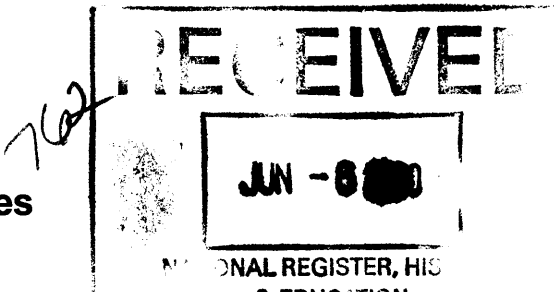


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Pittston Farm

other names/site number _____

2. Location

West End of Seboomook Lake, at Confluence with the

street & number South Branch of Penobscot River not for publication

city or town Pittston Academy Grant vicinity

state Maine code ME county Somerset code 025 zip code 04478

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.)

Carol J. Peterson 5/26/00
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): _____

Edison H. Beall 7/10/00
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Pittston Farm
Name of Property

Somerset, 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	
<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	Total

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)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence/Agricultural Field

Agricultural Outbuilding

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

Domestic/Camp

Agricultural/Subsistence/Agricultural Outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Wood/Weatherboard

Wood/Wood Shingle

roof Asphalt

other _____

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

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

Pittston Farm is an area of approximately sixty acres located at the west end of Seboomook Lake and deep in Maine's north woods. Most of the terrain is comprised of a broad intervalle that is framed on its south and west sides by an abrupt elevation change. The several historic buildings that occupy the property are located atop this ridge, and are accessed by gravel roads that stem from the main logging road which links the farm to Rockwood, some twenty miles to the south.

The following Inventory List is keyed to the attached map, and the letters C and NC refer to Contributing and Non-Contributing resources.

Inventory List

1. Boarding House, 1912 -- C

The Boarding House is a two-and-a-half-story, gable roofed frame building that is sheathed in clapboards. It has a partially enclosed one-story, wraparound porch that extends across the front (south) elevation and along the entire east side. Shed roofed additions have been made to the north and west sides. Windows throughout the building are replacement one-over-one double hung sash.

As constructed in 1912, the Boarding House had a kitchen, large dining room that could serve 50 at once, and a large sitting room on the first floor. The sitting room, sometimes called the "men's room" or the "bar room," was supplied with the current magazines and newspapers, free writing paper and envelopes, checkers, playing cards, and cribbage boards. In the basement was storage space for 80 cords of firewood, the fuel for the steam heating plant. There were nine bedrooms on the second floor and there was a hospital on the third floor. After the closing of the hospital, the third floor of this building also became a "ram pasture" that could 40 men. The cost to build the new boarding house was \$10,790. The interior plan and finishes are largely preserved.

2. Blacksmith Shop, 1908 -- C

The Blacksmith Shop is a two-story, gable roofed frame building that is sheathed in clapboards. Its front (east) elevation features a large two-leaf hinged door at the northeast corner, a six-over-six window to the south, and a pair of similar windows on the second story. Much of the original equipment including the forge still exists on the interior. The Blacksmith Shop was built to accommodate four horses at one time. A telephone repair shop was located in the upper floor.

3. Carriage House, 1908 -- C

The Carriage House is a long, narrow one-story building that has a gable roof and clapboard sheathing. It originally had seven bays for the storage of carriages or wagons. Although the outline of the openings have been preserved, the bays have converted into rooms with a door and window located on the infill wall.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 3

4. Upper (or Little) Barn, 1908 -- C

The Upper Barn is a gable roofed frame structure that is sheathed entirely in clapboards. Its front (south) elevation features a large two-leaf track mounted door that is surmounted by a transom. Smaller doors are located at the southwest and southeast corners, and a single six-over-six double-hung sash window is positioned in the gable peak (this pattern is repeated on the north side). There are five rectangular windows on each side elevation, one of which is located in the loft. A ventilator capped by a pyramidal roof surmounts the roof ridge. The Upper Barn was designed to accommodate 24 horses, 4 cows, 50 tons of loose hay, and pig pens in the lower level.

