



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 listed in the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property:

historic name The Courier Building

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

2. Location

street & number 210 Montgomery St.; 237-43 Genesee St E  not for publication

city or town Syracuse  vicinity

state New York code NY county Onondaga code 067 zip code 13202

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally.  See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Ruth Purpura DSHPO 12/23/13  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

for Signature of the Keeper Alexis Abernethy Date of Action 2/19/14

**The Courier Building**

Name of Property

**Onondaga County, New York**

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: Communications

Facility.

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

MID 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Chicago

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation Sheet

**The Courier Building**

Name of Property

**Onondaga County, New York**

County and State

**8 Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,

**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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
SOCIAL HISTORY

**Period of Significance**

1844-1948

**Significant Dates**

1851; 1856; 1918

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Summer L. Hunt

**Primary location of additional data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

**The Courier Building**

Name of Property

**Onondaga County, New York**

County and State

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of property Less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	406378	4766992	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

 See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**name/title Ted Bartlettorganization Crawford & Stearns date 7/19/2013street & number 134 Walton Street. telephone (315) 471-2162city or town Syracuse state New York zip code 13202**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****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.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

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

name The Courier, LLCstreet & number 106 Montgomery Street telephone \_\_\_\_\_city or town Syracuse state NY zip code 13202**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.470 *et seq.*)**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Narrative Description:****The Courier Building**

The Courier Building is a pre-Civil War four-story painted brick Greek revival style commercial building sited at the acute-angled corner of Montgomery, Washington and East Genesee Streets in downtown Syracuse. Located across Montgomery Street from the 1889 NR listed City Hall, one half block south of the NRHP listed Weighlock Building (Canal Museum) and a half block east of the NRHP listed Hanover Square Historic District, the building with others of similar scale to the north and City Hall maintain a turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century streetscape and setting west of City Hall. The Courier Building consists of three separate four story brick sections, the Frazee Block at the south with rounded corner, the cutlery block just north of it on Montgomery Street and the small triangular fire engineer block to the north of the cutlery block each having load bearing flat brick walls and limestone trim with storefront penetrations on both facades at the main story. Extending across all three building blocks is a deep wooden cornice supported by brick frieze and dentils. Upper story fenestration consists of three rows of Chicago Commercial style tripartite windows (1918) are on the second, third and fourth stories of the Frazee Block with three rows of double-hung windows (1840s and 1918) on the cutlery and fire engineer blocks. The rear (west) exposed elevations of all three building blocks are former brick party walls that have been penetrated with modern several window openings and have mechanical systems attached to the exterior. On the interior all four stories have modern commercial finishes. Floors two through four retain simple hardwood commercial Arts & Crafts style trim on many walls within the office and storage spaces. The first and second stories have been opened up for commercial restaurant facility operations. The primary 1844 spatial divisions with brick interior walls remain with 1844 frame floor structures and three large timber frame trusses over the Frazee Block. The property is in generally good condition with altered interiors in need of renewal. The exterior retains historic integrity to the building's long commercial history with successful integration of 1918 Chicago Commercial style features into the 1844 Greek Revival building form. Historically the addresses for the building have been listed as both on East Genesee and Montgomery Streets.

**Building Development**

Stylistically constructed in a restrained version of commercial Greek Revival style with prominent rounded front corner, it was built in 1844 as the Frazee Block on the west side of Montgomery Street at the triangular intersection of Montgomery, East Genesee and Washington Streets. Probably about the same time to the north a three story building of similar construction was built (cutlery block) and to the north of the cutlery block was a small three-story triangular shaped commercial building (the fire engineer block). By the 1860s these two sections had been unified under a projecting Italianate Style cornice, regular rows of double-hung upper windows and continuous limestone detailed storefronts.

The Frazee Block was prominently sited close to City Hall and readily visible at the apex of three downtown streets. Its trapezoidal site with brick four-story corner building provided the visual brick masonry anchor for the solid block of brick commercial buildings extending north on Montgomery Street. Within several years and the construction of the four-story brick commercial Convention Block (demolished 1949) and four story Collins Block sites (burned February 1939) the commercial streetscape extended west along East Genesee Street.

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Along Montgomery Street the Frazee block with three story cutlery and fire engineer blocks formed the west side of the public park in front of Syracuse's first City Hall, formerly Market Hall. Similar four story brick commercial formed the east and south sides of the park (no longer extant). The park was enclosed with an iron fence and open to the broad steps and front of the former 1845 Market Hall and Village Hall. In 1848 when Syracuse became a city it was renamed City Hall. The market and City Hall were located at the center of early Syracuse's canal associated commercial district and was a popular public gathering spot for public events and public oration. The second story iron balcony of the Frazee Block overlooking the park provided a convenient location to address those gathered in the park.

1844 Design - Employing popular Greek revival style features the Frazee Block street facade had a full row of first story retail storefronts along East Genesee Street and on the round corner with tooled limestone water table rising above the sidewalk elevation. There were three storefronts aligning with the interior masonry divisions of the first story with open public stairway to the upper stories to the west of the corner storefront. The wooden storefronts were constructed between brick and stone masonry piers with slightly projecting tooled Onondaga limestone continuous lintel overhead. Above storefronts were flat red brick walls laid up in American common bond with header courses every six courses. On the second, third and fourth stories were regular spaced rows of nine 6/6 double hung windows with flat tooled limestone lintels and sills set into a flat brick wall with several of the second story windows and corner window had exterior blinds. Above the fourth story windows a high brick frieze was slightly projected from the brick wall below. At the top of the frieze were tall brick dentils on a slightly projecting brick plane supporting a blocky shallow wooden cornice with deep flat fascia and molded crown. Photos indicate that there was a built-in gutter in the cornice with four surface mounted leaders and downspouts, two at the ends and two flanking the curved corner. Recessed back from the top of the projecting cornice was a paneled balustrade concealing the hipped roof. The rounded triangular corner was slightly recessed from the flat brick wall planes of the building on Montgomery and Genesee Streets; it had curved stone lintels and sills, storefront lintel, frieze and cornice and flat 6/6 double-hung windows matching the sidewall windows.

On Montgomery Street the building cornice and second, third and fourth story fenestration (window rows had seven windows) was the same as on the Genesee Street elevation. Two large in-wall brick chimneys extended well up above the roof balustrade. At the street level the flat brick upper wall extended to the street with no intervening limestone lintel. At the south four bays of the Montgomery Street first story there were two single doorways and windows double-hung windows (like the upper stories) aligned with window penetrations above servicing the corner retail space facing Genesee Street. In the north three bays at the first story were a pair of glazed wooden commercial French doors with flanking double-hung windows servicing a small triangular commercial space. Directly above the pair of commercial French doors on the first story was a second matching pair of commercial doors at the second story with iron balcony facing City Hall Park.

The north wall of the Frazee Block had the same masonry frieze, wooden cornice and balustrade wrapping around from the Montgomery Street elevation; a single chimney extended up from the north wall with flat brick wall extending down to the cutlery block roof.

As built in 1844 the west wall of the Frazee Block was a solid brick exterior masonry wall facing the former Congregational Church. It appears that it had a diminutive projecting cornice extending between the south and north larger cornices. When the Convention Block was built next to the Frazee Block in 1858 the west wall became

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a party wall and was extended up with brick masonry between the new building and the Frazee Block with no fenestration.

The 1840s façade designs of the cutlery and fire engineer blocks are undocumented was built as a three-story brick masonry commercial building with flat brick front wall and tall limestone lintel over the two storefronts. At the south end of the cutlery block storefronts was a stairway to the upper levels. It appears that when the building was built the common front was extended across the fire engineer block making a uniform street façade and storefront divisions. On the second and third story were two rows of nine windows with stone lintels and sills at the same height as the Frazee Block second and story windows. Atop the third story was a projecting continuous frieze and cornice across both blocks.

