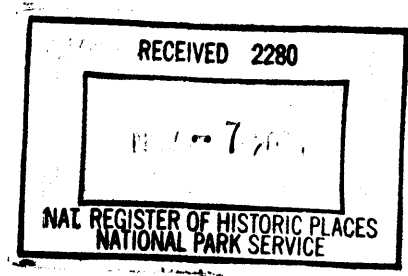


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



1442

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 Charlotte Pound  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number North side of Charlotte Rd., 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Route 214. N/A not for publication  
city or town Charlotte N/A vicinity  
state Maine code ME county Washington code 029 zip code 04666

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.)

[Signature] 11/2/05  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] 12/21/05  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
Edson Beal  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHARLOTTE POUND**  
Name of Property

**WASHINGTON COUNTY, 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  
1 \_\_\_\_\_ structures  
\_\_\_\_\_ objects  
1                      0                      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**  
None

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE: Animal Facility  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
VACANT / NOT IN USE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
No Style  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation Stone  
walls Wood / Log  
roof \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

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

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE

Section number 7 Page 2

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## DESCRIPTION

The Charlotte Pound is a log structure located on the north side of Charlotte Road in the Washington County, Maine town of Charlotte. Erected in 1872, the pound is octagonal in shape and is constructed of debarked cedar logs stacked on a large cobble stone foundation. Each log has an overall length of 18 feet per side, with approximately twelve inches of overlap at each end. As originally constructed the corners were joined utilizing half-round notching on both the top and bottom sides of each log. One inch diameter iron rods were driven through the seven logs at each lapped corner and into the foundation stone, providing additional fastening at the joints.

The entrance to the pound is located on the south-southeast side of the structure, which is built with eight layers of log instead of seven. Here only the top and bottom rail are continuous across the facade of the structure. The middle six logs are tenoned into two vertical posts that form the east and west door jambs for the central gate. The gate is composed of six horizontal rails, each just over three feet long, which are let into stiff vertical side posts. The gate pivots on 3/4 inch diameter pins fastened to the top and bottom logs on the north side of the door jamb. Over the door is a painted sign with the text "Charlotte Pound Established 1826".

The interior of the pound is vegetated with saplings from the surrounding deciduous trees, pine, sumac and ferns. In 1989 overly decayed portions of the Charlotte Pound were replaced in kind. According to local participants, the logs in the best condition were retained, and new replacements, cut locally, were installed on the bottom levels. Approximately 40 percent of the logs appear to be replacements. Although the new elements replicate the original in dimension, material, and workmanship the newer logs are none-the-less distinctive because they have not yet developed the patina and weather-worn surface of the originals. In addition, the use of the half-round corner notches is inconsistent on the replacement logs. Measured plans also indicate that the gate was substantially repaired in 1989.

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

EXPLORATION / SETTLEMENT

**Period of Significance**

1872 - 1920

**Significant Dates**

1872

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 2

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As Maine communities began to lose some of their frontier aspects in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and assumed a more settled appearance, rudimentary civic improvements were initiated. Among these improvements in the largely agricultural world of rural Maine was the regulation of the livestock which were becoming numerous. To control this problem towns constructed shelters for the temporary control of wayward animals. The existence of 21 of these structures in Maine have been verified, and their condition varies from almost unrecognizable to good. The Charlotte Pound is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as a good example of a 19<sup>th</sup> century log structure that was built by the town to regulate one specific aspect of its agricultural economy.

Farmers have always found it necessary to control wandering livestock. In the earliest 17<sup>th</sup> century settlements of southern New England, cattle, sheep and swine were grazed on commonly held town lands located outside the denser residential landscape. Inevitably some livestock found their way into cultivated fields and gardens. This had the potential to threaten both the annual animal and human food supplies in these communities, many of which existed at the subsistence level during the early decades of settlement. By 1635, the courts of Massachusetts Bay ordered that every town under its jurisdiction construct a strong impoundment in which the wayfaring beasts could be held until claimed by their owner and returned to the pasture. This action was the origin of a class of common, publicly-supported and ordained structures found in almost every agricultural community in New England: the Town Cattle Pound.

With the exception of extreme southern and coastal locations, the majority of Maine's development started much later, in the decades after 1750. Although heavily settled by immigrants from the southern New England States, the patterns of land distribution in Maine had shifted. Few towns designated common pastures, rather individual settlers were expected to care for their own livestock. Noting that "gardens were small and the return from fencing them was large," one historian asserts that the greater acreage required for pastures made them "difficult and expensive" to fence, and that "with near neighbors, cattle could easily stray from one pasture to another." (Locke, p.214). Thus, the institution of the cattle pound continued to be called upon in Maine, albeit in response to slightly different circumstances.

William Locke's history of cattle pounds in Maine is useful in understanding the important role these public structures played in maintaining order in agricultural communities. The following excerpt is from "The Rise and Demise of the Cattle Pound Harpswell and Maine," published in 1994.

At the earliest town meetings there were angry demands for an end to damage by marauding cattle. Towns may have hastened their incorporation partly because the election of pound keepers was apparently accepted as establishing a legal basis for impounding strays.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 3

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From the beginning several implicit concepts underlie the pound solution to the stray cattle problem: first, the owner was responsible for damage done by his animals; second, it was in the public interest that the person harmed or others should round up and drive offending animals to the pound - originally the pound keeper's barn or farmyard; third, to get his animals back, the owner should pay for damage done. Later, two more concepts were added: the owner was to pay for the cost of feeding and caring for impounded animals, and fines were to be levied on the owner by the town. Eventually, the state legislature incorporated these and other sanctions.

