

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 James Montgomery Flagg House
and/or common

2. Location

street & number St. Martin's Lane not for publication
city, town Biddeford vicinity of congressional district Second
state Maine code 23 county York code 031

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input 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 checked="" 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 Mr. and Mrs. William Ittman
street & number 7 Melville Lane
city, town Cincinnati, vicinity of state Ohio 45208

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. York County Registry of Deeds
street & number
city, town Alfred, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? 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 James Montgomery Flagg House of Biddeford, built in 1910, is a well-constructed dwelling in the bungalow style. It is in excellent condition and completely unaltered. The house is of frame construction, with 1½ stories, gabled roof, two brick chimneys, stucco finish, and field-stone foundation. Fenestration throughout is 6/6.

The principal facade faces south, away from the ocean, and is seven bays long with a central entrance. The entrance is covered by a gabled rise in the roof. In the facade half-story are two shed-roofed dormers, each of which contains four 6/6 windows. The east and west ends of the building are two bays wide.

The secondary facade faces north to the sea. Here again is a central entrance. In the half-story is one long shed-roofed (or "dust-pan") dormer containing ten 6/6 windows.

The east and west ends of the house are fitted with one-story wings. Each wing is enclosed on its end facing south, and is open as a porch facing north.

Of special note is the fact that the interior walls of the first floor occasional rooms are decorated with land and seascape murals painted by Flagg.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 1910

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built at his direction in 1910, this superbly sited cottage on the north shore of Biddeford Pool, was the summer retreat for thirty years of the colorful and prolific illustrator, James Montgomery Flagg (1877-1960). Though sold by him in 1940, it retains his presence through the extensive first floor murals done by him of the local landscape and the sea views.

Flagg was a friendly and popular man much in demand as a public speaker because of his forthright views on a number of subjects. He lived with gusto and seemed to epitomize the handsome bohemian artist, surrounded by beautiful models, dashing off pictures with sheer exuberance of talent. The image was very nearly true in Flagg's case. He worked rapidly and easily in all media and with any subject matter. Humor and satire were his special forte. His quick portrait studies and incisive caricatures were prized by many prominent sitters. His illustrations appeared with regularity for a period of over thirty years in such magazines as Judge, Life and Saint Nicholas. Flagg was also a respected painter of serious portraits whose work was shown at the Paris salon of 1900, the National Academy of Design and the New York Water Color Club.

Probably his best known illustration was the famous "I Want You" Uncle Sam recruiting poster, over four million copies of which were printed and distributed throughout the country. Using himself as a model, Flagg created a new image for this national symbol, changing him from a gangling, humorous, star-spangled figure into a forceful, rather handsome, dignified man with only four stars on his hat.

His summer house at Biddeford Pool provided Flagg with an annual escape from the hurly-burly of his New York life, yet his irrepressible social energy kept it filled with guests and constant entertainment.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Reed, Walt, Ed., The Illustrator in America. New York, 1966.
 Hess, Steven, and Kaplan, Milton, The Ungentlemanly Art. New York, 1968.
Maine Sunday Telegram, June 16, 1974.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property 1/4
 Quadrangle name Biddeford Pool **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED** Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1 9	3 9 1 2 6 0	4 8 1 1 4 4 5	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 56, Lot 9

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 January, 1980

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Earle S. Feltner* date 2/15/80

title S.H.P.O.

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

John Bruce Van Orman date 4/23/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Patrick Andrews* date 4/22/80
 Chief of Registration