The 1844 Frazee Block's three interior retail storefronts extended the full depth of the building and were separated by brick masonry walls with open stairway to the upper stories on Genesee Street. The second and third stories were commercial spaces with cross hallway at the north end of the building on the second story. The hallway opened onto the pair of commercial doors and iron balcony facing City Hall Park. The fourth story was a clear span open space occupied by Frazee Hall, a public meeting and assembly space. The cutlery and fire engineer blocks were laid out with retail on the first story and commercial space upstairs and were connected to the Frazee Block interior spaces.

All three building blocks had load bearing perimeter brick masonry walls; the cutlery and fire engineer blocks had floors supported by single spans of heavy sawn floor joists. In the former Frazee Block the first story storefronts were divided by brick masonry walls with corresponding brick masonry walls in the basement. It appears that the second and third stories were similarly divided with brick masonry walls supporting the fourth story floor. The fourth story Frazee Hall was a large single open space with high ceiling and no posts or columns. The open space was achieved with three large timber truncated queen post trusses. The trusses had 12" x 12" chords with diagonal bracing with four large vertical iron rods, one at each end and one each next to the queen posts. The lower chords extended well beyond the side chords and rested on the side masonry walls. Floor framing was generally 2" x 9" sawn joists about 16" on center.

1856 Design - The 1844 exterior character appears to have remained in place (with the exception of the removal of the roof balustrade and cornice reconstruction) throughout the newspaper occupancy from 1856 up through 1905.

1918 Design - The 1918 work on the three buildings brought extensive changes to the street elevations and yet retained the strong visual massing and character from the 1844 designs. On the Genesee Street elevation the storefronts were replaced with a new stairway to the fourth story occupying the space against the west wall. The limestone storefront lintels remained in place. Above at the second, third and fourth stories, the three rows of double-hung windows were replaced with three rows of three tripartite Chicago Commercial style windows (fourth story windows had transoms overhead), dividing the upper section into three equal sections. The single windows on the curved front section were widened to contain a pair of 1/1 double-hung windows. Above the wall section the 1844 brick frieze with projecting brick dentils remained in place. A new deeper wooden cornice with similar bold fascia and crown trim was built to accommodate the new built-in gutter with interior downspouts.

The Montgomery Street elevation received similar modifications. The cutlery and fire engineer blocks were raised to four stories consistent with the four-story section of the Courier Building and the new cornice on the Courier

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Building was extended across the cutlery and fire engineer building elevations. The unified brick second, third and fourth story elevations had three rows of five tripartite Chicago Commercial style windows added (fourth story units had transoms), extending one unit into the cutlery block façade and reducing the number of single windows in the rows from nine to seven. At the same time a limestone lintel was added over the storefront level using what appears to be left over stone lintels from the removed windows above and introduced new storefront penetrations with steel lintels on Montgomery Street. In the cutlery block a new entrance was installed with steel lintel to accommodate the new stairway and elevator entrance lobby for the Moose lodge. Most of the earlier stone storefront lintels were removed from the cutlery block when the new stone lintel was added; however remnants of the slightly lower stone storefront lintel above the 1918 steel lintel on the fire engineer block section were left in place. The historically significant iron balcony facing City Hall was retained in the 1918 alterations.

On the interior the 1918 building remodeling was completed for use as a Moose Lodge in support of their social reform activities. All three building sections were connected with center entry lobby off Montgomery Street with stair and elevator. Unification of interior appearance was achieved with the use of clear finished hardwood trim (oak and southern pine), hardwood oak flooring, flat stippled plaster walls and pressed metal ceilings. The large Chicago-style windows let in light to the reconfigured upper stories. The fourth story contained the large assembly clubroom and lodge rooms with residential quarters. On the second and third stories were additional lodge function spaces, residential quarters, social rooms and dining facilities for members. First story retail spatial divisions continued as commercial and retail spaces with upgraded storefronts.

1948 Designs - In 1948, as the Potter Building, the building storefronts were upgraded with contemporary storefront materials including pigmented glass and shiny aluminum. On the interior the former Moose Lodge spaces on the second, third and fourth stories in all the building blocks were converted into commercial and office spaces with contemporary materials.

2000 Designs – The first two stories of all three blocks were remodeled for use as restaurant and kitchen facility and new wood and glass sections filling all the first story masonry penetrations. The third floor was again remodeled for office use with contemporary oak finishes and most of the fourth story was left vacant and used for storage.

### **Existing Conditions**

The existing Courier Building (Frazee Block, cutlery block and fire engineer block) retains its original 1844 somewhat triangular footprint with rounded corner at the apex extending 67 feet on East Genesee Street and 138 feet on Montgomery Street. The approximately 20,000 square foot building contains just over 5,000 square feet on each of the four stories with basements under the Frazee Block and cutlery block. The four-story Courier Building facade on Montgomery Street abuts the three-story 1916 former fire station of similar height and to the west on Genesee Street are several open lots with the two closest to the Courier Building containing a modern freestanding drive-through bank facility and parking.

The Courier Building remains the historic anchor to the cluster and enclave of buildings west of City Hall and provides a visual historic anchor and setting for City Hall versus the newer buildings to the east and south of City Hall.



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The rear (west) exposed elevations of all three building blocks are former party walls laid up with common unarticulated flat brick surfaces with modern cementitious parging. The walls have been penetrated for several window openings and have mechanical systems attached to the exterior.

The concealed north wall of the building abuts the former firehouse.

The painted brick Montgomery Street and Genesee Street facades remain divided into three horizontal parts, first story commercial storefronts and entrances, upper body with three stories of windows and brick wall and top section with large cornice.

The entire lengths of the brick walls facing Montgomery and Genesee Streets retain the 1918 (as repaired) deep projecting wooden cornice with built-in gutter, flat soffit and molded fascia. On the Frazee Block section the 1844 brick frieze with brick dentils remain in place as the base for the projecting cornice; wooden versions are in place on the 1918 cutlery and fire engineer blocks. 1918 masonry work was executed with terra cotta structural tile and brickwork. The 1844 flat brick façade walls remain above the tooled limestone storefront lintels with 1918 Chicago style windows filling the Genesee Street upper facade and a portion of the Montgomery Street upper façade all with soldier brick lintels with stone sills. Above the storefront level on the north end of the Montgomery Street façade are three repetitive rows of seven double-hung 6/6 window penetrations surviving from the pre-1918 three-story building blocks. They each have tooled square Onondaga limestone lintels and sills. The 1844 iron balcony overlooking Montgomery Street remains in place.

The first story floor is at sidewalk grade with a tall limestone masonry course above the projecting water table. Storefront penetrations on both Genesee and Montgomery Streets reflect the 1918 Moose Lodge alterations while several 1844 tooled Onondaga limestone sills and lintels remaining in place; the commercial window and doorway penetrations have circa 2000 wooden window and doorway infill. The 1844 acute corner of the building at Genesee and Montgomery Streets with a recessed curved wall extending from the street to the frieze remains in place.

The existing roof is in two sections and consists of the 1844 hipped section over the former Frazee Block of the building and the 1918 flat north section that was built when this section of the building was raised to four stories. The hipped roof construction with 1844 timber trusses remains with multiple layers of built-up roofing materials and drains into the large built-in gutters with interior drains on three sides. The west section has an extended brick parapet wall that was added above the cornice level when the Convention Hall was built to the west in 1858. The flat roof section has a small parapet wall around the perimeter behind the projecting cornice; this section drains to interior roof drains. A 1918 masonry elevator penthouse penetrates the flat roof near the intersection with the hipped roof. Located on the flat roof are numerous vent and utility penetrations and several condensing units.

