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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Nat. Register of Historic Places
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 Haxtun - Tower House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 4 Baker Road

not for publication

city or town Hopewell Junction

vicinity

state NY code NY county Dutchess code 027 zip code 12533

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

Ruth A. Purpura DBHPO 6/29/16
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:)

For Edson H. Beall 8.22.16
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.)

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

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

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY / Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone, Brick
walls: Wood

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

The Haxtun-Tower House is northwest of the intersection of Baker Road and Beekman Road just west of the hamlet of Poughquag in the Town of Beekman, Dutchess County, New York. Located in southern central Dutchess County, Beekman's semi-rural landscape is dotted with open fields, wooded land, suburban subdivisions, and a small number of hamlet centers. Route 55 runs east-west and the Taconic Parkway runs north-south through the town. Near the hamlets of Poughquag and Beekman, they are connected by the Beekman Road and the Beekman Poughquag Road; these two roads intersect just south of the Haxtun-Tower House. This intersection formed the core of the now-defunct hamlet of Beekmanville. Nineteenth and twentieth century homes are strung along Beekman Road; house lots are interspersed with woodlots, open land, and a few access roads connecting to subdivisions which are largely screened from the historic corridor. The Beekman Baptist Church, built in 1836, is located on the west side of Beekman Road across from the Haxtun-Tower House.

A gravel driveway enters the property from Baker Road to the west of the house. The Haxtun-Tower House is situated on a slight hill; the land remains level on the east, south, and west elevations and is partially built up with stone retaining walls on the north. A wooden fence with square posts connected by balustrades of delicate pointed spears runs along the southern edge of the property and turns the corner to the east. Several mature trees are located around the house, and mature plantings are located along each elevation. A ca. 1900 carriage house is located at the north corner of the property, and a ca. 2010 garage is located to the west. The nominated 3.4-acre parcel is the lot historically associated with the Haxtun-Tower House.

Narrative Description

The Haxtun-Tower House, built ca. 1850, is a two-and-a-half story, five-bay by three-bay side-gabled, frame house covered in clapboard and resting on a raised brick and stone basement. Four brick chimneys are visible over the roofline. The oral tradition associated with the house is that it was expanded ca. 1870 by the second owner. In its original form, the house would have been a three-bay by two-bay house oriented toward Beekman Road; Albert Tower expanded the house two bays to the east and made the south elevation the primary façade. Ultimately, it is unclear whether the house was originally built in its current configuration or whether Tower's modifications were as dramatic and comprehensive as tradition indicates.

A one-story, hipped-roof, full-façade picturesque porch runs along the south elevation. The porch is supported by square columns with brackets curved outward to create subtle archways. The entrance, located in the central bay, has a door with one large, central panel with detailed molding and a dramatic Greek Revival surround with a transom and sidelights. The door and three-pane sidelights are framed by pilasters with inset wood panels; the four-pane transom is located above a plain entablature over the door. Larger pilasters frame each side of the entrance. The entrance is flanked by four six-over-six windows with original crowned casings and operable shutters; five six-over-six windows light the second story. A wide, plain cornice band runs under the roofline.

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On the east elevation, a one-bay, flat-roofed entry porch covers the entrance. The porch roof is supported by two, fluted Ionic columns and two Doric pilasters. The porch roof is a full entablature; it has a simple cornice, plan frieze, and an architrave made of three horizontal clapboards. The door has two vertical panels and is capped by a two-pane transom. The entrance is flanked by two six-over-six windows; three six-over-six windows light the second story. A wide cornice band runs under the roofline of the building's full pedimented gable. A fanlight window is located toward the base of the gable, and a triangular vent is in its top. On the west elevation, six-over-six windows light the outermost bays of the first and second floors. A six-over-six window with a shallow gable lights the half story. The gable is accented by cornice returns and a triangular vent in its peak.

On the north elevation, the three easternmost bays of the basement are raised and accessible. The first several feet of the wall are stone while the remainder is brick. Two six-over-six windows light the two easternmost bays; their stone lintel marks the top of the stone and the windows are surrounded by brick walls. Stone retaining walls allow for stairs up to the primary level and preserve access to a six-panel basement entry door with three-pane sidelights. On the first floor, a set of stairs leads to a one-bay, entry porch that covers the central entrance. The porch is capped by a simple entablature and is supported by square Doric columns and pilasters. Two, smaller square pilasters frame the door, separating it from its three-pane sidelights. The entrance is flanked by two six-over-six windows with original crowned casings and operable shutters; five six-over-six windows are located on the second story. A cornice band runs underneath the roofline.

