

Abenaki /Algonquin Names

Local to Sagadahoc County and referenced in Roger D. Skilling's poem, *King's Dock*
Compiled by Malcolm Hamilton, April 2021

Abagadasset River; see Cobbosseecontee below.

Abenaki—Indian nation—Kennebec area. See also Wabanaki

Algonquin (tribe)

Algonquian (the language)

Androscoggin River [“river of cliff rock shelters”]

Arrowsic Island [place of obstruction]

Awanochs “The Wawenocks (Indian tribe), who reside between the Sagadahock and the river St. George, and upon the latter.” (Wheeler, History of Brunswick..., p. 1)

Chewonki

Cobbosseecontee Lake stream (source of Abagadasset River) translates to "plenty of sturgeon" in Wabanaki.

Damariscotta ["river of little fish]

Hockomoc Bay

Katahdin From Abenaki *Ktaden, Ktaaden* (“great mountain”),

Kennebec [kinipek or kinipekw means "bay" in the Abenaki language] comes from the Eastern Abenaki /kínipek^w/, meaning "large body of still water, large bay".

Malaga Island; the Abenaki Indian word for “cedar.”

Maliseet (Malecite) Nation [From Mi'kmaq malisiit, one who speaks an incomprehensible language.]

Maremiten—Merrymeeting Bay: Kennebec, Cathance, Eastern, Abagadasset, and Muddy River. Abenaki names recorded for this bay were *Chisapeak* ("at the big part of the river") and *Quabacook*, meaning "duck watering place". Variant early colonial English names of Merrymeeting Bay include New Somerset Lake and Swan Pond.

Mikmaq Nation Mi'kmaq people [Mi'kmaq or Mi'k-maqs or Micmac or Mic-macs]

Montsweag; a small brackish water bay near Wiscasset

Nequasset

Newagen

Norridgwock Nerigwok

Passamaquoddy River and Indian Nation-- *peskotomuhkati*, those of the place where pollock are plentiful,

Pemaquid [situated far out]

Penobscot River & Indian Nation; a village name, literally, where the rocks widen

Piscataqua Peske (branch) with tegwe (a river with a strong current, possibly tidal).

Sagadahock River [now the Kennebec, from Merrymeeting Bay to the Atlantic]; now more often spelled Sagadahoc.

Sagamore: a subordinate chief of the Algonquin Indians.

Sasanoa River

Sebasco

Sebego ["great stretch of water" or "big water"]

Sheepscot River

Towesic Neck [Woolwich]

Wabanaki Confederation Wôbanaki: people of the Dawn Land; people from where the sun rises; literally, dawn land people, easterners.

Whiskeag; Abenaki word meaning "a creek that runs dry at low tides."

Winnegance [from the word Winnegansis, Abenaki for "little portage"]

Wiscasset—[Place of the yellow pines; also as original Abenaki name, "coming out from the harbor but you don't see where."]

Personal Names from Roger's poem

Abomazeen more often as Bomazeen and Bomazon. (d. 1724. Norridgewock sachem or sagamore, a subordinate chief of the Algonquian Indians of the North Atlantic coast.) was Sachem of the Nerigwok, or Norridgewock people [branch of the Abinaki Indian tribe]. Whether he was the next in succession to Arruhawikwabemt or not, or if he was a distinct chief among others of equal authority among the Nerigwoks, we have not learned.

Awanochs (probably an Abenaki word meaning the European settlers, invaders, newcomers, etc.)

Madockawando (burned Dover, Wells, York, and Saco) Madockawando (born in Maine c. 1630; died 1698) was a sachem of the Penobscot, an adopted son of Assaminasqua, whom he succeeded. He led his people against the English settlers in New England during King William's War (1688-1697).

1) Merrymeeting Bay: (Maremiten) It is not what is usually meant by the word bay. It is somewhat like an estuary but it has fresh water with very little salt. Geologically it is described as an "inland delta" and biologically as "tidal riverine."

MCH/Skillings/King's Dock Indian Names