

PH 0508560

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED NOV 1 1977
DATE ENTERED MAR 29 1978

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

Claremont Hotel

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Claremont Road

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Southwest Harbor VICINITY OF

2nd-Hon. William Cohen

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Maine

023

Hancock

009

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Allen McCue

STREET & NUMBER

24 South Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Yarmouth

VICINITY OF

Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hancock County Registry of Deeds, Ellsworth, Maine

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Claremont Hotel of Southwest Harbor was built in 1883 by a Mr. Glover of Rockland for Captain and Mrs. Jesse Pease. It was one of the first large Victorian resort hotels on Mount Desert Island and it is one of the last surviving examples of its type.

The hotel a 3½-story frame building, is rectangular in plan, with stone foundation and white clapboard siding. The roof is hipped with a cross gable. There is a pair of external chimneys on each end of the building.

The facade, which faces west, is 7 bays wide. All windows in the building are 2/2 (except where otherwise noted) and most are flanked by black louvered shutters. A simple porte-cochere with gabled roof provides access to the main entrance, which is sited near the south end of the facade. The entrance consists of double doors, each of which contain a single window. The half story features a gabled dormer window to each side of the cross gable and a pair of windows in the gable itself.

The north and south ends of the hotel are 3 bays wide. In the center of the south end is a clapboarded elevator shaft which was attached to the building subsequent to its original construction.

The east side of the building faces the water and is equivalent to the facade with several exceptions. There is a third dormer in the half story which has a shed roof; there are two 3-story gabled projections present, representing a pair of later bathrooms for each of three floors; and there is a nearby central secondary entrance with single door.

From the porte-cochere on the facade around the south end of the building and across the entire east wall is a 1-story porch with details in Stick Style; on the east side it is enclosed from the east doorway northward.

Extending from the northeast corner to the eastward is a 2½-story ell with basement and a Mansard roof. This structure is not a part of the original building, and in fact is part of the 1878 "Pemetfc", another early hotel of the area, which was moved to this location in 1911. It is planned to demolish this wing in the very near future, which will return the hotel to its original Victorian appearance.

The setting of the hotel is remarkably unchanged from its original environment with spacious grounds, including a broad expanse of lawn leading down to a small boat-house and pier. Interior alterations for the periodic modernization of the building have been kept to a minimum. In sum, the Claremont Hotel is a very well preserved example of a nearly extinct building type: the Victorian resort hotel.

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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Recreation
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES **1883**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT **Glover of Rockland**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Claremont Hotel stands as one of the last reminders of Maine's early summer resort period of the 1870's and 80's. In an era still unaffected by the rush and bustle of modern transportation and tourism, areas such as Mount Desert became summer meccas for those with sufficient means to leave the sweltering cities. Arriving by train with numerous trunks and other baggage, families would spend the entire summer ensconced in the comforts of luxurious hotels like the Claremont. Each such establishment became for a season a kind of community unto itself, a "home away from home" with quiet pastimes like picnicking, fishing, hiking and occasional excursions taking up the passing days.

Captain Jesse Pease retired from the sea in 1883. For many years he had sailed his ship "The Caroline Grey" to distant ports. But in that year he hired a contractor from Rockland named Glover to build a hotel on Mount Desert Island, and he and his wife became its proprietors. The Claremont opened for business in the summer of 1884, and had 146 signatures on the register by the end of the tourist season. Captain Pease ran the hotel until his death in 1900. Mrs. Pease continued as the manager of the Claremont until 1917, although she sold the hotel to Dr. Joseph D. Phillips in 1908. Dr. Phillips continued his practice of medicine, founded the Southwest Harbor Water Company which brought pure water to the town, served as Representative and Senator in the State Legislature, and was chosen a presidential elector in 1928. Expansion being necessary in 1911, the Pemetic (also nicknamed the Castle) was moved over the hill and became a wing of the Claremont. Built by Deacon Henry Clark, Mrs. Pease's uncle, in 1878, the Pemetic had originally been an addition to Clark's Island House Hotel, the first hotel on Mount Desert Island. After the death of Mrs. Pease in 1917, Dr. Phillips, and then his son Lawrence, ran the Claremont Hotel until it was sold to Mrs. Allen McCue in 1971.

Overlooking Somes Sound and what is now Acadia National Park, the Claremont is significant on its own merits, and as a reminder of a prosperous, relaxed and seasonal way of life that no longer exists.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Claremont - My Story, 1884 - 1964, privately printed pamphlet

Article in Down East Magazine, June, 1960, p. 50

Ellsworth American, July 19, 1973

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 215.

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	9
ZONE	

5	5	4	8	4	0
EASTING					

4	9	0	2	8	6	0
NORTHING						

B

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 Kristen Stred, Intern
Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE October, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street

TELEPHONE 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 *Carole S. Fletcher*

TITLE S. H. P. O.

DATE October 27, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION <u><i>W. Minter</i></u>	DATE <u>3-29-78</u> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <u><i>Carole S. Fletcher</i></u> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>3-16-78</u>