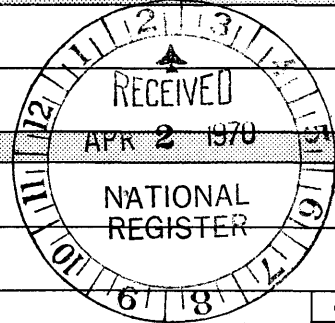


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: **Maine**
 COUNTY: **Lincoln**
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY NUMBER: **70-5-18-0027** DATE: **5/19/70**



1. NAME
 COMMON: **Harrington Meeting House**
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: **Old Harrington Road**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Pemaquid - Town of Bristol**
 STATE: **Maine** CODE: **18** COUNTY: **Lincoln** CODE: **015**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: **Town of Bristol, Pemaquid Historical Association and Harrington Cemetery Association**
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: **Bristol** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **18**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Lincoln County Courthouse**
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: **Wiscasset** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **18**

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: **Lincoln**
 ENTRY NUMBER
 DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The frame of this 18th century meeting house was originally erected on the geographic center of the Town of Bristol in 1772. It was not completed as the townspeople then decided to build three meeting houses. This framework was taken down, reassembled and completed in 1775. The new location was by the intersection of the present Old Harrington Road and another road that has now long since disappeared. In the late 1840's it was moved across the lot to face on the Old Harrington Road. At that time it was changed from a typical 18th century meeting house to what is known colloquially as a "Back-to" church. The balconies were removed, the box pews were removed, the three doors and the two rows of windows were closed up. Two doors were put in the end facing the road and two long windows were put in either side of the building. A narrow vestibule with a low ceiling was installed. The high pulpit was sawed off and put on the floor against the vestibule wall. Bench pews were made to face the pulpit and the entrance doors. The walls and a cove ceiling were plaster.

When it was decided to repair the building in 1969 the plaster walls and ceiling were crumbling due to a leaky roof. A new roof was put on and the plaster removed. There were no records of what the building had been like originally, but removing the plaster proved that it was the original structure. Earlier plaster between the 12" x 12" posts showed cracks where the original windows had been. When that plaster was removed it exposed the framework of the original doors on three sides of the building. Now having the original framework it was decided to restore the building as it was in the 1770's. Plans were not needed as all the indications of what had been were plain to be seen.

This is an actual restoration except for the balcony which has been installed with a flat floor and no pews in order to have a museum of and for the town. Books, maps, pictures, clothing and other memorabilia have been collected, all relating to Bristol. The museum is open during July and August, three afternoons a week.

The Harrington Meeting House abuts the Harrington Burial Ground which is the largest cemetery in this old section of Bristol. Many epitaphs are inscribed on the lichened gravestones, which reveal the names of early settlers and dates as early as 1716.

The Harrington Meeting House property consists of 1 3/8 acres in land area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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) 1772-1775

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1729 David Dunbar, a Scotch-Irishman, appeared at Pemaquid, bearing a commission from King George II to take command there, to rebuild Fort William Henry and to be surveyor of the King's woods. Dunbar rebuilt the fort naming it Fort Frederick. He also laid out plans for a city which was made up of three sections: Harrington, Walpole and Townsend, naming these sections for influential Englishmen.

John North's map of 1751, shows Harrington the most populated section of the western half of the Pemaquid Peninsula. When the Town of Bristol was set up in 1765 the question arose as to where to build the meeting house. After years of argument, which necessarily caused ruffled tempers, it was decided to build three meeting houses and land was donated for that purpose. In 1772 the people who wanted only one meeting house put up a framework in the geographical center of the town, Bristol Mills. A town meeting was called and a committee of three, Alexander Nickels, Esq., Robert Sproul and William Jones, was appointed to pull down the frame at Bristol Mills and remove it to the land donated by William Sproul in 1768 in Harrington.

The meeting house was erected and accepted by the Town in 1775, the same year that Walpole and Broad Cove meeting houses were accepted. (This information is from the official town records of Bristol).. At that time the building was at the intersection of two roads, the present Old Harrington Road and a road long since disappeared that went across Little Falls Brook to the Bristol Mills area. The building faced the road to Bristol Mills. In the late eighteen forties it was decided to move the building across the old cemetery to face what is now called Old Harrington Road.

