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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Feasel, Florendin, House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 1294 Lehigh Station Road

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

  
city or town Henrietta  
state New York code NY county Monroe code 055 zip code 14467

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Russ A Purpout DBAPO 12/23/13  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Edson H. Beall 2.14.14  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**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.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	2	<b>Total</b>

**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/residence

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DOMESTIC/residence

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No style

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foundation: stone, brick

walls: Wood, concrete

roof: asphalt

other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **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**

Lehigh Station Road runs west to east through the central portion of the town of Henrietta in Monroe County, New York. The Florendin Feasel House is located on Lehigh-Station Road approximately a quarter-mile east of the Lehigh Railroad right-of-way and two miles west of the hamlet of Henrietta. Constructed circa 1858, the house is a farm residence of vertical wood plank construction, the first to be documented for the locality among a handful of surviving farm houses from the nineteenth century along Lehigh Station Road. The house is a two-story, front gabled building with two single-story additions on the rear, one added in the late nineteenth century and the other in the mid twentieth century. All windows are one-over-one wood double hung sash except for two replacement windows in the north elevation and two single-light fixed windows in the concrete rear addition. The main façade (south elevation) has a single-story full-front porch, most of which was replaced in-kind, a center entrance, and evenly spaced windows. A square bay window is visible in the lower portion of the west elevation. The interior is largely intact in plan and has visible evidence of plank construction, including exposed corner beams on the first floor and exposed sections of vertical plank framing where plaster has been removed. The interior also retains historic features such as much of the original lath and plaster walls and ceilings, wall and ceiling moldings, wood floors and an enclosed staircase.

When owned by Florendin Feasel, the property was a 35-acre farm adjacent to a large dairy operation. The dairy closed in the 1950s and the farm acreage was reduced to slightly over half an acre by subsequent owners responding to development pressures that began in the mid-twentieth century. A new road was cut through from Lehigh Station Road along east edge of the property to allow access to residential development that was named Florendin in Feasel's honor. In spite of the residential development, the property retains its rural character largely due to a creek, plantings and a town park created on the former dairy lands, which create a barrier between the development and the house.

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### **Narrative Description**

Town records state that the Feasel House, located at 1294 Lehigh Station Road, was built around 1866, but earlier town maps indicate a building in the same location as early as 1858. Lehigh Station Road is a major east-west state route that developed early in the town's history. Well into the twentieth century, much of the land in Henrietta was farmland, which was later developed into residential pockets set back from Lehigh Station Road after World War II. The property is at the intersection of Lehigh Station Road and Florendin Drive, an access road to residential development on the east, and it ends at the north end at Veterans Memorial Park

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and the Monroe County Fairgrounds. The park, fairgrounds and a creek on the west provide a physical and visual buffer to commercial development to the north and west. The house is the only contributing building remaining on the property. It is surrounded by non-historic gardens, a semi-circular drive to the west and some mature trees in the center of the drive and at the north edge of the property. Behind the house are a non-contributing garage and shed, both built after the period of significance.

Sited facing south, the house is a two and one-half story vertical wood plank and clapboard sided house with a single-story, front gable-roofed porch. Parts of the exterior and gable are clad with aluminum siding, which the current owner is in the process of removing and restoring the clapboards. The vertical wood plank walls of the main portion of the house are still extant as discovered by the current owner during window and interior wall repairs. The owner also removed the enclosures to the porch and replaced the missing wood balusters, using materials appropriate to the period of significance. Four slender square posts support a wide plain cornice, aluminum gutters and an asphalt-clad porch roof. The entrance in the center of the façade consists of a turn-of-the twentieth century wood panel and glass door and a protective screen door set into the original plain door surround. Windows on either side of the door are one-over-one wood sash set into plain moldings. Similar windows are directly above the first floor windows and a smaller one-over-one window is in the center of the gable. This small window provides light and ventilation into the unfinished attic.

Both the east and west elevations show historic updates, which include a secondary entrance, a bay window and kitchen addition. The west elevation has two one-over one windows in the second floor and an offset smaller window on the first floor. The latter was placed in this location due to the enclosed staircase being in this part of the house. The south end of the elevation has a projecting bay window with two double-hung sash windows and a shed roof directly below a second floor window. The elevation also has a tall chimney at the north corner for the utilities contained in the northwest rear addition. The east side of this addition is visible from this elevation and shows a large fixed single-light window set into the concrete wall.

When viewed from Florendin Drive, the east elevation shows regular fenestration of two windows in each level and a door placed close to the north end first floor window. The door is wood with two rows of square panels between the upper, single pane of glass and the lower section of two oblong wood panels. The door is set into a decorative molding with corner bull's eye blocks at the top and an applied decoration over the door which may or may not be historic. This elevation also has the siding completely restored, which shows a wide band running between the first and second floor and corner moldings at the south end of the wall. This pattern of corner moldings is repeated in the addition on the north end, which is one-story with a sloping shed roof and one window centrally placed in the south and east sides. The clapboarding has been restored in this addition section as well.

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Aluminum siding has also been removed from the walls of the south elevation, except for the gable end. The elevation clearly shows the late nineteenth century kitchen addition on the east and the later, mid twentieth century concrete addition on the west. Two of the windows in this elevation are original and the foundation beneath the addition is parged brick. Another entrance was added in the concrete addition north wall and has a wood paneled door. The interior of this addition has wallboard on the west and north and the wall separating it from the earlier house shows the original vertical plank construction. A wood panel door with narrow upper lights enters into the kitchen addition. This concrete addition also allows access to the partial basement, revealing the stone foundation and a combination of half-round and milled floor support beams. The house has a partial basement extending from the additions roughly halfway to the south, showing the stone foundation in the main part of the house.

The main entrance in the south elevation opens directly into a large open area and a smaller separate room to the left (west). Both of these rooms have exposed corner posts and the main parlor or living room has a square cap on the post that connects with a decorative molding. The posts are more evidence that the house was a plank house and the vertical plank walls are still extant between finished wall surfaces and clapboarding. The smaller room to the west has a narrower molding, a corner post without a cap and a bead board ceiling. A portion of the north end of this room was made into a bathroom. The living room or parlor to the east has its vertical plank walls and plaster surfaces, wood floors, and window and baseboard moldings. This area was originally separated from the dining area by a wall, which was removed due to severe deterioration but in turn revealed one of the posts.

During the restoration of the house, novelty paneling was applied to the east wall over the original vertical planks. The dining area retains its decorative ceiling molding and wood floors, but the original plaster is only visible on the walls along the enclosed stair along the west wall. The north wall of the dining room was the original exterior wall of house, and the vertical planks were enclosed with bead board wainscoting and wallboard. An entrance to the kitchen wing is to the east. The kitchen addition on the northeast retains its original floors, walls and windows.

