NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

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National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Hussey - Littlefield Farm
Other names/site number: Hussey Farm
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 63 Hussey Road
City or town: Albion State: Maine County: Kennebec
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets _____does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

_____ **national** _____ **statewide** X **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

_____ **A** _____ **B** X **C** _____ **D**

Kirk F. Mohney, DSHPO 11/24/2015

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

for Edson H. Beall 1.12.16

Signature of the Keeper **Date of Action**

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private ☒

Public – Local ☐

Public – State ☐

Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s) ☒

District ☐

Site ☐

Structure ☐

Object ☐

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NONE

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC / Single dwelling
AGRICULTURE / Animal facility
AGRICULTURE/ Agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC / Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY / Greek Revival
LATE VICTORIAN / Italianate
LATE VICTORIAN / Queen Anne
_____
_____
_____
_____

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: The building has clapboard and wood shingle siding, metal roofs, granite and concrete foundations,wood windows, and brick chimneys,

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Hussey-Littlefield Farm is a historic property featuring a prominent connected farmhouse set among fields and orchards in the rural Kennebec County town of Albion, Maine. The property, named for the two families that have inhabited the buildings and neighborhood since construction began in c. 1838, is located on what is currently a 6.8 acre parcel on the west side of Hussey Road. Again named after the farms' founding family, the Hussey Road connects the east side of Albion Village (population 2,041) south to Palermo in Waldo County. Much of Hussey Road has a rural agricultural feel and features 19th century farmhouses and fields along with scattered infill housing. Two additional historic farms and large parcels of agricultural land are located across the street and to the south of the Hussey-Littlefield parcel. Once a larger farm, the important feature of the Hussey Littlefield property is the connected complex containing the main house and New England-style barn (c. 1838), and a side ell and former wagon shed (both c. 1859-1905). The wood-framed buildings are unified by scale and design, and the barn and the house contain Greek Revival and Italianate and/or Queen Anne stylistic details. Also on the property are the remains of a historic apple orchard in the back field and a new apple orchard in the side yard. Although small changes have been made to the fenestration of the rear of the ell, the property retains all aspects of integrity to the period of its construction and expansion between 1838 and 1905.

Narrative Description

Site

The roughly rectangular Hussey-Littlefield Farm is oriented perpendicular to the road and is characterized by slightly sloping ground to the west covered with low grasses and shrubs. Stone walls line the boundaries of the property beyond which are lines of deciduous trees. The remains of an orchard (approximately eighteen trees) with Northern Spy and Wolf River apples are located in the northwest quadrant of the back field. The connected line of the house and attached barn are located adjacent to and parallel to the road at the southern end of the lot. Between the house and the road is a dooryard containing a driveway, slate-lined path to the side door, a granite hitching post, and well-manicured bushes including a white magnolia. Mature maple trees line the edge of the property along Hussey Road and a new orchard of Northern Spy and semi-dwarf Cortland apples extend from a short distance beyond the house towards the northern property line.

Buildings

The connected complex consists of a house and rear ell, a side ell, a former wagon shed and a New England style barn. The house is located at the northern end of the complex: it is a single-pile timber frame structure with a side-gable roof with a ridge that parallels the road. An integral, gable-roof rear ell oriented perpendicular to the road extends from the southern half of the building. The side ell, which like the house parallels the road, is situated between the south side of the rear ell and the former wagon shed, which is somewhat wider than the side ell, to the south. In turn, the former wagon shed is attached to the front-gable barn near the midpoint of that structure. The barn is oriented east to west. An addition to the barn was built on the west end of the structure, probably after 1936, but is seamlessly integrated with the original section on the exterior.

All of the buildings have yellow painted clapboards on the south and east elevations, but the rear ell also has clapboards on the north elevation and the house has clapboards on all four sides. The rear and/or north elevations of the barn, side ell and former wagon shed are covered with wood shingles. All of the roofs are covered in corrugated galvanized metal. Windows on the primary elevations have green louvered wooden shutters. Foundations vary by building but include concrete, fieldstone, granite and brick.

House, c. 1838.

