

PHOENIX

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maine
COUNTY:	Cumberland
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 13 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
NEW GLOUCESTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

AND/OR HISTORIC:
New Gloucester Center

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *both sides of ME 33 and 231*

CITY OR TOWN: New Gloucester

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1st: Hon. Peter N. Kyros

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

COUNTY: Cumberland

CODE: 005

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Various

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: New Gloucester

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER: Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

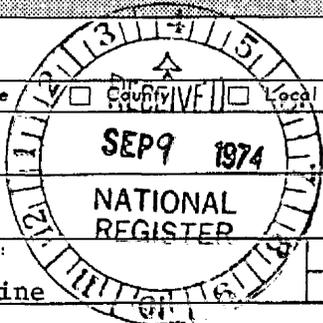
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maine Historic Resources Inventory
Maine Historic Preservation Commission

DATE OF SURVEY: 1974

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maine Historic Preservation Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta, Maine



STATE: _____

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
(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

Listed below are the buildings within the district which are of special interest:

1. MCGRAW HOUSE - c.1800-1810 - The McGraw House is a two story gable roofed dwelling of straightforward country Federal style design. Its arched doorway with sidelights is the major architectural highlight of its symmetrical facade.
2. JOHN STINCFIELD HOUSE - c. 1800-1810 - John Stincfield built this handsome two story, hip roofed country Federal style dwelling during the first decade of the 19th century. The doorway on the Stincfield House is similar to that on the adjacent McGraw House. The Stincfield House is currently undergoing renovation to restore the original sash treatment and enhance other early features.
3. LOWER CORNER CEMETERY - The Lower Corner Cemetery is New Gloucester's burying ground with the first burial having taken place in 1754. The cemetery became town property in 1774.
4. JAMES WINSLOW HOUSE - 1819-20 - The one and a half story, central chimnied Winslow House is a fine late example of a Maine house form which enjoyed popularity from the early 18th century into the early 19th century. An inherent beauty is found in the stark simplicity of the Winslow House design.
5. PAUL STEVENS HOUSE - 1799 - The Paul Stevens House was constructed at the end of the 18th century as a one and a half story, central chimnied dwelling. Subsequent additions include simple Greek Revival front and side doorway trim and a pair of roof dormers with double windows.
6. SITE OF THE NEW GLOUCESTER BLOCKHOUSE - 1753-55 - A miniature replica of the New Gloucester Blockhouse marks the site of this fortification erected by the first settlers in 1753-55 for protection against the Indians. During the early years of settlement, the Blockhouse served as a communal home, fort, town house, and church. In 1755 it was attacked by Indians who captured two men and killed and scalped a third.
7. SHUBAL MARSH HOUSE - 1800 - This imposing two and a half story, central chimnied house was erected by Shubal Marsh for himself in 1800. The front doorway was altered during the Greek Revival period to a sidelight and horizontal pediment arrangement. Marsh was a New Gloucester master

(See Continuation Sheet)

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7. DESCRIPTION

- 7. SHUBAL MARSH HOUSE CONT.
builder who designed and constructed several houses in the community. Born in Hingham, Massachusetts, in 1766, He moved to New Gloucester in the early 1790's to build the General Nathaniel Coit Allen House. There in 1794 he married Elizabeth Foxcroft, a daughter of the Rev. Samuel Foxcroft, the town's Congregational minister. Shubal and Elizabeth Marsh had nine children. He died in 1857 at the age of almost 91.

- 8. CALEB HASKELL HOUSE - Mid-19th century - The Caleb Haskell House is a delightful story and a half house featuring two large gables on the front. In style, the house is a rural builders's cross between a Greek Revival Cape with appropriate period doorway and window trim and a Gothic Revival cottage with large, sharply pointed gables. The Haskell House was used between 1855 and 1862 as the Congregational parsonage.