Access to the second floor is from an enclosed staircase on the west side of the dining area. The staircase is largely intact and features original moldings and baseboards on the landing. A few risers were replaced in-kind due to deterioration and a non historic handrail was attached to the west wall. The landing turns abruptly east to where it connects to a center hall. Two rooms are to the south and one room and a bath are on the north. The bedrooms retain the original lath and plaster walls, plaster ceilings, and wood floors. Windows have

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fluted moldings and the ceiling moldings have decorative corner pieces. Access to the unfinished attic is by a ladder through the ceiling in one of the rooms where the original beams, rafters and roof boards are visible.

With most of the historic fabric still intact, the Feasel House is an excellent example of mid nineteenth century plank house construction and of how it was updated to fit the needs of the farm and the family. The house is a rare surviving example of this construction method in the town, which is now heavily developed with residential enclaves and apartment complexes to the north and east and light industry to the west on the former Lehigh Valley Railroad grounds. The house is also a reminder of the town's former agricultural past, standing at the edge of the remaining farm property along Florendin and Lehigh Station Roads.

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**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.)

Social History

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

Ca. 1858-1936

**Significant Dates**

Ca. 1858, 1866, 1877

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**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 begins with the earliest known indication of the house in 1858 and ends with 1926. The house was lived in by German immigrant Florendin Feasel from 1877 until his death in 1926, which marks the end of the period of significance.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

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

The Florendin Feasel House is significant under Criterion A in the area of social history as a property that illustrates the successful immigrant story of Florendin Feasel, a German settler, Civil War veteran and farmer. Feasel moved to the United States with his family in 1854 and lived with the larger German immigrant population in Rochester until he was sent to work as a farmhand in Henrietta. It was at this time that the town of Henrietta was well into its transformation from densely wooded forest into an active agricultural area. After serving in the Union Army, Feasel returned to Henrietta, where he established a permanent home in 1877, buying a house and farm property that was literally across the street from the farm that he worked on as a youth. For Feasel the house was a symbol of personal achievement, which included being able to own property in his adopted country. Feasel was intensely proud of his service in the Union Army and hosted several reunions of his regiment at the house and farm. He lived there until his death in 1926 but passed ownership to his son, Raymond, in 1923. The house is also significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a rare surviving example of a mid nineteenth century plank and post framed house in the town of Henrietta. Built for J. H. Stone around 1858 and either leased or sold to David Carter and his family in 1866, the house retained its modest form throughout Feasel's residence (1877-1926), although the latter most likely added a second story. Plank houses were an unusual type for the period, as they required large supplies of lumber. From its earliest settlement, the town's land owners had made concerted efforts to clear the densely wooded landscape to encourage farming. The construction of the house also coincided with the publication of the Charles Dwyer's *The Economic Cottage Builder* in 1855, which outlined the practical elements of plank house construction. It is unknown whether the builder of the Feasel house was familiar with the publication; however, the builder obviously had the knowledge of this type of construction and a ready supply of materials with which to build the residence. Florendin Feasel occupied the house until his death in 1926, and in 1923, he sold it to his son, Raymond. Few subsequent changes were made to the house during Raymond Feasel's tenure, other than the addition at the northwest end of the building. The house later fell into disrepair after many years of deferred maintenance under subsequent owners and was nearly lost to deterioration and suburban development. The current owners acquired the house in 2000 and began repairs, retaining as much historic fabric as possible, which earned them a preservation award in 2006 from the Henrietta Historic Site Committee.

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

Henrietta, formed from Pittsford in 1818, was described in the 1860 *New York State Gazetteer* as an "interior town" in Monroe County. The name Henrietta came from James Wadsworth, who was a land agent for the



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Pulteney Estates, a London based land company that acquired the rights to the lands east of the Genesee River in 1791. Henrietta was named in honor of the daughter of Sir William Pulteney, the largest investor in the company. At first, settlement was very sparse in the town due to it being densely wooded. As a result of difficulty in clearing the land, several early settlers gave up their holdings, much of it sold to the Wadsworth family. In an effort to attract farmers, the Wadsworths and another early land holder, James Sperry, employed “choppers” to clear the land, and the town began a gradual transformation from forest to farms. By 1850, the town was known for its fertile soil and its many scattered small farms. As lands were cleared and farming technologies improved, larger farms located along newly opened roads, growing wheat and other grains intended for the mills and markets in nearby Rochester. This was the beginning of what historian Paul Gates termed a “golden age of farming” for New York State, as farmers shifted from large wheat or single-crop production to diverse commodities, with farmers in Monroe County specializing in fruit crops, potatoes, hay and dairying.<sup>1</sup> State agricultural statistics for 1865 reported that Henrietta still produced the most wheat in the county, followed by corn, oats and apples. In addition to the crops, Henrietta, Greece, Perinton and Parma were four towns that produced an average of 100,000 pounds of butter, another major product for the county.

Roads such as East and West Henrietta Roads became important for linking the town to Rochester, a major settlement to the north. Lehigh Station Road was the major east to west route that connected Henrietta to transportation sites at the Genesee River on the west and the Erie Canal in the village of Pittsford to the east. Farms along the roads varied in size and the 1860 Census reported that most of the farms in Monroe County contained between twenty and one-hundred acres.<sup>2</sup> An 1869 county business directory recorded the number of acres farmed by individuals in each town and the vast majority of farms in Henrietta were less than one hundred acres. One of these was a thirty-six acre farm probably leased by David A. Carter on north side of the road that led to the hamlet of East Henrietta. The road also crossed the Genesee Valley Railroad, an early line that connected Rochester to the outer farmlands in the region. Later the Lehigh Valley Railroad built a station in Henrietta and the road it was located on became known as Lehigh Station Road.

Prior to settling in Henrietta, Carter served with the 108<sup>th</sup> Regiment of New York Volunteers during the Civil War. The regiment was raised in Rochester in July 1862 and after training at Camp Fitz-John Porter on the outskirts of the city of Rochester, it shipped out in August and saw its first battle at Antietam (September 17, 1862). The regiment also fought at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Cold Harbor before being mustered out on June 1, 1865. Carter was with the regiment until he was wounded in 1864 and eventually transferred to the city hospital in Rochester. After his discharge in 1865, he married in 1866 and began farming in Henrietta, where

<sup>1</sup> Paul W. Gates, “Agricultural Change in New York State, 1850-1890,” *New York History*, Vol. 50, No. 2 (April 1969), 122-125.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph C.G. Kennedy, *Agriculture of the United States in 1860; compiled from the Original Returns of the Eighth Census* (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1864), 209.

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he stayed for five or six years before moving to Pavilion (Genesee County). It is not clear whether Carter owned or leased the thirty-six acre farm in Henrietta, but it was owned by at least one other person before being purchased by Florendin Feasel, another veteran of the 108<sup>th</sup> Regiment, in 1877.