The Hussey-Littlefield house is a two story, single pile building with a center hall and two chimneys behind the ridge. The foundation is granite on the east, north and south sides and fieldstone on the west elevation. The northernmost chimney is visible from the street but the southern chimney is positioned further back along the roof.[1] A new, external chimney is located on the west side of the house, near the corner of the rear ell. The rear ell, which extends from the southwest wall, is original to the house, not an addition. The foundation of the

[1] A third chimney had historically been located along the north wall of the side ell, but it has since been removed.

rear ell is a mixture of fieldstone and brick. A hiped roof, Queen Anne-style porch is attached to the front of the building.

The façade of the Hussey-Littlefield house is five bays wide and features five window bays with six-over-six sash on the second floor and four two-over-one windows on the first floor. All the windows on the house have moulded, flared hoods, and those on the upper level of the facade are positioned tight to the broad frieze board. The southernmost second floor bay has always been covered with shutters and it appears from the interior that the window has either been removed or never was actually installed. Centered between the first floor windows is the front door. The doorway is very wide and is currently fitted with a massive, quarter-sawn oak door with enormous window and decorative brass knob and escutcheon. Immediately flanking the doorway a narrow band of clapboards fill the space previously holding sidelights. On the outside of this band are two pairs of fluted pilasters. In each pair is a "front" pilaster with a bed moulding forming a capital and a "back" pilaster sans capital. The "back" pilasters are positioned towards the inside of the front pilasters and are only half as wide, creating a diminishing perspective mimicking three-dimensional depth. The pilasters support a broad, coved frieze topped with a moulded cornice which meets the ceiling of the porch. The porch has a wooden floor and delicate, scroll-cut bracketed porch supports. There is no railing or balustrade.

There are decorative corner boards with recessed panels on each corner of the house. The top of the panel has a scotia profile – or described another way a half circle drops into the top of the panel. Above this is a decorative bed moulding followed by a neck and a moulded entablature forming a two-sided, flat, capital around the corner. The corner boards and their capitals intersect the broad frieze, overhanging eaves and cornice, and on the gable ends there are cornice returns and broad tapered rake trim.

The north façade is two bays wide with six-over-six sash windows on the second floor and two-over-one windows on the first floor. A shuttered bay is situated below the ridge at attic level. The west elevation has no windows or doors. Also in the back of the house is the north elevation of the rear ell, containing a single six-over-six window, and the west elevation of the rear ell, with a mix of new four-over-four sash, older fixed six-light sash and old eight-light casement window at garret level.

The south elevation faces the door yard. As with the north elevation, there are two window bays on each floor and another at attic level. However, a third window is positioned on the first floor, half in the front part of the house and half in the rear all. Adjacent to this on the first floor is a pedestrian door with a matching hood. A pair of six-over-six windows is set in a shed-roof wall dormer directly over this door.

Interior

The Hussey-Littlefield farmhouse is organized on a center hall plan. On the first floor the central hall spans the width of the front portion of the building. The hall has narrow, hardwood flooring, a robust newel post and beveled architraves on the doors. Plain corner blocks mark the upper corners of the trim and form plinths at floor level. Throughout the hall is high baseboard with a bold astragal profile. Reproduction colonial-era wallpaper covers the

walls in both the lower and upper hallways. To the north of the hall is a full-width parlor with a rebuilt brick fireplace projecting into the room at the west end and two doors into the hall. This room has new pine paneling on the north wall and carpeting on the floor. The remaining walls are plaster but the ceiling is gypsum board. Each of the four large windows is topped with a crown moulding and under the sills are framed panels. Long, flat trim boards encase the windows and the panels and land on square plinths that interrupt the high, ogee moulded base board.

On the south side of the hall is a smaller, roughly square parlor. This room has wide-pine wainscot, moulded chair rail that runs under the window sill, and high moulded baseboard with the same profile as found in the hall. Wallpaper covers the plaster walls above the wainscot. The three windows in this room (two on the front and one on the side) have the same trim as the hall. The west wall of this room once had a chimney stack and fireplace but this has been removed. There is also a door into the kitchen from this southeast parlor. The door from this room to the hall has been replaced with louvered panels but all the rest of the doors in the front of the house, including the door into the kitchen, are six-panel doors with an unusual configuration. The upper panels are long, the middle panels are very short, and the bottom panels are about half the height of the upper panels.