On the interior, the house is divided into a full basement, two floors, and an attic space. The house retains a remarkable level of integrity throughout; historic flooring, trim, doors, and details have all been retained. The basement is divided into an entry foyer, two finished rooms, and a larger, unfinished storage space. The basement exterior door on the north elevation leads into the entry foyer; the Greek Revival door has six panels of identical size and has a paneled surround. The walls of the foyer are plaster and wainscoting or covered in wide beadboard. To the east, a five-cross-panel door leads into a room with a large fireplace and bake oven. Wide beadboard wainscoting covers the walls; a five-cross-panel closet door is next to the entry door and has shared trim. On the south wall of the foyer, a staircase leads up to the first floor and a six-panel door with a Norfolk latch leads to the unfinished portion of the basement. On the foyer's west wall, a four-panel Greek Revival door leads to a laundry room.

The first floor is divided into a central hallway, dining room, kitchen, and two parlors. The majority of the doors on the upper floors have six, vertically oriented panels of identical size; all doors are of this configuration unless noted otherwise. The central hallway has six-panel Greek Revival doors and Greek Revival surrounds with pilasters on either end. A staircase with a Greek Revival newel post and Greek Revival molding against the wall leads to the second story. Near the base of the stairs, a doorway with eared molding and a crown leads to an interior, circular servants' stair to the second story. The dining room is located in the southwest corner. All of the doorways in the room are trimmed with eared molding with a shallow peak. The room also features original window trim and below-window paneling, baseboards, and a Greek Revival mantelpiece. A small foyer associated with the eastern entrance connects the dining room and kitchen. The kitchen features a Greek Revival mantel and windows with original folding shutters and surrounds. The two parlors are located on the east side of the house and are divided by a partial wall with paneled pocket doors. Both of these rooms feature windows with original folding shutters flanked by pilasters with inset geometric patterns and Doric capitals; pilasters also frame the pocket doors and corners of the center wall. The pilasters end at an entablature that runs around both rooms, a few feet below the ceiling; a decorative plaster cornice marks the

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juncture between the wall and ceiling. Both rooms have marble Greek Revival mantelpieces; in the southeast parlor, both pilaster caps can be pulled out to reveal the initials "J.T." carved in the back.

The second floor is divided into a central hallway and four bedrooms. The northeast bedroom has original trim and paneling around the windows and baseboards. The southeast room has trim with a central, inset groove and square corner blocks, paneling under the window, historic baseboard, and a Greek Revival mantelpiece. The southwest room has trim and a Greek Revival fireplace identical to those in the southeast room. The northwest room has trim and baseboards that match those in the northeast room. On its southern wall, this room has a bank of three doors with interconnected trim; these doors lead to the attic, the circular servants' stair, and a closet, respectively. Portions of the braced frame can be seen in the finished attic, which is one large open space. Square rule, pegged framing is visible, as is a later campaign of circular sawn beams connected by scarf joints which indicate either raising or modifying the roof structure.

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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.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1850 – ca. 1875

Significant Dates

ca. 1871

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins ca. 1850 when Haxtun constructed the house and ends ca. 1875 when the Tower-era modifications were likely complete.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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

The Haxtun-Tower House is significant under Criterion C as a noteworthy regional example of late Greek Revival residential architecture in Dutchess County. Built ca. 1850 for William Haxtun and reputedly expanded ca. 1870 for Albert Tower, the house clearly reflects the influence of period builder's guides through its use of specific interior ornamental details. The design and level of decorative detail speak to the wealth Haxtun had achieved as a young man, as well as the importance and value of iron mining in Beekman during the nineteenth century. Tower's improvements to the property reflect his needs for a grander summer home, but within a more modest approach generally respecting the original Greek Revival design of the house. The house retains an outstanding level of integrity, preserving virtually all of its mid-century finishes and trim.