Feasel was familiar with the farming community in Henrietta well before he bought Carter's farm property. As a youth, he was sent to work on the farm of Henry H. Sperry, well-known political figure and son of James Sperry, a staunch abolitionist and a colleague of Gerrit Smith. Henry Sperry was also one of the founders of the national Republican Party, which earned him the appointment of Superintendent of Documents of the House of Representatives from the Lincoln Administration. It is likely that when President Lincoln called for troops at the beginning of the war, Sperry encouraged the twenty-year old Feasel to enlist, which he did in 1862. After the Battle of Fredericksburg, Feasel became quite ill, and was sent to a regimental hospital in Falmouth, Virginia, where he stayed until he was medically discharged in March 1863. He continued his convalescence briefly in Henrietta before moving to Rush, where he lived for seven years before settling on a Henrietta farm directly across the road from the Sperry property.

Although he only served less than a year in the 108<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Feasel was extremely proud of his wartime service, partly attributed to the fact that he was also a German immigrant. He was born in Baden to a farming family in 1842, shortly before famines struck the region in 1846 and 1847 and between periods of political unrest. When Feasel was twelve years old, the family left for the United States, settling in Rochester, where there was well-established German immigrant community. The Genesee region's first German immigrants arrived in 1792 as indentured laborers, contracted to work for six years for the Genesee Land Company and eventually settled a colony in the nearby town of Rush. From that point, a small number of German immigrants found their way to Rochester; this group steadily increased in number in the early part of the nineteenth century. According to an 1884 account of "Rochester's German Element:"

During the nineteenth century German immigration became distinguished from that of the preceding era by its voluntary character...there now appeared an element that had voluntarily, and for objects of their own, relinquished their former homes, to found ones in a new world. And now improved methods of navigation increased the facilities of communication between the colonists and their friends and relatives in the old home, while greater activity in journalism and literature and the constantly spreading reports of the success achieved by those who had sought the western world awakened a growing longing for the new Eldorado in all who were dissatisfied with the state of affairs in their native country. The peasant, groaning under the load of taxes and feudal observances...grasped the pilgrim's staff, to journey to that land of liberty, where each had the prospect of independent ownership and of reaping the fruits of his own toil, and thus the immigrant of the nineteenth century reached the free soil of America, a free man, to pursue happiness and acquire fortune, at his own risk and in his own way.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>William F. Peck, *Semi-Centennial History of the City of Rochester*. (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1884), 482.

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The author also stated that growing industry and the Erie Canal enhanced Rochester's role as a destination.

Feasel's family was from Baden in southwestern Germany, an area that passed between Prussia and France during the Napoleonic Wars. One source of contention was that Germans were routinely conscripted into the French army and farms and villages were required to quarter French soldiers. By 1815, Baden was back under German, or rather, Prussian control, but as the years progressed, land ownership gradually came under the control of the gentry. Farmers found it increasingly difficult to bequeath farmlands to the next generation. Failed reforms of the 1840s made emigration attractive, along with a relaxation of emigration restrictions. Existing property could be turned into ready cash to travel to America, which appeared to be a better prospect than remaining and risk losing everything. The Feasel family joined the large numbers of families traveling from Baden to the port at Havre to find passage across the Atlantic. A year after settling in Rochester, Florendin Feasel became a farmhand on the Sperry farm and, later, his younger sister joined the Sperry household, working as a maid.

To a twenty-year old such as Feasel, the Union Army offered the promise of adventure, and enlistment was an opportunity for the German immigrant "to pay a debt of gratitude to its adopted country; on many a battle-field, by a baptism of blood and fire, it demonstrated a liberty-loving, self-sacrificing citizenship."<sup>4</sup> Feasel's enlistment in the military was voluntary as opposed to compulsory service in Germany, subject to whoever was in control of Baden. At the beginning of the war, the first regiment raised from Rochester, the Thirteenth Regiment, contained 200 Germans, followed by Feasel's Regiment, the 108<sup>th</sup> and others that had whole companies of Germans with German officers. Feasel was a private in Company A, which, from the enlistment records, appeared to be composed of a number of ethnic backgrounds, with Feasel being one of a handful of enlistees with a German surname. Although serious illness limited his enlistment to a little more than one year, Feasel was proud of his service. Throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, regiments regularly had reunions and Feasel attended them up until his death in 1926. According to one news account, he also often hosted the reunions on his farm property in Henrietta.<sup>5</sup>

Another difference from the German homeland was that Feasel was able to become a landowner. He purchased the property on Lehigh Station Road and his son Raymond was able to purchase another farm less than a mile east along the same road. Florendin Feasel owned the property from 1877 until 1923, when he transferred ownership to his son Raymond for the token sum of one dollar. At that time, he turned eighty years old and all of his children had left the farm, raising questions of how to dispose of the farm property after his death. The entire property still covered thirty-five acres of farmland and was surrounded by other farms, with a

<sup>4</sup> Peck, Semi-centennial History of Rochester, 492.

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large dairy adjacent to his farm, owned by the Buyck family. Feasel grew hay, wheat and potatoes on the property and was an active farmer well into the twentieth century. His son Raymond was the only son who went into farming, while two other sons ran a butcher shop in the hamlet of East Henrietta. Feasel was able to turn the farm over to his son, something his own father was not able to do with the farm in Baden.

### **CRITERION C: Architecture**

When Feasel bought the Henrietta farm, there was a house already on the property and there is some speculation that Feasel added a second floor to accommodate his growing family, which eventually included six children. The farmhouse was a simple clapboard-sided, two-story, end gabled house facing the road, located in the southeast corner of the farm. The house was a practical but comfortable building, with a front parlor, small sitting area and kitchen on the first floor and three bedrooms on the second floor. A kitchen ell was added in the late nineteenth century, allowing for a larger, more formal dining area. Around 1915, Feasel also added a front porch, which was later enclosed. Raymond Feasel took over ownership in 1923 and sold the property sometime between 1936 and 1941. It was around that time that a one room concrete block addition was added to the back of the house to provide access to the basement and house modern utilities.

What was unusual about the house was that the clapboard siding and interior plaster finishes hide the vertical planks that frame the house. The plank framed house was an early technology that continued well into the nineteenth century until it was completely displaced by balloon frame construction. Plank framed houses were constructed of sawn timber boards or planks of a uniform thickness between sill and plate around the entire building. In his study of plank framed houses, Jan Leo Lewandowski identified three common types of plank framing, one being "plank and post between sill and plate."<sup>6</sup> Feasel's house fell into this the category, as evidenced by visible corner posts in the first floor. Plank houses tended to be one or one-and one-half stories, and the absence of corner posts in the second floor of the Feasel House suggests that the second floor may have been added or expanded from a half story.

Plank construction was relatively rare for the mid nineteenth century. A study from Cornell University in the 1980s identified several plank houses in Ithaca, New York that dated from the same period as the Feasel House. Construction relied on plentiful sources of lumber from the clearing of land, with the timber processed by local saw mills and lumber yards. In Ithaca, a lumber industry was developing, and in Henrietta, early efforts by the Wadsworth and Sperry families cleared much of the dense forest for farming. A few saw mills were

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<sup>5</sup> "Veterans Plan for a Picnic." *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*, 8 July 1914, 14-5.

<sup>6</sup> Jan Leo Lewandowski, "The Plank Framed House in Northeastern Vermont," *Vermont History*, vol. 53, no. 2 (Spring 1985), 104-107.

