

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single residence

COMMERCIAL/hotel

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Italianate

foundation: stone, concrete

walls: wood

roof: asphalt

other: _____

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Completed in 1873, the Hannah and George W. Jones House is a two-story Italianate style residence with a three-bay by four-bay main block, a three-bay by one-bay, two-story secondary block on the west, and a one-story, two-bay rear addition. The house is located in the south end of the village of Ovid on the west side of South Main Street, across from the Church of the Holy Cross and the campus of the South Seneca Central Schools. The house is set back from the road with the façade displaying regular fenestration of tall, paired double-hung wood-sash rounded windows with decorative hoods and shutters. A centrally placed main entrance has a single-height, one-bay porch protecting a pair of original wood and glass doors and a large four-light transom. Windows on the remaining elevations are evenly-spaced single, two-over-two wood sash with decorative hoods, sills and louvered shutters. A one-story bay window and rear porch are on the north and south elevations. Eaves at all elevations feature paired decorative brackets, scrollwork panels and pendant-shaped trim. A one-story square cupola is centered on the hipped roof of the main block. The house was converted into a bed and breakfast in 1992 and much of the interior fabric and layout is intact. Features of particular note are the wide entrance hall with an original staircase, plaster walls and ceilings, arched openings with wood beaded moldings, marble and granite fireplaces, wood floors, tall wood paneled doors, and original plaster ceiling medallions in the prominent rooms. Northwest of the house is a two-story wood-frame barn with drop siding, now a garage that has four garage bays on the east elevation. The garage is considered non-contributing since it was considerably altered after the period of significance (1874-1913) presumably when the house became a funeral home (1951) and the barn was converted into an ambulance garage.

Narrative Description

Location and Setting

Ovid is a small village in Seneca County, New York, approximately 20 miles southeast of Geneva and 25 miles northwest of Ithaca, New York, the two largest cities nearby the village. Geneva is at the north end of Seneca Lake and Ithaca is at the south end of Cayuga Lake, two of New York State's Finger Lakes. Most of the area surrounding the village is largely agricultural. A village commercial district extends along Main Street (SR414) and a number of residential streets extend along streets to the west of Main Street. The nominated property is south of the Main Street commercial area where the residential density begins to lessen near Chapman Street.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

The residence is set back from the road with a large front lawn containing three mature trees, a wood sign with the words *Tillinghast Manor Bed and Breakfast*, and a paved concrete sidewalk paralleling the roadway. A metal green and white sign is in the tree lawn in front of the house and is a historic marker privately erected by the previous owner. An asphalt paved drive is immediately to the north of the house and a concrete walkway extends from the drive toward the main entrance of the building. The drive curves past the garage (former barn) to the west and loops past the north elevation of the house. The rest of the property consists of land behind the house and garage and is large open lawn space. Residences south of the nominated property share the same setbacks, large lawns, and appear to date from the early twentieth century.

Exterior

When viewed from the roadway, the main block of the Hannah and George W. Jones House is a large, two and one-half story, clapboard-sided residence with a prominent cupola centered on the hipped roof. The center entrance is accented by an ornate, single-height, one-bay porch accessed by stone stairs with decorative cast-iron railings. The porch consists of two free-standing and two engaged square posts supporting a flat roof with deep eaves. The posts are beveled, resting on a base with inset panels and a cornice. The main posts are divided by a central, narrow fillet molding and surmounted by a Tuscan capital above an applied X design. Above the posts are decorative scroll-sawn brackets and spandrels with saw-tooth edging and decorative pendant-shaped frieze-band trim. The paired entrance doors have lower inset panels and large upper lights protected by a pair of wood and glass storm doors with an arched four-light transom set into a wide surround.

The entrance is flanked by tall, narrow, paired one-over-one single-hung windows set into rounded, scroll sawn lintels with corbeled drip-moldings and centered curved pediments with finials. Windows have narrow louvered shutters, also curved to fit the lintels. Both windows have balconettes with ornamental cast iron railings. The second floor has three paired one-over-one windows. The center window slightly projects and is a shorter version of the first-floor windows. The windows flanking the center window have a triangular pediment and wood sills with wood end-corbels. Like the first-floor, the second-floor windows have paired shutters that fit the curves of the lintels.

Each bay is separated by a full-height, narrow, corner edge-molding that ends at a decorated frieze below the roof eave. The frieze is decorated with evenly spaced, paired, scroll-sawn brackets, sawn decorated panels between brackets and flat, pendant-style trim. The center of the roofline has a broken pediment with pendant trim and smaller paired brackets in the frieze band. The cupola roofline mimics the house with a centered

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

pedimented section, paired brackets and pendant style trim. Windows in the cupola are groups of three, narrow, one-over-one sash set into rounded window surrounds.

Both the north and south elevations of the main block are similar with four bays and a prominent first-floor bay window. On the north, the window projects from the first bay and, on the south, the third bay. The bay windows have three sides with a fixed lower two-light window and a two-over-two sash window above. The windows are decorated with narrow scroll-sawn design panels between and over the window lights. The eave is decorated with paired brackets and pendant trim. The remaining windows on these elevations are evenly spaced two-over-two double-hung sash with projecting drip lintels with end corbels and what appears to be dentil moldings. Windows also have wood sills with end-corbels and louvered shutters. These elevations show the stone foundations with regularly spaced basement windows.

Both elevations of the hip roof, lower block have a one-story, veranda with chamfered posts, scroll-sawn decorated spandrels and brackets, and pendant molding below the eave. The north-side veranda has two bays and the south-side veranda has three-bays, French entry doors and another wood paneled door with an original screen door. The north veranda has a non-historic entry door, an original wood panel and six-light door on the east end and two one-over-one windows in wide surrounds. The north side of the lower block has two second-floor six-over-six windows and the south side has three of the same. Paired brackets are in the eave between the windows and each side has one or two more smaller windows.

The west end of the lower block has a 1954 one-story, two bay addition, built after the house became a funeral home (1951). The addition has a concrete block foundation and hipped roof. The north side features a wood door with centered small, square lights and a metal and glass storm door. West of the door is a one-over-one window with green shutters. The entrance has a small raised entrance porch with turned balusters and flat rails. The west side of the addition has a long, narrow centrally placed window with casement end openings and the south side has one small window in the upper southwest corner.

Northwest of the house is the garage, a former barn that was originally built in 1874. The original barn was damaged by fire in 1893 and the current building functioned as an ambulance garage, operated by the funeral home. The garage is of wood frame construction with wood drop siding and a stone foundation. The form is rectangular in shape with a flat roof with deep eaves and plain soffits. The east side of the building has four garage bays with non-historic doors set into gently arched openings. Three shuttered and boarded hay doors are in the second-floor. Four non-historic one-over-one windows are on the south elevation. A sliding barn door is on the west side and a pedestrian door is on the north side.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Interior

The main entrance opens into a wide central stair hall. The entry double doors are partially obscured on the exterior by the large transom, but are fully visible from the interior, showing them to be set into a curved opening with the tops of the double doors following the graceful curve of a wide, molded door surround. To the left and right are large pairs of double paneled doors that close off parlors, and two more doors for another room on the south side and a dining room to the west. Dark wood baseboards run between the doors. Directly opposite the entry is the main staircase with its heavy hexagonal newel post with a turned cap, dark wood treads, risers and wall string. It also has turned balusters with a triple bead at the top and lower portions, and a curving rail with a rounded edge. Other historic features in the hall are a wood floor, crown molding painted white, and an intricate plaster medallion with a historic three branch light fixture, now electrified.

