

1963

# State Parks and Historic Sites in Maine

Peggy Schaffer

*Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, [Peggy.Schaffer@maine.gov](mailto:Peggy.Schaffer@maine.gov)*

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# *State Parks* *AND* *Historic Sites* *IN* **MAINE**



This is one of a series of special folders  
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## YOU CAN HAVE YOUR KIND OF A VACATION IN MAINE

We are living at a time when people are under almost constant strain. Everything is being speeded up faster and faster. The pressures of life are never-ending it seems. It is easy to form a habit of worrying about tomorrow. The world's affairs are so unsettled. Seeking an answer, work weeks have been shortened and annual vacations commonplace even among industrial workers. Still, these things by themselves are not enough. People require a complete change of environment occasionally to reconstitute themselves physically and mentally. They need to get out from under the stress and strain of everyday living, to dress as they like, eat and sleep to suit their own needs. In short, they need a place where they can find peace of mind and renew their energies for whatever lies ahead.

There are many such places in Maine. Some prefer the coast, some the lake regions, others prefer mountains and woodlands. Maine has them all and in great abundance.

The American people each year are becoming more conscious of travel and the idea of taking a vacation. Modern automobiles and better highways are making it easier and more attractive for more people to take vacations.

What does a vacation mean? It means one thing to one person and another for the next. But, in reality it means a complete change. A great many people want to spend as much time as possible in the out-of-doors. During the last few years many people have had the desire to spend their vacation in camping and tenting. It is comparatively easy now to pull a trailer loaded with camp equipment over the highway, or to pull a house trailer or a boat.

Maine has provided for this trend by establishing state parks all over the state. Some of them are located on the sea coast, others on lake shores, and many others in the wilderness areas. One can pull into one of these parks and set up a tent or unhook their house trailer and spend their vacations with beautiful surroundings. They can fish, swim, go boating, hiking, mountain climbing, and enjoy it at its best. At the coastal parks lobsters and seafood are nearby.

It is hard to imagine a more carefree and relaxing vacation than one spent at one of these state parks.

The regulations and details of each state park are given in this folder.





### **AROOSTOOK STATE PARK—PRESQUE ISLE**

**Approach:** Turn west off U. S. #1 at park sign, 4 miles South of Presque Isle.

**Facilities:** Picnicking and camping sites with tables, fireplaces and pure drinking water. Pit type toilets conveniently located. Adequate parking and bathhouse facilities near the beach which has lifeguards in season. The area is sprayed regularly for insects. Groceries and other supplies available in Presque Isle 6 miles. Boat launching and rental available on the premises.

**Features:** This park is located in the heart of the potato empire on the shore of Echo Lake, a small trout pond. Quoggy Joe Mountain in the background is the high point in this rolling countryside and offers an excellent view for miles around. The trout fishing is good.

**Fees:** Day Use—25c per person. Camping—\$2.00 per site. Off Season—15c and \$1.00. Boat launching and wood free.

### **BAXTER STATE PARK—See Special Folder (A Guide to Baxter State Park)**

### **BRADBURY MOUNTAIN STATE PARK—POWNAI**

**Approaches:** Leave U. S. #95 at Freeport and follow directional signs 6 miles to park.

**Facilities:** Shaded and exclusive picnic and camping sites with tables, fireplaces and pure water at the hand pumps and spigots. There is a play area with swings, teeters, horseshoe pits and softball field. Groceries are available in nearby Pownal. The area is sprayed for insect control.

**Features:** The day use area is especially popular with families having small children and with groups desiring a quiet picnic. Transient campers find this a very convenient stop. It is an easy hike to the summit of Bradbury Mtn. and the view of Casco Bay and the White Mountains is worth the effort.

**Fees:** Day Use—15c per person. Camping—\$1.50 per site and \$1.00 off season. Wood is furnished.



## CAMDEN HILLS STATE PARK—CAMDEN

**Approach:** On U. S. #1, 2 miles north of Camden.

**Facilities:** Well spaced camping and picnic sites with ample shade and some in the open. The pure drinking water is piped to all buildings and to taps throughout the area. Toilets are flush and hot water showers are available in the camping area. There are many miles of foot trails for hiking through the hills.

