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onumber I The village of Stroudwater, a section of the City of Portland, occupies the western bank of the tidal Fore River at its headquarters where it is joined by the Stroudwater River. The Stroudwater Historic District encompasses the original Stroudwater settlement within the present village. Ιt includes some thirty residences from the Colonial, Federal and Greek Revival periods which still stand on the gentle hills sloping down to the Fore River; the local burying ground; the sites of the former mast landing, mills, tanneries and shipyards which supported the inhabitants; and the section of the Cumberland and Oxford Canal which runs along the eastern bank of the Fore River opposite the village.

#### THE EXACT BOUNDARIES OF THE STROUDWATER HISTORIC DISTRICT:

Beginning at a point on the Southerly bank of the Stroudwater River; which point is at the intersection of Latitude  $43^{\circ}39'29''$  and Longitude 70°19'12"; thence proceeding Northeasterly along a Southwesterly extension of Penrith Road, across Westbrook Street and along Penrith Road 1850'+ to a point at the intersection of Latitude  $43^{\circ}39'42''$  and Longitude  $70^{\circ}18'$ 54"; thence in a Southeasterly direction 2500'+ to a point on the high water line of the Fore River, said point being the intersection of Latitude 43°39'24" and Longtitude 70°18'34"; thence in a Southwesterly direction 2150'+ crossing Westbrook Street and running along Cobb Avenue to a point at the end of Cobb Avenue, said point being the intersection of Latitude 43°39'07" and Longtitude 70°18'53"; thence in a Northwesterly direction 2500'+ to the point of beginning.

The above described area encompasses 115+ acres of high ground, salt marsh and water.

Three periods of growth formed the village of Stroudwater and gave it The first period was the permanent settlement, begun in its character. 1727 by Colonel Thomas Westbrook, mast agent for King George II of England, who moved there from Portsmouth, New Hampshire. (Previous settlers had abandoned their sawmill on the Stroudwater River during the 1680's in fear of Indian attacks.) Colonel Westbrook built roads on which to haul the mast timbers, a landing from which to launch them down the Fore River to Portland where they were shipped to England, a huge bridge across the Fore River for the only road to Portland from the south, of carrisoned house for protection from the Indians, dams, saw mills and the first paper mill in Maine. His activities drew workers and other wealth the business ο<sup>δ ε</sup> NAL

(See Continuation Sheet)

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

## **INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

venturers; the community had a busy beginning.

The next major period of growth for Stroudwater came after the Revolution. Attracted by trading possibilities, new set the proper Lumber was sawn and exported, carried by vessels built in the new shipyards on the banks of the Fore River; stores were opened; a tannery built. The shipping trade expanded during the war between England and France. Prosperity ended with the Embargo Act of 1807. After the commercial depression resulting from the War of 1812, business improved gradually. As in the past, the leading members of the Stroudwater community were involved in the business and social affairs of Portland. General Lafayette and President Monroe were entertained in Stroudwater homes when they visited Portland.

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**Cumberland** 

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New life returned to Stroudwater with the 1830 completion of the Cumberland and Oxford Canal. (The Canal, which is still clearly visible, runs inland from Stroudwater to Westbrook where it follows a course beside the Presumpscot River to Sebago Lake and from there to Long Lake in the interior of Maine.) The canal opened up new sources of lumber and raw material. The shipyards were busy again. A bark mill powered by tidal current was built by the Great Bridge, tanneries operated and a new sawmill was built on the Stroudwater. Seven locks were operated between Stroudwater and Westbrook. Manufactured goods and groceries were carried from Portland to the interior. The canal functioned as a vital supply line for thirty years and Stroudwater flourished with it.

The Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad, built through several towns in Oxford County and completed in 1853, took away a considerable portion of the canal's traffic. The completion of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad from Sebago to Portland in 1870 was the death blow for the canal. The canal closed and Stroudwater's livelihood was taken away. The railroad bridge prevented vessels from sailing down the Fore River. The last ship was launched in 1859. Workers sought jobs in Portland and Stroudwater became a residential community.

Stroudwater was not swallowed up by Portland's industrial expansion after the Civil War, nor by the further expansion after the World Wars. The few modern residences which have been built within the village are completely dominated by the original homes. The mast roads have become highways. Their pattern is unaltered, although traffic is increasingly heavy. Other modern homes are now spread out in the countryside around the village and the Portland International Jetport borders it on the southeast, but these surroundings, except for their noise, do not intrude on the village. Stroudwater remains a unit, an intact example of a Nineteenth Century Village, increasingly threatened but as yet not irreparably damaged by the modern world.

