United States Departm National Park Service	ent of the Interior			
	ister of His	toric Place	s Rea	istration Form
This form is for use in nomin Bulletin, How to Complete th	ating or requesting dete e National Register of "not applicable." For	erminations for individua Historic Places Registr	I properties a ation Form.	nd districts. See instructions on Faction 2 22840 r If any item does not apply to the property being materials, and areas Margnoricance ignter only
1. Name of Proper Historic name:	<b>ty</b> McElwain Hous	e- Additional Do	cumentat	Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service
Other names/site nu	mber:			07800730
Name of related mu				8000151
(Enter "N/A" if pro	operty is not part	t of a multiple pr	operty lis	ting)
2. Location			_	
Street & number:	302 Main Stree	t, Presque Isle I	Road (pre	eviously # 2 Main Street)
City or town:		ate: Maine		County: Aroostook
Not For Publication:		Vicinity: n/		
3. State/Federal A	gency Certifica	tion		
the documentation s Places and meets th In my opinion, the pl	atandards for reg ne procedural an roperty m s property be cor	jistering properti id professional r leets <u>X</u> does not nsidered signific <b>_ statewide</b>	es in the equireme meet the	etermination of eligibility meets National Register of Historic Ints set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. National Register Criteria. I following level(s) of significance: <b>local</b>
A	_в	_c	_ D	
Earend. Ike	Hand C	$\rightarrow$		5/22/15
Signature of certify	/ing official/Titl	e:		/Date/
MAINE HISTORIC I State or Federal ag		the second s		
In my opinion, the criteria.	property m	eets <u> </u> does	not meet	the National Register
Signature of comm	enting official:	6		Date
Title	1	State or Federa	l agency	/bureau or Tribal Government

OMB No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900

United States Department of the Interior NPS Form 10-900

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018

## MCELWAIN HOUSE ADDITIONAL

DOCUMENTATION - REMOVAL

Name of Property

#### AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	
determined eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	7.14.15
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

## 5. Classification

## **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private	
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

## **Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)	
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

# MCELWAIN HOUSE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION – REMOVAL

Name of Property

AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

County and State

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## Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.) (Refer to photographs)

This documentation is presented to remove the McElwain House in Caribou, Maine from the National Register of Historic Places.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The McElwain House (NR: 82000739) was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 12, 1982 for its local architectural significance and its association with John McElwain, a prominent Aroostook County farmer. The two story, square plan Colonial Revival style home with widow's walk, wraparound porch, porte cochere and hooded dormers was constructed in 1916 and was one of the grandest rural houses in the County.

At the time the property was listed in the National Register some of the original diamond pane windows on the building had been replaced, but overall the building had integrity of materials, design, workmanship, setting, location, association and feeling. However between 1982 and 2001 additional alterations were made to the building, including the application of synthetic siding over the entire building, and a change in the design of the porch posts and balustrades. In 2001the Maine Historic Preservation Commission determined that the property no longer had the integrity to continue to meet the National Register Criteria. Subsequently, a large two story addition was made to the rear of the ell and the widow's walk was removed, further impacting the building's historic integrity.

This additional documentation is submitted in order to remove the McElwain House from the National Register as per 36 CFR 60.15 (a)(1) because "the property has ceased to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register because the qualities which caused it to be originally listed have been lost or destroyed...". In lieu of recent photographs two digital images produced by Google Earth are submitted that depict the alterations to the property.

### 8. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

United States Department of the Interior NPS Form 10-900

## MCELWAIN HOUSE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION – REMOVAL

Name of Property

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE** 

County and State



East elevation, McElwain House, July 2014.



South elevation, McElwain House, July 2014.

B.

## MCELWAIN HOUSE ADDITIONAL

DOCUMENTATION - REMOVAL	AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE
Name of Property	County and State
<ul> <li>preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 6</li> <li>previously listed in the National Register</li> <li>previously determined eligible by the National Register</li> <li>designated a National Historic Landmark</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #</li> </ul>	7) has been requested
Primary location of additional data:	
State Historic Preservation Office	
Other State agency	
Federal agency	
Local government	
University	
Other	
Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):	

## 10. Form Prepared By

name/title:	Christi A. Mitchell,	Archite	ctural Histor	<u>rian</u>	
organization:	Maine Historic Pres	servatic	on Commiss	ion	
street & number:	55 Capitol Street				
city or town:	Augusta	_state:	Maine	zip code:	04333-0065
e-mail:	christi.mitchell@ma	aine.go	v		
telephone:	(207) 287-1453				
date:	18 February 2015				