In 1697, Colonel Henry Beekman obtained a royal grant for all of the land between the Rombout Patent and the Connecticut line. The grant included the land making up all or part of the present-day towns of Beekman, Union Vale, La Grange, Pawling, and Dover. In 1737, the land was organized as Beekman's Precinct. Families began arriving in the area during the early eighteenth century and slowly developed scattered, agricultural settlements. By the turn of the 19th century, the hamlet of Beekmanville developed on the Beekman Road, paralleling the Fishkill Creek; in 1839, a Baptist church was built in the hamlet. The settlement, which served as a modest center for the larger agricultural community in the area, remained small through the mid-nineteenth century.¹

The Haxtun family was among the initial families to settle in Beekman's Precinct and members had become well-established farmers by the early nineteenth century. Elnathan Haxtun, the grandson of settler Jeremiah Haxtun, was elected and served as town supervisor from 1835 through 1839. A prominent farmer, Elnathan owned several hundred acres of land in Beekman and operated a diversified farm typical to the region. While the family was well-positioned, a bit of good luck improved their fortune substantially. Born in 1832, William E. Haxtun grew up working and playing on the family's land. In 1846, at about the age of 14, William was exploring the property when he discovered substantial iron deposits. While the Clove Mine was opened in nearby Unionvale in 1834, nothing had previously been found in Beekman. It appears that the family began to do some minimal mining of the property soon after and was able to capitalize on its value to improve their agricultural operations.²

Although he was still living with his family, eighteen-year-old William is recorded as a farmer owning real estate valued at \$14,000 in the 1850 census; his father, Elnathan, owned property valued at \$19,500. Both of these land values are easily double that of their neighbors. The agricultural census indicates that Elnathan owned 200 acres of improved and 80 acres of unimproved land. His farm was home to five horses, four oxen, five milk cows, 12 over cattle, 50 sheep and 513 swine, all valued at \$1,270. With the assistance of his son and hired help, he produced wheat (150 bushels), corn (250 bushels), oats (250 bushels), wool (250 pounds), potatoes (200 pounds), butter (400 pounds) and hay (20 tons). While it is somewhat unusual to transfer land to a young, unmarried son, it may reflect Elnathan's interest in dividing the ownership of the valuable land or

¹ Frank Hasbrouck, *The History of Dutchess County, New York* (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.: S.A. Matthieu, 1909), 267; "Why Beekman," *The Poughkeepsie Journal*, August 9, 1964.

² Hasbrouck, *The History of Dutchess County*; University of the State of New York, *Bulletin of the New York State Museum*, vol. 2 (Albany, NY: University of the State of New York, 1890), 54.

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conferring some status and appreciation to his son for discovering the iron and managing the family's limited mining operation. As William's landholdings are not recorded in the agricultural census, it appears likely that his land was previously unimproved and included much, if not all, of the iron deposits.³

During the early 1850s, Elnathan became involved in regional and statewide agricultural societies. Dairying had rapidly overtaken wheat production as Dutchess County's primary industry as a result of the completion of the Erie Canal, and Elnathan appears to have been particularly interested in improving breeds of cattle. Stories of his massive "Haxtun Steer," which weighed 3,418 pounds at slaughter, were published widely. In addition, Elnathan again served as town supervisor from 1854-55.⁴

William E. Haxtun focused on establishing his farm as well as projecting his youthful success, and surely his status as Beekman's most eligible bachelor, to the community. He chose a prominent location on a slight hill on Beekman Road, close to the Baptist Church, and hired a skilled (as yet unknown) builder to construct a house. The Greek Revival style, which was particularly popular in the Hudson Valley between 1830 and 1850, was embraced by rural carpenters in the region. Nationwide, Americans became attracted to the style during the 1820s; its grandiosity reflected the popular sense of national optimism in the country and was a natural step from the Greek and Roman design elements common in the eighteenth-century Federal and Adam styles. While its use in major institutional projects by Henry Latrobe and his students, Robert Mills and William Strickland, increased awareness of the style, the American admiration for Greece during its struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire during the 1820s led to a wider popularization of Greek culture.

Period builder's guides, notably those written by Asher Benjamin and Minard Lafever, translated detailed studies of Greek temples and architectural vocabulary into usable details and proportional systems for carpenter-builders. Within a decade after high-style Greek Revival buildings began appearing in the Hudson valley, it gained acceptance in rural communities and was absorbed into local vernacular building traditions. In many instances, it became emblematic of a statement of agricultural prosperity.