The kitchen is located in the ell. Part of this room is within the footprint of the front of the house. The present chimney in the kitchen, to which an enameled cook stove is attached, replaced the larger masonry unit that previously serviced both the southeast parlor and the kitchen. This room was substantially renovated after the house was sold in 1935. Pine paneling was placed on the east wall and un-painted, Craftsman-esque plywood cabinets built along the north wall. Also at that time a bathroom was created in the northwest corner of the room and a back staircase that accessed the garret and basement was eliminated. The south and west wall appear to be plaster but the flooring has been covered with linoleum and the ceiling is acoustic tile.

The upstairs has also been updated within the last 60 years. The fireplace surround, hearths and firebox have been removed from both of the front rooms, and a new closet with a three-panel door installed in the northeast bedroom. The size of the southeast bedroom has been reduced in depth and a bathroom and hall installed between this room and the garret over the kitchen. The bathroom retains fixtures with Streamline Moderne detailing and the hall features asbestos flooring with an in-grained boarder characteristic of the 1940s-50s. All of the bedrooms have plain board trim and papered walls. The garret bedroom has hardwood floors but the other two bedrooms and the upper hall are carpeted.

Although many of the finishes have been altered and substantial features removed, the interior of the Hussey-Littlefield retains enough integrity to represent the historic character of the house. This nomination does not focus on the house, per se, as a good example of Greek Revival architecture but takes a broader view, focusing on the overall connected complex as the significant design element.

Side Ell (Summer kitchen and wood shed), c. 1859-1873

Situated between the rear ell and the former wagon shed, this side gable structure is narrower than the wagon shed to the south. On the east façade the ell contains four six-over-six window bays and a centered pedestrian door. All of these windows are wooden double hung replacement sash. A wood stoop in the corner between the rear ell and the side ell provides access to the doors on the side ell and the rear ell. Because the side ell is wider than the rear ell is long both the west and north elevations are exposed and covered with wood shingles. Instead of having a high foundation on the west side, the rear wall extends to ground level and a wide equipment door leads to the basement of the ell. Attached to the north wall is a low, angled bulkhead that formerly led into the basement. This structure has shingled walls, a galvanized steel roof and a brick foundation. In 1997 much of the side ell was converted into an apartment and at this time a small deck and French doors installed, as were two small windows under the eaves, and existing window sash was replaced. On the interior a hallway leads from the main house to the wagon shed. The western wall of this hallway contains the entrance to the apartment, and at the south end an original sliding door provides access to the wagon shed. In the cellar of this ell is a large concrete cistern that formerly supplied water to the summer kitchen. Double sills between the rear ell of the main house and the side ell, as well as the remains of exterior sheathing on the south wall of the rear ell where the two buildings meet indicates that the side ell was built after the main house.

Wagon Shed (former) / Garage, 1859-1873

The former wagon shed is three bays wide on the east façade. The southern two bays contain overhead garage doors. The northern bay contains a six-over-six double hung sash window. On the west elevation are three window bays, two containing one-over-one sash and the third a fixed six-light sash. As with the other portions of the complex the façade is finished with painted clapboards and the rear with shingles. The floor of the garage is poured concrete and there is a high concrete foundation wall on the west elevation. The interior of this space is fully open with only one interior post – the ceiling framing is suspended from iron tie rods suspended from the roof trusses. The wagon shed is stud framed with common rafters and the ceiling joists are dropped below the timber plate. The rafters in the east side of the roof look newer than those on the west side and may be replacements. Some of the interior walls on the first floor are finished with flush board sheathing (applied both horizontally and vertically), while others are covered with large sheets of painted plywood. There is a storage area above the ceiling joists which can be accessed via the barn loft. Iron tie-rods are used above the ceiling to tie the front and back plates together and also to fasten the wagon shed to the barn.

Examination of the walls where the wagon shed and the barn meet indicate that the barn had been erected as a free-standing building to which the wagon shed was later attached. Based on the framing it appears that the wagon shed post-dates the adjacent ell, to which it was also attached. Based on the depth of the building, as well as the fact that there was another lean-to building attached at the rear of the wagon shed and north elevation of the barn, it may be that the shed also stabled the farm's two to four horses.