## **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

#### MCELWAIN HOUSE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION - REMOVAL

Name of Property

#### **AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE**

County and State

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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

and/or common	N/A			
2. Loca				
street & numbe	r 2 Main Street, Pre	esque Isle Road		not for publication
city, town	Caribou,	vicinity of	congressional district	#2
state	Maine code	023 county	Argostook	code 003
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted how for a first	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment X government industrial	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation
15.00	2 Main Street; Box 7	vicinity of		
city, town 5. Loca	Caribou, ation of Lega		state	Maine 04736
	istry of deeds, etc. Aroosto	N		
courthouse, reg		ok county Registry	or Deeds	
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			or Deeds state	Maine
street & number city, town		1,	state	Maine
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street & number city, town <b>6. Rep</b> title	Houlton resentation i	n Existing S	state Surveys	egible? yes
street & number city, town 6. Rep	Houlton resentation i	n Existing S	state Surveys perty been determined el	egible? yes

## 7. Description

Con	dition
X	excellent
1.1	good
_	fair

deteriorated \_\_\_\_\_\_ unaltered \_\_\_\_\_\_ unaltered \_\_\_\_\_\_ unaltered \_\_\_\_\_\_ altered \_\_\_\_\_\_

Check one \_X\_ original site \_\_\_ moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Caribou's McElwain House of 1916-1917 is an interesting example of the Colonial Revival style in a rural context.

The 2½ story building is of frame construction with a steep, truncated hipped roof with a "widow's walk," one internal and two external chimneys, and clapboard siding. Window treatment varies throughout, but most are diamond paned. All cornices are bracketed and dentriculated. A large, 2½ story ell with a hipped gable roof and a gambrel roofed carriage house are connected to the rear (west side) of the house.

The facade, which faces east, is three bays wide, the central bay on the ground floor being the front door. The flanking windows are made up of a double sash and a stained glass transom. The second story has three bays, from left to right respectively: a set of French doors; a three section, diamond paned window made up of a central casement and two sidelights; and a diamond paned casement window. Piercing the roof is a large hooded dormer with a three part window, each part containing eight lights. A flat roofed porch with square, paired posts extends across the facade and beyond, creating a port cochere on its south end. Wide stone steps beneath a triangular pedimented portico lead to the front door.

The north side of the house is four bays wide on the second floor, each bay being a diamond paned casement window. The half-story possesses a dormer identical to that of the east side. The first story, however, is divided between the base of an exterior chimney and three single sash windows of varying sizes.

The south side of the building is similar to the facade as to fenestration. The hooded dormer and pairs of diamond paned windows are present and the latter appear randomly on the first two stories. The other exterior chimney is located on this side near the porch.

Continuing west on the south side of the McElwain House is a large hipped gable roofed ell. Over a projecting bay is a gable dormer with an arched window. Other windows in the ell are similar to those of the main house. Perpendicular to the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ell is a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story gambrel roofed carriage house.

## **B. Significance**

1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 X 1900-	A agriculture     A architecture     art     commerce     communications	economics     education     engineering     exploration/settlemen     industry     invention	military music	social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic X agriculture		landscape architectur law literature	e religion science sculpture

Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

19.16-1917

The beautiful McElwain House of 1916-1917 was, for 30 years, the home of one of Aroostook County's most prominent farmers. John McElwain, combining an industrious nature with a taste for elegance, created in this rural area of the state an agricultural empire in the early twentieth century. The Colonial Revival style home of this "country squire" is an imposing reminder of the era that produced it and, for all its remote location, was as elegant and refined as many of the "cottages" then being built along the coast.

When John McElwain came to Caribou from Woodstock, New Brunswick, in 1902, he brought with him his young wife, Frances, and the capitol necessary to purchase 200 acres of land along the western side of the Aroostook River. On this land McElwain began a farm which consisted of livestock (hogs, cattle, and chickens) and cultivated crops (potatoes, buckwheat, and oats). By 1911, McElwain was capturing the attention of area residents and was referred to as a "hustling farmer." His reputation as a country squire was brought on by his tendency to wear a white shirt and tie to perform even the most menial of tasks.