On the interior both the Frazee Block and cutlery block sections have a full basement with four occupied stories above. The fire engineer block has a crawl space with four occupied stories above. The concealed perimeter quarried rough Onondaga limestone foundation walls with brick cross walls define the basement; several below grade vault doorways have been closed up on both Montgomery and Genesee Streets.

There is a limited access attic between the ceiling and 1844 hipped roof providing access to the 1844 large timber trusses and roof framing. A crawl space attic is located over the fourth stories of the cutlery and fire engineer blocks. Extensive fire separation materials were added at ceilings at all levels.

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The building contains contemporary commercial restaurant and kitchen spaces on the ground and second stories floor with all three blocks connected together and a contemporary stairway providing additional internal vertical access between the restaurant floors. 1918 hardwood trim including window trim and baseboards and oak flooring (concealed) remain in place with furred out perimeter walls in most areas of the second story.

The altered 1918 entrance lobby off Montgomery Street with lobby remains in place. The 1918 elevator shaft and open oak stairway extend from the basement to the fourth story and roof penthouse. The 1918 southwest oak stairway that extends from basement to the fourth story remains in place. At the fourth story the stairway terminates under a section of the 1918 orchestra balcony that served the former open public space on the fourth story.

Circa 2000 offices are located on the third story of the Frazee Block with former restaurant support spaces on the third and fourth stories of the cutlery and fire engineer blocks. 1918 hardwood trim including window trim and baseboards and oak flooring (some concealed) remain in place in most areas of the third and fourth stories. The vacant fourth story of the Frazee Block with 1949 office sub-divisions was partially dis-assembled for and used for general storage.

The Courier Building is representative of a four-story downtown commercial building that has remained in continuous use since constructed in 1844. On the exterior the building retains its strong 1844 character with significant 1918 commercial changes. On the interior most spaces have been modernized several times with exterior perimeter walls and elevator/stair lobbies retaining 1918 trim features.

The 1949 and post-1949 interior alterations and materials are not contributing features to the historic Period of Significance (1844-1948). The 1840s brick structures with late nineteenth century and 1918 alterations and features are contributing features to the building's historic integrity.

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### Statement of Significance:

The Courier Building is a historically and architecturally significant (under criteria A and C) pre-Civil War four story brick commercial building in downtown Syracuse, New York with an 1844-1948 Period of Significance. It is significant under the commerce, communication and social categories. Built in 1844 it was a commercial building with public hall (Frazee Hall) where many public gatherings were held. The most notable was Daniel Webster's infamous speech in support of the Fugitive Slave Law was given from the second story iron balcony in 1851. From 1856 through 1905 the building housed the offices and printing operations for the Syracuse Courier newspaper (and successors) while retaining active retail establishments on the main story. From 1918 until 1946 the building was the home lodge for the Syracuse Moose Club, an active social reform organization in support of labor workers families. The Courier Building is historically significant at the local level for its association with the broad patterns of nineteenth and twentieth century urban life in Syracuse between 1844 and World War II. It has remained as part of the early and continued commercial development of downtown Syracuse that occurred along the Erie Canal corridor, at the heart of Syracuse's commercial and political center. It is architecturally significant as a rare surviving pre-Civil War Greek Revival brick commercial building (including the iron balcony from which Daniel Webster spoke) with significant 1918 commercial alterations. The building use and architectural alterations after 1948 served only to maintain the building do not contribute to its historical and architectural significance.

### Historical Development

The Courier Building consists of three building sections: the Frazee Block (the four-story corner building), the cutlery block (four story building along Montgomery Street) and the fire engineer block (the small triangular four story north section of the building). The Courier Building takes its name from its longest occupancy as a newspaper office and publishing house for *The Courier* and its successor newspapers published at the location from 1856 until 1905.

Frazee Block – Built for Benjamin Frazee in 1844 with large meeting space (Frazee Hall) on the fourth story, the corner building was common of nineteenth century mixed use that provided for public meeting and oration spaces within commercial establishments close to political centers. Third and second stories were offices and retail/commercial spaces on the first story. A pair of French doors with iron balcony opened over Montgomery Street at the second story facing the park. Frazee sold the building to Captain Austin Myers in 1851; Myers' family descendants held ownership until 1915.

Constructed by prominent local builder Sumner L. Hunt, its restrained Greek Revival style brick design with prominent rounded front corner facing a three cross street intersection remains in place and represents a noteworthy remaining example in downtown Syracuse of a nineteenth century builder's response to a particular kind of triangular site.

Cutlery Block - Built about the same time as the Frazee Block, this block was a three-story building with offices on the top two stories and retail/commercial spaces on the first story. The name cutlery block is used because of Sanborn map references to a cutlery business on the first story. The block appears to have been incorporated with the former Frazee Block when Austin Myers bought the building in 1853 with the Courier name taking over in 1856. As part of the 1918 Moose alterations a fourth story was added, interior stories became part of the lodge and a new common cornice with the Courier Building constructed.

Fire Engineer Block – The block is a small triangular building that occupied the triangular space between the cutlery block and the fire station. Like the cutlery block, it appears to have been incorporated with the former Frazee Block

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when Austin Myers bought the building in 1853 with the Courier name taking over in 1856. Used as a fire engineer's office in the nineteenth century, it too had a fourth story and common cornice added to make a uniform street façade along Montgomery Street in 1918 with interior stories becoming part of the lodge facilities.

As Frazee Hall (1844 -1856) the prominent multi-use building with public hall on the fourth story provided a pivotal place for public meetings, oratory and gatherings adjacent to Market Park in front of City Hall. It was a popular place of assembly overlooking City Hall Park witnessing many public enclaves and speeches and was adjacent to other public assembly buildings such as the former First Congregational Church (1838) that was replaced with the 1858 Convention Block (demolished 1941 after lingering damage from the Collins Block fire in February 1939 where nine firefighters died). During this time (1851) the building achieved a prominent place in Syracuse and New York State Abolitionist history for its association with the Abolitionist and anti-fugitive slave law activities underway in Syracuse and central New York.

As the Courier Building and during the newspaper years (1856-1905) it housed the offices, editorial offices and printing operations for *The Syracuse Daily Courier*, a Democratic newspaper. The newspaper provided an important political and social voice in nineteenth century Syracuse and was one of two principal tabloids in the city. After 49 years of publication at the Courier Building location, the *Syracuse Telegram and Courier* (a conglomeration of several distinct progressive Democratic newspapers published there since 1856) ceased publication in 1905. It was said that the smell of printer's ink really never got out of the place until after the Moose Lodge alterations were completed.

As the Syracuse Moose Lodge (1918-1946) the building played an important role in the early twentieth century social reform movement in Syracuse. The Syracuse Moose Club # 625 was organized in 1911 and by 1916 had a 600 plus membership and in that year hosted the statewide LOOM convention in Syracuse. As a leading pro-active fraternal organization in support of labor worker family and children rights and benefits in early twentieth century Syracuse, the organization was in need of a home facility. After purchasing the building, in 1918 the building remodeling was completed for use as a membership lodge in support of their social reform activities. The nineteenth century building was altered with the addition of quality Chicago Commercial style windows and interior alterations reflective of popular commercial Arts & Crafts sensibilities. The remodeled Courier Building was called the Moose Lodge, Moose Club or often referred to as the Moose temple. A painted sign reading Loyal Order of Moose No. 625 replaced the painted Courier Building sign on the building. All three building sections were connected at each level with new center entry lobby off Montgomery Street with stair and elevator, unified clear finished oak trim, pressed metal ceilings and Chicago-style windows. The fourth story contained the large assembly clubroom and lodge rooms. On the second and third stories were additional lodge function spaces and lodge residential spaces. The iron balcony used by Daniel Webster for his famous speech in 1851 was retained on the Montgomery Street façade. The Moose lodge took advantage of the central and highly visible downtown location and continued its club and significant community philanthropic within their new up to date edifice. After World War II the Moose club downsized relocated to a different and smaller facility. Significant historical associations and related architectural designs ceased with the leaving of the Moose Club.