- 9. REV. SAMUEL FOXCROFT HOUSE - 1765 - Built in 1765 for the Rev. Samuel Foxcroft, this grand two and a half story, double chimned house was the first major frame dwelling in New Gloucester. Its large scale and such fine mid-18th century architectural features as the triangular doorway pediment and quoins at the facade corners make this a house befitting the community's first minister. Born in Boston in 1735, Foxcroft was the son of the Rev. Thomas Foxcroft, pastor of the First Church of Boston from 1717 to 1769. The younger Foxcroft graduated from Harvard in 1754 and answered the call of the New Gloucester Congregationalists ten years later. He was ordained in the blockhouse in January of 1765 and continued his ministry in the town until 1793. The last years of his life were spent in poor health and he died at his home in 1807 at the age of 72.

- 10. JOHN WARD HOUSE - Mid-19th century - The Ward House is a straightforwardly designed two and a half story dwelling with its gable end to the street in a Greek Revival manner. Its doorway, window, corner pilaster, and cornice treatment are in the Greek Revival style. The house was used as the Congregational parsonage in 1866-67.

- 11. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - 1838 - This handsome Greek Revival style church was built on the site of the original

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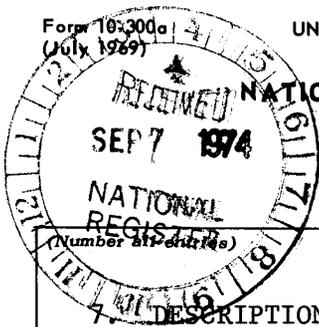
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7. DESCRIPTION

11. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CONT.
Congregational meeting house of 1771. That structure was razed in 1838, and the present one was constructed that year in its place. Greek Revival features include the columnade of four fluted Doric columns across the first story facade, the pronounced triangular roof pediment of the facade, and the square belfry with the distinctive dome.
12. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL VESTRY - 1871 - Adjacent to the First Congregational Church stands the First Congregational vestry of 1871. This pleasant frame building displays such Victorian elements as Gothic pointed arch windows, a Gothic quatrefoil, and a Stick style ornament at the peak of the overhanging gable roof.
13. BRIG. GENERAL NATHANIEL COIT ALLEN HOUSE - 1793 - Shubal Marsh erected this large two and a half story frame house for Brig. General Nathaniel Coit Allen in 1793. In 1778 Allen became a general during the American Revolution. The central chimney was replaced by two narrow ones when the house was extensively remodelled in the 1850's for a Mr. Thompson, the owner of the Glen House, an early White Mountain hotel in New Hampshire. Thompson also raised the ceilings and introduced Victorian interior woodwork. A subsequent owner added large Colonial Revival porches on the front and side entrances.
14. SCHOOLHOUSE - c.1870 - New Gloucester's Victorian schoolhouse features touches of carved detail on a basically simple one and a half story frame building. Carved ornamentation appears over two of the facade windows and the side doorway as well as the roof cornice. The structure is now used as a grange hall.
15. NEW GLOUCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY - Late 19th century - The New Gloucester Public Library is a one and a half story frame building of simple lines with a decorative central section projecting from the facade. This section contains a large, recessed arched doorway and an overhanging gable with an intricately designed Stick style ornament. This ornament is repeated on the side gables. A square tower with a pointed top stands at the center of the library's gable roof.
16. NEW GLOUCESTER TOWN HALL - c. 1900 - This large two and a half story frame structure is typical of public buildings constructed in small Maine towns to house municipal offices and to provide a hall for public meetings.