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located in the town, but the milling shifted to the adjacent towns due to lack of sufficient water power. A large saw and planing mill operated by Samuel Hart was located just north in the town of Brighton.

Feasel's house was built around the time that he was employed on the farm of Henry Sperry. The earliest documentation of the house appears on an 1858 county map, which also identified it as being the house of J. H. Stone. Town assessment records indicated that the house was part of a larger property owned by Stone that was eventually sold to a neighboring farmer around 1868. Other records indicated that the house and surrounding 34 acres of land was leased out for farming, with David Carter settling on the property in 1866. Whether Carter bought or rented the land, he farmed it between 1866 and c1871 and Feasel purchased it in 1877. Although Carter and Feasel were in the same regiment, they may not have crossed paths, since they were in different companies and Feasel's time in the 108<sup>th</sup> was short lived. It may be coincidental that Feasel purchased the former Carter homestead and perhaps the two met later in life, when Carter attended one of the regimental reunions at the farm. However, where the Carters probably leased their land, the Feasel family owned and farmed this land from 1877-1936 and it reflects this immigrant family's achievements as Americans. In the years following Feasel's death, subsequent owners of the property gradually sold off the acreage until slightly more than half an acre remained. The house was updated with an envelope of aluminum siding over the original clapboards, and the porch was enclosed to add additional living space. When the current owners acquired the property, the house was in poor condition and they began in-kind repairs, beginning with opening the porch and removing as much of the aluminum siding as possible. After six years of hard work, the owners were given a heritage award from the Henrietta Historic Site Committee for saving the home of Florendin Feasel and preserving a remnant of the town's agricultural past.

Beginning in the 1930s, the area began to be redeveloped, which slowed considerably during World War II. After the war, the surrounding farms were gradually sold off for residential development, a trend that continues to the present, making the house one of a few surviving late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm residences along Lehigh Station Road. The large Buyck dairy farm went out of business in the mid 1950s and, fortunately, the town of Henrietta turned it into a public town park, which provides some protection from further encroachment on the former Florendin Feasel property. The house is the first documented vertical plank construction house in the Town of Henrietta, and perhaps more will be discovered as a result of the recognition given to the Feasel house.

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## **9. Major Bibliographical References**

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Feasel, Florendin House  
Name of Property

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

*American Agriculturalist Farm Directory and Reference Book, Monroe and Livingston Counties.* New York: Orange Judd Co., 1917.

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\_\_\_\_\_, *Semi-Centennial History of the City of Rochester.* Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1884.

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Atlases:

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Monroe County Atlas, J. M. Lathrop & Co., 1902.

Monroe County Atlas, G. M. Hopkins & Co., 1924.

Monroe County Atlas, volume 5, G. M. Hopkins Co., 1941.

Feasel, Florendin House  
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**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: Town of Henrietta Historian's Office

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>285883</u> Easting	<u>4770781</u> Northing	3	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing
2	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing	4	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing

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

The boundary is indicated by the heavy line on the attached map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary indicated is the remaining portion of the original 35 acre farm owned by Florendin Feasel and contains the historic home lived in by the Feasel family from 1877 to 1936. The land was subdivided and disposed of by subsequent owners of the property after the period of significance as surrounding lands were lost to increased pressure from large-scale residential development.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Virginia L. Bartos, Ph.D.  
organization NYS OPRHP date September 2013  
street & number Peebles Island State Park telephone 518-237-8643  
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:

Feasel, Florendin House  
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- **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.)

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**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: Florendin Feasel House

City or Vicinity: Henrietta

County: Monroe State: New York

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos photos 0001-0005; Bonnie Kase, photos 0006 & 0007

Date Photographed: August 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

0001 of 0007. Feasel House viewed looking northwest from intersection of Florendin Drive & Lehigh Station Road

0002 of 0007. South and west elevations of house, view looking northeast.

0003 of 0007. Detail view of east elevation showing kitchen addition, view looking northwest.

0004 of 0007. Interior detail view of east sitting room, showing corner post.

0005 of 0007. Interior detail view of west sitting room, showing corner post.

0006 of 0010. View looking from dining area into kitchen addition. Wall on left has vertical planking encased in bead board and wallboard. Partial view on right of east exterior wall that also has vertical planking encased between novelty wall finish and exterior clapboarding.

0007 of 0010. View showing original exterior wall to the right and wall to kitchen addition on left. Vertical planking visible in wall to the right.

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**Property Owner:**

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

name Greg & Bonnie Kase  
street & number 1294 Lehigh Station Road telephone N/A  
city or town Henrietta state NY zip code 14467

**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.









ending Dr

Station

















# National Register of Historic Places

## Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2015

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Short, Andrew; House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 1294 Lehigh Station Road

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Henrietta

state New York code NY county Monroe code 055 zip code 14467

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
 I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
 In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Ruth A. Penpart DSHPO 11/21/14  
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

other (explain): Additional Documentation Approved

Joe Edson H. Beall \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**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.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	2	<b>Total</b>

**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/residence

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DOMESTIC/residence

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No style

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foundation: Stone, brick

walls: Wood, concrete

roof: asphalt

other:

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### **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**

Lehigh Station Road runs west to east through the central portion of the town of Henrietta in Monroe County, New York. The Andrew Short House is located on Lehigh-Station Road approximately one quarter-mile east of the Lehigh Railroad right-of-way and two miles west of the hamlet of Henrietta. Constructed in the 1850s, the house is a farm residence of vertical wood plank construction, the first to be documented for the locality among a handful of surviving farm houses from the nineteenth century along Lehigh Station Road. The house is a two-story, front gabled building with two single-story additions on the rear, one added in the late nineteenth century and the other in the mid-twentieth century. All windows are one-over-one wood double hung sash except for two replacement windows in the north elevation and two single-light fixed windows in the concrete rear addition. The main façade (south elevation) has a single-story full-width front porch, most of which as replaced in-kind, a center entrance, and evenly spaced windows. A square bay window is visible in the lower portion of the west elevation. The interior is largely intact in plan and has visible evidence of plank construction, including exposed corner beams on the first floor and exposed sections of vertical plank framing where plaster has been removed. The interior also retains historic features such as much of the original lath and plaster walls and ceilings, wall and ceiling moldings, wood floors and an enclosed staircase.

When owned by Andrew Short, the property was a 34-acre farm, one of several farms long Lehigh Station Road, one of which was a large dairy operation that closed in the 1950s. After it was sold out of the family, the original acreage of Andrew Short's farm was reduced to slightly over half an acre by subsequent owners responding to development pressures that began in the mid-twentieth century. A new road was cut through it and the adjacent property to allow access to residential development from Lehigh Station Road. The road was named Florendin in honor of Florendin Feasel, who owned the farm property immediately east of Andrew Short's farm. In spite of the residential development, the property retains its rural character largely due to a creek, plantings and a town park created to the north. These create a barrier between the development and the house.

