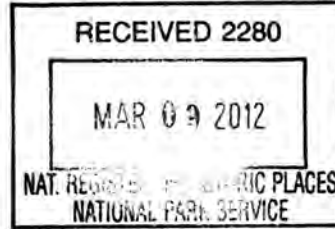


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



229

# 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Frank C. Frisbee Elementary School

other names/site number Kittery Community Center

### 2. Location

street & number 120 Rogers Road, Route 236

n/a
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 not for publication

city or town Kittery

n/a
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 vicinity

state Maine code ME county York code 031 zip code 03904

### 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide  local

Eve S. [Signature] 3/5/12  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

**MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] 4/25/12  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**FRANK C. FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Name of Property

**YORK 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	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		<b>Total</b>

**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**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/School

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION/CULTURE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/

Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

Roof: ASPHALT

STONE / SLATE

other: OTHER / Cast Stone

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**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary Paragraph**

The former Frank C. Frisbee Elementary School is a two-and-a-half story hip roof Colonial Revival brick building, 191 feet long and 58 feet wide with a perpendicular ell housing the gymnasium that is 46 feet wide and 120 feet long. The building was constructed in 1943 by the War Public Works program. In 1951, a one-and-a-half story gable roof Colonial Revival side ell was added. This "Annex" is 207 feet long and 58 feet wide. It was constructed off the southern side of the gymnasium ell, but oriented on line with the 1943 main building facade. The school was renovated in 1997, including ADA code-compliant changes to the stair treads, hand railings (interior and exterior) and bathrooms. The school is located on a mostly-wooded, 39 acre lot on Rogers Road, (Route 236), the main thoroughfare linking downtown Kittery and the Kittery Naval Shipyard with Maine's major north-south highways, Routes 1, 1A and 95. The school lot (12.64 acres) is separated from the rest of the property by a stone wall, the remains of a former farm. The rest of the 26.41 acres is known locally as "Roger's Park," named for the family that owned the property before its purchase by the federal government. Roger's Park consists of deciduous and evergreen woodland, descending to the shores of Spruce Creek. The building faces southwest approximately 550 feet back from Rogers Road overlooking the school baseball field. The building is accessed by a long driveway, part of which was laid out as a public road (Goodsoe Road). The driveway splits as it nears the building; one fork leads to a circular turn-around at the gymnasium door, the other fork leads behind the building to a long narrow parking lot that abuts the rear (northeast side) of the building. Playgrounds and a basketball court are located behind the Annex. The property is flanked by residential housing on the north and south sides. To the south, a large residential subdivision, known as Admiralty Village, was constructed at the same time as the school to house the families that came to work at the Kittery Naval Shipyard as they increased their military defense activities in the years leading to World War II.

**Narrative Description**Setting

The Frisbee School sits on a large 12.64 acre field in a residential neighborhood next to Spruce Creek. School site amenities include an athletic field (baseball field), playground equipment and an outdoor basketball court behind the building. The rest of the lot (26.41 acres) consists of natural and evergreen woodland that slopes down to the shores of Spruce Creek. This portion of the property is known as Rogers Park. An extensive public trail system runs through the woodland, connecting the park to trails along the shores of Spruce Creek. The entire 39.05 acre parcel (tax map 15 lot 91) including the school yard and Roger's Park were purchased in 1941 by the United States Government for purposes of constructing the school.

Vehicles enter the property from Rogers Road down Goodsoe Road, which becomes the school driveway, terminating in a circular drop off area in front of the gymnasium entrance. Eighteen head-in parking spaces are located in front of the main building. An additional 29 spaces are located behind the 1943 building. Adjacent to the rear parking area, behind the Annex, is a series of outdoor play spaces with asphalt and sand surfaces housing playground equipment, a basketball court, and schoolyard game areas. Foundation plantings and trees had been planting in the immediate vicinity of the building; these plant materials have recently been removed and replaced by lawn.

Exterior: Original Building (1941-1943) and Annex (1951)

The façade of the original building has a symmetrical twenty-three bay composition with a three-bay, gable-topped central portion that steps forward from the rest of the building. The building walls are composed of a horizontal running bond brick façade over a concrete foundation. The brick façade is broken by a cast stone stringcourse which runs immediately below the wooden 12/12 sash second story windows. The first floor windows have 12/12 sash, with cast stone sills and 1-½ wide brick soldier course headers. A wooden frieze with single band molding at the bottom and a dentil cornice tops the building façade under the slate hipped roof. Starting at the north end of the building, bays one to four and six to nine are comprised of four closely-spaced windows on the first and second floor. These windows correspond to the dimensions of interior classrooms. Bay five consists of a blank expanse of brick wall which breaks the rhythm of the classroom windows across the building façade. Bay ten projects forward slightly from the building façade with a crisp brick edge that does not interrupt the cornice line of the roof.



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Bays eleven to thirteen comprise the central portion of the façade. The walls of this central portion feature the same running-bond brick; the cast stone string course continues across this central section of the building. The corners of this projecting section feature running-bond brick quoins that protrude forward of the façade and run the full two stories on each side of the center section. Bays eleven and thirteen feature the same 12/12 wooden window sashes on the first and second floors. This section breaks the cornice line with a broad white flush-board wooden gable with a central eight-pane ocular window. The dentil cornice follows the eaves of the gable and continues the line of the rest of the roof edge. The word, "Frisbee School" is written in black metal letters along the cornice at the base of the gable. At the very center of the roofline, above the gable, sits a tall white wooden octagonal cupola on a short square white wooden plinth. The cupola features eight long narrow wooden shuttered openings painted black and a copper roof with a short spire topped by a circular orb.

Bay twelve, which is the exact center of the building façade, features an elaborate broken arch Colonial Revival cast stone door surround featuring plain pilasters topped with a banded architrave, ribbed frieze with rosette corners, and a scrolled broken arch cornice with central urn. The door opening is set back approximately four feet into the building, flanked by cast stone paneled walls. Double modern fireproof metal doors, each with a single pane window, sit beneath the original geometrically ornate Colonial Revival transom. The door opening is flanked on each side by a cast metal torch-style Colonial Revival luminiere with frosted glass attached to the building with a metal arm and double-scrolled metal bracket. Above the door opening is a three-part center window that features a 12/12 sash window flanked by two narrow 6/6 sash sidelights.

Bays fourteen to twenty three mirror the north side of the building. Bay fourteen mirrors the architectural details of Bay ten, projecting slightly forward of the building façade with a crisp brick edge that does not interrupt the cornice line of the roof. Bays fifteen to twenty three mirror the detailing of bays one to nine, with two banks of four 12/12 windows on the first and second floor broken by one bay of plain brick expanse.

At the south end of the building is a short hyphen-like three-bay, 22 foot long connector that adjoins the gymnasium ell. The gymnasium portion sits perpendicular to the main building. The connector features the same running bond brick façade above a two foot concrete foundation with smaller 6/9 wooden sash windows on the first and second floors. The cast stone stringcourse continues below the second story windows just like the main building. The first story windows, though smaller, feature the same cast stone sills as the main façade. There is no frieze and no dentil moldings under the cornice; instead the cornice is a simple banded trim under the slate hip roof.