**Features:** Much of the famous Camden Hills is included in this large park. The highest hill being Mt. Megunticook from which you can see the ocean and the many islands of Penobscot Bay as well as the inland beauty of the inland lakes and lesser Hills. The lesser Hills such as Mt. Battie and Bald Rock each offer exceptional views and each are easily climbed. Swimming is available in the nearby towns of Camden or Lincolnville at public beaches on salt or fresh water. Salt water fishing and scenic boat trips are available in Camden at the harbor and fresh water fishing for bass, pickerel, white and yellow perch can be enjoyed at the many lakes and ponds in this area. There are a number of golf courses in this locality. Groceries available within 2 miles. This area is free of annoying insects.

**Fee:** Day Use—15c per person. Camping—\$1.50 and \$1.00 off season, per site. Wood—25c.

## LAKE ST. GEORGE STATE PARK—LIBERTY

**Approach:** On State Route #3 in Liberty.

**Facilities:** Picnic and campsites on the shore of Lake St. George. The day use area has a bathhouse with running water facilities, lifeguard service and a snack bar. The camping area is quite open with a few shaded





sites. The toilets are pit type. The concrete launching ramp is available to all.

**Features:** This park offers excellent water for swimming, fishing and boating, the spring fed lake being crystal clear. Bass, salmon, brown trout, white and yellow perch are among the species of fish which may be caught. The camping load is limited and later arrivals in the summer may find a full house, but private areas for camping are available locally. Area is sprayed for fly control.

**Fees:** Day Use—25c per person. Camping—\$2.00 per site. Off Season Day Use—15c per person. Camping—\$1.00 per site. No extra charge for boat launching.

### LAMOINE STATE PARK—EAST LAMOINE

**Approach:** Follow State Route #184 for 8 miles from Ellsworth or leave U. S. #3 between Ellsworth and Bar Harbor on State Route # 204 to State Route #184.

**Facilities:** Picnic and camping sites on or near the salt water with tables, fireplaces and drinking water. Toilets are pit type. Boat launching is possible from the gravel beach.

**Features:** The outstanding feature of this park is Frenchman's Bay and the recreational and esthetic possibilities that it offers. The primitive launching and docking facilities are in immediate plans for improvement and funds will be available in 1964 for this purpose. The campsites here are mostly in the open but low growing trees do provide a screen between sites. A good view of the water can be had from many of the sites. There are ample sites to meet the present demand.

**Fees:** Day Use—15c. Camping—\$1.50 and \$1.00 off season with no extra charge for wood or launching.



## LILY BAY STATE PARK—GREENVILLE

**Approach:** Greenville to Lily Bay—No route number.

**Facilities:** Picnicking and camping facilities with tables, fireplaces and pure drinking water at the hand pumps throughout the area. Docking and launching facilities have been stressed in this park and are excellent in location and operation. The nearest supplies are available in Greenville, 8 miles from the park. Boats and motors may be rented locally.

**Features:** Moosehead Lake with its many miles of open water and with its excellent fishing for brook trout, salmon and lake trout (togue) is, of course, the main attraction of this park. It should be noted, however, that this is a wilderness area beautifully located with well spaced campsites. The popularity of this area makes it imperative that the camper anticipate a wait of a day for a vacancy. Plans for expansion in 1964 may change the picture. A call from Greenville may save many miles to a full campground.

**Fees:** Day Use—15c. Camping—\$2.00. No extra charge for firewood, docking or launching.

## MOOSE POINT STATE PARK—SEARSPORT

**Approaches:** On U. S. #1 between Belfast and Searsport.

**Facilities:** Picnic sites with tables and charcoal stoves in the softwood grove and in the open field all overlooking the waters of Penobscot Bay. Water from a hand pump in a drilled well.

**Features:** Especially suitable to the traveler as a restful stop for lunch and equally enjoyable to families looking for a quiet cool place to eat and relax. Fine scenery of Penobscot Bay. NO CAMPING.