The small house which had been home to the McElwains and their daughter, Geneva, was outdated by 1916 and construction of the present structure began in June of that year. Although the architect is unknown, it is certain that Mrs. McElwain had a great deal of input into its design. The blueprints had taken three years to complete; it seems that the wait was worthwhile for the "showplace" that resulted in July of 1917 was "beautifully appointed....faultlessly complete in every detail." Handcrafted stone fireplaces, stained glass on each side of the entrance door in the upper panels of the sliding doors between sitting and dining rooms, Tiffany glass in the dining room cabinets, a bell system to summon servants, a bird's-eye maple room, were a few of the many embellishments planned by Mrs. McElwain. On the practical side there were many others: insulation made of buckwheat hulls in the walls, a wood furnace, a cistern for rain water, "set" tubs made of cement used for laundry, a laundry chute to the basement, a root cellar, a men's shower used by the hired hands, and an interior passage from the house to the carriage house; seemingly no detail was forgotten. The same careful planning that was followed for the house was also used in landscaping the surrounding grounds. A new road past the house and a sunken garden were the two major projects undertaken.

The social events that took place in the McElwain House during the 1920's were well described in the local newspapers. Geneva's T-Garden, a sort of old fashioned and elegant concession stand, was located in the sunken garden and was a success from the time of its opening in 1925. From all accounts the McElwain's organization of social events was impeccable, the atmosphere festive, the decor flawless, and the food a delight. Such were the "Roaring 20's" even in remote Caribou, Maine, thanks to the wealth and spirit of the three McElwains.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Manuscript information on file at Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

10. Ge	ograp	hical	Data	Ar	RFACI	10.07	VEDI	IFN		900	
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12. St	ate Hi	storic	: Pres	erva	tion	Of	fice	r Ce	ertif	icatio	n
The evaluated s	significance o	f this proper	ty within the state	e state is:	sweed Mittensi						
As the designat 665), I hereby n according to th	ominate this	property for	inclusion in	the Nation	nal Regist	er and	certify the	at it has	s been ev	valuated	9-
State Historic P	Preservation C	officer signation	ture Carl	.8.5	felth	enor	721		,	/	
title 5.	H.P.O.			1		ι <sub>λ</sub> ι.	Od	ate	2/18	/82	20
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I hereby o	certify that thi	s property is	s included in	the Natio	nal Regis ed in t	ter hø			maint	1 1	
All	our te	Jun			nal Reg		da	ate	4/1	2/82-	
Keeper of the	National Reg	ister									
Attest:							d	ate			
Chief of Regis	stration										

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Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

MCELWAIN HOUSE

CONTINUATION SHEET

FOR NPS USE ON	ILY
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	APR 12 1982

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The 1930's, however, brought the Great Depression. Economic difficulty, and the marriage and departure of young Geneva McElwain, notably subdued the atmosphere at "Happy Corner." The house became a tourist home, the McElwains continued to entertain guests, but the ballroom's transformation into guest rooms symbolized the end of an era for the family.

Frances McElwain died in 1940 leaving her husband to carry on the tradition of the McElwains alone. With the help of his employee and companion, James McConnell, McElwain continued to operate the farm until his death at age 78 in 1946. From 1947 until 1973 the house continued to be used as a residence and few changes were made in the building. In 1973 the Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission purchased the property and has carefully converted the interior for office use. The changes have been made gradually and will allow the house to revert to a residence if that need arises.

The McElwain House still stands in its original location, an imposing reminder of an era more grandiose (or at least more romantic) than the present. The strength of the McElwain character, as reflected in the sturdiness of their home, was the focal point of many aspiring citizens of the day. The McElwains were the epitome of the industrious, the clever, the good; their house was mirror of all that was grand. The sight of it still inspires those who are unfamiliar with its history to imagine what bygone era produced it. Many of those who know and participated in its history continue to recount tales of the days when they were part of the McElwain House.



Maquain Hase - NE side

MAR 8 1982 McElwain House, 2 Main Street Caribou, Aroostook, Maine Kristine Bull 12/81 Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission View from NE (1 of 6)



Me Elucin House - SE View

## MAR 8 1982

McElwain House, 2 Main Street Caribou, Aroostook, Maine Kristine Bull 12/81 Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission View from SE (2 of 6)



Mcawain Hause - Sil view

MAR 8 1982 McElwain House, 2 Main Street Caribou, Aroostook, Maine Kristine Bull 12/81 Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission View from SW (3 of 6)



McElwain Harse - 50 Siew

# MAR 8 1982

McElwain House, 2 Main Street Caribou, Aroostook, Maine Kristine Bull 12/81 Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission View from SW (4 of 6)



McEleain Harse - 1st floor detail of entry way

McElwain House, 2 Main Street Caribou, Aroostook, Maine Kristine Bull 12/81 Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission Interior view of 1st floor entry MAR 8198(5 of 6)



