

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAINE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

(in three volumes)

VOLUME II

STATE OF MAINE

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ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS



1943-1944



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ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS



1943-1944

To His Excellency, Sumner Sewall, Governor of Maine.  
and the Honorable Council

In accordance with the stipulations of the law covering the Superintendent of Public Buildings, which law states that an annual report shall be presented to the Governor and Council, I herewith submit the following report for the year beginning July 21, 1943 and ending June 30, 1944.

Under the old law, the duties of the Superintendent of Buildings were confined to the maintenance of the State House and adjoining buildings only, but, under the new law, in addition to the maintenance of the aforementioned buildings and at the request of the various department heads, it has been necessary for this Department to act in an advisory capacity, giving any information and help desired for the maintenance of buildings under their jurisdiction. This work involved considerable travel, the drafting of plans, and the preparing of specifications, as well as supervision of projects. Bids have been secured for all major projects. With the exception of the installation of acoustical ceilings for the Bureau of Accounts and Control, the Bureau of Taxation, the Bureau of Purchases, and the Cafeteria, all work has been awarded to Maine contractors.

This report will be as brief and concise as possible covering only the more important activities. There are several minor items of work which will not be mentioned but which have been done as routine work. In addition to miscellaneous shelving and weather stripping, this Department has done work for the following departments:

**Adjutant General's Department:**

There was some talk of rebuilding the large Garage at the Augusta State Airport and plans and estimates were furnished accordingly. However, this project was abandoned.

Plans were also drawn for the erection of a new entrance feature for this office building.

**Bangor Armory—Bangor:**

Authorization was given for the installation of new ridge boards on the Drill Shed and for the general repairing of the roof.

**Bath Armory—Bath:**

A new floor was installed in the Drill Shed to replace the floor which had to be removed there. This removal was necessitated by the rotting of the timbers due to no ventilation. A new floor was constructed together with the proper ventilation to protect the floor from future deterioration.

**Belfast Armory—Belfast:**

This Armory is in good condition and no repairs or alterations have been necessary.

**Brewer Armory—South Brewer:**

This Armory is in good condition and no repairs or alterations were necessary.

**Brunswick Armory—Brunswick:**

This Armory is in good condition and no repairs or alterations were made.

**Gardiner Armory—Gardiner:**

No repairs or alterations were necessary at this Armory since it is in good condition.

**Milk Street Armory—Portland:**

This Armory now houses the USO and is in good repair.

**Millinocket Armory—Millinocket:**

This Armory developed a large crack in the rear brick wall and, upon investigation, it was found that this was an old settlement. As it is not anticipated that the building will settle any more, the large crack has been repaired and this Armory is now in good condition.

**Newport Armory—Newport:**

This Armory is in good condition and no repairs or alterations have been necessary.

**Norway Armory—Norway:**

This Armory is in good condition and no repairs or alterations were necessary.

**Rumford Armory—Rumford:**

Considerable difficulty developed with the heating system at this Armory but it has now been corrected and is operating very satisfactorily.

The building itself is in good condition.

**Saco Armory—Saco:**

Federal troops were housed in this Armory for sometime and during their stay the Armory was damaged to quite an extent. Plastering and painting work had to be done after they moved out. Also, the grounds were badly torn up and had to be regraded and reseeded.

Due to a series of heavy rains in the early Spring and because the sewer was too small, water backed up into the Boiler Room and caused extensive damage to the stoker motor. This condition has now been remedied by the installation of tide water traps and new sumps in the Boiler Room and Rifle Range, plus an electric centrifugal pump which has been installed in the Boiler Room. This pump will operate automatically and will take care of any other emergency caused by water.

The flashings at the junction of the Drill Shed roof and the Head House roof have given a great deal of trouble but these have been repaired.

This Armory is now generally in good condition.

**South Portland Armory—South Portland:**

This Armory now houses a Coast Guard Training School and is being kept up by this unit.

However, it will be necessary to waterproof the walls with a transparent material. There is a great amount of cast stone in this structure through which water seeps in. Material for this work has been ordered and the work has been authorized.