Documentary evidence, as well as William Haxtun's young age, suggests a ca. 1850 construction date for the Greek Revival house. While this is somewhat late for the style, it was used into the Hudson Valley throughout the decade, particularly for religious buildings. In this case, Haxtun's choice of a conservative style may have been intended to project maturity or the particular skills of his builder.

According to tradition, the house was originally built as a three-bay-wide house facing onto Beekman Road. While the builder remains unknown, his familiarity with Minard Lafever's builder's guides is evident. The exterior of the house featured characteristic details of the style, including an entry porch supported by Ionic columns and Doric pilasters, a vertical two-paneled door, and wide friezes. On the interior, the house's original configuration appears to have been a central hall and two rooms. This portion of the house features wide Greek Revival moldings, window trim in three different forms: eared surrounds, eared surrounds with a shallow gable peak, and rectangular surrounds, wooden interior shutters, and wooden Greek Revival mantelpieces; window and door trim on the second floor are simple, rectangular Greek surrounds.

³ New York, Federal Census, 1850.

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In 1858, William married Sarah, six years his junior; she managed the household with the assistance of Mary Bowman, a young, black servant. By 1860, he had developed his property, which consisted of 205 improved and 20 unimproved acres and was valued at \$12,000, into a substantial dairy farm. William kept three horses, eight milk cows, four oxen, 15 other cattle, 24 sheep, and 16 swine. With the assistance of two hired hands, he produced wheat (180 bushels), rye (100 bushels), corn (350 bushels), oats (400 bushels), wool (144 pounds), potatoes (60 bushels), butter (1200 pounds), orchard products (valued at \$15), and hay (30 tons).⁵

In addition to his successful agricultural enterprise, William Haxtun remained mindful of the iron deposits on his land. In 1867, he sold the most valuable portion of his land to Poughkeepsie iron baron Albert E. Tower. Haxtun maintained a substantial farmstead, and served as a Beekman Town Supervisor in 1869. Soon after ending his term, however, the newly wealthy Haxtun decided to move away from the active mining operation, retire from farming and head west. In 1871, he put his farm up for auction and moved to Kewanee, Illinois. While it isn't clear what attracted him to Kewanee, he found a new interest soon after moving his family to the town. Haxtun had a steam radiator system installed in his new home in 1871 by the young Anderson Feed Steamer Company. Impressed with the technology, he purchased the company in 1875 and renamed it the Haxtun Steam Heater Company. The business was very successful; when Haxtun retired and sold the company in 1891, it was renamed the Western Tube Company. When he died in 1900, the *Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle* published Haxtun's obituary, describing him as a farmer while in Dutchess and a manufacturer in the west. Though he had been a resident of Kewanee for 30 years, the paper noted that William Haxtun was "one of the best known residents of that part of [Dutchess] County."⁶

Albert Tower

Albert Tower was born in Paris, Oneida County in 1817 to Jonas and Almira Tower. Jonas Tower, who had grown up in Paris, appears to have been an ambitious man and an amateur inventor. By the time he patented the plans for a cast-iron cheese press in 1837, he had moved the family to Madison, Ohio, and may have already become involved in the iron industry. Seven years later, Jonas Tower patented an improvement in the process of refining iron. Albert Tower followed his father into the iron business and was very successful. In 1841, he married Mary Ann Bidwell. By the age of 30, he had accumulated a small fortune and the young couple likely anticipated a bright future. Unfortunately, about a year and a half after the death of Albert's mother, Mary Ann died in 1848 at the age of 33. Albert left Madison soon after her death and established himself in Poughkeepsie in 1850.⁷

Poughkeepsie was an early center of commerce and trade along the Hudson River, and by the nineteenth century, its economy became dominated by industry and manufacturing; this was spurred by the completion of the Hudson River railroad to Poughkeepsie in 1849. The development of new rail lines across Dutchess

⁴ James H. Smith, *History of Dutchess County, New York* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1882), 545; Solon Robinson, ed., *Facts for Farmers* (New York: A.J. Johnson, 1869), 54-55.

⁵ New York, Federal Census, 1860.