5. Office, 1911 -- C

The Office is a two-story, gable roofed frame building that is sheathed in clapboards. It features a hip roofed front porch that shelters a door and two replacement one-over-one double hung sash. A one-story addition is attached to the rear elevation. The Office was either built on this site or it was moved here in 1911. It contained offices for superintendents and clerks on the first floor, and four bedrooms on the second floor.

6. Potato Barn, 1911 -- C

The Potato Barn is a gambrel roofed frame building that is sheathed in wood shingles. Its front (south) elevation features a large two-leaf hinged door that is flanked by a pair of newly installed one-over-one windows. A ventilator surmounts the roof ridge at the south end. On the two-story rear elevation (the basement level is exposed to provide access), a gable roofed ell with a garage door shelters the entrance to the storage cellar. Above it are a trio of new windows. The frost proof building was originally designed to hold 6,750 bushels of potatoes. Its upper level has been converted to a chapel.

7. Lower Barn, 1911 -- C

The Lower Barn is a large gambrel roofed frame structure that is sheathed in clapboards. Its front (west) elevation contains a central two-leaf track mounted door, smaller track mounted doors at the corners, and a pair of six-over-six windows in the loft. There are six symmetrically located six-over-six windows on both the north and south elevations, and a fenestration pattern on the east end that matches the one on the facade. Two pedimented ventilators surmount the roof ridge. The interior contains a wide central drive that is flanked on both sides by stalls, each of which is large enough for two horses (whose names are memorialized on wooden plaques above each stall) with a total capacity of fifty animals. An immense hay mow capable of holding 275 tons of hay occupies the upper part of the barn. Pens for pigs are located in the lower level of the barn.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 4

8. (former) Agricultural Field

The broad area to the north, east, and southeast of the Boarding House is one of the original agricultural fields associated with the active period of the Great Northern farm operation.

9. Butler Building, 1955 -- NC

This 50' x 101' steel building was constructed to replace a steel garage that had been constructed on this site in 1934 and had burned in 1954.

10. Cottages, 1948 and after -- NC

Six small frame cottages, including two that were moved here in 1948, are located along a spur road to the northwest of the Boarding House. They are largely concealed from the main complex within a grove of mature evergreen trees. Although two of the cottages were moved here in 1948 -- within the property's period of significance -- they are considered to be non-contributing because they do not appear to have been directly associated with the operation of the farm by Great Northern.

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 a 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.

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:

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Industry
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1908-1948

Significant Dates

1908

1911

1912

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPITTSTON FARMSOMERSET, MAINESection number 8 Page 2

Located deep in Maine's north woods, Pittston Farm was developed by Great Northern Paper Company in the early years of the twentieth century to support its logging operations in the area. The farm was designed to produce and store food for the logging crews and their horses, to provide accommodations, medical facilities, and recreation, and to function as a center of communications. Facilities like Pittston Farm were essential as paper companies extended their logging activities farther and farther into the woods and away from settled areas. Pittston Farm is believed to be the most intact of the several depots established by Great Northern Paper Company. It is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criteria A and C for its association with the logging industry, and as a representative example of the design and composition of a supply depot.

[The following history is adapted from Durward J. Fernald, Jr.'s *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow: A History of Pittston Farm*, 1995]

"Less than twenty years ago a small group of log buildings was situated at the fork of the north and south branches of the West Branch of the Penobscot River. Twenty acres of roughly cleared land lay about them. Beyond the clearing rose graceful knolls thickly covered with spruce. The place was known as Pittston Farm and it had been for many years a stopping place for woodsmen."