A historic photograph taken by a member of the Littlefield family in 1936 indicatea that the wagon shed originally had at least one, if not two, external sliding equipment doors on the west façade.[2] It is not known when these were replaced with the current openings and garage doors.

Barn, c. 1838, addition c. 1936.

Occupying the southern terminus of the connected complex is the large, 2 ½ story New England style barn. The east elevation of this barn is at grade, but the west end is elevated above the ground (which slopes to the west), making this a bank barn. The barn is well proportioned and features Italianate details including decorative corner boards, cornice returns, tapered rake trim and narrow, projecting hoods over each window. A cupola with a broad, overhanging, hipped roof and paired, narrow, arch-topped louvered openings on the south, north and east sides is centered on the roof ridge. The west side of the cupola is clapboarded, as is the structure's platform.

The front façade contains two windows on the first floor, flanking the very large, two-story barn doors mounted on an external rail. The barn door and center aisle beyond are positioned just to the south of center - otherwise the façade is symmetrically composed. The barn doors are of batten construction and feature four panels, formed by applied planks, on each door. Above the opening is a transom window arranged with two rows of eleven panes each. Above the transom window are two more window openings, with a third window located at the top of the wall just below the gable peak. This top opening has a six-over-six window behind closed, louvered shutters. Photographs from 1948 show that the other four windows also had been closed behind shutters, but now the openings have been infilled with clapboard siding.

The corner boards on the façade are similar to those on the front of the house. Decorative bed moulding and cornice moulding at the top of the column approximate the design of a capital, while the shafts feature inset panels. In opposition to the design of the corner boards on the house, the top of the panels depict an arch and fillet design. The south elevation of the barn is six bay wide, with all but the eastern most bay containing six-over-six sash windows with hoods. The easternmost bay contains a pedestrian/cow door with an externally-mounted sliding batten door. The corner boards at the west end of this elevation also features a capital, but the boards themselves are plain.

This elevation demonstrates the grade change, which begins at the second bent and continues to beyond the rear elevation. In the front of the building and up to the second bent the foundation is fieldstone, but beyond the second bent the sills are supported on concrete piers. Additional piers are positioned under the major floor beams in the interior of the barn basement. On the rear of the building the exterior wall extends to the ground and appears to rest on field stone. This west elevation contains a window opening under the gable peaks, four six-light sash and a six-over-six window on the first floor, and a six-light sash at basement

[2] Photographs are in the possession of the Littlefield family. Copies are on file at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, Maine.

level. In the southwest corner is a framed opening, now partially covered with planks; a similar opening is located on the north elevation wall at basement level. These openings may have been to allow sheep to shelter under the barn.

Little of the barn's north elevation is visible due to the attached wagon shed. The back end of the building is shingled and has the aforementioned framed basement opening. A small section of the north foundation, adjacent to the wagon shed, is poured concrete. A scar in the shingles show the previous location of a shed-roofed structure that continued the roofline of the current wagon shed. On the northwest corner are plain corner boards. On the front of the barn the sidewalls are clapboarded and a single window, covered with louvers, is present on the first floor level. Interestingly, this window does not have the hooded architrave present on the east and south elevations, and its position is in the wall behind the interior silo.

The post and beam frame includes six bents (five original), each joined with square rule joinery, and dropped plates between the posts on the side walls. In plan, the barn has a center aisle, with tie-ups on each side. A one-bay addition, built with re-used timbers, spans the west end of the barn. This addition extends the side tie-ups and adds additional stanchions, for a total of 36, in a north-south line. Hay lofts are above each tie-up and extend on and one-half story to the rafter-purlin roof. One of the transverse tie-beams had been cut away above the aisle, providing an opening for the ridge-mounted hay fork, but has subsequently been repaired. Struts, or jack rafters, run from the tie-beams to the rafters for extra support. In addition, iron tie-rods span the width of the barn between side-wall posts.

In the northeast corner of the barn is an interior wooden silo. This structure has vertical board siding encased in a supportive framework formed by adding additional horizontal beams between the aisle posts and the external and side wall posts. There are two openings in the south wall of the silo, one at ground level and the other at loft level.