Following is a list of the buildings and sites of primary importance

(See Continuation Sheet)

Form 10-300a (Jūly 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	STATE Made a
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	Maine COUNTY
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7. DESC	RIPTION	
for their	he Stroudwater Historic District. (See end r location.) Because it was not burned in roudwater contains some of the oldest homes	we Portland Tige of
1.	Richard Forder House, 1737. 1235 Westbrook cape with the entrance facing southeast tow Stroudwater River.	
2.	House, early Eighteenth Century. 1227 West a cape also facing southeast, now a two-and house.	••••
3.	David Patrick House, 1743. 1288 Westbrook extended cape, only alteration a raised roo Patrick ran a brickyard; he laid the bricks chimney. Picture.	of in the rear. David
4.	Joseph Small House, 1743-46. 1161 Westbroc chimney, extended cape. Moved to current 1 the burying ground in 1842.	
5.	George Tate House, 1755. 1270 Westbrook St storey, gambrel roof, center chimney. Orig edge clapboards. Unusual windows in the ra gambrel roof allowed Tate, a Mast Agent for approaching ships and the Great Bridge. Or and bolection mouldings, cove cornice in th as a museum by the National Society of Colo H.A.B.S. Picture.	ginal unpainted feather- aised section on the the Royal Navy, to see riginal raised paneling ne front hall. Restored
6.	Francis Waldo House (also known as Captain 1765. 1365 Westbrook Street. Two-and-a-ha one storey lean-to along the rear. The woo carved to look like quoins. This is the la There were once fireplaces in the attic whe were locked at night. Picture.	alf storey, gambrel roof, oden corner posts are argest home in the village.
7.	Archelaur Lewis House, 1783. 1258 Westbrochalf storey, simple frame house. Original	
8.	Jesse Partridge House, 1786. 1346 Westbroc half storey, gable roof, center chimney. H	
(See Con	tinuation Sheet)	

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Form 10 (July 19		UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	state Maine
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7.	DESCI		1 2 1972 (4)
	9.	William Slemons House, c. 1786. 17 Garris half storey, simple frame house.	ATIONAEL. Two-and-a- EGISTER
	10.	Samuel Fickett House, 1795. 1190 Westbrook half storey, gable roof, center chimney. Built on the site of Harrow House, Colonel Picture.	Later dormer windows.
	11.	William Waterhouse House, 1795. 1190 West building was moved to this site from the r into a residence. One storey.	
	12.	William Waterhouse, Jr. House, 1795. 8 Gam a center chimney cape, two-and-a half store	
	13.	Captain James Means House, 1797. 2 Waldo s roof, four chimneys. Brick end walls, clap Notably fine McIntyre style woodwork. Pict	pboard front and rear.
	14.	Dr. Jeremiah Barker House, 1799. 1168 West hip roof, two chimneys.	tbrook Street. Two storey,
	15.	Oakes Sampson House, 1802. 1246 Westbrook roof, center chimney. Cove ceiling around Picture.	
	16.	Joshua Shaw House, 1804-05. 1242 Westbrook storey, frame, two chimneys.	k Street. Two-and-a-half
	17.	Tristram and Samuel Stevens House, 1805. Two storey, hip roof, two chimneys vaulted two ship carpenters, it has not been out of Picture.	in cellar. Built by
	18.	Polly Porterfield House, early 1800's. 129 Originally a cape, second storey added after village store in the Nineteenth Century.	
	19.	House, early 1800's. 1801 Congress Street cape. Moved to this site from nearer the S	
	20.	Joseph Chesley House, c. 1805. 1795 Congra half storey simple frame house.	ess Street. Two-and-a-
(See	Conti	inuation Sheet)	

Form 10-300a (July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	STATE
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21.	Rhoda Partridge House, 1805.001747 Congress center chimney, cape, build on the provative River. Moved to its present specify 1839 Greek Revival features added later.	side of the Stroudwater
22.	Jonathen Smith House, 1814. 169 Westbrook half storey, frame, center chimney. Two ba floor are later.	Street. Two-and-a- ay windows on the first
23.	Henry Chapman House, moved to this site in Street. Two-and-a-half storey, gable roof, added in 1830.	-
24.	Martin Hawes House, 1853. 1266 Westbrook S storey, gable roof. Brick, simple exterior lintels over windows and door. Replaces a Picture.	detailing of granite
25.	Charles Maxfield House, moved to this site Street. Center chimney cape.	in 1835. 1840 Congress
26.	James Parker House, c. 1845. 11 Garrison S storey front, cape, center chimney.	Street. One-and-a-half
27.	Elias Jacobs House, 1845. 1181 Westbrook S storey, two chimneys, simple frame house.	
28.	Dr. Henry Hunt House, 1863. 1859 Congress a-half storey, gable roof, frame. Set back looking the Stroudwater River.	
29.	Francis Fickett House, 1865. 1141 Westbrochalf storey, gable roof, frame. Entrance d	
30.	House, 1867. 1193 Westbrook Street. Two-a porch. Replaces a house of 1785.	nd-a-half storey, frame,
31.	Stroudwater Baptist Church. 1729 Congress from Quinby Hall, which was built in 1875.	Street. Converted
32.	Burial ground. The oldest stone, now under Joanna Frost, 1739. Early stones simply or	
(See Con	tinuation Sheet)	