⁶ Smith, *History of Dutchess County*, 545; Henry County Genealogical Society, *Henry County, Illinois History and Families* (Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing Company, 2000), 20, 145; *Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle*, June 20, 1900.

⁷ Edmund Platt, *The Eagle's History of Poughkeepsie* (Poughkeepsie: Platt & Platt, 1905), 297; Jonas Tower genealogy, available at <<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/NYDUTCHE/2006-08/1155434611>>; "Tower's Cheese Press," *The Monthly Genesee Farmer*, 80; Jonas Tower, "United States Patent 3850 – Improvement in the Process of Reducing iron or other Ores to the Metallic State by Coating them with Certain Fluxes."

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County transformed the iron industry in the region. While it had previously been essential to build massive iron furnaces and infrastructure near each promising mine, railroads facilitated the transportation of ore to a central furnace. The Poughkeepsie Iron Works, originally located on the Hudson River at the foot of Union Street, was organized in 1848. When he arrived in 1850, Albert Tower became part-owner and superintendent of the young company. The ironworks rapidly came to dominate Poughkeepsie's economy; within a decade it was recognized as its principal industry. In 1860, Tower joined James Emmot and Edward Bech in founding the Fallkill Iron Works and establishing a second ironworks further north at the end of Hoffman Street. Tower's efforts to acquire iron mines throughout the region were successful – both of his mines operated nearly constantly. He gradually took on a greater leadership role within the two companies; in 1875, they were reorganized into the Poughkeepsie Iron Company with Albert Tower as its president and manager.⁸

In 1868, the year after Tower purchased Haxtun's land, the Clove Branch Railroad Company was chartered; the 4.25-mile line ran from Clove Branch Junction to Sylvan Lake and helped to facilitate the shipping of ore from mines in the area, including on Haxtun's former land. Tower, unsurprisingly, was on the board of directors. In 1870, the company was allowed to extend additional smaller branches to serve specific mines.⁹

Tower opened the Beekman iron mine on Haxtun's former land within a quarter mile of the Clove Branch Railroad and 100 yards of Beekman Road in 1869. The mine, which was about 500 by 300 feet in size and 70 to 90 feet deep, also had a substantial washing operation, which helped to refine and improve certain types of ore. Rock ore and washed ore were then transported via the railroad to Tower's furnaces in Poughkeepsie for final processing. About 30 men worked in various capacities at the Beekman mine. In 1880, they removed about 7,364 tons of ore from the mine.¹⁰

Deed records indicate that Albert Tower purchased the house from William Haxtun in 1869. However, contemporary newspapers describe an auction of the house and farm taking place on August 21, 1871. An advertisement for the auction in the New York Tribune states that the property included:

255 acres, suitably divided into upland, meadow, and timber land. It is well watered and very productive. It is only a mile and a half distant from the railroad station at Silver Lake. The dwelling and outbuildings cost more than \$20,000, are first-class, and in first-rate order.¹¹

Tower may have purchased the Haxtun farm as much for the land's potential for containing further iron deposits as for the house itself. Purchases like this were not uncommon for Tower; in 1870, he purchased the Adolph Brower house (NR Listed, 1987), a ca. 1845 brick Greek Revival house, and a large adjoining quarry in New Hamburg. While he may have appreciated the handsome house, he was primarily interested in the extractive value of the land.

Soon after purchasing the Haxtun farm, Tower decided to use the handsome Haxtun house as a summer retreat. Clear evidence of the specifics of the modifications associated with the Tower period is difficult to

⁸ Platt, *The Eagle's History*, 157-58, 297.

⁹ Smith, *History of Dutchess County*, 101; University of the State of New York, *Bulletin*, 54; Second Annual Report of the Board of Railroad Commissioners of New York (Boston: Wright & Potter, 1870), 351

¹⁰ University of the State of New York, *Bulletin*, 54; Raphael Pumpelly, *Report on the Mining Industries of the United States* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1886), 129; Hasbrouck, *The History of Dutchess County*, 270.

¹¹ "Farm for Sale at Auction," *New York Daily Tribune*, August 26, 1871.

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determine absent substantial building investigation. This is due in no small part to the fine details and finish work that appear to be associated with this building campaign which left minimal interpretable clues; regardless, change over time is clearly evident.

