

PH0501921

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 4 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 20 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

**

Holman Day House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2 Goff Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Auburn

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

2nd Hon. William Cohen

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Androscoggin

CODE

001

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

X YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

X OTHER: Profession

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. Thomas B. Johnson, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

Box 89, RFD #1

CITY, TOWN

Poland Spring

STATE

Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Auburn

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 Holman F. Day House of Auburn is unquestionably one of the finest Queen Anne Style wooden residences in the State of Maine. This is so not only in terms of the quality of its construction, but also in the high degree of its detail.

The house is basically rectangular in plan with an attached carriagehouse at the rear. Most of the building contains two and a half stories; but the tower has three stories, while the rear ell linking the main part of the house to the carriagehouse consists of two stories. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles; the walls are sided with wooden clapboards; the foundation is of granite.

The principal facade faces east and has two and a half stories. This elevation is dominated by a three-story circular tower with conical roof left side. There are three windows in each story of the tower; these are one-over-one double-hung sash in the first and second stories and multi-paned double-hung sash in the third story. There are plain panels between the first and second stories and swag panels above the third-story windows. A one-story porch covers the entire facade and wraps around the base of the tower. This porch is extremely ornate with balustraded railing, turned and carved posts, delicate treillage, and elaborate decorated entablature. To the right, corresponding with the main entrance to the house, there is an ornate pediment with boxed cornice and returns.

As noted above, the main entrance to the Holman Day House is to the right side of the principle facade. This consists of double panelled doors, one wider than the other, within a frame of plain molding and below a blind transom panel. A single one-over-one window is located to the left of this doorway between the entrance and the tower. Like all of the windows in the house (excepting those in the half story), this has a simple molded frame capped by an ornate entablatured lintel with dentils. The second story contains three such windows, one to the left and a pair of slightly smaller ones to the right, over the entrance. The pedimented half story contains a group of three rectangular windows, the central one being one-over-one double sash and the others, smaller, being single sash.

The south elevation of the main part of the house features a two and a half story gabled extension with bay windows in the first and second stories. These bay windows are one-over-one, except for the central window in the first story which is a large square picture window. An octagonal window occupies the pedimented half story. Between this projecting bay and the tower to its right is a single one-over-one window in each of the two stories.

To the left (west) of the projecting bay is a two-story ell which leads to the carriagehouse. This ell, like the principal facade, has a one-story porch with detailing comparable to that on the east elevation. The south elevation of this ell has three one-over-one windows in the first story and two above.

The one and a half story carriagehouse is fully as ornate as the residential parts of the house. Its main facade faces south and has a large panelled barn door and one-over-one window in its first story. Above the barn door is a smaller rectangular panelled door. A circular blind window occupies the gable end above the first-and second-story doors.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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	1895	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Amos Gerald, Builder George M. Coombs, Architect
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE


In addition to its value as an outstanding example of the Queen Anne Style, the Holman Day House is rich in its association with this famous Maine author, Remembered for their colorful Maine characters and accurate depiction of Maine customs and life, the works of Holman F. Day are an important part of the literary heritage of Maine.

Born in 1865 in Vassalboro, Maine, Day long served as a newspaper correspondent and editor in the state. He started by publishing the Weekly Vassalboro News for 2 years while still in high school. Upon graduation from Colby College in 1887, he worked for the Fairfield Journal, was managing editor of the Union Publishing Company of Bangor which printed 17 weeklies, and then became owner and editor of the Dexter Gazette. By merging with two of his competitors, using his father-in-law's capital, Day established the Eastern Gazette, a journal still published today. He left the Gazette when hired by the Lewiston Journal to cover the Maine Legislature.

In 1898, still reporting for the Journal, and also filing special articles with the Boston Herald and Globe, and the New York Tribune, Day began writing a daily column of poetry. Called "Up in Maine," this column was carried by newspapers across the country for 6 years. These poems were collected as Day's first book, also entitled Up in Maine. Two more books of catchy verse were printed in the next 4 years, and the three entertained more than 30,000 readers.

While in the Lewiston area for the 17 years of his Journal career, Day was married to Helen Rowell Gerald, whose father built them the house on Goff Street. It was into this house that Day retreated from journalistic pressures to write first his poetry, and then his prose. He wrote at least 18 novels in his lifetime, his first Squire Plum, was also made into a play. His most famous novel was King Spruce, which became a prototype for books about Maine lumbering. This book firmly established Day's reputation as a novelist, and delighted President Theodore Roosevelt so much that he invited Day to the White House. The formula Day employed in these early volumes of poetry and fiction continued to be a success in later works. He had an eye for unusual Maine characters, and an ear for their unique dialect. He then wove stories around the personalities and exploits of the woodsmen and seafarers he had observed and with whose ways he was familiar.

Day's interest was soon directed to the infant motion-picture industry. Beginning in 1918, he and his associates made two-reel pictures in Augusta, often dramatizations of his own stories. Day then moved to the west coast to become a scenario writer for the Hollywood film community, while he continued to write novels. Later, he also went into radio broadcasting as "The Old Salt", a portrayal of a Maine deep-sea fisherman.

Holman Francis Day died in Mill Valley, California in 1935. 

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Life and Work of Holman Francis Day, unpublished Master's thesis by Ivan C. Sherman, University of Maine, 1942.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 401330 4883325 B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C D

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 Kristin Stred, Student Assistant
 Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE

6/77

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

Earle S. Greenwood Jr.

TITLE S.H.P.O.

DATE

July 27, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Wm. M. ...
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE *1-20-78*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Charles ...*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE *1-17-78*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The north elevation is comparable to the south elevation.

Two internal brick chimneys are present, one in the center of the main part of the house, one between the main part of the house and the ell.

Throughout the exterior of the house detail is rich. The cornice is consistently very ornate with denticulation and a frieze consisting of carved floral motifs in miniature square panels. This cornice detailing is repeated in slightly reduced scale over every door and window.

At The corners of the building and at the junctions of the building with its tower and the projecting bays, Ionic pilasters are present.

The interior of the house is similarly of high style, with the carved oak woodwork typical of the period. Particularly representative of this is the newel post at the bottom of the front hall stairway.

The Holman F. Day House is a remarkable Queen Anne style house. Even if it were to have no historical associations of note (see section 8 for this), it would still be an eminent candidate of its type for the National Register.