

**The Underhill-Acker House, Croton-on-Hudson, Westchester County**

The Underhill-Acker House, located on Hamilton Avenue in the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, Westchester County, New York, is a historically and architecturally significant resource. The house, originally built ca. 1873, served as the home and medical office of Dr. Thomas Jefferson Acker (1837-1914), a highly respected member of the medical community and prominent local citizen, between 1886 and 1914. The Underhill-Acker House is the resource most closely associated with Dr. Acker during the period in which he made his most significant contributions to medicine. As presently constituted the dwelling largely reflects the original early 1870s building campaign along with modifications made under Acker's direction between his acquisition and ca. 1905; it remains an outstanding example of Italianate-style domestic architecture with exterior modifications that reflect the revived interest in classically inspired architecture at the dawn of the twentieth century in America. Although built in the post-Civil War period, the house's T-shaped plan and sedate exterior characteristics are akin in spirit to the Picturesque architecture of the antebellum era and efforts to promote this Romantic inspired style as appropriate for American domestic architecture by Andrew Jackson Downing, among others. The interior is highly intact to the early 1870s period, both in terms of its spatial characteristics and finishes, and as such offers an excellent portrait of contemporary architectural fashion and domestic preferences. The nominated house is being nominated in association with NRHP Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, given it is an excellent and highly intact representation of Italianate-style domestic design with subsequent historic-period modifications. It is additionally being nominated under Criterion B, in the area of Health/Medicine, for its association with Dr. T.J. Acker, who resided there from the mid-1880s until his death in 1914, and who maintained his medical practice there and built the small north addition sometime immediately after his purchase of the property. At the time of his passing Acker was noted in a period obituary as "the leading physician and a prominent citizen of Croton-on-the-Hudson," and surviving account ledgers and other documentary sources attest to his importance in the field of medicine. Acker's shingle, which reads "T.J. ACKER M.D." in gold leaf lettering, remains in the nominated house to this day.

**Cash-Draper House, Middletown, Orange County**

The Cash-Draper House is an excellent representation of Greek Revival-style domestic architecture located in the City of Middletown, Orange County, New York. Built by all indications ca. 1842 for John Morris Cash, a farmer, the house has an unusual pentastyle Doric portico which graces its principal southeast elevation, the signature exterior feature of what is otherwise a rectangular-plan story-and-a-half frame construct with a center hall plan with double parlors to one side. J.M. Cash had purchased this acreage on the Montgomery Turnpike—now Wickham Avenue—from the Wickham family in 1842 but by 1846 had sold the nominated property to Gabriel N. Sweezy. During portions of the 1850s and 1860s it was owned by David Coleman, who expanded the acreage from its original extent, and between 1865 and 1882 the property was associated with Dr. Joshua Draper and later yet by members of the Thayer family. The nominated house is a prominent and noteworthy example of the Greek Revival style in the City of Middletown, distinguished by its temple-front exterior and inside by virtue of its double-parlor plan, these two rooms communicating with the floor of the portico by means of French doors and with each other by large pocket doors, which allowed them to function as a single entertaining space. The house has previously been attributed to be the work of John Kirby Moore, a local carpenter-builder who was active in this part of Orange County in the antebellum period, though this attribution is by all indications without supporting documentation. Although the house received subsequent historic-era modifications, mostly notably Italianate-style changes made in the 1870s and other changes ca. 1910, the dwelling nevertheless

retains many of the principal character-defining features from the Greek Revival period, both inside and out, and it remains an important legacy from an earlier epoch in the city's physical development. It is being nominated in association with NRHP Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, as a largely intact representation of Greek Revival-style domestic architecture with subsequent historic-period upgrades. The Cash-Draper House remains an important antebellum building erected on what was then the outskirts of Middletown, which in the early 1840s was on the verge of considerable physical transformation with the arrival of the Erie Railroad.