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7. DESCRIPTION

- 17. NEW GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL - 1902-03 - This distinctive Colonial Revival frame building was erected in 1902-03 as New Gloucester High School. Used as a high school until 1962, it continues to be owned by the town and is made available to the New Gloucester Historical Society for the storage and display of its collections.
- 18. PELEG CHANDLER HOUSE - 1820 - The Peleg Chandler House is a dignified two story Federal dwelling with a handsome fan doorway and a match-boarded facade. The house was built in 1820 by Chandler, a prominent attorney and judge and later became the property of a Captain Cutter. The unusual observation platform on the roof is probably a 19th century addition. The house is currently undergoing restoration.
- 19. CALVINIST BAPTIST PARSONAGE - 1853 - The Calvinist Baptist Parsonage is a straightforward two and a half story dwelling with modified Greek Revival trim on the doorway, the corners, and the cornice.
- 20. JONATHAN ROWE HOUSE - Late 18th century - Shubal Marsh built this fine late 18th century dwelling for Jonathan Rowe. The house is of two and a half story frame construction, has a central chimney, and exhibits such exterior period trim as a triangular pedimented doorway and dentil molding on the facade cornice.
- 21. REV. ELISHA MOSELEY HOUSE - c. 1802-05 - The Rev. Moseley came from Connecticut to New Gloucester in 1802 to assume the pastorate of the First Congregational Church. With its side hallway and doorway plan, the Moseley House was most unusual for Maine in the early 19th century. Moseley probably brought the design ideas with him from Connecticut where such a floor plan was already beginning to be used but would not be widely accepted in New England until the Greek Revival of three decades later. The Moseley House is a two story rectangular frame structure with a hipped roof. Exterior detail includes an elaborate pilastered and pedimented doorway and a pair of pilasters which extend from the foundation to the cornice of the right wall.
- 22. HASKELL HOUSE - c.1800 - The Haskell House is a classic two and a half story, central chimned dwelling. Its exterior detail is restrained with the exception of the Federal style arched doorway with sidelights. This house has been used at various times as a post office and a private school. It has been restored to its early appearance in recent years.

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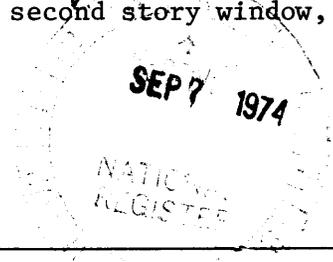
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7. DESCRIPTION

- 23. JOHNSON HOUSE - c.1800 - Built for a Mr. Johnson about 1800, this stately house was later the home of William Greeley. The house is of frame construction, stands two and a half stories high and has a double chimney arrangement. The chimneys are now somewhat smaller in size than they probably were originally. Fine exterior features include a triangular pedimented doorway, quoins at all the four corners and a dentil molding on the front and rear cornices.
- 24. OBEDIAH WHITMAN HOUSE - c.1800-1810 - Erected in the first decade of the 19th century for Obediah Whitman, this two and a half story frame house has had three important occupants during its history. From 1809 to 1817 Major General Samuel Fessenden lived here while practicing law in New Gloucester. The General's son, William Pitt Fessenden, resided there from ages three to fourteen. He later became a U.S. Senator and Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury. The third well-known occupant was the late 19th-early 20th century Lewiston painter D.D. Coombs, who used the second floor for his studio. Private schools have also been held in the house at various times. An overhanging roof, two front dormers, and Victorian bracketts have been added to the original lines of the dwelling.
- 25. BELL TAVERN - 1782 - The Bell Tavern was established in 1782 by Peleg Chandler in a building which probably predates the Tavern. Although this two story frame structure is now somewhat remodeled, it has much historic significance for New Gloucester. Chandler was one of the community's first settlers, coming here in 1764. He represented New Gloucester in the General Court of Massachusetts. His Bell Tavern was a popular stopping place on the stage route from North Yarmouth to northern and inland points. When New Gloucester served as half-shire town with Portland for Cumberland County from 1792 to 1805, the jury room for the court was located in the tavern.
- 26. CALEB HASKELL HOUSE - c.1870 - Caleb Haskell built this two and a half story frame Italianate house about 1870. A local physician, Dr. John D. Sturgis, purchased it from Haskell. The dwelling exhibits the transition from Greek Revival to Victorian in country architecture. While the facade bay windows and portico as well as the circular window in the front gable are Italianate in character, the lingering Greek Revival is felt in the second story window, corner and cornice treatment.