When pound keeping in barns and in farmyards became too onerous, towns throughout the District or later the State of Maine authorized construction of one or more log pounds in strategic locations on land loaned for the purpose. No money was appropriated. Trees were there for the felling, and neighbors, no doubt, joined in the common effort, as they did for roads and barns. Later on, more prosperous voters would appropriate money to pay for the work. Then log pounds were replaced by more secure and permanent stone structures. (Pages 214-215).

Indeed, within the first year of statehood, the Maine Legislature passed two resolves requiring that towns construct pounds for "curbing stray beasts," although by this time many towns had already fulfilled that decree, either with a wooden or a stone pound.

The Town of Charlotte was incorporated in 1825, having been settled less than thirty years earlier. However, the earliest records of the community date to 1822, when the community was still a plantation. On April first of that year, among the election of officers and the appropriation of money for roads, the inhabitants of the town voted that "William McGlauflin's barnyard be 'prepaired' (sic) Plantation pound for the ensuing year." Mr. McGlauflin was voted pound keeper. Thus even before the town was incorporated wayward animals could be incarcerated.

The first pound constructed specifically for this purpose was built the year after incorporation. As Lewis Fisher recalled, in 1826 the town voted to build a pound out of "Sedar, (sic) forty foot square, on the ledge just north of Ebenezer Fisher's barn. I remember as a child playing with the timbers that marked the remains of that pound, which could not have been very solidly constructed. Then we reverted to private barn-yards until they built the present solid structure...." (Fisher, p. 140). In 1872 the town again voted to erect a pound, eventually doing so on the property of Ansel W. and Sara Fisher. Although the town records do not give specifics with regard to the size or design of the structure, once again it was constructed of cedar logs, and Fisher described it as having walls ten feet high, and being "locked with a perfectly awful bastille lock." (Fisher, p. 88). The pound was maintained and the office of the pound keeper filled until 1920, when the motion to elect someone to that office was indefinitely postponed.

Over the next several decades the pound became overgrown and was generally forgotten.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE

Section number 8 Page 4

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Interest in the town's history was resurrected when the town celebrated its sesquicentennial in 1975, and the history of the Charlotte Pound was included in the Historical Souvenir Book published at that time. Two years later, however, in an article in *DownEast*, the cedar rails were described as having "split and weathered." In 1988, the Annual Report of the Town of Charlotte included a plea for residents to appropriate some money to fix the pound (to the tune of 'London Bridge is Falling Down'). Over the next summer volunteers documented the structure and replaced those sections of the cedar logs that had failed. While this accounts for almost 40 percent of the structure, this degree of restoration is acceptable due to the fact that of the twenty-one documented pounds in Maine, the Charlotte Pound is the only wooden example. Many towns initially built of wood, but after they deteriorated, they were replaced with stone structures. Thus, the Charlotte Pound is an extremely rare and important example of this type of civic structure.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Fisher, Lewis B. The Story of a Down East Plantation. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press), 1914.

Hatton, Nancy J. "The Charlotte Pound" in *DownEast*. Volume XXIII, Number 5. (Camden, Maine), pages 22-31.

Hinson, Jay. "Down East Cattle Pound At Charlotte Now Vestige of Moss-Covered Past," in *Bangor Daily News*, November 19, 1953. (Bangor, Maine). Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.

Locke, William. "The Rise and Demise of the Cattle Pound Harpswell and Maine" in *Maine Historical Society Quarterly*, Vol. 33, No. 3-4, Winter-Spring 1993-1994. (Portland, Maine), pages 210-221.

Shaw, Dick. "Town Pounds In Maine Have All But Disappeared." *Lewiston Evening Journal Magazine Section*. Lewiston, Maine. (September 28, 1974), page 4A.

Spearin, Bonnie. "International work volunteers give Charlotte Pound a facelift," in *Quoddy Tides*, September 1989. (Eastport, Maine), page 21. Copy on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.



CHARLOTTE POUND  
Name of Property

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than 1/4 acre

**UTM References**  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 1 | 9 | | 6 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 4 | | 4 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 4 |  
Zone Easting Northing

3 | 1 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
Zone Easting Northing

2 | 1 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
Zone Easting Northing

4 | 1 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
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 CHRISTI A. MITCHELL, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN  
organization MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION date October 6, 2005  
street & number 55 CAPITOL STREET, STATION 65 telephone (207) 287-2132  
city or town AUGUSTA state ME 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.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE

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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The 81 acre parcel upon which the pound is located is described by the Town of Charlotte tax map number 7, lot 36. The nominated property is set back from the north side of this road approximately 25 feet, and is located approximately 1/4 mile east of the intersection of Charlotte Road and Route 214. The boundaries of the nominated property are limited to the structure and its immediate footprint (measuring approximately 500 square feet) on the ground.

## BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Charlotte Pound was erected upon the land of A.W. Fisher in 1872. Since that time the pound has been used by the town, but the ownership of the property has transferred privately. At present, the pound is set in a small clearing at the edge of a large agricultural and residential lot. Historically the owners of this lot may have functioned as the pound keeper, however, the remainder of this property is no longer functionally connected with the pound.

United States Department of the Interior  
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CHARLOTTE POUND

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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## PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1 of 4  
Christi A. Mitchell  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
1 July 2002  
Exterior view of pound; facing north-northwest.

Photograph 2 of 4  
Christi A. Mitchell  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
1 July 2002  
Gate on south-southeast elevation; facing north-northwest.

Photograph 3 of 4  
Christi A. Mitchell  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
1 July 2002  
Detail of log corner construction; facing west.

Photograph 4 of 4  
Christi A. Mitchell  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
1 July 2002  
Interior view of pound; facing south-southwest.