According to tradition, Tower expanded the house to its current five-bay width, and reoriented the house's primary façade to the south with the addition of a façade-length picturesque porch, and likely the central, elaborate Greek Revival entranceway and surround, as well as the similar door on the opposite end of the hall; the frieze was extended across the elevation ending in cornice returns on the west. On the interior, the builder utilized more highly detailed vocabulary from Lafever in the two first floor parlors. Each features pilasters with an inset pattern surrounding the windows that extend upward to a simple entablature. Pocket doors framed with similar detailing connect the two rooms. Both have struck plaster cornices and stone Greek Revival mantelpieces. The delicate Greek Revival staircase may also have been added at this time. On the second floor, window and door trim in this portion of the building features butted molding with square rosettes. Roof framing visible in the finished attic, which shows two clear campaigns of building technology, also indicates some modification to expand or raise the roof. Tower's choice to continue to maintain the Greek Revival style of the original portion of the house allowed for a uniformity of design, even though the style was certainly outmoded by the early 1870s. The finished, showpiece country home was highlighted by an engraving in James Smith's 1882 *History of Dutchess County*.¹²

Later History

Albert Tower and his family enjoyed using the house as a summer retreat. His sons, Albert E. Tower (1863-1941) and Joseph Tower (1864-1925), certainly gained an appreciation for Dutchess County's countryside as well as the operation of an active mine while living at the property. As they grew older, the two sons became increasingly involved in the operation of the Poughkeepsie Iron Company. After Albert Tower died on December 24, 1891, his lands were split evenly between his sons and Albert E. Tower became president of the company.¹³

During the last decade of the nineteenth century, the Dutchess County iron industry, faced with competition from western mines with purer ore, gradually faded. The Beekman mine closed during the late 1890s. In the absence of this industry, agriculture regained its primary role in Beekman's economy. By the early twentieth century, dairy farming had become Dutchess County's primary enterprise.¹⁴

By the turn of the twentieth century, large gentleman's farms, often owned by second and third generations of wealthy families, had become a common in Dutchess County. Lime Ridge Farm, a 1,000-acre cattle and dairy farm owned by Henry Healy, was located east of Beekman Road. After the mining operation came to a close, Albert E. and Joseph Tower expanded the farm operations at the old Haxtun farm. After a substantial fire which destroyed a large barn in 1923, the brothers appear to have gradually lost interest in the enterprise. They sold the property to William Baker in 1929. The house was subdivided from the agricultural acreage by John Walker in 1954, and the house was sold to Gertrude Kohlman and Agnes Sams in 1955. Kohlman and

¹² Hasbrouck, *The History of Dutchess County*.

¹³ "At Rest. Funeral of Albert Tower on Monday afternoon," *Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle*, December 29, 1891; "Property of the late Albert Tower transferred to his sons," *Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle*, December 29, 1891.

¹⁴ Hasbrouck, *The History of Dutchess County*, 268-69.

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Sams' ownership was brief; they transferred the property to Robert and Gay Kendall in 1961. The Kendall family cared for the house for over fifty years before selling it to the current owners, who have recently worked to restore the building.¹⁵

¹⁵ "Are Probing \$18,000 Fire," *Poughkeepsie Eagle*, June 23, 1923.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

"Are Probing \$18,000 Fire." *Poughkeepsie Eagle*, June 23, 1923.
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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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Haxtun-Tower House
Name of Property

Dutchess Co., NY
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.21 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 607498 4607767
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting 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 nominated boundary is the house parcel which was subdivided from the agricultural land associated with the house in 1954. The remaining land was subdivided into suburban house lots and no longer reflects its historical use.