(See Continuation Sheet)

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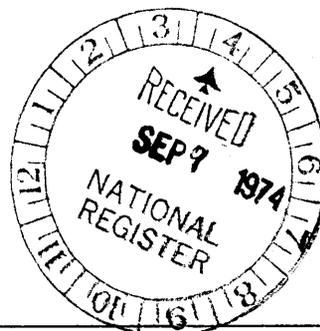
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7. DESCRIPTION

- 27. ANDREW CAMPBELL CHANDLER HOUSE AND BARN - c.1850 - Andrew Campbell Chandler erected this dignified two and a half story frame farm house and its adjacent barn during the 1850's. Both are in the Greek Revival style. While the house is characteristic of many built on the Maine countryside during the period, the barn ranks among the largest constructed in the state at the time. Like the house, the barn has survived in good preservation and is a most impressive example of mid-19th century rural architecture.
- 28. ISAAC PARSONS HOUSE - 1762 - Isaac Parsons was one of the earliest and most prominent settlers of New Gloucester. Arriving in the town in 1761, he erected the community's first frame dwelling in 1762. This structure, a story and a half, gambrel roofed house, later became a store room on Parson's farm and fell into neglect. The present owner of Parson's farm has carefully restored the gambrel roofed dwelling and uses it to display samples of his cabinet making.
- 29. ISAAC PARSONS HOUSE - 1781 - Isaac Parsons raised a company of volunteers for the American Revolution in 1776. After serving in the war as a Captain he married Deborah Hewett, a wealthy widow, and returned to New Gloucester. There Parsons replaced his 1762 gambrel roofed house with a far grander gable roofed dwelling in 1781. The second Isaac Parsons House is a stately two and a half story, double chimnied frame structure with fine front and side doors and doorways.
- 30. ISAAC PARSONS, JR., HOUSE - 1795 - Isaac Parsons built this two and a half story frame house for his son Isaac, Jr., in 1795. Although the dwelling has retained its original proportions, the front doorway, windows, and chimneys have been altered. The two front dormers on the roof are additions.
- 31. JOHN MEGUIRER HOUSE - c.1800 - Erected about 1800, the John Meguirer House is a substantial two and a half story, central chimnied dwelling. The house has a forthright simplicity in its overall design as well as in its detail.



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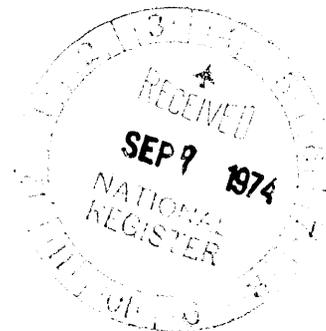
District Delineation

7.

The charming village of New Gloucester is located at the intersection of state highway 231 and the road from White's Corner to Cobb's Bridge. The buildings in the area are generously spaced even in the center of the village and well sited on the rolling rural landscape. There are no modern intrusions in the form of gasoline stations or supermarkets. The roads are black asphalt and the district is crossed by Stevens Brook .50 miles southeast of the intersection.

The district extends from the intersection .24 miles northwesterly and .20 miles southeasterly along rt. 231 and .62 miles northeasterly and .82 miles southwesterly along the road from White's Corner to Cobb's Bridge. The district comprises an area 200 yards either side of these roads except where it includes the cemetery located .50 miles southwest of the intersection at which point it extends inward 1000 yards on the easterly side of the road.

The district is delineated in this manner to include all structures and sites of historic and architectural value.



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of New Gloucester lies in the fact that it was one of the few well-settled inland towns in Maine during the last half of the 18th century. The wealth of fine late 18th and early 19th century homes in the New Gloucester Historic District attest to its early prosperity as an agricultural community. Few villages in Maine have as many substantial two and a half story dwellings of the period in their original natural setting.

The township of New Gloucester was granted in 1735 to sixty citizens of Gloucester, Massachusetts, who named the area after their town. The land was divided into sixty-three equal shares, of which the additional three were set aside for the first minister, the support of the ministry, and the schools. A number of families soon built log-houses and a saw mill. In the autumn of 1742, the household goods of the first settlers were landed at the mouth of the Royal River and poled up the stream on rafts to the bridge which had been erected in 1739. A new war with France broke out in 1744 and continued until 1751, during which time the community was abandoned because of the Indians.