Every one living on the two peninsulas, Christmas Cove to Pemaquid Point, had to worship at Harrington. It was the meeting house for the lower section of the town and it was mandatory that everyone attend service in order to have any standing in the town. The only Town Meeting held in any of the three meeting houses was held at Harrington in 1778. The Rev. Alexander McLain, born in Scotland, came to this country in 1770 and was hired to preach at all three meeting houses in the town, 1773-to 1798.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

/John
 Johnston, History of Bristol and Bremen
 Bristol, Official Town Records of
 Parker, Arlita Dodge, Pemaquid, MacDonald and Evans, Boston 1924
 Works Progress Administration Writers, Maine-A Guide Down East, Houghton-Mifflin
 Co., Boston 1937.
 Hatch, Louis Clinton, Maine A History, The American Historical Society, New
 York 1919

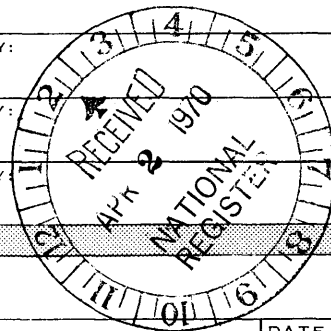
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		43 0 54 . 53 .	69 0 31 . 50 "	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 3/8 acres**

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1974575550/4862335

0144221

1-1-76-000

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
John W. Briggs, Historian

ORGANIZATION: **State Park & Recreation Commission** DATE: **Feb. 6, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:
State House

CITY OR TOWN: **Augusta** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **18**

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 March 26, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAY 19 1970

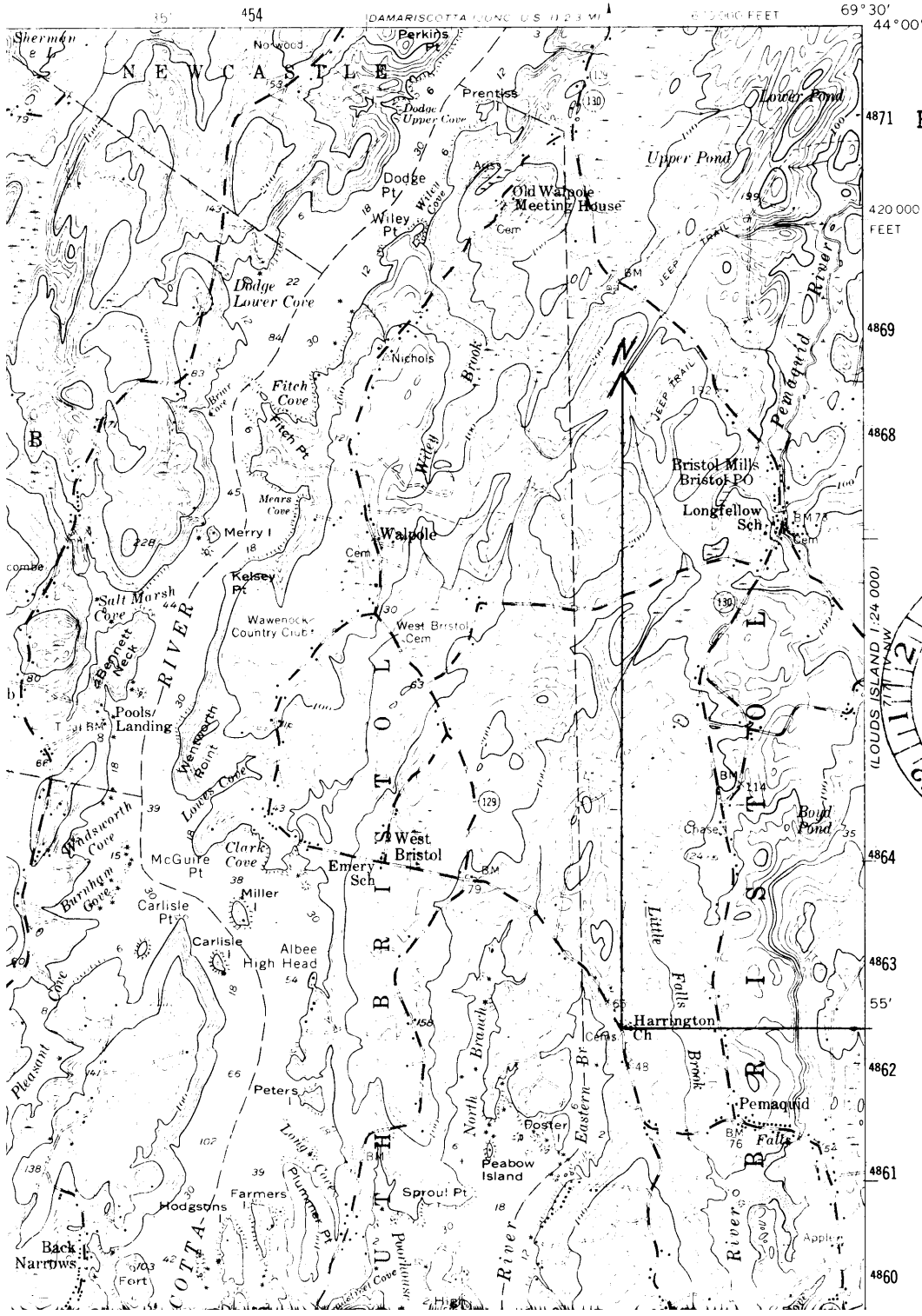
Date _____

ATTEST:
William J. Murtagh
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **MAY 7 1970**

BOOTHBAY QUADRANGLE
MAINE
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

7172 III
(WALDOBORO)



Harrington Meeting House

Latitude
43° 54' 53"

Longitude
69° 31' 50"

