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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name HOPKINTON GREEN HISTORIC DISTRICT

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number NY ROUTE 11B, COUNTY ROUTE 49, CHURCH STREET

city or town HOPKINTON

state NEW YORK code NY county ST. LAWRENCE code 089 zip code 12965

not for publication

vicinity

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Ruth A. Purpont DBAHO 7/8/14
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

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

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain) _____

Jon Edson H. Beall 9.10.14
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

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

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

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	6	structures
0	1	objects
3	7	Total

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
 in the National Register**

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE: green
 GOVERNMENT: town hall
 RELIGION: religious facility
 DOMESTIC: single dwelling

LANDSCAPE: green
 GOVERNMENT: town hall
 RELIGION: religious facility
 RECREATION & CULTURE: museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Shingle Style

foundation: STONE
 walls: BRICK, WOOD
 roof: METAL
 other: GLASS

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Hopkinton Green Historic District is located in the Town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County, New York. This corner parcel, situated at a prominent crossroads location, was first deeded to the town in 1808 specifically for use as a village green, and it was there that the town's first municipal and religious buildings were erected. Situated where State Route 11B and County Route 49 (Fort Jackson-Hopkinton Road) meet, it is located on the northwest side of that intersection. This historic district consists of a small landscaped parcel and two associated buildings located on its periphery and accessed from Church Street, a circuitous drive that communicates with Route 11B and Route 49. The landscaped area of the green is defined on the east side by Route 49; on the south side by Route 11B; and on the west and north sides by the curving course of Church Street. The two buildings which are included in this nomination are situated on the north side of Church Street, across from the green proper though in direct communication with it, and on land conveyed expressly for their erection. These are, moving westward from the northeastern-most building, Town Hall, 1870, and the Congregational Church, 1892. Located on the periphery of the green and district, but excluded from the boundary, are the present town offices, ca. 1975, and the former residence of Zoraster Culver, ca. 1838, which currently houses the Hopkinton Museum and Library and provides office space for the town historian. The Town Hall and Congregational Church are considered contributing buildings in the context of this nomination. The museum, which has functioned in that capacity since 1985, while outside the boundary is nevertheless a prominent feature of the Hopkinton Green. The remaining physical features contained within the nomination boundary are itemized in the building list contained in this section.

Narrative Description

Location & Setting

Hopkinton is a rural town located in eastern St. Lawrence County, east of Potsdam and southwest of Malone, Franklin County. The Hopkinton Green occupies a prominent location in the hamlet of Hopkinton, east of the intersection of State Route 11B and County Route 72 and west of where Route 11B and NY State Route 458 diverge, near the hamlet of Nicholville. Route 11B is the principal overland transportation route in this region, linking as it does Malone with Potsdam; a section of this road, between Nicholville and Potsdam and including Hopkinton, is part of the Old Military Turnpike that linked Potsdam with Plattsburgh and which later functioned as a stage coach run. The East Branch of the St. Regis River, which flows through St. Lawrence County and empties into the St. Lawrence River, is located a few miles north of the nominated property. A short distance west of the green is Lyd Brook, a tributary of the St. Regis River, which flows in a north-south direction. The hamlet is located north of the Adirondack Park blue line, though a portion of the Town of Hopkinton, to the south, falls within the park boundary. The hamlet is characterized by fairly dense development which is tightly clustered along the both sides of Route 11B and Fort Jackson-Hopkinton Road, in the immediate vicinity of where these two roads meet. The majority of the buildings which constitute the hamlet are residential, many dating to the nineteenth century, along with scattered commercial properties and, adjacent to the green, civic and religious properties. The landscape in the vicinity of the hamlet is characterized by flat, open expanses of arable agricultural land, contrasted with densely wooded areas.

Hopkinton Green, 1808; contributing site

The Hopkinton Green is a small landscaped parcel that is characterized by a level grassy area interspersed with mature maple trees and a smaller number of coniferous trees. It is roughly square in shape, though on the northwest side it follows the curving course defined by Church Street. A small portion of the green, on the northeast side and directly opposite the 1870 town hall, is devoted to vehicular parking. A number of small-scale features, all of which are deemed non-contributing, are located on the green. These are the Bicentennial Gabezo, ca. 2002, installed to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the formation of the town; a small

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playground area, which has a swing set and two animal rides; three cast-iron electric lampposts; and a wood sign. Damage sustained in a 1998 ice storm accounted for the loss of some of the green's mature maple trees; however, efforts were immediately undertaken to replace these with new plantings.

Town Hall, 1870; contributing building

Town Hall is a single-story brick building erected above a stone foundation; it measures approximately 58 by 40 feet, not inclusive of a small frame lean-to on the west side, which corresponds with a wheelchair ramp. Built on a rectangular plan with self-contained massing, it has a medium-pitched gable roof and is oriented to face southwards towards Church Street and the green. The façade is three bays wide with symmetrical fenestration consisting of a segmental-arched central entrance which is flanked by tall windows; these also have segmental-arched brick lintels. There is additionally, above the entrance, a window with round-arched head that provided light to a gallery on that side of the interior. A semi-circular cut marble panel, located beneath the gable's apex, reads "TOWN HALL 1870." The entrance is currently fitted with double-leaf six-panel doors, which are not original, and the windows are fitted with replacement sash. The flank elevations are three bays deep and punctuated by tall windows with segmental-arched heads. Exterior ornamentation, while restrained, nevertheless conveys traits associated with the prevailing Italianate style of that period. This includes a moulded wood cornice with corresponding decorative eaves brackets, paired, and the round and segmental-arched fenestration.

The interior is all but given over to the large assembly area, with the balance of the plan consisting of space across the front, or south side, which includes the entrance vestibule, an open coat room, and a stair to the balcony. Above this front range of rooms is the original gallery. It has since been enclosed and the ceiling dropped, both measures being employed for heat conservation. The gallery nevertheless retains its original paneled front and moulded wood cornice, as well as the original stair, associated four-panel door and moulded architrave. Other original woodwork, namely moulded door and window casings and bead-board wainscot, also remain. The floor is laid with hardwood strip flooring.

Congregational Church, 1892; contributing building

The Congregational Church is a frame building erected above a foundation of coursed, rough-hewn red sandstone, quarried from nearby Hopkinton location. It was built on an asymmetrical plan consisting of a T-plan main block, which combines gable and hipped-roof sections, and an engaged corner tower; there is additionally a small bump-out on the northeast side. The interior is laid out on an Akron plan, providing for communication between the worship space and Sunday school room, which accounts for the configuration of the T-plan main block. The exterior is sheathed with a combination of narrow-width clapboard and wood shingles; the spire of the tower is clad with asphalt shingles, while the body of the church is covered with standing-seam metal. The use of variegated surface treatments and restrained neoclassical ornamentation relate the building to the "free classic" phase of the Queen Anne style.

The building was oriented to face south and that elevation is defined by the southeast bell tower and the broad gable of the main block, which is punctuated by a symmetrically placed tripartite window arrangement. Access to the interior from this elevation is via the double-leaf doors corresponding with the tower, above which is a rectangular-shaped transom and decorative pediment. This entrance is reached by a flight of concrete steps with associated railing. The bell stage of the tower is open and embellished with runs of railing, roundels, and a frieze with simplified geometric ornament. This stage gives way to the pyramidal spire, which rises to a globe-form pinnacle. As for the gable wall of the main block, the tripartite windows are unified by means of a moulded cornice, above which is a frieze with low-relief classical detailing. Windows on the east elevation bring light into the Sunday school room, while a second set of tripartite windows light the worship

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space from the north side. The windows corresponding with the worship space are fitted with period stained glass; each of these windows were donated in memory of an early Hopkinton settler.

The interior is remarkably intact and displays the bulk of its historic-period finishes and the original Akron plan layout. The worship space features an auditorium-style arrangement with slip pews arranged on a curved plan and downward-sloping floor, these facing westward towards the liturgical center. The walls are finished with plaster above bead-board wainscot; the ceiling features exposed elements of the roof frame and is fitted with decorative pressed metal. Against the east wall is a large aperture fitted with two sets of seven-panel doors, these serving to provide communication between the worship space and Sunday school room as is characteristic of the Akron plan. The Sunday school room is finished in a manner similar to the worship space, with plaster walls above bead-board wainscot and a decorative pressed-metal ceiling, which is coved. The pews, doors, wainscot and other woodwork are deeply varnished.

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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

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1808- 1963

Significant Dates

1808; ca. 1817; 1870; 1892

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

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 for the Hopkinton Green NRHP nomination, 1808-1963, is initiated with the deeding of this land to the town by Roswell Hopkins and terminates at the 50-year cutoff point; the latter date has been chosen given the continued use of the green by Hopkinton residents in a manner compatible with its historic use.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Hopkinton Green Historic District is an architecturally and historically significant resource in St. Lawrence County, New York. In 1808 Hopkinton's founder, Roswell Hopkins, deeded land to the town "in the consideration of his good will and respect" for his fellow citizens and for the purpose of establishing a green, or common, upon which public buildings could be erected "when the inhabitants shall think proper."¹ This modestly scaled parcel has long served Hopkinton residents in this capacity, having been improved during the course of the nineteenth century with the construction of important municipal and religious buildings as originally desired by Hopkins. Immediately adjacent to the green is the 1870 Hopkinton Town Hall, erected as a place of assembly and for the dispensation of town business, and the Congregational Church, 1892, built to replace an earlier edifice which was lost to fire the previous year. Both were built on land set aside specifically for this purpose, adjacent to the green. Hopkinton was settled by a contingent of Vermont families in the first decade of the nineteenth century, a settlement pattern common in eastern St. Lawrence County and one recalling the migration of Vermont families into northern New York State in that era. The town was established by Hopkins, a veteran of the American Revolution, who was born in Dutchess County and who came to St. Lawrence County from Vergennes, Vermont. In deeding this property to the town, Hopkins intended that the newly founded community would have a public green, echoing a land use pattern familiar to settlers who hailed from New England. The Hopkinton Green Historic District is being nominated for listing in association with Criterion A, in the areas of Community Planning & Development and Exploration/Settlement, in the local context. The establishment of this public common is closely associated with town founder Roswell Hopkins and the original settlement and early development of this town; it was Roswell's intention that the green would serve as a focal point of the new community and the location of its most important public buildings. Additional significance is being claimed in association with Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, as the two principal public buildings located there, the town hall and the Congregational church, offer themselves as important examples of period architectural styles and building types. It remains the preeminent public space in Hopkinton and enjoys salient ties to the town's founder and the first period of settlement.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Historical Context

The beginnings of the Town of Hopkinton date to the acquisition, by Roswell Hopkins, of a 6,780 acre tract of land from Abijah Hammond of New York City, at a cost of \$10, 170, or what amounted to \$1.50 per acre. The deed for this land, part of what was then the township of Islington, dates to July 1802 but was not recorded until November 1809. Hopkins additionally secured rights to an additional 500 acres of land from Alexander Macomb—a successful New York City merchant and among the foremost land speculators of that era, and owner of some four million acres of land in northern New York—and agreed to serve as the latter's land agent for those holdings. A native of the Amenia area of New York, Hopkins was by that time a resident of Vergennes, Vermont, on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain, and, as described by the preeminent Hopkinton historian Carlton Sanford, "stood high as a citizen of Vermont."² The lands he acquired in St. Lawrence County were, at this early date in the nineteenth century, remote, unimproved, and well removed from settled areas. The first pioneers came to these lands in 1802, among them Joel and Samuel Goodell, who came not from Vermont but from Hartford, Washington County. In 1803 Hopkins relocated from Vergennes to the new settlement, along with Eli Squires, Ashbel Squires, and Abraham Sheldon. Roads were laid out and built, land was cleared, log houses erected and other efforts mounted to bring this frontier area into a more ordered and inhabitable state, and one that would encourage settlement. Detailed accounting of

¹ Carlton E. Sanford, *Early History of the Town of Hopkinton* (Boston: Bartlett Press, 1903), 121.

² *Ibid.*, 17-18.

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the first settlers and their various transactions with Hopkins in the period 1803-1808 were recorded in 1903, drawn from an account book kept by Hopkins himself.³

Roswell Hopkins (1757-1829), known variously as Colonel or Judge Hopkins, was a veteran of the American Revolution, having served the patriot cause in the deciding contests of General Burgoyne's 1777 Saratoga Campaign, and he served as Vermont's secretary of state for 14 years. His land purchases in New York were not his first land ventures, as the township of Kirby, Vermont, in the eastern part of Caledonia County, was granted to him in October 1786 and chartered as "Hopkinsville" in October, 1790. During the earliest years of what was termed by the historian Sanford as his "Islington project," Hopkins continued to reside in Vermont while advancing plans for the new settlement, which included encouraging new land purchases within the tract. Hopkins was, for a time, in a formal business partnership with his son, Benjamin W. Hopkins, beginning in 1806; his son died after contracting yellow fever in 1819. Roswell Hopkins died in Chazy, Clinton County, New York, in 1829, following an accident in which he was thrown from his carriage.

The Town of Hopkinton was officially raised by an act of the state legislature in March 1805, and the first town meeting was conducted at the house of Eliakim Seeley. It included lands previously associated with Massena, as well as Islington and Catharineville, and assumed its present boundaries when the towns of Parishville and Lawrence were formed. During the period 1804-05 new families came to settle this area, among them the Remingtons, Posts, McLaughlins, Trains, Armstrongs and Abbotts. At the town meeting conducted on March 4, 1806, Roswell Hopkins was elected to serve as the first supervisor, and the town's first clerk, tax assessors, overseers of the poor, constable and tax collector, highway commissioners, fence viewer and pound keeper were also nominated. In 1807 the town established a \$10 bounty on wolves, and similar bounties were also placed on catamounts and other predators in the following decade, an indicator of the frontier circumstances of the newly developing town. The first grist mill was, by historian F.B. Hough's account, erected by Hopkins on Lyd Brook—which Hopkins had named in honor of his wife, Lydia—ca. 1803; prior to the establishment of a mill, settlers had to travel some distance northward, to the St. Lawrence River, to mill their grain.⁴

Hopkinton's first frame house was erected in 1809 for Abram Sheldon; all the dwellings erected previous to that date had been of the log or "shanty" type. Joseph Brush, who came to Hopkinton ca. 1807-08, was among those who resided in a log house, which was partitioned internally to allow for a portion to serve as quarters for a cow. In 1810 a circulating library was established, with \$115 put forward for that purpose by 45 subscribers. The town's first saw mill was not erected on Lyd Brook near the Hopkinton hamlet but was instead built to the north, on the East Branch of the St. Regis River, in 1824, for Issac R. Hopkins. At the time the frame for this mill was raised it was christened "Fort Jackson," and the hamlet there still bears this name.⁵

During the War of 1812 this remote and only recently established settlement was visited by a small detachment of British soldiers under the command of Major DeHeirne. In February 1814, following an incursion to Malone, it was learned that a large store of flour belonging to the American forces was stored in Hopkinton, unguarded. The English detachment proceeded overland by sleigh to the hamlet, arriving there at an early hour of the morning and thereby taking the residents of the community by surprise. This force, after posting sentinels and mounting a search to collect the citizen's arms, discovered some three hundred barrels of flour owned by Roswell Hopkins in the barn of Dr. Sprague. Lacking the means to convey but half of this

³ Ibid, 18-19; 38-43.

⁴ F.B. Hough, *A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York* (Albany: 1853), 319-21.

⁵ Ibid, 323; Sanford, *Hopkinton*, 82.

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flour with them, the British endeavored to destroy the remainder, but following the appeal of the citizens, ceased destroying it and instead distributed the remainder to them. By Hough's account, these British soldiers "conducted themselves with strict propriety, and sacredly respected private property of every kind, using or receiving nothing for which they did not receive compensation."⁶

The initial wave of settlement required the clearing of arable acreage from primeval forest, principally for the cultivation of wheat and other grains. Hopkins accounting from March 1806 indicates that he purchased some 562 bushels of "field ashes" from settlers, this ash being the byproduct of the burning of hardwood trees which were felled during the land clearing process.⁷ These were refined to produced potash, or "black salts," which was a saleable commodity and one which provided a return to settlers during the land clearing process, and before land could be brought under profitable cultivation. During the first years of settlement a bartering system was employed, whereby goods and services were traded freely. Elisha Risdon (1782-1851), an early settler and land surveyor and a diarist whose accounts from this period offer invaluable insights into early Hopkinton, noted that in 1805 he purchased a rifle from B.W. Hopkins, for which he was to clear thirteen acres of timber the following year. Writing in 1850 to Eliphalet Brush, Risdon offered the following account of his experiences relative to settling in Hopkinton, and the complexion of the area at an early date:

If I am correct you came to this country in 1802. I came early in 1804, but with the view of a limited stay, for my father was very much opposed to my settling in this country. He said that in his view of Northern New York for frost, deep snows, and general sterility, the country would compare well with Greenland, and that the inhabitants, if any, for learning and worth would continue but a step in advance of the savages...

I saw in our sterile clime, in the evergreen forest, noble rivers and cataracts, a sublimity, a romantic grandeur, which accorded with my feelings and attached me to the country... We came here when the primitive forest shaded the earth, and when only here and there the sound of the woodman's axe was heard. The roads were little more than a line of marked trees, the dwellings bark covered shanties. The Indian and the wild animal were the lords of the land. Such we found Northern New York.⁸

The improvement of roads, the erection of a better class of dwellings, the construction of schools and churches, and the establishment of new and better milling enterprises attended Hopkinton's advancement from its earliest pioneer circumstances. The town's first school, as might be expected, was of log construction, and classes were being conducted as early as 1810 or 1811. The establishment of a public green was among those improvements which projected order onto the developing landscape of the town and which harkened back to the communities from which the majority of Hopkinton's first settlers came.

In July 1808, Roswell Hopkins deeded to the town a parcel of land for use as a public green, which he envisioned as the central feature of the developing hamlet. This parcel was described as beginning at the southwest parcel of Reuben Post's "home lot," west twenty rods, north twenty-two rods, and returning east to Post's lot. A strip six rods wide was set off and reserved for the construction of public buildings as residents saw fit. Hopkins also, at this date and as part of this deed, gave a separate parcel to the town for use as a burial yard. His name was later blotted out and the seal torn from this deed, to which was added the notation "This deed cancelled and new deed given of another parcel of land for the same purpose of a burying ground." It seems that Hopkins had overextended himself financially, beginning in the 1810s, requiring the sale of property to satisfy creditors. His circumstances required him to issue a new deed for the land in 1817.

⁶ Hough, *St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties*, 323.

⁷ Sanford, *Hopkinton*, 44.

⁸ Quoted in *ibid*, 70-71.

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All or most of Hopkins's unsold land holdings in this area were acquired by Abraham Varick, who in 1827 confirmed the previous deed for a village green and associated building lot. However, Varick did not convey the land to the town, as Hopkins had. Instead he transferred title to Bushnell Moore, Gaius Sheldon and Zoraster Culver, trustees of the First Congregational Church Society, and the green and building lots were described separately; this was, nevertheless, the same property as originally deeded by Hopkins in 1808.⁹

The first building erected on the six-rod-wide building lot adjacent to the green was the so-called "old stone schoolhouse," which was built in 1815. It was erected not as a characteristic single-story, one-room school building, but instead as a two-story edifice, which provided for a meeting room upstairs that could be used for civic and also religious purposes. The upper floor was known at the time as the "Town Room," and a subscription was raised and shares taken for the use of the upper floor. Tragedy unfortunately attended the construction campaign, as Reuben Post, a local resident and stone mason, fell to his death from the staging during construction. In 1820 it was voted that the town room was for the exclusive use of the Congregational Society—though town business continued to be conducted there—leaving the Baptist Society in need of a new assembly place. This building was razed ca. 1870 to make way for the new town hall.¹⁰

The roots of Hopkinton's Congregational Society date to the establishment, in 1808, of Christ Church of Hopkinton by members of the community. Prior to the construction of the stone school in 1815, this group had no formal place of assembly, and it lacked a permanent minister until 1814. In 1827 the group embarked on the construction of its first house of worship, a large frame edifice of Wren-Gibbs meetinghouse precedent, built under the direction of master builder Willis Warriner. By one account the heavy frame took two days to erect, during which time the raising team consumed 10 gallons of whiskey. This building was modified in the mid-nineteenth century and again in the early 1870s. In July 1891 a fire which destroyed a number of buildings east of Lyd Brook spread to the bell tower of the church before consuming it completely. This event precipitated the construction of the present edifice the following year.¹¹

The earliest known map depicting the green is one drawn ca. 1820 for Hopkins, which shows the developing hamlet and the green, located at the intersection of the road to Fort Jackson and the St. Lawrence Turnpike.¹² The green is also shown on the map of Hopkinton included in the 1865 Stone & Stewart *New Topographical Atlas of St. Lawrence County*. It is shown as a square-shaped parcel at that date; the meetinghouse, shown on the map as Presbyterian, occupies a position immediately north of it, while the residence of Zoraster Culver is shown at the southwest corner.

The Hopkinton Museum & Library is not included within the historic district boundary; although it fronts on the green it has an unrelated development history. This lot was first deeded by Roswell Hopkins to Samuel Wilson in 1817, and there Wilson erected a dwelling place and a store. In 1838 Zoraster Culver, who had acquired this property with Ebenezer Hulburd, built a new dwelling after razing the old Wilson house—though a rear section was incorporated into the new house—and moved the store to a new location on the property and converted it into a granary. He additionally built a new store, on the site of the old, north of the house and adjacent to the green. This store was subsequently moved, then moved a second time and converted into a dwelling, and yet later was destroyed by fire.¹³

⁹ Ibid, 121-26.

¹⁰ Ibid, 127-36.

¹¹ Ibid, 136-140.

¹² Ibid; the map is illustrated on the plate following page 84.

¹³ Ibid, 87.

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Architectural Analysis

The village green, which evolved from the earlier concept of a public common—a communal area typically for the pasturing or containment of animals—represents a distinctly New England land-use pattern. In the case of the Hopkinton Green, it echoes the structure of the communities from which many of the settlers hailed. The New England settlers who founded new towns such as those in northern New York near the turn of the nineteenth century often incorporated a small green space as a focal point of their new community, though one not conceived for agricultural or husbandry purposes, thereby differentiating it from the public common of an earlier era of settlement.¹⁴ The green in this period instead served more as the focal point of a town or village and could be used for a variety of public functions, among them militia drills or hangings. The size of the green varied greatly across New England, depending on the needs of the town and the period in which it was first settled and developed. For some settlements it was too small to be anything more than a perfunctory reminder of the Puritan's original desire to live communally. Civic, religious and commercial structures commonly communicated with the green, as did dwellings sometimes, but it was the meetinghouse that most often served as the architectural centerpiece. In the case of Hopkinton, the green came to include the Congregational meetinghouse—itsself a strong reminder of the community's New England roots—the town hall, and by the 1810s also had a commercial component, the store of Samuel Wilson.

