

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

For NPS use only

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

received **AUG 13 1985**

date entered **SEP 12 1985**

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

1. Name

historic George Seaverns House

and or common

2. Location

street & number 8 High Street N/A not for publication

city, town Mechanic Falls N/A vicinity of

state Maine 04256 code 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lynell Powers

street & number 8 High Street

city, town Mechanic Falls _____ vicinity of state Maine 04256

5. 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 N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Seaverns House is located on a block-long residential street with hilly terrain that rises above the village center. The rectangular structure fronts High Street and is constructed into the side of a hill with the land sloping away toward the central business district on the north and west sides. To the east and south are nineteenth century residential buildings on both sides of High Street.

Constructed of wood in the Gothic Revival style, the Seaverns House has a gable roof and clapboard siding. The one-and-one-half story building gains an additional story on the north and west sides where the brick foundation walls are exposed above grade. The principal (west) elevation has three porches and a two story bay window. The porches consist of balustrades and chamfered posts linked by ogee-shaped brackets. Decorative cresting caps the first story bay window. The two gable ends on this elevation, as well as the one for the High Street facade, feature decorative vergeboard.

The east elevation has a square bay window and an octagonal ventilator is located on top of the attached carriage barn, which extends from the north end of the house. All of the windows are square headed with six over six double hung sash and most are ornamented with Gothic hood moldings. The interior of the house has been little altered, although these period moldings are quite simple in profile.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 1853 **Builder/Architect** GEORGE W. SEAVERNS

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George W. Seaverns House is architecturally significant as an unusual example of Gothic Revival cottage design. Constructed in an asymmetrical plan and built into the side of a hill, the house exhibits picturesque styling characteristic of the period. Decorative vergeboard, hood moldings and ogee-shaped brackets are hallmarks of the style. As originally built, the long west elevation, with its porches and bay windows, presented an uninterrupted view down the hill toward Elm Street, one of the main thoroughfares into the village. This asymmetry is continued in the plan, which departs from standard central hall plans which were typical in Maine throughout the nineteenth century.

Although little information has come to light concerning the first two owners of the house, it is known that they were associated with the important paper industry in Mechanic Falls. George W. Seaverns, who built the house in the summer of 1853, is listed in an 1858 directory as a "paper worker." Charles E. Stevens, who acquired the property in 1869, was known to have served as president of the Mechanic Falls Manufacturing Co.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Registry of Deeds, Androscoggin and Cumberland County Courthouses.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

Quadrangle name Mechanic Falls

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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

B

Zone	Easting			Northing										

C

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D

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 13, Block 14, Lot 13

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 Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone (207) 289-2133

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 *E. S. Feltz*

title J.H.P.O. date 8/5/85

For NPS use only

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

J. Alonzo Byers date 9/12/85
Keeper of the National Register
Entered in the National Register

Attest: _____ date

Chief of Registration