### **Heintzelman Library, Brant Lake, Warren County**

The former Heintzelman Library is an architecturally and historically significant building located in the Town of Horicon, Warren County, New York. Despite its diminutive scale, it is among that town's most recognizable and appreciated historic landmarks. Completed in 1907, the building formed the culmination of efforts spearheaded by, among others, Emily Bailey Heintzelman (1853-1902) to bring a reading center to this remote Adirondack region community. The widow of Capt. Charles Stuart Heintzelman (1846-1881), a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and Assistant Quartermaster in the Union Army during the Civil War, Emily Heintzelman proved instrumental in establishing a local circulating library which was housed privately until the completion of the nominated building. Heintzelman died suddenly in 1902 at her Brant Lake home, "Lux Holm," prior to the completion of the library building that bears the family's name, and she lies interred with her husband at Arlington National Cemetery. In spite of her unexpected passing, efforts continued and land for a new edifice to serve as a purpose-built library was deeded to the library trustees by the Bardon family in 1906; the building was completed the following year, its construction having been overseen by local contractor-builder John Bennett. It remains a small but handsome building of decidedly rustic sentiment and it served as a public library and reading room for Horicon residents from the time of its dedication until 2001, at which time a new facility was constructed; it now serves as a local history archive and research room operated under the auspices of the town historian. Prior to the building's completion, the library, which included many volumes loaned or otherwise given by Emily Heintzelman, was housed locally in private homes, among them that of Dr. O.H. Perkins, and as such the building fulfilled a specific need and its completion formed an important milestone in this community's development. The building is being nominated in association with NRHP Criterion A, in the area of Social History, given its association with the efforts of the Heintzelman family and others to establish a library there for the benefit of the Brant Lake community; when completed it fulfilled the vital function of a community education and learning center and as such was an important new work of civic architecture, albeit modest in size. It is also being nominated under Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, as a largely intact example of early twentieth century Arts & Crafts-inspired architecture and library design.

### **Rest Haven, Monroe, Orange County**

Rest Haven, built ca. 1903 as an opulent Colonial Revival-style dwelling for Charles G. McKendrick and later operated as a retreat for blind women, is a building of considerable architectural and historical distinction located in the Village of Monroe, Orange County, New York. The house was constructed for McKendrick by Welch Brothers of Warwick, contractor-builders, to the designs of architect Arthur C. Longyear, then of New York City but later of Kingston, New York. It remains an impressive specimen of Colonial Revival-style domestic design, in terms of scale and sophistication, and representative of the finer class of dwellings erected in the Monroe area in the early years of the twentieth century, along with Moses C. Migel's estate house at Greenbraes Farm, erected a decade later. From the time of its completion until the mid-1920s, the nominated house served as a private domicile and one of Monroe's most considerable and conspicuous examples of domestic architecture. In 1923 a new epoch in the property's history was initiated with the purchase of the former McKendrick property by Moses C. Migel and his subsequent gift of the house for use by Rest Haven, Incorporated as a dedicated retreat place for blind women. A highly successful and affluent silk

merchant, Migel was a pivotal figure in the history of the American Foundation for the Blind, which was organized in 1921 in New York City. Migel, who served on the organization's first board and eventually assumed the role of president, made the welfare of the blind his preeminent personal interest following his retirement from business endeavors. Helen Keller, a close collaborator of Migel's in this endeavor, visited the Migel estate in Monroe on a number of occasions and also Rest Haven following its establishment in the 1920s. Rest Haven is being nominated in association with NRHP Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, as a substantially intact example of Colonial Revival-style domestic design erected ca. 1903 to the designs of architect A.C. Longyear. It is additionally being nominated, in association with Criterion A, in the area of Health/Medicine, for its role as Rest Haven, which provided a place of retreat and respite for the blind. The house remains an impressive specimen of early twentieth century domestic architecture rendered in a distinctive Colonial Revival vein and it maintains salient historical associations with efforts to promote the welfare of the blind by the Migel family, Helen Keller, and others.

### **The International Paper Administrative Building & Time Office, Corinth, Saratoga County**

The International Paper Administrative Building & Time Office is an architecturally and historically significant building and the last remaining vestige of this company's once sprawling Palmer Falls paper manufacturing operation in Corinth, Saratoga County, New York. Built between 1904 and 1905, the building was conceived of and designed to serve as headquarters for the Corinth facility operated by International Paper, a company established in 1898 to consolidate the interests of nearly 20 paper mill operations in New York and New England. This corporate action established the company as the largest paper manufacturer in both America and the world and the Corinth facility—typically referred to as the Hudson River Mill, and formerly operated by the Hudson River Pulp & Paper Company—became its most important and productive facility. The nominated building provided a sophisticated architectural statement and offered itself as the “public face” of the company in Corinth, and it was there that many administrative functions were executed and that annual stockholder's meetings were staged. It featured a two-level plan with administrative and executive space above and a time office and worker's area below, and thereby in some ways reflected the division between labor and management inherent in the company's operations. Paper making had been established at Palmer Falls in 1869 and was carried on later by International Paper until 2002, at which time the facility was closed; in 2010 demolition of the mill complex was initiated and today only the nominated building remains to chronicle the company's long history there. The building is being nominated to the NRHP in association with Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, as a largely intact example of a corporate administrative office built with an eclectic architectural vocabulary. While not yet definitively known, existing evidence suggests the design might be credited to architect R. Newton Brezee and his sometime partner, James S. Mallory. It is additionally being nominated in association with Criterion A, in the area of Industry, given it was erected to serve as the principal headquarters of the International Paper company and the site of its annual stockholder's meetings.

