

P110677 101

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

1. NAME

COMMON:
Portland School of Fine and Applied Art

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Charles Q. Clapp House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
97 Spring Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Portland 04101 1st District Hon. Peter N. Kyros

STATE Maine	CODE 23	COUNTY: Cumberland	CODE 005
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

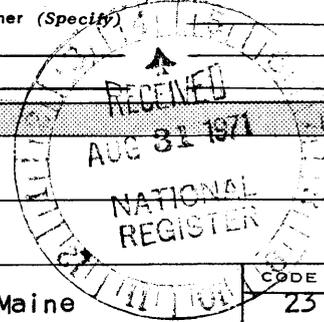
OWNER'S NAME:
Portland Society of Art

STREET AND NUMBER:
111 High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Portland

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Registry of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
142 Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Portland

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey, Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc, Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1965, 1969** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
**1st Street and Independence Avenue
35 Pleasant Street**

CITY OR TOWN:
**Washington
Portland**

STATE:
**District of
Columbia Maine**

CODE:
**11
23**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Maine**

COUNTY: **Cumberland**

ENTRY NUMBER: **FEB 23 1972**

DATE: **FEB 23 1972**

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Charles Q. Clapp House of 1832 is an early and important statement of Greek Revival architecture in Maine. The overall shape of the house is rectangular. It has a granite foundation, a basement story and two full stories of brick, and a gable roof of wood. The basement story is above ground on the sides and the back, the front having an embankment and two stairways. The basement is accessible by a door on the left side, and all three sides have windows of varying sizes. The facade is an unusual variation of the Greek Revival interpretation of a Grecian temple front. Instead of having a colonnade across the facade, there is a central bay flanked by Ionic pilasters and the Ionic corner columns of the side porticos. The center of the bay is recessed. It contains an elongated window with nine over nine panes on the first story and a handsome triple window on the second story which is decorated with fine carvings and mouldings. Above the triple window is a chaste, unornamented frieze which runs along all four sides of the house. Cornice mouldings outline a triangular pediment on the front of the gable roof. The pediment is covered with matched boarding, and there is evidence of a window having been in the center of it at one time. Above the peak and the corners of the pediment are small, flat pedestals upon which carved wooden urns stood well into the twentieth century. The side porticos are each approached by a granite staircase. Between the two staircases is an embankment fronted by a handsome granite fence in the Greek Revival block pattern. The right stairway is closed off by an iron gate, because it leads only to an elongated window. Both side porticos have the corner Ionic column and two regular ones, all of wood. The floors of the porticos are covered with colored, geometrically shaped tiles. The main entrance to the house is at the end of the left side portico. The doorway design consists of a large paneled door with a clear leaded glass light above it. These are enframed by a simple wooden moulding with corner blocks at the top. Above this is a plain granite lintel. The door itself has recently been put in storage and replaced by a non-descript modern one. The overall doorway design was probably based upon figure one in plate seventy-two of Edward Shaw's Civil Architecture first published in Boston in 1830. The rear corners of the side porticos and of the house itself have simple brick pilasters with bases and caps of Doric moulding. There are three brick chimneys, one near the right front and the other two near the left and right back corners. Besides the removal of the urns and the original door, large windows have been placed in a section of the rear wall of the Clapp House to light some of the art school's studios. The interior has also experienced some change to accommodate the art school. On each floor some smaller rooms have become one large studio.

However, the hallway, winding staircase, and many of the rooms have remained unaltered. The interior is rich with sophisticated and finely executed Greek Revival features. Various details reflect a knowledge of the previously mentioned design book Civil Architecture by Edward Shaw as well as The Practical House Carpenter by Asher Benjamin (Boston, 1830) and other, as yet unidentified, sources. The front parlor on the first floor has a doorway moulding ornamented with a shell and rosettes. The side panels of the winding staircase are decorated with the Greek key motif. On the second floor is a remarkable circular room with a domed skylight above it. Surviving evidence points to there having been a circular opening in the center of this room.

SEE INSTRUCTION

5. SIGNIFICANCE

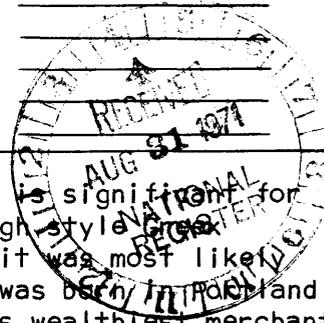
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1832

