

PH0097711

Hon. William D. Hathaway

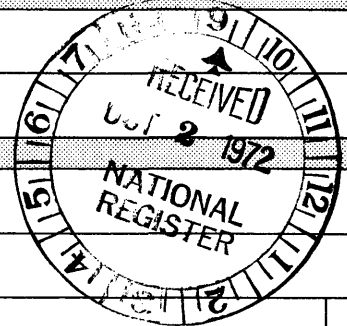
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Maine</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Somerset</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>APR 2 1973</b>



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Old Point & Sebastian Rale Monument**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Norridgewock (Narantsouak) Indian Village Site**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Roman Catholic Cemetery, Arnold Highway**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Madison**

STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23** COUNTY: **Somerset** CODE: **025**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <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 type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>Part of property is used as a cemetery</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**510 Ocean Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**142 Federal Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** STATE: **Maine** CODE: **23**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**H. A. B. S.**

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1st Street & Independence Ave., S. E.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **11**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The eastern section of the property, which is owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland, is used as a cemetery and is not included in this nomination. The actual village site, unlike the cemetery, is a lightly wooded area forming a rectangle 600 feet by 1,000 feet west of the Rale monument. This section is roughly 5 acres. The Rale monument was dedicated by Bishop Fenwick of Boston on August 23, 1833. Two years later it was toppled by anti-Catholics but was soon re-erected by local citizens. The monument, a simple granite obelisk, approximately 20 feet tall, with a bronze interpretative plaque, stands just beyond the woods on what was, from all indications, the site of the mission church. Long popular with amateur seekers of Indian relics, the village site has little promise for further archaeological excavations.

The historic village was described in 1719 as a palisaded fort about 160 feet square. There were four gates, running north and south, east and west. The mission church was 22 yards outside the east gate. There were 26 regularly spaced houses within the fort and these were built much like European houses.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

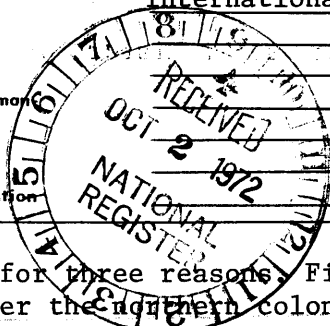
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | International                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |   |   |   |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Norridgewock village site is important for three reasons. First, it was the focus for French-English rivalry over the northern colonial frontier. Second, this Abnaki village exerted the greatest resistance against the encroachments of English settlers. Third, it was the most important Indian mission in Acadia

The first Jesuit missionary at Norridgewock (or Narantsouak) was Gabriel DuRoi who was on the Kennebec river at various times between 1646 and 1652. On one of these occasions he officially represented the French governor in an unsuccessful attempt to secure English help against the Iroquois. Between the 1650's and the late 1680's the Norridgewocks maintained their ties with the French people and the Catholic religion via the Kennebec-Chaudiere river route to Quebec. Their requests for a priest were answered in the late 1680's when Jacques and Vincent Bigot were frequently on the Kennebec. In 1695 Sebastian Rale was assigned to the Norridgewock mission. From this time, except when the Indians were directed by French officers, Rale was the spiritual and temporal leader of the tribe.

Until his death Sebastian Rale was the bete noire of Puritan Massachusetts. The English believed that he inspired real and imagined French aggressions. He also symbolized the Indians refusal to allow English expansion on the Kennebec river.

After the Treaty of Utrecht ended Queen Anne's war in 1713, English-French rivalry became obscured by a direct English-Abnaki confrontation. Tension grew when the English refused to heed Rale's frequent warnings of the Indians' grievances. Though Samuel Sewall, the colony's Chief Justice, warned that the Indians' complaints were real, Massachusetts succumbed to her fear of the French and the demands of land developers and declared war on the Abnakis.

This conflict, variously called Dummer's, Rale's and Lovewell's war, ended the Abnaki threat on the Kennebec river. The Abnakis more than held their own in the early years of the war. Repeated legislative demands for the elimination of Rale and the leading Abnaki chieftains led to a successful attack against Norridgewock on August 23, 1724.

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Baxter, J. P. Pioneers of New France in New England. Albany, 1894.

Leger, Sister Mary Celeste. The Catholic Indian Missions in Maine (1611-1820). Washington, 1929.

Morrison, K. M. "Sebastian Rale vs. New England: A Case Study of Frontier Conflict," M. A. Thesis, Orono: University of Maine, 1970.

Shea, J. G. History of the Catholic Missions Among the Indian Tribes. N.Y. n.d.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44 ° 46 ' 8n "	69 ° 53 ' 17w "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Kenneth M. Morrison

ORGANIZATION: Department of History DATE: July 31, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: Stevens Hall University of Maine

CITY OR TOWN: Orono STATE: Maine CODE: 23

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name James H. Mundy

Title State Liaison officer

Date September, 12, 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Robert A. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/2/73

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date 3/22/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS  
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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.

Rale was killed while defending himself, the Indians were decimated and the village destroyed. Panawamske, the remaining Abnaki village on the Penobscot river, was dispirited by this loss and the war ground almost to a halt. Finally, with Dummer's treaty in July, 1727, the conflict was formally closed.

Rale's efforts and the motivation of the Norridgewock Abnakis has been the topic of an extended historical controversy. The wars and especially the attack on Norridgewock were notable in the international history of the area. American writers, notably Bancroft, Whittier, Parkman, Baxter besides many others have related the confused views of the conflict. Recently a series of biographies for the Dictionary of Canadian Biography have used most of the international documentary collections for a balanced view of the situation.

Locally, Rale still popularly symbolizes the role of the French people in Maine history. His career highlights the tremendous effort of the Abnaki Indians to preserve both their lands and tribal integrity. Rale's linguistic dictionary remains the basic work on the Abnaki language. The efforts of the Jesuit missionaries succeeded in keeping most of the Abnakis within the Catholic Church and some descendents of the Norridgewocks still live on French reservations in the province of Quebec.

