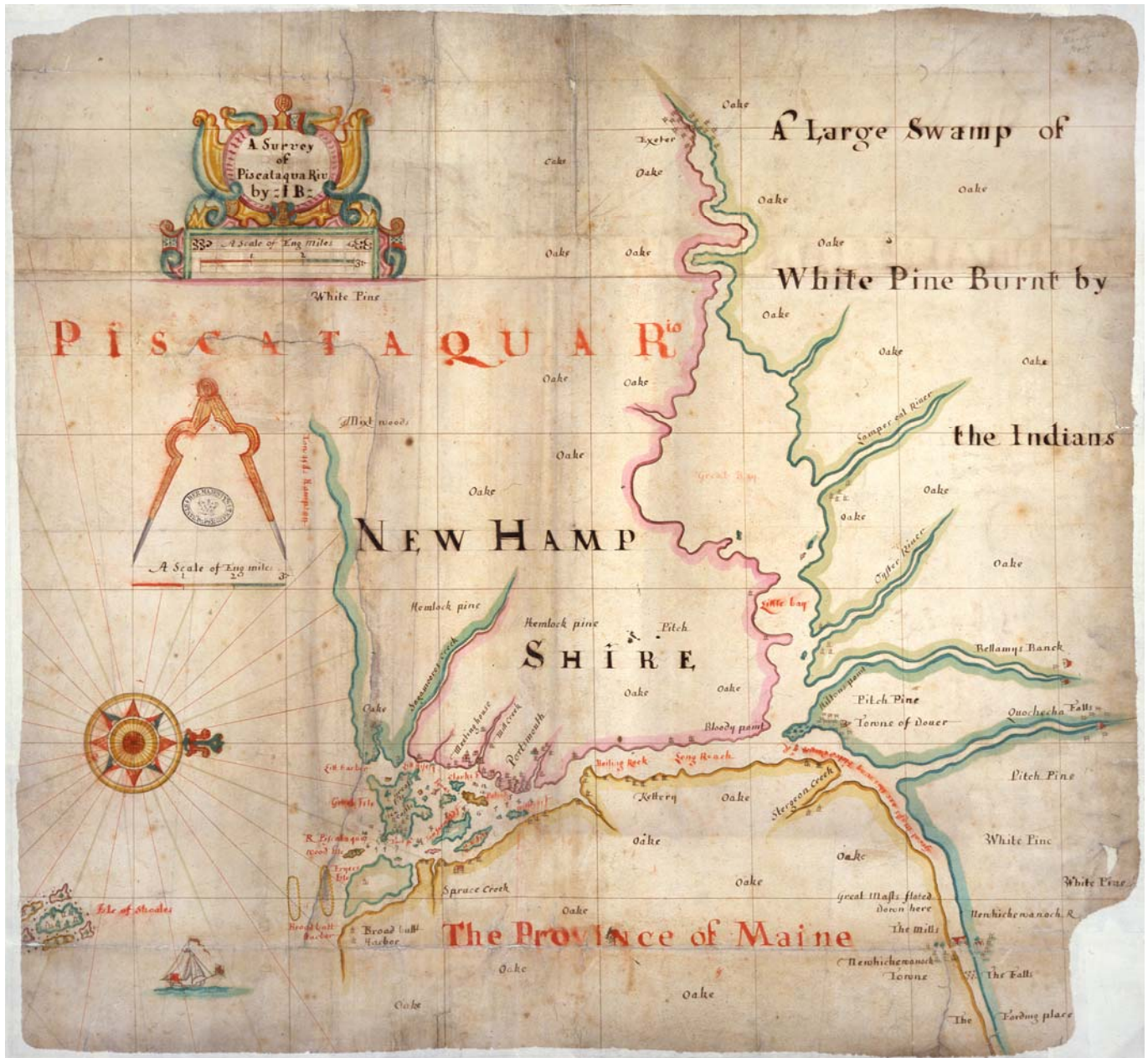


PISCATAQUA



The word "Piscataqua" comes from the Native-American Abenaki - "Peske" means "branch" and "tegwe" is a river with a strong current, possibly tidal.

The Piscataqua Maritime Region consists of twelve towns in seacoast New Hampshire and southern Maine linked by the tidal waters of the Piscataqua River, and accessible by gundalow. The larger Piscataqua watershed consists of 42 communities in New Hampshire and ten in Maine whose waters drain into the Piscataqua before flowing into the sea. The Piscataqua River is a 12-mile long tidal estuary formed by the confluence of the Salmon Falls and Cocheco rivers. The drainage basin of the river is approximately 1,495 square miles, encompassing the watersheds of the Great Works River and five rivers flowing into Great Bay: the Bellamy, Oyster, Lamprey, Squamscott, and Winnicut. The last six miles of the river become Portsmouth Harbor with one of the fastest tidal currents in North America, before spilling into the Atlantic Ocean.