### Winans-Huntting House

51 Bethel Cross Road, Pine Plains, Dutchess County

[Façade] The Winans-Huntting Homestead is locally significant under Criterion C as an example of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century vernacular Federal period two-story farmhouse in Pine Plains. The building incorporates a much smaller, late 18<sup>th</sup> century building.

[Side elevation] The Winans family purchased the property during the 1760s and James Winans built a small farmhouse on the land ca. 1774. Winans, a skilled carpenter and land developer, prospered as more families began moving to Dutchess County from Long Island, Connecticut, and England.

[Parlor] Bill and I went out and explored this one – and it looks like the original building was a two-bay by two-bay, one or one-and-a-half story building with a basement kitchen. This parlor is the single room associated with that early section of the house.

[Parlor / Sistered beams]

[Hearth]

[Façade / Stair] Gerardus Winans inherited the property in 1795. He married his second wife, Aletia, in 1807 and apparently decided to improve the house soon after. The house was quickly expanded into a five-bay by two-bay, two-story, side-gabled house. The roof structure, which was constructed in one campaign, indicates the rapid change to the house.

[Bedrooms] On the interior, the house received a full complement of elegant Federal period finishes, including its staircase, doors, chair rails, and mantles.

[Rear wing] Edward and Amanda Huntting added the rear wing ca. 1830, soon after their purchase. It remained in the Huntting family through 1904 – Isaac Hunting, one of Dutchess County's early historians and genealogists, grew up in the house and lived there on-and-off later in life.

## PS 186

521 W. 145<sup>th</sup> Street, New York County

[Historic / Contemporary Façade] PS 186, constructed in 1903 in the Hamilton Heights section of Harlem, is significant under Criterion C as a good example of the Renaissance Revival style as adapted for an educational building.

[Façade] It is one of over 400 new schools and school additions completed by architect C.B.J Snyder, New York's Superintendent of School Buildings from 1891 to 1923. At least 41 schools designed by Snyder are known to still exist.

[Detail / Courtyard / Historic interior] PS 186 features a bust of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom, as well as window surrounds and a cornice made of terra cotta. The school is also an excellent example of Snyder's H-plan, an adaptation to smaller, mid-block sites that allowed for better light and ventilation.

[Interior spaces] The school is additionally significant under Criterion A at the local level in the area of education. It was the first public school built in Hamilton Heights and was part of the city's early 20<sup>th</sup> century efforts to meet the needs of its growing population and increasingly overcrowded schools. PS 186 remained in active use as an elementary school and community educational center through 1975.

[Interior spaces] The Boys & Girls Club of Harlem has owned the building since 1986 and recently completed a tax credit project to rehabilitate the building into 78 mixed-income apartments and a 10,000 square foot headquarters for the club.

**Approved Part 1, Letter of Support for NYC LPC**

**In attendance: Michael Tomlan**

## Reformed Church of Melrose

746 Elton Avenue, Bronx County

[Overall] The Reformed Church of Melrose, constructed in 1879, is locally significant under Criterion C as a good example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, German Revivalist Rundbogenstil architecture in the Bronx. Built by local German architect and builder Henry Piering for the largely German and Dutch community of Melrose, the building's relatively simple design blends corbelling and brick detailing associated with the style with the Gothic Revival.

[Façade / Steeple] The church is additionally significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of the German immigrant community in the Bronx. Similar to "Kleindeutschland" on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, Melrose was developed primarily by German immigrants.

[Elevation] As rail networks expanded and immigrant populations grew, Germans were attracted to the opportunity for more space and better living conditions in the Bronx. The Reformed Church of Melrose is among the early institutions established by the community; only a handful of churches, houses, and commercial buildings survive to illustrate the neighborhood's early history.

[Sanctuary] Melrose remained a small and strongly German congregation into the early twentieth century. In 1890, they began holding English services once a month for the first time in the congregation's history.

[Sanctuary details] While some of the sparseness on the interior may be due to the reuse of the building by later congregations, it may also be due to thriftiness. In an 1891 report to the synod, the pastor complained about the congregation's unwillingness to donate to missions, instead favoring meeting the needs of the church and local charities.

[Lower level] Finally – basement meeting space.