When this work is completed, this Armory will be in good condition.

**Stevens Avenue Armory—Portland:**

The roof of the Drill Shed, due to its construction, has caused some trouble but it is anticipated that when this is taken care of there will be no further trouble. It will be taken care of just as soon as the labor is available.

During the year there have been several inspections made of all the armories and all work has been done with the knowledge and approval of the Adjutant General and his staff.



**Department of Agriculture:****Highmoor Farm—Monmouth:**

At Highmoor Farm I was called in to investigate the condition of water entering the cellar of the residence, to ascertain whether or not the water pipes could be relocated in the Hennerly, and to discuss the question of proper returns on the heating system.

It was recommended that the water from the residence be drained to a low point adjacent to the highway bridge abutment and that a new water pipe be installed in the Hennerly parallel to the heating main so that it would not freeze. Also, it was recommended that a circulating pump be installed in connection with the heating system to mechanically bring back the return water to the boiler.

These recommendations, to date, have not been carried out because of lack of funds.

**Attorney General's Department:****Inheritance Tax Division:**

The Inheritance Tax Division office, located in the south end of the Museum, was reconditioned and painted and a considerable amount of shelving was installed.

**Department of Education:**

Under the balcony in the main office, private offices were provided for two of the members of that department and a large bookcase, the width of the room, was installed together with other shelving. New modern light fixtures were installed giving an intensity of light thirty-five to fifty foot candles. These fixtures are one thousand watt lamps and thirteen were installed, each on a separate circuit. Eight five hundred watt fixtures were also installed.

In order not to inconvenience the personnel any more than necessary, the greater part of this work was done after regular working hours.

At the storage space in the Automobile Registration Building, wire grills were erected.

A case of drawers was made for the Accounting Division.

**Aroostook State Normal School—Presque Isle:**

A contract was approved for the installation of a new heating system which it was necessary to install because the old heating plant was beyond repair. The Federal Government uses these quarters.

It was also authorized to check the entire heating system at South Hall and install a new water main to North Hall.

It was further authorized to have installed radiator valves, traps, and return traps.

A contract was awarded for the installation of a tile paneled ceiling in the Matron's Room at North Hall.

**Farmington State Normal School—Farmington:**

It was necessary to apply waterproofing material to the parapets and belt course at the Gymnasium Building at this School.

**Madawaska Training School—Fort Kent:**

Arrangements were made for the instruction of the janitors in the operation of the heating plant and authorization was given to check the boiler and stokers.

Painting of all the buildings is recommended.

**Washington State Normal School—Machias:**

The floor in the Gymnasium was repaired.

Wall radiator brackets were replaced in several instances where they were pulling away from the walls and where they presented an unsafe condition. The worst of these cases have been taken care of and the rest will be taken care of just as soon as possible.

It was also necessary to make extensive repairs on the window jambs at the rear of the building in order that the beating rain should be prevented from getting into the walls and damaging the wall plaster and the ceiling plaster.

**Western State Normal School—Gorham:**

After careful investigation, it was recommended that the unsafe cheek of the dormers at Robie Hall be repaired and that the metal copings on the Administration Building also be repaired. It was also recommended that some parapets be rebuilt and new brick installed at the Gymnasium Building. This work should be taken care of because the water gets into the brick and the freezing and thawing action presents a bad condition there.

This work was first postponed because of the lateness of the season and, to date, arrangements have not been made to do this work because of the shortage of labor.

Several trips of inspection and supervision have been made during the year and all recommendations have been presented to the Deputy Commissioner of this department for approval and authorization before any work was awarded.

**Executive Department:**

New lighting fixtures were installed in the Senate Retiring Room now occupied by the executive secretaries.

**Blaine House—State Street:**

A considerable amount of interior painting and papering was done at the Governor's Mansion this year.

Tuyere blocks in the stoker were replaced and necessary repairs made.

Forty-eight storm windows were purchased and painted and are to be installed this Fall.

It has been recommended to insulate the ceilings of the second floor, also.

New fences and gates were erected on the State and Capital Street sides.

