UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS **TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sam Perley Farm

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Perley Road			NOT FOR PUBLICATION		
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT			T		
	Naples	VICINITY OF	First		
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
	Maine	23	Cumberland	005	

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)			COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

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NAME		
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STREET & NUMBER		
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CITY, TOWN		STATE
Bridgto	on, VICINITY OF	Maine 04009
LOCATION O	F LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.	Cumberland County Registry of Deed	s
STREET & NUMBER		
	142 Federal Street	
CITY, TOWN		STATE

Portland,

Maine

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	XXORIGINAL SITE	
XGOOD	RUINS	XXALTERED	MOVED DATE	
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Sam Perley Farm of Naples, Maine, a simple but distinctive Federal style farm house, was completed in 1809, with minor subsequent additions. Represented are a house, ell and attached carriage-house and shed, a barn, and a wellhouse. All are of frame construction, the house, ell, and carriage-house being clapboarded, while the shed and barn are shingled.

The house is $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories tall, with a large central brick chimney, gable roof, and granite foundation. The 5-bay facade faces south and features a central entrance which consists of a projecting gabled entry with a 6/6 window on each side. The door contains two tall panes and is flanked by sidelights. A delicate wooden fan surmounts the doorway. Fenestration throughout the house (as well as the ell and carriage-house) is 6/6, with the following exceptions: the east half-story contains a single 9/6, while the west half-story contains a pair of 2/2. Two gabled dormers, dating stylistically to c.1850 (Greek Revival) each contain a pair of 2/2 windows. The ends of the house are two bays wide. On the east end is a first-story bay window of Italianate style, containing tall 4/4 sash. A one-story porch is attached to the west end. Both of these features are post-Federal in date. A beaded molding on the facade below the cornice suggests fine denticulation.

The ell is $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories tall with an internal brick chimney at the north end.

The carriage-house stands l_2^1 stories tall and faces south. This has a shed roof which slopes steeply to the north. The large entrance for vehicles consists of a low arched aperture. A one-story shed with gable roof runs to the west of the carriage-house.

The wellhouse is a small octagonal structure of wood, with an arched aperture on each face, currently boarded in.

The barn is a large gable-roofed structure with square ventilator on the center of the ridge.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1809	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT Thomas Perley	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sam Perley Farm, named not after its builder but rather a later descendent, is a generous farmstead sited beautifully on a hill in a remote part of Naples township. Its significance lies both in its architectural merit as a virtually unchanged early 19<u>th</u> century farm and because of its association with the Perley family, leaders in the community from its inception.

Set well back from the road with an expansive lawn in front, the house is large by any standard and is marked by an unusual enclosed projecting entry with a delicately proportioned fan. The relationship of the house and its attached carriage-house to the big unpainted wooden barn conveys a feeling of spaciousness unusual among Maine farmsteads. Except for electricity, no modern facilities exist.

While it is commonly believed that many of the towns in this part of the Province of Maine were settled by Revolutionary soldiers and their families, the movement toward petitioning for land started as early as the 1730's.

The largest single category granted during this period of expansion were the "Canada Townships" so call because of their origin in recognition of an obligation to soldiers in the expedition against Louisbourg in 1745. Naples was formed from some of these towns, one of which was Bridgton.

Thomas Perley of Boxford, Massachusetts, was a member of the Committee of Proprietors securing this township in 1765. His son, Enoch, at the age of 27 came to the area as a settler in 1776, being one of the first settlers of Bridgton. He had, incidentally, been a member of the Boxford company of Minutemen who marched to the defense of Concord on April 18-19, 1775.

Over the years, members of the Perley family came to own more than 2,000 acres of heavily wooded land in the area which led to considerable prosperity based on lumber sales.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shorey, Eula M., ed. History of Bridgton, Maine. Augusta, 1968.

Everts and Peck, History of Cumberland County. Philadelphia, 1880.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS US	EONLY		
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Enoch's son, Thomas, a Major in the militia, inherited the farm site and in 1809 built the present house. The date of the barn is unknown but almost certainly somewhat later. In 1834 that section of Bridgton where the farm is located was set off as a part of the newly formed township of Naples.

Samuel F. Perley, son of Thomas, was born in 1817. In addition to becoming a trained surveyor, he was a progressive and successful farmer constantly endeavoring to improve his breed of stock and the quality of his orchards. He served as President of the Cumberland County Agricultural Society, was a member of the Maine Board of Agriculture, and served as Trustee of the Maine State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, now the University of Maine, from its founding until 1874. He was elected four times to the State Legislature, serving in both branches. At his death in 1881 he was Naples' most prominent citizen and well known throughout the state.

The Sam Perley farm is a landmark of both local and state significance.