All of the tie-up areas are whitewashed, and they all feature wooden floors with hinged planks that allow manure to be shoveled into the basement. All the stanchions are wooden, with wooden floors and automatic waterers manufactured by Louden.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☐ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes

☐ B. Removed from its original location

☐ C. A birthplace or grave

☐ D. A cemetery

☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

☐ F. A commemorative property

☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
c. 1838-1905

Significant Dates
c. 1859-1873
c. 1905

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.) (Refer to photographs)

On the exterior, the Hussey-Littlefield House is an attractive, well proportioned, late Greek Revival and Italianate style farm house with a series of ells connecting the house to the New England plan barn. Set on a rural 6.8 acre lot surrounded by fields and other older farmhouses, the c. 1838 house displays a comfortable dignity that befits its location and style. At a passing glance, an observer might be forgiven to imagine that this structure has descended unchanged as a relic of a simpler, easier, pastoral past. But under the skin of clapboards and shingles, this house, as with so many in rural Maine, is an example of an evolving architectural approach that echoed the agricultural challenges and trends of the nineteenth century. The Hussey-Littlefield House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent example of a New England connected farm complex. The period of significance reflects the approximate span of time during which the buildings achieved its' connected plan.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Local tradition and available documentation asserts that Silas Hussey built the main structure and barn in approximately 1838.[3] The house that he had constructed was a single pile structure with central hall, two chimneys behind the ridge and a rear ell. This form was not new – similar plans are found in Maine houses from the late 18th century on, but it was a rarer form than the two-story, double-pile center chimney or center-hall house. Essentially this plan provided for a full width parlor on the first floor and same size chamber above, a shorter front roof on the first floor and a back room – usually the kitchen and possibly work rooms – in the rear ell. Above the ell and front rooms were chambers and either a finished or un-finished garret. Based on the framing of the barn, as well as the decorative trim, that building was constructed at the same time as the house. The main house appears to have been constructed all of a piece: the front door surround and the interior mouldings are all very Grecian and appropriate for the period. However, the 1838 date is too early to account for the narrower, stylized pilasters, the design of the hoods over the doors, or the cupola – Italianate-style features that really did not emerge in domestic Maine architecture until the 1850s. These features, both on the house and the barn, may reflect a later stylistic update and may even parallel the development of the connected complex.

At some point probably between 1858 and 1873 the side ell, containing a summer kitchen and woodshed, was added along with a chimney on the north end. The earliest available photograph shows that this ell had a five-bay façade (as it still does) and does not appear that it contained any agricultural work spaces, although the woodshed was located in

[3]Henry D. Kingsbury and Simeon L. Deyo, editors, "Albion" in *Illustrated History of Kennebec County* (New York: H. W. Blake and Company, 1892), 1212.

the south end. The next piece of the complex to be built was the wagon shed, now a garage. The date for this structure is a bit harder to pin down. Its framing is more characteristic of later nineteenth century structures: sawn common rafters are used on the roof, the first floor ceiling is suspended by iron tie-rods and there is only one interior post[4]. It may have been constructed in the years following the Civil War, or alternately reconstructed or altered circa 1905.

Tax assessment records at the Albion Town Hall provide some indication of when the property evolved from two separate structures to a connected complex. Although not every year was available to reflect Silas Hussey's tenure on the property from 1838 to 1894 enough information was obtained to determine that there were four periods during which an increase in the property assessment may represent a building campaign –i.e. the addition of an ell or wagon shed.[5] The first was 1859. In the previous two years Hussey's property was recorded as 114 acres and valued at $1,000. In 1859 the number of acres decreased by 21 acres but the value of the farm jumped to $1,600. The agricultural census of the next year supports this change by recording Hussey's 95 acres and farm value of $1650. Other than the addition of 5 sheep in 1859 and 24 in 1860, there was no appreciable increase in the number, value or type of livestock between 1859 and the earlier years of the decade. This increase in value suggests a significant investment in the farm buildings at this time.

