

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Prospect Harbor Light Station  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number Prospect Harbor Point, Prospect Harbor  not for publication  
city, town Prospect Harbor,  vicinity  
state Maine code ME county Hancock code 009 zip code 04669

### 3. Classification

<b>Ownership of Property</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Noncontributing</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	_____ sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>3</u>	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Light Stations of Maine  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 12/17/87  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 1/25/88  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
U.S. DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Amy Schlager 3/14/88  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Water-Related

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Water-Related

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Domestic: Single Dwelling

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Other: Light Station

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

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walls Wood: Shingle

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roof Asphalt

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other Iron Deck and Lantern on Tower

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

Prospect Harbor Light Station consists of a conical tower and a detached one-and-a-half-story frame keeper's house. Some distance to the north of the dwelling is a small stone gable roofed oil house. The station occupies a shallow rocky peninsula.

**1. LIGHT TOWER - CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE**

The handsome shingled light tower at Prospect Harbor features a door on its north face and a pedimented window opening in the west side. It was erected in 1891. A covered passageway that sheltered the door and linked the house and tower has been removed. A circular iron walkway with railing caps the tower. Rising from the middle of the deck is a ten-sided lantern with a polygonal roof and spherical ventilator.

**2. KEEPER'S HOUSE - CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**

Facing west across Prospect Harbor, the 1891 keeper's house has an asymmetrical five-bay facade partially sheltered by an engaged shed roofed porch. Its first story is sheathed in clapboards and its upper floor in wood shingles. Four square posts linked by a slat balustrade support the porch roof above which is a large gable roofed dormer. The windows on the first story and in the dormer employ four-over-four double hung sash. A brick flue and one chimney punctuate the roof. There are two windows, one on each story, in the gable ends. There are a number of openings on the rear elevation and a small addition at the southeast corner of the house.

**3. OIL HOUSE - CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**

Constructed in 1905, the oil house is a typical example of similarly related buildings erected at Maine's light stations. Its gable roof shelters, on one end, a centrally placed door surmounted by a narrow vent.

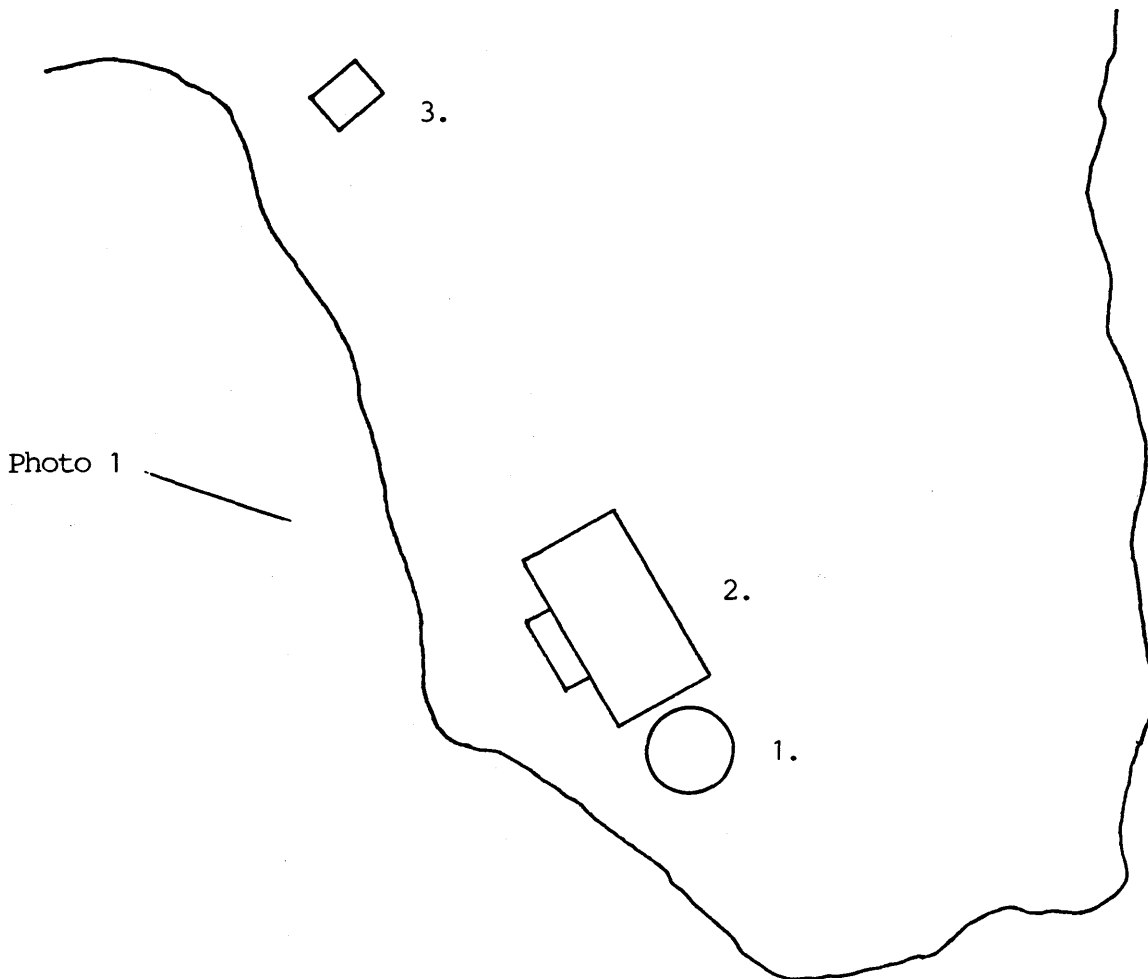
At the time of its establishment in 1850 the station consisted of a granite tower attached to one end of a stone dwelling. In 1870 these buildings were rehabilitated, and 1891 they were pulled down and replaced by the existing components.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Sketch Map