**Columbia project supported by the Sacred Sites program, NYC LPC letter of support**

## Southold Mile Marker MPDF / MM 7

Southold, Suffolk County

[Map] Starting with a first in New York – an MPDF nomination for an intact series of 23 milestones. The Southold Town Milestones, installed in 1829, are significant under Criterion A in the areas of settlement and transportation. The stones, which are located at one-mile intervals along Main Road, represented the “state-of-the-art” in roadside guideposting for the time. Southold was among the few communities that put markers in place following a mandate by the New York State legislature to mark roads in this way.

[Stone analysis] The stones, which mark the distance from the Suffolk County Courthouse, are made of granite and were likely imported from Massachusetts. The use of this material no doubt contributes to why so many survive today. The stones have long interested residents of the region. This nomination was spurred by a 2015 Boy Scout project to record the stones and restore and reset them with training from a professional stone conservator.

[Resetting stones] Local lore had long suggested that Southold’s mile markers were set by Benjamin Franklin, the nation’s first postmaster general, to mark postal routes. As part of this project, Zach Studenroth dove deeply into the history of this myth and disproved that origin story. The project has helped raise awareness for the stones themselves (important, to avoid future damage from passing motorists!) as well as their true history.

[MM7 location / stone project] Explain MPDF process – need to nominate each resource individually, and send one nomination to NPS along with cover document for initial approval. So, we’re starting at the beginning with Mile Marker 7, located just across the town line between Riverhead and Southold.

[MM7] MM7 is located in the hamlet of Laurel on a curving stretch of old Main Road bypassed when this section of Main Road was straightened during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. MM7 meets the registration

requirements for listing under the MPDF – it has a high level of integrity, retains its relationship to the roadway, and is one of the original 23 markers set by the Town of Southold.

**In attendance: Zach Studenroth**

**V. Bartos—NR Presentation text 23 March 2017**

### **Potter Historic District, Fairport, Monroe County**

I've recently been spending quite a bit of time in Fairport, one of our CLGs that's recently been getting quite active.

**Slide 1:** The nomination for the Potter Historic District was researched and drafted by the local Preservation Commission. For those of you not familiar with the village, it is southeast of Rochester, nestled into a bend in the Erie Canal. The Potter Historic District is in the southwest part of the village, comprised of roughly 16 acres of public park land and the north half of a residential street known as Potter Place. The district consists of lands that were part of the Potter Family estate. Alfred Potter began developing Potter Place as a residential neighborhood around the turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup> century. The Park was given to the village in 1944 by his son, Fred Potter (seen here), but before that, Fred regularly opened the grounds of the family estate to village events, most notably baseball games and holiday fireworks.



**Slide 2:** During World War II, Fred Potter allowed a large portion of the grounds to be used as a community Victory Garden and that tradition continues to the present with the Potter Park Community Gardens seen in the lower left.

The district contains 32 contributing buildings, one of them being the Potter Mansion, which became a community center in the 1940s and still functions as a space for meetings, parties and other community functions. The mansion began as an 1858 Italianate house that the Potters remodeled three separate times to what is seen today. The district also contains the Potter Carriage barn seen in the upper right, and barely visible behind it is the non-contributing teen center (built in the 1980s). The lower right is the Veterans Memorial, originally added in the late 1940s but completely redesigned and rebuilt in 2014, making it non-contributing.

**Slide 3:** The contributing residences were built between 1900 and 1953 and include two buildings that face West Church Street (seen the upper left). Most of the residences are Colonial Revival style buildings but interspersed with examples of Tudor Revival, American foursquare, . . .

**Slide 4:** . . .plus one craftsman bungalow just barely visible in the center of the upper slide. The nomination draft sent to you included a larger image of the

building (50 Potter Place). As stated in the draft, the houses share similar setbacks and lot sizes.

**Slide 5:** The district ends at Lewis Street, seen in the upper left. This was the extent of the Potter property where the street bends slightly to the west. The district is being nominated under Criterion C for its remarkable collection of architecture and Criterion A for community planning and development for being a planned subdivision and park. The period of significance extends ends in 1953, with the last house built in the subdivision, a Cape-Cod style colonial revival residence. The purpose of the listing is to allow the homeowners to take advantage of the state tax credit—yes, they are in an eligible census tract.

Questions? Comments?

### **Miller Block & Townhouse, Elmira, Chemung County**

**Slide 1:** The Miller Block and Townhouse was built 1887-1888, and as stated in the draft, this building is a survivor, surrounded by parking lots and high rise apartments that replaced damaged historic buildings after the flood of 1972. This slide shows the rich exterior detail described in the nomination (metal cornices, cast stone lintels, cast iron storefront columns, triangular windows corresponding

to the triangular portion of the cornice, name block and block with builder's name) and how the cornice and other decorative elements unite the commercial block and townhouse.

