

PH0014670

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: MAINE	
COUNTY: Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.18.0041	DATE 10/6/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
(Pettengill House)

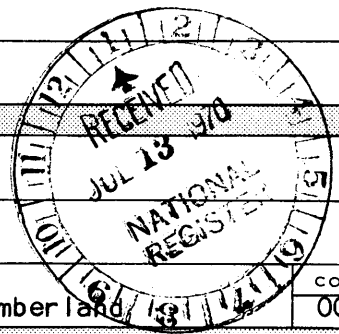
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Captain Greenfield Pote House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Wolf Neck Road (No number)

CITY OR TOWN:
Freeport 04032

STATE: **Maine** CODE: **18** COUNTY: **Cumberland** CODE: **005**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Lawrence M. C. Smith

STREET AND NUMBER:
Wolfe's Neck Farm

CITY OR TOWN: **Freeport 04032** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **18**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** 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: **Cumberland**

ENTRY NUMBER: **70.10.18.0041**

DATE: **10/6/70**

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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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Location, Setting and Grounds:

This c. 1750 two-story, wooden frame house is located in the township of Freeport, midway on Wolf's Neck, a low-lying point of land which sets off the Harraseeket River from Casco Bay on the Atlantic Ocean. The house is four miles from the center of the village of Freeport. The scene is rural. The house is about 40' east of the Wolf Neck town road. The land about the house, cleared for farming in colonial times, is today still open. Old farms both north and south of this open field area have reverted to forest growth. The house faces east and overlooks Casco Bay 1000' away, from a height of land 60' above sea level. The grounds are marked by tasteful simplicity. There are lawn areas on four sides which meet field grasses and low shrubbery. Between the house and the ocean there is an open field in which there are a few remnants of an ancient apple orchard. On the north the lawn leads to field grasses and abruptly borders on a forest of alder, pine, spruce and birch. There are two barns currently in use which provide shelter for purebred cattle. These barns lie about 120' south of the house.

Basic Structure and Building Materials

The building rises above a cellar foundation of field stones. This foundation extends out beyond the house itself for about 5' forming a terrace 2' above the ground level.

The building is a colonial salt box construction. It was built at another site some 13 miles distant by ocean in Falmouth now Portland, Maine. It was carried on a flat boat to near the present site in 1765 and then moved on rollers to its present location. Had the house remained in Falmouth it would have burned in the destruction by fire and bombardment by the British in 1775.

The original appearance of this two-story wooden frame house would be little different from that which one can behold today. The frame, timbers, boarding and chimney are original. The house is sheathed with split cedar shingles and there is little doubt but what the originals weathered away and in turn were replaced with new shingles. This would hold true for the roof as today asphalt shingles provide the cover. The windows (four lights) today and the frames are old, but would not be original as lights and the frame which held them in colonial times were much smaller.

The house is plumb on its foundation, its lines are proud and erect, its overall condition is excellent.

Except for the entrance of electric power and the exceptions noted above, the house is original. The house is a classic example of a colonial salt box and is perhaps the best preserved in the State. The interior retains its original character and with a minimum of effort and expense would be properly restored.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1750

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" 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

The town of Freeport was formerly a part of North Yarmouth, but was set off and incorporated in 1789. It then included Pownal which was set off in 1808. The name of its principal stream, Harraseeket, was formerly applied to the town. Freeport was the scene of extensive trade and ship building in the colonial period and the early years of the 19th century.

Undoubtedly, the oldest house now standing on Wolf's Neck is a leanto wood-colored dwelling known as the Pettengill House. This was built in Falmouth some time in the eighteenth century and about 1760 was owned by one Captain Greenfield Pote. This man was a characteristic Yankee skipper of the sort that made Maine a maritime state, with ships on every sea. Lying in the harbor of his home town he waited day after day for a favorable breeze, which finally came on a Sunday. Without delay he put to sea and after a successful voyage returned to find that complaint had been made against him for setting out on the Sabbath. Incensed, he declared that he would live no longer in such a town nor would he pay taxes there. So he purchased a farm on Wolf's Neck, loaded his house on a flat boat and set it up where it now stands. The reputed date of this removal is around 1765. If we exclude the time that the house was located elsewhere this makes two hundred and five years that it has occupied the present site.

Probably at the time that Captain Pote moved his home, the road was not in its present location. If by any chance it was, the man demonstrated his independence by placing the house with its back squarely to the road, for so it stands today. As it is, the front door can be reached only by going half way around the house. This is so inconvenient that the back door of necessity must do double duty. The spunky captain lies in the nearby cemetery and one of his sons was lost in the privateer Dash. The name of Pote is no longer found in Freeport, although descendants are still living here. The house passed into the hands of the Banks family to which Mrs. Pettengill belongs.

This was a farm home until very recently when it was sold by the Pettengill heirs to L.C.M. Smith who is holding it for protection. Its use today is for the storage of an antique collection.

Mr. and Mrs. L.C.M. Smith of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, are summer residents of Freeport, Maine. These people have given their time and have provided financial support for preservation of projects in this section of Maine's coast. These people have bequeathed huge areas of land to the State of Maine for historic preservation, wildlife conservation and recreation purposes. The house described above is adjacent to 207 acres of wildland on Wolf's Neck which the Smiths gave to the State Park and Recreation Commission in 1969.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thurston, Florence G. and Cross, Harmon S., Three Centuries of Freeport, Maine, Freeport 1940, pgs. 37, 62, 63, 168 and 169.

Varney, George J., A Gazetteer of the State of Maine, Boston 1886, pgs. 243-244

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	43°	49'	51"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	70°	5'	4"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2½ acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

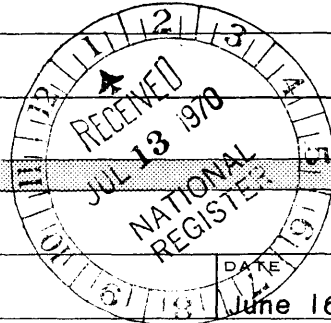
NAME AND TITLE: **John W. Briggs, Historian**

ORGANIZATION: **State Park and Recreation Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER: **State House**

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

DATE: **June 16, 1970**



12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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
 Title: **Lawrence Stuart Director**
 Date: 7/9/70

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

Ernest Allen Cunniff
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 OCT 6 1970

Date: _____

ATTEST:
William J. Mastaglio
 Keeper of the National Register
 Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

19/4110940/4653270

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

