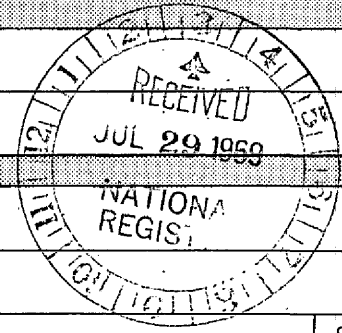


14704639

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: MAINE	
COUNTY: Sagadahoc	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-10-18-0005	10/1/69



1. NAME

COMMON:
Fort Popham Memorial

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Popham Beach vicinity

STATE: **Maine** CODE: **01862** COUNTY: **Sagadahoc** CODE: **00232**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Memorial
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
State of Maine

STREET AND NUMBER:
State House

CITY OR TOWN: **Augusta** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **0180**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Sagadahoc County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Bath** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **01830**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **MAINE**
COUNTY: **Sagadahoc**
ENTRY NUMBER: **69-10-18-0005**
DATE: **10/1/69**
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Construction on Fort Popham was started in 1861. It was never completed since improvements in fortification were taking place so rapidly. Fort Popham is of the type known to military engineers as a closed lunette. The outline of the fort resembles a half-moon, with the water batteries in a thick granite wall some thirty feet in height. The perimeter of this unusually-shaped fort is over 500 feet.

Within the arc is a parade ground. A fine spiral staircase at each end of the fort leads to upper tiers. The top of the structure commands a sweeping view up the Kennebec in one direction and seaward in another. The two barracks that used to be within the inner grounds no longer exist.

Almost the entire space under the fort is occupied by a great subterranean cistern or cisterns into which there are several openings in the wells.

The fort's guns which once consisted of forty-two cannon, have all been sent to various places for historical purposes.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

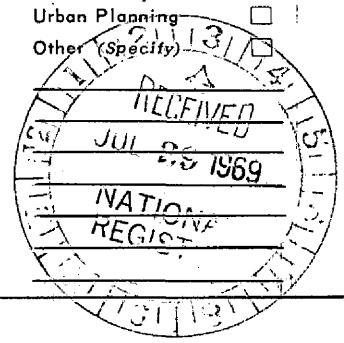
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1861

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> | Education <input type="checkbox"/> | Political <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | Science <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

History of Fort Popham Memorial

This "half-moon" granite fort, garrisoned several times though never completed, is closely associated with England's first colonization attempt in New England, and early Viking explorations.

Until 1890, it was thought that here was the site of the 1607 Popham Colony. Documents then found in Spain established that these first colonists settled on Sabino Head (visible, and marked with tablet, 1/2 mile west).

A short distance further west a boulder indicates to runologists that Viking voyagers had landed here. Experts translate the boulder markings: "year 1018 is an ill year".

On May 31, 1607, the Mary and John and the Gift of God sailed out of Plymouth, Old England, under the command of Raleigh Gilbert and George Popham. On board were one hundred colonists.

Two months later, July 31, the New World was sighted--(Nova Scotia). On Sunday, August 9, ten days before selecting Sabino Head as the plantation site, the vessels hove to in St. George's Harbor to hold what was probably one of the earliest services of the Church of England (Episcopal) in New England.

They built a fort, "trencht and fortified yt with 12 pieces of ordnance, built howses .. therein, besides a church and pretty Pynnaçe of about some thirty tonne, which they called the Virginia."

The winter of 1607-08 was a severe one and in December all but 45 colonists returned to England. In February President Popham died and Gilbert succeeded him.

In July (1608) "Capt. Gilbert received letters that his brother was newly dead" (Strachey) and a rich inheritance awaited him in England. He decided to return, "wherefore they all ymbarged and sett saile for England" (October) ... Strachey.

The building of the Virginia was forerunner of the Kennebec shipbuilding tradition known around the world.

Like other Civil War forts, Fort Popham, begun in 1861, was outmoded before completion.

