

PH0025062

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Maine</b>	
COUNTY: <b>York</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-10-18-0008	10/1/69

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Fort McClary**

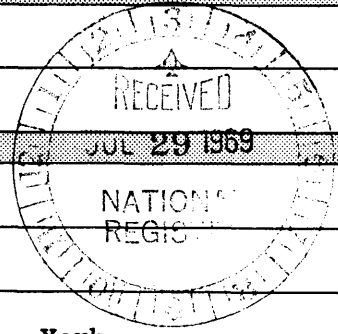
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Fort William**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Kittery Point vicinity**

STATE: **Maine** CODE: **00185** COUNTY: **York** CODE: **03105**



**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"/> <b>State Memorial</b>
Educational <input checked="" 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.:  
**York County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Alfred**

STATE:  
**Maine**

CODE:  
**0180**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **27.5 acres**

**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: YORK  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

**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

Present Condition of Ft. McClary-

The fort has deteriorated quite a bit from its state in 1845 when construction had reached a high point.

It is pentagonal-shaped with a perimeter of approximately 2000 feet. Great walls of granite masonry surround the fort's buildings. The front sea wall, bordering Portsmouth, N.H. harbor, is 500 feet long and 30 feet high. Parts of the wall were never completed, and many huge unused granite blocks are in evidence about the grounds. Evidences of two brick buildings, a rifleman's house and a barracks, are to be found inside the walls. A powder magazine is still standing, and is in good condition. There is another magazine located in a flanker near the granite wall.

The most prominent feature of the fort is the hexagonal-shaped blockhouse with a granite first story, topped with an overhanging wooden second story. The blockhouse is in good repair, and has been changed relatively little through the years. During the past several years, the Maine State Park and Recreation Commission has made steady progress in repairing the site and placing interpretive panels on the grounds for the convenience of visitors.

Original Appearance-

The physical appearance of the fort has changed little since 1845 except for the natural deterioration of the walls and inner buildings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

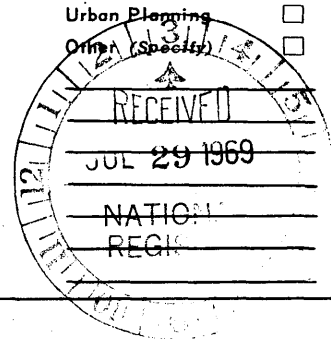
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1715 - 1865**

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 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.)

Fort McClary has long been associated with defense arrangements for Portsmouth Harbor.

Originally called Fort William, the name was changed after the American Revolution to Fort McClary in honor of Major Andrew McClary, highest ranking officer killed at the battle of Bunker Hill.

The site on which the historical <sup>u</sup>nucleus of Fort McClary stands was fortified as early as 1715 to protect the merchants of Massachusetts (which then included the present state of Maine) from "unreasonable duties" imposed by the colony of New Hampshire. An active post, its defenses apparently kept the British from venturing attack on Kittery and Portsmouth. All signs of the original fortification disappeared when the U. S. Government acquired title by an act of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1803.

This six sided blockhouse is unusual with its granite first story, topped with an overhanging wooden second story. Also, it was built after the War of 1812, in 1845, which is an unusually late construction date for a blockhouse of this type.

The first Fort McClary was completed in 1809 and in the period 1844-45, probably as the result of strained relations with Great Britain over the northeastern boundary, it was further strengthened.

A distinguished son of Maine, Hannibal Hamlin, in July, 1864, enlisted here in Co. A., State Guard, Maine Volunteer Militia, as a private, after having been Vice President under Abraham Lincoln.

Above you learned that originally this was called Fort William. William Pepperrell came from England as a youth; he became commander of the Fort, Maine's most distinguished citizen and New England's wealthiest man. His son, Sir William, served on Massachusetts' Governor's Council 32 years, 16 as president. He led the successful Louisburg Expedition in 1745, contributing 45,000 pounds of his own money.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Dunnack, Henry C. - Maine Forts (Charles E. Nash & Son, Augusta, Maine 1924) pp. 161-189.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	43°	4'	53"	70°	42'	35"			
NE	43°	4'	53"	70°	42'	37"			
SE	43°	4'	51"	70°	42'	37"			
SW	43°	4'	51"	70°	42'	35"			

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Donald Holmstrom, Historian**

ORGANIZATION: **State Park & Recreation Commission**      DATE: **June 18, 1969**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**State House**

CITY OR TOWN: **Augusta**      STATE: **Maine**      CODE: **01810**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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

Date July 22, 1969

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Ernest Allen Connolly  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

OCT 1 1969

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh  
Keeper of The National Register