In 1753 some of the inhabitants returned and built a blockhouse to serve as their home, fort, and church. Slowly the community rebuilt its ruined cabins and saw mills. In 1756 a road was cut to North Yarmouth on the coast, and two years later the first grist mill was constructed.

Isaac Parsons arrived in 1761 and built New Gloucester's first frame house the next year, a one and a half gambrel roofed dwelling which still stands. The first schoolmaster and the first minister came in 1764. A year later the Rev. Samuel Foxcroft's grand two and a half story house became the first major frame structure in the town.

With a good beginning before the Revolution, New Gloucester grew rapidly after the war. The town was incorporated in 1794. From the early 1790's until 1805 New Gloucester served as half-shire town with Portland for Cumberland County. This further helped to develop the community. Many of the houses now standing in the historic district were completed by the first decades of the nineteenth century.

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Day, David, Born in a Block House, The Religious Heritage of New Gloucester, Maine, New Gloucester, 1965

Unpublished notes on New Gloucester houses in the possession of Donald C. Chandler, New Gloucester.

"New Gloucester" History of Cumberland County, Maine, Philadelphia, 1880, pp. 326-338.

NW 19/397450
 4869357
 (C)
 NE 19/397970/4868910
 SE 19/396730/4867060
 SW 19/396200/4867430

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	43° 58' 6.6"	70° 16' 18"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	43° 58' 19"	70° 16' 42"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	43° 57' 05"	70° 17' 13.5"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	43° 57' 17"	70° 17' 38"		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **275**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Historic Preservation Commission, Maine DATE: June, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta, STATE: Maine CODE: 23

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name James H. Munday

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date September 3, 1974

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

DA Wauters
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/13/74

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11-7-74

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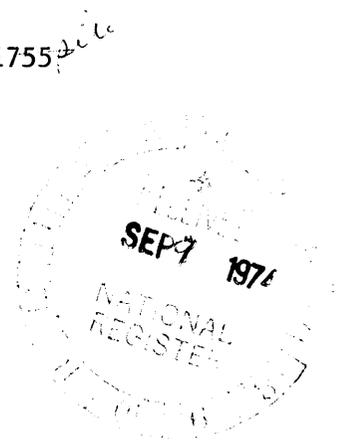
8. SIGNIFICANCE

Since its founding in the mid-18th century, New Gloucester has been primarily a farming area. While some of the homes in the historic district have been purchased and restored by those employed outside of the community, many are still owned by those who continue to work the soil or are retired from it. For more than two hundred years, the farmland and the houses of New Gloucester have blended to become a distinctive and enduring statement of rural Maine.



NEW GLOUCESTER

1. McGraw House - c.1800-1810
2. John Stincfield House - c.1800-1810
3. Low Corner Cemetery - 1754 *site*
4. James Winslow House - 1819-1820
5. Paul Stevens House - 1799
6. Site of the New Gloucester Blockhouse - 1753-1755 *site*
7. Shubal Marsh House - 1800
8. Caleb Haskell House - Mid-19th century
9. Rev. Samuel Foxcroft House - 1765
10. John Ward House - Mid-19th century
11. First Congregational Church - 1838
12. First Congregational Vestry - 1871
13. Brig. General Nathaniel Coit Allen House - 1793
14. Schoolhouse - c.1870
15. New Gloucester Public Library - Late 19th century
16. New Gloucester Town Hall - c.1900
17. New Gloucester High School - 1902-03
18. Peleg Chandler House - 1820
19. Calvinist Baptist Parsonage - 1853
20. Jonathan Rowe House - Late 18th century
21. Rev. Elisha Moseley House - c.1802-05
22. Haskell House - c. 1800
23. Johnson House - c.1800



24. Obediah Whitman House - c. 1800-1810

25. Bell Tavern - 1782

26. Caleb Haskell House - c. 1870

27. Andrew Campbell Chandler House and Barn - c. 1850 - 2 bldg.

28. Isaac Parsons House - 1762

29. Isaac Parsons House - 1781

30. Isaac Parsons, Jr., House - 1795

31. John Meguirer House - c.1800

NEW GLOUCESTER