**Finance Department:**

**Bureau of Accounts and Control:**

A considerable amount of carpenter work, including shelves, tables, cupboards, and cabinets has been done for this Bureau. New acoustical ceilings were installed in the Machine and Punch Rooms on the first floor. This work was done after regular working hours so that it would not be necessary to interrupt the functions of these offices.

**Bureau of Purchases:**

An acoustical ceiling was installed in the clerk's office.

**Bureau of Taxation:**

Some shelving has been built for this Bureau and new acoustical ceilings were installed outside of working hours. These were erected in practically all the offices.

New linoleum has been laid in the corridor and in all the offices.

**Forestry Department:**

A large Stockroom was built at the Automobile Registration Building for the storage of records.

**Health and Welfare Department:****Bureau of Health:**

Extensive buzzer and intercommunicating systems were installed between several offices.

Shelving was installed in the Dark Room.

A new tile ceiling was erected in the office of the Director of Maternal and Child Health.

Shelving and bookcases were built for several divisions and painting was done in the Director's office.

Several desks have been sanded and refinished and cabinets have been built for the Water Laboratory.

At the request of the Bureau of Health we painted the concrete walls and ceiling of the areaway to provide additional light in the Chief Clerk's office of the Division of Sanitary Engineering. All windows which were French style have been double hung to provide ventilation in the office of the Chief Clerk, in the private office of the Director, and in the main office of this Division.

Considerable work was done for the Diagnostic Laboratory in the way of tables, desks, counters, and cupboards. This project kept one carpenter employed for almost a year doing nothing but this work and it necessitated the hiring of an additional carpenter to help take care of the routine maintenance. A great deal of electrical work has been done for this Laboratory also.

**Division of General Relief:****Jefferson Home for Homeless Men:**

Plans and estimates for a proposed Infirmary at this Camp were made but nothing further has been done on this project.

Insulation was installed in two of the buildings also.

**Bureau of Social Welfare:**

I made a trip to Bangor and investigated several buildings. Plans and estimates were made for housing the Bangor Branch Office but it was not recommended that this work be done because of high costs and inefficient working conditions.

I also investigated several offices in Skowhegan for a Skowhegan Branch Office but it was decided to do nothing there.

Investigations were made at the Vickery and Hill Building, plans were drawn, and work was awarded on a contract basis for the construction of offices for the Augusta Branch Office. All electrical work was done by this Department at no labor cost to the Health and Welfare Department.

**Department of Institutional Service:**

Assistance was given the Commissioner of this department in determining the man hours for his large Postwar Planning Program.

**Augusta State Hospital—Augusta:**

Plans were made and contract awarded for the erection of coal storage facilities required because of the necessity of converting from oil to coal as ordered by the Solid Fuels Administration. Two stokers were installed in the boilers and five boiler settings were rebuilt.

There are some plastering repairs necessary here and the usual amount of painting should be done.

Structurally, the buildings are in good condition at this institution.

**Bangor State Hospital—Bangor:**

The buildings at this institution are very well maintained but it is necessary to do some extensive repair work to the heating system. A safe and adequate lighting system should be installed to replace the existing dangerous system.

**Central Maine Sanatorium—Fairfield:**

A new root cellar has been built at this institution and general repairs have been made to some of the porches and steps of the various buildings.

There is still a considerable amount of repair work to be done here in the future together with a general painting program. I feel that there is quite an opportunity for improvement in the maintenance program at this institution.

**Maine School for the Deaf—Portland:**

Prior to the painting of the buildings at this institution, all roofs and gutters were put into first class condition.

The exteriors of all of these buildings, except the School

Building, were painted and the interior of the School Building was painted throughout. The exterior of the School Building is being taken care of now.

These buildings are in reasonably good condition.

**Maine State Prison—Thomaston:**

These buildings are in good condition except for a corner of the main building where it will be necessary to make extensive repairs to the brickwork. There are several large cracks and some loose brickwork to be replaced.

**Northern Maine Sanatorium—Presque Isle**

One large flat roof has been repaired here.

These buildings are in good condition except that it will be necessary another year to paint the exteriors and to repair some ceilings.

