

SOMERSET COUNTY, MAINE PROBATE RECORDS

Somerset County is one of the great central and northern counties of Maine. It is about 135 miles in length, north and south, with an average width of some 30 miles. On its eastern line, about midway of its length, lies Moosehead Lake, 40 miles in length. Between this and the western border of the State is a chain of ponds, extending quite across the county, and discharging into Moosehead. The mountains of this county of present note are Mount Bigelow, on the southern border of the most western part, Squaw, Fletcher, Johnson, Pierce, Spencer, Heald, Bald, Owl's Head Sally, Moxie, the Bald Mountain Range, Culcusso and Mucalsea mountains.

The industries of this county are chiefly agricultural; and having a good soil, few farmers fail to make a good living. Neat cattle and sheep are raised in large numbers.

Somerset County was incorporated March 1, 1809. Its territory was formerly embraced in Kennebec County and sections of it have since been taken to form Franklin and Piscataquis counties. Norridgewock was the shire town until about 1870, when a new and elegant brick building containing a court-room and offices are presented to the county by Hon. Abner Coburn, and the county seat was changed to Skowhegan. [taken from *History of Somerset County, Maine*, 1886]

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