Haxtun-Tower House
Name of Property

Dutchess Co., NY
County and State

Haxtun-Tower House
Beekman, Dutchess County, New York

4 Baker Road
Beekman, NY 12533



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



Haxtun-Tower House



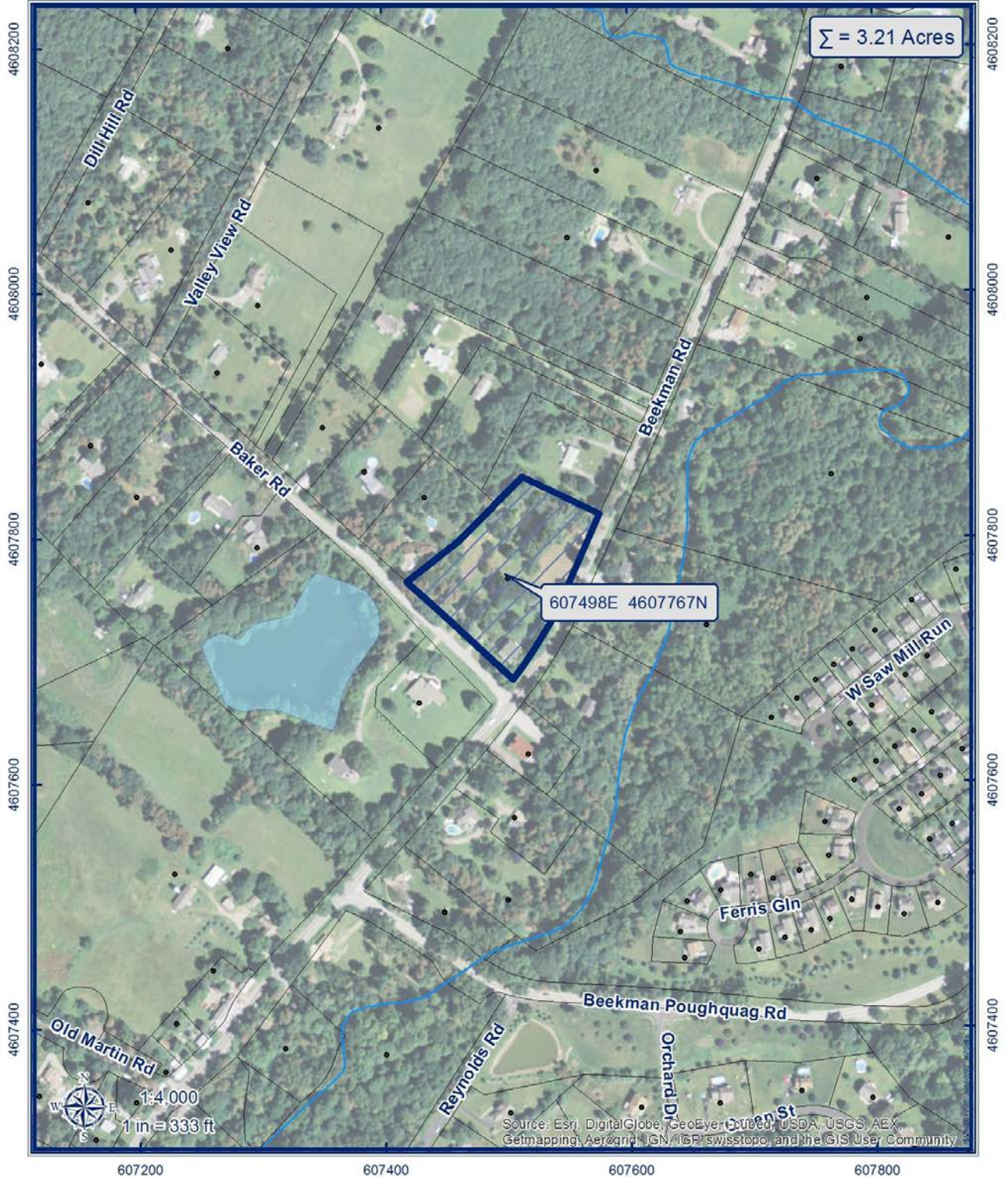
Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

Haxtun-Tower House
Name of Property

Dutchess Co., NY
County and State

Haxtun-Tower House
Beekman, Dutchess County, New York

4 Baker Road
Beekman, NY 12533



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



Haxtun-Tower House



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

Haxtun-Tower House
Name of Property

Dutchess Co., NY
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Betsworth (NY SHPO)
organization _____ date May 2016
street & number Peebles Island telephone 518-268-2189
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188
e-mail _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs:

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

Name of Property: Haxtun-Tower House

City or Vicinity: Beekman

County: Dutchess State: NY

Photographer: Jennifer Betsworth

Date Photographed: May 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0001
Façade and northwest elevation, facing east

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0002
Southeast elevation, facing north

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0003
Northeast and northwest elevations, facing southeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0004

