

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUL 27 1979
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**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

Dr. J. W. Ellis House

AND/OR COMMON

Maine Democratic State Committee Headquarters

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

62 State Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Augusta

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maine

CODE

023

COUNTY

Kennebec

CODE

011

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: Political

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Maine Democratic State Committee

STREET & NUMBER

62 State Street

CITY, TOWN

Augusta,

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maine 04330

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kennebec County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Augusta,

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 type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 Dr. Ellis House of Augusta is a distinctive and stylish example of the late Greek Revival style, and dates from c.1855.

The house is of frame construction with two internal brick chimneys, gabled roof, clapboard siding, and quarried granite foundation. Trim is typical of the period, featuring wide entablature below the cornice, boxed returns, and fluted corner pilasters. Fenestration is 6/6 throughout the building.

The facade, which faces east, is three bays wide with a central entrance. The entrance consists of a recessed doorway containing a panelled door flanked by sidelights. The entrance is enframed by an entablatured lintel and fluted pilasters. Above the lintel is the most distinctive detail in the building's trim. Here is an ornate and slightly projecting panel of carved wood which carries in relief a wreath and stemmed flowers. This decorative element is echoed in form (though not in detail) above the window lintels.

A two-story ell of frame construction with gable roof extends from the rear of the house. This is devoid of decorative detail.

Internally, the Dr. Ellis House features woodwork of its period, with entablatured lintels over doors and windows. The central hall is fitted with a graceful curving staircase. Some alteration has taken place in converting the interior spaces for office use, but much of the Greek Revival flavor remains.

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 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

c.1855

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The first house on this property, at least a part of which may form the ell of the present dwelling, was built in 1803 by Lot Hamlen, a clerk, glazier and surveyer of lumber. Except for some interior woodwork, however, there is little evidence of the nature of this earlier structure.

In 1855 the property was purchased by Dr. Joseph Willard Ellis, who served as City Physician from 1850 to 1856 and then for many years in private practice. He was named for Joseph Willard, President of Harvard College where both he and his father obtained medical degrees.

Shortly after the purchase Dr. Ellis erected the main part of the present house, a formal and decorative example of the Greek Revival. It is without question the finest example of this particular version of the style in the city. Both the interior and exterior reflect an attention to detail, proportion and scale which suggests the work of an accomplished architect. Regrettably no record of its designer has been found.

Of particular note, of course, is the unusual decorative panel above the front door, a feature which has become something of a local landmark. The entire doorway is, in fact, a masterpiece of stylistic arrangement and design.

The building continued to serve as a private residence until 1970 when it was purchased by the Maine Democratic State Committee.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beck, Joseph T., Historical Notes on Augusta, Maine. Farmington, 1962.

North, J. W., History of Augusta. Augusta, 1870.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

QUADRANGLE NAME Augusta

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 | 438010 | 4907170
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] | [] | []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [] | [] | []

D [] | [] | []

E [] | [] | []

F [] | [] | []

G [] | [] | []

H [] | [] | []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Assessor's Map #34, Lot #163

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/Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE

July, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

242 State Street

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

Carol S. Stull

TITLE

S.H.P.O.

DATE

July 16, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles W. Atkinson
 SUPERVISOR OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8-15-79

ATTEST: *Carol Stull*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 8-15-79