The building was renamed as the Potter Building after it was purchased by Jackson Potter in 1948 He modernized the storefronts with the use of colored pigmented glass and aluminum trim while renewing the store interiors. Upper stories two, three and four were also remodeled for office and commercial uses with new finishes and a new elevator in the 1918 location. After 1948 the building was recipient of several campaigns of cosmetic commercial improvements in an effort to keep the building profitable. Although retail changes occurred on the first story, the building exterior retained its architectural character as established with the 1918 Moose Lodge designs.

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By 2000 much of the building was vacant, it was renamed the Courier Building and the new owners converted the first two stories for use as a restaurant and bar with modern amenities and finishes. The 1918 vertical access elevator and stairway lobby off Montgomery Street and four-story stairway off Genesee Street remained in use. The third story was converted for refurbished office and commercial space and most of the fourth story remained unoccupied and used for storage.

Located one block south of the Erie Canal and overlooking the former City Hall Park, the building was at the center of commercial and political activity in pre-Civil War and post-Civil War Syracuse. In the twentieth century the building took on a new use as home for the Syracuse Moose Lodge (LOOM) providing a central location for visitors, members and social reform events. After World War II the building was again retrofitted for retail and commercial use. The building has remained in continuous commercial use since its construction in 1844.

The initial mixed use with public meeting hall was a popular building venue that responded to the need for public assembly and meeting space nearby the political institutions. Incorporating retail, commercial and public assembly space right in the heart of early Syracuse, the Courier Building and design are representative and rare example of dense pre-Civil War urban Greek revival designs as found along New York State's Erie Canal.

The Courier Building is a once-common building form defined by the diagonal street patterns of downtown Syracuse and example of compatible early twentieth century commercial alterations to an earlier building.

It remains significant for its association as an early social and political meeting venue, for its association with the prominent Syracuse Democratic newspaper, *The Courier* and for its association with the activities of the Syracuse Moose club and lodge, a leading social reform organization supporting families of labor workers, in the first half of the twentieth century.

### **Existing Conditions**

The four-story brick triangular corner building with 1918 fenestration remains with its 1844 massing and scale and remains the architectural anchor for the cluster of historic buildings on Montgomery Street south of City Hall. The Courier Building's 1844 brick exterior, footprint, and Greek revival design remain as one of very few pre-Civil War commercial downtown Syracuse buildings. While storefront and interior changes have occurred throughout the building's evolution, the bold Greek Revival style exterior architectural character with 1918 Moose Lodge upper story commercial window changes and cornice remain across all three buildings. Montgomery Street is still overlooked by the second story iron balcony from which Daniel Webster spoke in 1851.

Interior changes after 1948 have removed much of the 1918 period interior work, however perimeter walls on stories two through four retain hardwood trim and plaster, the 1918 elevator and stair lobbies with hardwood stairway remain and oak tongue and groove flooring remain in place, all integrated into post-1948 commercial and retail floor plans.

Modern interior finishes are found throughout the building. In 2013 the building is vacant awaiting rehabilitation.

### **Syracuse Abolition Sentiment and Daniel Webster's Speech**

One highly significant abolitionist related event with far-reaching importance that has become one of Syracuse's most relayed downtown events occurred in the Courier Building in 1851. In May of that year a speech was given from the second story balcony of Frazee Hall to a large crowd assembled in City Hall Park by nationally known

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politician Daniel Webster. The speech was well documented and oft recalled event of great local historical significance that had a profound effect upon anti-slavery activity in Syracuse, the community and environs.

Between 1845 and 1850 Syracuse was host to at least twelve significant and major antislavery meetings with nationally known speakers as well as many smaller assemblies. Shortly after President Fillmore had signed the bill that enacted the fugitive Slave Law in September 1850 (the Federal law that made it legal to re-capture escaped slaves from anywhere in the United States or territories and return them to their owners in the south), a mass meeting was held at Market Hall (City Hall) with the city's mayor, Alfred Hovey presiding. The local newspaper reported that all participants declared the Fugitive Slave Law "an outrage upon the inalienable rights of man" and that they vowed the "north would not be the slave catcher for the south." A series of 13 resolutions was passed that called on people to oppose all attempts to enforce the law. The First Congregational Church built west of Frazee Hall had been built in 1838 by Abolitionist citizens was the venue for many public antislavery gatherings. Replaced in 1858 by Convention Hall, that building was the scene of antislavery meetings up into the Civil War.

Following the successful August 1850 Fugitive Slave Convention held in nearby Cazenovia, New York (over 2,000 attending) promoted by Garrett Smith and Frederick Douglass, strong Abolitionist and anti Fugitive Slave Law sentiments continued to run high in the Syracuse area. On May 6, 7 and 8, 1851 the American Anti-Slavery Society had held its convention in Syracuse with such dignitaries and William Lloyd Garrison, Garrett Smith and Frederick Douglass speaking. At that time, Syracuse, along with other upstate New York communities, continued as a hotbed of anti-slavery and Underground Railroad activity. In particular the convention spoke out against the recently enacted Federal Fugitive Slave Act of 1850.

The Federal government dispatched government officials in an attempt to quell these sentiments and warn the community against challenging the Fugitive Slave Law. Notably on May 21, 1851 President Millard Fillmore and Attorney General John Crittenden spoke at the nearby Syracuse House (demolished early 20<sup>th</sup> century) against anti Fugitive Slave Law activities.

However on May 26 Secretary of State Daniel Webster delivered the more notable and impassioned speech at Frazee Hall where he repeated his previous criticism of the Abolitionists and their promise to thwart the law. He railed against those who would subjugate Federal law; the speech incited strong local opposition to his comments. Webster proclaimed from the Frazee Building balcony facing Syracuse City Hall to a large crowd that was not particularly supportive of his message, that

"You can depend upon it, the law will be executed in all the great cities - here in Syracuse - even in the midst of the next Anti-Slavery Convention (his reference was to the Liberty Party Convention scheduled to be held in Syracuse in October 1851), if the occasion shall arise."

And so it did. On October 1, 1851 whilst the anti-slavery Liberty Party was holding its state convention in the city, escaped slave William Henry (Jerry) was arrested in Syracuse under the Fugitive Slave Law. When word of the arrest spread, several hundred abolitionists broke into the city jail and freed Jerry during the first day of his trial. After several days of being hidden by locals Jerry reached Oswego where he crossed Lake Ontario into Canada. While the arrest was considered a message that federal authorities would seriously enforce the locally unpopular law, the event became Syracuse's antislavery rallying cry event and nationally known as the *Jerry Rescue*.

The next day at the Liberty Party convention, abolitionist Garrett Smith presented the following resolution for

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consideration; it passed.

WHEREAS, Daniel Webster, That base and infamous enemy of the human race, did in a speech of which he delivered himself, in Syracuse last Spring, exultingly and insultingly predict that fugitive slaves would yet be taken away from Syracuse and even from anti-slavery conventions in Syracuse, and whereas the attempt to fulfill this prediction was delayed until the first day of October, 1851, when the Liberty party of the State of New York were holding their annual convention in Syracuse; and whereas the attempt was defeated by the mighty uprising of 2,500 brave men, before whom the half-dozen kidnapers were 'as one', therefore,

RESOLVED, That we rejoice that the City of Syracuse-the anti-slavery city of Syracuse- the city of anti-slavery conventions, our beloved and glorious city of Syracuse- still remains undisgraced by the fulfillment of the satanic prediction of the satanic Daniel Webster.