**Pownal State School—Pownal:**

The entire interior of Vosburgh Hall has been redecorated.

A new Industrial Building has been erected to release space in another building which will provide quarters for one hundred and fifty additional inmates.

The Reservoir is in bad condition and needs to be temporarily repaired. This will be done right away. A large crack has developed and the water is leaking out.

This Reservoir is only large enough for one day's supply of water which it receives from the pumping station. Should the power break down for three or four days, the institution would be without water. A much larger Reservoir to supply water for a least three or four days should be constructed.

The general condition of the buildings is very good.

**State Military and Naval Children's Home—Bath:**

The iron fence, broken in an automobile accident, has been repaired with the settlement paid by the insurance company.

The painting of the entire exterior of this building has been done. The interior portion will be painted at a later date.

For an old building, this building is in very good condition.

**State Reformatory for Men—South Windham:**

The wiring in the Cow Barn at this institution was condemned by the insurance company and a complete new wiring system has been installed to comply with their request.

Plans were made to provide a release for the overcrowded conditions at the Pownal State School but it was found that this would not be feasible and the plan was abandoned.

Twelve new cell blocks were purchased from the Industrial School at Manchester, New Hampshire, and ten have been erected in the basement of the Industrial Building.

The present heating system in the Administration Building has been surveyed and found to be very poorly laid out. It has now been reconditioned and modernized, final results giving the desired heat and allowing for a more economical operation of the entire system.

It has been recommended that tile floors be installed in the Kitchen and Serving Rooms.

It has also been recommended that the exterior brick walls of the building be waterproofed to eliminate the entrance of water which causes considerable damage to the walls.

It has been decided to modernize the Dining Room by the installation of a new tile ceiling and the removal of the old refrigerating unit to provide more space. New indirect lights will also be installed in the Dining Room.

#### **State Reformatory for Women—Skowhegan:**

A ventilating system was worked out for the Cow Barn and this work has been authorized.

The main Barn has been shingled and some repairs have been made on the Carriage Shed and the Potato House.

A stoker has been installed in Stevens Building, a new boiler has been installed replacing the broken one in this building, and a new stoker has been installed in the Hospital Building to replace the one which broke down beyond repair last Winter. Cell rooms have been repaired and general painting and minor repairs have been done.

Conferences were held and recommendations made in connection with a new water system. A contract has been awarded for the excavation of a trench along the highway and an eight inch line connecting with the water line to the institution is to be laid by the Skowhegan Water Company. A new water line is to be installed across the grounds from the Farm House to the Stevens Building. This will allow for more capacity than now exists.

### **State School for Boys—South Portland:**

Plans were made for a new Cow Barn with a capacity for thirty-eight cows and a new Hennery with a capacity of three thousand hens. The Cow Barn has been completed and now the cows are housed there. The Hennery is nearly completed. Before this work could be started, bills of material had to be prepared and conferences held with the War Production Board in order to obtain the necessary project ratings.

All the dormitory buildings will need quite a lot of maintenance repair work to put them in first class condition. There should be a considerable amount of interior and exterior painting done, together with carpentry work, masonry work, and plumbing.

### **State School for Girls—Hallowell:**

Porches, side and rear, on Erskine Building have been removed and replaced with new ones. These porches were in a very unsafe condition and it was essential that this work be done. In the Farmer's Cottage, new partitions were erected and new bathroom fixtures installed. New windows were also cut in the exterior wall to provide more adequate light.

The high pressure boiler in the Laundry at Central Building blew several tubes and it was necessary to retube the boiler and to relocate it in a more practicable location. At the same time, the masonry walls were repaired around the Boiler Room.

In the Auditorium of Central Building, the walls and ceiling were painted according to prepared specifications.

These buildings generally are in need of extensive repairs. Flagg Dummer Dormitory needs a considerable amount of replastering. Erskine Building needs some replastering. Central Building needs practically all new lathing and plastering and a considerable amount of masonry work should be done there. Baker Building needs a considerable amount of repairing. The exteriors of all these buildings, with the exception of the Hospital Building, should be painted.