Mc Elución House - 1st floor - Detail of olding door

MAR 81982 McElwain House, 2 Main Street Caribou, Aroostook, Maine Kristine Bull 12/81 Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission Interior view of sliding door (6 of 6)



McElwain House 19/575420/5186800

National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

## ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE MAINE

Date Entered APRIL 12, 1982

Name

Location

Barrows-Steadman Homestead

Sewall, William, House

McElwain House

Fryeburg Oxford County

Island Falls Aroostook County

Caribou Aroostock County

Notified

Honorable Olympia J. Snowe Honorable George J. Mitchell Honorable William S. Cohen

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, NPS North Atlantic Regional Office, NPS State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. Director, Maine Historic Preservation Commission 55 Capitol Street Augusta, Maine 04333

For further information, please call the National Register at (202) 272-3504

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLAC	National Park Service
EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET	-
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2007
Property: MCElwain House	Working No. 3.8.82 . 62
State, County: Maine, Aroostook	Fed. Reg. Date: x./. 83
Federal Agency:	Date Due: 4-11-82 - 4-23
	Action: ACCEPT
resubmission	Wetternal Boodeter neiunn
nomination by person or local government	A
owner objection	photos 6
appeal	maps
	NP decision
Substantive Review:sample request	appeal NR decision
Reviewer's comments:	
	B
	Recom. / Criteria
	Reviewer Discipline
	Discipline Date
	see continuation sheet
Nomination returned for:technical correction substantive reason	
substantive reason	
substantive reason 1. Kame 2. Location	
substantive reason	
substantive reason 1. Kame 2. Location (3. Classification	
	s discussed below
	s discussed below
1. Kame         2. Location         3. Classification         Category       Ownership         Status       Present Use         Abublic Acquisition       Accessible         4. Owner of Property         5. Location of Legal Description         6. Representation in Existing Surveys            \u00ed has this property been determined eligible?         7. Description	s discussed below
	s discussed below

ε.	Sign	ificance	
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Period	Areas of Significance-Check and justify
Specific	datas Bulidar Archita
Platomo	ni of Significance (in one peragraph)
4	
	summary paragraph
	completeness
	clarity
	applicable criteria
	justification of areas checked
	relating significance to the resource
	context
	relationship of integrity to significance
_	justification of exception
_	other

10

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_ Ouedrangie neme \_\_\_\_\_ UBIT References

Vorbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared By

#### 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ netional \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Wite date

#### 13. Other

\_\_\_\_ Maps

\_\_\_\_ Photographs

\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

- 31

·\* .

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: REMOVAL

PROPERTY McElwain House NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, Aroostook

DATE RECEIVED: 5/29/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/15 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 82000739

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATAPROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESSTHAN50YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLRDRAFT:NNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT

RETURN

DATE REJECT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS;

REMOVED from National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comme	ents Y/N see attached SLR Y/N
If a nomination is returned to	the nominating authority, the

nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RECEIVED 2280 55 CAPITOL STREET 65 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333 Nat. Register of Historic Places

at. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

PAUL R. LEPAGE GOVERNOR

22 May 2015

EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR. DIRECTOR

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper of the National Register National Park Service 2280 National Register of Historic Places 1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Fl. Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find four (4) new National Register nominations for properties in the State of Maine:

Ella R. Hodgkins Intermediate School, Kennebe County Great Chebeague Golf Club, Cumberland County Norton's Corner School, Piscataquis County Lewiston Mills and Water Power System Historic District, Androscoggin County

The photographs submitted with the Lewiston Mills and Water Power System Historic District were developed from black and white film negatives. As such, there is no accompanying image disk. Please note that for the sake of convenience the photographs have been labeled with an abbreviation of the district name (i.e. LMWPS Historic District). Accompanying this nomination are copies of letters of objection submitted by 2 (only) of the 39 property owners.

Also enclosed are six (6) registration forms for the removal of National Register Listed properties in Maine:

McElwain House, Aroostook County Burgess, Walter and Eva, Farm, Piscataquis County Bradford House, Androscoggin County First Baptist Church, Cumberland County New Sharon Bridge, Franklin County Crockett, Knott, House, Knox County

If you have any questions relating to these nominations, please do not hesitate to contact me at  $(207) 287-2132 \times 2$ .

Sincerely,

Chariate G. Witchell

Christi A. Mitchell Architectural Historian

Enc.