Daniel Webster had accused that all Syracusans who opposed the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law as being "Traitors, Traitors, Traitors." However the threats contained in his speech did not have the desired effect. It served not to lessen local opposition to the Fugitive Slave Law, but to strengthen it. Frazee Hall (the Courier Building) with the iron balcony facing City Hall is the only downtown building to survive associated with those Abolitionists and anti-Fugitive Slave Law events of 1850 and 1851.

### **Syracuse Daily Courier**

In the decade before the Civil War and up through the end of the nineteenth century Syracuse had a strong publication/printing industry consisting of newspapers, books, broadsides, maps and general printing. Syracuse's central location in the state and on the Erie Canal made it ideal for publication distribution and manufacture.

Likewise, the very pro-active nature and newfound wealth of mid-century upstate communities provided a diverse need and market for newspaper publishing at that time. The core of the Syracuse publishing and newspaper industry was generally within a four block downtown area nearby the canal and political institutions. Publishing houses were improving their facilities, installing steam machinery and employing a large corps of first-class artists, engravers, printers and workmen. The *Syracuse Daily Courier* (often just generally referred to as *The Courier*) established its general business offices in the western storefront of the Frazee Block in 1856 with editorial, type setting and presses on the upper stories of the building with steam used for the printing operations. The location was ideal amid other Syracuse publishing houses, across the street from City Hall and City Hall Park, three blocks from the third County Courthouse and one block from the Erie Canal. The *Courier* was a newspaper that espoused Democratic views for the Syracuse community; it was published every morning of the week, except Sunday under editor F. L. Hagadorn.

The newspaper went through several reiterations and changes in ownership over the next 49 years, however remaining true to covering Democratic political issues. In 1865 at the end of the Civil War, the daily publication was called the *Syracuse Daily Courier and Union* with publisher D. J. Halsted and editor W. W. Green. The newspaper motto was *Truth, ever lovely, since the world began--the foe of tyrants and the friend of man.* In January 1867 the daily newspaper was known as *Syracuse Courier and Union* still published by D. J. Halsted.

By 1889 the daily newspaper was known as *The Syracuse Courier* with the publication motto "Official City and County Paper." There was also a *Semi-Weekly Courier* that contained a summarized version of the news and was delivered

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twice a week, on Tuesday and Friday. The paper apparently fell on hard times in the early 1890s and was several times in receivership. In 1894 the paper was in the hands of a receiver and John Francis Naab, associate editor of the *Albany Arbus*, and Herbert E. Prescott, city editor of the same paper, purchased the newspaper for \$15,000.00.

Two principal Syracuse newspapers, *The Evening Telegram* and *The Syracuse Courier* (The *Syracuse Courier*, which had been published as a morning Democratic paper for more than a generation) consolidated in 1898 with publication offices and printing operations remaining in the Courier Building. The new *Syracuse Telegram and Courier* was first published on January 1, 1898 and was officially registered as *The Telegram and Courier*. The *Syracuse Evening Telegram* and *Syracuse Courier* continued to be controlled by Democratic politicians since May 1, 1898 when the plant was purchased from George M. Barnes, receiver, of the defunct *Syracuse Courier Company*.

By 1900, Syracuse had a population of 135,000 and the newspaper had a "sworn circulation" of 17,120 daily and stated that it was the "*Only penny paper in Syracuse and the Official Democratic Daily of Onondaga County.*" Francis A. Willard of Newburgh, New York bought a controlling interest in the *Syracuse Telegram* in early August 1900. Charles E. Handy (a former associate with William Randolph Hearst) purchased the newspaper on June 1, 1902 and later renamed the publishing company to *The Telegram Publishing Company*. "It is reported that Mr. Handy will continue *The Evening Telegram* as a 1-cent evening paper, giving it a new typographical appearance and making a feature of illustrations. The paper, it is said, will be Democratic in politics with independent tendencies." It became the Official City and County Paper in 1901.

In 1903 the newspaper celebrated the first anniversary of Handy's ownership. A competing local newspaper exclaimed, "the *Telegram* is a breezy, newsy and fearless newspaper and it is bound to prosper." Unfortunately, after three years of operation, Handy was deeply in debt and company earnings reportedly had "sunk \$60,000 in three years." The complex legal sale of the paper, property and machinery to Wills Thompson and Frederick Lawrence occurred in 1905. The newspaper sported the *Syracuse Telegram* logo that advertised that it was *An Independent Democratic Newspaper*. Thompson and Lawrence, as outsiders, caused consternation within the paper and between the paper and its Democratic constituency. After an unpleasant investigation an announcement was made on September 9, 1905 that Norman E. Mack, owner of the *Buffalo Times*, would purchase the *Syracuse Telegram*. His plans included adding a "Democratic" morning edition and there was discussion about continuing the evening edition. The newspaper was "discontinued" on November 22, 1905 after it was announced there was a "lack of capital. With the demise of the newspaper, the city administration was "deprived of one of its two official papers" which created an "awkward dilemma" that might affect the "validity of ordinances and various orders of the city Common Council." In this state of affairs, the Council invited the *Syracuse Herald* to step in and fill the gap, thus bridging over the situation.

While the newspaper years brought an important historical use change to parts of the building, not much changed architecturally. The changes brought to the building for use as the home of The Courier newspaper served to reinforce the commercial importance of the building and its downtown location.

### **Syracuse Moose Lodge**

In the early twentieth century downtown Syracuse was beginning to change; streetcar suburbs began to move residents out of the center city; the Erie Canal was moved out of downtown; and industry (including printing operations) began to move out of downtown. The City Beautiful movement was beginning to take hold, labor organizations were founded and philanthropic social organizations burgeoning. For the Courier Building, the end of the printing era left the building somewhat forlorn and Myers' family ownership ended in 1915.



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In the Midwest a small fraternal organization, The Loyal Order of Moose, was founded in 1888 by Dr. John Henry Wilson offering men places to gather socially. However, by the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century it had been restructured into a dynamic fraternal organization of men and women to provide protection and security for a largely working class membership. In particular the organization focused on providing a “safety net” to provide benefits to the wife and children of a breadwinner who died or became disabled. The Moose organization flourished in cities with large populations of manufacturing workers, such as Syracuse. By 1912 the organization had grown exponentially to a size of nearly 500,000 members and 1,000 lodges. The Moose organization was a philanthropic social organization founded in parallel with labor unions (who fought for work place rights) but whose focus was on social and family security of worker’s families.

In Syracuse the first Moose club was founded in 1911, membership grew rapidly with Syracuse hosting the 1916 statewide Moose annual convention at which over 1,000 attended. The membership of the Syracuse Moose club reached over 600 and by 1918 had decided to establish their own lodge facility. The membership purchased the seventy-year-old Courier Building; it was centrally located downtown, nearby City Hall and a prime location for a Moose lodge facility. The commercial building was in need of extensive repair after nearly fifty years as a publishing house.

Plans were prepared for a complete remodeling of the building to transform it into a lodge facility that would provide for organization headquarters, lodge rooms, meeting room, social rooms, dining facilities and residential accommodations for members. First story retail spatial divisions continued as commercial and retail spaces. The state-of-the-art Moose Lodge on the second, third and fourth stories of the Courier Building (including cutlery and fire engineer blocks) became an important facility in support of Syracuse manufacturing labor workers and families as part of the local social reform movement. The Moose Lodge remained in the building until the mid 1940s.