**Fees:** Parking 25 cents per car.



## MT. BLUE STATE PARK—WELD

**Approach:** Follow directional signs from Weld village.

**Facilities:** Lake Webb—Picnicking and camping sites near the beach. Docking and a concrete launching ramp. Lifeguard service and a bathhouse with running water facilities. Delivery of ice, wood, milk and bakery products is made daily through the campgrounds and other groceries are available in Weld, 8 miles away. Boats rented on the park. The camping area has pit type toilets conveniently spaced. The area is sprayed for insects.

**Center Hill**—A high picnic area with a magnificent view. Here there are picnic tables, fireplaces, hiking trails, spring water and pit toilets.

**Features:** This park offers a wide variety of recreational possibilities in a beautiful setting of lakes, streams and mountains. For those who enjoy the out of doors and what it offers in nature, this is a near perfect area. There are many species of fish in the lake including salmon, brown trout, bass, white perch and pickerel. One should expect better fishing for the last three species, however, since this is a shallow, warm water lake. There are excellent facilities for your own boat or you may rent one on the area. There are innumerable opportunities for hiking and scenic rides. There are golf courses, shopping centers and amusements within twenty miles and a weekly program on conservation is put on in the park.

**Fees:** Day Use:

Webb Beach — 25c.      Camping — \$2.00 per site

Center Hill — 15c

Off Season — 15c      Off Season — \$1.00

No extra charge for boat launching or dock.

## QUODDY HEAD STATE PARK—LUBEC

**Approach:** Leave Route 189 at the park sign in Lubec, 4 miles.

**Facilities:** Picnic sites with tables and stoves for wood or charcoal. No Camping.

**Features:** Easternmost point of land in the United States. Rock ledges that rise 50 feet or more from the ocean and taper to a height of 190 feet above the sea over rolling land which is thickly vegetated with spruce and fir trees. Adjacent to an operating and historic lighthouse which was constructed around 1807 and rebuilt in 1857. Tides range from 20 to 28 feet (these are the greatest tides in the nation). An ideal and attractive picnic site.

**Fee:** No charge.

## REID STATE PARK—GEORGETOWN

**Approach:** Leave U. S. #1 at Woolwich and follow Route 127, 14 miles to park sign.



**Facilities:** Nearly a mile and one-half of sand beaches and a warm salt water bathing pool. Ample parking and bathhouse facilities with fresh water showers. Snack bars with sea food available. Picnic tables and fireplaces. A picnic shelter with a firebox large enough for group cookouts.

**Features:** It is reasonable to say that this mixture of sand beaches, dunes, marshes, ledges and ocean is one of the real beauty spots on the east coast. The popularity of the area speaks for itself, however the expanse of the development gives one the feeling of elbow room even on the busiest day. Parking is the only limitation and one should anticipate this on a hot Sunday in the summer.

**Fees:** 25c per person. No extras for parking or bathhouse. Off season 15c.

## SEBAGO LAKE STATE PARK— NAPLES AND CASCO

**Approach:** Best reached from the turnpike or Portland area by U. S. 302. From other directions follow numbered routes to Naples where directional signs will take you to the park.

**Facilities and Features:** Three entirely separate areas.

1. Day Use in Casco: The extensive sand beaches, picnic tables, stoves, concrete launching ramp and life-guard service make this an excellent area for an outing. The lake water is of the finest quality and the bathhouses are well located and complete even to foot showers to remove the sand. Crowded conditions are apt to exist on hot Sundays in the summer but at other times there is ample space. There is a snack bar for a quick lunch and drinks. Fishermen find this a good spot to launch in the early spring when the salmon are on the surface.

2. Camping Area in Naples: This area is for campers who enjoy swimming, boating and neighbors in a quite close proximity. The beaches are excellent and are protected by lifeguards, and buoy lines, which separate the swimming from the boating. There is an amphitheater and programs scheduled regularly. The naturalist ranger conducts hikes several times a week on the nature trails. This area is full during July and August and a wait of at least one night should be anticipated after registering on the waiting list, however, there are many private areas in the locality where one can stay.

3. Songo Lock: Operated daily and makes possible a boat trip from Sebago Lake, up the winding Songo River through the hand operated lock into Brandy Pond and Long Lake. (Request folder if interested.)

**Fees:** Day Use—25c per person. Camping—\$2.00. Off Season Day Use 15c. Camping \$1.00. No extra charge for boat launching or bathhouse. Songo Lock \$1.50 per round trip.