The gymnasium ell is a 46 foot wide, 120 foot long ell that sits perpendicular to the main building façade. This hip-roofed ell projects forward of the connector, but does not project as far as the plane of the main building façade. Instead, this section of the building reads as a secondary pavilion at the end of the main building, simpler and slightly stepped back from the wall of the main building. A gabled dormer pierces the hip roof, creating the pavilion-like aesthetic for the end of the ell. This portion of the façade is five bays wide. Bays one and five are simple expanses of running bond brick broken by the cast stone stringcourse. Bays two to four step forward from bays one and five, forming a three-bay central section with simple brick corners and second story cast stone stringcourse. This central portion is topped by a broad flush-board wooden gable featuring a central semi-circular window. Slightly smaller and simpler than the dormer on the main building, this gable features simple cornices with no dentil trim. Its base continues the same simple roof cornice as the connector and the rest of the ell. The word "Gymnasium" is written in capital black metal letters along the cornice line at the base of the gable.

The first floor of the central portion (bays two to four) is as elaborate as the main building entrance. Here, three large double doors break the façade, one in each bay. The two flanking doors are framed by simple molded cast stone surrounds. Above these door openings, set within the brick expanse below the stringcourse, are two rectangular panels featuring carved laurel swags in cast stone. The central door features a more elaborate surround with narrow unornamented pilasters on each side of the door opening, supporting a simple banded architrave beneath an arched carved shell-backed panel featuring a globe sitting on a scrolled document. The 1943 doors have been replaced by fireproof modern metal and glass doors that feature an upper and lower window in each door panel, flanked on one side by three single pane square windows set one atop the other. Over the door and side windows are two long rectangular transom windows. This door style, added to the building in 1979 to meet changing building codes, is used throughout the school building. Two torch-like luminiere that match the main door lighting flank the sides of these doors. In front of the doors sits a long granite stoop and two granite steps. One section of the stoop has been removed and replaced by a concrete pad and handicapped ramp that extends from the left (north) door parallel to the building across the façade of the connector. The ramp is flanked on both sides by a two-rail metal tube railing with metal posts. Matching handrails have been installed on the sides and center of the adjoining granite steps.

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South of the gymnasium ell, a four-bay 22-foot long connector links the original building to the Annex, constructed in 1951. This connector features a three-bay recessed entry beneath a shallow entry porch and includes a central fireproof metal door with a single window flanked by two 6/6 sash wooden windows. The fourth bay contains a single story expanse of running-bond brick with an octagonal window set just underneath the cornice.

The Annex doubled the footprint of the main building. At only one-and-a-half stories high, however, it was designed to be subservient to the massing of the original building. The Annex façade is twenty-six bays long. The last (southern) five bays of the building are set back slightly from the rest. The remaining twenty-one bays are comprised of a central pedimented door, flanked on each side by eleven bays featuring a single story 12/12 sash wooden window with cast stone sill. The building features the same running bond brick walls as the main building, atop a concrete foundation with simple unornamented wooden cornice and asphalt-shingled hip roof. The door surround is comprised of plain white wooden pilasters supporting a plain architrave with carved rosette corners beneath a white wooden pediment with simple banded cornice. Two granite steps flanked by black capped-picket metal railings lead up to the door. The door matches the gymnasium doors: a single two light door next to three tiered single pane windows and a rectangular transom.

The southern end of the Annex is eight-bays wide. Bays one and eight feature a fireproof metal door with window under a fixed nine-light window. The remaining bays (two through seven) consist of 12/12 sash wooden windows with cast stone sills, surrounded by running bond brick walls atop a concrete foundation. The topography falls away off the southwest corner of the building, so more of the foundation is exposed at this end of the building. The southwestern door is accessed by a long wooden ramp with wooden board rails that runs almost the entire length of the elevation. The southeastern door is accessed by a poured concrete stoop with four stairs and painted two-rail metal tube railing. The façade is topped by a simple wooden cornice and asphalt hip roof like the rest of the Annex.

The rear of the building faces northeast, overlooking the play yards. Here, architectural details are more complex and less gracious than the front (southwestern) façade, with a mix of utility functions breaking the clean lines of the building. The northeast façade of the Annex mirrors the twenty six bays of the front, though the doors are not centrally located. The first five (southern) bays are set back slightly from the rest of the building wall. Bay six features a modern two-light metal fireproof door with sidelights of the same style as the gymnasium and connector doors. This door sits on a broad concrete stoop with four stairs, surrounded by two-rail painted metal tube railing and handrails, topped by an asphalt-shingled roof overhang supported by plain metal posts that match the handrail. Bays seven through twelve feature the same 12/12 sash wooden windows with cast stone sills. Bays thirteen through fifteen (the boiler room and bathrooms) are marked by utility openings including a metal louvered exhaust window, a large metal hooded exhaust topped with another smaller metal louvered window, and a narrow metal service door with no handle. The remaining bays (sixteen through twenty-six) feature the 12/12 sash wooden windows with cast stone sills.

The north end of the Annex returns to the connector along a windowless expanse of brick wall. A concrete service ramp runs up to a single metal door with no windows nestled into the corner where the Annex joins the connector. The rear (northeast wall) of the connector features a three-bay running-bond brick façade atop a concrete foundation with three brick-in window openings trimmed with cast stone sills.

The southern façade of the gymnasium ell was designed and built prior to the construction of the Annex. It was designed, therefore, as the southern façade of the building meant to be viewed from the surrounding residential neighborhood. The façade features the same running bond brick walls and high concrete foundation, but the cast stone stringcourse along this façade was moved up, separating the wall into a one-quarter/three-quarter division; the top one-quarter appears as a deep brick entablature on the building elevation. The central portion of the façade features three tall arched windows consisting of twenty eight fixed panes with a semi-circular window top over two flanking 6/6 sash operating windows. A single brick soldier course surrounds the entire window opening which is slightly recessed into the wall of the building, supported by a heavy cast stone sill. The cast stone stringcourse meets the window at the bottom of the semi-circular arch.

The eastern end of this wall is slightly recessed from the three-windowed portion. It features a single two-light metal door atop a concrete stoop with four steps and the same two-rail metal railing used on other stoops surrounding the building. The rest of the façade features a scattered array of features, including two 6/9 windows, two large metal circular air vents, and a bricked-in window with cast stone sill. The features are set within the massive brick walls in a haphazard arrangement best suited to the utility of the building's use.



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The northeastern (rear) elevation of the gymnasium ell is a five-bay arrangement of windows, doors and expanses of brick. The cast stone string-course terminates in a two-foot wrap-around at the corner of this façade, and does not continue across the wall on this portion of the building. The same concrete foundation and running-bond brick walls continue across this wall. Bay one features two 6/9 sash wooden windows with cast stone sills on the first and second floor. The second bay features a single metal service door accessed by a concrete stoop and stairs with two-rail metal tube railings. The second story of this bay features a simple expanse of brick wall. The third bay had featured two flanking 6/9 sash windows with cast stone sills on both the first and second floors, but the first floor windows have been filled with brick. The second story windows are extant. The fourth bay features no windows and only an expanse of brick on both the first and second floor. A wide concrete pad sits at the base of this bay. The fifth bay mirrors the first, with two 6/9 sash windows with cast stone sills on the first and second floors.

The northern side of the gymnasium was designed with a long interior corridor housed in a shed-like extension that was constructed off the northern wall. The end of this extension does not extend to the end of the gymnasium; it features a 6/9 window on the first floor and a 6/6 window on the second floor. Like the rest of the northeastern elevation, the building a simple banded wooden cornice sits beneath the slate hipped roof. The northern side of the extension is a complex arrangement of windows, doors and a tall chimney-like structure that rises above the half-gabled roof of the extension. The wall includes a 6/6 sash window above a 6/9 sash window, both with cast stone sills. At the center of the façade, a fireproof metal door with two windows (similar to the other doors) is sheltered by a gabled metal roof porch that projects out over a concrete stoop and stairs framed by two-rail metal railings. Another 6/6 window sits above the porch roof in this section of the wall. The western end is dominated by a two story brick chimney-like elevator shaft with flat roof nestled in the niche between the gymnasium walls and the walls of the connector to the main building. This dark corner features two small windows on the gymnasium side, and exposes only one bay of the connector with a metal louvered window on the first floor and a 6/9 window on the second floor. The main body of the building projects forward from the connector, creating a small dark niche between the walls of the connector, the gymnasium walls, the elevator shaft, and the main building.