The distinctive exterior changes brought to the building as part of the 1918 Moose Lodge conversion remain and clearly reference the popular period commercial style of the first quarter of the twentieth century. The comprehensive redevelopment plan provided for a main entrance off Montgomery Street with corresponding lobby, elevator and stairway accessing all four stories and second four story stairway at the southwest corner of the building in the former Courier office space. The building was outfitted with up-to-date fraternal facilities including new assembly space on the fourth story with orchestra balcony, lodge rooms and lodge apartments on the upper stories of all three building sections that included a new fourth story on the two north buildings. The revitalized interior spaces were provided by ample natural light through large Chicago Commercial style windows on both Montgomery and Genesee Streets. Interior spaces were finished with oak and southern pine hardwood trim and oak flooring, stippled flat plaster walls and pressed metal ceilings. The natural finished hardwood trim and stairway were features reminiscent of simple commercial Craftsman detailing. The entire building exterior was visually unified (including the additional story added to the cutlery and fire engineer blocks) on the exterior with the new large windows, new projecting cornice around the entire building and reworking of first story masonry openings.

The Moose Lodge alterations to the building are reflective of quality early twentieth century commercial design within the distinctive 1844 building shell that include Chicago Style commercial windows, re-aligned interior plan and well articulated hardwood commercial interior features. The three rows of Chicago Commercial style windows allow for more light into the interior spaces while retaining the same exterior visual hierarchy as the earlier design.

### **Outline History of the Courier Building**

1844 Frazee Hall - City records show that in 1844 Benjamin Frazee was assessed \$3,000 for “brick stores going up.” This building, built in the Greek Revival Style by Sumner L. Hunt, was originally called Frazee Hall.

- Its fourth floor housed a meeting hall, second and third stories were commercial space with second story balcony facing east, and the lower level, stores.
- 1848 Village Hall across Montgomery Street becomes City Hall when Syracuse becomes a city.
- 1851 On May 26, 1851, Daniel Webster addressed the people of Syracuse from the balcony of Frazee Hall. His audience was gathered in the "Market Square" of Syracuse, now covered by the southern portion of the present City Hall. His subject was disobedience of Fugitive Slave Act. As he harangued his audience, calling those who would not obey this law are traitors, he set the stage for a strong abolitionist backlash. This culminated in the forcible rescue from the custody of federal marshals of the runaway slave, "Jerry", on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851. Syracuse was established by these events as a leader in the abolitionist movement.
- 1855 The Congregational church on the lot west of Courier Building is sold for use as performance/ assembly hall.
- 1856 *The Courier*, then a weekly, took over the structure and changed the official name to the "Courier Building." Newspaper accounts at the time indicate that the structure was then re-painted, replacing circus-like striping colors saying "its present striped red and white appearance reminds us of our devil of the seat of Dan Rice's circus speeches."
- 1857 Bell tower and fire bell added to City Hall.
- 1858 Congregational church building demolished, new Convention Hall built with hall seating capacity between 600 to 800 people. Used as YMCA from 1876 through 1886.
- 1875 Several storefront alterations were constructed in this year.
- 1879 Newspaper accounts indicate that the original building cornice was found to be unsound and rebuilt of similar scale and size as the 1844 cornice.
- 1880 Fire guts third story office of George Castner's costume business (in cutlery block section).
- 1881 The sidewalks surrounding the Courier Building were raised to the "prescribed grade" according to newspaper accounts.
- 1882 Sanborn map reference to "cutlery grinding" use of three-story building section north of four-story section and also "fire engineer" use of the small triangular north building section.
- 1886 Fire guts Thomas Bolton's Coal and Wood offices (in cutlery block section).
- 1889 Construction of new Richardsonian Romanesque style City Hall across Montgomery Street.
- 1905 *The Daily Courier* newspaper ceased publication after 49 years of continuous operation. It was the building's longest tenant, giving the structure its traditional name.
- 1918 Moose Lodge facility - The structure was purchased by Syracuse chapter # 615 of LOOM. The active Moose chapter with over 600 members transformed the Courier Building into their new state-of-the-art lodge facility. The alterations included raising the north two sections from three stories to four, construction of a deep unifying cornice around the entire building, addition of the Chicago commercial style windows on the upper stories of the Frazee section of the building, reworking of the street level storefronts on Genesee and Montgomery streets, addition of new vertical circulation with two new four story stairways and elevator, consolidation of all three buildings into one floor plan and introduction of hardwood simple Craftsman style trim throughout.
- 1939 & 1941 Collins Block fire (1939) and building collapse two lots west of Courier Building. Resulting damage to Convention Hall just west of Courier Building results in demolition of Convention Hall in 1941 leaving the two building sites west of Courier Building vacant.
- 1949 Potter Building - The LOOM moved to another building. The building was sold and renamed for the new owner. Again it was remodeled, new pigment glass and aluminum storefronts being added, upper floors were converted for offices and the 1918 elevator replaced.
- 1970's Metal siding added over 1949 construction.

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- 
- 2000 L'Adour Building - Chase Corporation & Chase Architectural Associates implement first and second story changes to accommodate the two story L'Adour Restaurant with contemporary finishes, kitchens and office uses for third and fourth stories. New glass and wood panels replace 1949 storefronts.
- 2013 Restaurant closes and building is vacated.  
Building purchased by James Prioletti; implements National Register listing and Certified Rehabilitation of building for commercial and retail on the first story and apartments on stories two, three and four.

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The Courier Building  
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**BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

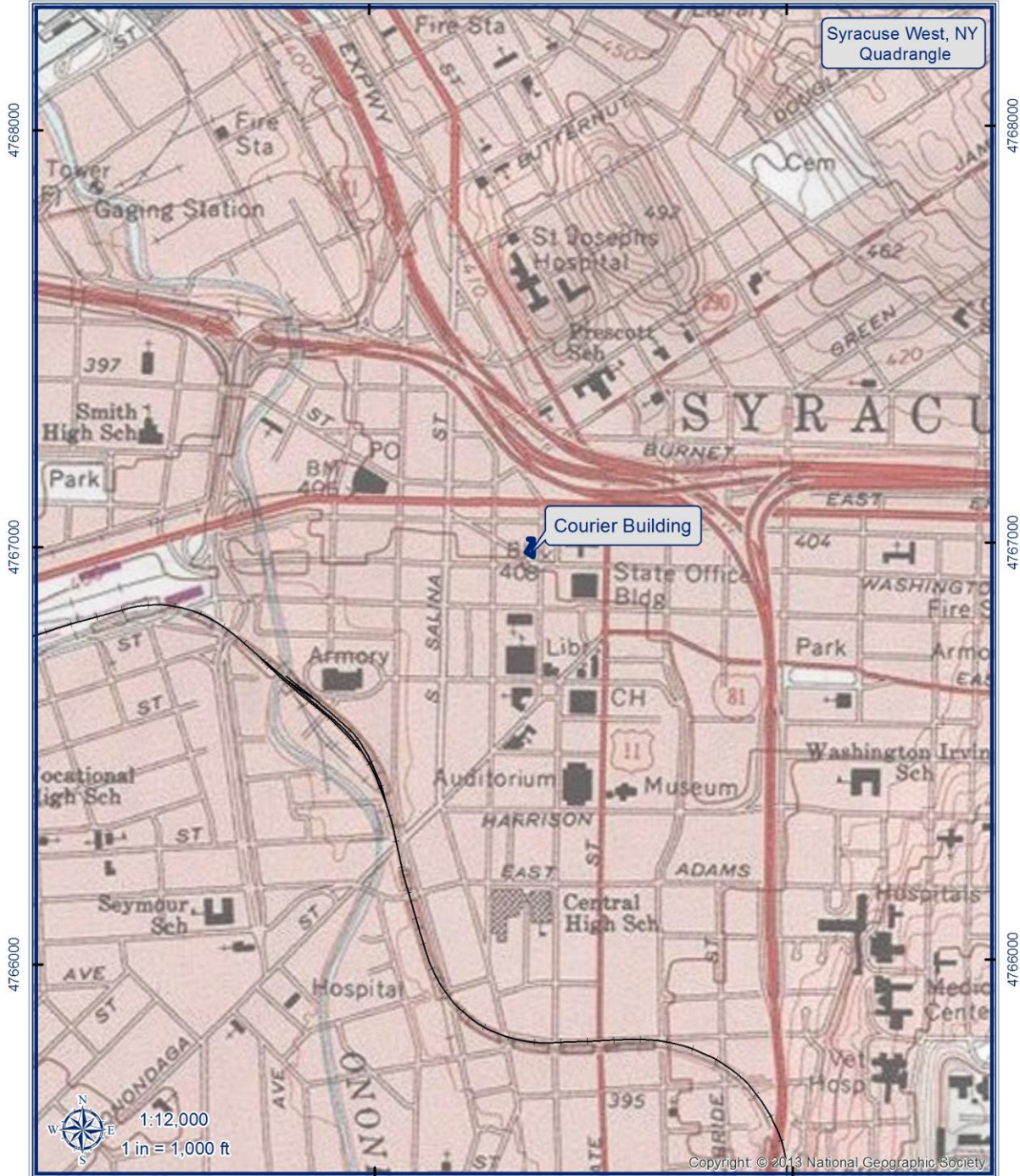
As indicated by the heavy black line on the attached boundary map, the nominated property consists entirely of tax parcel lot number 103.-17-06.0 in the City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, NY.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:**