**Slide 2:** The building is one of two documented buildings built by Huron O. Smith. Here we have a closer view of the façade exterior details and a detail view of the south rear commercial block entrance in (upper left image). As stated in the nomination, the interior upper floors were converted into apartments beginning in the 1930s and the lower left image shows a surviving original staircase in the rear of the building.

**Slide 3:** The Townhouse originally contained two residential sections, each later divided for a total of four apartments. The Miller Block and Townhouse are being nominated under Criterion C for architecture and Criterion A for commerce. This nomination is sponsored by the owner, who is using the federal tax credit for renovations into retail and housing and received a part 1 approval in July 2016.

Questions? Comments?

**Biggs Memorial Hospital Cottage, Ithaca vic., Tompkins Co.**

**Slide 1:** Speaking of survivors, here is another: the cottage from the Hermann M. Biggs Memorial Hospital Complex, built on the west side of Cayuga Lake, roughly halfway between Trumansburg and Ithaca. The red circle indicated the cottage's location on the aerial view, which shows the medical complex before the rest of the original hospital was demolished. The Biggs Memorial Hospital was a state owned and operated tuberculosis hospital that was built around 1936. Remnants of the hospital complex are an education building, heating plant, and three residences, one of them being the cottage. Our office evaluated the property as a potential district and determined that without the tuberculosis hospital there is no district. Also, the integrity of many of the buildings is poor due to alteration, therefore, only the cottage is being considered for listing at this time.

**Slide 2:** The cottage is being nominated individually in the area of architecture for being a highly intact, rare residential design by architect Arthur N. Gibb, who designed the entire hospital complex. Gibb had quite a lengthy career as architect, local alderman and mayor of Ithaca, and many of his known extant buildings are large buildings, mostly commercial. He also designed buildings for Watkins Glen and Taughannock State Parks. Here we see the north and east elevations of the cottage, plus the walled garden, believed to have been built

when the WPA made improvements to the grounds. The stonework is similar to that found the steps and walls built in nearby Treman State Park.

**Slide 3:** In 1902, Gibb contributed an article to *Country Life In America* on staircases and the center image is from that article. The cottage stairs is on the left and archway from the dining room into the living room is on the right. There clearly is a consistency in his work between 1904 and 1936.

**Slide 4:** As mentioned in the nomination, the TB hospital closed for the property to be developed into a county hospital (now the Cayuga Medical Center). The cottage became a police station for state and later, county officers and may have been a residence for the local sheriff. In 2010, the cottage became vacant and the county sold it the present owners in 2013. The owners have been making repairs to the house since then and plan to use the homeowner tax credits to continue with the work.

Questions? Comments?

## **East Main Street Downtown Historic District. Rochester, Monroe Co. *Boundary***

### ***Amendment***

**Slide 1**—this may look familiar to you, or not, since it came before the board last September. We are asking your approval on a slight revision to the boundary.

**Slide 2:** After the meeting, we learned that the Midtown Parking Garage extended beyond the original boundary presented for the district; therefore, we would have had to expand the boundary to include it. After careful review, we decided that the parking garage and Tower 280 had stronger associations with the buildings to the south as urban renewal projects. We are therefore asking you to approve a slight change to the boundary to exclude the two properties. Neither owner has a problem with it, nor does the Landmark Society, the nomination sponsors.

**Questions? Comments?**

**[Following Virginia Bartos: East Main Street HD Boundary Adjustment]**

## **North Salina Street Historic District Boundary Expansion (Syracuse, Onondaga County) [1 Slide]**

- Nomination driven by city to expand opportunities for Commercial Tax Credits
- Thanks to Kate Auwaeter, Syracuse Preservation Planner/Public Art Coordinator

- Six letters of objection – two from owners of non-contributing properties – 410 Pearl Street and 606-610 North Salina Street – and four from contributing properties
  - One specifically asked for economic development support
  - Request for postponement to June Meeting to contact property owners and explain value of listing in terms of economic development concerns
-

## **Forest Hill Cemetery (Utica, Oneida County) [8 Slides]**

- **Support from** Utica Scenic and Historic Preservation Commission and Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi. **Written by VIRGINIA KELLY**
- Notable Rural Cemetery – previously unrecognized work of **Almerin Hotchkiss** (Green-wood Cemetery First Superintendent and Designer/Superintendent of Bellefontaine, St. Louis) – both NR listed – Green-wood as an NHL, 1997)
- Cemetery created/ expanded by same set of civic improvers (Theodore Faxton, et al) who developed the economy and major institutions of the city; LATER, at turn of century, linked with Thomas R. Proctor’s development of Utica Parks and Parkway system (NR, adjoining)