Thus read an article in *The Northern* magazine in 1924, eighteen years after Great Northern Paper Company purchased Pittston Farm and began its make over. Pittston Farm originated as a stopping place for sportsmen going to Canada via the old Indian trail. Sometime between 1850 and 1879, a Mr. Knight cleared 10 acres at the intersection of the North and South Branches of the West Branch of the Penobscot River. At Knight's Farm, hunters and fishermen could buy supplies such as chickens, eggs, and dressed lamb. F. W. Cunningham later ran the farm and it became known as Cunningham's Farm. Paul Goodblood took over running the farm in 1890. Around 1900, C. J. McLeod of Bangor leased the farm from Caleb and Franklin Holyoke of Brewer. He ran the farm while logging the North Branch, and added six or seven log camps on 20 cleared acres. Charlie Jackson took over running the farm and lumbering the area around 1904. At this time, the farm could accommodate 16 horses, and the yearly crop was less than 200 bushels of potatoes, 25 bushels of root vegetables, and 12 tons of hay.

Great Northern Paper Company purchased the entire township of Pittston Academy Grant, including Pittston Farm, in 1906 and large paper company operations started. In 1908 the company began building what is now the present farm 500 yards west of the log buildings. The improvements continued until about 1914, and the cleared area had been increased from 20 acres to 100 acres. During its use by Great Northern, Pittston Farm was one of twelve known depots that the company developed for its logging operations in Maine.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

In 1908, the upper barn, blacksmith shop, and the carriage house were built. Two years later, the storehouse, "old" boarding house, middle barn, ice house, and waterworks were added to the farm. The lower barn, hen house, and potato house were built in 1911. And the "new" boarding house was built the following year. In 1913, a canner was built to process the vegetables for storage until winter. It was equipped with a steam boiler and two pressure cookers. Also in 1913, the original log buildings were destroyed. An electric light plant was installed sometime between 1912 and 1914. The finishing touch was a baseball diamond for the company's team at Pittston. The baseball team was one of the activities that the company's Social Service Division provided. Great Northern Paper Company also showed a movie one or two evenings a week and published a monthly magazine, *The Northern*, for its employees.

At the time of the purchase by Great Northern Paper Company, Pittston Farm was a three-day trip from Bangor. In 1910, the company began its first road, a 14-mile stretch from Seboomook to Pittston following the old tote. This was completed in 1911 and they began their next road. It took four years to complete the 23-mile stretch from Rockwood to Pittston. Along the road at 10 mile intervals there were places to stop and put up the horse teams and teamsters overnight and get meals. Since a team of 8 to 10 horses could haul a full load of logs or provisions about 10 miles in a day, this was the reason for selecting this interval. Pittston Farm was the third stopping point.

The farm's annual production, from the time of its completion until 1946, was 5,000 bushels of potatoes, 1,200 bushels of oats, 15 bushels of carrots, 15 bushels of beets, 10 bushels of turnips, and 12 tons of hay. The potato patch and oats field were each 11 acres in size. This was enough to supply the area woodsmen -- at times reaching 4,500 -- for the entire year. A farm crew of eight men farmed all this crop, along with cutting wood for fuel, cutting ice for the walk-in, and taking care of the horses.

In 1911, telephone lines were lengthened to Pittston Farm. Pittston was a major point in the telephone system, and full-time telephone operators were employed there. The telephone system became obsolete when the company switched to two-way radios in the 1950s. Also located at Pittston Farm was a Great Northern Paper Company hospital. A 30-bed ward was located in the new boarding house. Elinor Hamilton, R.N., perhaps better known as the "Wilderness Nurse," was the company nurse in charge of the hospital. Elinor trained an assistant to do dressings and first aid because she was often needed at the company's other camps. Dr. Fred Pritham of Greenville was the closest doctor, and made regular visits to the farm's hospital. The company also kept an ambulance and driver ready at Pittston Farm who could take more seriously injured patients to the hospital at Greenville.