The northeastern elevation of the main building is divided into three sections, a fourteen bay middle section, two one-bay door sections flanked by brick quoins and topped with small gable dormers and two flanking smaller five bay sections at either end. Like the front, this façade includes the cast stone stringcourse under the second story windows, the wooden architrave, and dentil cornice under the slate hip roof. As the service side of the building, however, this façade includes simpler door treatments and no changes or setbacks in the wall.

The southern end of this elevation, adjacent to the connector, features four bays with 12/12 sash wooden windows on the second story. Three of the four windows that ornamented the first floor, however, have been bricked in to accommodate electrical panels, service doors, and bulkheads. The fifth bay is distinguished by brick quoins running up both sides from foundation to cornice. This bay is topped by a small gable dormer ornamented with white flush-board face and simple gable cornices. Instead of an ocular window, the gable features a simple rectangular louvered vent at its center. The dentil molding continues under the gable as it does across the entire rear wall. The second story of this bay features a 12/12 sash window with cast stone sill. The stringcourse does not continue through this bay; instead it is replaced by an expanse of brick, though the second floor cast stone sill aligns with the stringcourse. The first floor features an arched opening defined by a single soldier course of brick slightly recessed from the building wall. Brick fills the top arch of the opening, above a modern fireproof door with two windows and the same three-tiered light arrangement with double transom found in other parts of the building. The central section of the building is a broad expanse of 12/12 sash wooden windows set in banks of four with one blank bay in between. The windows are aligned above each other on the first and second floor, so the blank bays offer some relief from the regularity of the rhythm of the window arrangement. The north end of the façade is a mirror image of the south end, with a five bay section of 12/12 sash windows at the end, separated from the center section by a one-bay window-over-door section defined by two story brick quoins.

The north end of the building is 58 feet wide. Here, the façade is broken into three sections: a central brick-quoined portion flanked by two slightly recessed portions on either side. The side sections are simple expanses of brick broken only by the cast stone stringcourse. The center section projects slightly forward from the building elevation. It features a 15/15 sash wooden window on the second floor, over a simply ornamented door surround. A shallow ornamental metal balustrade frames the window above the door surround like a shallow balcony. The door surround consists of plain pilasters with a narrow banded architrave, a plain frieze and a simple banded cornice. The door opening features a modern metal door with two lights and three-tiered sidelights, matching the other door openings. A wide concrete stoop with five stairs descends beneath the door opening, flanked by the same two-rail metal tube railing found on other parts of the building.

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**Interior:**Original Building Classrooms

The original building houses 16 classrooms and a combined auditorium-gymnasium in the ell. The classrooms had asphalt tile floors which were covered with carpet after 1951 and renovated with new carpeting in 1997. The classrooms have plaster walls and ceilings, with slate blackboards and mounted corkboards. All classrooms have one exterior wall with four large windows. The layout, configuration and interior treatments, with the exception of paint colors and some built-in storage spaces (added in 1997), have remained unchanged.

Corridors and Stairs

Wide corridors run through the middle of the building on the first and second floor. They feature painted concrete masonry unit walls. The asphalt tile floors, which had become slippery from floor polish build-up, were refitted with colorful vinyl composition tile after 1951, arranged in colorful patterns down the center portion of the floor. To reduce noise, the original plaster ceilings were covered with 2'x 2' acoustical tile. Stairwells remain in their original location and original design, with the exception of modifications to the stair treads and the addition of extra handrails to comply with ADA codes (renovated 1997). The stairwells are separated from the corridors by double, fire-rated metal doors on automatic operating units connected to the fire alarm.

Restrooms

Boys and girls bathrooms are located on both the first and second floors, with porcelain fixtures in marble panel stalls, ceramic tile floors, and ceramic tile wainscoting. The upper portions of the walls are painted plaster; the ceilings are also painted plaster. These rooms have remained unchanged with the exception that some stalls have been modified with solid plastic panels and doors to create code-compliant accessible stalls (renovated 1997). Some of the stalls have recently been removed to facilitate cleaning and restoration of the tile work.

Gymnasium/Auditorium

The combined gymnasium and auditorium has a play floor 46 feet wide and 71 feet long. The vinyl composite tile floor is marked out for basketball. Originally an elevated stage was located at the east end of the room, with small rooms to the side used for storage or dressing rooms. The stage and dressing rooms were removed in 1997 and replaced by a performance area set at the same floor level as the gymnasium. It fills the same space as the stage area and is separated from the play space by a horizontal slide lift gymnasium curtain hung within the same framing as the original stage curtain. The performance area doubled as a cafeteria during mealtimes. The gymnasium has vinyl tile flooring, painted masonry walls with surface applied acoustical tiles, and plaster ceilings. In 1997 the gymnasium was shortened at its west end with the addition of a concrete block wall which created a secondary lobby before entering the gym and allowed the corridors from the Annex and the 1941 classroom building to spill into this space instead of into the gymnasium as it did originally. The construction of this masonry wall was extended up to the second floor, closing in the original balcony for a music/performance space with stepped seating platforms along the west wall. Above the kitchen, an office and bathroom area were converted to storage space for the kitchen.

At the west end of the gymnasium is a lobby area with two sets of double doors opening into the gymnasium. The lobby has quarried tile floors and plaster walls above a tile dado. A coved plaster ceiling completes the space. On the opposite side of the lobby is the exterior wall with three doors opening out into the west side of the building. A long corridor, housed in the shed-like extension that runs along the north side of the gymnasium ell, connects the classrooms and stairwells to the gymnasium, performance area/cafeteria and kitchen.

Kitchen

Behind the gymnasium/performance area is the kitchen. The kitchen has a separate service entrance out the north end of the ell. The kitchen was designed as a series of smaller, specialized cooking and work rooms, offices and bathroom. By 1951 the complaint of the kitchen design was that storage was at a premium, and a storage room off the gymnasium lobby, at the other end of the ell, was being used for food storage. The layout of the kitchen area, however, did not change from its original construction. The kitchen area was finally upgraded in 1997 to improve its functionality and its layout. The stage was removed to allow the performance area to become a cafeteria at lunchtime. The corridor that had serviced the stage area became an access corridor to a series of service counters for lunch service. The 1941 kitchen space was expanded in 1997 with the removal of a small office at the southeast corner. North of the original kitchen, a three-stall bathroom was reduced to a single toilet and sink area. The resulting, larger kitchen spaced was fitted with stainless steel walk-in freezer and refrigeration units, stainless steel counters, stainless steel triple sink units, new ovens and cook stoves. The kitchen has quarry tile floors, plaster walls and acoustical tile ceilings.



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1951 Annex

The Annex wing was designed with a longitudinal central corridor accessed by an L-shaped connecting hall off the gymnasium lobby. This wing houses 8 classrooms, another set of girls and boys rest rooms, a boiler room, and two smaller office spaces. Much of the finish and equipment is similar to the interior furnishings used in the original building, with the exception that all walls are painted concrete masonry units with vinyl composite tile flooring and acoustical tiles in the halls and drop ceilings in the classrooms.