The assessment records for the Civil War period could not be located, but after the war Hussey's property assessment had decreased to 44 acres and returned to $1,000 in value (probably reflecting the loss of 50 acres). In 1868 the number of acres remained the same but the value of the property increased by $100. By 1870 Hussey had bought more land and the value of the property rose again, only to decrease with the sale of land in 1872. However, between 1872 and 1873 the amount of acreage decreased but the value of the property increased from $1,800 to $2,000, and while the acreage stayed steady until 1879, the value of the farm again rose to $2,200.[6] The fourth somewhat large increase in the tax assessment was between 1902, when the land was valued at $1,700 and 1905 when it rose to $2,150; during this period the acreage remained at 33 acres.

The biggest increase, of greater than 50% of the property value, occurred in 1859; the other nineteenth century increases were smaller. During the 1850s the Hussey household grew from 7 to 10 members, suggesting that the summer kitchen and ell, and any work or living spaces above, may have been welcome at that time. Incremental changes to the property were probably made continuously but the increase in value between 1872 and 1879 may reflect the addition of the interior silo, or perhaps the construction of the wagon shed, or a predecessor building. But perhaps the wagon shed was built earlier, as the tax assessment for 1867 (and only 1867) indicates that Silas Hussey owned 12 "pleasure carriages". It is also possible that these smaller increases reflect stylistic remodeling, for example the addition of the Queen Anne style front porch or the Italianate cupola on the barn.

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[4] This post, a re-purposed telephone pole, appears to have been added more recently.

[5] The earliest record found was 1851. Tax assessment records consulted were: 1851-1853, 1855, 1857-1859, 1867, 1868, 1870-1973, 1875, 1879, 1881, 1885, 1887, 1888, 1890, 1895, 1900, 1902, 1905, 1910 and 1920. Additional volumes between 1851 and 1920 were available, but not for the years 1861-1867.

[6] These smaller increases may also reflect town-wide revaluations.

The evolution of the Hussey house and barn from separate and functionally disparate structures to a connected complex can be seen as the embodiment of an overall strategy that author Thomas Hubka identifies for gaining the upper hand, or at least a level playing field, in the quickly changing agricultural environment. One of Hussey's strategies was to juggle the farms and fields with new crops and breeds; another strategy was to adapt his house and barn to meet the new challenges.

> During the nineteenth century New England farmers did not passively accept the results of western competition, but reacted quickly and consistently to develop new crops and techniques, such as pressed hay for Boston markets and a world-famous sweet corn canning industry. Consequently the history of New England's agricultural productivity is simultaneously the record of declines and the elimination of major agricultural and home-industry products, and the record of a determined effort to readapt and diversify in response to these changes. The connected farm building arrangement was just one of the most striking and visible examples of this concerted effort to adapt to these changing conditions. The organization of the connected farm allowed farmers to absorb the vagaries of agricultural and home-industry production in a flexible, adaptive spatial framework.[7]

The five-bent four-bay barn would have been ample in size and plan to house Silas Hussey's 2 oxen, 6 milch cows, 3 other cattle, and 2 swine in 1850. The tax assessments and the agricultural census indicate that Hussey did not become a specialized dairy farmer, as so many of Maine's diversified farmers had after the Civil War, but instead reduced his dairy herd (and its butter and cheese production) in favor of raising cattle. He never appears to have had more than 5 milch cows, but sometimes had as many as 9 other cattle on the farm.[8] Between 1859 and 1881 he fairly consistently had between 15 and 25 sheep on hand, although it is probable that he slaughtered or sold lambs in addition to that number. In 1850 his most valuable products were butter and potatoes; in 1860 it was sheep, wool, and butter (but in half the quantity of the previous decade); in 1870 it was cattle, corn, but no sheep; and finally, in 1880 it was cattle first, and then apples, and butter, with a moderate production of oats, potatoes and another increase in corn. With 215 apple trees, as enumerated in the 1880 agricultural census, Hussey was recognized as one of the most fruitful orchardists in the state.[9] Overall Hussey was a successful farmer, and the way he managed his buildings and work spaces also suggest he was a progressive farmer.