In 1948, Pittston Farm was no longer considered a working farm, and soon after, all the fields were replanted with spruce. Due to the increasing costs of labor, it was cheaper to purchase food for the employees. The middle barn collapsed in the early 1960s. Pittston Farm remained a center of activity (excluding 1957 to 1958 when it was closed for a year due to oversupply of pulpwood) until 1971 when the end of log drives marked the end of its usefulness.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 4

From 1973 to 1991, Great Northern Paper Company allowed the Boy Scouts of America to use Pittston Farm for the summer months as the Seboomook base of their North Woods Adventure program. The scouts used the potato house as a place to store canoes, distribute gear, as a trading post, and as home to an exhibit of old woods tools. The office building was a place for the crews to plan their trips and to greet the arriving crews. The boarding house was used as the dining facilities and to house some staff members. The nearby woods and fields were thickly dotted with the tents of the Boy Scouts and their leaders. In the winter of 1980-1981 the storehouse was torn down and in March of 1981 the old boarding house was demolished. In 1983 the ice house was destroyed.

In March of 1992, Pittston Farm was purchased by Ken and Sonja Twitchell and a long process of restoration began. Twenty-one years without any heat or maintenance had taken its toll on the buildings, and some had been demolished by the company over the years. After fifteen months of restoration, the Twitchells opened Pittston Farm Lodge. Pittston Farm is now home to an inn, restaurant, sporting camps, and campground. Homemade patchwork quilts, all-you-can-eat meals and top quality hospitality greet all visitors. There are accommodations for 60 guests in the main lodge, and there are several other camps and houses to provide accommodations for an array of needs.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 9 Page 2

Bibliography

Fernald, Durward J., Jr. *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow: A History of Pittston Farm*. Greenville, ME: Moosehead Communications, 1995.

Pittston Farm
Name of Property

Somerset, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 60

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	9	4	2	5	7	1	1	0	5	0	8	2	6	1	1	0
Zone	Easting			Northing												

2

1	9	4	2	5	7	2	0	5	0	8	2	2	5	1	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

3

1	9	4	2	4	9	4	0	5	0	8	2	2	4	1	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

4

1	9	4	2	4	9	5	0	5	0	8	2	9	4	1	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

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 April, 2000

street & number 55 Capitol Street, 65 State House Station 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PITTSTON FARM