The nominated parcel includes the Courier Building and its environs. The boundary includes all of the land and buildings historically and currently associated with the property.



The Courier Building  
City of Syracuse, Onondaga Co., NY

210 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202



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



-  Courier\_Building
-  Railroad Line

Tax Parcel Data:  
Onondaga Co. Sewer Authority  
[mapost.com/syracuse-onondaga](http://mapost.com/syracuse-onondaga)



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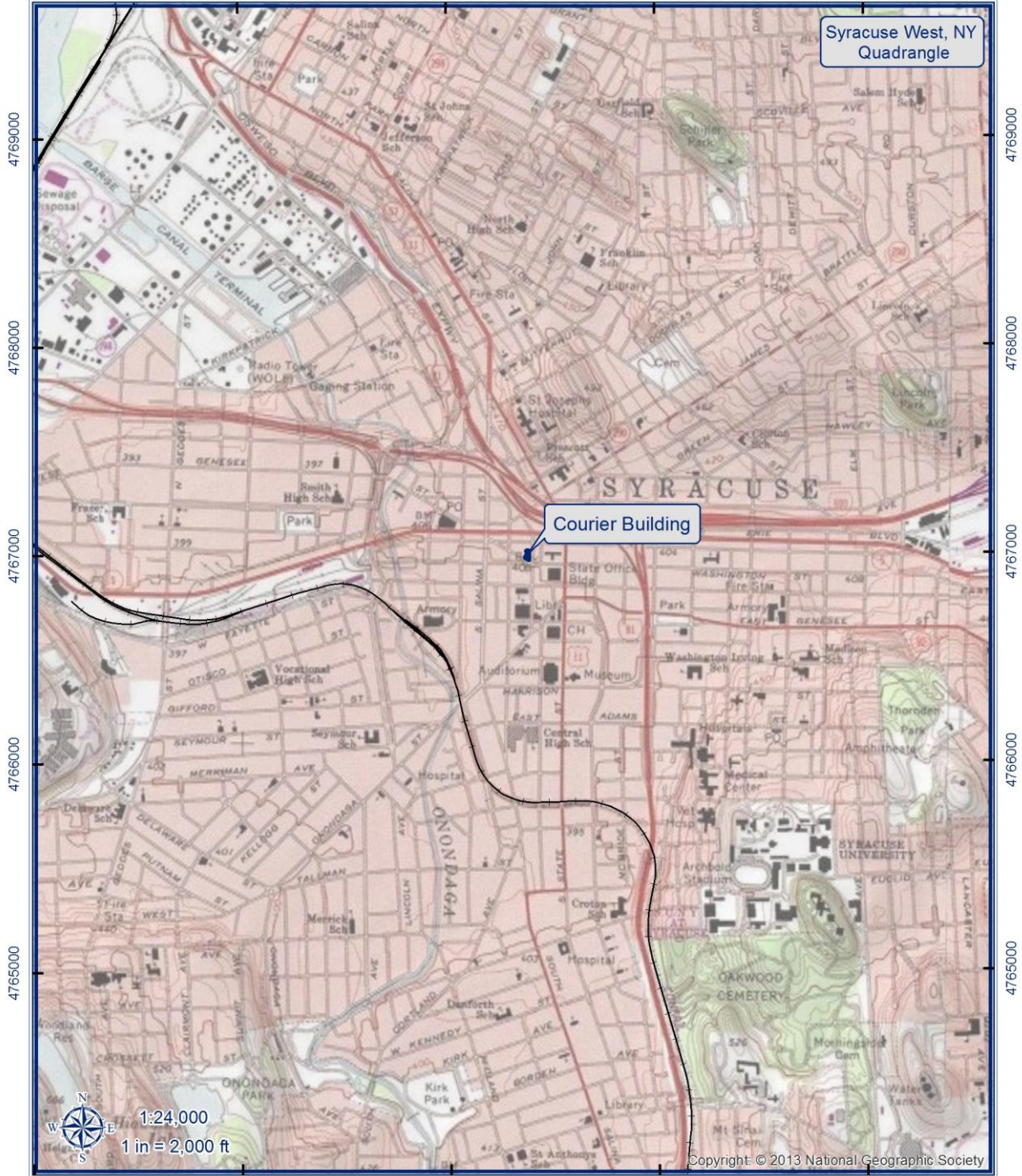
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The Courier Building  
City of Syracuse, Onondaga Co., NY

210 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202



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



 Courier\_Building  
 Railroad Line

Tax Parcel Data:  
Onondaga Co, Sewer Authority  
[maphost.com/syracuse-onondaga](http://maphost.com/syracuse-onondaga)