Form	10-300a
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## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Maine	
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7. DESCRIPTION

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- 33. Mast yard, 1727-1770's.
- 34. Site of shipyards and wharves from 1727-1850's.
- 35. Cumberland and Oxford Canal, begun in 1825 and completed in 1830.
- 36. Grange Hall, 1916. A bark mill was built on this site in the 1830's.
- 37. Site of tide mill, 1836.
- 38. Stroudwater Dam. Built in 1845 to replace one farther upstream.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	🕱 18th Century	20th Century
📋 15th Century	17th Century	🕱 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) 1727-18	360's	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Appropr	iate).	
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Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
🕱 Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	🔲 Military 🖉	Theater	
Conservation	Music	🕱 Transportation	
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			

8.

Several of the residences included within the Stroudwater Historic District are outstanding examples of the architecture of their period. The George Tate House has received recognition as a National Historic Landmark. The Thomas Means House, the Francis Waldo House, the Samuel Fickett House, the Martin Hawes House and the Dr. Jeremiah Barker House are of an equally exceptional quality. The other homes, built by less wealthy owners, are never the less of a high architectural quality.

The significance of the Stroudwater Historic District does not come only from the merit of individual buildings. The whole formed by these single elements - the community - stands today as a rare example of a Nineteenth Century village. There are few instances in Maine or any other New England state where such a self-contained community has survived scarcely altered to the present day. The pattern of the village's growth is visible in the sequence of its architecture. Although the commercial enterprises carried on in the village are no longer in existance, their sites are clearly evident. It is possible today to see the interrelationship of these activities and the homes and to imagine the dynamic life of the village.

Stroudwater played an important role in the development of Maine The ingenuity and enterprise of her inhabitants helped to build Maine into a rich and prosperous state. Many Stroudwater residents became important figures. Colonel Westbrook was active in New England political circles. George Tate's lumbering operation was the largest in Maine before the Revolution. Archelaus Lewis served in the Continental Army. James Mean's was a member of George Washington's Life Guard and the first Senator from the District of Maine in 1807. Jeremiah Barker was an innovative doctor respected throughout New England.

The current residents of Sthoutwater take pride in their historic village. Their homes are well mainterned; many are restored to their original exterior appearance profile leores Tate House has been profession-ally restored and is open to the public turing the summer. The sense JAN 3 0 1973

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(See Continuation Sheet)

<ul> <li>Creative Writing Class of 1938, Deering High School: <u>Stroudwater Sketcher</u> Portland, 1938.</li> <li>Lovejoy, Myrtle E.: Series of six articles on the <u>History of Stroudwater</u> <u>Maine, Maine Sunday Telegram</u>, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, September 5, 19 Rowe, William Hutchinson: <u>Shipbuilding Days in Casco Bay 1727-1890</u>, Freeport, 1929.</li> <li>Works Projects Administration: Portland City Guide, Portland, 1940. pp. 301-312.</li> <li>GEOGRAPHICAL DATA</li> </ul>	r
<ul> <li>Portland, 1938.</li> <li>Lovejoy, Myrtle E.: Series of six articles on the <u>History of Stroudwater</u> <u>Maine, Maine Sunday Telegram</u>, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, September 5, 19</li> <li>Rowe, William Hutchinson: <u>Shipbuilding Days in Casco Bay 1727-1890</u>, Freeport, 1929.</li> <li>Works Projects Administration: Portland City Guide, Portland, 1940. pp. 301-312.</li> <li>GEOGRAPHICAL DATA</li> </ul>	r
<ul> <li>Maine, Maine Sunday Telegram, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, September 5, 19</li> <li>Rowe, William Hutchinson: Shipbuilding Days in Casco Bay 1727-1890, Freeport, 1929.</li> <li>Works Projects Administration: Portland City Guide, Portland, 1940. pp. 301-312.</li> <li>GEOGRAPHICAL DATA</li> <li>LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES</li> </ul>	<u>r</u> 965.
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Mary-Eliza Wengren, Consultant	
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Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc. January, 1972	<u>}</u>
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As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na-	the
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89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion National Register.	
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forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:	vation
National State Local 🗙	
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Name James H. Munday ATTEST: /	
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**INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM** 

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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#### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

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of history which envelopes Stroudwater is made even stronger because the buildings have been continuously lived in and cared for.

The Stroudwater Historic District will have an added significance in the future. Plans are now in progress to restore sections of the Cumberland and Oxford Canal, creating a linear park system. Stroudwater would become a focal point near the southern end of the canal, as it was in the past.

Stroudwater is easily accessible to the people in the Greater Portland area. If the current encroachment of the modern world can be prevented from destroying the integrity of the village, it will continue to have the unusual impact of living history for all who visit it.