SOMERSET, MAINE

Section number 10 Page 2

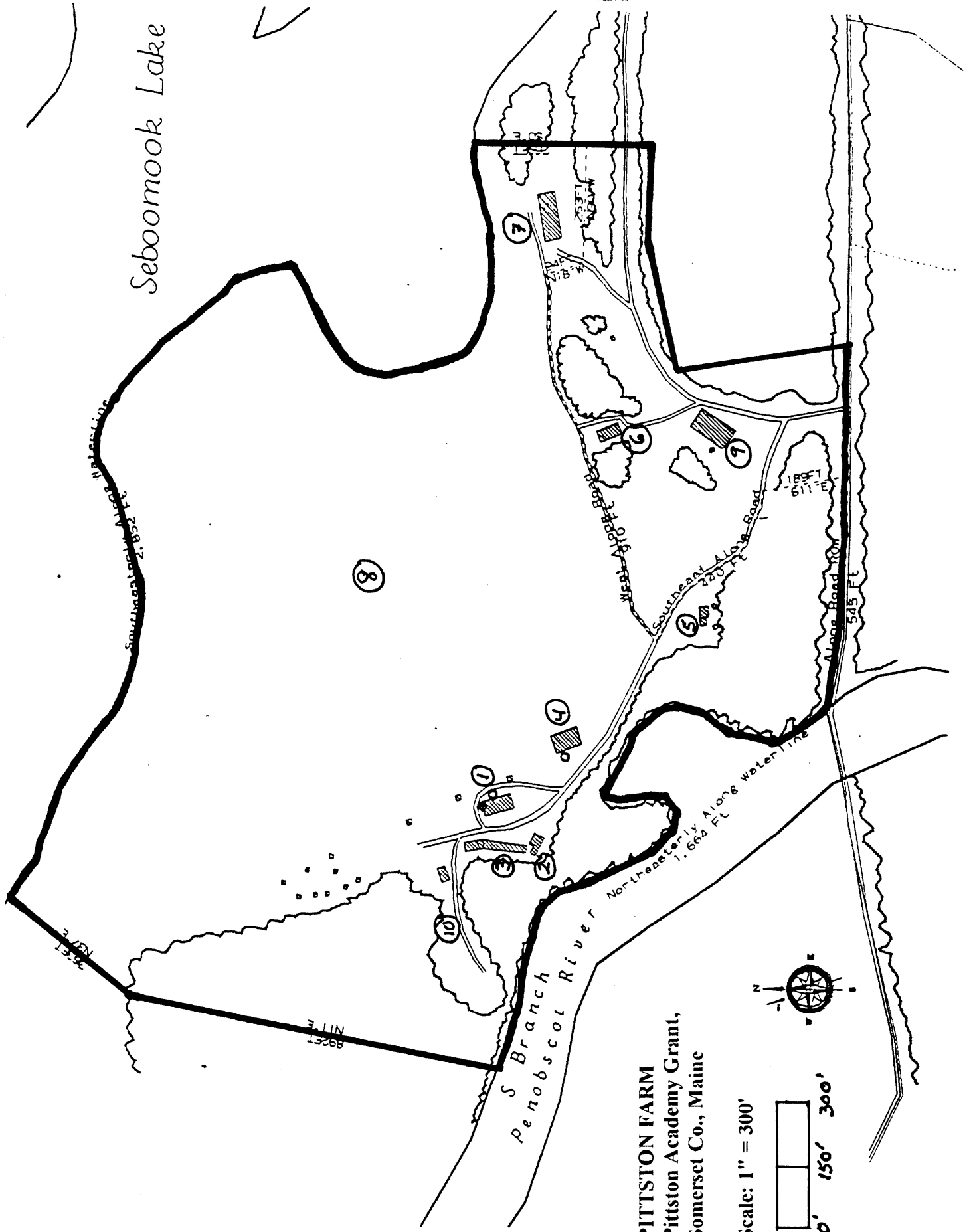
Verbal Boundary Description

See Map.

Boundary Justification

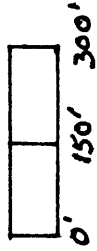
The boundary of the nominated property embraces the entire parcel of land that is presently leased to Kenneth and Mary Twitchell (Lease #s 5103 and 5146) by the successor to Great Northern Paper Company. This contains all of the extant historic buildings (which are owned by the Twitchells) originally associated with Pittston Farm, as well as the former agricultural field and the road system.

Seboomook Lake



PITTON FARM
Pittston Academy Grant,
Somerset Co., Maine

Scale: 1" = 300'



PITTSION ACADEMY GRANT

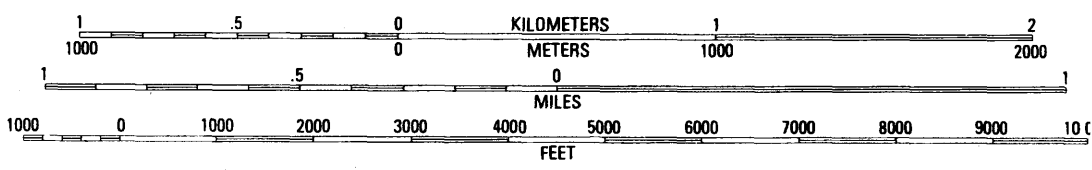
PITTSION FARM
PITTSION ACADEMY GRANT,
SOMERSET CO., ME

- UTM:
- 1) 19/425710/5082610 SEBOOMOOK
 - 2) 19/425720/5082250
 - 3) 19/424940/5082240
 - 4) 19/424950/5082940

VEY
NOAA
1983
1989
ATOR
NE 19
ZONE
WEST
WEST
1929
ATUM
1983,
ticks
any
dings

PROVISIONAL MAP
Produced from original
manuscript drawings. Infor-
mation shown as of date of
photography. 1

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by .3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

