

1907

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 18). 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 Dutton-Small House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Bog Road

not for publication

city, town Vassalboro

vicinity

state Maine

code

ME

county Kennebec

code

011

zip code

04989

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</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.

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:) _____

Entered in the
National Register

Melanie Byers

12/18/90

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Federal period Dutton-Small House is a two-story five-bay brick building that features a two-story ell and gable roof. A long frame wood shed/carriage house projects from the ell's east side and a large detached barn stands farther to the east. The buildings occupy a slightly elevated site whose surroundings are relatively undisturbed in terms of more recent construction.

The symmetrically composed south-facing front elevation has a centrally located entrance whose four-panel door is framed by sidelights and an elliptical fan. Flanking windows on the first story have a two-over-two sash pattern whereas those on the second story are eight-over-twelve (these new units were installed in an inverted manner from the original after a 1970s fire). A narrow cornice carries across the facade and makes a short return on the gable ends. Two exterior end chimneys penetrate the roof just forward of the ridge whereas a modern flue is located to the east of center.

The east elevation consists of the gable end of the main block and one side of the ell. On the former, there is a side entrance with transom, and a pair of two-over-two windows on the first story as well as a trio on the upper level. A single nine-over-six unit occupies the gable peak. The ell has a two-over-two window on its lower story, and the original twelve-over-eight sash in the two windows above. There are four symmetrically placed windows on the west gable end as well as the attic unit and a smaller second story window inserted c. 1930 for a bathroom. The deeply recessed west side of the ell has a door and twelve-over-eight window on its first story and a single one above. There are also two windows, one on each story, on the rear of the main block. A third chimney stack rises through the roof on this elevation and a fourth is located at the end of the ell. A granite block foundation supports the main house. Of additional note is the bulbous projection of the bake oven on the back of the ell.

In plan, the house is somewhat irregular. Unlike many houses of the period the central hall does not extend through the entire first floor thereby creating a four-room configuration. Instead, a parlor and living room flank the steep stairs and a single, much larger room with a large hearth occupies the rear half of the first story. This pattern is repeated on the second floor. The relatively steep stairway has a modest balustrade,

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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and the balance of the woodwork is typical of the late Federal period. This consists of four-panel doors, chairrails, mitered door and window surrounds and mantel pieces. In a somewhat unusual pattern the most elaborate chairrail is located in a second floor bedroom where it is accompanied by the equally detailed mantel. The splayed window reveals indicate the thickness of the brick walls. At the rear of the kitchen ell is a large hearth with flanking bake oven and warm water bowls. A secondary stairway to the upper floor is believed to have been located in this room, but it was apparently moved after the fire to the large room in the main house.

A shed roofed frame vestibule shelters a pair of doors on the east side of the ell; one of which leads to the kitchen and one to the shed. The shed is an early, if not original, feature that is covered in wood shingles. Its south side has a large opening with track mounted doors and a door and window at the east end leading to a separate room. A portion of this room is covered with accordion wooden lath, but there is no evidence that plaster had ever been applied over it. To the east is the gabled, shingled barn which appears to have been built in the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. It has a number of door and window openings on its west and south sides.

The barn is a non-contributing resource because it was erected after the period of significance.

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

Period of Significance

1825

Significant Dates

1825

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

Believed to have been erected by 1825, the date which is inscribed under the newel post cap, the Dutton-Small House is a largely intact two-story Federal period dwelling of brick construction. For its scale, materials, and the context of its rural setting, the house represents a locally significant architectural resource. It is eligible for nomination to the National Register under criterion C.

The Town of Vassalboro, in which this house is located, is predominantly rural in character. Historically, it had six small village centers, the most expansive of which was built around a woolen textile manufactory established in North Vassalboro in 1847. By 1850 the town's population stood at 3,099 (at present it is 3,600). Scattered throughout this settled landscape are a variety of historic resources, the vast majority of which are residential in character. However, there are few brick buildings, the Dutton-Small House being among the earliest and most intact. Thus, the dwelling achieves a measure of architectural significance apart from its more numerous frame peers.

The respective pretentiousness of this house is explained in part by the occupation of its original owner John Dutton (1780-1850). According to local historians, Dutton was a real estate speculator with some twenty deeds recorded in his name as both grantee and grantor. In 1815 he acquired the 203 acre tract of land upon which he later built this house. Although he is buried in the cemetery behind the house, Dutton only owned the house until 1832 when he transferred it and a twenty-five acre parcel to Daniel Dutton. Two years later it was sold to Ezekial Small (1777-1865), whose descendants occupied it for the balance of the nineteenth century. It was during this period that the barn was added and possibly a portion of the ell. The above mentioned newel cap bears the note "C. Dow, China, ME, New Year's Day AD 1825." Presumably, this tells us the name of the carpenter and date of completion of the stair if not all of the woodwork. Unfortunately, Dow has not as yet been further identified.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Robbins, Alma Pierce. The History of Vassalborough, Maine.
Privately Published. 1971.

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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.5

UTM References

A 19 447930 4920670
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to embrace the immediate surroundings of the Dutton-Small House and its detached barn. Since its significance is architectural and not agricultural the balance of the property, much of which is wooded, is not included in this nomination.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian
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← DUTTON-SMALL HOUSE
VASSALBORO vic, MAINE