---

**Period of Significance = 1849 (construction) – 1967 (fifty years from present)**

**Criterion A = SOCIAL HISTORY**

**Criterion C = LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, ARCHITECTURE, and FUNERARY ART**

---

*Criterion A – Social History + Criterion C – Landscape Architecture*

Cemetery contains over 60,000 burials

Developed to replace urban burials – large number of unmarked graves (12,000) associated with the removal of Water Street (Potter Street) graveyard adjoining Mohawk

- City developing coal-powered manufacturing → large increase in population in 1840s
- Utica Cemetery Association looking for source of civic pride → used Green-wood Cemetery as model
- Approached designer of Green-wood – David Bates Douglass – and two others including Hotchkiss → Hired Hotchkiss to lay out grounds on hilly wooded site at edge of city
  - Early buildings included rustic lodge, bell tower, wooden bridge over ravine, fence with stone columns, barn
  - All (but barn and the bell from the tower) replaced by turn of the century
- Hotchkiss came back to design first cemetery addition in 1865; second expansion in 1882 not fully laid out until 1916 by **George H. Miller** – shows influence of City Beautiful movement



Opening Day in June 1850 included relocation of the **Oneida Stone**, a culturally-significant object of the Oneida Nation who (apparently) authorized the move

- “Turning Stone” now returned to Oneida control (1974)

#### BUILDINGS – CRITERION C - ARCHITECTURE:

- Child’s Chapel (1868-1869)
  - ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: Almerin Hotchkiss and local architect **Thomas Birt**
- Superintendent’s Residence (1884)
- Entrance Gate (1900-1902) plus Administration Office wing (1925)
  - ARCHITECT: **J. Redfield Metcalf**
  - Includes Ladies’ Waiting Room for the trolley line
- Service Buildings: Frame Barn (1850) and Receiving Vault (1905)
- Vanished Buildings: Two conservatories – used as winter burials
- Other elements: Pavilion, Pump House, Mausoleums, Monuments

NON-SECTARIAN CEMETERY with various types of burials – unmarked, communal civic groups, modest individual plots, family sites, mausoleums, striking monuments

#### Large amount of FUNERARY ART:

- **James Schoolcraft Sherman**, died 1912 while Vice-Pres of the US under William H. Taft
  - Stained glass window by **Clara M. Burd**
- Conventional monuments: Cemetery supported small community of stone cutters (many Italian) in Utica – with one monument company right across the street
- Large selection of very artistic monuments:
  - **Louise Dellmayer Kasson** (cellist) statue by **Karl Bitter** (1915)
  - Samuel Maynard Monument – angel – created in Westerly RI (1923)
  - Asaph Mather – baldachin – created in Westerly RI (1882)

## St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church Complex (Schenectady, Schenectady County)

- Complex of four buildings – two private owners, two public owners [5 SLIDES]
  - **Tax credit** for church redevelopment as community space
  - **School closed** – 1979 (but nuns continued to live in the convent) ; **church closed** – 2009
  - Strong **support from** Mayor McCarthy and Schenectady Historic District Commission
  - **Written by NEIL LARSON**
- 

**Period of Significance = 1892 (construction first church) – 1966 (fifty years from present)**

**Criterion A = SOCIAL HISTORY; ETHNIC HERITAGE, EUROPEAN; EDUCATION**

**Criterion C = ARCHITECTURE**

---

**Distinctive complex of Roman Catholic religious buildings – church, convent, school, and rectory – developed to serve Schenectady's growing Polish Catholic population**

- Polish Catholics arrived in Schenectady in late 19<sup>th</sup> century to work at GE/ALCO, especially after the **partition of the country** by neighboring powers  
→ ELEVATED imp of POLISH CHURCH
  - German and Austrian Poles joined German church in the city
  - Russian Poles (75%) needed own “national church” to serve them in their language + culture → Brotherhood Society requested a priest
- Roman Catholic Diocese recruited a Polish priest – Rev. Der-es-zew-ski – a recent graduate of the St. Joseph's Provincial Seminary in Troy
  - First mass in Polish at the German Church on New Year's Day 1892
  - Lot bought at the corner of Eastern Avenue/Irving Street in 1892
  - First simple brick church opened 1893; **oriented to Irving Street**; priest taught school in basement as well as served congregation