1997 Renovations

In 1997 the school was renovated to be compliant with ADA building code regulations, including the addition of compliant hand rails to all stairs (interior and exterior), changes in the tread materials on all interior stairs, the addition of ramps to some exterior door stairs, the removal of 1941 floor tiles (replaced with vinyl tile and carpeting), and the addition of drop ceilings and wooden storage cabinets in the classrooms. The 1941 exterior doors were replaced with fire-rated metal doors and windows. New cork boards, interior paint and roof repairs were made at the same time. Some upgrades were made to boiler systems and boiler room mechanics.

Mechanical Systems

The original building and gymnasium ell were constructed with no basements. This slab-on-grade construction did not even allow for crawl space under the first floors. One room, approximately the size of one of the classroom buildings, was dedicated to the buildings mechanical and utility systems. This room was located in a central location on the east side of the main building at its southern end, adjacent to the gymnasium ell. The boiler room is a double height space, running from the top of the first floor down to a full level below grade. Walls are cast-in-place concrete. An exterior door connects the boiler room to the parking lot on the rear (east side) of the building. Inside the exterior door is a landing that is a newer, steel frame with concrete filled metal deck. Two interior doors connect the boiler room to the first floor corridor. Here, a poured in place concrete slab and cast-in-place concrete stairs lead to the lower floor of the boiler room. All electrical, water and hot water heating systems were piped from the boiler room through the ceilings and attic of the original building.

Outside the boiler room is an exterior concrete vault which may have originally been used for coal storage, and later as a work/storage space. Access to the vault has been closed. A manhole provides limited access from the outside. Heating pipes run through the space to the auditorium wing of the building.

The Annex was designed as a slab on grade building, but a crawl space was designed to run beneath the central corridor. This wing has a separate boiler, located in a small room halfway down the east side of the wing, between the boys and girls bathrooms. This room is a 1 ½ story room, with a floor located a half-story below grade. The crawl space under the corridor is accessed through the lower story of the boiler room. Heating and plumbing pipes distribute the utilities from the boiler room throughout the building via this crawl space.

2011-12 Renovations

After a lengthy architectural and engineering review of all of its school facilities, the Kittery School Committee voted in 2009 to close the school and turn the building back to the Town for its re-use. In 2010, the Town hired architectural firm BH+A to provide feasibility studies and implementation plans for a multi-purpose community facility to accommodate the Kittery Recreation Department, the Rice Public Library, and the Center for Public Life – a combined arts, culture and recreation facility. Renovations and construction for the facility began in the summer of 2011. The existing roof was evaluated by an architectural engineer and determined to be too deteriorated to repair, so the existing slate roof will be replaced with asphalt roofing designed to mimic the slate tile. Though some windows were saved and restored, 80% of the existing windows were removed and replaced with insulated aluminum windows which match the size and approximate the muntin size and pane arrangement of the original windows.

A new gymnasium and access hall will be constructed east of the original building, in the niche between the gymnasium ell and the 1941 classroom building. The gymnasium equipment will be removed from the original gymnasium/auditorium and the old space will be used as a multi-purpose performance arts room. The kitchen facilities will be removed and a smaller kitchen space will be added within the envelope of one of the 1941 first floor classrooms. The earlier kitchen will be renovated for back-stage performance areas and storage. Toilet and sink fixtures will be replaced with water efficiency fixtures. Asbestos materials, where they occur, will be removed or properly encapsulated to meet current public building codes. The rest of the building (interior and exterior) will be preserved with no changes to interior partitions, and minimal upgrades to interior finishes such as carpet replacement and a new coat of paint. The exterior masonry will be restored, including repairs to water damage and cast stone elements. Energy efficiency improvements



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include blown-in attic insulation, new weather-stripping on existing doors, repairs to the 20% of existing windows that will remain, and energy-efficient improvements to utility systems. The plans call for classroom use for pre-school and senior programs, dance and aerobic programs. The 1951 Annex is slated for use by the Rice Public Library. There will be minimal changes to the site. Parking improvements will be improved by re-stripping existing paved areas. With the construction of the gymnasium addition, some parking will be reallocated to surround the new gymnasium. The existing vehicular drop-off will remain. The existing playground area will remain. Minimal improvements to the existing landscaping are planned.

Budget constraints have driven the efficient re-use of the building to accommodate its multiple partners, with the single largest change being the construction of the new gymnasium and the renovation of the existing gymnasium/auditorium to accommodate its multi-purpose art space by removing the gym equipment and acoustical panels, restoring the walls and ceiling of the large room, and renovating the performance space and former kitchen for backstage space within the architectural framework of its existing configuration.

The addition of the new gymnasium follows a pattern of ell's and additions constructed on this building to accommodate its growing and continued use. Sited behind the 1941 building, its construction will have no affect the buildings appearance viewed from the west and the south, its primary public facades. Repairs to the masonry and cast stone elements will restore the architectural finishes and materials of the 1941 building. There are no changes proposed for the 1951 Annex. Interior room arrangements, materials and finishes, with the exception of the original kitchen renovations, will remain the same except for upgrades in new carpeting and paint. Proposed changes to the utility systems will not significantly affect the interior fabric of the building. Changes to the site and setting of the structure are minimal.

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**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 grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

MILITARY

COMMUNITY PLANNING

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1941-1951

**Significant Dates**

1941-1943; 1951

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Wells, Hudson and Granger, architects Hanover NH (dates unknown; in practice 1936-41)

Davison Construction Company, Manchester NH, builders (dates unknown)

Barba Architecture & Preservation, Portland ME (1994-present)

Barggman, Hendrie + Archetype Inc. , Boston MA (1980-present)

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**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance is limited to 1941-1951, the years in which the school was constructed and expanded and gained significance for its association with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. It is during this period that the school is important 1) as an example of a federally funded building under the War Public Works program, 2) for its role in community planning as part of the federal government's building program to house and school its military families in Kittery, 3) for its significance in education as a new facility designed to embrace the federal regulations for school design and programming and to enhance quality education in the community, and 4) for its significance in architecture, as a notable public building in the Colonial Revival style and as a very good example of the work of architects Wells, Hudson and Granger, architects noted for their portfolio of elementary, high school and college building designs.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The former Frank C. Frisbee Elementary School in Kittery, York County Maine is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A, Military, as a building funded and constructed under the War Public Works Project (Project # ME 17-105F), and for its association with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. It is significant under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development, for its association with Admiralty Village, a federally funded, federally constructed residential neighborhood built to house enlisted married men and civilian workers and their families from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Frisbee School was constructed at the same time as Admiralty Village, to meet the needs of these military families. It is also significant under Criterion A, Education, for its construction of a new school as a direct response to the influx of naval families with children moving to Kittery and for its response to federal educational standards required by the U. S. Department of Defense. It is significant under Criterion C, Architecture, as a noteworthy local example of mid-twentieth century Colonial Revival design and construction. Designed by the New Hampshire architectural firm of Wells, Hudson and Granger, the 1941 building retains integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling and association. The addition, known as "the Annex," was added to the building in 1951 to expand the capacity of the school to accommodate the continued expansion of the Shipyard's activities under the nuclear submarine program of the Cold War. This addition is a contributing element to the historic building, retaining integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling and association. The period of significance is 1941-1951, the period in which the school was constructed and expanded and gained significance in the area of military activity, community planning, education and architecture in the town of Kittery, Maine.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Criterion A: Military**

