United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

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historic B](oomfield Academy			
and/or common	N/A			
2. Loca	tion			
street & number	Main St ree t			N/A not for publication
city, town	Skowhegan,	N/A vicinity of	congressional district	Second
state	Maine code	23 county	Somerset	code 025
3. Class	sification			
district X_ building(s) structure	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial X educational entertainment government industrial military	<pre>museum park private residence religious scientific transportation </pre>
4. Owne	er of Propert		*	
name street & number	Town of Skowhegan Municipal Buildin			
city, town	Skowhegan,	N/A vicinity of	state	Maine 04976
5. Loca	tion of Lega	l Descripti		
courthouse, regist street & number	ry of deeds, etc. Sol	merset County Reg	istry of Deeds	
city, town	Sk	owhegan,	state	Maine
6. Repr	esentation i	n Existing	Surveys	
	oric Resources Inve	ntory has this pro	operty been determined e	
date 1974			federal <u>X</u> sta	ite county local
depository for surv	veyrecords Maine His	storic Preservatio	on Commission	
city, town	Augusta,		state	Maine 04333

7. Description

Condition	deteriorated	Check one	Check one	ite
<u>X</u> good fair	ruins unexposed	altered	moved	date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Dating from 1840, Bloomfield Academy in Skowhegan, Maine, is a classic academic building in the Greek Revival style.

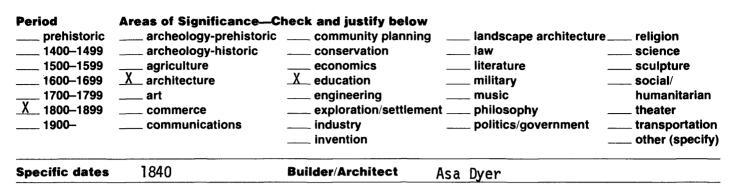
The 2-story building is of brick construction (with wooden gable-ends above the second floor), and has a framed facade tower, internal brick chimney, gable roof, granite trim, and granite foundation.

The facade, which faces east in the gable-end, is three bays wide with a central entrance. This double-doored entrance is covered by a large bracketed hood. Fenestration here, as elsewhere, is 2/2, save for the central facade bay in the second story; this consists of paired 1/1 windows. Two-story brick pilasters divide the bays from each other.

The facade tower straddles the roof peak and is square in plan. This rises in two stages. The lower stage is clapboarded. The upper stage contains an arched aperture in each side, flanked by Doric pilasters.

The sides of the academy are three bays wide. A simple rear entrance faces south.

8. Significance



Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In addition to being a handsome example of a Greek Revival private educational structure, the Bloomfield Academy building represents a tradition in Maine educational history, having its roots in the earliest period of settlement.

Originally chartered by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1807 as Canaan Academy, the name was changed to Bloomfield Academy in 1819 when the town name was correspondingly changed. The original wooden structure having become inadequate, the present handsome brick edifice was built in 1840 by Asa Dyer, a local brick maker and master builder. Although Bloomfield became part of the much larger Skowhegan in 1861, the academy name was retained and continues in use even though the building is now a part of the local public school district, having been turned over to the town by the trustees.

This important landmark in Skowhegan speaks eloquently of the importance placed on education by early settlers in Maine.

Major Bibliographical References 9.

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Coburn, Louise Helen, <u>Skowhegan</u> on the Kennebec. Skowhegan, 1941.

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