The fort was garrisoned in 1865-66, during the Spanish American War in 1898, and also during World War I. The Kennebec river above the fort was mined during World War I.

The armament and strength of the fort were such that it would have been practically impossible for warships of the Civil War period to have passed; and a serious attempt to force the river entrance would have involved a landing and an attempt to carry the work from the rear, hence the moat, and the small guns and loopholes commanding the beach, the moat and the land in the rear of the fort.

It is an interesting example of the type of harbor fortification demanded by the military conditions of the period to which it belongs when spherical projectiles

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dunnack, Henry E., Maine Forts, Augusta, Maine,
(Charles E. Nash & Son) 1924), pp: 130-138

Works Progress Administration, Writers, Maine - A Guide Down East, Boston,
(Houghton Mifflin Company 1937), P. 261

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE										
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	43°	45'	20"	69°	47'	4"									
NE	43°	45'	20"	69°	47'	3"									
SE	43°	45'	19"	69°	47'	3"									
SW	43°	45'	19"	69°	47'	4"									

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Donald Holmstrom, Historian

ORGANIZATION: State Park and Recreation Commission DATE: June 18, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER: State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta STATE: Maine CODE: 0180

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Lawrence Stuart
Lawrence Stuart

Title: Director, State Park & Recreation Commission

Date: June 27, 1969

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Grinnally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: OCT 1 1969

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of The National Register

Date: SEP 29 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS
19/436 900/4244925
OTM 26F
1-26-76 W.M.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

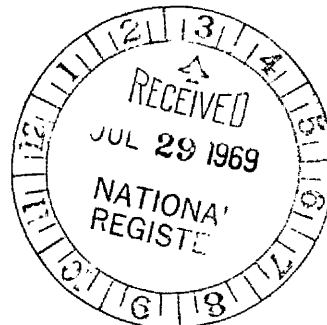
STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Sagadahoc	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

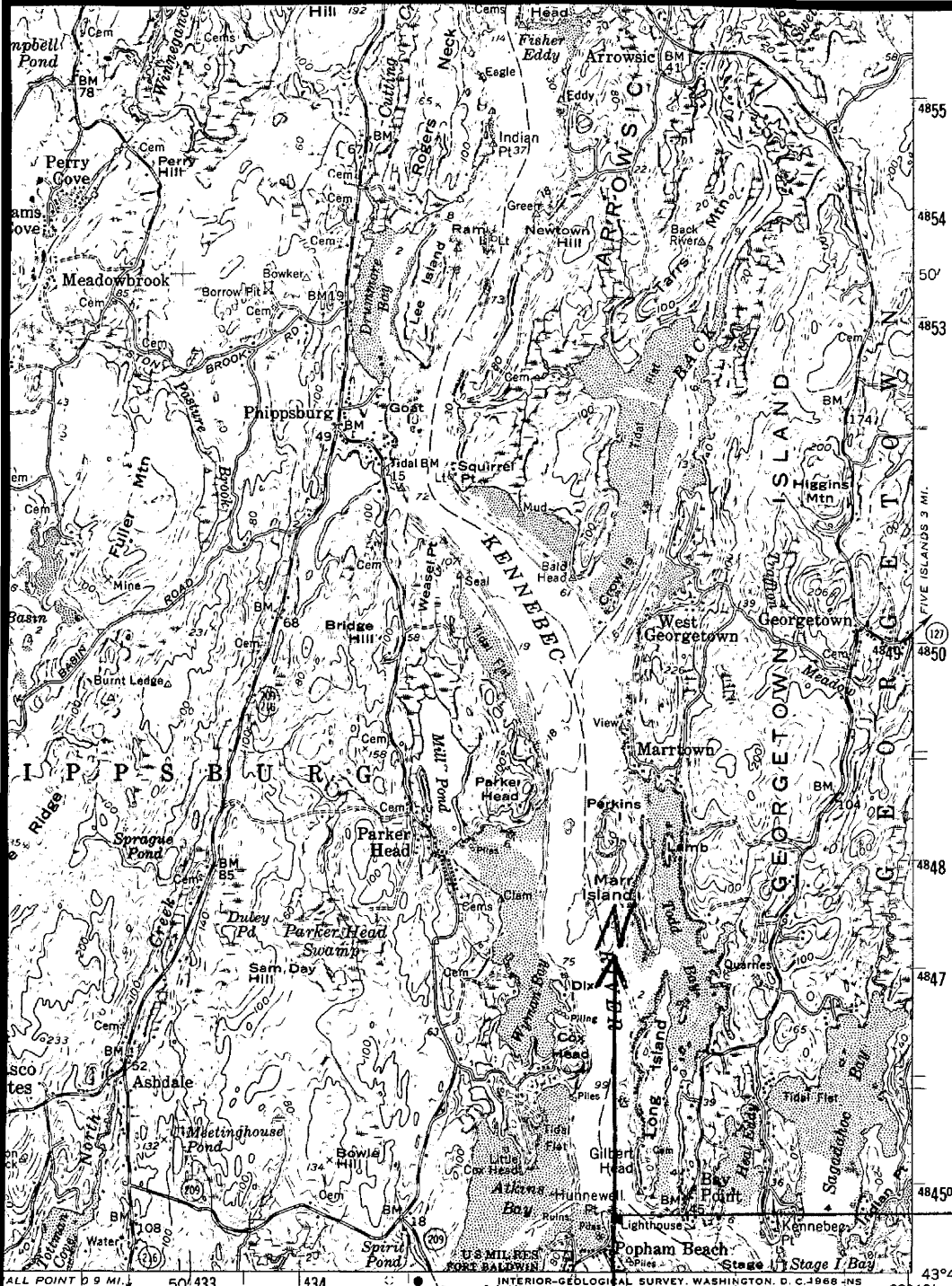
(Number all entries)