Settled about 1623 and incorporated in 1647, Kittery originally included the lands of the present-day towns of Eliot, South Berwick, Berwick, and North Berwick. Located opposite Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the town developed as a center for trade and shipbuilding. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the nation's oldest continuously operating shipyard in the United States Navy, was established in 1800 on a series of conjoined islands at the mouth of the Piscataqua River, whose swift tidal current prevents ice from blocking navigation to the Atlantic Ocean. The Yard's first official ship was a 74 gun ship known as the *Washington* launched in 1814. Earlier ships, famous for their roles in the Revolutionary War, were constructed and launched from Kittery's island prior to the formal establishment of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Throughout the nineteenth century the Shipyard constructed and repaired all types of surface military vessels. During World War I, the Shipyard began constructing submarines. Its submarine, the *L-8* (1915) was the first submarine ever built by a United States Navy Yard. In addition to its submarine capabilities, the Shipyard continued to overhaul and repair military at-surface vessels, as it had done throughout the nineteenth century. In addition to its enlisted military, the Shipyard's work force grew to include 5,000 civilians during World War I, and expanded to more than 25,000 civilians in



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World War II when over 70 submarines were constructed. In 1942, the Shipyard constructed and launched 15 submarines. By 1944, they had doubled annual production, launching 31 submarines in a single year.<sup>1</sup>

After the War, the Shipyard became the Navy's center for submarine design and development. Shipyard designers revolutionized submarine design including a new tear-drop hull design, rounded cross sectional innovations, and engineering innovations in nuclear powered submarines. Today the Shipyard continues to provide overhaul, modernization and refueling services for the Navy.

In 1941, the War Public Works program (Project Number ME 17-105F) commissioned the construction of a new elementary school to accommodate the burgeoning number of new students brought to Kittery by the Shipyard's working families. The War Public Works program was a federal defense program responsible for the management and construction of facilities required by the military in the years leading up to World War II. After the War, the program was assumed under the Federal Works Agency. Built and funded by the federal government, construction of Frisbee School was completed in 1943. The school building was leased to the Town of Kittery from 1943 to 1948 with a renewable one year lease. The Town of Kittery agreed to operate the school as part of its community school system. The school was not formally sold to the Town until 1948. The school, therefore, is significant for its association with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and its expanded military operations from 1941 to 1948. It was funded, designed and constructed under contracts with the United States Navy from 1941 to 1943, and owned by the Federal government until 1948.

**Criterion A: Community Planning**

With the increased demand for workers in the years leading up to World War II, the Navy authorized the construction of a 600 unit residential subdivision, known as Admiralty Village, for its married enlisted men and civilian employees working at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The Frisbee School was built only a short walk from Admiralty Village. Contractor J. Slotnik Company of Boston was hired to build 150, 672-square-foot, four-room residences and 225, 1320 square foot duplexes on a 100 acre plot of land on the shores of nearby Spruce Creek. Construction began November 15, 1940 and was completed by September, 1941.<sup>2</sup>

The influx of families choked the small Kittery school district. In 1939, enrollment of all students in the Kittery school system was 914 students, an increase of only 10% over the previous five years. By 1942, however, 263 students had been added to the school's enrollment,<sup>3</sup> requiring an additional 29 teachers, 8 additional buses and drivers, and, at the Navy's insistence, a school nurse and doctor and two physical education directors. The Town of Kittery insisted that help had to come from the federal government to accommodate these new students, currently being housed in local church basements and vestries.<sup>4</sup>

Frisbee School, therefore, was built to accommodate the children living in nearby Admiralty Village. It was a necessary part of the Shipyard's expanding work force and an important impact on Kittery's larger community plan. After the War, the Shipyard became the Navy's center for submarine design and development. The continued expansion of its work force and the size and composition of the post-war baby boom necessitated an addition to the school, which was constructed in 1951. This addition, like the construction of the main building, was a direct response to the community needs of the Navy's work force. Today the small houses of Admiralty Village remain an important, affordable, residential housing option for Shipyard families. As the demand for submarines declined after the Cold War, the number of Shipyard families decreased, and the necessity for Frisbee School as an elementary school for the community decreased. The school was closed in 2009 and construction is underway to renovate the school as a community cultural and recreational center, continuing its vital role in the lives of community residents. The Frisbee School, therefore, is significant for its role in the changes to the community of Kittery as a result of the increased work force required by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, its association with the federally funded and federally constructed Admiralty Village, as a school constructed to support the children of families living in Admiralty Village, and for its role the school played in the lives of Kittery children, including their academic, athletic and cultural education.

**Criterion A: Education**

<sup>1</sup> Alden, John, CDR USN (November 1964). *Portsmouth Naval Shipyard*. United States Naval Institute Proceedings

<sup>2</sup> "History of Admiralty Village, Kittery, Maine. <http://admiraltylvillage.com/VillageHistory.aspx> .

<sup>3</sup> Town of Kittery, Annual Reports. Report of the Superintendent of Schools. 1939-1942.

<sup>4</sup> Boston Sunday Globe, August 17, 1941.

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Up to 1941, the Town of Kittery operated four elementary schools and one high school for its grade 1-12 students. The elementary schools were small neighborhood schools. The smallest, the Harriet Shapleigh School, housed 96 students, with 10-15 students in each grade. The largest, the Wentworth-Dennett school, housed 237 students, with approximately 30 students in each grade level. The high school, Traip Academy, accommodated 304 students, including all of Kittery's grade 9-12 students. The fluctuation of students in the Kittery school system was heavily dependent on the employment conditions at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery's largest employer. It is no surprise, then, that publicity about the increased employment opportunities at the Yard in 1940 began to worry Kittery's school superintendent.

In his report of 1941, he lamented the need to educate Kittery students under cooperative agreements with the Second Christian Church of Kittery and the First Congregational Church of Kittery Point because they could no longer accommodate elementary school children within their current buildings. The School District hired Dr. Ralph A. Burns, an educational consultant and professor from Dartmouth College, and the architectural firm of Wells, Hudson & Granger to survey the existing school facilities and make a plan for the future for Kittery's schools. The consultant's recommended building an eight-room addition to the Wentworth-Dennett School, a sixteen room elementary school to replace the Mitchell School, and a sixteen room addition to Traip Academy, the town's high school.

The federal government denied the consultant's recommendations, but did approve the funds to design and build a new elementary building on a site near their new housing subdivision, Admiralty Village. They hired the town's architectural consultants, Wells, Hudson & Granger, to develop the plans for the new school. The building was erected by the Davison Construction Company of Manchester NH.<sup>5</sup> Until the school could be completed, the federal government agreed to pay some of the town's current school expenses, including the rental of the church facilities, janitorial services, electric and heating bills, and desks, textbooks and other equipment.