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### **Narrative Description**

Town records state that the house located at 1294 Lehigh Station Road was built around 1866, but earlier town maps indicate a building in the same location as early as 1858. Lehigh Station Road is a major east-west state route that developed early in the town's history. Well into the twentieth century, much of the land in Henrietta was farmland, which was later developed into residential pockets set back from Lehigh Station Road

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after World War II. The property is at the intersection of Lehigh Station Road and Florendin Drive, an access road to residential development on the east, and it ends at the north end at Veterans Memorial Park and the Monroe County Fairgrounds. The park, fairgrounds and a creek on the west provide a physical and visual buffer to commercial development to the north and west. The house is the only contributing building remaining on the property. It is surrounded by non-historic gardens, a semi-circular drive to the west and some mature trees in the center of the drive and at the north edge of the property. Behind the house are a non-contributing garage and shed, both built after the period of significance.

Sited facing south, the house is a two and one-half story vertical wood plank and clapboard sided house with a single-story, front gable-roofed porch. Parts of the exterior and gable are clad with aluminum siding, which the current owner has removed on the south and east elevations and restored the clapboards. The vertical wood plank walls of the main portion of the house are still extant as discovered by the current owner during window and interior wall repairs. The owner also removed the enclosures to the porch and replaced the missing wood balusters, using materials appropriate to the period of significance. Four slender square posts support a wide plain cornice, aluminum gutters and an asphalt-clad porch roof. The entrance in the center of the façade consists of a turn-of-the-twentieth century wood panel and glass door and a protective screen door set into the original plain door surround. Windows on either side of the door are one-over-one wood sash set into plan moldings. Similar windows are directly above the first floor windows and a smaller one-over-one window is in the center of the gable. This small window provides light and ventilation into the unfinished attic.

Both the east and west elevations show historic updates, which include a secondary entrance, a bay window and kitchen addition. The west elevation has two one-over-one windows in the second floor and an offset smaller window on the first floor. The latter was placed in this location due to the enclosed staircase being in this part of the house. The south end of the elevation has a projecting bay window with two double-hung sash windows and a shed roof directly below a second floor window. The elevation also has a tall chimney at the north corner where the utilities are located in the northwest rear addition. The east side of this addition is visible from this elevation and shows a large fixed single-light window set into the concrete wall.

When viewed from Florendin Drive, the east elevation shows regular fenestration of two windows in each level and a door placed close to the north end first floor window. The door is wood with two rows of square panels between an upper, single pane of glass and the lower section of two oblong wood panels. The door is set into a decorative molding with corner bull's eye blocks at the top and an applied decoration over the door which may or may not be historic. This elevation also has the siding completely restored, which shows a wide band running between the first and second floor and corner moldings at the south end of the wall. This pattern of corner moldings is repeated in the addition on the north end, which is one-story with a sloping shed roof and

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the window centrally placed in the south and west sides The clapboarding has been restored in this section as well.

Aluminum siding has also been removed from the walls of the south elevation, except for the gable end. The elevation clearly shows the late nineteenth century kitchen addition on the east and the later, mid twentieth century concrete addition on the west. Two of the windows on this elevation are original and the foundation beneath the addition is parged brick. Another entrance was added in the concrete addition north wall and has a wood paneled door. The interior of this addition has wallboard on the west and north. The wall separating it from the earlier house shows the original vertical plank construction. A wood panel door with narrow upper lights enters into the kitchen addition. This concrete addition also allows access to the partial basement, revealing the stone foundation and a combination of half-round and milled floor support beams. The house has a partial basement extending from the additions roughly halfway to the south, showing the stone foundation in the main part of the house.

The main entrance in the south elevation opens directly into a large open area and a smaller separate room to the left (west). Both of these rooms have exposed corner posts and the main parlor or living room has a square cap on the post that connects with a decorative molding. The posts are more evidence that the house was a plank house and the vertical plank walls are still extant between finished wall surfaces and clapboarding. The smaller room to the west has a narrower molding, a corner post without a cap and a bead board ceiling. A portion of the north end of this room was made into a bathroom. The living room or parlor to the east has its vertical plank walls and plaster surfaces, wood floors, and window and baseboard moldings. This area was originally separated from the dining area by a wall, which was removed due to severe deterioration, which in turn revealed one of the posts.

During the restoration of the house, novelty paneling was applied to the east wall over the original vertical planks. The dining area retains its decorative ceiling molding and wood floors, but the original plaster is only visible on the walls along the enclosed stair along the west wall. The north wall of the dining room was the original exterior wall of the house, and the vertical planks were enclosed with bead board wainscoting and wallboard. An entrance to the kitchen wing is to the east. The kitchen addition on the northeast retains its original floors, walls and windows.

Access to the second floor is from an enclosed staircase on the west side of the dining area. The staircase is largely intact and features original moldings and baseboards on the landing. A few risers were replaced in-kind due to deterioration and a non-historic handrail was attached to the west wall. The landing turns abruptly east to where it connects to a center hall. Two rooms are to the south and one room and a bath are on the



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north. The bedrooms retain the original lath and plaster walls, plaster ceilings, and wood floors. Windows have fluted moldings and the ceiling moldings have decorative corner pieces. Access to the unfinished attic is by a ladder through the ceiling in one of the rooms; original beams, rafters and roof boards are visible.

With most of the historic fabric still intact, the house is an excellent example of mid nineteenth century plank house construction and of how it was updated to fit the needs of the farm and family. The house is a rare surviving example of this construction method in the town, which is now heavily developed with residential enclaves and apartment complexes to the north and east and light industry to the west on the former Lehigh Valley Railroad grounds. The house is also a reminder of the town's former agricultural past, standing at the edge of the remaining farm property along Florendin and Lehigh Station Roads.

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**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.)

Social History

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1855-1948

**Significant Dates**

1855, 1895, 1948

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**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 begins with the earliest known indication of the house in 1855 and ends with 1948 when the property and house were sold out of the family.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

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

The Andrew Short House is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a rare surviving example of a mid-nineteenth century plank and post frame house in the town of Henrietta. Noted as a frame house in the 1855 state census, the house retained its modest form throughout Andrew Short's occupancy. Plank houses were an unusual type for the period, as they required large supplies of lumber; however, Henrietta had a ready supply of wood. From its earliest settlement, the town's land owners made concerted efforts to clear the densely wooded landscape to encourage farming. The construction of the house also coincided with the publication of Charles Dwyer's *The Economic Cottage Builder* in 1856, which outlined the advantages of building with wood. Few subsequent changes were made to the house during its period of significance (ca. 1855-1948), which included a ca. 1868 kitchen addition and a mid-twentieth century one-room addition, both on the north side of the building, and most probably a new roof. The house is also significant under Criterion A in the area of social history as a property that illustrates the successful immigrant story of Andrew Short, an Irish immigrant who settled in Henrietta around 1855. After working as a laborer in Rochester, Short was able to buy three acres of farmland, which was quickly expanded to eight acres and eventually twenty acres by 1870. It was at this time that the town of Henrietta was well into its transformation from densely wooded forest into an active agricultural area. It was also a few years after Short's remarriage, offering him and his children an opportunity to begin a new chapter in their lives. After his death in 1895, the farm was inherited by his daughter Elizabeth, the first child from his second marriage. It eventually passed to her daughter Esther Schaefer Halpin, who sold the property out of the family in 1948. The house later fell into disrepair after many years of deferred maintenance under subsequent owners and was nearly lost to deterioration and suburban development. The current owners acquired the house in 2000 and began repairs, retaining as much historic fabric as possible, which earned them a preservation award in 2006 from the Henrietta Historic Site Committee.

