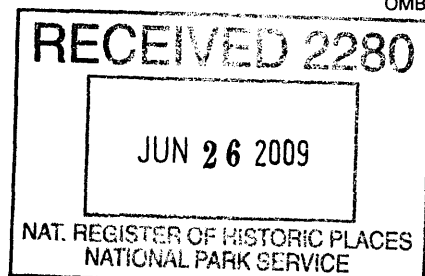


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

592



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 (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Turner Cattle Pound

Other names/site number Livestock Pound

2. Location

street & number Southwest corner of Gen. Turner Hill Road and Kennebec Trail not for publication

city of town Turner vicinity

State MAINE code ME county Androscoggin code 001 zip code 04282

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local

James J. [Signature]
Signature of certifying official

6/19/09
Date

SHPO,
Title

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

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]
Signature of the Keeper

8/7/09
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	private

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
		sites
1		structures
		Objects
		buildings
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE: Animal Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE

roof: N/A

other:

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)

AGRICULTURE

EXPLORATION / SETTLEMENT

LAW

Period of Significance

1816 – 1918

Significant Dates

1816

1877

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Merrill, Moses, builder

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance commences in 1816, the year in which the Turner Cattle Pound was constructed, and runs until 1918, the last year in which a pound keeper was formally designated by the town.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Not applicable.

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

As Maine communities began to lose their frontier aspects in the 19th century and assume a more settled countenance, rudimentary civic improvements were initiated. Among these improvements in the largely agricultural world of rural Maine were those concerned with the regulation of the livestock. To control the problem of loose cattle, hogs, or sheep towns constructed open air shelters, known as pounds or cattle pounds, to temporarily corral wayward animals. At least 33 of these structures are extant in Maine, and the condition of each varies from almost unrecognizable to good.¹ Erected in 1816 in northern Androscoggin County, the Turner Cattle Pound is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance as a good example of a 19th stone structure that was built by the town to regulate one specific aspect of its agricultural economy.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

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

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

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See page 8/2

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
<input type="checkbox"/> preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Historic Preservation Office
<input type="checkbox"/> previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/> previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/> designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/> Local government
<input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> University
<input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
	Name of repository: Turner Town Office, Turner, Maine

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

¹ The publicity surrounding the nomination of several Maine pounds to the National Register in recent years has resulted in several pounds being newly identified by the public and brought to the attention of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. At last count 33 pounds were extant; at least three more are probably extant (if in ruins) and the condition / existence of eight others is unknown.

TURNER CATTLE POUND
Name of Property

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE
County and State

Acreage of Property .02 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

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

1	<u>19</u>	<u>399936</u>	<u>4902591</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)
The boundaries of the nominated property are depicted on the Town of Turner tax map number 55, lot 3.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)
The above cited boundaries represent the parcel of land historically and currently associated with the Turner Cattle Pound.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christi A. Mitchell, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date 9 April 2009

street & number 55 Capitol Street, State House Station 65 telephone (207) 287-2132

city or town Augusta state Maine zip code 04333-0065

e-mail christi.mitchell@maine.gov

Additional Documentation

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)

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 Turner Cattle Pound is a un-roofed stone enclosure located at the southwest corner of the intersection of General Turner Hill Road and Kennebec Trail in the Androscoggin County town of Turner. The intersection is located just over a mile north of the village of Turner in a neighborhood of widely spaced old farmsteads intermingled with smaller residential lots containing 20th century homes. Shaped like an asymmetrical parallelogram, the pound entrance faces east and is set back approximately 30 feet from the paved edges of General Turner Hill Road. The pound is surrounded on the north, west and south sides by mature hardwood trees, including oak and maple trees, and one large oak tree is located within the pound. The interior of the pound is relatively flat and covered in grass and moss. A single-thickness wall abuts the northwest corner of the Pound and extends west along Kennebec Trail.

Narrative Description

As originally called for in the 1816 Warrant Article voted on by the residents of Turner, the Cattle Pound was to measure thirty feet to a side on the interior. However, over time, the walls have settled, slumped and splayed to a certain extent. In plan, the structure is not square: the southeast corner is acute and the southwest corner obtuse: this pattern repeats to a lesser extent at the northern corners. The three feet thick double walls are constructed of rounded to sub angular fieldstone, medium to small boulders and large cobbles laid in irregular courses. The amount of interior fill between the two wall courses is limited. The walls vary between four and five-and-one-half feet in height. In general, the east and north walls are well built, but portions of the south wall and much of the west wall have lost height and stability due to collapse. The northeast corner retains the highest degree of structural integrity, followed by the northwest corner. Uncharacteristically large boulders were used on the southeast exterior corner, which may indicate that this portion of the structure was rebuilt. The southwest corner has partially collapsed into the pound.