The ultimate value of a farmer's specialty crops, livestock, and staples varied according to market conditions, soil fertility, availability of transportation, and weather. Periodicals such as *The Maine Farmer*, The *Cultivator* and others became the voice of progressive farming and agricultural science, offering alternatives and suggestions on everything from manure disposal to machinery, seed varieties to the arrangement of the farmstead. Connected farmsteads, although never gaining an overwhelming endorsement from the agricultural press, nonetheless gained the favor of a large number of farmers who were looking for any improvement in

[7] Thomas Hubka, *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn* (Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1984), 190.
[8] On page 1212 In the *Illustrated History of Kennebec County* Silas Hussey was described as a "speculator in livestock.
[9] Kingsbury and Deyo, p. 1212.

efficiency. That by connecting the house and barn, and adorning both with similar decorative elements the structure became more 'stylish' did not hurt either; it expressed a farmer's pride, and asserted his or her knowledge of the latest trends. And it may have helped the farm's bottom line.

The Hussey Farm remained in agricultural production for over 100 years. In 1935 the farm was sold out of the Hussey family to George and Harold Littlefield, brothers who had been raised on their father's farm next door. Eventually Harold took over his father's farm, but both brothers entered the dairy business, each maintaining 50 head of Jerseys. A milk house was constructed, and in 1949 George Littlefield erected a large silo with cedar planking, cable ties and a four-sided gambrel roof between the barn and the wagon shed. The family stopped commercial dairy production in the later 1950s and both the milk house and the silo were removed circa 1985.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (If appropriate.)

Silas Hussey settled on the property in 1838 and bought it in 1844. Fifty years later, after his death, this homestead farm passed on to his son Bert, and then was sold by Bert to his brother John W. Hussey in 1900. John W. Hussey died in 1910 and the property continued to be owned by his widow Fannie and son Clarence. Fannie and Clarence sold the property to George and Harold Littlefield in 1935, and it is now owned by George's son.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Albion, Town of. "[Annual assessment records]." Albion, Maine: Town of Albion, 1851-1920.

Deeds, various years. Kennebec County Registry of Deeds, Kennebec County Courthouse, Augusta, Maine.

Federal Non-population Censuses--Maine, 1850-1880: Agriculture. Albion, Maine. http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1276 . Accessed September-October, 2015

Kingsbury, Henry D. and Simeon L. Deyo, editorr. "Albion." In *Illustrated History of Kennebec County*, 1194-1217. New York: H. W. Blake and Company, 1892.

Hubka, Thomas. *Big House, Little House, Back House Barn.* Hanover: Univeristy Press of New England, 1984.

McAlary, Fred D. "Farming is Family Affair For Fred Littlefield And Two Sons." *Waterville Sentinel*, September 24, 1949: 5.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 6.8

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: Longitude:
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 19	Easting: 465525	Northing: 4930768
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated property are described by the Town of Albion tax map number 17, lot 75.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the property represent the historic homestead lot associated with the Hussey-Littlefield farm since at least 1935. Additional land previously owned by the Hussey and Littlefield families is located across the street and is not included within this nomination.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Christi A. Mitchell, Architectural Historian
organization: Maine Historic Preservation Commission
street & number: 55 Capitol Street, State House Station 65
city or town: Augusta state: Maine zip code: 04333-0065
e-mail: christi.mitchell@maine.gov
telephone: (207) 28701453
date: 14 October 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Hussey-Littlefield Farm

City or Vicinity: Albion

County: Kennebec State: Maine

Photographer: C. Mitchell

Date Photographed: 9 July 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0001
Façade of main house; facing west.

2 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0002
From right to left: front of barn, front of wagon shed/garage and ell, south elevation of main house; facing nort-northwest.

3 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0003
East elevation of barn and wagon shed/garage; facing southwest.

4 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0004
East and south elevation of barn; facing west-northwest.

5 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0005
Rear elevation of wagon shed and north elevation of barn; facing south.

6 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0006
From left to right: rear elevation of main house and ell and side ell: facing east.