The Navy insisted that the school department offer a complete program of physical education for boys and girls in grades 1-12. They also insisted that the school department hire a school physician and a school nurse. They provided funds for the town to hire two physical education instructors, the physician and the nurse. This emphasis on healthy, active children was part of a continued interest in the health benefits of physical activities for all ages, believing that good habits were started in school-age children. Competitive sports programs for schools eventually emerged out of this movement, but during the 1940's the interest was primarily in regular physical activity as part of the school curriculum. This, no doubt, supported the need for a gymnasium to be included in the design of the new elementary school. By 1944, the school superintendent was recommending in his annual report the purchase of playground equipment for his other elementary schools, specifically for grades 1-3.<sup>6</sup>

In 1943, the Frank C. Frisbee School was ready to open. The school was named for a twenty year member of the Kittery School Committee who died in 1938. The Town of Kittery would not sign the lease for the new school until the previously-promised funds had been paid to relieve the Town of additional educational expenses for Navy Yard students. They were also concerned about assuming the operating expenses for the new school, believing that the Navy should support some of the school's operating expense and student transportation costs.<sup>7</sup> Refusing to approve the Town Meeting Warrant article, the community instead appointed a committee to work through details of the school's operation with the federal government.<sup>8</sup> A lease was finally signed between the Town of Kittery and the United States Government on September 10, 1943<sup>9</sup> and the building opened to the public for the first time in October, 1943.<sup>10</sup>

In his annual report, the Superintendent of Schools admired the natural light coming through the new school windows "over the student's left shoulders in accordance with the state law requirements,"<sup>11</sup> and the flood of illumination from the six electric lights in each classroom for dark days and evenings. Because of the distance from home some of the students had to travel, the new school also featured a cafeteria which "will make it possible to serve hot lunches" in a self-supporting school lunch program.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>5</sup> "Kittery Will Vote on Acceptance of School Tomorrow" Portsmouth Herald. March 5, 1943

<sup>6</sup> Town of Kittery. Annual Town Report. Report of the Superintendent of Schools for years 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944.

<sup>7</sup> "Kittery Will Vote on Acceptance of School Tomorrow" Portsmouth Herald. March 5, 1943

<sup>8</sup> "Kittery Residents Refuse to Support U.S.-Built School" Portsmouth Herald. March 8, 1943

<sup>9</sup> Lease, United States Government Federal Works Administrator to Town of Kittery September 10, 1943.

<sup>10</sup> "Record Group of Parents Attends Teachers' Reception" Portsmouth Herald, October 19, 1943.

<sup>11</sup> Town of Kittery. Annual Town Report. Report of the Superintendent of Schools for the year 1944

<sup>12</sup> Town of Kittery. Annual Town Report. Report of the Superintendent of Schools for the year 1944.



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Frisbee School was owned by the federal government from 1941 to 1948. The town of Kittery, under terms of their lease, supplied the teachers, transportation and programming for the school. Most of the students at Frisbee came from nearby Admiralty Village, though some were bused from other parts of Kittery. In 1946, school enrollment dropped slightly as the defense efforts at the Shipyard ramped down after the War. The drop was slight, however, and by 1948 it was clear that student populations in Kittery were on the rise once again. As the Shipyard moved to become the Navy's center for submarine design and development, defense families and their children remained in Kittery, and their numbers once again began to increase. Looking to end their responsibilities for student schooling, the United States Government signed a sale agreement with the Town of Kittery for \$37,500, permanently turning the ownership and operation of the school over to the Kittery School Department.<sup>13</sup>

During the War Kittery grew to become one of the largest towns in the State, ranking 20<sup>th</sup> out of 492 municipalities. A brief dip in student populations in 1946 was followed by a steady rise in student enrollment starting in 1948. The continuous rise in the size of each entering class meant more classrooms, more teachers, and more expenses for a school department with an aging infrastructure. The Frisbee School was the newest, largest and most up-to-date structure in the district. In 1949, predicted enrollment trends showed Kittery exceeding its war-time peak enrollment (1215) by 400 additional students.<sup>14</sup> Writing in 1951, the Superintendent reported "The Frisbee School was built to fill a war need, which it did admirably, and it should be noted that this year, now that we are back to the peak war enrollment figure, the school has become full again to the point of overcrowding. It is significant that next fall's prospective increase in total elementary enrollment, 60, coincides with the number of children who may have to be transferred from Frisbee."<sup>15</sup>

In 1951 the Town of Kittery commissioned a School Building Survey to assess the school needs for Kittery. According to the report's scoring system, the Frisbee School received the highest ratings.<sup>16</sup> Based on the report findings, the Town received special permission from the State of Maine for funds to construct an addition to Frisbee School.<sup>17</sup> The addition was designed with a floor plan and architectural details that mirrored that of the main building. The addition later referred to as "The Annex," added eight new classrooms, two offices, and an additional set of restrooms to the school. Though not paid for by the United States government, this addition continued to reflect the impact of a successful Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and its role in the emerging Cold War defense industry. As one of the region's largest employers, its working families required good public school systems. As Admiralty Village continued to represent one of the largest federally funded housing subdivisions for the Shipyard, Frisbee School's proximity to these students necessitated its continued support and expansion to meet these educational demands.

The Frank C. Frisbee School is significant for its role in Kittery's public educational school program. Constructed to meet the demands of Kittery's defense-based employment population, the school represents a dramatic shift in size, design and emphasis on academic facilities designed under federal educational guidelines and standards. With its large gymnasium/auditorium and its kitchen and school-lunch program, the Frisbee School met the new challenges of students who rode the bus to school, required a hot meal away from home in the middle of the day, and needed good academic programming and rigorous physical exercise at the core of its school curriculum.

**Criterion C: Architecture**

The Frank C. Frisbee School is significant under Criterion C, Architecture, as a noteworthy example of mid-twentieth century Colonial Revival design and construction. Designed by the Hanover, New Hampshire architectural firm of Wells, Hudson & Granger, the 1943 building reflects the latest in building materials, design, workmanship and educational building design for the period. Wells, Hudson & Granger was an architectural firm based in Hanover, New Hampshire. Hired to complete a survey of Kittery's school building needs, the United States Government hired the firm to design the new elementary school for Kittery.

Harry Wells (dates unknown) was the former partner of architect Jens Frederick Larson (1891-1981). In 1924 Larson & Wells designed the Frances Richmond School in Hanover NH. Throughout the early 1920's, the firm was the

<sup>13</sup> York County Registry of Deeds Book 1124 Page 83. July 6, 1948.

<sup>14</sup> Town of Kittery. Annual Town Report. "The School Housing Situation in Kittery" A report by the Superintendent of Schools. 1949

<sup>15</sup> Town of Kittery. Annual Town Report. Report by the Superintendent of Schools. 1950

<sup>16</sup> Griffenhagen and Associates and the Kittery School Planning and Building Committee. Report of School Building Survey. 1951

<sup>17</sup> Town of Kittery. Annual Town Report. Report by the Superintendent of Schools. 1952



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most prolific building designer for Dartmouth College. Their Georgian Revival design for Sigma Nu fraternity serves as one precedent for the Frisbee School design, including the doorway design, brick quoin corners, and denticulate eave. Wells served as the Superintendent of Buildings at Dartmouth College. In 1933 Larson wrote *Architectural Planning of the American College* (McGraw Hill; 1933); he served as Dartmouth's chief campus planner between 1936 and 1947. Wells went on to form a partnership with Mr. Hudson, a little known partner of the firm. While Jens Larson went on to become Dartmouth College's chief planner, Wells & Hudson were responsible for several other Georgian Revival fraternity buildings for Dartmouth, including SAE, Chi Phi, Sigma Chi and Delta Tau Delta. In 1928 they designed the Belmont NH public library, a much smaller and much simpler colonial style brick building than those designed for Dartmouth's fraternity row.

By 1936, Wells & Hudson expanded to become Wells, Hudson and Granger. They designed the Hanover High School in 1936. Alfred T. Granger (1901-1970) served as principal and chief designer of the firm. A graduate of Harvard, he was best known for his role in the firm's design of the New Hampshire State House Annex in 1940. He was awarded the Jacobson National Prize for his design excellence. He died in 1970, and established the Alfred T. Granger Student Art Trust Fund dedicated to encouraging students to achieve high standards in the field of design. The firm built its reputation on public school designs in the 1940's and 1950's, including the Penacook High School (Penacook NH), Tobey School (New Hampshire State Hospital grounds, Concord NH), and Nashua High School (Nashua NH). These designs were more monolithic, streamlined structures, without the level of Georgian Revival detailing of the Frisbee School. They all, however, show a consistent architectural interest in Georgian doorways, arched large-scale, multi-paned windows, and the use of cast stone trim and brick quoins to break the monotony of large school facades.