The north side is thirty-seven feet, nine inches long (exterior corner to corner); the west side is thirty-six feet long; the south side measures about thirty-six feet, eight inches long; and the east side is thirty-seven feet ten inches long. Positioned near the center of the east side is the structure's only portal. This three feet two inches wide entrance features two upright granite posts which support a four feet two inch long granite lintel. Two iron pintles in the north post show where the pound door had been hinged and an eyebolt in the south post may have been for a latch or lock. The lintel is pinned to the upright posts.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property TURNER CATTLE POUND

County and State ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 2

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

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

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

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

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

Developmental history/additional historic context information

The Town of Turner is located in northwestern Androscoggin County and while only 3 to 5 miles in width it stretches along 10 miles of the western shore of the Androscoggin River. Historically the town contained several village clusters, including North Turner and North Turner Bridge, Keen's Mills, Chases Mills, Howes Corner, Turner Center (or Bradford) and Turner Village, the last of which is situated roughly near the geographic center of the municipality. The landscape is characterized by

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property TURNER CATTLE POUND

County and State ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 3

low rolling hills and rich alluvial soils along the Androscoggin River and the lesser flows of the Nezinscot River and Martin's Stream. There are several parallel north-to-south roads, and only two significant east-to-west roads. The town was settled after 1772 and was first known as the plantation of Silvester Canada. The name was changed to Turner when it was incorporated in 1786 in honor of Rev. Charles Turner of Scituate Massachusetts. In the nineteenth century each of the settlements contained elements of industrial activity (cheese factory, shoe factory, lumber, grain and fulling mills, tanneries and a pottery), but along the connector roads the land was primarily farmed. During the 19th century the demographic trends of the town paralleled those of many other central Maine communities in that the population grew rapidly between 1790 and 1820 (from 349 to 1726 residents), reached a high in 1860 (2682), and then slowly decreased until just before the Second World War. In 2000 the population of Turner was recorded at 4972, many of whom travel south to work in the large cities of Lewiston and Auburn.

The first pound keeper in Turner, Moses Stevens, was elected in 1788 one year after the town was incorporated. At that time there is no mention of where the impoundment was to be located or even if Stevens was expected to maintain a dedicated structure. The next year, and in several subsequent years Heremiah Dillingham was elected; he was replaced by Caleb House in 1793. The first mention of a physical impoundment was recorded in 1795, when a vote passed "to build a pound at the meetinghouse" and Beniah Niles was given "four pounds ten shillings to build a pound under the erection of the Selectmen." (Records, Vol. 1, p. 49.) The meetinghouse was located in Turner Center, but the location of this pound is unknown, nor was anything more written about the form of the pound – whether it was wood or stone, rectilinear or circular. In the same year, Joseph Copeland was elected pound keeper, a role that he continued to fill intermittently for several decades.ⁱⁱ

The next mention of the pound structure was recorded during a town meeting held on September 2nd, 1816. Perhaps by this time the location of the pound, in the middle of town, had become inconvenient, or alternately, the structure might have been physically inadequate. Whatever the unrecorded reason, the residents of Turner authorized the building of another structure:

...thirdly voted to build a Pound thirty feet square within to be made of stone six feet high four feet thick at Bottom and eighteen inches at the Top with a coping of timber of the thickness of one foot with a good and Sufficient Door made of Timber with a sufficient lock and they fourthly voted Mr. Moses Merrill build the above described Pound the bidding the same off at Vendue at twenty eight dollars and 75 cents. Fifthly, voted to raise two hundred dollars to build the pound and pay other town charges. (Record, Vol. 1, p 286.)

ⁱⁱ A pound keeper was not identified every year in the town records during the 1790s and 1800s.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property TURNER CATTLE POUND

County and State ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 4

Based on this description, the pound was clearly envisioned as a substantial structure and the need for it to adequately confined wayward beasts is left neither to chance nor the whim of the builder.

Although Moses Merrill built the pound and was elected pound keeper in 1817, the pound was built on the property of Cushing Phillips, and tradition maintains that Phillips was the "first pound keeper". The Phillips farm is about one mile north of Turner Center village, and is technically closer to the geographic center of the town. The location chosen for the pound was also strategically placed at the intersection of roads running both north-to-south and east-to-west.

Other than the basic facts recorded in the town records, much of the popular history of the town pound is based on the memory of an aged Turner resident. In 1984 Harriet Ricker Lovejoy, age 104 and the daughter of the last pound keeper, published the following recollections in the *Lewiston Journal*:

The pound was taken from lot 99 situated on the Gen. Turner Hill Road, and bounded on the north by the old county road that reached from Turner Center to Chases Mills, and was the property of the town.

Two brothers, Richard and Cushing Phillips, were the first to settle on lot 99 and one of them was the first pound keeper, but no records were kept. Pound keepers who followed were Edwin Stephens who built his new farm buildings just before 1860. Then came Joseph Briggs, whose land was adjacent and north and east of the pound. S. Sewell Houghton bought Lot 99 in 1869 and was the next keeper of the pound. He was succeeded by Fred A. Ricker who was the last and served as long as the pound was needed.

Stray animals were placed in the pound and their owners notified. They could get them out by paying for the damage they had done, and a small fee for their care, usually 25 cents.

Animals from as far away as Franklin County were driven to market on this road (General Turner Hill Road) and often spent the night in the fields up there, or in the pound, Mrs. Lovejoy recalls. (No date, 1984.)

