

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Pike's Mile Markers

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Twelve locations along east side of Route 1 N/A not for publication

city or town Calais, N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Washington code 029 zip code 04619

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Evel S. [Signature] 11/30/94  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 1/20/95

Pike's Mile Markers  
Name of Property

Washington, Maine  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
		sites
		structures
12		objects
		Total
12		

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other/Mile Marker  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other/Mile Marker  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite  
walls \_\_\_\_\_  
roof \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Entertainment/Recreation  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

c. 1866-1882  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

c. 1866-1882  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Pike, James Shepherd  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pike's Mile Markers  
Name of Property

Washington, Maine  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less Than 1

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	19	636560	5004420
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	19	637780	5003430

3	19	638750	5002280
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	19	640520	5002680

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1994

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333-0065

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

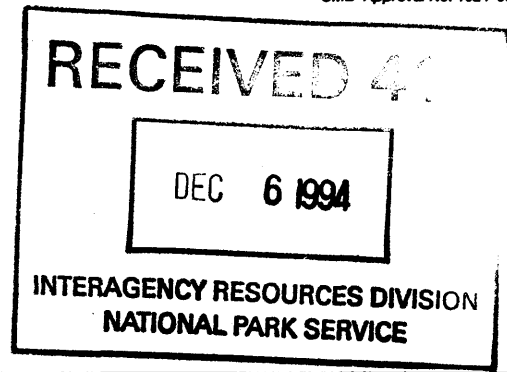
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PIKE'S MILE MARKERS

Section number 7 Page 2



Pike's Mile Markers are a series of eleven gray and one red granite slabs set upright in the grass right-of-way along U. S. Route 1. They are located at one mile intervals on the east side of the highway in and between the towns of Calais and Robbinston. Each marker is inscribed with the mile number below which is the word "Mile" or "Miles" and at the bottom the words "To Calais." The markers vary somewhat in their exposed shape, but generally stand from one to two feet above the ground surface. The following list describes their individual characteristics.

- Mile 1. Tall, battered marker with a flat top.
- Mile 2. Overall rectangular shape with an angular top.
- Mile 3. Similar to #1.
- Mile 4. Rectangular with flat top.
- Mile 5. Rectangular with flat top.
- Mile 6. Rectangular with flat top, red granite.
- Mile 7. Rectangular with curved top.
- Mile 8. Rectangular with flat top (damaged at one corner).
- Mile 9. Irregular rectangular shape.
- Mile 10. Irregular rectangular shape damaged at top.
- Mile 11. Irregular rectangular shape damaged at top.
- Mile 12. Rectangular with flat top.

The markers exist along a rural stretch of Route 1 which has seen relatively little twentieth century commercial development. Thus, their historic environmental context remains largely undisturbed. The position of several, if not all, of the markers has been adjusted somewhat over the years as the highway itself has been widened. Nevertheless, their relative location to each other has been maintained. Mile marker #6 is the only known one to be a replacement, the original having been destroyed during a highway improvement project immediately after World War II. It is distinguishable from the others by virtue of its red rather than gray granite material.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PIKE'S MILE MARKERS

Section number 8 Page 2

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Pike's Mile Markers are a group of twelve granite slabs inscribed with the numbers 1-12 and the words "Mile(s) To Calais" located along U. S. Route 1 between Robbinston and Calais. They were erected sometime between 1866 and 1882 by James Shepherd Pike (1811-1882), a widely known journalist, diplomat, and politician. The mile markers are eligible for nomination to the Register under criterion B by virtue of their association with Pike.

Born in Calais, James Shepherd Pike was the eldest son of William and Hannah (Shepherd) Pike. According to a biographical sketch of Pike which was read before the Maine Historical Society on December 22, 1885, Pike entered the business world at the age of fourteen as a clerk for the Calais merchant Neal D. Shaw. His subsequent independent ventures seem to have been unsuccessful until he entered into a flour and grain shipping business with James C. Swan. By the early 1840s Pike had acquired sufficient wherewithal to spend his winters in Boston, New York, and Washington. He also began to frequently express his anti-slavery opinions in the Boston Atlas, Boston Courier, and the Portland Advertiser, achieving a certain notoriety for himself. In 1850 Horace Greely invited him to submit articles to the New York Tribune where, during the next several years, he was a constant contributor. During this period of the mid-1850s, Pike also appears to have been active in the formation of the Republican party in Maine. Although he never gained elective office for himself, Pike served as Ambassador to the Netherlands from 1861 to 1866.

In 1866 Pike bought the "Mansion House" (N.R. 5/22/73) in Robbinston, the former residence of General Brewer where, his biographer notes, "he spent the remainder of his days, amusing himself by improving and embellishing the grounds, clearing paths to the wooded bluffs, planting forest trees, and in amateur farming, in which he took great pleasure." He had not abandoned his journalistic interests, however. During Reconstruction he observed and commented upon the failure of the Federal government's policies in South Carolina through a series of articles in the Tribune which subsequently appeared in pamphlet form under the title, A Prostrate State. He later authored a family genealogical volume called the New Puritan which appeared in 1879 followed by First Blows of the Civil War, a summary of the slavery related articles by Pike and others from the 1850s. This volume also contained a history of how the intellectual debate in this period was waged and lost. In this century Pike has been the subject of Robert Franklin Durden's 1957 work entitled James Shepherd Pike: Republicanism and the American Negro, 1850-1882.

The mile markers which stand along Route 1 were erected by Pike sometime between his acquisition of the Mansion House in 1866 and his death sixteen years later. According to local tradition, Pike is said to have methodically measured the distance between his business in Calais and his home in

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PIKE'S MILE MARKERS

Section number 8 Page 3

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Robbinston, thereafter placing the twelve mile markers. The tradition also maintains that Pike was a horse fancier and used the markers to gauge the performance of his horses. In any event, the twelve granite stones represent a distinct and unusual reminder of Pike's presence in Calais and Robbinston during the nineteenth century. They are also noteworthy as the only known markers of their type and integrity in Maine.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PIKE'S MILE MARKERS

Section number   9   Page   2  

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Davis, Elbridge Burton. "James Shepherd Pike." Calais Advertiser. October 21, 1942.

Talbot, George F. "James Shepherd Pike." Proceedings of the Maine Historical Society. Second Series, I. Portland: Maine Historical Society. 1890.

Whalon, Michael Winters. "Maine Republicans, 1854-1866: A Study in Growth and Political Powers." Ph.D. Thesis. University of Nebraska. 1968.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PIKE'S MILE MARKERS

WASHINGTON, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

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UIM References

5. 19/641930/5002320
6. 19/643200/5001720
7. 19/644220/5000390
8. 19/645300/4999060
9. 19/645920/4997640
10. 19/646740/4996210
11. 19/647610/4995040
12. 19/648640/4993970

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PIKE'S MILE MARKERS

Section number 10 Page 3

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated property includes the twelve granite mile markers and the area which they occupy along U. S. Route 1 between Calais and Robbinston, Maine. Since these objects are located approximately one mile distant from each other they constitute a discontinuous district.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary of the nominated objects is limited only to the area along U. S. Route 1 which they occupy. Adjoining portions of the roadside are not significantly related to the markers themselves. The use of a discontinuous district in this nomination is justified by the widely separated location of the markers which are, nonetheless, related to each other.