## TWO LIGHTS STATE PARK—CAPE ELIZABETH

**Approach:** From Portland take Route 77 south through South Portland, Cape Elizabeth, Pond Cove, to Two Lights Road. Keep left 1 mile to park. From Maine Turnpike, leave at South Portland exit, turn south on Route 1 to Oak Hill, Scarborough. Turn east on Route 207, 3 miles, then left on Route 77, five miles to Two Lights Road.

**Facilities:** Picnic areas, tables, fireplaces, parking, rest rooms. No Camping.

**Features:** Sizeable area featuring scenic views of a coastal headland with rocky, steep shoreline. No swimming. Unexcelled ocean scenery.

**Fees:** 15c per person.

## RANGELEY LAKE STATE PARK

Under construction at Rangeley, Maine.

When completed will have a day use area for swimming, boat launching and docks and facilities for a day's outing. The camping area will be of well spaced sites and accessibility to all facilities. We anticipate a well rounded park in a good location.

## CRESCENT BEACH

Under construction at Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

The facilities at this park will be designed to handle beach goers who are expected to come from this very populated area for the most part. Parking, bathhouse facilities and snack bars will be stressed.







## HISTORIC SITES

### FORT EDGECOMB MEMORIAL, NORTH EDGECOMB

**Approaches:** Turn south off U. S. Route 1 at Edgcomb end of Wiscasset bridge, then next right.

**Facilities:** Interpretive displays, picnic tables and rest rooms. Fee 10c. History for sale 25c.

**Features:** This historic and interesting old Block House and Fortification built in 1808 and 1809 for the defense of Wiscasset Harbor was garrisoned during the War of 1812. Set in a beautiful natural setting overlooking a picturesque old Maine shipping center and the Sheepscot river. Frequently in front of the old Fort, brown seals play in the swift tidal currents.

From the fort grounds, across the bay, may be seen the house reportedly prepared for the French Queen, Marie Antoinette.

### FORT GEORGE MEMORIAL, CASTINE

**Approaches:** No route marking, inquire in Castine.

**Facilities:** Interpretive displays. No fee.

**Features:** Earthworks and fortifications with considerable historical significance having been under the flags of four nations, French, English, Dutch and American. The fort was constructed by the British in 1779 and re-occupied by them during the War of 1812. An archeological research and reconstruction program has been initiated.

In Castine an earlier fort was built by the French in 1635. Prior to this, from 1626 to 1635, the Plymouth Colony operated a trading post here. There is a museum and many historic houses in Castine.

## **FORT KENT MEMORIAL, FORT KENT**

Approaches: U. S. Route 1.

Facilities: None. No fee.

Features: This blockhouse, barracks, officers quarters and other buildings were built in 1839 for the bloodless Aroostook war and named for Maine's Governor Edward Kent. This is the only remaining blockhouse in Aroostook County built at this time.

## **FORT KNOX STATE PARK, PROSPECT**

Approaches: U. S. Route 1 from Bucksport or Stockton Springs or Route 174 from Prospect.

Facilities: Interpretive displays, nature trail, picnic area with tables and fireplaces, tested water, rest rooms, concession and picnic shelter. Fee 25c. History for sale 25c.

Features: The site was selected in 1844 as part of the defense for the Aroostook War. It was named for Major Gen. Henry Knox, who served Washington ably during the Revolution and as his first Secretary of War. Fort Knox was built by master craftsmen, of granite from nearby Mt. Waldo. The huge brick arches, circular stairs and underground stairways that have withstood the elements for over a century are indicative of the quality of the workmanship.

## **FORT McCLARY MEMORIAL, KITTERY POINT**

Approaches: Leave Turnpike and U. S. Highway No. 1 at traffic circle in Kittery, and go south 2-5 miles on Kittery Point Road.

Facilities: Interpretive displays, picnic area with tables and fireplaces, tested water, rest rooms, picnic shelter, children's play area. Fee 10c. History for sale 25c.

Features: The first recorded fortification of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in Maine was here and resulted from a Massachusetts Resolve dated June 1, 1715. It was later called Fort William in honor of Sir William Pepperrell of Kittery who was knighted for his success at Louisburg in 1745.