Lovejoy's account suggests that the keeper of the pound was one of the people who lived or owned land in the general vicinity of the pound, and the veracity of this is more or less confirmed on

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property TURNER CATTLE POUND

County and State ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 5

the map of Turner which was published in the 1873 Atlas and History of Androscoggin County, Maine. As recorded in the town records, between 1866 and 1876 seven men held the title of pound keeper. In 1866 the keeper was "Joseph Briggs, whose land was adjacent and north and east of the pound", but he only held the post for two years. In successive years the post was held by Elijah Hamblen (1867), Abial B. Green (1868), Edward Hall (1869) and Stephen Bragg (1870 – 72). In 1873 Samuel S. Houghton was appointed pound keeper but at the same town meeting "it was voted to allow him the privilege of using his stable as a pound if he chooses – free of cost to the town." (Vol. 6, p. 96). While this might have been a matter of convenience, Houghton (like Hamblen, Green, Hall and possibly Bragg) lived in the immediate vicinity of the pound (Houghton's farm was adjacent). It is more likely that sixty years of use had taken its toll on the structure, and perhaps this also explains, to some extent, why the position shifted so frequently. In 1875 and 1876 the overseer of the structure was Victor Hamblen (location unknown), before returning to Houghton again in 1877. However, this time the record is clearer about the problem: "voted that the pound keeper be allowed to use his stable for a pound until the old pound is repaired," followed immediately by a vote that Houghton and the Selectmen "repair the Pound so that it will be secure for the impounding of beasts." (Vol. 6, p. 170, 12 March, 1977.) After this work was completed Houghton oversaw the structure for the next five years, followed by Elijah Hamblen again, from 1882 – 1887. In 1888 John Briggs held the position for one year, and then Frederick A. Ricker, the last pound keeper took on the role that he was to keep formally for the next three decades.

As settlements throughout the state matured, farms were increasingly improved, and pasture walls were incrementally heightened as each season yielded a new harvest of rock from the cultivated fields. With the invention of barbed wire in 1873, it was much easier for farmers to securely enclose their livestock. This change in technology, along with a persistent westward emigration, eventually rendered the local pounds obsolete. Harriet Ricker Lovejoy lived adjacent to the pound from her birth in 1881 until she moved into a nursing home many decades later. Although her father, Frederick A. Ricker, served as the pound keeper Lovejoy had only vague recollections of the pound in use, suggesting, not surprisingly, that the facility in Turner had grown increasingly unnecessary. After the turn of the 20th century the job of pound keeper was one of several town positions, including field drivers, hog reaves, fence viewers, inspectors of leather, scalors of logs, surveyor of wood and bark, and surveyor of lumber, that had been necessary when the municipality was incorporated, but were quickly becoming anacronisms. Increasingly these positions were not filled at town meeting. Instead, the town records simply note that the filling of these offices was left in the hands of the selectmen. Ricker was appointed almost annually until 1910, and then again in 1913 and 1914. In 1918 Ricker was noted as the pound keeper in the record of the town's annual meeting, but after this the town never again designated a pound keeper. Now a relic on the side of the road, the Turner Cattle Pound is an important touchstone to Maine's nineteenth century agricultural heritage, as well as an early example of a public-works type community project.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property TURNER CATTLE POUND

County and State ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 9 Page 2

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TURNER CATTLE POUND

Name of Property

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY, MAINE

County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white 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: Turner Cattle Pound
City or Vicinity: Turner
County: Androscoggin **State:** Maine
Photographer: Christi Mitchell
Date Photographed: 4 April 2009
Description of Photograph(s) and number: North and east elevations; facing southwest.
1 of 5. ME_Androscoggin_Turner Cattle Pound_001.JPG

Name of Property: Turner Cattle Pound
City or Vicinity: Turner
County: Androscoggin **State:** Maine
Photographer: Christi Mitchell
Date Photographed: 4 April 2009
Description of Photograph(s) and number: East wall and pound entrance; facing northwest.
2 of 5. ME_Androscoggin_Turner Cattle Pound_002.JPG

Name of Property: Turner Cattle Pound
City or Vicinity: Turner
County: Androscoggin **State:** Maine
Photographer: Christi Mitchell
Date Photographed: 4 April 2009
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Interior, north and east walls and entrance; facing east.
3 of 5. ME_Androscoggin_Turner Cattle Pound_003.JPG

Name of Property: Turner Cattle Pound
City or Vicinity: Turner
County: Androscoggin **State:** Maine
Photographer: Christi Mitchell
Date Photographed: 4 April 2009
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Interior, north and west walls; facing northwest.
4 of 5. ME_Androscoggin_Turner Cattle Pound_004.JPG

Name of Property: Turner Cattle Pound
City or Vicinity: Turner
County: Androscoggin **State:** Maine
Photographer: Christi Mitchell
Date Photographed: 4 April 2009
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Northeast corner; facing southwest.
5 of 5. ME_Androscoggin_Turner Cattle Pound_005.JPG

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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.