in Wayne, Maine is significant in two respects. Firstly, although several town houses of the period still exist, the one at Wayne is among the earliest. Secondly, it is the only one remaining in the State where not only are the benches for men and women (who originally could not vote) on opposite sides facing each other on sloping floor but where the segregation of sexes at town meeting time is still observed for tradition's sake.

For forty-two years prior to the erection of this building annual and other business meetings of the town of Wayne were held in private buildings, school houses or the Methodist Church. In 1839 the inhabitants of the town voted to build a town house and in 1840 specified that the foundations should be made three feet thick.

The year in which the town house was built, its cost and the name of the builder are indicated by the following simple receipt:

Wayne, Sept. 14, 1840

"Rec'd of the inhabitants of the town of Wayne, three hundred and fifty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents, in full for building the town house in said town the present season.

Peter Fifield"

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

G. W. Walton, History of Wayne, Augusta, 1898

Jack Perkins, Illustrated History of Wayne, Maine, Wayne 1968

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LIST ALL STAT	ES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPER	RTIES OVERLÁPPING ST	ATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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ORGANIZATION	ank A. Beard, Historic	: Preservationist	DATE
	ine Historic Preservat	ion Commission	October 1975
STREET & NUMBER	THE HIS IVITY I LESELVAL	100 0000133100	TELEPHONE
	Western Avenue		207-289-2133
CITY OR TOWN			STATE
	gusta,		Maine
12 STATE HISTO	ORIC PRESERVATIO	ON OFFICER CE	ERTIFICATION
TI	HE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE O	F THIS PROPERTY WITH	IIN THE STATE IS:
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	et forth by the National Park Sérvic	-	it has been evaluated according to the
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FEDERAL REPRESENTATI	VESIGNATURE ALLE	in willett	<u> </u>
TITLE Sta	te Historic Preservati	on Officer	DATE 10/28/75
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY TH	IAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDE	IN HE NATIONAL REG	GISTER
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DIRECTOR OFFICE O	AND AISTORIC	RESERVATION	DATE 12/21/25
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