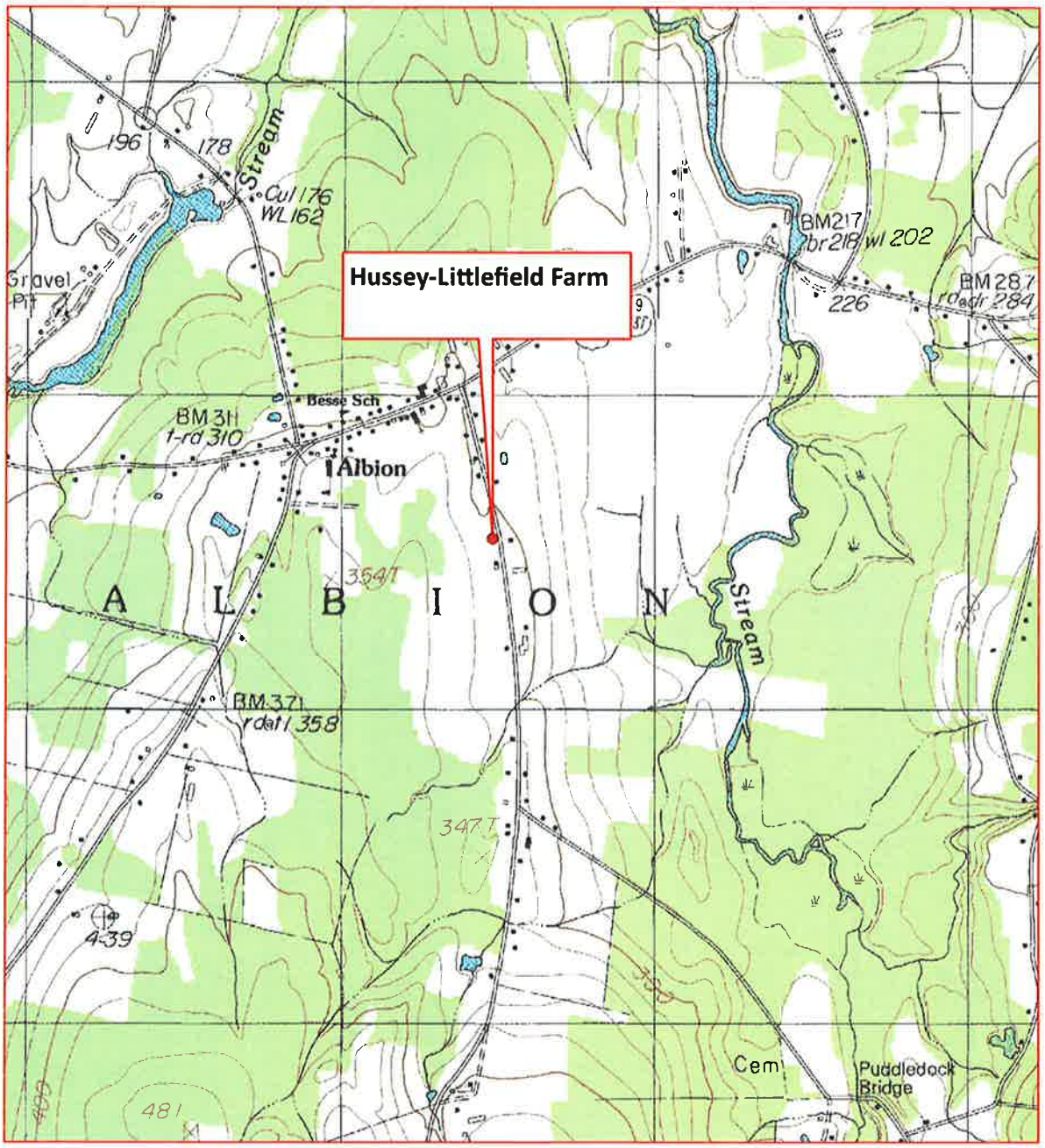
7 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0007
Detail of front porch and front entry: facing west.

8 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0008
Sliding door between side ell and wagon shed/garage: facing south.

9 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0009
Dairy cow tie up, barn addition: facing northwest.

10 of 10 ME_KENNEBEC COUNTY_HUSSEY LITTLEFIELD FARM_0010
Interior silo, northeast corner of the barn: facing north.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



HUSSEY-LITTLEFIELD FARM
KENNEBEC COUNTY, MAINE
28 September 2015

UTMs NAD 83 19/ 465525 / 4930768

1000 0 1000 2000 feet

N

Chlorine
Dust