To the right (north) is the main parlor, now a living room, which shares similar historic features to the hall such as wood floors, white painted crown moldings, dark wood baseboards and a plaster ceiling medallion with a suspended light fixture. The west wall is partially covered by non-historic vertical paneling and shelving, all stained to match the baseboards. This wall also has an original white marble fireplace mantel and stone hearth, but the original metal fire inset is replaced with a non-historic stove set into the inner hearth. Windows have original dark wood trim and the north bay window creates an alcove indicated by an arch with bead molding.

Across the hall, another former parlor on the south side has similar features, except for the alcove that is now used as private quarters for the owner. The features in this room include a white marble fireplace with non-historic stove inset, wood floors under carpeting and another ceiling medallion with a suspended light fixture. It connects to an adjacent room also used as private quarters through a wood paneled door in the west wall. This connecting room has an alcove similar to the north parlor/living room and a black marble fireplace with original metal inset. A wood floor is beneath carpeting and woodwork is lighter in color than in the other rooms. This room has a door that opens into a small room used as a walk-in closet with historic features carried through, such as wood floors, original trim and moldings and windows. Another door opens into a non-historic bathroom.

Historic doors from the bathroom and owner's quarters open into the dining room on the northwest side of the house, which is also accessible from the end of the center hallway. Historic features seen in other rooms are carried through into the dining room, such as wood floors, paneled wood doors, dark wood baseboard; however, crown molding and suspended light fixtures appear to be non-historic. Windows on the north side of the room feature historic lower wood panels, original wide trim and wood sash. An original exterior door opens

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

from the dining room onto a porch and consists of a paneled lower section with six upper lights. Another original wood paneled door enters into a kitchen, which is updated but retains historic windows, paneled doors and windows and door trim.

On the second floor, the floor plan mirrors the first floor with a large suite over the main parlor, three more rooms on the south and west sides, and a private apartment on the west end. The rooms are off of a central hallway defined by the landing stair balustrade and two arched alcoves, one used as a small sitting area over the main entrance. These arches have the same bead edged wood molding as seen in the first floor. Floors in the hall and rooms are carpeted but the original wood remains, partially visible in some of the rooms. All rooms share historic features such as original wood paneled doors, wood baseboards, original wood door and window trim. Two of the rooms have period granite fireplaces with cast iron insets.

The house has a full basement, except for the one-story rear addition. The basement is unfinished and contains the mechanicals for the building. Visible throughout are wood supports posts, brick pier supports and the stone foundation. A large stone cistern is in one of the corners. The basement is accessible by an enclosed stair from the kitchen.

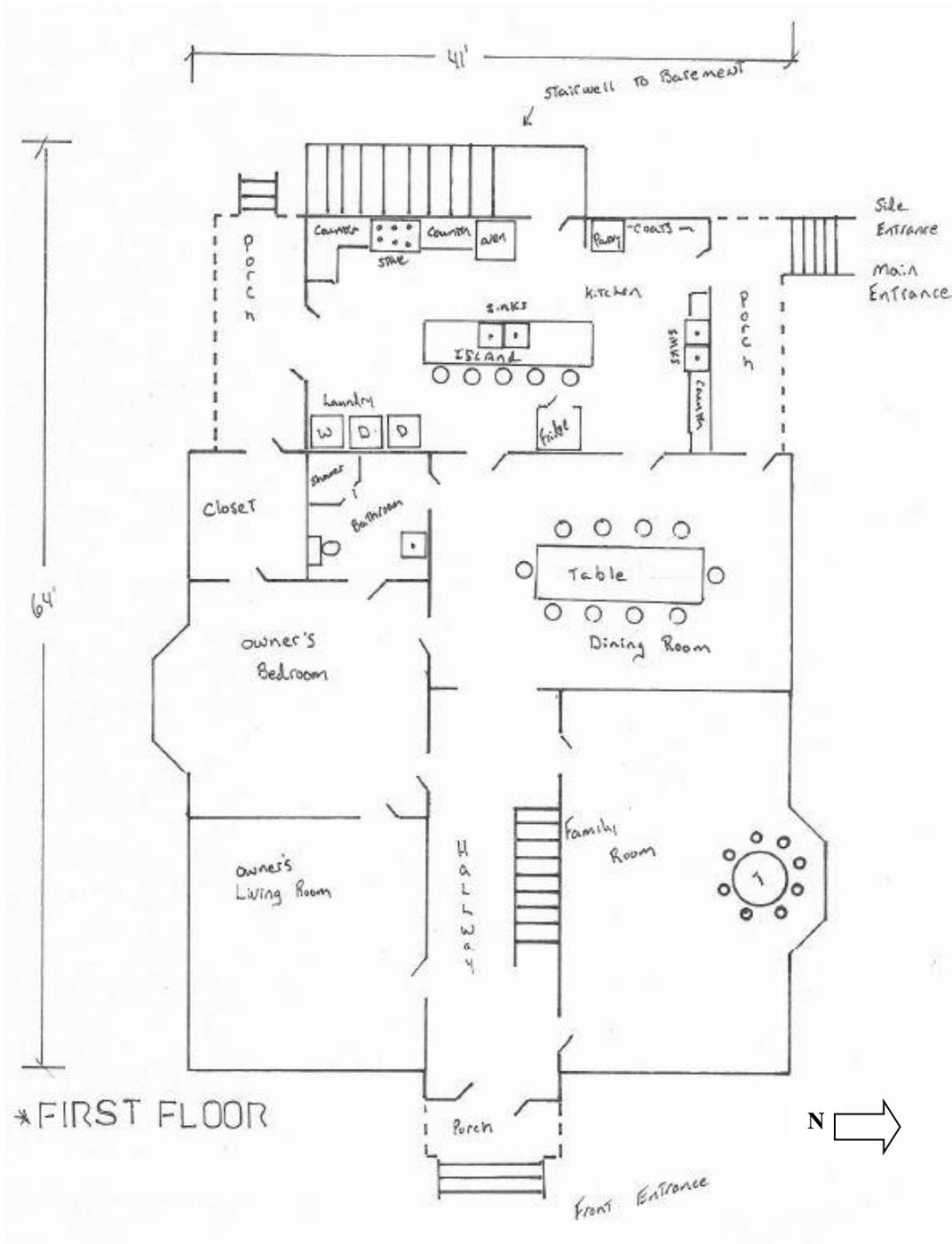
Integrity

For most of its history, the house served as a residence. In 1951, it became a funeral home and living quarters for the owners until 1976, when the owners retired, but kept the house as their home. The house was sold in 1991, when it was turned into a bed and breakfast, and it remains as such at present. No evidence remains of its use as a funeral home and the floor plan reflects its original function as a late-nineteenth century residence. Much of the historic fabric survives, especially on the exterior with its tremendous amount of scroll-sawn trim and other features of Italianate architecture including cubic massing, deep eaves, paired brackets, and cupola. It retains a high level of integrity in terms of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The setting is slightly compromised by encroaching early to mid-twentieth century residences north and west and the large modern school campus across the street, but this encroachment is determined to be minimal, maintaining the nominated property's role as a prominent village residence.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