- Population kept increasing → 400 families by 1900 → pressure for a newer and more prestigious church
  - **Ground broken – 1903**; back part of old church retained for school; basement of new building used for services 1904; building fully **open and dedicated 1905**
- New church:
  - ARCHITECT – Firm of **Hopkins & Casey** of Troy – Casey left area soon after; Hopkins = master builder from Topeka, Kansas; helped design Cohoes City Hall
  - VICTORIAN GOTHIC REVIVAL STYLE – High towers (center 212 feet) rise above 2-story residences on Eastern Avenue
    - Similar to “Polish Cathedrals” of Chicago and Detroit
    - Monumental size, generally using Renaissance style of old homeland (**not here though**)
    - Provided new source of POLISH IDENTITY – given the country’s partition
    - 1914 – Francis Szumal carved altarpieces for main and side altars
- School/convent:
  - **School first built in remnant of old church**
  - **Sisters of the Resurrection** came to Schenectady in 1907; in another house at first
- New school:
  - Larger school needed to serve more than 400 children
  - ARCHITECT – **Louis H. Giele** of New York City → specialized in Polish Church architecture
  - Designed in Romanesque/Neo-Classical style with yellow brick and central pedimented pavilion – largely a facade
  - Inside of building = **modern fireproof construction with large auditorium** on second floor
    - Used for community gatherings
- Rectory – two built (one in front of convent; replaced around 1926 by (probably) adjoined, pre-existing rehabilitated house



## **Marshall D. Bice House (Schoharie, Schoharie County) [3 Slides]**

- Intended commercial tax credit. **WRITTEN by Jessie Ravage**
  - Badly flooded in 2011 and abandoned by owner, despite limited damage to interior → important local landmark to put back into use!
  - Also, strong anchor to village of Schoharie which recently completed a survey to define a district
- 

**Period of Significance = 1868 (construction by Marshall Bice) – 1946 (no longer a residence)**

**Criterion A = SOCIAL HISTORY**

**Criterion C = ARCHITECTURE**

---

Reflects development of first “suburbs” within the village of Schoharie after the Civil War

Checkered ownership history – divorce, embezzlement, bankruptcy (as well as flood!)

- Transportation links changing the community – stage coaches and railroad making it easier to connect the Schoharie Valley with markets
  - Village of Schoharie chartered in 1867
  - New stores being built along Main Street
- **Marshall Bice** born in the village, moved to Cobleskill and NYC, served in the Union army
  - Came back to Schoharie around 1867 – seems to have been real estate speculator
  - Marshall and Helen built the house around 1868
  - Seems to have over-extended himself once post-war real estate bubble ended
  - **Divorced in August 1873** and house passed to Helen, who soon sold it
- Later owners

- **James O. Williams** achieved success as a banker and elected county treasurer before being accused of **embezzlement** around 1886 and fleeing to New Mexico
- Akins Palmer (“money lender”) lived in the house almost 20 years and passed it to his sister Ann Couchman who rented it to another relative ...
- **Edwin Lee and Birdie Alice Auchampaugh** – historic photo of the house during their ownership
  - Edwin when **bankrupt in 1917** and house sold again to...
- Clyde and Grace Proper who lived there almost 30 years
- Classic example of **Italianate Style**
  - Popularized in style books by Andrew Jackson Downing, among others
  - Similar (but more extravagant) than recently-listed Jacob T. Miers House (NR, 2015)
  - Utilized decorative brackets, large windows, sliding panel doors, deep eaves, cupola to control summer temperatures – **ALL STILL THERE DESPITE FLOOD DAMAGE**

## Camp Taiga (Long Lake, Hamilton County) [4 SLIDES]

- Small, **very small** “artistic” **Adirondack camp** on the west side of Long Lake
- Support from Steven Englehart of Adirondack Architectural Heritage
- Thought to date from the 1890s; **built by local people** on Keeler Bay (farm owned by the second settlers of Long Lake)
  - Probably for guiding “sports” up the lake
- **Purchased 1903 by Anna (Walter) Waterbury**
  - Waterburys apparently **decorated and expanded the camp**
  - Featured in a 1909 article in Suburban Living – “Just Playing at Housekeeping: The Simple Life in the Woods”

---

**Period of Significance = 1890s (probable construction) – 1966 (sale to current owner)**

**Criterion A = RECREATION; Criterion C = ARCHITECTURE**

---

### **Building Context similar to 2000 Thematic Nomination: The Adirondack Camp in American Architecture (Wesley Haynes)**