Haxtun-Tower House
Name of Property

Dutchess Co., NY
County and State

Northeast elevation, detail, facing southwest

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0005
First floor, central hallway, facing northeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0006
First floor, dining room, facing southwest

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0007
First floor, dining room, facing southeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0008
First floor, kitchen, facing northeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0009
First floor, south parlor, facing east

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0010
First floor, south parlor looking into north parlor, facing northeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0011
Basement, facing northwest

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0012
Basement, facing southeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0013
Basement, facing northwest

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0014
Second floor, hallway, facing northeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0015
First floor, curving servants stair (from main hall), facing southeast

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0016
Second floor, doors to servants stair, attic, facing south

NY_Dutchess Co_Haxtun Tower House_0017
Second floor, bedroom, facing northeast

Property Owner:

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

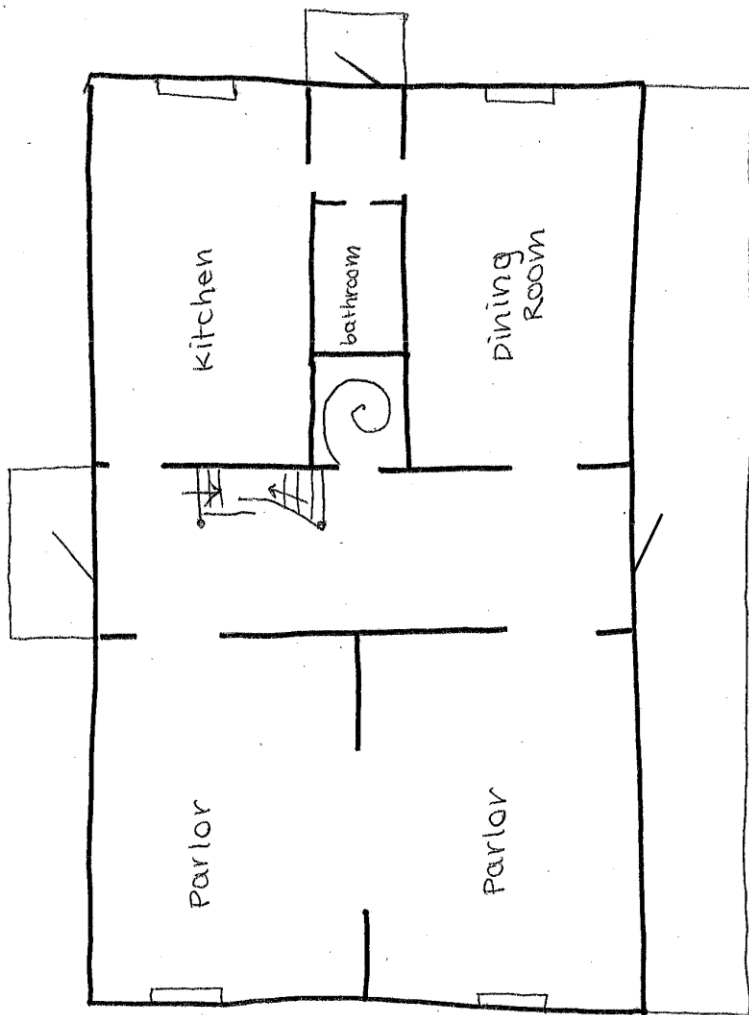
name David Rado & Jeanine Agnolet-Rado
street & number 4 Baker Road telephone _____
city or town Hopewell Junction state NY zip code 12533

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.

Haxtun-Tower House
Name of Property

Dutchess Co., NY
County and State



Haxtun Tower House
First Floor Plan
Not to scale



































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Haxtun--Tower House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Dutchess

DATE RECEIVED: 7/08/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/26/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/10/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/23/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000552

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 8.22.16 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.



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROSE HARVEY
Commissioner

RECEIVED 2280

JUL - 8 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

5 July 2016

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

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

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

Alton B. Parker Estate, Ulster County
Hepburn Library of Lisbon, St. Lawrence County
Benner-Foos-Ceparano Estate, Suffolk County
Fort Independence Historic District, Bronx County
Old Lowville Cemetery, Lewis County
Haxtun-Tower House, Dutchess County
Orator F. Woodward Cottage, Wyoming County
Webster Grange No. 436, Monroe County
Austin R. Conant House, Monroe County

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office