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

Henrietta, formed from Pittsford in 1818, was described in the 1860 *New York State Gazetteer* as an "interior town" in Monroe County. The name Henrietta came from James Wadsworth, who was a land agent for the Pulteney Estates, a London-based land company that acquired the rights to the lands east of the Genesee River in 1791. Wadsworth chose the name in honor of the daughter of Sir William Pulteney, the largest investor in the company. At first, settlement was very sparse in the town due to it being densely wooded. As a result of difficulty in clearing the land, several early settlers gave up their holdings, with much of it sold to the

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Wadsworth family. In an effort to attract farmers, the Wadsworths and another early land holder, James Sperry, employed “choppers” to clear the land, and the town began a gradual transformation from forest to farms. By 1850, the town was known for its fertile soil and its many scattered small farms. As lands were cleared and farming technologies improved, larger farms located along newly opened roads, growing wheat and other grains intended for the mills and markets in nearby Rochester. This was the beginning of what historian Paul Gates termed a “golden age of farming” for New York State, as farmers shifted from large wheat or single-crop production to diverse commodities, with farmers in Monroe County specializing in fruit crops, potatoes, hay and dairying.<sup>1</sup> State agricultural statistics for 1865 reported that Henrietta still produced the most wheat in the county, followed by corn, oats and apples. In addition to the crops, Henrietta, Greece, Perinton and Parma were four towns in the county that produced an average of 100,000 pounds of butter, another major product for the county.

Roads such as East and West Henrietta Roads became important for linking the town to Rochester, a major settlement to the north. Lehigh Station Road was the major east to west route that connected Henrietta to transportation sites at the Genesee River on the west and the Erie Canal in the village of Pittsford to the east. Farms along the roads varied in size and the 1860 Census reported that most of the farms in Monroe County contained between twenty and one-hundred acres.<sup>2</sup> An 1869 county business directory recorded the number of acres farmed by individuals in each town and the vast majority of farms in Henrietta were less than one hundred acres. One of these was a 19-acre farm owned by Andrew Short on the north side of the road that led to the hamlet of East Henrietta. The road also crossed the Genesee Valley Railroad, an early line that connected Rochester to the outer farmlands in the region. Later, the Lehigh Valley Railroad built a station in Henrietta and the road it was located on became known as Lehigh Station Road.

Prior to settling in Henrietta, Andrew Short lived in Rochester with his wife, Martha, and their children, Peter, Margaret, John and Mary. All were born in Dublin County, Ireland and immigrated to the United States around 1848 after Mary (the youngest) was born. Reasons for the move are unknown, but between 1830 and 1850, the vast majority of the Irish resettling in America came to escape the economic hardships brought on by the Potato Famine. Rochester was one of a number of American cities that sponsored relief campaigns for the famine sufferers. Clearly, an Irish immigrant population was present in the city, and the Short family joined them by 1850. The 1850 U.S. Census recorded the family as living in Ward 9 in the city of Rochester and by 1855, the family was living on a three-acre farm in Henrietta, south of Rochester. Short also remarried by

<sup>1</sup> Paul W. Gates, “Agricultural Change in New York State, 1850-1890,” *New York History*, vol. 50, no 2 (April 1969), 122-125.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph C. G. Kennedy, *Agriculture of the United States in 1860* (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1864), 209.

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1855, and he and his new wife, Ester, had a daughter, Elizabeth, born in 1854. By 1870, the couple had five more children, boys William, Andrew and Joseph, and daughters Sarah and Martha. Short was also able to purchase additional acres of farmland. Surviving town tax records indicated that the Short owned eight acres in 1859 and 15 ½ acres in 1866. Two years later, the farm contained 19 acres and when his daughter Elizabeth inherited the farm (1895), it contained roughly 20 acres. Her husband, Theodore Schaefer, bought the adjacent farm to the west and Elizabeth and Theodore maintained separate ownership of their properties. The ±20 acre Andrew Short farm was inherited by their daughter Esther Halpin, who sold it out of the family in 1948.

### **CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE/PLANK HOUSE CONSTRUCTION**

According to the 1855 New York State Census, Andrew and Ester (also at times listed as Easter) Short were living in a wood house with four children in Henrietta, Monroe County. The farmhouse was a simple clapboard-sided, two-story residence facing the road, located in the southeast corner of the farm. It was a practical, comfortable building, with a front parlor, small sitting area, kitchen and side staircase on the first floor and three bedrooms on the second floor. Tax records from 1868 suggest improvements were made to the house, presumably the kitchen ell, allowing for a larger, more formal dining area, and a new roof. Maps from the 1870s reveal the house as being an L-shaped wooden structure. Around 1915, a front porch was added, which was later enclosed. Before the house was sold in 1948, a one-room concrete block addition and basement were added to the back of the building for the purpose of housing modern utilities.

What was unusual about the house was that the clapboard siding and interior plaster finishes hid the vertical planks that framed the house. Plank frame house construction was an early technology that continued well into the nineteenth century until it was completely displaced by balloon frame construction. Some studies of the method traced one of the oldest types of plank construction to the Vikings in Denmark, which used horizontal boards set into grooved posts (referred to as *bulhuse*).<sup>3</sup> By the time European settlement touched the shores of North America, horizontal plank construction was more prevalent in French Canada and vertical plank was more common in New England. By the nineteenth century, tongue and groove vertical plank boards were being promoted as being stronger and better at preventing drafts. Plank houses were considered economical, especially where abundant lumber and inexpensive nails were prevalent. It was also a method

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<sup>3</sup>T. Ritchie, "Plankwall Framing, a Modern Wall Construction with an Ancient History." *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, vol. 30. No. 1 (March 1971), 68.