Little is known about the "Hudson" member of the Wells, Hudson and Granger firm. His partnership with Harry Wells was cemented in their work on Dartmouth's fraternity buildings. The Hanover High School project (Wells, Hudson and Granger 1936) was another building constructed under the Federal Public Works Project administration, and it is possible that this architectural and engineering collaborative was expanded to take advantage of these federally-sponsored building projects. Alfred T. Granger went on to form his own firm, Alfred T. Granger & Associates in 1941, specializing in the design of academic buildings. He was responsible for the design of at least two buildings on the University of Vermont, Montpelier campus, one on the Burlington campus, and numerous elementary, middle and high schools throughout New England in the 1950's and 1960's.

The Frisbee School is an excellent representation of mid-twentieth century academic architecture. Its original building and its Annex were designed in the Georgian Revival style. Character-defining features include its symmetrical façade, the front door surround, decorative cast stone panels, multi-paned arched windows, dentil cornice moldings, octagonal cupola, and the classically-inspired use of wood and cast stone trim details. The incorporation of a gymnasium/auditorium and cafeteria serving hot food for students became a signature part of school design in the mid-twentieth century. Wells, Hudson and Granger, as architects specializing in public school design, were at the forefront of this school design movement. The Frisbee School is one of their most carefully articulated buildings in the Georgian Revival style, replicating architectural ideas first displayed in the Larson & Wells designs for Dartmouth College fraternity houses in the 1920's and then streamlined into Wells, Hudson and Granger public school building designs of the 1930's and 1940's.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

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**9. Major Bibliographical References****Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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- Boston Sunday Globe. "It Isn't Kittery We're Defendin', but the Whole United States." August 17, 1941.
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- National Archives and Records Administration. College Park, MD. Photographs misfiled under Mitchell Elementary School, Kittery Maine at 162-WP-77-F4779.
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- Portsmouth Herald "Kittery Residents Refuse to Support U.S.-Built School." March 8, 1943
- Portsmouth N.H. Herald "Kittery Will Vote on Acceptance of School Tomorrow." March 5, 1943
- Portsmouth N.H. Herald "Record Group of Parents Attends Teachers' Reception." October 19, 1943
- State of Maine. Lease of War Public Works Project No. ME 17-105. United States of America to the Town of Kittery, Maine. September 10, 1943 Copy on file, Kittery Town Hall and Rice Public Library. Kittery Room. "Schools" file.
- United States of America. War Public Works Program. ME 17-105. [Boston.archives@nara.gov](mailto:Boston.archives@nara.gov). Search conducted through staff at National Archives, Northeast Region in Waltham MA. NARA archivist says no records were found under this docket number and assumes they were destroyed when a large portion of PWA project files were improperly disposed of in 1943.
- Vermont Modern. "Wells, Hudson and Granger" found at [www.vermontmodern.com/home/architects-designers/wells-hudson-and-granger](http://www.vermontmodern.com/home/architects-designers/wells-hudson-and-granger). Accessed 10-4-2011.
- York County Registry of Deeds. United States of America Federal Works Administrator to the Town of Kittery Maine. Book 1124, Page 83. Recorded August 17, 1948
- Plans and Reports on file with Town of Kittery (town offices):
- 1941 Wells, Hudson and Granger
  - 1997 A. Barba Architecture & Preservation
  - 2011 Easterly Surveying
- Note: The 1951 drawings have not been located

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Rice Library, Kittery ME  
National Archive and Records Administration

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 12.64 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>19</u>	<u>358672</u>	<u>4773036</u>	3	<u>19</u>	<u>358525</u>	<u>4772644</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>19</u>	<u>358840</u>	<u>4772866</u>	4	<u>19</u>	<u>358486</u>	<u>4772864</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the nominated parcel are part of a lot described by the Town of Kittery on tax map 15 as lot 91. The nominated parcel is 12.64 acres that runs from Rogers Road to a stone wall that runs north to south across the property behind the school. The rest of the lot (26.41 acres) is part of the same tax parcel, but is known locally as "Roger's Park." The nominated parcel consists of all the land traditionally associated with the school, its play yards, and its parking.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the portion on which the 1941-43 school was constructed. This is a part of a larger, 39.05 acre parcel leased by the United States government to the Town of Kittery from 1943-1948 and purchased by the Town of Kittery in 1948. The 12.64 acres included with this nomination includes all of the land historically associated with the school, its parking lots, and its play yards and athletic fields. It is separated from the rest of the lot by a stone wall that runs north to south across the property.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Lucinda Brockway, Anne Masury

organization Past Designs LLC

date 10-30-11

street & number 53 High Street

telephone 207-985-4326

city or town Kennebunk

state ME

zip code 04043

e-mail cindy@pastdesigns.com



**FRANK C. FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Name of Property

**YORK COUNTY, MAINE**

County and State

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Photographs:**

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Frank C. Frisbee Elementary School

City or Vicinity: Kittery

County: York State: Maine

Photographer: Cindy Lee, Bargmann Hendrie + Archetype, Inc. and Anne Masury

Date Photographed: March 10, 2010, January 8, 2011, September 10 &amp; 20, 2011.

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0001.tif  
Facing east. Frisbee Elementary west elevation main building, gymnasium and addition. Taken 9/10/2011.
2. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0002.tif  
Facing east. West elevation main building. Taken 1/8/2011.
3. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0003.tif  
Facing east. Gymnasium wing entrance. West elevation. Taken 1/8/2011.
4. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0004.tif  
Facing east. West elevation. Decorative detail gymnasium entrance. Taken 9/20/2011.
5. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0005.tif  
Facing east. West elevation. Main entrance. Taken 9/20/2011.
6. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0006.tif  
Facing east. Cupola main building. West and North elevations Taken 9/20/2011.
7. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0007.tif  
Facing east. West elevation. 1951 Addition. Taken 9/20/2011.
8. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0008.tif  
Facing south. North elevation, pipe railings, concrete stairs. Taken 1/8/2011.

**FRANK C. FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**YORK COUNTY, MAINE**

Name of Property

County and State

- 9. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0009.tif  
Facing west. Exterior door on east elevation. Taken 9/20/2011.
- 10. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0010.tif  
Facing west. East elevation of 1941 building from parking lot. Taken 1/8/2011.
- 11. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0011.tif  
Facing southwest. North elevation of gymnasium ell. Elevator addition. East elevation main building. Taken 1/8/2011.
- 12. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0012.tif  
Facing northeast. Gymnasium south elevation. Taken 1/8/2011.
- 13. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0013.tif  
Facing west. Typical window main building. East elevation. Taken 9/20/2011.
- 14. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0014.tif  
Facing north. Arched window gymnasium. South elevation. Taken 9/20/2011.
- 15. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0015.tif  
Facing east. Interior, gymnasium, arched window with shade down. Taken 3/10/2010.
- 16. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0016.tif  
Interior detail. Bathroom. Main (1941) building. Taken 9/20/2011.
- 17. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0017.tif  
Facing east. Stairwell first floor to second floor. Main (1941) building. Taken 9/20/2011.
- 18. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0018.tif  
Facing southeast. Typical classroom. 1951 Annex. Taken 9/20/2011.
- 19. ME\_York County\_Frisbee Elementary School 0019.tif  
Interior corridor. Main (1941) building. Taken 3/10/2010.

