OMB NO. 1024-0018

iorive Review EXP. 12/31/84

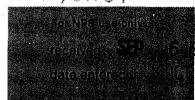
## United States Department of the Interior Review National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Albany

city, town



Substantive Review

stateNew York

12238

	ne				
historic		gradient de la company	* * *	** \$	
	G: 4 5 11	y 1 - 43		and the second second	
and/or common 2. Loca		udson Multip	<u> Le Resou</u>	rce Area	e especialista
Z. LUG	ation		· ·		
street & number	r Incorporate	ed limits of	the cit	y of Hudson -	not for publication
city, <u>town</u> Hu	ıdson	vic	cinity of	congressional district	
state Ne	ew York	code 036	county	Columbia	code <sub>021</sub>
3. Clas	sification	1			
Category districtbuilding(s)structuresiteobject Multipl Resource A	_X_both Public Acquisition n/ain process e_n/being conside	Accessible	upied n progress e estricted	Present Use agriculturex_ commercialx_ educational entertainmentx_ governmentx_ industrial military	_X_ museum _X_ park _X_ private residence _X_ religious scientific _X_ transportation other:
<u> </u>				•	
4. Own	er of Pro	perty			
M11	ner of Prolatiple owners		cached ov		
name <sup>Mu</sup>	ltiple owners		cached ov		
name <sup>M</sup> u street & number	ltiple owners	ship (see att		vners list)	
name Mu street & number city, town	ltiple owners	ship (see att vio	cinity of	vners list) state	
name Mu street & number city, town LOC	ltiple owners	ship (see att	cinity of <b>Criptic</b>	vners list) state	
name Mu street & number city, town LOC	ltiple owners	ship (see att	cinity of <b>Criptic</b>	vners list) state	
name  Mu street & number city, town  Loca courthouse, regi	ation of L	ship (see attvic egal Desc	cinity of <b>Criptic</b>	vners list) state	
name  Mu street & number city, town  Loca	Itiple owners  ation of L  stry of deeds, etc. O	ship (see attvic egal Desc	cinity of <b>Criptic</b>	vners list) state	New York
name  Mu street & number city, town  Loca courthouse, registreet & number city, town	ation of L stry of deeds, etc. O	ship (see att  vic  egal Desc  columbia Coun	criptic	state  Chouse  state	New York
name  Mu street & number city, town  5. Loca courthouse, regi street & number city, town  6. Repi	ation of L stry of deeds, etc. O Union Stre Hudson	wind the second	cripticaty Court	state  Chouse  state  Surveys	New York  (portions)  gible? x_yesr

#### 7. Description

Con	ditic	n
<b>X</b>	exce	llen

	deteriorated
432_	ruins
	unexposed

Check one \_X\_ unaltered X altered

Check one \_X original site date \_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The historic resources of the City of Hudson, New York, were identified by means of a comprehensive city-wide survey conducted in the fall of 1983 by the city's Community Development and Planning Agency with the guidance of New York State Historic Preservation Office staff. With the assistance of a grant from the NYSHPO, the city contracted with a professional historic preservation consultant, Ms. Shirley Dunn of Schodack Landing, New York, to conduct the survey and assemble the data and documentation necessary for the preparation of a multiple resource area nomination. Areas and properties appearing to have architectural or historic significance were inventoried and systematically evaluated against the National Register criteria.

The boundaries of the multiple resource area are the present municipal limits of the city of Hudson. Every building in the city was visually surveyed from the exterior, evaluated in terms of age, style and integrity and noted by an encoding system on a base map of the multiple resource area. Based on concentration of buildings exhibiting sufficient physical integrity and contributing to a period of significance for the city meeting the criteria for listing historic districts on the National Register of Historic Places, boundaries were established for further study. Properties outside these boundaries appearing eligible for individual designation were identified and placed on a study list.

The districts and individual properties thus identified were comprehensively inventoried. Each building in the districts was examined, dated, photographed and listed with a verbal description. Individual properties were visited and inspected on the exterior and the interior with data compiled on New York State building/structure inventory forms. All buildings were comprehensively photographed.

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number For NPS use only received date entered

Page

2

With the inventory data gathered and organized, district boundaries were reviewed by NYSHPO staff and refined to reflect the extent of physical integrity, period of significance, and associated themes in Hudson's history. Based on inventory data, the eligibility of individual properties was confirmed or denied. Two historic districts and eleven individual properties, comprising a total of 786 contributing features that can be catagorized as 777 buildings, 6 structures, 3 objects and 0 sites. Forty-eight buildings are already listed on the National Register in the Hudson Historic District. The components are as follows:

7

The Hudson Historic District;

The Rossman Avenue - Prospect Avenue Historic District:

The Hudson Railroad Station, at 69 South Front Street;

The Hudson and Boston Railroad Shop, off South Front Street;

The Robert Taylor House, 68 S. Second Street;

The New York State Armory, N. Fifth Street;

The Victor de Prosse House, 80 Short Street;

The Findlay-Nash House, 100 Harry Howard Avenue;

The Delbert Dinehart House, 886 Columbia Street;

The Harder Knitting Mill, Washington and Sixth Streets;

Hawthorne House, 7 Aitkin Avenue;

The William Brocksbank House, Cedar Park Cemetery, Paul Avenue;

The Hudson City Cemetery, Paul Avenue.

The Hudson Historic District is a large, varied urban district encompassing

139 acres and contains 756 contributing features.

It comprises a major portion of the grid portion of the city laid out in the 1780's. As such, it

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

received data entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York item number

Page

3

embodies the full span of history of the city and contains significant structures ranging in date from 1783 to 1935. Surviving portions of the Front Street - Parade Hill - Lower Warren Street Historic District (NR listed 3-5-70) a much smaller previously listed district, are included within the Hudson Historic District: sections of Front Street and Parade Hill which have been demolished since the original designation have been excluded. Also listed on the National Register previous to this nomination are as follows: Cornelius H. Evans House (1861), 414-416 Warren Street (NR listed 11-1-74), now contained in the Hudson Historic District, and the Dr. Oliver Bronson House and Stables (1839, 1849) (NR listed 2-20-73) located on the grounds of the Hudson Correctional Facility. A historic district generally encompassing the grid portion of the city surviving with its nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture intact was determined eligible for the National Register by the Department of the Interior on 12 December, 1980. The more recent survey and subsequent detailed study has reduced the boundaries of the eligible district to exclude properties no longer exhibiting sufficient physical integrity to meet the National Register criteria for historic districts. Within the district are sections which reflect different patterns of growth and use including a wide variety of building types and functional areas. Commercial, public, industrial and residential zones survive retaining their historic uses and distinguished by an eclectic mix of architectural styles from throughout the long period of signficance.

The Rossman Avenue Historic district is located east of the Hudson Historic District and contains 14 contributing features. Outside the grid plan, it is a small, five acre residential district developed in the early 1900's. There was

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### **National Register of Historic Places** Inventory—Nomination Form

data entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

7

Page

4

little open space in the original grid plan for twentieth century development. This situation both contributed to the preservation of the nineteenth-century fabric of the city and also led to the development of later homogeneous suburban neighborhoods in the fringe areas of the city. Continuous development in these areas throughout their history has made districts with historic integrity difficult to identify. However the Rossman Avenue Historic District has been identified as a distinctive group of Queen Anne style, English Revival style and Bungalow style houses built between 1894 and 1930, without intrusions. The district provides a dimension of Hudson's twentieth century architectural history not contained in the larger historic district.

The eleven individual properties included in the nomination are scattered throughout the city outside the boundaries of the historic districts. these properties embody distinctive characteristics of building types significant in the history of the city and not represented in the districts such as, The Hudson Railroad Station, The Hudson and Boston Railroad Shop, the New York State Armory,

the Hudson City Cemetery, and the Harder Knitting Mill. One late eighteenth century residence reflecting the New England building tradition. the Robert Taylor House, is remote from the district but significant. Some especially distinctive intact examples of suburban houses, such as The Anson B. Fuller House, The William Brocksbank House, and The Hawthorne House from the nineteenth century and The Victor De Prosse House and The Delbert Dinehart House from the twentieth century, are also represented. These individual properties are further discussed in the text below and on individual component forms attached.

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

data entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

7

Page

5

Sites where the primary significance may be archeological have not been evaluated. The Hudson Correctional Facility, located at the southern fringe of the city, will be evaluated later in a statewide context of correctional history.

The city of Hudson is located on the east bank of the Hudson River in Columbia County approximately thirty miles south of the state capital at Albany. It is sited at the natural head of ocean-draft navigation of the river on a rocky promontory between the two inlets known as the North and South Bays. Hudson was founded in 1783 and development followed a narrow rectangular grid pattern which extended inland one mile along a gradually rising ridge. Oriented around five major east-west streets with intervening alleys and eight regularly spaced cross streets, the city was built according to a concentrated and orderly urban development plan. The area outside the grid was reserved for agriculture, a burial ground and future expansion.

The grid plan has remained unaltered and contains an uncommonly intact concentration of historic structures ranging in date from 1783 to 1935, with the vast majority constructed during the early and mid-nineteenth century. Ravines that cut across the ridge interrupting the grid were gradually filled in the early nineteenth century to allow for expansion within the plan. The flanking bays were once the site of wharves. With the construction of the Hudson River Railroad in 1850, the bays were bridged and landlocked and subsequently filled for the expansion of industry. Beyond the original grid, the eastern end of the city encompasses the top of the ridge, known as Prospect Hill, which contains the old cemetery, now enlarged, on its east face and the city's water supply storage reservoir at the

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

6

summit. North of Prospect Hill, a concentration of early buildings is located where regional highways from the north, east and south intersect as they enter the city. These roads follow the routes of turnpikes opened in the first decade of the nineteenth century. This area, except for the immediate crossroads vicinity and lands farther north, is now characterized by twentieth century suburban development.

In the original grid plan, the central east-west axis, Warren Street, was conceived as the major transportation link to the river and the commercial core of the city. It was paralleled by Diamond (now Columbia) and State Streets on the north and Union and Allen Streets on the south. Intervening alleys provided access to the rear of narrow, rectangular lots, a common characteristic of early grid plans.

Nine intersecting north-south streets beginning with Front Street at the river side and then numerically ordered from First Street east to Eighth Street at the base of Prospect Hill subdivided the plan. Fourth Street, the central cross-street evolved as another major axis with the county courthouse at its southern terminus at Allen Street and the alms-house (now the city library) at its northern limit at State Street. One of the city's major churches, the First Presbyterian Church, and the site of the city's first city hall and jail are located at Fourth Street's junction with Warren Street. Third Street is the only street which extended south beyond the grid pattern, skirting the South Bay and becoming the highway to the

### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received

data entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

7

Page

7

lower parts of the county and state. The northern exit from the city was via turnpikes meeting at the city's eastern boundary.

Parks were planned at opposite ends of the city. The area atop the bluff at the river's edge was preserved as open space and named Promenade Hill. It provided a dramatic vista of the Hudson, particularly to the south where the river widened beneath the backdrop of the Catskill Mountains on the west side. This view, as well as that towards South Bay and Mount Merino on the east shore of the Hudson, was a popular subject of landscape paintings in the nineteenth century. At Seventh and Warren Streets a one-block square park or public square was located creating an attractive introduction to the city from the outlying districts to the east and south. This effect was marred somewhat later when the Hudson and Boston Railroad was constructed through the park. Both parks are included in the Hudson Historic District. The only other open space in the plan is at the courthouse at Fourth and Union Streets where a landscaped green east of the courthouse is titled Washington Square.

The nine-block length of Warren Street is the primary architectural resource of the city of Hudson. The most distinctive and intact nineteenth century urban streetscape surviving in the Hudson Valley, Warren Street provides a remarkably complete record of the city's architectural history. While the densest concentration of structures from Hudson's initial growth period (1784-1810) is located on Warren and Union Streets between Front and Second Streets (listed on the National Register in 1970 as the Front Street - Parade Hill - Lower Warren Street Historic Distric), it is evident that early buildings were erected along the entire

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Columbia County, New York
Item number

7

Page

8

route of the main street, particularly at intersections. The street is now composed of a full range of largely commercial structures built between 1784 and 1930 of compatible scale and design, uniformly sited at the sidewalk's edge. A good example is the array of two and three story Federal, Greek Revival and Italianate style stores located between 511 and 541 Warren Street (shown in photo 10). Among the many distinctive and stylish facades of public, religious and banking institutions, three and four story attached commercial buildings, and late nineteenth-early twentieth century rowhouses (see photo 9 for a Queen Anne-style row) are interspersed numerous surviving vernacular brick and frame houses erected by Hudson's original settlers. These remnants are particularly situated in blocks west of Third Street. For example, 113 Warren Street was built by Robert Jenkins, son of one of the founding proprietors. Nearby at 22, 26 and 115 Warren Street are similar five-bay, two story Federal style structures.

Union and Allen Streets, south of Warren are distinguished by exceptional residences variously reflecting the major periods of styles and growth in the city's history. From Third Street west, the scale and styles are more modest but tend to be earlier. These homes are small brick or frame dwellings or rows. Allen Street west of Second was not opened until the 1830's, and its mix of working-class housing and small industrial structures relates it to the South Bay area located below it. East of Third Street, Union and Allen compose a distinguished mid-nineteenth century neighborhood of late Greek Revival, Italian Villa and Picturesque style residences oriented to the Court House Square at Fourth Street. Representative examples include a board and batten Gothic Revival residence at 335 Allen Street, a frame

9

Continuation sheet

#### United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

#### **National Register of Historic Places** Inventory—Nominati

received

data entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area 7

Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

Greek Revival style home at 358 Union Street, and an eclectic mix of Victorian mansions and a prestigious brick row from the Civil War period, all facing Washington (Courthouse) Square (See photos 35, 37 and 38). Late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences of equivalent scale and pretention were added within intervening spaces and on new streets such as East Allen Street and Willard Place. Although the streetscape became denser as a result of this late period of development, it served to enhance the significant architectural record of the city. The integrity of the grid plan was preserved.

Less orderly development, primarily of a maritime nature, took place initially south of the promenade on the shores of the Hudson and South Bay. Railroad and industrial development in the last half of the nineteenth century altered the waterfront, bay and land area dramatically. Recent twentieth- century urban renewal and industrial growth has all but obliterated historic fabric in the area; however, several examples of eighteenth-and nineteenth- century architecture, such as the Robert Taylor House (c. 1790) at 68 Second Street, the Hudson and Boston Railroad Shop (c. 1850) on Water Street, and the Hudson Railroad Station (c. 1860) on South Front Street, all individual components in the nomination, survive to indicate the scale, style and characteristics of historic development in the South Bay area.

Remote from the railroad sidings and wharves, the North Bay section of the waterfront developed to a far lesser degree than its counterpart on the south. the 1870's, the area contained two breweries, a slaughter house and brick yards which mined the clay bluffs forming the topography north of the city. Few historic structures survive in this area, and none were identified as meeting the National

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form** Hudson City Multiple Resource Area

For NPS use only

received

7

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Columbia County, New York

Page

10

Register criteria for nomination. Correspondingly, the residential architecture of the north side of the city along Columbia and State Streets was far less varied and distinguished than that found on Union and Allen Streets. These north side streets were traditionally poorer and working class neighborhoods, Columbia Street appearing to have grown at an earlier date than State Street, which is characterized by post-Civil War construction. Housing is closely situated but usually detached, characterized by two-story frame structures with plain detail and little ornament. Tenement groups are in evidence throughout the section. Unlike the south side, the distinctive types and design of buildings are found here on the numbered cross Small factories, such as the planing mill included in the Hudson Historic District at Fourth and Columbia Streets, public edifices, such as the schools at Fourth and State, also included in the district, and brick commercial or Italiante style tenement blocks are predicably located at intersections. Representative examples of the tenement blocks with good physical integrity are included in the district on Fourth Street and upper State Street.

The Gifford Iron Works was located on Columbia Street above Seventh Street as early as 1816.

The location of the iron works determined the route of the 1838 Hudson and Boston Railroad through the city which, in turn, created a small industrial area in the vicinity of the railroad siding on State Street between Sixth and Seventh Street. The c. 1860 railroad depot here is included in the district. In the 1880's the Harder textile mill was erected on Sixth Street in this location close to the railroad. The mill, which is also included as an individual component

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use on

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Columbia County, New York
Item number

7

Page

11

spawned a nearby workers' community. Examples of these two-story, mostly frame dwellings are included in the historic district on State Street.

With the grid plan effectively filled by the opening of the twentieth century, outlying areas became the focus of new development. Open space on the plateau which extended north of the city grid between Fourth and Sixth Streets provided some room for expansion in this period, introducing middle class homes into the previously working class area. In 1897, New York State constructed an armory incongruously at State and Fifth Streets in the midst of this residential neighborhood. The armory, designed by prominent architect Isaac Perry, is an individual component of the nomination. Land in agricultural districts along the turnpikes, was subdivided as were former suburban estates. Three individual components of the nomination, the Federal style Hawthorne House of the early 1800's, the Brocksbank House, an Italianate style frame estate home from the 1850's, and the Anson B. Fuller House, a picturesque board and batten Gothic Revival "country" home from the early 1840's, are all structural remnants of much larger nineteenth-century properties whose grounds were developed in the twentieth century. Other estates were demolished entirely.

The Hudson City Cemetery, an individual component of this nomination, expanded greatly in the late nineteenth and twentieth century. The early burial ground was expanded up the hillside on the southeast side of Prospect Hill. While its steep topography and density discouraged a rural cemetery aspect, distinctive stones, crypts and fencing, mature plantings, and terraced roadways contribute to a

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For MPS use only received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

7

Page

12

picturesque as well as historic landscape. Later twentieth century cemetery expansion in the former Brocksbank property is not included in the nomination.

At present, there is insufficent data on which to evaluate the significance of the twentieth century neighborhoods as districts and more recent additions serve to compromise their integrity; however a distinctive individual example such as the Delbert Dinehart House (1910), the Victor de Prosse House (1912) at 80 Short Street and a small, intact collection of late nineteenth century and early twentieth century houses on Rossman Avenue contribute to understanding the later architectural history of Hudson and are included in the nomination. Further study may reveal the significance of other individual properties or areas constructed in this period.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		landscape architecture law literature military music t philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater _X_ transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1783-1935	Builder/Architect	Various	

Among the cities that developed along the Hudson River over the last two hundred years, Hudson has survived with the highest degree of architectural integrity. Unique in the region for both its grid plan and history as an inland whaling port, its distinctive period streetscapes are unequalled in the Hudson Valley. In addition to numerous Federal and Greek Revival period buildings, Hudson has an unusally strong collection of commercial structures from the 1850's and 1860's and residential streets characterized by the eclectic architecture of the mid-and late-nineteenth century and early twentieth century.

Hudson did not grow around a cross-roads or a river landing as did most Hudson River cities. It has historical distinction as one of New York's earliest planned cities. Incorporated as a city in 1785, within the short space of two years after its founding, it was settled by a group of New England traders who chose the site as a promising location for a completely new community offering both financial rewards and freedom from problems that existed in previous locations. The growth of Hudson was unparalleled during the first few years as the establishment drew a diverse group of residents.

As it survives today, Hudson is a little-changed and well-preserved testimonial to the integrity of the late eighteenth century city and its subsequent nineteenth and early twentieth century growth. Because space within the grid planned by the original founders was limited, little modern construction has occurred and few instrusions have found a place on its nineteenth century streetscapes. Buildings included in the Hudson Multiple Resource Area date from 1783 to 1935. The city's

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received
data entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

2

historic resources include the Hudson Historic District, a large area containing the majority of the city's significant commercial, residential, governmental and religious buildings from the nineteenth century; the Rossman Area Historic District, a small intact residential historic district from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; and eleven individual components representing the rich architectural and historical development of the city. These include: Railroad Station, a representative example of railroad station architecture from the 1860's; the Hudson and Boston Railroad Shop, a remnant of the heavy industry on the city's waterfront; the Robert Taylor House, an eighteenth-century house incorporating Hudson Valley style elements and associated with an early Hudson industry; the New York State Armory, a distinctive example of the Richardsonian Romesque castle style armory, here designed by prominent architect Isaac Perry, last architect of the New York State Capitol; the Victor de Prosse House, a unique example of early twentieth-century avant garde architectural style done by a Hudson architect; the Anson B. Fuller House, a distinctive suburban example of the Gothic Revival style as it was popularized in mid-nineteenth century Hudson; the Delbert Dinehart House, a unique residence of 1910 which embodied characteristics of style, materials, and construction not common to Hudson; the Harder Knitting Mill, a distinctive example of a nineteenth century textile mill important in the regional economy; Hawthorne House, a distinguished and well-preserved brick residence from the same period, associated with a famous Hudson lawyer; the William Brocksbank House, an architecturally noteworthy Italian villa type suburban residence of the mid-nineteenth century; and the Hudson City Cemetery, a distinguished example of a

#### **National Register of Historic Places** Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

3

community burying ground begun in 1784 and used throughout the nineteenth century, containing not only graves of early settlers from New England but later crypts illustrating Greek Revival and Gothic Revival architectural motifs, and Picturesque style attributes such as terraces, roadways, and animal, human, and religious statuary.

There was little at the site of Hudson in 1783 except an ancient landing, containing two wharves sheltered by a bluff, and two related stores. Nearby were scattered a few early residences - housing fewer than ten families - and a grist mill. Rich, productive inland agricultural lands, particularly on the flats along the Kinderhook and Claverack Creeks, had been settled with farms for over a century. Conflicting claims for the land where Hudson was later situated had developed when Jan Frans Van Hoesen, a German who had resided at Beverwyck (Albany), acquired land from the local Mahican Indians in 1662. The site was then part of a patent known as Claverack granted to the Van Rensselaer family in 1649, when New York was a Dutch After the English gained control of the colony in 1664, new patents were colony. In 1667 the English Governor Nichols granted the patent to the Van Hoesens. Litigation between the heirs of the two families was finally settled only at the time of the purchase of the parcel, then called Claverack Landing, by the New Englanders in 1783.

During the Revolutionary War, ocean traders on the New England coast were beseiged by the British navy, both at home and at sea. A group of shipowners, seamen and merchants from Providence and Newport, R.I., Nantucket, and Martha's Vineyard, most of them Quakers, formed an association with the goal of establishing

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received

date entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Columbia County, New York
Item number

Page

4

Continuation sheet

a new city at some safe inland site with access to the high seas. After evaluating locations on Long Island Sound and the Hudson River, Claverack Landing was selected. Land here was purchased in the summer of 1783, from Peter Hogeboom, Jr., owner of a store and wharf, and from the estate of Francis Hardick, grandson of Catherine Van Hoesen. The following year, a large parcel was bought from Col. John Van Alen, who was married to a Van Hoesen heir. Additional land on the South Bay was acquired from the Van Alen estate in 1799.

The Proprietors, as the association members were known, formally signed articles of agreement and arranged to move to the site; a few arrived in the fall of 1783 and the majority in spring, 1784. The Proprietors had apparently given much thought to the orderliness desired in the city, and chose an elongated grid plan which gave similar sizes to house lots, and ensured uniformity of siting along sidewalks of the main streets. To this plan they added the amenity of long alleys intended to give access to the rear yards and back entrances of both residences and commercial locations. Front Street, Main (now Warren), State, Diamond (now Columbia), Union, and Second and Third Streets were opened. As there was considerable work involved in developing the streets across the uneven terrain, the western end was developed first and growth then moved east, but Warren, the long central street, was occupied all the way to Sixth Street, according to the Proprietor's intentions, before 1800.

The city immediately attracted inhabitants. Merchants, mechanics, seamen, and laborers, as well as land speculators gravitated to Hudson from other areas of New York and New England. The Yankee character of the Proprietors and their

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received

date entered

8

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Columbia County, New York
Item number

Page

5

business-like approach to Hudson's formation contributed to a New England style in the physical design and the social patterns of the community which was in distinct contrast to the established Hudson river villages. Lacking a colonial history and without the conservative Dutch leadership prevalent in the region, Hudson embodied many of the progressive ideals of the new republic in its energy, ambition and as a haven for new arrivals.

The period of population migration from New England into the margins of the Hudson Valley had begun in the 1760's with the end of the French and Indian Wars. The idea of capitalizing on the latent productivity of the Hudson Valley was tempting to many New Englanders. Choosing the site for a city was part of that speculation. Hudson's growth set records. New York City papers depicted as unparalleled its increase in population and business importance in the two years following its settlement. This growth encouraged others to invest in communities along the river.

By 1786, the city of Hudson contained wharves and large warehouses, a 600- foot rope-walk where heavy nautical ropes were made, an oil works for processing whale oil, a distillery, shops, barns, and 150 dwelling houses. A population of 1500 was reported and eighteen innkeepers were licensed. Twenty-five seagoing vessels were quartered at Hudson and a new shipyard had already produced a 300-ton ocean-going ship. Farmers and craftsmen from the interior brought "grain of various kinds, boards, shingles, staves, hoops, iron-ware, stone for building, and sundry articles of provisions for the market". Among Hudson's early industries were the tanneries,

<sup>1.</sup> Franklin Ellis, History of Columbia County, New York. 1878. (Reprint. Old Chatham, N.Y.: Sachem Press, 1974), p. 159.

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number For NPS use only received date entered

Page 6

located along the South and North Bays. One was run by Robert Taylor, whose house at 68 South Second Street is an individual component. The tanneries depended on both local and imported hides, including seal skins provided by locally financed ventures. Many hides were shipped in, tanned, and sent out again. Hemlock bark for the tanning process was procured in nearby mountains. Local slaughtering for hides, and meat and fish packing were also established as important businesses. Meat and dried fish, and country produce of other kinds, were shipped as far as South America.

8

Hundreds of frame and brick houses had been built in the city before 1800. These houses differed from the conservative farmers' housing of the Columbia County countryside, which had evolved from traditions of settlers with Dutch or other northern European descent. This local style is best illustrated by tanner Robert Taylor's House c. 1790, 68 Second Street, with its one and one-half story form, brick construction, center door, and gambrel roof with "Dutch" dormers. (individual component) One other house with a gambrel roof exists in the Hudson Historic District, a brick residence at 126 Union Street. Nowhere in the city is there an example of the typical earlier Hudson Valley farmhouse with its very steep gable, such as Col. John Van Alen is reported to have been living in when the New England settlers arrived. On Van Alen's property, at the eastern edge of the city, the Hudson Cemetery (individual component) was established in 1784. The cemetery includes the earliest Quaker gravestones as well as later distinctive vaults of the Greek Revival and Gothic Revival periods, and Victorian landscaping and statuary.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

8

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

7

Early illustrations of Hudson show a city of small buildings, dominated by church steeples and smokestacks, and situated along an east-west axis and along the waterfront. The overall scale was modest, in the range of three or occasionally four bays per structure and two stories in height; the buildings were simple and unadorned. Of a number of these remaining, a good example is at 446 Warren Street in the Hudson Historic District, a gable-roofed, a three-bay, two-story brick building laid in Flemish bond, with an entrance in the east bay. Buildings of this generally New England-inspired type are found on lower Union and Warren Streets in the Hudson Historic District, interspersed with more substantial later Federal style buildings, Greek Revival period structures, and mid-nineteenth century buildings.

As the Hudson economy expanded, Federal style structures became more pretentious. Intact examples of this type also survive on lower Warren and Union Streets in the Hudson Historic District, such as the Laban Paddock House (117 Union Street) with the typical five-bay, two-story rectangular shape of the Federal period, as well as an elliptical fanlight over the front entrance. Symmetrial chimneys are located inside the end gables and the brick bond is Flemish. The bricks are large. The house is similar to the "General Worth House," two doors away (211 Union Street) and to other two-story Federal style brick and frame houses (with roof ridges parallel to the street), in the area. The Robert Jenkins House of 1811 at 114 Warren Street has the same shape, orientation, and brick bond, but more refinement of design. Here the elliptical fanlight has been enlarged to cover sidelights beside the door, a Palladian adaptation matched by a second-story three-part window surmounted by a similar elliptical fanlight which is located in

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form Hudson City Multiple Resource Area

received
date entered

Continuation sheet Columbia County, New York

Item number

8

Page

8

the center bay over the door. The fanlight arch has a center "keystone." This is a very familiar Federal style facade in Columbia and neighboring counties as the New England taste was accommodated into the Hudson Valley vernacular.

Another outstanding brick Federal style house in the Hudson Historic District at 7 Union Street exhibits the same five-bay, two-story form, but has a less elaborate version of the three-part center window matching the entrance below. In this case, wooden trim extends the line of the pilasters up to the entablature over the central door. A row of small modillions decorates the cornice. Union Street's solid rows of brick Federal houses do not have the Adamesque delicacy of swags, triglyphs, and fluted pilasters which can be attributed to the early 1800's. The former Bank of Hudson, of c. 1820, at 116 Warren Street in the Hudson Historic District, with its parapet gable ends, marble pilasters and medallions, typifies interpretations of English architecture that were being made by Boston architects, a sophistication of design extraordinary in Hudson. Federal interiors feature wooden mantels, wooden trim with corner blocks at doors and windows, center halls with slender round railings and slender tapered balusters on stairways that may ascend in a graceful curve. Touches such as small, built-in tea cabinets, like those found in the Laban Paddock House at 117 Union Street, decorated fireplace walls.

Lower Union Street in the Hudson Historic District contains a series of the city's remaining eighteenth-century buildings. These structures are associated with Hudson's founding and with the Proprietors and their families. Some Proprietors brought grown sons who took an active part in Hudson's early history. Laban Paddock, a son of Proprietor Stephen Paddock, is a good example. Laban engaged with

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

9

his brother, Judah, in the sloop traffic on the Hudson and was active in the first fire company and in other community affairs. An educated man who lived to be 92, he wrote a brief history of Hudson for the City Directory in 1856. His brick house at 117 Union was probably erected in the early 1790's. A few doors away is a similar two-story brick house erected in 1789 by the Jenkins family, three of whom were Proprietors. Here was born in 1794 one of the nation's nineteenth century war heroes, General William Jenkins Worth. Worth was a hero of the seige of Vera Cruz in the Mexican War after which he was considered for the Presidency. Congress presented him with a ceremonial sword. Fort Worth, Texas, Lake Worth, Florida, and other locations were named after General Worth, who died in Texas after his return there. An obelisk tops his hero's tomb at Broadway and Fifth Avenue in New York City.

Another very early brick building on Union Street in the Hudson Historic District, dating to perhaps 1785, is a gambrel-roofed residence at 126 Union Street. At the northwest corner of Fourth Street and Warren in the Hudson Historic District is Hudson's 1805 county jail. When Hudson became the county seat in 1805, the city donated its city hall at the southwest corner of the same intersection, and the jail was built close by. Later the city hall was replaced by the 1837 Presbyterian Church, but the jail remained. After 1835, when a second jail was opened in the new courthouse location, the 1805 jail became "Davis Hall" and City Hall, where cultural events were held. It then became a newspaper office in the 1860's, and has been occupied for that purpose to the present time.

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form Hudson City Multiple Resource Area

Columbia County, New York

For NPS use onli received data entered

Cara Sti

8

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

10

The city almshouse, now the Hudson Area Library at the intersection of Fourth and State Streets in the Hudson Historic District, is one of the city's most historic buildings. Constructed of stone in 1818, and planned by a committee including Judah Paddock, son of a Proprietor, and Barnabus Waterman, a mason credited with building most of the distinctive Federal period architecture in the city, the almshouse was an enlightened attempt to aid the indigent in the city. first floor has a center hall plan and high ceilings, while upstairs are numerous rooms located off a hall. Large windows throughout brought light and air to the It was used actively until the county built an almshouse in 1832 to which the city poor could be sent. From 1832 to 1851 the building became a lunatic asylum run by Dr. Samuel White, later director of the first state mental hospital in Utica. In Hudson he had established his reputation for treatment considered advanced for the time. Next the building served as a seminary for young women, a popular trend of the mid-nineteenth century, and then as a private home for a wealthy riverboat captain who was also head of an 1850's reorganization of the Berkshire and Hudson Railroad. In 1879 the building became the Hudson Orphanage, headquarters of the Hudson Orphan and Relief Association. The stone structure is presently owned by the Hudson City School District and used as a public library. Prior to moving into the old almshouse, the Orphan Association had occupied a late-Federal style brick building at the corner of State and Seventh Streets (620 State Street) in the Hudson Historic District for thirty-two years. The Orphan Association was begun and carried on for many years by a determined, influential woman, Mrs. Sally McKinstry. Mrs. McKinstry secured the site for the building from her father and canvassed the

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

data entered

8

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

11

city for funds to erect it, constantly writing about and speaking about the project until she had achieved her goals of a building and funds for neglected children.

As well as being distinctive examples of Federal style public architecture, the almshouse and the Orphan Association Building represent the enlighted conscience of Hudson's citizens of the early nineteenth century and have significance as a part of larger statewide movements to bring more humane care to segments of the population.

Local stone was rarely used within the city, except for foundations. Although there were a stone store and stone church in addition to the stone almshouse before 1840, these were exceptions related to special use.

Brick for residences and stores was more common, and was chosen even for foundations by mid-century. A large brick made of local clays was often used in the 1780's and 1790's residences; however, on Warren Street, older stores laid in Flemish bond feature a small brick, also locally made at the abundant clay beds north of the city. Flemish bond, in which headers and stretchers alternate, is a good predicator of age. Most Hudson buildings laid in Flemish bond predate 1820, but it was most commonly used in the 1780's and 1790's. No examples of Dutch cross bond, a common earlier Hudson Valley mode, are found in the city. The use of common bond gradually became more widespread during the early nineteenth century.

Many very early brick stores remain in place along Warren Street in the Hudson Historic District. The age of these buildings is betrayed by the Flemish bond of their lower stories. In the middle of the nineteenth century, a change of scale occurred along the street. In order to make room to expand and perhaps in order to

12

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

OF NPS use only

received

data entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

· Page

be fashionable, third and fourth stories were added to brick buildings which had already occupied locations on the street for fifty or sixty years. These buildings are noted on the buildings list. Because of an early concern with fire, many of Warren Street's commercial buildings were originally constructed of brick, but others were of frame construction. Only a few early one or two story frame structures survive, all behind false facades which hide gable roofs. Examples occur in the Hudson Historic District at 123, 406 and 724 Warren Street. As it was not so easy to add height to a frame building, some of them may have been removed to less valuable streets. 2

The Proprietors had provided Hudson with orderly growth. A visitor of 1807 remarked that Hudson was "of modern construction, and . . . consists of one very long Street." <sup>3</sup> Ravines which had impeded the construction of the straight streets of the grid plan, particularly at Third and Fourth Streets, were first bridged and then filled with earth. By the early nineteenth century, most of the center of the plan, as well as the entire Front Street and riverfront area had long been in use. A public square had been designated north of Warren Street and east of Sixth Street where the original plan ended. Seventh and Eighth Streets were added later. To

<sup>2.</sup> Madame Trollope described this process, in another city, in 1829: "one of the sights to stare at in America is that of houses moving from place to place. We were often amused by watching this exhibition of mechanical skill in the streets. They make no difficulty of moving dwellings from one part of the town to another. Those I saw traveling were all of them frame-houses, that is, built wholly of wood . . . the constant improvement going on there made it often desirable to change a wooden dwelling for one of brick." Francis Trollope, Domestic Manners of the Americans. Edited by Donald Smalley. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1949), pp. 89, 90.

<sup>3.</sup> Ellis, <u>loc cit.</u>, p. 163

13

### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

eceived

LECGIAGO

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

8

forestall disorderly siting while the streets were being laid out, the group had decreed that no houses could be located without permission of the site committee. For example, door steps could not protrude more than four feet from houses. The result was a uniform scale and siting still apparent along Warren Street.

In 1785 the city had received its charter as an incorporated city from the New York State Assembly, which made Hudson the third incorporated city in the state after New York City and Albany. One of the Proprietors was elected mayor and others councilors in the new city elections. (Despite elections, many powers remained with the Proprietors' Association until 1810, when the association finally disbanded.)

In 1790 the city had the distinction of being named a U. S. "Port of Entry" because of its active marine commerce with southern ports and South America. The fleet also included whaling and sealing ships. The first bank, post office and newspaper followed quickly. Economic growth continued, and by 1800, with over 4000 population, Hudson nearly became the capital of the state, losing by only one vote.

The choice of Hudson to be the county seat early in the mineteenth century drew numerous lawyers to the city and contributed to its prosperity. One lawyer attracted to the city was young Martin Van Buren, later to be President of the United States, who practiced in a building at 403 Warren Street, in the Hudson Historic District. Another well-known lawyer of the period in Hudson was Elisha Williams, eulogised by Oliver Wendell Holmes and known throughout New York and New England for his oratory. He lived at Hawthorne House, a distinguished two-story brick Federal style house oriented to newly opened turnpikes on the city's outskirts. Once the center of a large farm, this well-preserved residence,

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

data entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York

Item number

8

Page

14

retaining integrity of design and materials, as well as richness of historical association, is included in this nomination as an individual component.

The expansive world economy of the early 1800's lured enterprising Hudson shipowners into over-extension in the trans-Atlantic trade. When hostilities between Britain and France brought about a British blockade of ports in France and Germany in 1806 and 1807, the effect was felt in Hudson. Because ships which defied the blockade were confiscated, a number of Hudson vessels were lost. Profits from the trade were reduced. Then, in late 1807, in an attempt to avoid confrontation with Great Britain, President Jefferson imposed an American embargo in shipping, which further weakened Hudson's mercantile-based economy. Many Hudson businesses failed, and the once exuberant city quickly declined. The War of 1812 further undermined shipbuilding, its related industries, and trade in general. By 1815, Hudson had lost its status as a port of entry. The Bank of Hudson failed in 1819, reflecting the damaged statewide economy as well as events particular to Hudson. Because these events had the effect of bringing building to a halt in the city, there is an identifiable historic building cycle which lasted from 1783 to about 1807.

A modest business upturn began in 1829 when a group of investors revived the whale fishery for a few years. Also at this time the steamboat trade was opened, freed from Fulton's monopoly, and passenger business on the river increased. Hudson had its own passenger steamboat. Hudson-based stagecoaches became popular for off-season and inland transportation, and served a growing summer recreation trade. An oil manufactory and marble works were opened on Partition Street, and a large

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

8

data entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

15

frame building to house an oil and candle works, products of the new cargoes of whale oil, became a landmark, now gone, on the docks. Two new banks were opened in the 1830's. Yet, the widespread national depression of the late 1830's made this business success tenuous. Investors in a new railroad running into the city lost their funds when the venture collapsed.

Agitation for a rail line to connect Boston to the Hudson Valley began as early Slightly more than a decade later, in 1838, a line was opened to Hudson from West Stockbrige, Massachusetts. This was one of the first lines in the state and placed Hudson importantly in the development of rail transportation. railroad and its successors eventually had a great impact on the economy of the city. The promoters of the Hudson and Berkshire Railroad had hoped to connect with other proposed lines to the west of the river, in order to compete with the rival Erie Canal, and the Susquehana Turnpike. In 1841, the line was extended so there was an unbroken route between Hudson and Boston. Although the intial small line was not a financial success, after reorganization in the 1850's the Boston and Albany Road became a profitable line that is still in existence. The original track came into the city from the northeast. Instead of going to the North Bay (the original plan), it crossed the Public Square at Seventh Street and then, turning at right angles, ran west and across the South Bay to the docks. By the 1860's a depot had been built on Sixth Street near the Public Square. This station is in the Hudson Historic District. The arrival of iron ore and heavy materials such as marble slabs and lumber by railroad permitted industry to move away from the docks.

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

16

Other changes occurred in the city. A number of fires had brought rebuilding, especially near the docks. On ground burned over by a fire in 1815, First Street was laid out. In 1827, over the opposition of the downtown merchants, Underhill Road was opened leading north from the heart of the city, bypassing the commercial district.

In the Hudson Historic District is a memento of Hudson's venture in the whaling trade between 1829 and 1845, a humble two-story red frame building (c. 1830) at 26 Allen Street. Now a residence, it was part of Rufus Reed's oil manufactory, built to process whale oil. It is the only surviving remnant of that industry in the city.

At the intersection of Warren and Seventh Street in the Hudson Historic District, reinforcing the historic, mercantile character of upper Warren Street, are a three story c. 1830's brick warehouse, known around 1870 as Wardles Tobacco Manufactory, and opposite, on the northwest corner, a late Federal style freighting building, known about 1870 as " E. A. Roraback, wholesale." The latter three-story brick building has a roof flush with a parapet and quarter-round lights in the attic. Both of these buildings, while early, are laid in common bond.

Nearby, Rogerson's Hardware Store was established at its 615 Warren Street location in 1832. It and many other stores and houses in the city retain Greek Revival style characteristics from this second building period. Probably the most conspicuous design aspect of Hudson is the wide frieze and squat half-story windows of Greek Revival style cornices. Many traditional house forms and older buildings were upgraded with the embellishment of cornices, window trim and entrances in this

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

8

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

17

period and visually contribute to the historic quality of the streetscapes. A new building type evidenced about 1860 was the tenement, as industry expanded on the waterfront. Examples such as the buildings located at the intersections of First and Union Streets, and Third and Warren Streets in the Hudson Historic District, are significant architectural and social artifacts.

An important refinement to the city plan occurred in 1835 when the Courthouse and Washington Square were established at Fourth and Union Streets. The county, after the 1805 designation of Hudson as the county seat, had occupied Hudson's former city hall on Warren Street. Because of dissatisfaction with arrangements there, in 1835 a new location was donated by the city and a domed county courthouse was erected across the south end of Fourth Street. After this time, residential and cultural building around the square flourished. Allen Street was gradually lengthened so that by 1839 it extended from the square to Front Street. A new section of Allen, east of the square, was added. This block connected by way of Fifth Street to Union Street, which had begun to be the focus of development on its east end. Because of the depressed times following the 1837 bank panic, new building occurred gradually along these streets. The choice of areas near the courthouse for prestigious homes continued until the turn of the twentieth century.

Three successive courthouse structures were located on the Fourth Street site. The county activities provided stablility for the city, and attracted professionals to it. Hudson's 188 year history as the seat of Columbia County's governmental activity had a profound influence on the city and is associated with a third major cycle of building which began around the square and adjacent streets at mid-century.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Continuation sheet
Columbia County, New York
Item number

Page 18

Warren Street originally served as the seat of both city and county government but in 1835 the center of county activities became the new courthouse and square, at the south end of Fourth Street. This area has a high level of architectural significance today and a completely different character from Warren Street.

Government buildings, churches and prestigious homes have attractive settings around the green. The present courthouse, the third on this site, is a commodious

Neoclassical sandstone building with a dome. Four colossal columns front the projecting pedimented porch of the facade, centered between two wings. Inside, the wide foyer has a grand staircase to the second floor. The building was designed by the architectural firm of Warren and Wetmore, of New York City, in 1909. A previous courthouse of 1900, which burned, had been planned by architect Henry Moul of Hudson, one of the city's first local architects. He opened his own business here in 1896 and subsequently designed fine residences in the city, including a row on Warren Street at 426-428 Warren, and a Queen Anne home at 461 Allen Street, both included in the Hudson Historic District.

Another adornment of the district on the Courthouse Square is Christ Church (Episcopal) by English architect Henry G. Harrison. Ground for this Gothic Revival style building was broken in fall, 1854, but the spire fell in a wind storm in 1855 and had to be rebuilt, with the result that the first service was held in the church in 1857. Harrison also designed the chapel on the church grounds in 1863 and, in 1880, an addition to it. A mid-nineteenth century New York City architect of note, Harrison "built a variety of country villas and several major buildings in the New York City area and . . . was greatly respected and employed throughout his career by

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only received date entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number Continuation sheet

Page

19

the Episcopal Church." . . . The bulk of his work consisted of small townhouses, rural residences, and parish churches . . . Harrison's designs were greatly admired by American ecclesiologists in the mid-nineteenth century who felt that a Gothic Revival structure was a far more appropriate house of worship than a Greek temple." 4 Harrison must be considered among the architects who brought the mid-century interest in Gothic Revival residential structures to Hudson. For the small city, Harrison produced a small-scale stone church with an almost freestanding buttressed tower at its northwest corner and a projecting entrance in the center of the front gable, a decidedly Picturesque building harking loosely back to English parish churches. Lancet windows pierce the stone, and finials top the buttressed The church is an excellent example of the work of Harrison and is significant as an illustration of the evolution of the Gothic Revival style and of the expression of the reform movement in the Anglican and Episcopal churches which sought to use "correct" building styles to express spirituality.

Hudson's educated citizens became involved in such arcane considerations through Harrison, Richard Upjohn, and A. J. Downing, who all preached the suitability of certain designs for certain uses. Thus Hudsonians became involved in a kaleidoscopic nineteenth century choice of styles. Around the square, on adjacent blocks of Allen Street, Union Street, and on nearby Willard Place, all located within the Hudson Historic District, are residences of distinction in these

Anne H. Van INgen, "Henry Harrison: Master of the Gothic Revival". (Newsletter, Preservation League of New York State, November/December, 1982), p. 4.

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

•

Page 20

"kaleidoscopic styles." Many from that time on were designed by architects, a firm tradition in Hudson, or were taken from published plans. Besides Harrison, Upjohn, Downing and G. B. Croff, designer of a Willard Place house who had a statewide clientele, there were Henry Moul, who designed a courthouse and houses on Warren Street and on Fifth Street, M. O'Connor, who designed the German Lutheran Church on Union Street, and Victor LaProsse who worked in the city by the turn of the nineteenth century. These residences were immediately appreciated. One local historian wrote in 1862 about the beautiful residences of Allen Street and vicinity. Among them is a well-preserved board and batten Gothic Revival style cottage at 335 Allen Street, reminiscent of houses designed by Alexander Jackson Davis, and similar to cottages proposed by his colleague, Andrew Jackson Downing in popular publications such as Cottage Residences and The Architecture of Country Hudson has a valuable collection of mid-century villas and frame cottages of Italianate and Gothic inspiration. Some were undoubtedly built from the popular plan books of leading architects. Besides Harrison, Davis and Downing, all working in the Hudson Valley, Richard Upjohn, probably America's most influential architect of the period, also had local influence. He was active in the nearby cities of Poughkeepsie and Newburgh, and his designs for houses and churches were widely circulated.

The Amson B. Fuller House on Harry Howard Boulevard (individual component), is a frame, board and batten house in the Gothic Revival style. Also exemplary of houses in the Gothic Revival style, besides the two mentioned above, is a "Carpenter Gothic" house at 449 Union Street in the Hudson Historic District. These three

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

OF NP3 use on

data entered

8

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

21

typical houses feature scroll sawn trim on steeply pitched vergeboards, hood molds terminating in corbeled stops, and polygonal bay windows. The Gothic Revival style could take other appearances, and two other examples on upper Union offer variations on the style. Particularly appealing is a frame house at 611 Union, begun in 1851 and completed two years later, which is sheathed in wood to simulate rusticated stone. Its detailing includes diamond-paned windows and a mock-stone balustrade atop a polygonal bay window. A decade later, the adjoining residence at 617 Union, with its steep gable and decorated vergeboards, in the Victorian Gothic manner, was added to Hudson's Gothic Revival collection.

Near these Gothic Revival style residences on Union and Allen are other contemporary residences. Between 1851 and 1858 on Union Street, exactly opposite the end of Sixth Street, where it could be seen from the heart of the city, was erected an Italian Villa style brick house from a plan by Richard Upjohn. An English cabinetmaker and builder, Upjohn had become famous for his Gothic Revival churches, including Trinity Church in New York. In 1845 he designed a house for Edward King in Newport, Rhode Island, now designated a National Historic Landmark. Upjohn also did other important residences in Newport. Hudson's Italian Villa at 601 Union Street in the Hudson Historic District, now the Elk's Club, was an exact copy of the Edward King Mansion of Newport. This Upjohn plan was illustrated in Downing's 1850 book, The Architecture of Country Houses. In Upjohn's villa, arcades were plentiful and square towers prominent. Although some arcades of the Elk's Club have been enclosed, and first floor windows have been altered, the two square towers with their low-pitched hip roofs, the wide roof overhangs supported by brackets, the

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

#### United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area. Columbia County, New York Item number

8

Page

22

chimneys, and the round-headed windows at the tops of the towers are all intact from Upjohn's design. Another exemplary Italian Villa style residence, of frame construction with a center tower, is located in the Hudson Historic Districton the west side of Fifth Street, where it joins Allen (39 Fifth Street). At the eastern edge of the city, on landscaped grounds, the William Brocksbank house (individual component), was erected about the same time. Distinctive Italianate details characterize the two-story frame structure: round-headed windows, hood molds, "Tuscan" columns, and a projecting center bay presaged the Italianate style. The builder was a well-known florist, whose house was taken over by the city of Hudson in 1897. The house possesses integrity of setting as well as of design and construction.

When residential space around the courthouse ran out, around 1870, new streets were opened to provide sites for homes of the well-to-do. One of these streets, Willard Place, is within the Hudson Historic District. Willard Place, a dead end street, offered accessibility to the county offices and the city banks and industries, while providing the surroundings and privacy desired by the bankers and lawyers who built their Second Empire, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival homes there. An excellent example is the A.F.B. Chace Home at 4 Willard Place, designed in the 1870's by architect G. B. Croff of Saratoga, New York. The architect's drawings for this high style Second Empire style residence are fortunately extant in the archives of the Hudson Area Library. The mansard roofed frame house has a polygonal tower, pedimented dormers piercing the slate roofs of the main house and tower, a one-story north wing, and broad steps leading to an open porch which shelters the front door.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

23

The street overlooked a view to the southwest of Mount Merino and the South Bay, a popular subject with artists of the mid-nineteenth centry.

Another street, Rossman Avenue, (Rossman Avenue Historic District) represents the continuation of this trend into the twentieth century and is discussed below.

The arrival of a second railroad stretching between Albany and New York City in 1851 brought substantial economic relief to the city, particularly after the Civil The Hudson River Railroad, in combination with the reorganized Boston and Albany Line, permitted heavy industry to be successful in the city. The Hudson Iron Company, established in 1849, was erected on a point in the South Bay where its huge building with two tall smokestacks became a local landmark. Slag and cinders from the operation were used to reclaim about ninety acres of the South Bay. extensive railroad yards which replaced old abandoned wharves included a roundhouse, storage buildings, and a station near the south end of Front Street. station is included as an individual component. There were iron furnaces, a stove factory, and the octagonal Hudson Gas Works. Other companies made possible by the railroads were the Clapp and Jones Manufacturing Company of 1869, which made steam fire engines, the Philips Spiral Corn Husker Company of 1871, and the Hudson Paper Car Wheel Company of 1873. These have been demolished. On Sixth Street, near the Hudson and Boston Railroad depot, the early (1818) Gifford Furnace expanded its production of water turbines to include ice cutting and handling tools to supply the numerous ice houses in the upper Hudson Valley.

The appearance of the Hudson Knitting Mill (1872), demolished, and the

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

· Page

8

e 24

Harder Knitting Company (1882) (included as an individual component at North Sixth Street at Washington Street), illustrate the growth of railroad based industry.

Warren Street's continued "improvement," confirmed by an historian of the early 1860's, coincided with the improvement of the city's economic outlook. Its blocks took on the typical small-town appearance of the nineteenth century, especially between Third Street and Seventh Street, which it still retains. Projecting cornices top brick buildings two, three, and, rarely, four stories high. Ornamental wooden brackets, sometimes in pairs, mounted on wide fascia boards sometimes decorated with moldings or cut-outs, provided an Italianate style for most of the stores. Window lintels were ornamenated and shaped, with garlands, flower shapes, or animal heads occasionally appearing.

Every block, however, includes some non-merchantile buildings which break gently into this repeated pattern. Banks, firehouses, stores and churches, with an occasional residential "row" of three to five houses, constitute the interruptions.

Although Warren Street gives an appearance of small-town uniformity, upon close examination it exhibits architectural variety encompassing the whole range of buildings erected in Hudson between the late eighteenth century and the 1920's and displays styles ranging from early restrained shapes of New England derivation to later opulent banks built in Neoclassical modes.

At 369 Warren Street in the Hudson Historic District is the stone First Presbyterian Church, built in 1837. Partly because the original steeple was considered ungainly, in 1876 the congregation voted to tear down and change the

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

eceived

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

8

Page

25

whole front of the church. The result was the stone front accented by a towering, tapered steeple. The facade has two spires, a short one on the west as well as the tall buttressed and windowed one on the east with its clock faces. The church has a gabled front, Italianate (round-headed) windows, a large round-headed window in the facade with stained glass inserts, and three round-headed entrances. The grafting of this impressive Victorian Gothic front onto the large and solid stone Greek Revival period body of the 1837 building has produced a unique and very visible landmark, of significance as an illustration of a change to more sophisticated building tastes. The tower, because it can be seen so far away, dominates the city's skyline from the west.

At 327 Warren in the Hudson Historic District is the old city hall, built in 1854-1855. This massive building, with a high, and protruding, pedimented gable facing the street, has housed many services. It once contained the city offices, a post office, and a bank. On an upper floor was an exhibition hall, and the building was also known as an opera house. Ralph Waldo Emerson spoke there and Gallagurci sang there. It was relinquished as a city hall in the 1960's. Constructed of brick in the late Greek Revival style, the building has the shape of a large Greek temple. It is in a somewhat larger scale than its surroundings, and with its pediment, is noticeable in the sight line along the south side of the street. Modillions and dentils decorate the pediment, below which are four elongated windows topped by hood molds. The former first-floor arcade has been enclosed, but the building is essentially intact and is an imposing architectural presence on the street.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

data entered

8

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

Page

26

The Cornelius Evans House, an outstanding Second Empire style five-bay residence with a mansard roof and a three-story tower on its west wall, is located at 412 Warren Street (listed 11/1/74). The building, with its patterned slate roofs, and elaborate entablatures over the front entrance, elaborate center window of the second floor, and center dormer punctuating the mansard roof, embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, which is relatively rare in Hudson. The next house to the east, 418 Warren Street, is representative of a few well designed, turn-of-the-century eclecticly styled residences. A brick building with a variety of influences including Queen Anne and Romanesque, it has an irregular facade with a gable dormer and a three-story tower set at an angle on the east front. Lintels and string courses are of ornamental molded bricks, repeated as decorative squares under the front windows. Also notable are the period cast-iron railings which terminate in figured newels in the shape of dragons beside the front steps.

Hudson's present city hall, at 520 Warren Street, formerly the National Hudson River Bank, was erected in 1907 in the Beaux Arts style. Despite its modest size, the five-bay, two-story building of brick has a full-height pedimented marble projecting facade with a recessed bay on each side. The four freestanding marble columns close to the front entrance are Corinthian. The interior features oak woodwork and mantels, and period stained-glass windows around an interior light well. Other early twentieth-century banks dignify the corners of Warren and Fifth Street.

Well-preserved and still-functioning firehouses add interest to Warren Street at 440 Warren and 515 Warren. Another firehouse is very close, facing the Public

#### United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only received data entered

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York

Item number

8

Page

27

Square at 8 Park Place. Representative of these functionally designed firehouses is the 1889 C. H. Evans No. 3 Firehouse at 440 Warren, a two-bay, two-story brick structure topped by a small gable. Although a typical firehouse in plan, with engine entrance on the first floor, the building is made elegant by its proportionately large Richardsonian Romanesque windows on the second floor. and molded brick string courses relate the firehouse to residences, schools, such as the one at Fourth and Street Streets, and stores (such as the row with similar windows at 426-428 Warren Street) with the same details. Reflecting the state-wide popularity of Romanesque arches was the New York State Armory added to the city's streetscape in 1897. The brick structure features a two-tier facade of arches, and polygonal and round towers. It is a distinguished example of the type, and is an individual component.

By the twentieth century the original grid was largely filled. century architecture is to be found in the form of banks, a hotel facade on Park Place and scattered residences in the courthouse neighborhood. The grid's compact nature preserved the early planned city from future expansion. A large volume of early twentieth century residential architecture is found in later suburban streets north and east of the urban grid. The Delbert Dinehart House, an individual component, is a suburban residence built by a well-to-do Hudson merchant with Imported materials, classical details, and standards of taste wealthy connections. in the residence and outbuildings make the house a distinctive example of style, materials and workmanship not common to Hudson. The Victor de Prosse House, an individual component, also represents the period with its design and craftsmanship.

NPS Form 10-900-a

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area Columbia County, New York Item number

8

Page

28

De Prosse was an architect active in the area in the period. In addition, an eclectic district of English and Colonial Revival and bungalow types has been identified on suburban Rossman Avenue on Prospect Hill. The avenue was opened late in the nineteenth century on the former Rossman Estate, after a right-of-way to the city reservoir on top of the hill was established. Because of its hilltop location, providing scenic views toward the Hudson River and Mount Merino to the southwest, the street became a desirable residential location. The section represents that period in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when Hudson was prosperous due to heavy industry and the knitting mills. Gradually, bankers and lawyers erected frame houses along the avenue. The nine residences, some on double or triple lots, date from 1894 to the 1920's. They represent Colonial Revival, bungalow, and Arts-and-Crafts influences, built with balloon framing, and assembled of quality stock parts by skilled carpenters. Two were architect designed. 2 and 4 Rossman Avenue, are the only residences using brick two, at among the collection. The Rossman Avenue houses, well-preserved in the distinctive styles of the turn of the century, and embodying the distinctive characteristics of the period types, form a distinguished collection which extends into the twentieth century the review of all architectural styles symbolic of the growth of the city from 1783 to 1935.

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

											منيور كالمنا
10.	Ge	ograp	hica	I Data	l						
Acreage Quadran	gle nar	ne Hudson	n No, H	iple Res udson So uation s		Area ( compo	see in nents,	ventor Quadrang	y for le scale	ms for 1:24,	acreage
Zone	East	ing	Northing		,	Zone D H H	Easting		Northi	ng	
The both the c: descr:	ounda ity d ibed	of Hudso on tax	he mult n. The maps	istification iple resease boundar and just perties ove	ries of tified	indiv	idual entory	proper forms	ties with	and di	stricts
tate	N/A	10 A 13		code	coun	ity	N/A		·	ode	
tate	N/A			code	coun	···. ity	N/A		, ·	ode	
1.	Foi	m Pro	pare	d By	Also	see co	ntinua	ition s	heet		
ame/title	)	Neil La	rson	- • "1		* *		· r	- , :		
rganizat		-nistori	C Prese	Parks, ervation #1, Empi			d ate	August,	1985 4 <b>74-0</b>	479	
1.7		Albany	52-6. //		Pla	aza	NI.	ew Yorl		12238	<del></del>
ty or tov			storic	: Pres	erva		o c c c				ion
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			rty within the							
65), I her	eby no	minate this p	property for	vation Officer inclusion in set forth by	the Nationa	al Register	and certi				aw 89-
ate Hist	oric Pr	eservation O	fficer signa	ture	ulle	à L	. 4	rox	Le		
tte Dep	uty (	Commissi	oner fo	or Histo	Jic Pre	servat	ion	date	1110	us V	16,198
	Š use		byone vy	s naohuded in	the Nation	Il Regist <b>é</b> r					

1

### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

For NPS use only

received

date entered

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Columbia County, New York
Item number

9

Page

Continuation sheet

- MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
- 1. Atlas of Columbia County. Philadelphia: Beers, D. G. & Co., 1873.
- 2. Atlas of Columbia County. Philadelphia: Beers, D. G. & Co., 1888.
- 3. Beers, F. W. Atlas of the Hudson River Valley. New York: Watson and Co., 1891.
- 4. (Beers, S. N.) Map of Columbia County, N. Y. from Actual Surveys by S. N. Beers et al. Philadelphia: E. A. Balch, 1858.
- 5. Birdseye View of Hudson, N.Y. Hartford, Conn.: Rowley & Co., 1881.
- 6. Bradbury, Mrs. Anna R. <u>History of the City of Hudson, New York.</u>
  Hudson, New York: Record Printing and Publishing Company, 1908.
- 7. Columbia County at the End of the Century. (Published and Edited under the Auspices of the Hudson Gazette.) 2 Vols.

  Hudson: The Record Printing and Publishing Company, MCM.
- 8. Columbia County Directory for 1880-81. Newburgh, N.Y.: Lawrence and Company, 1880.
- 9. Ellis, Franklin. <u>History of Columbia County, New York</u>. 1878; Reprint. Old Chatham, New York: Sachem Press, 1974.
- 10. <u>Hudson of Today</u>. (Illustrated and Compiled by The Industrial Advertising Company of America.) Kinderhook: 1905.
- 11. Miller, Stephen B. <u>Historical Sketches of Hudson</u>. Hudson, New York: Bryan & Webb Printers, 1862.
- 12. Ottley, J. W. Map of Columbia County. 1851.
- 13. (Penfield, Daniel). A Map of Several Farms and Unappropriated

  Lands in the Town of Claverack and Corporation of Hudson

  Belonging to Daniel Penfield, Esq. Surveyed by Will.

  Cockburn Hauser, Wm. Cockburn, Jr., 1799.
- 14. Piwonka, Ruth, and Blackburn, Roderic H. <u>A Visible Heritage</u>.

  Kinderhook, N.Y.: The Columbia County Historical Society, 1977.

For NPS use only

received

date entered

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area

Continuation sheet Columbia County, New York Item number

9

Page

2

- 15. Roseberry, Cecil R. <u>Capitol Story</u>. Published by the State of New York. Albany, New York, 1964.
- 16. (Smith, Jonas). Plan of the City of Hudson. Surveyed by Jonas Smith, 1801.
- 17. Terry, Robert M., ed. <u>The Hudsonian</u>: <u>Old Times and New</u>. Hudson, 1895.
- 18. Travers, George W. A Century of Brewing, Hudson Ales and The Evans' Brewery, A History for One Hundred Years.

  New York: The Moss Engraving Company, 1886.
- 19. Trollope, Frances. <u>Domestic Manners of the Americans</u>.

  Edited by Donald Smalley. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1949.
- 20. Upjohn, Everard M. Richard Upjohn. Reprint of 1939 Edition.

  New York: Da Capo Press, 1968.
- 21. Van Ingen, Anne H. "Henry Harrison: Master of the Gothic Revival."

  Newsletter. Preservation League of New York State,

  November/December, 1982.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Hudson City Multiple Resource Area
Continuation sheet Columbia County, New York Item number

For NPS use only received date entered

Page 2

11

The historic resource survey of the City of Hudson as well as the research and drafting of the nomination narritives was completed by Shirley Dunn, historic preservation consultant, Schodack Landing, New York

#### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group dnr-11

	me Hudson MRA ate Columbia County, NEW	YORK	0	Muca hardneyd 10.21.88
No	mination/Type of Review		Gree	Date/Signature
1.	Hudson Historic District	Substantive Meview	Keeper	Jun hardayod 10.21.85
			Ąttest	
2.	Rossman-Prospect Avenue Historic District	Entered in the < National Register	Keeper	Admis Byen 10-21-85
	HISTOITE DISTITCE		Attest	
3.	Front Street-Parade	Substantive Neview	Keeper	Let.
	Hill-Lower Warren St. Historic District		Attest	
4.	(Boundary Decrease)		Keeper	
		÷	Attest	
5.			Keeper	
	·		Attest	
6.			Keeper	
			Attest	
7.	,		Keeper	
			Attest	
8.			Keeper	
			Attest	
9.	•		Keeper	
J•	•		Attest	
10			Keeper	
10.		• ,		
			Attest	