

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0689688

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 7 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Dennett Garrison
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 100 Dennett Road
CITY, TOWN Kittery VICINITY OF 1st
STATE Maine CODE 23 COUNTY York CODE 031

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
STREET & NUMBER Lt. Cdr. Ralph Dennett
100 Dennett Road
CITY, TOWN Kittery VICINITY OF STATE Maine

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. York County Registry of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Alfred STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dennet Garrison of Kittery, dating from at least 1720, and possibly as early as c. 1710, is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Maine.

The house is a large (30 x 40 feet) building of frame construction (post-and-beam), with clapboard siding, steeply-pitched gable roof, 2½ stories, and central brick chimney. This chimney is much reduced in size from the original, which was cruciform in design.

Fenestration is 9/6 in the first story and 6/6 in the second and half-stories. Originally these windows would have been of casement form, being fitted later in the 18th century with double-hung sash. The facade, which faces south, is five bays wide with a central entrance. This entrance is a simply enframed four-panelled door. The end walls of the house are three bays wide, the two bays nearest the facade being closely paired. There are two windows in the half-story at each end of the house. All bays in the house have been fitted with modern exterior aluminum combination storm windows. These detract from the original appearance of the house, but do not constitute permanent alteration.

The interior of the house, with its small, low-ceilinged rooms and enormous cooking/heating fireplaces, evokes the early Colonial period in Maine, a time when continuous strife with the French and Indians demanded that most residences be "garrisons", or refuges, as well as dwellings.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1710

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Dennett

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dennett Garrison, one of the oldest houses in Kittery and in Maine, stands on land originally granted on July 17, 1661 to Christian Remick and laid out in 1665. Remick deeded this parcel to his son Isaac, who sold the same to John Dennett in 1698. Estimates as to the exact date that Dennett built his house vary somewhat, but in an order of 1720 his residence was designated as a garrison or place of refuge and was to be made defensible. Tradition holds that the house dates from about 1710.

With its sharply pitched roof and massive chimney, the structure is clearly in the seventeenth-century tradition and this is carried out by interior features such as the Jacobean style oak rail and spindles on the staircase, and the walls of hewn hemlock, doetailed and treenailed together. Interestingly the upper story is constructed of oak.

Considered to be "Kittery's most completely preserved garrison house", this building has remained continuously in the Dennett Family, whose members have played important roles in the history of the community.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Stackpole, Everett S., Old Kittery and her Families, (Lewiston, 1903).

Frost, John Eldridge, Colonial Village, (Milford, N.H., 1948).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2
 UTM REFERENCES

A 19 356800 4773300
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Frank A. Beard, Historian
 Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE October 1978
 STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street TELEPHONE 207/289-2133
 CITY OR TOWN Augusta STATE Maine

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *Eileen S. Fretterwood*
 TITLE *S.H.P.O.* DATE *11/2/78*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature] DATE *12-22-78*
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

[Signature] DATE *12/15/78*
 ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER