

5-25-73

PHOTO COPY

Hon. Peter N. Kyros

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE:	Maine
COUNTY:	Cumberland
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
422	10/2/72

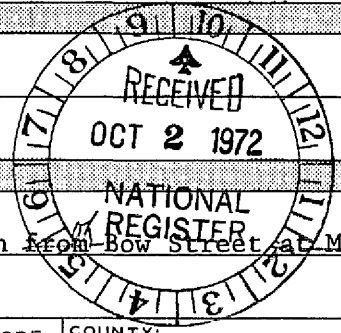
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Pettengill House and Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Unnamed town road, running south from Bow Street to Mast Landing.

CITY OR TOWN:
Freeport

STATE <u>Maine</u>	CODE <u>23</u>	COUNTY: <u>Cumberland</u>	CODE <u>005</u>
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" 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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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 type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Wolfe's Neck Farm

CITY OR TOWN: <u>Freeport</u>	STATE: <u>Maine</u>	CODE: <u>23</u>
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
142 Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN: <u>Portland</u>	STATE: <u>Maine</u>	CODE: <u>23</u>
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc. Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Station A, Box 4197

CITY OR TOWN: <u>Portland</u>	STATE: <u>Maine</u>	CODE: <u>23</u>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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DATE	

HB DE 43870
2019 N 4855800
PHOTO COPY
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PHOTO COPY

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

PETTENGILL HOUSE AND FARM

The Pettengill House is located at the head of the Harraseeket River, one and a half miles from Freeport, Maine. The Harraseeket River on the south and west, the Flying Point Road (Bow Street) on the north, the Kelsey Brook on the east form the boundaries of a rectangular area of many hundred acres of uninhabited land. The Pettengill House is situated on the southern edge of this vast stretch of land, overlooking the Harraseeket River. The river flows south into Casco Bay, widening and forming a protected harbor between South Freeport and Wolfe's Neck, a peninsula stretching into Casco Bay.

The 180 acres of fields and woods surrounding the Pettengill House comprise the Pettengill Farm. This land has belonged with the house since at least 1831. The fields were continuously farmed until 1960.

By land, the Pettengill House is reached by a mile long road running south from the Flying Point Road. The road descends through woods on the western side of a rocky hill, then turns east around the hill and crosses undulating fields, which descend to saltmarsh at the river's edge, until it reaches the house. The house is 600 feet back from the river on a shelf of land about 60 feet above the level of the river. It has extremely beautiful views in all directions. Immediately around the house are planted flower gardens, shade trees, ornamental trees and shrubs and apple trees.

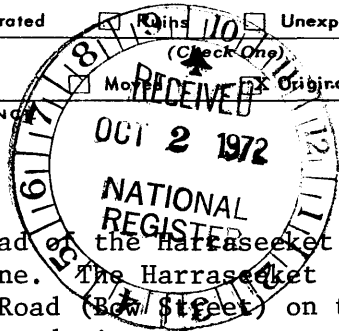
The Pettengill House was built as a farmhouse; its site was carefully chosen. The house is exposed to the sun all day long in the winter; in the summer it is shaded by nearby trees. The farm outbuildings were arranged to form a courtyard at the rear of the house, thus protecting the house from severe winter winds and trapping the sun in a sheltered space. The large barn has fallen down, but the toolshed, workshop and a smaller barn are still standing.

The Pettengill House is a lean-to house, commonly called a salt/box, built in the late Eighteenth or early Nineteenth Century. There is no evidence that a lean-to was added to an older house, the house was originally constructed in this shape.

The house faces south with the longer roof line sloping to the north. It is two and a half stories high, about thirty feet square, and has a center chimney. The chimney appears to be original. The foundation of the house is cut granite set on the ground. A dug cellar walled in field-stone extends from front to rear under the right half of the house.

The facade of the house has one window on the left, the door with four transom lights over it to the left of center, and two windows on the right, fairly close together. The four windows on the second floor are arranged exactly above the first floor openings. There are three windows unevenly spaced across the one story rear. On each side of the house, there are three windows, one directly above another, in a line going up to the peak of the roof and a small eave window in the second floor rear.

(See Continuation Sheet)

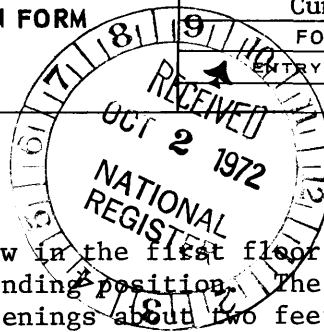


SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Maine
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(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

On the right side there is another window in the first floor rear; on the left side a back door is in the corresponding position. The windows are four-light (not the originals) set in openings about two feet by four feet.

Currently the house is covered with unpainted clapboards and shingles. An early photograph shows it entirely clapboarded, unpainted except for the front which was painted white. Originally it was painted entirely white, as the clapboards all show signs of white paint. The roof is newly shingled; probably it was shingled in the past. The casings of the windows and doors are flat boards against which the clapboards butt. Above each front window casing, a board is set on its side, sticking out about three inches to shed water. The corner posts are also sheathed in flat vertical boards. A narrow wooden cornice crosses the front of the house.

The first floor consists of a kitchen running across the rear of the house. A milk room (pantry) and back entry have been partitioned off on the left, and the stairs to the second floor and to the cellar are on the right. Doors in the diagonal wall to either side of the kitchen fireplace lead to symmetrical front rooms. Doors from the small square hall behind the front door also lead to these rooms. The ceiling height is about seven feet.

On the second floor two plastered walls separate a small center front room beside the chimney from right and left front rooms. These walls are etched with rough line drawings of clipper ships and smaller boats. Other partitions for the left front room and a room under the eaves are modern. The ceiling height is about six feet.

Stairs built next to the chimney lead up to the attic. The roof is sheathed vertically, the boards resting directly on long purlins stretching between unevenly spaced rafters. There is a square ridge purlin.

Like the outside, the inside of the Pettengill House is simply detailed. The woodwork on the first floor is original. The doors between the room are four-panel with a continuous narrow beading on the styles and rails. The raised sides of the panels face the two front rooms. Other doors are board and batten. Several mouldings are repeated frequently. Identical mouldings are used in the surrounds of the doors and windows in the left front hall. Chair rails occur in all the rooms, forming the base of the window sills.

The fireplace in the kitchen has a wooden mantel. Flat wooden pilasters support similar mantels in the right and left front rooms. A door is mounted inside the fireplace surround of the right front room covering a brick baking oven. All the fireplaces have been walled up and fitted for stoves or fireframes.

The hardware in the first floor rooms is original. It is iron, painted on some doors and not on others. Several types of latches are

(See Continuation Sheet)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

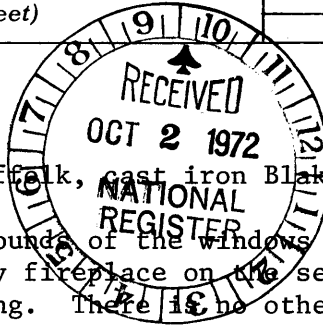
STATE Maine	
COUNTY Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE APR 2 1972

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

used - wrought iron Norfolk and Suffolk, cast iron Blake's. The hinges are HL, butt, and strap.

On the second floor, the surrounds of the windows are similar to those of the first floor. The only fireplace on the second floor, in the left front room, has a modern casing. There is no other original woodwork remaining. The hardware is modern.



SIGNIFICANCE

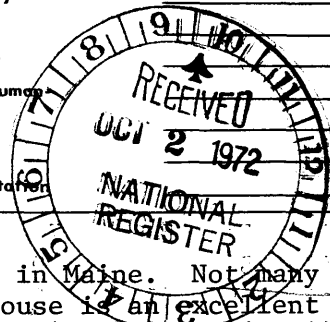
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1800

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Few lean-to or salt box houses were built in Maine. Not many have survived to the present day. The Pettengill House is an excellent example of this architectural type. Its structure has not been tampered with. Because it was never modernized, (it has no plumbing, running water, electricity, or heating system), the Pettengill House appears today in its original form, a valuable example of late Eighteenth Century construction.

A serviceable farmhouse, it gains a dignity from simple, straightforward detailing. Most of the original woodwork and hardware is intact. The house shows the methods of decoration once used in this area of coastal Maine.

The siting of the Pettengill House and outbuildings is a lesson in architectural planning. The southern exposure and courtyard take advantage of the sun. The sloping roof line of the salt box and the positioning of the outbuildings break the harsh winter winds. The builder was sensitive to the elements and used them to his advantage. The buildings and their setting enhance each other. The buildings appear to be one with their setting, the natural culmination of the rise upon which they sit. Such rugged, simple beauty is exceptional.

The house and the fertile fields, woodlands, and salt marsh have been miraculously untouched by the modern world. The Pettengill Farm is an unblemished example of the saltwater farms which were once common to the entire Maine coast and are now being swallowed by coastal development.

The Harraseeket River and Mill Brook flowing into it at Mast Landing were once busy places. Before the Revolution, Mast Landing was the collection point for Royal Navy masts and spars cut in the current Freeport, Durham, and Pownal areas. The timbers were hauled by oxen to Mast Landing and shipped to England. After the Revolution, new settlers came to the area. (It was probably during this period that the Pettengill House was built.) A saw mill operated at Mast Landing in 1804. Later a combination grist mill and saw, shingle, and woodworking mill occupied the same site. There was an active shipyard on the flats by the creek. A brickyard, at first located on the flats in front of the Pettengill House, moved to the flats at Mast Landing. Steamers ran

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cross, Harmon S. and Thurston, Florence G.: Three Centuries of Freeport Maine, Freeport, 1940.

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
NW	43°	51'	08"	70°	05'	20"			
NE	43°	51'	08"	70°	04'	18.5"			
SE	43°	50'	41.5"	70°	04'	18.5"			
SW	43°	50'	41.5"	70°	05'	20"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 190

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary-Eliza Wengren, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: **Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.** DATE: **January 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Station A, Box 4197

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** 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 T. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/2/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 3-26-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Cumberland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 2 1973

(Number all entries)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

between Mast Landing and Portland, carrying wood products and passengers. Firewood was collected and shipped down the Harraseeket River. The Petten-gill House and her inhabitants were witnesses to all this activity. The ships which passed by the front door on their way down the Harraseeket River are now recorded in the plaster etchings of the upstairs room.