Short, Andrew, House

Name of Property

Monroe County, NY

County and State

that could be used by anyone with an understanding of basic building skills and allowed the builder a choice of interior and exterior surface materials based on cost and fashion.<sup>4</sup>

As late as 1856, plank house construction was still being promoted as an affordable method for building a house for those with limited or modest means. In his book, *The Economic Cottage Builder*, author Charles Dwyer stated that plank and balloon construction were superior to all other methods for cost and durability. This ran counter to earlier popular writings by Andrew Jackson Downing, who stated in his 1842 book, *Victorian Cottage Residences*, that wood was recognized by architects “to be the worst material for building, and should never be employed when it is in the power of the builder to use any other.”<sup>5</sup> Downing maintained that brick and stone were superior building materials, but later acquiesced that when it came to regions where wood was plentiful, it was the most economical for the building of modest cottages. Dwyer echoed Downing in his introduction to his book, emphasizing that it was a matter of practicality:

...every locality possesses its material for building, and the one thing desirable is a knowledge of the best method of applying it to the purposes of building. Such a knowledge would often put the poor man in possession of a very desirable homestead, in which economy, space, and arrangement, might make up a cottage which would at once be a comfort to dwell in, and a pleasure to look upon.<sup>6</sup>

In the early nineteenth century, Monroe County was one of the places where wood was plentiful and in the Henrietta area, lumbering became one of the first industries in the town. As previously stated, the lands were densely forested, which had the effect of hindering agricultural development. Early efforts by large land owners, such as the Wadsworth and Sperry families, included hiring “wood choppers” to clear much of the dense forest for sale and to encourage farming. A few saw mills were located in the town, but the milling shifted to the adjacent towns due to a lack of sufficient water power. A large saw and planing mill operated by Samuel Hart was located just north in Brighton, which was still within a relatively quick wagon trip from all areas in Henrietta. By 1850, much of the land was cleared and Henrietta was quickly becoming an important farming region in the county.

Such an abundance of wood allowed for the farmers to build wood houses, barns and other outbuildings. For those like Andrew Short who were just getting into farming and on a limited income, a plank house could easily be built by a minimum of two people and wood was easy to get. Dwyer and others recommended that the planks used be either tongue-and-groove, overlapped, or covered with battens to weatherproof the house. In

<sup>4</sup> Sally Mc Murray, *Families & Farmhouses in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), 12.

<sup>5</sup> Andrew Jackson Downing, *Victorian Cottage Residences* (New York: Dover Publications Inc., 1981 (reprint of 1842 publication) 9.

<sup>6</sup> Charles P. Dwyer, *The Economic Cottage Builder: or Cottages for Men of Small Means*. (Buffalo, NY: Wanzer, McKim & Co., 1856), 9.

Short, Andrew, House  
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY  
County and State

Andrew Short's house, the boards were tongue-and-groove and wood clapboarding was applied to the exterior to make it watertight and was an effective wind barrier. The planking allowed for lath and plaster to be directly applied on the interior. It is unknown how much Short paid for the house, but the 1850 federal census valued his initial three-acre property at \$250.

Andrew Short's house was best described as being constructed of sawn timber boards or planks of a uniform thickness between sill and plate beams around the entire building. In his 1985 study of plank framed houses, Jan Leo Lewandowski identified the sill and plate between post and beam as one of three types of recognized plank house construction.<sup>7</sup> Further evidence that Short's house was this type came from the visible corner posts in the first floor. Plank houses tended to be one or one and one-half stories, but recent window repairs by the current owners revealed the plank wall construction in the second floor, even though there is an absence of corner posts in the corners of the bedrooms.

According to surviving deeds, the former Short-Schaefer property was still intact in 1948 when it was sold out of the family. From that time on, subsequent owners of the property gradually sold off the acreage until slightly more than half an acre remained. The house was updated with an envelope of aluminum siding over the original clapboards, and the porch was enclosed to add additional living space. When the current owners acquired the property, the house was in poor condition and they began in-kind repairs, beginning with opening the porch and removing as much of the aluminum siding as possible. After six years of hard work, the owners were given a heritage award from the Henrietta Historic Site Committee for saving the house and preserving a remnant of the town's agricultural past.

Beginning in the 1930s, the area began to be redeveloped, beginning with a Depression-era government resettlement area, but growth slowed considerably during World War II. After the war, the surrounding farms were gradually sold off for residential development, a trend that continues to the present, making the house one of a few surviving late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm residences along Lehigh Station Road. Some of the lands around the Andrew Short House were acquired by the town of Henrietta. Some of the lands became a public town park, which provides some protection from further encroachment on the former Andrew Short property. The house is the first documented vertical plank construction house in the town of Henrietta, and, perhaps, more will be discovered as a result of the recognition given to the Short House.

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<sup>7</sup> Jan Leo Lewandoski, "The Plank Framed House in Northeastern Vermont," *Vermont History*, vol 53, no. 2 (Spring 1985), 109.

Short, Andrew, House  
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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*American Agriculturalist Farm Directory and Reference Book, Monroe and Livingston Counties.* New York: Orange Judd Co., 1917.

Bodnar, John. *The Transplanted: A History of Immigrants in Urban America.* Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1987.

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Lewandoski, Jan Leo. "The Plank Framed House in Northeastern Vermont," *Vermont History*, vol. 53, no. 2 (Spring 1985), 104-121.

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"Mortuary Mention: Andrew Short." *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*, 7 November 1895, 11.

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Ritchie, T. "Plankwall Framing, a Modern Wall Construction with an Ancient History." *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, vol. 30. No. 1 (March 1971), 66-70.

### Atlases:

Monroe County Atlas, F. W. Beers & Son, 1872.

Monroe County Atlas, J. M. Lathrop & Co., 1902.

Monroe County Atlas, G. M. Hopkins & Co., 1924.

Monroe County Atlas, volume 5, G. M. Hopkins Co., 1941.



Short, Andrew, House  
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY  
County and State

**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: Town of Henrietta Historian's office

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>285883</u> Easting	<u>4770781</u> Northing	3	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing
2	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing	4	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing

**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 indicated is the remaining portion of the original 20 acre farm owned by Andrew Short and contains the historic home lived in by the Short Family from 1855 to 1948. The land was subdivided and disposed of by subsequent owners of the property after the period of significance as surrounding lands were lost to increased pressure from large-scale residential development.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Virginia L. Bartos, Ph. D.  
organization NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation date September 2013/Amended October 2014  
street & number Peebles Island State Park PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643  
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:

Short, Andrew, House  
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY  
County and State

- **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: Andrew Short House

City or Vicinity: Henrietta

County: Monroe State: New York

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos

Date Photographed: August 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0007. Short House viewed looking northwest from intersection of Florendin Drive & Lehigh Station Rd.  
0002 of 0007. South and west elevations of house, view looking northeast.  
0003 of 0007. Detail view of east elevation showing restored clapboards and kitchen addition, view looking northwest.  
0004 of 0007. Interior detail view of east sitting room, showing corner post.  
0005 of 0007. Interior detail view of west sitting room, showing corner post.  
0006 of 0007. View looking from dining area into kitchen addition. Wall on left has vertical planking encased in bead board and wall board. Partial view on right of east exterior wall that also has vertical planking encased between novelty wall finish and exterior clapboarding.  
0007 of 0007. View showing original exterior wall to the right and wall to kitchen addition on left vertical planking visible in wall to the right.

