Atlas of New England

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Town pounds

Posted on April 21, 2012

These structures, usually consisting of four low walls either of fieldstone or of rough-cut granite, were built as a temporary holding place for any livestock that escaped from their owners. In order to reclaim the pig or cow in question, the owner would have to pay compensation for whatever damage the animal had done to neighbors' asparagus or pea patches.



Orrington, ME: An unusual round pound, with mortared rather than dry-laid stone, constructed in 1843.

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Corinth, ME: Constructed circa 1812.

Harpswell, ME Constructed in 1793 on Harpswell Neck Rd., not far from the old 1759 meetinghouse and the 1843 Congregational church.

Lebanon, ME: Constructed in 1813, on Center Street.

Campton, NH: On Town Pound Rd. on the west side of the Pemigewasset River.

Madison, **NH**: Located at the junction of Maple Grove Road and the appropriately-named Pound Road.

Tamworth, NH: On Cleveland Hill Rd., right next to the large boulder (a glacial erratic) where Rev. Samuel Hidden is said to have preached his first sermon.

Moultonborough, NH: On Rte. 109 not far from Lake Winnepesaukee.

Center Harbor, NH: Built 1799 on the road toward Meredith.

Wakefield, NH: On East Side Rd, not far from Rte. 16. Constructed 1774.

Milton, NH: Built 1823 in an unusual round shape.

New Durham, NH: On Old Bay Rd., behind the New Durham Meetinghouse.

Gilmonton, NH: On the righthand side of Province Rd. (Rte 107) a little southeast of the center of the village.

Bedford, NH: Constructed in 1809, near the junction of Wallace Rd. and North Amherst Rd.

Bow, NH: On a dead-end road just off the main street of Bow. Built 1821.

Londonderry, NH: Built in 1836 on what's now NH Rte 128.

Loudon, NH: On Youngs Hill Rd., about 300 feet northeast of the junction with Clough Hill Rd.

Hudson, NH: On Pelham Rd., east of Nashua. Built 1772.

Dublin, NH: On Old Pound Road next to the town cemetery. It dates to the late 18th century.

Durham, NH: Facing a small triangular green at the juction of Route 108 and Durham Point Rd. Built 1808.

Dummerston, VT: Reconstructed in 2009, more or less from scratch.



Weathersfield, VT: One of the few remaining pounds in Vermont. Located on Weathersfield Center Rd.

Pepperell, MA: On Heald St., west of the center of town. Built in 1756, rebuilt in 1770 and 1850.

Beckett, MA: On the west side of Rte. 8, near its junction with Mallard Drive.

Leverett, MA: Constructed 1822 on Montague Rd.

Westminster, MA: Constructed 1810, across the road from the town common.

Hopkinton, MA: On the north side of West Main Street, with a sign labeling it as the "Olde Town Pound."

Westwood, MA: Built 1700, this pound on High St. also appears on the official town seal.

Sudbury, MA: Built 1797, on Concord Rd. next to the cemetery north of the Presbyterian church.

Eastford, CT: On the corner of Pound Rd. and John Perry Rd. Built in 1849. Or 1710, depending on which website you believe.

Hebron, CT: Near the junction of Main St. and Chestnut Rd. Built 1821.

Preston, CT: Across the road from the old town poorhouse at the southern end of Amos Rd. in Preston City.

Glocester, RI: A trapezoidal-shaped pound, built 1748 at the corner of Pound Road and Chopmist Hill Road (Rte 102).

Foster, RI: On South Killingly Rd. in Foster Center. Built 1845.

Cowesset (Warwick), RI: On Cowesset Rd. Built c. 1745.

Jamestown, RI: On North Main Rd. Built 1861.

Richmond, RI: On the east side of Carolina Nooseneck Rd., about a quarter-mile north of the elementary school. Built 1846.

External Link:

http://www.stonestructures.org/html/town_pounds.html

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