CITY, TOWN

PHO 354457

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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1976

STATE

SEP 1 5 1976 **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM DATE ENTERED** SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS NAME HISTORIC Penobscot Salmon Club and Pool AND/OR COMMON LOCATION STREET & NUMBER North Main Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 💤 Brewer VICINITY OF 2nd, Hon. William Cohen STATE CODE COUNTY 23 Maine 019 Penobscot CLASSIFICATION **CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE** __DISTRICT __PUBLIC X_OCCUPIED __AGRICULTUREMUSEUM XBUILDING(S) X PRIVATE _UNOCCUPIED __COMMERCIAL ___PARK __STRUCTURE __вотн **__WORK IN PROGRESS** __EDUCATIONAL **__PRIVATE RESIDENCE** __SITE **PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE** _ENTERTAINMENT __RELIGIOUS __OBJECT IN PROCESS X_YES: RESTRICTED __GOVERNMENT _SCIENTIFIC BEING CONSIDERED __YES: UNRESTRICTED __INDUSTRIAL _TRANSPORTATION XOTHER: recreation __NO __MILITARY OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME Penobscot Salmon Club, Inc. STREET & NUMBER North Main Street CITY, TOWN STATE Brewer Maine VICINITY OF LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, Penobscot County Registry of Deeds REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN STATE Bangor Maine REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE DATE __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

X_EXCELLENT _GOOD

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED

__RUINS

XUNALTERED __ALTERED

CHECK ONE

XORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

__UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Although situated within the city limits of the Bangor-Brewer urban complex, the Penobscot Salmon Club, located in an unspoiled area on the east bank of the Penobscot River, retains the atmosphere of a peaceful woodland fishing camp. Approached by a quarter mile dirt road from U.S. Route, 2, the club house sits in a clearing a few yards from the river.

Built in 1923 to replace an earlier and much larger structure of 1887, the building is of a single story with a gable roof. On the water side is an open covered porch at ground level. The club house is shingled and has doors at one gable end and the long side opening onto the porch. The interior is a single large room with lockers, rod racks and a recreational area.

The porch gives a fine view of the Bangor Salmon pool, a stretch of shoal water along the east bank of the river which, in the 1880's was discovered to be remarkably productive for salmon fishing, specimens of 25 and even 28 pounds being not uncommon.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1887–1894	BUILDER/ARCHITECT				
		INVENTION		recreation		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	XOTHER (SPECIFY)		
X_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION		
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER		
1 6 00-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE		
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE		
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION		
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On the Penobscot River at Brewer is the famous Bangor Salmon Pool, a stretch of relatively shallow, fast running water. Along the shore at this point is the clubhouse of the Penobscot Salmon Club, Inc., a private club founded by local residents in 1894.

Although salmon were at one time very plentiful in the Penobscot, this particular area was found to be the most productive for the fisherman. Even today, although the average fish is smaller, many salmon are taken yearly from the "Pool".

Beginning in 1914, during the Wilson Administration, a tradition has been established by the club of sending the first salmon caught by a member each year to the President of the United States. Numerous letter of thanks from various Presidents are on file in the club records.

The present clubhouse, built in 1923, is somewhat smaller than the original building constructed in 1887, seven years prior to the formation of the club. The first structure was 31 \times 45 feet in size with a horse shed 100 feet long attached to it.

Another tradition of long standing associated with the club, is the angler's breakfast held each year on opening day of the season. An early account of this activity described the proceedings as follows: "Members gathered before dawn at the clubhouse each April 1st, each with a setter dog, a pound of beefsteak and a quart of whiskey, the steak being for the dog".

As the site of a social and recreational organization, membership in which is highly valued, the Penobscot Salmon Club at the Bangor Salmon Pool is a distinguished holdover of a gentlemen's sporting club of the 19th century.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Documents furnished by the Penobscot Salmon Club

Bygone Bangor, Bangor Daily News, 1976

Bangor Daily News, April 1, 1953

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