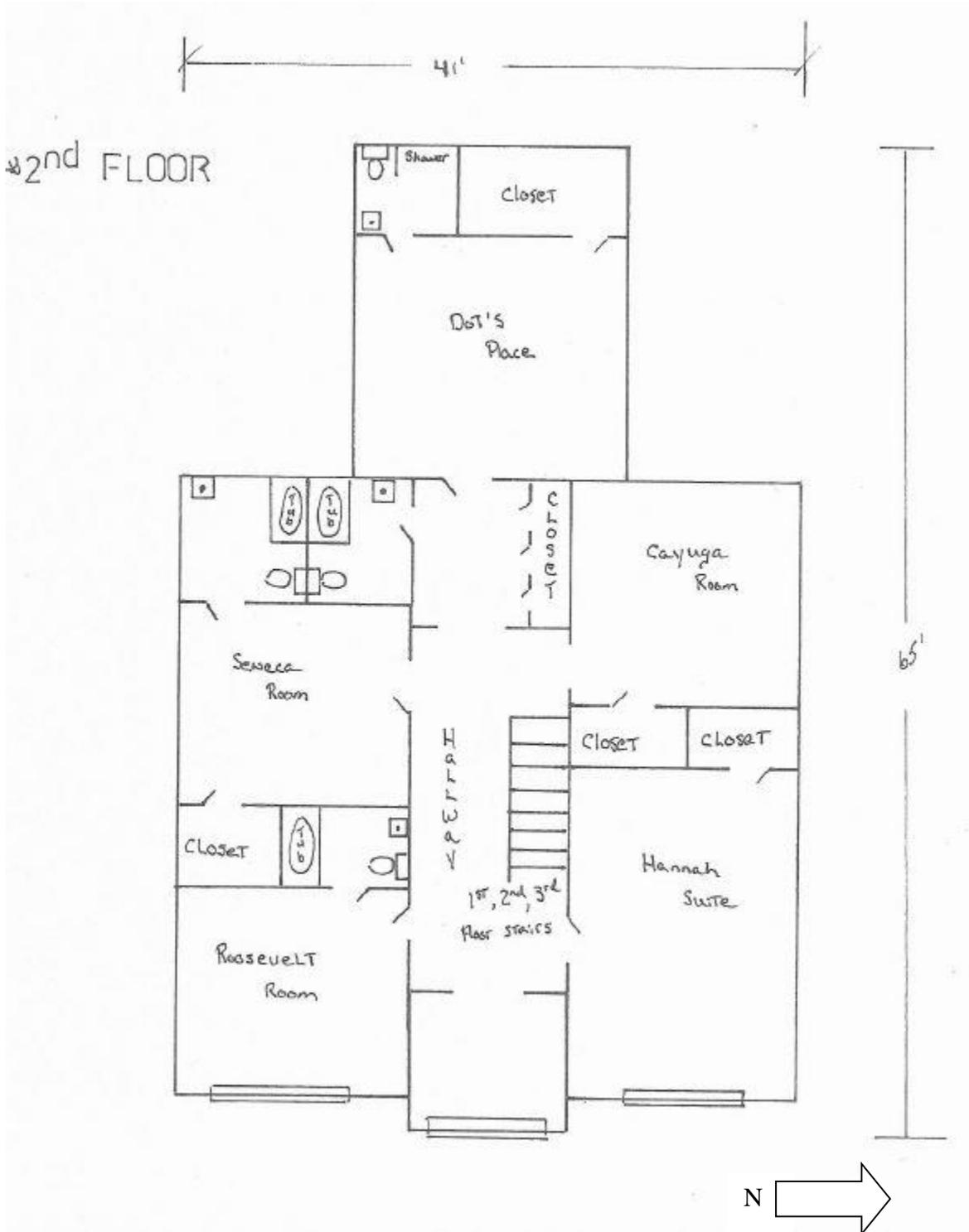
Sketch plan of first floor



Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Sketch plan of second floor



Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1870-1873

Significant Dates

1870-1873

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Jacob Allington (architect/builder)

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- 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.

Period of Significance (justification) The period 1870-1873 covers construction of the nominated property.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Gracing South Main Street since 1873, the Hannah and George W. Jones House is significant under Criterion C for its architecture as an outstanding example of mid-nineteenth century Italianate design and as the work of well-known builder Jacob Allington. Trained as a carpenter, he began advertising as an architect and builder but later focused on the building aspect of his business, working with other architects. The house reflects the “architect and builder” period of his career through its form and rich decoration, indicating Allington’s knowledge of styles, patterns, and talent for detail. He built the house for one of Ovid’s socially prominent late nineteenth century couples, Hannah Banker Jones (1832-1913), a descendent of one of Ovid’s early families, and George W. Jones (1829-1886), who was a mill owner and politician. They married in 1852 and moved to Philadelphia, where George was a grain merchant. They returned to Ovid in 1860 and George purchased and operated a successful grain and lumber mill serving farmers in the local area and providing flour to the nearby Willard Asylum for the Insane (NR listed 1975). In addition to his financial success, George was active in the community, serving as a secretary to the local agricultural society, a trustee of the Willard Asylum and was elected to one term in the New York State Assembly. Both Hannah and George were active in their church and served as judges for the Seneca County Fair. Around 1870, they purchased a village lot closer to the mill and had the substantial two-story house built that reflected their success and increasingly active role in the community.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Ovid was part of the Military Tract, roughly 1.5 million acres in Central New York that were reserved as partial payment to veterans of the Continental Army. The lands were surveyed for sale beginning in 1788 and veterans could draw lots with allotted amounts based on rank. Privates were allowed 600 acres with more acreage available to officers. Ovid was created as Military Township No. 16 that was divided into one hundred parcels of 600-acre lots. The land was originally part of Onondaga County until 1804 when Seneca County was formed from it. The Town of Ovid formed on March 5, 1794, followed by two additional towns named Covert (1817) and Lodi (1826). The village of Ovid developed on 900 acres of land in the north part of the town on land owned by pioneer settler John Seeley. Seeley donated a part of his extensive holdings for a county courthouse and park as Ovid was the county seat until 1818 when it was shifted to Waterloo. In 1822, an act of the state legislature resulted in Waterloo and Ovid sharing the role of the county seat with Waterloo covering the north half of the county and Ovid’s jurisdiction being the south half.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Seeley's land was located in a rich, agricultural region between Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. The sizable allotments encouraged both the resale of subdivided lots and farming of settled lands. The farmland was productive but transportation challenges limited selling crops to nearby settlements. Elmira, or Newtown as it was originally called, became the first major market accessible by a series of rivers and streams from the south end of Seneca Lake. In 1833, a canal was opened between Elmira and Seneca Lake, and an earlier canal between Seneca and Cayuga Lakes was extended in 1828 to the Erie Canal at Montezuma. The effect was immediate, and, with improvement in farming equipment, wheat production became the principal crop grown in the area, followed by oats, barley, rye and field corn.¹ An 1876 history of Seneca County stated that "The staple grain produced in Seneca has constantly been wheat. Fully one-fourth of all plowed land is devoted to the production of this important cereal. In the year 1840, the yield was about 350,000 bushels and its average up to date [1876] is about half a million bushels."²

Job A. Banker bought some of Seeley's village land holdings, reportedly building his home on the spot where Seeley originally built his log cabin. This land was near the center of the village, an excellent location for Banker, who owned farmland south of Ovid, but needed to be close to his new steam flour and sawmill in the village. Along with two partners, Banker opened the mill around 1846 and advertised to local farmers to "bring us the wheat to grind and we will return you good flour, which with the addition of a little leaven and a good baker, we promise light biscuit and white bread will grace your tables."³ In addition to the mill, Banker was active in local politics, the Seneca County Agricultural Society and promoted improvements such as a plank road between Ovid and Romulus to the north.

Banker owned the business until his death in 1858. His son and executor, Peter, petitioned the courts to partition and sell the farm property south of the village and the mill at auction, scheduled for November 25, 1859. Peter's, Hannah, and her husband George W. Jones were listed among other family members as defendants in the petition, even though Hannah and George were living Philadelphia where he was listed in the census as a merchant. Other accounts state that he was a grain merchant.⁴ The lawsuit may have been the reason for the couple's return to Ovid in 1860, first buying the Banker farm and taking up farming.⁵ George soon after bought the steam mill. After the mill burned down in 1865, George had a new mill built on the site,

¹John Delafield, *A General View and Agricultural Survey of the County of Seneca* (Albany, NY: C. Van Benthuyzen, 1851), 351.

²*History of Seneca Co., New York with Description of its Scenery, Palatial Residences, Public Buildings, Fine Blocks, and Important Manufactories*, (Philadelphia, PA: Everts, Ensign & Everts, 1876), 38.

³"Ovid Steam Mills (advertisement)," *Ovid Bee*, November 28, 1849, 2.

⁴"Hon. Geo. W. Jones." *Seneca County Courier*, October 21, 1886, 3.

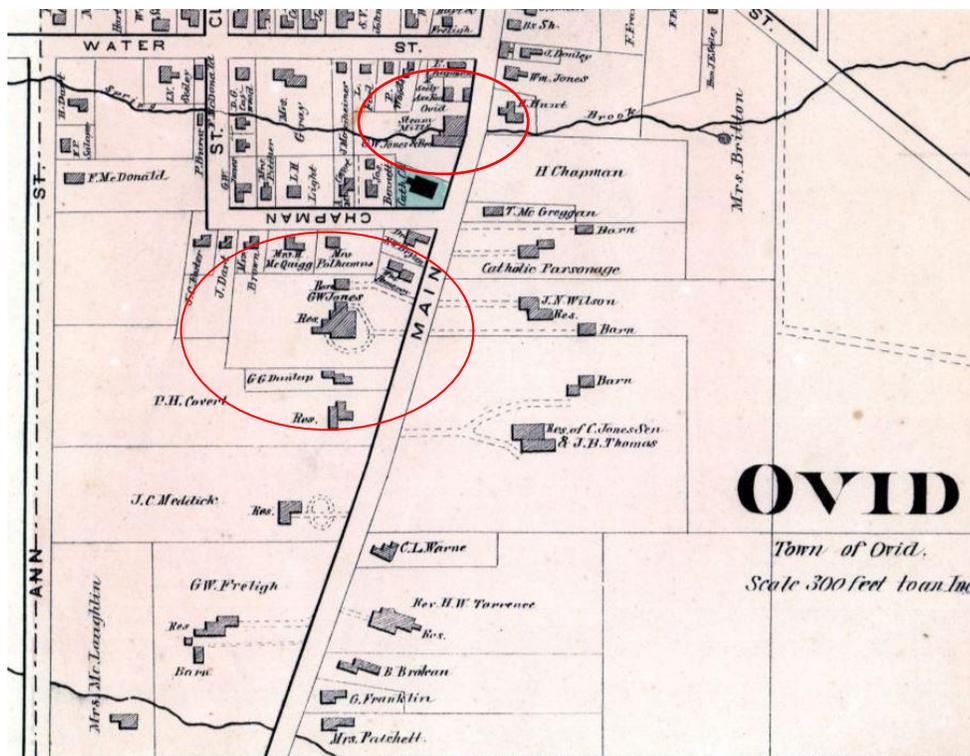
⁵George W. Jones was born in Romulus, north of Ovid in 1828. He was originally a farmer and shoemaker before entering the grain trade.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

open for business by 1867. The mill was an important industry for the town due in part to it having the contract to provide flour for the Willard Asylum for the Insane, west of the village.⁶

As the milling business grew, George's brother William joined as part owner and manager, allowing George time for additional pursuits. Upon their return to Ovid, both George and Hannah became active in the Seneca County Agricultural Society, serving as county fair judges and George as an officer. They also were accepted as members of the Presbyterian Church, with George becoming a trustee in 1865. In addition to these roles, George served as a trustee of the Union Cemetery, Ovid village treasurer beginning in 1869, and a director of the Hayts Corners Railroad. In 1873, he joined the board of trustees of the Willard Asylum.



Portion of 1874 map of Ovid with Jones House and mill.

Both the thriving business and increasingly active role in the community required that Hannah and George find living quarters in the village. The 1870 census recorded the couple as residing in the Franklin House, a hotel on Ovid's Main Street. Around this time, they purchased a two-acre plot from Josiah and Sarah Chapman who bought the property from Colonel Halsey Sanford, a former officer of the New York State Militia and a major landowner in the village. The land was south of Chapman Street, nearly within walking distance of the Jones brothers' mill on the west side of Main Street next to Spring Brook. The large village lot allowed the couple to

⁶ "Local News and Notices," *Ovid Independent*, March 2, 1897, 3.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

build a sizeable house and barn, set back from the road. Their wealth also allowed them to hire Jacob Allington (1826-1911), a well-known architect and builder, from nearby Penn Yan. Local lore states that Allington may have been referred to George by John Bowers, a brick mason from Seneca Falls, but Allington's reputation as a builder was well established by 1870.

Allington was credited with building a number of residences in Penn Yan that included two churches and the



Allington, *Elmira Telegram* image, 1911.

public library. He was also active in Ithaca, building a number of residences, Boardman Hall (Cornell University's original law school building, demolished 1959), an unknown number of fraternity houses, and the carpentry work on the first Cornell Veterinary School building (no longer extant). He was also known for working with Cornell trained architect William H. Miller on the construction of the Southworth Library (NR listed 1984) in the village of Dryden. In 1882, Allington moved his business to Elmira and was credited with building a number of residences and public buildings there, including the Arnot-Ogden Hospital, Arnot Art Gallery (NR listed 1980), Grace Episcopal Church (NR listed 1983), the First Methodist Episcopal Church and the First Baptist Church. He was described in the Elmira newspaper as "conscientious in his work, and upright and fair

in his dealings, [which] brought Mr. Allington much of the city's leading work in construction and they stand today as monuments to his abilities."⁷

Allington's design for the Joneses' stately home followed the Italianate style, popular since the 1840s when it was introduced through books and other print media. Two of the most influential authors were Samuel Sloan and Andrew Jackson Downing, offering advice on appropriate house styles for various professions, siting the house, and landscaping. Some writers like Sloan included other useful information for prospective homeowners and builders. Volume two of Sloan's 1852 work, *The Model Architect*, included a treatise on the quality of lumber, framing diagrams, decorative details, and cost estimates for certain styles and sizes of residences. Sloan estimated that a farm residence in the Italianate style would require nearly \$7000 for everything from excavation to fireplaces and painting.⁸ The total was for 1852 and it is presumed that when Allington built the house in Ovid, the amount would be possibly double the amount; however, the Jones brothers' mill had a separate section for sawing lumber, allowing George save on costs by providing materials for the house and barn.

⁷"Builder is Now at Rest," [Jacob Allington], *Elmira Star-Gazette*, March 10, 1911, 9.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Andrew Jackson Downing's publications provided some guidance on construction but were more about taste. Downing suggested that the Italianate was a style suitable for the American rural countryside with embellishment limited to the most prominent features of the house, such as porches, entrances, gables and chimneys. In his 1850 book *The Architecture of Country Houses*, Downing wrote that the Italian style was "one that expresses not wholly the spirit of country life nor of town life, but something between both, and which is a mingling of both."⁹ Downing also believed that the Italianate had a degree of flexibility that permitted a house to be expanded as personal finances allowed. He also recommended that "villas" or country houses have three or four good sized rooms on the first floor that include a dining room, a drawing room and a library.

Allington followed suit with a first-floor plan of two parlors, a library and a dining room off of a center hallway. A smaller section of the house was placed at the rear to contain a kitchen, but he added a porch or veranda on both sides that provided more privacy and a rear entrance for servants and deliveries. The north and south sides of this part of the house had standard sized six-over-six windows and decoration limited to eave brackets. The main part of the house had larger four-over-four windows with projecting lintels and scrolled, paired brackets with millwork panels and decorative eave moldings. The north side of the house had a projecting bay window in the first story indicating the parlor, and a similar projecting window on the southside was located by the library.

Allington saved his best work for the front of the house. He had it face the street so that passersby could see the elegant home of Hannah and George Jones with its opulent, but tasteful ornamentation. Paired windows were tall and narrower than the windows on the rest house and each pair was set into rounded arches with either segmented or pedimented lintels. Shutters needed to be custom made to fit the height and width of the window and the curved top. He placed a large broken pediment at the center of the roof line and continued the pattern of paired, scroll brackets with millwork panels and moldings under the eaves and on a centrally placed roof cupola. The effect was to infuse symmetrical design with decorative details to lessen the monotony seen in often unadorned earlier Federal and Greek Revival era homes. He also had the center bay slightly project forward to offset a seemingly flat appearance. This also emphasized the main entrance with its richly decorated portico, rounded transom and double glass-framed storm doors protecting a large pair of wood paneled doors. Interior details underscored the prominent, more public rooms with large wood doors and crown, door and window moldings. The projecting bays windows became alcoves through wood bead-edge molded arches. It was clear from the façade and the interior that this was the home of a successful person.

⁹ Samuel Sloan, *The Model Architect. A Series of Original Designs for Cottages, Villas, Suburban Residences, Etc.* (Philadelphia, PA: E.S. Jones & Co., 1852), 12.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



Undated photograph of Hannah and George W. Jones in front the house. The other woman is presumed to be Elizabeth Jones.

George was a loyal Republican who had the privilege of being a delegate to the 1872 Republican convention and nominating Ulysses S. Grant for a second term. In 1883, George added to his success by being elected as one of the Seneca County representatives to the 1884 term of the New York State Assembly.¹⁰ Before he took office, he was visited by another relatively new Assembly member, Theodore Roosevelt, who was looking for support to be elected assembly speaker. Roosevelt embarked on a trip throughout the state to meet as many Republican members as possible and one of the stops was Ovid.¹¹ Roosevelt met with George and was cordially invited to spend the night as guest at the Jones house. The visit was recounted years later in the local paper, stating that few people probably remembered the visit:

⁹ Sally McMurry, *Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), 40.

¹⁰ The election was significant as the Republican party took control of the Assembly away from the long time control of the Tammany Hall controlled Democratic party.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

...the late George W. Jones was a member of the Assembly along with Mr. Roosevelt, who was then just beginning his political career and...came to Ovid to do a little personal work with Mr. Jones, who had a vote in the matter...He invited his guest to remain with him over night and the invitation was accepted. Of course, his visit here attracted no special attention at that time and probably but few knew anything about it. Mr. Jones spoke of him later as but a stripling, but said he found him a shrewd one.¹²

The article stated that Roosevelt stayed in the front bedroom and the bed he supposedly slept in is still in the room.

George W. Jones served only one term in Albany, and being well respected, he may have served more except that he died in 1886 after a short illness. Shortly after his death, the Willard Asylum adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, that in the death of our late associate, the public has sustained the loss of an upright, public spirited and useful citizen; and the Willard Asylum, one of its most useful, faithful and devoted friends.

A self-made and self-reliant man, he was also social, generous and sympathetic in nature, and closely identified himself with the community in which he lived; actively promoting its business interests, and by his efforts and means aiding every enterprise that promised to be useful to it. Open and cordial in his manner, his willingness to serve others was so ready, that to enumerate his friends, was almost to number his acquaintances. The confidence of the community he thus gained, his constant fidelity and capacity for usefulness enable him easily to retain. Thrifty as a man of business, his broad sympathies made him an active participant in movements in aid of those less prosperous ...He knew no standard of honest or fidelity in private life, that he did not equally regard in public station...We highly respected and esteemed him living and sincerely mourn him dead.¹³

After George's death, William Jones became the sole owner of the mill, operating it until his death in 1893. Under new ownership, the mill continued until 1903 when it was destroyed by fire.

Hannah continued living in the house until her death in 1913. Hannah and George were childless, but did have an adopted daughter, Elizabeth; however, nothing is known about her. She may have predeceased Hannah since Elizabeth is not among the surviving family members mentioned in Hannah's obituary. Death records list an Elizabeth Jones of Ovid with a death date of February 7, 1905 but more investigation needs to be done to determine if this was Hannah and George's adopted daughter. With no family to take possession of the house, it was sold at a foreclosure sale in December 1913.¹⁴ The house remained a residence until 1951 when it became a funeral home. During this period (1951-1976), the barn on the property was renovated as an

¹¹"Anxious to Wield the Gavel—Republicans Who are Canvassing for the Speakership of the Assembly," *New York Times*, December 6, 1883, 5.

¹²"Col. Roosevelt Once Visited Ovid," *Ovid Gazette and Independent*, January 30, 1919, 1.

¹³*Eighteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Willard Asylum for the Insane for the Year 1886* (Willard, NY: Asylum Press Print, 1886), 16-17.

¹⁴"20 years Ago—December 10, 1913," *Ovid Gazette*, December 15, 1933, 3.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

ambulance garage since funeral directors could offer such service as they were the only ones capable of transporting reclining persons.¹⁵ The house once again became a residence in 1976 and in 1991, was converted into a bed and breakfast, which is still the current function of the nominated property.



From a 1966 Coryell Funeral Home advertisement.

To date, the nominated property is the only documented residence built by Jacob Allington in the village of Ovid, until additional research discovers other buildings. Also, after a long service as a funeral home, the subsequent owners of the house focused on the earlier history and recruited others in the community to verify Theodore Roosevelt's visit.¹⁶ As a bed and breakfast, the house is bringing renewed recognition and business into the community, following the example of Hannah and George W. Jones.

¹⁵ "Ambulance Crisis Seen in Seneca," *Geneva Times*, April 6, 1973, 13.

¹⁶ Sonni Sampson, "Did Teddy Roosevelt Sleep Here?" *Finger Lakes Times*, October 4, 1977, 17.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

"20 years Ago—December 10, 1913," *Ovid Gazette*, December 15, 1933, 3.

"Aged Contractor Stricken Today." *Ithaca Daily News*, March 10, 1911, 5.

"Ambulance Crisis Seen in Seneca," *Geneva Times*, April 6, 1973, 13.

"Anxious to Wield the Gavel—Republicans Who are Canvassing for the Speakership of the Assembly." *New York Times*, December 6, 1883, 5.

"Big Fire at Ovid—Steam Mills Destroyed and Other Buildings Narrowly Escape." *Farmer Review*, May 15, 1903, 1.

"Builder is Now At Rest—Jacob Allington, Prominent Contractor, Dies Today after Illness of Only Half an Hour." *Elmira Star Gazette*, March 10, 1911, 9.

Child, Hamilton, ed. *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Seneca County, N.Y. for 1867-8*. Syracuse, NY: The Journal Office, 1867.

"Col. Roosevelt Once Visited Ovid." *Ovid Gazette*, January 30, 1919, 1.

"Death of Jacob Allington." *Penn Yan Democrat*, March 17, 1911, 5.

Delafield, John. *A General View and Agricultural Survey of the County of Seneca*. Albany, NY: C. Van Benthuysen, 1851.

Eighteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Willard Asylum for the Insane for the Year 1886. Willard, NY: Asylum Press Print, 1886.

"The Enlargement of the Ovid Steam Mills." *Ovid Bee*, July 26, 1871, 2.

Gibson, William T. *Topographical Map of Seneca County, New York Made for J. Delafield, Esqr., 1852*. Online at <https://www.loc.gov/item/2013593233/>.

"Golden Wedding"[Gen. Halsey Sanford]. *Ovid Bee*, May 1, 1872, 3.

"Governor Robinson at Willard Asylum." *Geneva Courier*, July 31, 1878, 3.

History of Seneca Co., New York with Illustrations Descriptive of its Scenery, Palatial Residences, Public Buildings, Fine Blocks and Important Manufactories. Philadelphia, PA: Everts, Ensign, & Everts, 1878.

"Hon. Geo. W. Jones." *Seneca County Courier*, October 21, 1886, 3.

"Hon. Geo. W. Jones." *Watkins Express*, October 28, 1886, 2.

"Jacob Allington, Contractor and Builder Dies Unexpectedly Friday Morning." *Elmira Telegram*, March 12, 1911, 4.

"Local News and Notices," *Ovid Independent*, March 2, 1897, 3.

McMurry, Sally. *Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Nichols, Beach. *Atlas of Seneca County, New York, 1874*. Philadelphia, PA: Pomeroy, Whitman & Co., 1874.

"Obituary—Mrs. George W. Jones." *Ovid Gazette and Independent*, January 22, 1913, 4.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

"The Ovid Fire—the Business of the Town Destroyed—Loss \$150,000." *Albany Evening Journal*, October 16, 1874, 2.

"Ovid. [Local News—Steam Mill and Willard]." *Farmer Review*, March 6, 1897, 1.

"Ovid Loses a Prominent Citizen. [William Jones death notice]." *Syracuse Evening Herald*, March 14, 1893, 1.

"Ovid. Mrs. Hannah Banker Jones." January 24, 1913, 3.

"Ovid Steam Mills (advertisement)," *Ovid Bee*, November 28, 1849, 2.

"Ralph Coryell Retires as Funeral Director." *Taughannock Publications*, October 21, 1976, 3.

Sampson, Sonni. "Coryell Sells Funeral Business." *Geneva Times*, October 18, 1976, 16.

_____. "Did Teddy Roosevelt Sleep Here?" *Finger Lakes Times*, October 4, 1977, 17.

Sloan, Samuel. *The Model Architect. A Series of Original Designs for Cottages, Villas, Suburban Residences, Etc.*
Philadelphia, PA: E.S. Jones & Co., 1852.

"Supreme Court--Seneca County: Peter S. Banker, Plaintiff." *Ovid Bee*, October 12, 1859, 3.

Town and Village Map of Seneca County, New York (1858). Syracuse, NY: J.H. French, 1858. Online at
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2010593268/>.

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: Ford Library, Ovid NY

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.93 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18N 350540 4726143
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

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

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is the same as for the period of significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jean E. O'Donnell-Smith (owner) and Virginia L. Bartos, Ph.D., Historic Preservation Program Analyst

organization Division for Historic Preservation, NYS OPRHP date September 10, 2020

street & number P.O. Box 189 telephone 518-268-2161

city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188

e-mail Virginia.Bartos@parks.ny.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Hannah and George Jones House

City or Vicinity: Ovid

County: Seneca State: New York

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos

Date Photographed: July 26, 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

- 0001 of 0018: Hannah & George W. Jones House, east elevation viewed from S Main Street.
- 0002 of 0018: North elevation, view looking south from parking lot.
- 0003 of 0018: West and South elevations, view looking northeast.
- 0004 of 0018: South and east elevations, view looking northwest
- 0005 of 0018: Garage/barn, view looking southwest.
- 0006 of 0018: Main Hall, looking west.
- 0007 of 0018: Ceiling detail, Main Hall.
- 0008 of 0018: View of NE parlor, looking into bay window alcove.
- 0009 of 0018: Marble fireplace, NE parlor.
- 0010 of 0018: View through NE parlor doors into Main Hall.
- 0011 of 0018: Southeast parlor, now private quarters.
- 0012 of 0018: Room adjoining former parlor, also private quarters.
- 0013 of 0018: Dining Room, north side of house between kitchen and NE parlor.
- 0014 of 0018: View of main stair from second floor landing.
- 0015 of 0018: Looking west along second floor hall.
- 0016 of 0018: Second floor alcove sitting area.
- 0017 of 0018: Second floor bedroom/guest room.
- 0018 of 0018: NE bedroom/guest room

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name N/A

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.).

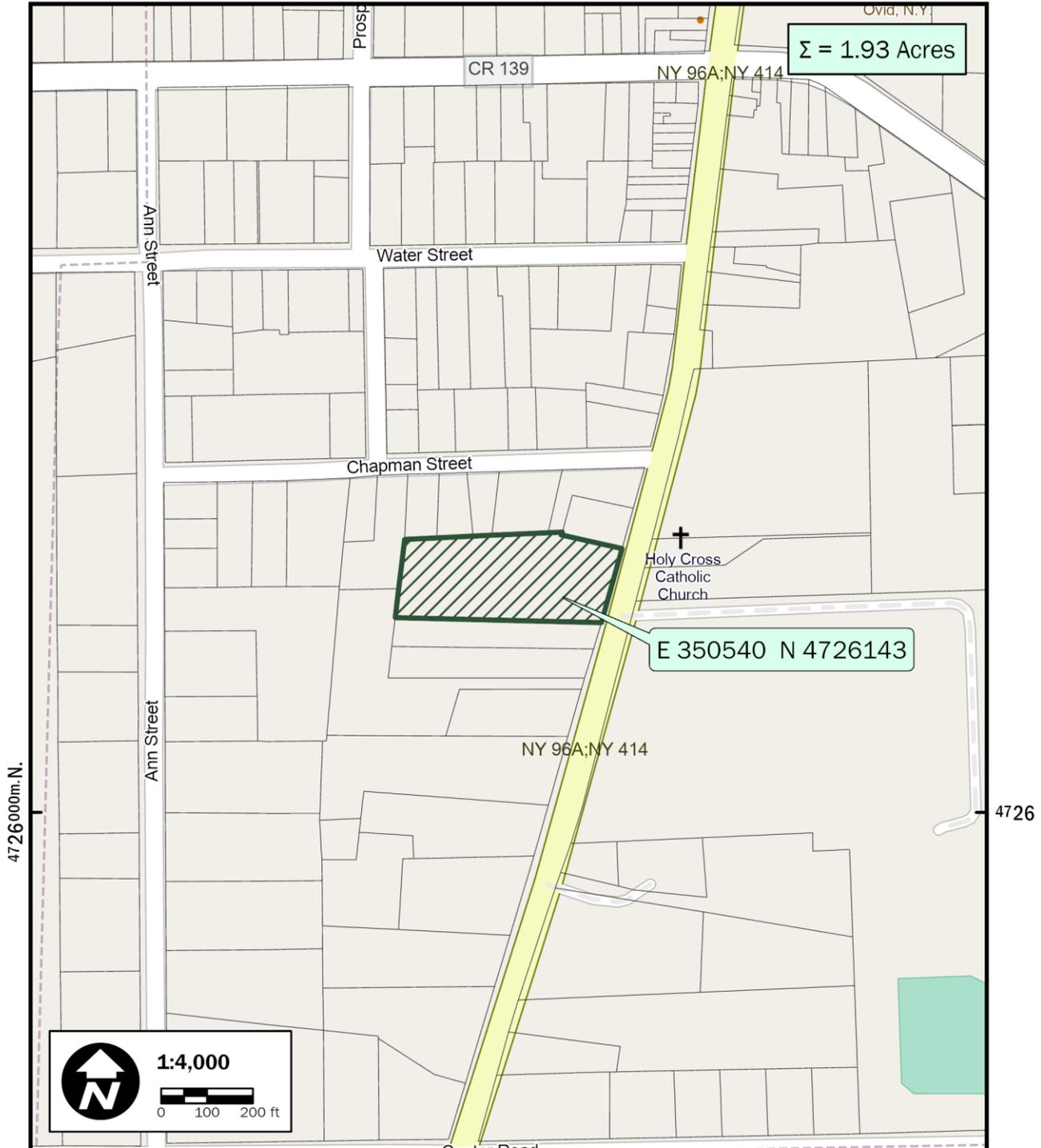
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Village of Ovid, Seneca County, New York

7246 South Main Street
Ovid, NY 14521



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter

 Nomination Boundary



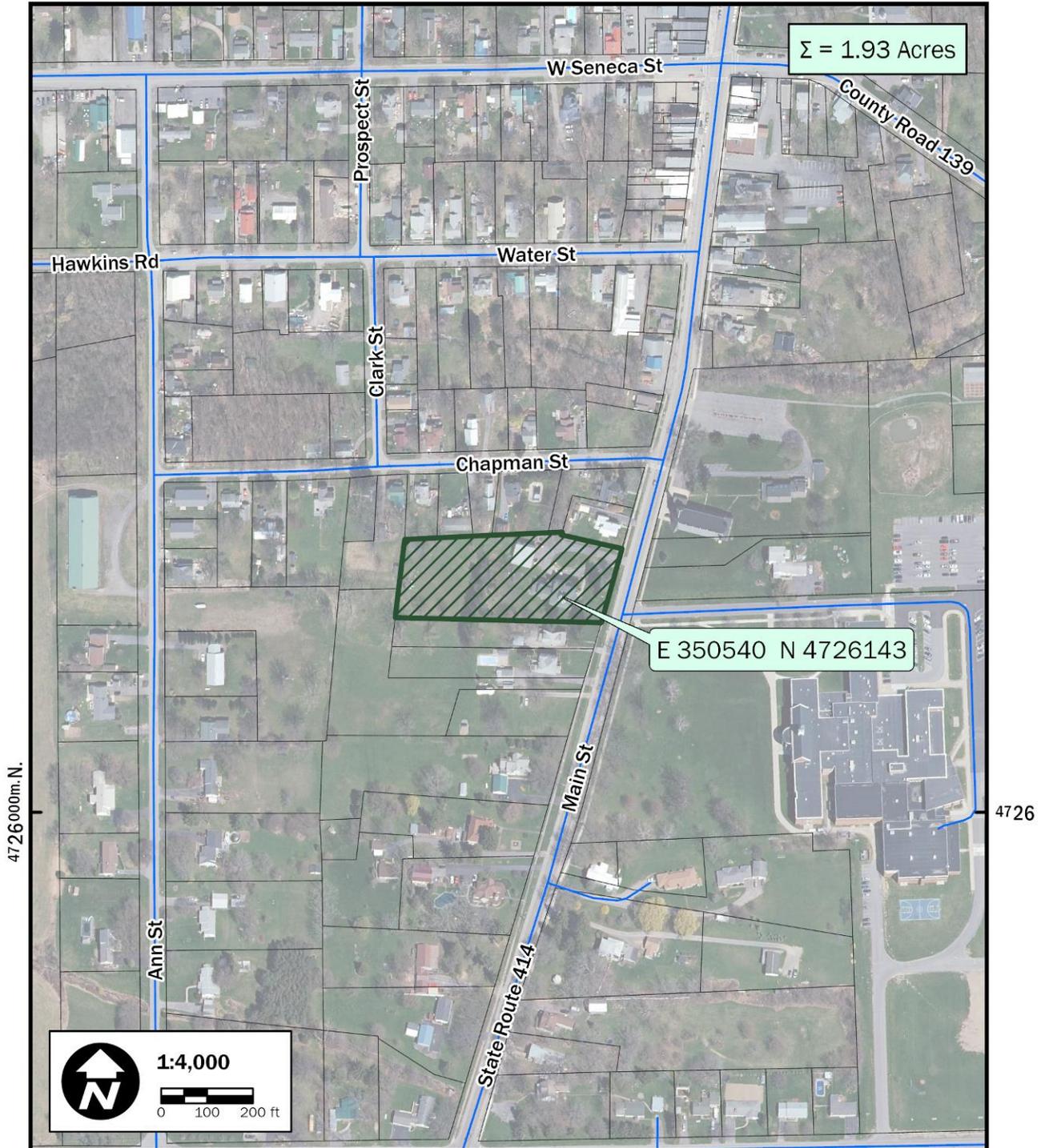
Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Village of Ovid, Seneca County, New York

7246 South Main Street
Ovid, NY 14521



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter

 Nomination Boundary



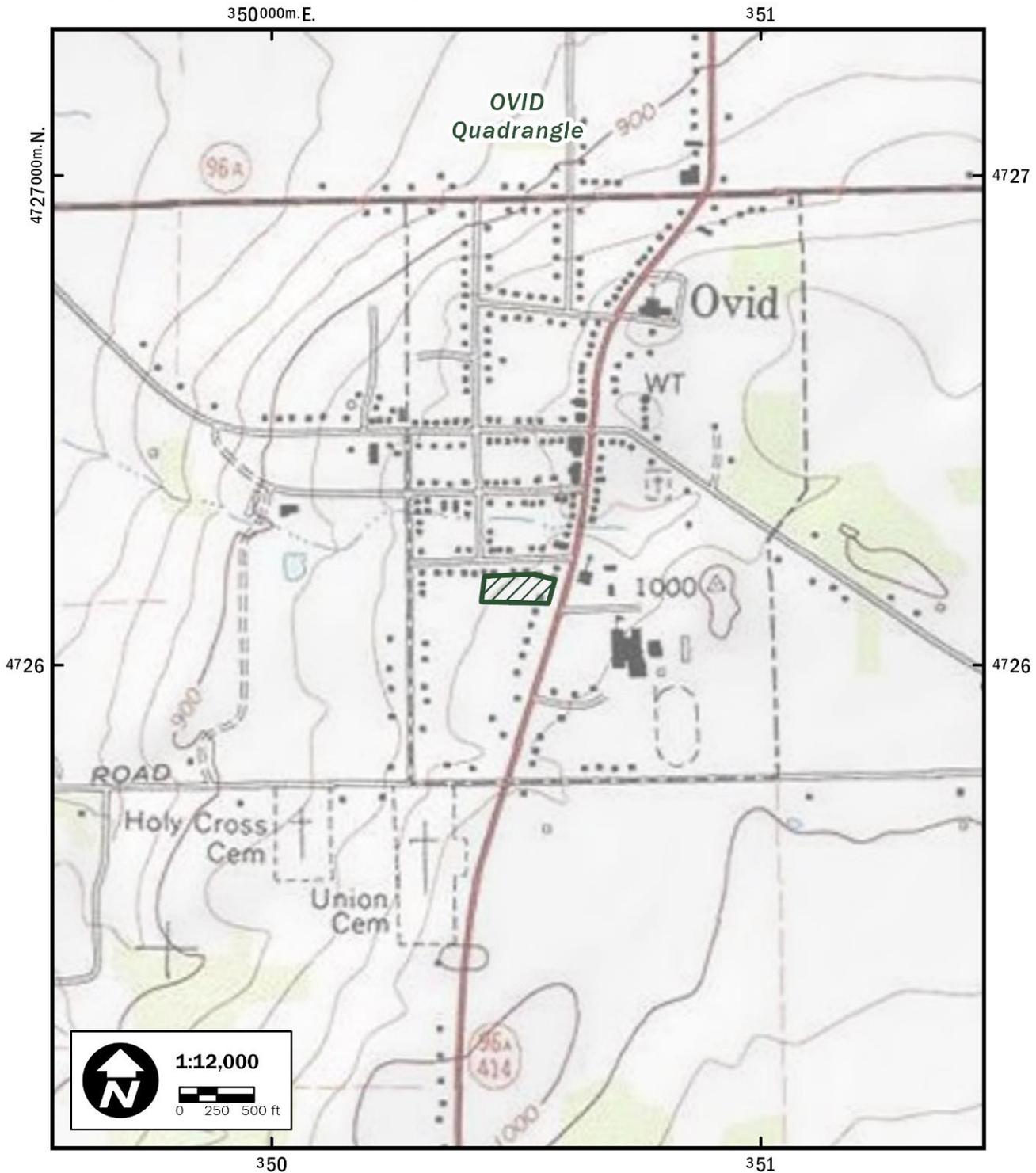
**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Village of Ovid, Seneca County, New York

7246 South Main Street
Ovid, NY 14521



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter

 Nomination Boundary



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0001—Jones House facing South Main Street.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0002—North Elevation

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0003—West and south elevations looking toward South Main Street

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0004—South and east elevations

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

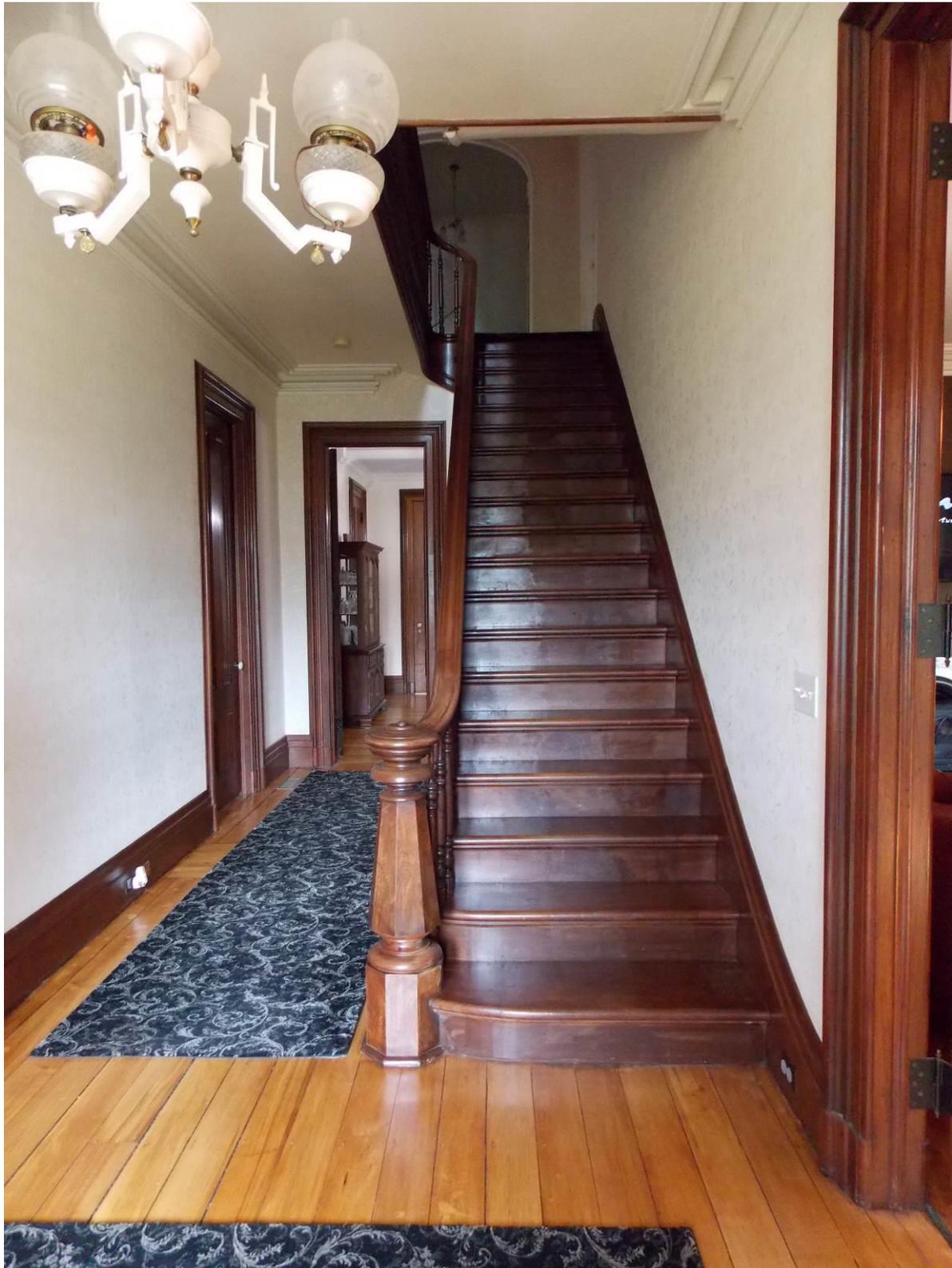
Seneca County, NY
County and State



0005—East elevation of garage/former barn

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0006—Main Hall

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0007—Ceiling detail, Main Hall

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0008—Main parlor, NE side of house looking into bay window alcove

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0009—Marble Fireplace, Main Parlor

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0010—Looking from Main parlor south toward other parlor, now private room

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0011—Southeast parlor, now private quarters

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0013—Room adjoining SE parlor, now private quarters.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0013—Dining room at west end of Main Hall. Doors lead to kitchen and porch/north veranda.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0014—view from second-floor landing toward first floor main entrance

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0015—looking west from second floor hallway at landing.

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0016—second floor alcove sitting area

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0017—Second floor bedroom/guest room

Hannah and George W. Jones House
Name of Property

Seneca County, NY
County and State



0018—Northeast bedroom/guest room