It will be necessary to provide heat in the girls' rooms in all three dormitories.

### **Western Maine Sanatorium—Hebron:**

New ventilation has been installed in the Cow Barn at this institution by providing intakes in the walls twelve inches from



the ceiling and with a large duct extending up through the high Hay Barn. This now provides the proper amount of draft to ventilate the Cow Barn.

The boiler here developed a blister and the Portland Company was authorized to make the necessary repairs. This work has been done.

A concrete floor was installed under the porch of one of the hospital buildings to provide additional storage space and linoleum has been installed in some of the corridors of the Hospital Building.

The tunnel between the Administration Building and the Hospital Building, which has caused a considerable amount of trouble because of moisture, has been repaired by the application of waterproofing material on the interior, thus allowing for the redecorating of the passageway.

During the year there have been several inspection trips made to the various institutions alone and together with the Commissioner and all work has been done with his knowledge and approval.

#### **Liquor Commission:**

The Liquor Commission was ordered to vacate its quarters at the Airport and it was necessary to provide office space for them elsewhere. Such quarters were obtainable when the First Corps Command vacated its premises at the Vickery and Hill Building. It was necessary to make extensive alterations to provide for new offices and this has all been done. They now have offices comparable to any in the State House.

#### **Maine Maritime Academy—Castine:**

The Maine Maritime Academy requested a survey to be made to provide for a large Garage connecting with the Gymnasium Building. Plans were made and estimates given but this work was postponed.

#### **Milk Control Board:**

This Board and the Park Commission were moved from their locations in the so-called "Mace House" and new quarters were built for them on the ground floor of the Vickery and Hill Building. These offices are much more suitable than those they were occupying previously.

**Park Commission:****Fort William Henry—Pemaquid:**

It was necessary to remove the old roofing and timbers and boarding. A new deck and roof were then installed. At the same time, the parapets were coated with waterproofing material to prevent further water getting into the walls. Several bad cracks had developed in the walls as a result of the water getting in.

**Secretary of State:**

Partitions and a considerable amount of shelving have been built for the filing of records at the Automobile Registration Building for this department. Some shelving has also been built for their offices in the State House.

**Department of Public Buildings:****State House:**

It was felt that a new system of numbering the offices should be set up and, accordingly, all rooms have been renumbered.

Along with the project, a new Directory has been installed on the first floor easily accessible to all.

A survey was made to ascertain whether or not it would be practical to eliminate the use of the regular switchboard on Sundays, holidays, and nights. All calls would come through a special key located on the Elevator but it was decided this would not be practical.

**State House Cafeteria:**

After the new Cafeteria had been in operation a short time, it was found to be inadequate to handle the State House personnel.

Therefore, an extension was made to provide thirty-three additional seats.

(At the same time, we provided a Janitors' Room, a First Aid Room, and a Stockroom for this Department. Shelving and cupboards for the Bureau of Accounts and Control and a Store-room for the Cafeteria were also included in this project.)

New acoustical ceilings were installed in the main Dining Room and in the extension. This work was done after regular working hours.

Due to the fact that an occasion might arise wherein the existing proprietor should see fit to vacate the Cafeteria, and as all the Cafeteria equipment belonged to the present proprietor, it seemed advisable for the State to purchase new equipment and install it as permanent fixtures. Accordingly, a Council Order was prepared and approved and a new gas range, a large electric refrigerator, twin coffee urns and creamer, a warming table, and an electric dishwashing machine were purchased. All this equipment has been installed with the exception of the dishwashing machine which has not yet arrived.

All tables, chairs, and cupboards were made at the Maine State Prison. A new counter was made in our Carpenter Shop.

#### **State House Dome:**

It was felt that the exterior and the interior of the Dome were in a deplorable condition and should be repaired and painted. An estimate was secured for exterior painting and gold leafing the Dome and Miss Wisdom. This figure was deemed excessive and this project was abandoned.

Specifications were then prepared and put out to bid for the interior painting but only one bid was received. This bid was also excessive and it was rejected.