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban-Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Charles Q. Clapp House on Spring Street in Portland is significant for several reasons. It is one of the earliest and most high style Revival domestic dwellings in Maine. Erected in 1832, it was most likely designed by its first owner, Charles Quincy Clapp. He was born in Portland in 1799 and was the son of Asa Clapp, one of the state's wealthiest merchants in the first half of the nineteenth century. The younger Clapp received a liberal and commercial education and began to follow the mercantile pursuits of his father. He soon abandoned this field in favor of purchasing and improving Portland real estate, often with structures of his own design. There is evidence of his architectural knowledge before the building of his house. Between 1821 and 1828, Clapp is believed to have lowered the first story front windows of the present Sweet Mansion and Cumberland Club to make those Federal Style fashionable. He designed and erected a one story Federal Style business block at Congress and Free Streets in 1826, the first story of which is now part of the Hay Building there. In 1831 he delivered a lecture on architecture to the Maine Charitable Mechanics Association. A year later the City of Portland called upon Clapp to transform its Federal Period market house into a Greek Revival city hall. Thus, it is safe to assume that in that year, 1832, Clapp was also planning and overseeing the construction of his own home. Details such as the main doorway and carvings on the staircase suggest that he turned to popular guides like Edward Shaw's Civil Architecture (Boston, 1830) and Asher Benjamin's The Practical House Carpenter (Boston, 1830). Yet the usual overall design, both exterior and interior, attests to Clapp's personal creative genius in working with the Greek Revival style. The house was well-received by Portland residents and visitors alike. Thirteen year old Samuel Longfellow, younger brother of the poet, wrote in his diary on January 2, 1833, that he "went to Mr. Clapp's house in Spring Str. It is a very handsome house inside. The doors (below) are of mahogany with glass handles, and three of the fireplaces are of handsome marble."

Later that year on August 2, the Portland Advertiser published the remarks of an anonymous writer who commented that the house "presents a beautiful appearance. If situated at the termination of a wooded avenue, and surrounded by ornamental trees, it would be equal in point of beauty, to any mansion I know of in New England." Charles Q. Clapp sold his residence in 1837. He continued to play an important role in the development of Portland, designing and erecting new buildings and filling in part of Back Bay. By the time of his death in 1868, he had been associated with more than six hundred recorded property transactions. In 1863 Augustus E. Stevens, an iron dealer, purchased the house. Stevens, was elected mayor of portland

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Federal Writers' Program, Portland City Guide, Portland, 1940, pp.237-38.
2. Longfellow, Samuel, Diary from January 1 to March 26, 1833, unpublished manuscript in the collection of the Craige-Longfellow House, Cambridge, Mass.
3. Portland Advertiser, August 1, 1833.
4. Shettleworth, Earle G. Jr., The Architecture of Portland, Maine 1830 to 1870, pp. 41-42, unpublished undergraduate theses in Colby College Library.
5. Shettleworth, Earle G. Jr., "Greek Revival Style Survives Here in Art School, Funeral Home", Portland Evening Express, August 14, 1965, p.16.

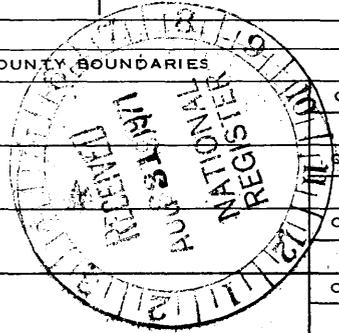
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		43 ° 39 ' 13 "	70 ° 15 ' 45 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



19/398230/4833980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Earle G. Shettleworth Jr., Advisory Trustee

ORGANIZATION: **Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.** DATE: **July 16, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
35 Pleasant Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Lawrence Stuart
Lawrence Stuart

Title: Director

Date: Aug 23 1971

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

Ernest A. Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 23 1972

Date: _____

ATTEST:

W Bradford
Keeper of The National Register

Date: Jan 12, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maine	
COUNTY Cumberland	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

FEB 23 1972

(Number all entries)

Continuation of description. #7

which went to the first floor and was surrounded by a balustrade. Throughout the house, there are handsome doorway mouldings and doors with original hardware. Most of the Greek Revival fireplace mantels remain intact. Thus, the Charles Q. Clapp House preserves much that is original on both its exterior and its interior.

Continuation of significance #8

in 1866. Under his administration, the Great Fire struck, leaving ten thousand people homeless and causing twelve million dollars worth of damage. Upon Stevens' shoulders lay much of the responsibility of directing relief for the victims and planning the rebuilding of the city. Funds saved from banks were stored at Stevens' home, and many important meetings were probably held there, the city hall having been destroyed in the fire. In 1867 Stevens was re-elected as mayor. He died in 1883, and his widow kept the house until her death in 1893. Their son, Samuel A. Stevens, lived there until 1897 when he sold the property to Charles Bickford, a milliner. It was acquired from Bickford's widow in 1914 by the present owner, the Portland Society of Art. After minor alterations by John Calvin Stevens I of Portland (1855-1940), Maine's foremost Colonial Revival architect, the Clapp House became the Portland School of Fine and Applied Art. It is still actively used in this capacity today.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 28 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Portland School of Fine and Applied Art			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Charles Q. Clapp House			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
97 Spring Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Portland 04101 1st District, Hon. Peter N. Kyros			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	25	Cumberland	005
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. Portland West Quadrangle 07 1/2 series			
SCALE:	1:24000		
DATE:	1956		
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