Date SEP 29 1969

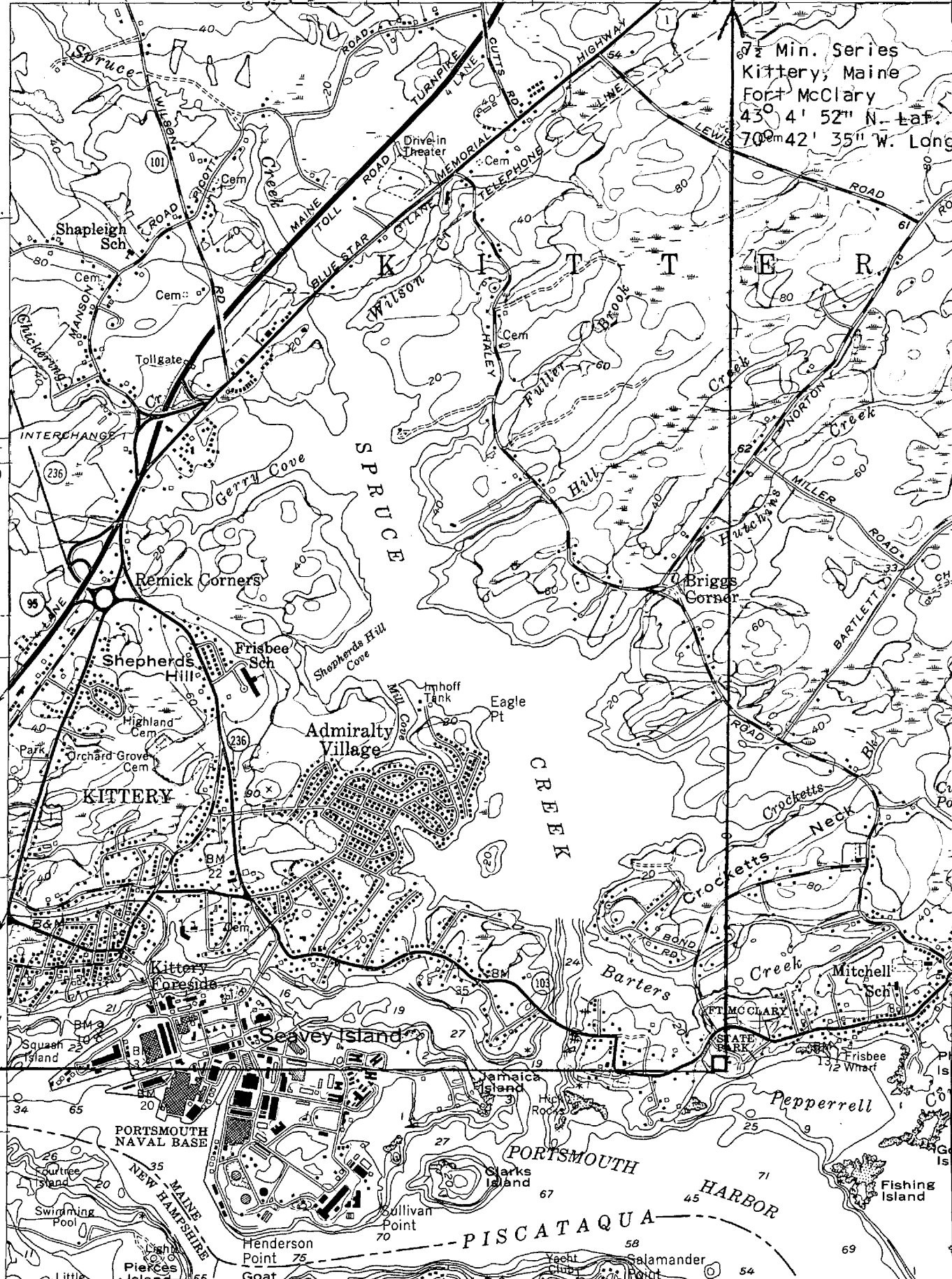
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9/360740/4971090

DTM Rel  
1-26-76

7 1/2 Min. Series  
Kittery, Maine  
Fort McClary  
43° 4' 52" N. Lat.  
70° 42' 35" W. Long

5000m.N.  
5000 FEET (ME.)  
BOSTON (CIVIC CENTER) 54 MI. SPAULDING TURNPIKE 2 MI.  
HAMPTON, N.H. 12 MI. PORTSMOUTH, N.H. 12 MI.  
INC. U.S. 1) 0.6 MI



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE <b>Maine</b>	
COUNTY <b>York</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>69-10-18-0008</b>	DATE <b>10/1/69</b>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Fort McClary**  
AND/OR HISTORIC: **Fort William**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

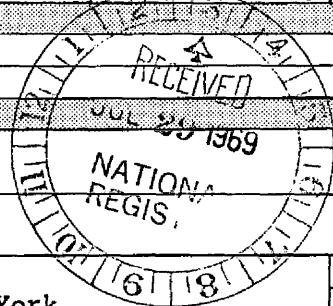
CITY OR TOWN:  
**Kittery Point**

STATE:  
**Maine**

CODE  
**0780**

COUNTY:  
**York**

CODE  
**003125**



3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

**U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle, Kittery**

SCALE: **1: 24,000**

DATE: **1956**

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

PH 0025062