Still feeling that at least part of this work should be done, I prepared plans for the staging of the exterior and interior, purchased the lumber prior to the lumber freeze, and have made preparations for my own carpenters and painters to stage and paint the vertical surfaces of the exterior and the entire interior. This work is now in progress.

#### **State House Steps—North Entrances:**

A contract was awarded for the repointing of the granite steps and the installation of concrete side walls at the Capital Street entrance and for the rebuilding of the north entrance steps near the rollway entrance. This project has been completed satisfactorily.

#### **State House Stokers:**

It was also felt that the heating plant in the State House was not being operated as economically as it could be. Accordingly, a survey was made to ascertain the advisability of installing stokers.

It was determined that with the installation of stokers, a saving of one hundred to one hundred and fifty tons of coal could be realized. Therefore, two new stokers of the proper size and type have been installed in the boilers and they will contribute to a more economical operation of the heating plant and will eliminate the menace caused by the black smoke. Over a period of years this heavy smoke has blackened the entire south and west walls of the building. After several trials with the new stokers, only a small trace of smoke has been detected which is correct for proper combustion.

#### **Automobile Registration Building—242 State Street:**

It was originally hoped to modernize this building but, because of lack of funds at the time of alterations, only work deemed absolutely essential was allowed.

The second floor now occupied by the Financial Responsibility and Court Records Division was originally used for an automobile show room and, therefore, had plate glass windows on the front and on part of the sides. This glass surface, of course, contributed to a great heat loss in the Winter and a large amount of radiation was installed to adequately heat this room. With the intense heat on the inside and the extreme cold on the outside, the expansion and contraction caused an average of three or four plate glass windows to break each year. With this in mind, and at the same time with the idea of modernizing this building, glass blocks have been installed in place of all plate glass. A new glass vestibule has been built in the center with entrance doors swinging outward.

There will also be installed new entrance features on the lower floor.

Originally, there was no ventilation in the front of the building and, during the installation of the glass blocks, eight ventilating sash have been inserted.

It is intended to redecorate the interior of this room and to rearrange the personnel in order that the working space will be made available on the front where they may benefit from the increase in light.

A tile drain is to be installed on the exterior of the building discharging into the brook at the rear of the building. This

is being done to eliminate the water entering the building in the Spring of the year.

The existing parking lot has been improved and will be further improved by the application of road tar. The old driveways on the front of the building have been covered with loam and seeded and also in front of the diner adjacent seed has been sown. This now presents a much better appearance and space will be provided elsewhere for parking.

It is planned to insulate the ceiling of the second floor and a portion of the first floor ceiling to eliminate heat penetrating into the building in the Summer.

During the Winter, the outside steps going to the lower level ice up considerably. This is to be remedied by the installation of a sump with grating at the foot of the walk at the top of the steps.

It is further recommended to eliminate all parking along State Street from the Automobile Registration Building to the corner of Manley Street, thus providing clear vision and helping to eliminate the possibility of accidents at this point.

**Guild House—124 Grove Street:**

The so-called "Guild House" was vacated during April. A reasonable amount of painting and general repair work has been done to make the dwelling more livable for the new tenant. We did no more than was absolutely necessary because it is assumed that this building will be demolished when the new office building is erected.

**Mace House—120 Grove Street:**

The so-called "Mace House", which is now used for a Shop, has had partitions removed to provide a larger Carpenter Shop. Some machinery, such as a new planer, a band saw, a circular saw, etc. has been installed.

This all contributes to our ability to handle the building of tables and cabinets and other small items for the various departments. The call for this type of work has increased greatly in the past year because it has been difficult to obtain ready-made articles. This has also contributed to the increased cost in personnel since it has been necessary to hire an additional carpenter at the expense of this Department in order that the other departments might benefit.

Space also was provided for a Paint Shop and the lumber used for staging the Dome will be stored in this house.

No great amount of repairing has been done to the building since it is assumed that it will also be torn down to make room for the new office building.