**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the 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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Frisbee, Frank C., Elementary School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, York

DATE RECEIVED: 3/09/12      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/02/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/17/12      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/25/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000229

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    4/25/12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*POS 1941-1951*  
*local level*  
*Education, military/community planning*  
*architecture - areas of significance.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Ac C  
REVIEWER Lisa Delina      DISCIPLINE Historic  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_      DATE 4/25/12

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME





FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME 50F19



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME 6 of 19





FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME 90F 19





FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME

100F19



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ; YORK CO, ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME





FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME 13 of 19



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO, ME

140F19



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME





FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME



FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME

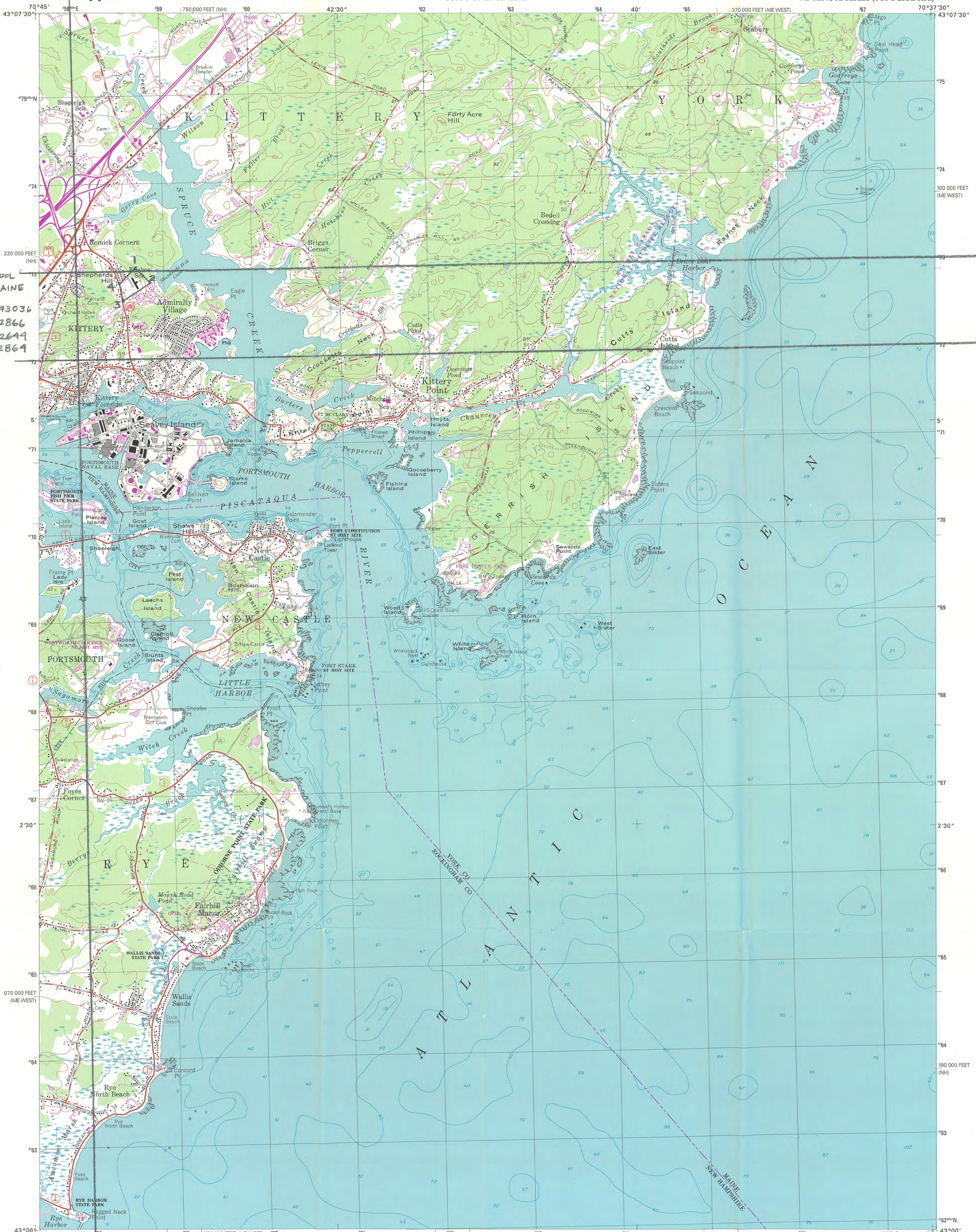


FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; YORK CO., ME

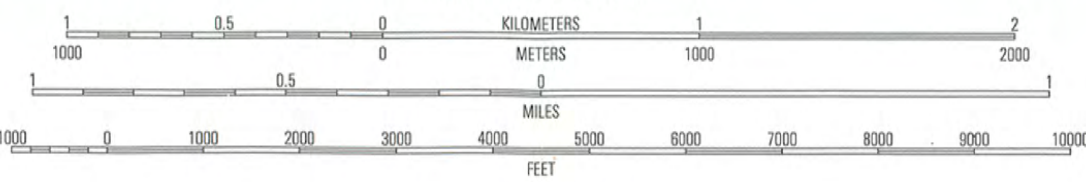
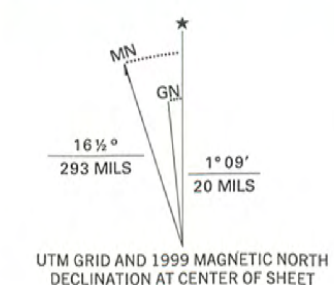




FRANK C. FRISBEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YORK COUNTY, MAINE UTM'S 1. 19/358672/4773036 2. 19/358840/4772866 3. 19/358525/4772644 4. 19/358486/4772864



Produced by the United States Geological Survey Topography compiled 1984. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1982 and other sources. Photorevised using imagery dated 1995; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1944. Boundaries revised 1999. North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) Projection: Maine coordinate system, west zone (Lambert conformal conic) 10 000-foot ticks: Maine coordinate system, west zone and New Hampshire coordinate system 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 19 North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software. Hydrography compiled from USCGS charts 1205 (1954), 329 (1955), and 1206 (1955). This information is not intended for navigational purposes. There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	

1 Dover East  
2 York Harbor  
3 York Beach  
4 Portsmouth  
5 Isles Of Shoals On N  
6 Hampton  
7 Isles Of Shoals On W  
8 Isles Of Shoals

KITTERY, ME-NH 1995

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929 TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048 DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET-DATUM IS MEAN LOWER LOW WATER THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 8.7 FEET THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

NIMA 6870 II SW-SERIES V811

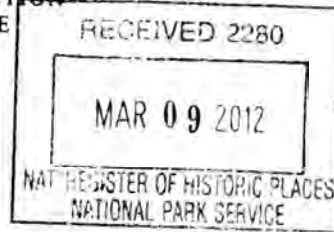






PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
55 CAPITOL STREET  
65 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333



EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR.  
DIRECTOR

5 March 2012

Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW,  
Washington D.C. 20005

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find four (4) new National Register nominations for properties located in the State of Maine:

- Frank C. Frisbee Elementary School, School, York County
- Waterboro Grange #432, York County
- Mill at Freedom Falls, Waldo County
- Montville Town House, Waldo County

If you have any questions relating to these nomination, please do not hesitate to contact me at (207) 787-2132 x 2.

Sincerely,

Christi A. Mitchell  
Architectural Historian

Enc.