Prospect Harbor Light Station  
Prospect Harbor Vic., Maine

Not to Scale

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Engineering  
Transportation

Period of Significance

1850-1937

Significant Dates

1891

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Designer

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Authorized in 1847 but not established until 1850, the Prospect Harbor Light Station marks the eastern entrance to the inner section of this harbor of refuge. It maintains integrity of design, setting and association that meet the requirements for registration as set forth in the multiple property submission "Light Stations of Maine". The station's significance is more fully described with respect to the associated historic contexts Maritime Transportation in Maine: ca. 1600-1917 and Federal Lighthouse Management: 1789-1939.

The light station at Prospect Harbor was built in response to the local need for a navigational aid to this deep and sheltered anchorage. Throughout the nineteenth century Prospect Harbor was home to a large fleet of fishing vessels whose safe passage in and around the harbor was greatly facilitated by the beacon and fog signal at this location. However, despite this apparent need for the station, the Light-House Board deactivated the light in 1859 claiming that the harbor was not used as an anchorage during storms. In 1870, for some as yet unknown reason, the light was relit and the buildings renovated. In 1934 the light was automated, but the complex remains in the ownership of the Federal Government.

Prospect Harbor Light Station derives significance under criteria A and C. Criteria A is satisfied by the association of the complex with Maine's critical reliance on maritime transportation and the aids that made navigation possible. Criteria C is met by the station's distinctive character that reflects late nineteenth century light station design and construction.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Annual Report of the Light-House Board. Washington, D.C.: U.S.G.P.O., various dates.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

U. S. Coast Guard

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 5.1

UTM References

A 

1	9	5	7	8	5	7	0	4	9	1	6	9	1	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of 5.1 acres occupies the Town of Prospect Harbor, Tax Map 40, Lot 4.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Prospect Harbor Light Station embraces the buildings and immediate physical setting historically associated with the complex.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1987

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333

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Continuation Sheet**

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Prospect Harbor Light Station  
Prospect Harbor Vic., Maine

This continuation sheet is being submitted to redefine the period of significance of the Prospect Harbor Light Station, Prospect Harbor Vic.

A previous National Register review of the multiple property submission for "Light Stations of Maine" and accompanying individual nomination forms determined that the period of significance of the resource must begin at a point in time that is no earlier than the oldest existing component of the complex. It is understood that while a case could be made for extending the date to that time when the light station was established, irregardless of the presence of surviving elements, the framework of the submission does not sufficiently address how this can be done. (See Review Comments dated 1/21/88.)

Based upon this finding, therefore, the period of significance of the Prospect Harbor Light Station should be 1891-1937, the date of construction of the earliest surviving building and/or structure.