#### **Staff House—107 Grove Street:**

The Staff House became overrun with rats and the Rodent Control officer was consulted and he recommended that the house be fumigated. However, this was not practical due to the fact that tenants were living there. All holes in the cellar and foundation walls were plugged and all possible entrances in the attic were eliminated. At the same time, the garbage condition which was attracting the rats was removed and no report of rats has been made since that time.

A new inlaid linoleum was laid in the Kitchen, Pantry, and Hall. A new modern gas range was also installed to replace the outdated one.

When the new tenants moved in, request was made for a considerable amount of repair work and, accordingly, several rooms have been repapered and painted.

New shades have been installed where necessary and new curtains have been purchased.

Some new electrical fixtures were also installed.

The set tubs were removed and a Bendix washer, owned by the tenants, was installed.

An automatic coal stoker has been installed to decrease the cost of heating this dwelling, which cost has been excessive. At the same time, it will eliminate the necessity of considerable attention by the State House firemen. It is hoped and anticipated that more satisfactory heating will be attained.

#### **Health and Welfare Building—231 State Street:**

Repairs were made on the sidewalk at the front entrance to this building and a new entrance porch has been built with easy running steps.

The Boiler Room has been repaired to comply with the suggestions of the Insurance Department.

A new floor has been installed in the Stock Room and a new curb has been built at the entrance of the Boiler Room to eliminate the water running in there in the Spring.

#### **Highway Building:**

The entrance doors to the Highway Building not only were in need of being replaced but it was considered that, since there was no landing here, a dangerous condition existed, particularly for strangers.

Accordingly, a new large oak door has been installed, set back from the face of the building enough to make a safe exit. This door has been featured by the installation of fluted pilasters on each side with panels at the head and side jambs. This is more practical and presents a more modern and more pleasing aspect.

Some painting has been done in the corridors of this building also.

#### **State Park—State Street:**

A considerable amount of pruning of the trees has been done in addition to the regular maintenance. This has helped to prolong the life and beauty of these trees.

The driveways have been scarified, rolled, and resurfaced.

The unsafe rustic bridges have been removed and the paths have been cleaned up in the rear of the Governor Lincoln Memorial.

#### **Blaine Memorial—Airport:**

The Memorial has been kept in good condition with general routine care.

#### **State Police Building—Hospital Street:**

On the north and west sides of this building new double windows were installed for the purpose of reducing heat loss and to make the rooms more comfortable.

A new coal stoker has been installed to help decrease the cost of heating. The Solid Fuels Administration refused us the use of hard coal for this building this Winter and the War Production Board rejected our request to reconvert from coal

to oil. Had soft coal been used, it would have been necessary to employ an additional janitor to fire the boiler during the night. It would also have soiled the entire building to a great extent.

At the request of the State Police Department, a survey was made and a new parking lot built in the rear of the building to accommodate twenty additional cars. Earth material was excavated, new gravel installed, and all was properly graded and a bumper has been built to protect the grounds. The entrance driveways have been widened to provide better access to the grounds.

**Vickery and Hill Building—Chapel Street:**

A considerable amount of office space has been provided here as mentioned under the various departments concerned.

The old original wooden building was in such a deplorable condition that we painted it one coat to make a more presentable appearance.

**Maine State Office Building Committee:**

This Committee requested that a survey be made to ascertain the requirements of the various State departments, having in mind the construction of an extension to the State House for a new office building. This survey was conducted, a site plan was obtained, and preliminary estimates were made for several types of buildings. These were all presented to the Committee as a guide for determining requirements for an office building. After some deliberation, it was decided that plans should be awarded by competition conducted by a professional advisor. Accordingly, such an advisor was employed and this project is being conducted under his supervision.

**Postwar Planning Program:**

An extensive Postwar Planning Program has been prepared and surveys and plans are being made as practical. It is not intended to do any more than is essential since no funds for such work were set up in the original budget. The expense for whatever work is being done on plans and surveys is being borne by this Department on approval of the Finance Commissioner.



It has been the intention of this Department through the past year to cooperate to the fullest possible extent with all other State departments and it is hoped that this has been accomplished to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

IRVING W. RUSSELL,  
*Superintendent*