At the time of the Revolution the name was changed to Fort McClary. It was garrisoned during the Revolution and the Civil Wars.

The present hexagonal fort was built about 1814 and rebuilt about 1844.

## **FORT O'BRIEN MEMORIAL, MACHIASPORT**

Approaches: Leave U. S. Route 1 at Machias on State Route 92 for 5 miles.



Facilities: Rest room, Interpretive displays. No fee.

Features: Fort O'Brien, also known as Fort Machias, became part of the national defense when Washington ordered the protection of Machias. Off this fort, in Machias Bay, the British schooner "Margaretta" was captured in the first naval engagement of the Revolution, 5 days before Bunker Hill. Constructed in 1775, the English destroyed the fort in 1812. It was repaired in 1863 for defense during the Civil War. Only breastworks remain.

### **FORT POPHAM MEMORIAL, POPHAM BEACH**

Approaches: From Bath, take State Route No. 209 to Popham Beach, 15.5 miles.

Facilities: Interpretive displays, picnic area, rest rooms. Fee 10c. History for sale 25c.

Features: This site has served in a military capacity to guard the Kennebec river during the Revolution, War of 1812, Civil, Spanish and two World Wars. The present fort was built in 1861, but was never completed.

Nearby, in August of 1607, the English made their first attempt to colonize New England.

### **FORT POWNALL MEMORIAL, STOCKTON SPRINGS**

Approaches: Leave Route 1 at Stockton Springs 3½ miles to Old Fort Light House and Fort Pownall.

Facilities: Interpretive displays. No fee.

Features: Located and built by Massachusetts Royal Governor Thomas Pownall in 1759. To prevent the fort falling into the hands of the enemy, the British twice fired the wooden fort in 1775 and 1779.

Programs including archeological and historical research and partial restoration of the grounds are being carried out.

### **FORT WILLIAM HENRY MEMORIAL, PEMAQUID BEACH**

Approaches: Leave U. S. Highway No. 1 at Damariscotta on State Route No. 129, 4 miles. Then pick up State Route No. 130 for 9 miles. Bear right one mile.

Facilities: Museum. Fee 10c.

Features: The present fort is a replica of a portion of Fort William Henry. In the fort are old relics, portraits, maps and copies of Indian deeds. The masonry parapet wall encircles the overhanging rock that was the old powder magazine of a 1630 fortification.

Shurt's Fort, a stockade was built about 1630 for defense against Pirates, particularly Dixie Bull. Fort

Charles followed in 1677. Fort William Henry was built in 1692 and destroyed by Baron de Castin in 1696. In 1729 Fort Frederick was erected and was destroyed during the Revolution by Pemaquid residents to prevent its falling into the hands of the British.

### **JOHN PAUL JONES MEMORIAL, KITTERY**

Approaches: At entrance of U. S. Highway No. 1 to Maine.

Facilities: None. No fee.

Features: A state memorial to the sailors and soldiers of Maine, named in honor of John Paul Jones. Near this site the U.S.S. Ranger was built and launched in 1777. On the Ranger, Jones received the first salute by a foreign power given a man-of-war flying the Stars and Stripes.

### **MERE POINT MEMORIAL, BRUNSWICK**

Approaches: No route marking, inquire in Brunswick.

Facilities: None. No fee.

Features: "On the shore of Mere Point, Casco Bay, Maine. 200 feet west of this spot on September 6, 1924, the United States Army Round-the-World aviators, after starting westward from Seattle, Washington, April 6, 1924, made their first landing on the soil of the United States."

### **VAUGHAN WOODS MEMORIAL, SOUTH BERWICK**

Approaches: About ½ mile South of village on Rt. 91, turn west opposite South Berwick High School. Continue 1 mile to entrance.

Facilities: Interpretive displays, picnic tables, rest rooms, nature and horseback trails. No fee.

Features: Located on banks of Salmon Falls River, this area has many acres of wilderness, featuring quiet walks along nature trails with many identifying markers of the flora of the region. Here, at Cow Cove, was landed the first cows (1634) to this country. The same boat "The Pied Cow" brought America's first sawmill which was erected nearby. Ranger on duty.



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