

846

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 12 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Rangeley Trust Company Building
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Main Street N/A not for publication
city, town Rangeley N/A vicinity
state Maine code ME county Franklin code 007 zip code 04970

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
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.

Carol J. Phelps SHPO 6/7/89
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 of commenting or other official Date

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:)

William Byer Entered in the National Register 7/13/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade/Financial Institution

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Recreation & Culture/Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls Brick

roof Asphaltother PedimentedEntrance Hood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Rangeley Trust Company Building is a one-story three-bay brick structure resting on a concrete foundation. An interior flue rises from the flat roof which is bordered on three sides by a low parapet. It stands at the northwest corner of Main and Richardson Streets in Rangeley Village.

The symmetrical east facade has a central entrance and a two-panel door which is framed by a denticulated pediment whose horizontal cornice is supported by consoles. On either side of the entrance is a large plate glass fixed window with a moving transom. Each window is flanked by attenuated brick pilasters which create a paneled effect. Carrying across the facade is a well defined entablature with a broad wooden cornice.

On the south elevation there are two plate glass fixed windows with moving transoms and corner pilasters. Below each window is a long foundation window, each comprised of a pair of two-pane sections. Above each window, in the frieze of the entablature, is an iron grill. The north elevation has no window openings, but its classical detailing is identical to that of the south elevation. On the south end of the rear elevation there are two two-over-two double-hung sash windows, a fixed foundation window, and a projecting bulkhead.

The interior walls of the first floor of the Trust building are covered by tongue-and-groove wainscotting. A large open space has been created in the southeast section of the interior where the original teller's booths once stood. In the northwest section of the building is a vault, a smaller room, and the stairs leading to the basement. The southwest room, formerly the president's office, completes the first floor interior which is finished in lightly stained wood.

Centrally located on the rear wall of the interior, the staircase leading to the basement has a steel handrail and a chamfered newel post. A jail cell, located in the area underneath the first floor vault, was created when the bank was converted into the town hall.

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
Commerce

Period of Significance

1905-1922

Significant Dates

1905

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Furbish, Harry A.

Architect/Builder

Miller, William R.

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

The Rangeley Trust Company Building was the first commercial building built of brick in Rangeley. Designed in the Classical Revival style by architect William R. Miller in 1905, the Trust building was also Rangeley's first bank and later served as the town hall before becoming home to the local historical society. It is being nominated under criterion A as representative of the town's early commercial development, under criterion B for the association with its builder, H. A. Furbish, who was a prominent Rangeley businessman during the town's growth at the turn of the century, and under criterion C for its architectural merit.

The town of Rangeley, once a small farming community of 238 persons in 1860, began to grow considerably during the last two decades of the nineteenth century and into the first decade of the twentieth century, as a result of its attraction as a "fishing paradise". The first major hotel built in Rangeley was the Rngeley House of 1877 and by 1890 there were five hotels in addition to numerous sporting camps. The proliferation of camps and hotels and increasing numbers of vacationers and sportsmen stimulated growth in Rangeley Village. In 1880 the population was 563, 616 in 1890, 961 in 1900, and 1,154 in 1910. An article in the 1900 New England Magazine entitled, "The Rangeley Lakes" stated that:

The village of late has had a rapid growth and numbers a dozen flourishing stores, two or three mills, two taxidermists, several other industries, a good church, and good schools.

Illustrating the growth of the decade between 1900 and 1910 are the numerous enterprises begun during this period. Rangeley's library was built in 1909, the Rangeley Light and Power Company was organized in 1908, the Rangeley Trust Company was formed in 1906, the Rangeley Tavern opened its doors in 1909, and the expanded Rangeley Lake House had grown to include 250 rooms. By 1910, there were no fewer than three general stores, three lumber companies, two insurance salesmen, twenty guides, six hotels, and four sportsmen's camps in Rangeley. With the increased business activity, the newly formed Rangeley Trust Company served the town's financial needs as it grew during this period. See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Ellis, Edward. A Chronological History of the Rangeley Lakes Region. Rangeley, ME: Rangeley Lakes Region Historical Society, 1983.

Maine Register or State Year Book and Legislative Manual. Portland: G.M. Donham, various editions.

Reed, Roger G. "William R. Miller: 1866-1929." A Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Maine, Vol. V, No. 14. Augusta: Maine Historic Preservation Commission, 1988.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1

UTM References

A

1	9	3	7	0	4	9	0
Zone				Easting			

4	9	8	0	0	4	0
Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone				Easting			

Northing							

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property of less than one acre occupies the Town of Rangeley tax map 37, lot 11.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire lot historically associated with this building.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Jester/Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1989

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone (207) 289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Among the businessmen who found prosperity in Rangeley was Harry A. Furbish (1867-1941), who had come to the town alone in 1880 at the age of 13. The young Furbish wasted little time involving himself in the affairs of the growing town. In 1888, Furbish was a partner in Burke and Furbish, general store, and he had various partners in this enterprise throughout the 1890s. The 1892 Maine Register lists Furbish as: postmaster, constable, collector, partner in Furbish, Butler, Oakes, general stores, and partner in Furbish, Butler lumber.

Furbish had quickly become one of the leading businessmen in Rangeley. In 1900 Furbish began selling insurance in addition to his interest in the lumbering business. One of his many enterprises was the creation of a financial institution for Rangeley in 1905. Rangeley's first brick building was constructed in 1905 and in 1906 the Rangeley Trust Company opened for business with Furbish as its secretary/treasurer after he sold the building to the Trust Company. He held this position until 1919, when he became the president.

In addition to serving as the town's first bank, the Trust Company building was the office for several other Furbish businesses. Old photos show signs for the Kempton Lumber Company and H. A. Furbish Insurance, Real Estate, and Notary Public on the front of the Rangeley Trust Company building.

Furbish commissioned William R. Miller, a Lewiston architect, to design Rangeley's first bank. Miller is now remembered as a designer of flamboyant and picturesque buildings. He was educated at Bates College and M.I.T. before starting practice in Lewiston. Built in the Classical Revival style, Miller's Rangeley Trust Company building is a playful but modest design. The classical symmetry suggests the stability and order which all financial institutions espouse.

When the bank outgrew the building and built a larger facility in 1922, the building then served as the town hall until 1979. That year the Town of Rangeley deeded the building to the Rangeley Lakes Historical Society, and it now serves as their museum and headquarters.

The Rangeley Trust Company Building is historically significant as a building associated with Rangeley's early commercial development, which was in part due to H. A. Furbish, its builder, who was a leading businessman in Rangeley. It is also architecturally significant as a design by architect William R. Miller, who had a thriving Lewiston business at the time of the building's construction.