(History of Fort Popham, continued)

of cast iron were fired from smoothbore or rudely rifled muzzle loading cannon and when 1000 yards was long range for artillery firing. It's granite walls were then effective protection against shot and shell and infinitely superior in that respect to the timbers of which the warships were built.

In 1898 a battery with emplacement for one eight inch converted gun was built, which was mounted and ready for use in the Spanish-American War. A modern mine equipment was installed at Popham at the start of World War I to protect the channel leading to Bath. After the war this equipment was removed. This was the last improvement made by the United States at Fort Popham.

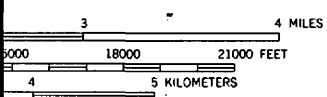




15 Min. Series
Bath, Maine
Fort Popham

43° 45' 20" N. Lat.
69° 47' 4" W. Long.

43°45' 439000m.E. 69°45'



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty _____ Light-duty _____
 Medium-duty _____ Unimproved dirt _____
 Interstate Route (circle with number) U.S. Route (square with number) State Route (circle with number)

The south half of this area also covered by 1:24 000 scale maps of Orrs Island and Phippsburg 7.5 minute quadrangles, surveyed 1941

BATH, MAINE
N 4345—W 6945/15

1957

AMS 7071 IV—SERIES V711

ARDS
D. C. 20242
TABLE ON REQUEST

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE MAINE	
COUNTY Sagadahoc	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-10-18-0005	DATE 10/1/69

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Popham Memorial

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Popham Beach

STATE:

Maine

CODE

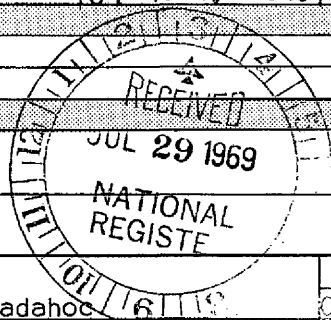
CI.B. 2

COUNTY:

Sagadahoc

CODE

0023



3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. 15' quadrangle Bath

SCALE:

1: 62,500

DATE:

1957

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

PH0004847