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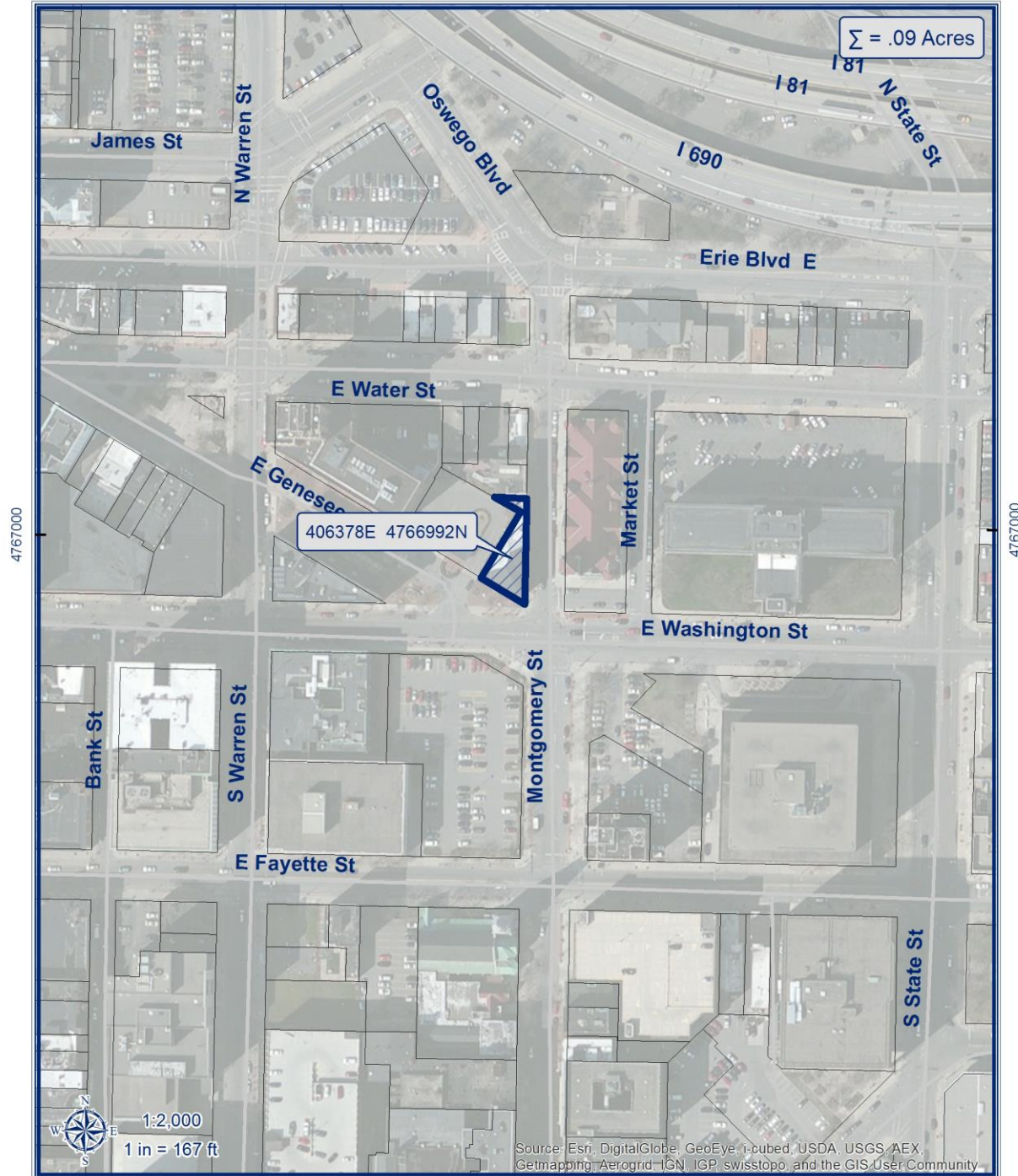
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The Courier Building  
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
The Courier Building  
City of Syracuse, Onondaga Co., NY

210 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202



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



 Courier\_Building  
 Railroad Line

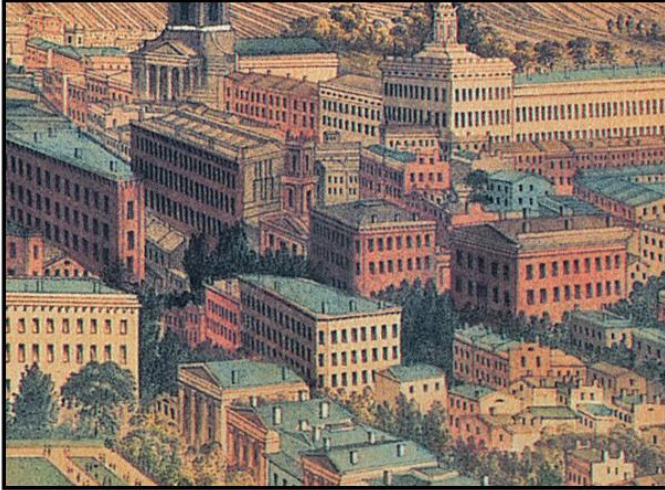
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Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

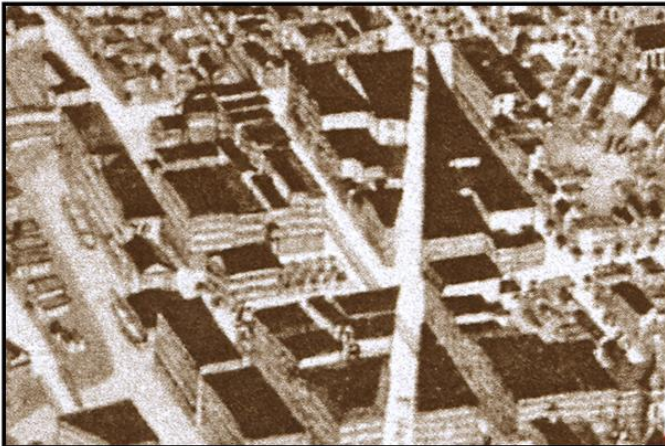
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The Courier Building  
Onondaga County, New York



1852

View from the southeast showing Frazee Hall in the center with City Hall to the right (w/out tower) and the Congregational Church to the left of Frazee Hall. Note wooden balustrade on roof of Frazee Hall



Birdseye View

Looking southeast with City Hall facing Market Park and Courier Building at the corner.



1869 Birdseye View

Looking north at City Hall with tower and park in front. Courier Building is to the left of the park with three chimneys and roof balustrade still in place.



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The Courier Building  
Onondaga County, New York

### Photo Log (Prints from Digital Photos)

Name of Property: The Courier Building  
Location: Onondaga County, New York  
Photographer: Crawford & Stearns  
Date: July, 2013  
Location of Negatives: NYS OPRHP

<b>0001</b>	View W-NW; Southeast rounded corner and east elevation showing 1844 brickwork, 1918 windows with cutlery and fire engineer blocks to the right.
<b>0002</b>	View N; Setting, with Syracuse City Hall.
<b>0003</b>	View W; Montgomery Street 1844 iron balcony at second story level from which Daniel Webster gave his infamous speech in 1851 supporting the Fugitive Slave Law.
<b>0004</b>	Fourth story of Frazee Block with partial removal of modern office partitions and ceilings (by previous owner).
<b>0005</b>	Main story lower flights of 1918 oak stairway that extends up all four stories.
<b>0006</b>	Attic crawlspace (1918) above the cutlery block looking at the former north side of the Frazee Block showing 1844 brickwork, dentils and 1918 (left) structural terra cotta block.

NYOndCoCourier



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RESTAURANT MARIAGE

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ENTER











UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Courier Building, The

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Onondaga

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

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000006

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: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT 2/14/14 DATE

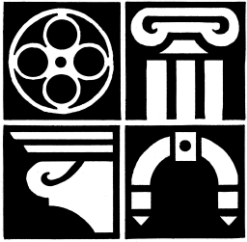
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA AVE  
REVIEWER [Signature] 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.





*SYRACUSE  
LANDMARK  
PRESERVATION  
BOARD*

December 4, 2013

Ms. Ruth L. Pierpont  
Director, Division of Historic Preservation  
NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau  
Peebles Island, PO Box 189  
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Re: Courier Building  
210 Montgomery Street

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

The Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board is in receipt of your letter dated November 5, 2013 regarding the Courier Building. The Board reviewed the nomination at its November 7, 2013 meeting.

The Courier Building is a well-known landmark in downtown Syracuse with an interesting and storied history. The Board concurs that this property meets the criteria for eligibility and strongly supports its listing in the State and National Registers.

Thank you for allowing the Board the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald S. Radke".

Donald S. Radke  
Chairman



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

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

**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor

**Rose Harvey**  
Commissioner

23 December 2013



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

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

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

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

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

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office