---

**Property Owner:**

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

name Greg & Bonnie Kase  
street & number 1294 Lehigh Station Road telephone N/A  
city or town Henrietta state NY zip code 14467

**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.).

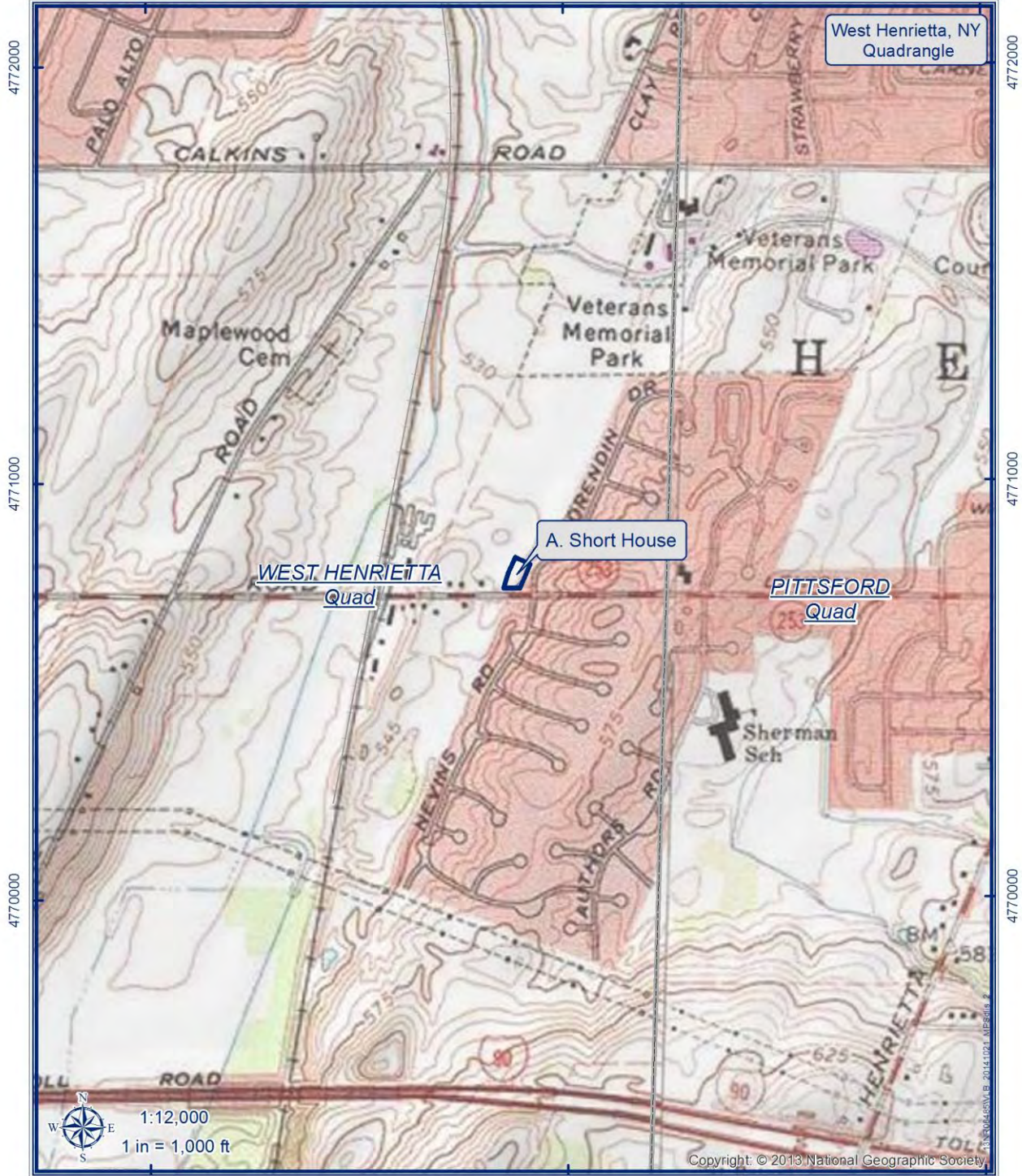
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form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

Short, Andrew, House  
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY  
County and State

Andrew Short House  
Henrietta, Monroe Co., NY

1294 Lehigh Station Rd.  
Henrietta, NY 14467



1:12,000  
1 in = 1,000 ft

285000

286000

287000

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



 Andrew Short House  
 USGS quad index

Tax Parcel Data:  
Monroe Co, RPS  
[www.monroecounty.gov](http://www.monroecounty.gov)



Short, Andrew, House  
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY  
County and State

Andrew Short House  
Henrietta, Monroe Co., NY

1294 Lehigh Station Rd.  
Henrietta, NY 14467



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



 Andrew Short House

Tax Parcel Data:  
Monroe Co, RPS  
[www.monroecounty.gov](http://www.monroecounty.gov)



National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Feasel, Florendin, House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Monroe

DATE RECEIVED: 12/30/13      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/05/14      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/15/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000005

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    2.14.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Division for Historic Preservation  
P.O. Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189  
518-237-8643

**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor

**Rose Harvey**  
Commissioner

23 December 2013



Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to enclose nine National Register nominations, all on discs, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Troy Waste Manufacturing Company Building, Rensselaer County  
Van Zandt, Jacobs and Co. Collar and Cuff Factory, Rensselaer  
The Courier Building, Syracuse, Onondaga County  
Sohmer and Company Piano factory Company, Erie County  
Florendin Feasel House, Monroe County  
John Lesea House, Jefferson County  
Houk Manufacturing Company, Erie County  
Building at 44 Central Avenue, Albany County  
Albany Felt Company complex, Albany County

I am also enclosing a new disc of photos for the Kismet Temple, Kings County, as per your request. Please feel free to call me at 518.237.8643 x 3261 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office

*Old Name* →

ACTION: NATIONAL REGISTER INFORMATION SYSTEM  
Id 14000005 LI 02/14/2014 NY Monroe Feasel, Florendin, House  
01 More

Name Feasel, Florendin, House ←  
Address 1294 Lehigh Station Rd.  
City Henrietta Vicinity Restrict  
State NEW YORK County Monroe  
Status LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER Date 02/14/2014  
Day45 02/13/2014 Resource Type BUILDING Acreage 0.9

Multiple

Contributing bldg	1	Site	Strc	Obj	Total
Noncontributing bldg	2	Site	Strc	Obj	Total
Park					





## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Division for Historic Preservation  
P.O. Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189  
518-237-8643



**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor

**Rose Harvey**  
Commissioner

21 November 2014

Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to enclose the following nomination, on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Miller-Horton-Barben Farm, Monroe County

I am also enclosing a revised nomination for the Andrew Short House, Monroe County. This property was originally listed on the register as the Florendin Feasel House. Subsequent research determined that this was not Feasel's residence, and we have revised the nomination, as per your instructions, to focus on its significance as an example of plank construction. Thank you for your assistance with this project.

Please feel free to call Kathleen LaFrank at 518.237.8643 x 3261 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Ruth L. Pierpont  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
New York State Historic Preservation Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Short, Andrew, House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Monroe

DATE RECEIVED: 11-28-14  
12/30/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY:  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 45TH DAY:

6.  
~~2/15/14~~  
1-14-15

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000005

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

\_\_\_ACCEPT \_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Additional Documentation Approved**

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall

DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 1-14-15

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.