- Meets **Haynes’ criteria** for an “Adirondack Camp”
  - **Compound plan** – Originally had a tent platform and an “open camp” – now gone but replaced by a 1950s bunkhouse
  - **Integration of buildings with the site**
  - **Rustic character**
  - “Lake Community” camp
- **BUT Started as a “non-artistic camp”**
  - **Vertical palisade style** – split saplings attached to a log frame
  - Easy for one or two people to construct; more common in the western Adirondacks th
- Decorated by “**summer people**” – a middle-class couple from New York and Westchester
  - Includes **chromolithographs framed by birch bark**
  - **Assemblages** of artifacts – snowshoes, bows and arrows, treaty, toboggan
  - Some of the **furniture** now in the building is the same pictured in the 1909 article
- **Craig Gilmore** notes that a distinction needs to be made between camps built by locals for their own use and those built – or in this case redecorated – by summer people

- “Decorous camps” influenced by turn of the century Craftsman traditions
- “The decorous camp was the mediator between the individual and nature... an attempt to find a balance between the polarities, the primitive hut and the prodigy country house...”
- Building also reads like a textbook example of **William S. Wicks’ *Log Cabins: How to Build and Furnish Them*** – Wickes very involved w design of Adirondack League Club
- Camp used as a base to build an adjoining camp and, for a time, joined to it
- Later owner **Elizabeth Brooks Havens (Morton)** electrified the camp and added the current appliances – including a **1924 Hotpoint stove!**
- **Rev. Robert W. and Helen M. Searle** – Gen Sec of Greater NY Fed of Churches – owned to ‘66

United Presbyterian Church of Davenport

Davenport, Delaware County

This is the United Presbyterian Church of Davenport . Davenport is in the Charlotte River Valley in northern Delaware County; the town is actually just south of I-88 as you are driving west toward Oneonta; the hills you see to your left are the south side of the valley. And this is not a very good picture,

So, we’ll look at this one, which is from 1900 and much sharper. Now, the only thing that has changed between when this picture was taken and the last one is that the façade is now vinyl sided; however, in doing so, they preserved almost every bit of decoration that you see here.

The United Presbyterian Church was built in 1868 and altered in the 1890s. It is significant under criteria A and C because it reflects the ecclesiastical and social history of the hamlet of Davenport. There are churches of this type all over southern and eastern Delaware County. They are almost all Presbyterian, all built in the mid-19th century in the Greek Revival mode. They feature heavy-timber wood-frame construction, clapboard siding, broad gable roofs, wide friezes, raking cornices or cornice returns, and/or corner pilasters or corner boards. Like this example, in the 1890s, almost all of them received Victorian era updates, which included paired entrances with or without corner towers, large, central stained-glass windows, often in Gothic style frames, new window frames on side elevations, again generally Gothic, stained glass, brackets, a wide variety of scrollwork, brackets, and moldings.



The history of this church is entangled in Delaware County's complicated religious past. By the 1830s, two churches had been built on this site for a congregational congregation; the first was endowed by town founder John Davenport, a New Englander. However, by this time the second one was erected there was no congregational minister, so the Methodists began to preach here. But the Methodists had adopted a strict Calvinist-inspired theology, and they fell out with the local population. So by about 1850, this church had no minister and no congregation. Although Davenport was settled by population of mixed ethnicity, the eastern and southern parts of the county had a solid Scotch immigrant population that was predominantly Presbyterian. They, however, were divided into at least two rival sects influenced by the church in Scotland. But in 1858 all the Presbyterians in American united under one theology, paving the way for several of the nearby congregations to help stabilize a new Presbyterian congregation in Davenport. As a result, this building was constructed - modeled after the Greek Revival style West Kortright Presbyterian Church.

Twenty years later, all the churches in Delaware County began to add Victorian period features to their original buildings. Davenport received the exterior changes you see here and churches in West and North Kortright received variations of this design. In addition, they all received completely redesigned interiors that reflected the auditorium plan, then recommended to encourage more congregant participation in the worship. Features included: open plan, unobstructed sight lines, curved pews oriented to a lower pulpit, corner entrances, decorative finishes and lights, and, of course, beautiful stained glass. This time, instead of mimicking the West Kortright church, the Davenport congregation copied the interior of the North Kortright Pres church exactly – down to the last detail ( North Kortright is also on the NR) . West Kortright, a slightly larger building, received a similar interior, but not exactly the same.

In the early 20th century, the congregation was given the adjacent Greek Revival style house and farm as a gift – the house, which is extremely intact, is now the manse

However the farm was sold for the construction of the new charlotte valley central school, constructed in 1938, which we have called NRE. There it is behind the manse. Here is a photo from 1938 – just as the school was approaching completion – you can see our church, the manse and the drive between them, which belongs to the school [why we are nominating two separate parcels] – we would love to move forward with nomination of the school at some point - Questions?