The present Congregational church was erected in 1892 to replace the 1827 meetinghouse consumed by fire the previous year. It formed a strong point of contrast with the earlier edifice, which was of a type popularized by, among others, Asher Benjamin and Lavius Fillmore, being a gable-roofed meetinghouse with engaged entrance pavilion and multi-stage bell tower; descriptions of the interior suggest a traditional arrangement as originally built, with a full encircling gallery, box pews, and a centrally placed pulpit. Ample natural lighting and clear sight lines to the pulpit were of principal concern in this earlier building type. The current church, built some 65 years later, is representative of a different epoch in church design. Built during the Late Victorian era, it is an excellent representation of the Akron plan type, which was developed in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and was popular among Protestant groups; its principal feature was its allowance for direct communication between the worship space and Sunday school, which could be separated from one another by means of folding doors as needed. Also notable is the arrangement of the worship space, which was laid out on an auditorium plan, with semi-circular seating facing a liturgical center with dais, the seating being set on an incline so as to allow for better sight lines. The Akron plan, which was popular for a number of decades, was adapted to a variety of architectural styles, though it was typically used in association with an auditorium plan worship space, as is the case of the Hopkinton church. The exterior displays features which link it to the Queen Anne tradition and it remains an excellent and very well preserved example of its type. In July 1892 it was noted in the *Ogdensburg Journal* that “The new church is nearing completion and is built in a modern style of architecture, and will more then fill the place of the one burned last year.”¹⁵

Also of note is the original Hopkinton Town Hall, built in 1870. Sanford provided the following synopsis of that building's history:

The town having outgrown the old hall, and it also becoming weak and dangerous, the people decided in 1869 to erect a new and more commodious hall... The town authorities wishing to have undisputed title to the lot on which they should build, and fearing a permission to build on the old site from the Congregational Society was insufficient, due steps were taken by the church to get permission and direction from the court to deed the lot, which was done May 9, 1871, by John Sheldon, E. Harmon Risdon and George Smith as trustees of

¹⁴John Stilgoe, *Common Landscape of America 1580-1845* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1982).

¹⁵*Ogdensburg Journal*, 20 July 1892.

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the society. The lot so conveyed is five rods east and west by six rods north and south, being the east end of the lot reserved for public building[s]. The new hall is of brick, fifty-eight by forty feet, with platform in north end and gallery across south end. It was built in 1870, Jonah Sanford, supervisor, and on the site of the old hall.¹⁶

The construction of the new town hall provided the town's residents with an architecturally up-to-date and more spacious edifice in which to conduct official business. In appearance it was not unlike a small meetinghouse or school, displaying self-contained massing and having a gable roof, the principal entrance located within one of the gable ends. Ornamentation, while somewhat restrained, nevertheless was of an Italianate character, as expressed on the exterior by the building's vertical proportions, bracketed eaves, and round and segmental-arched fenestration, and on the interior by the rounded moulding profiles used for interior woodwork. While some level of alteration is evident, the building nevertheless retains its original form and many original and interpretable features. Its construction was an important affirmation of the plan of development for the hamlet first mandated by Roswell Hopkins in 1808.

Further History & Conclusion

In addition to the historical significance of the Hopkinton Green in association with land-use patterns reflecting the settlement of the town by New Englanders, and the architectural significance of both the church and the town hall, the green has been of considerable social and cultural significance for townspeople for more than two centuries. Hopkinton pioneer settler Elisha Risdon's diary—transcribed and published in Sanford's 1903 history—includes frequent references to public events in the hamlet, most likely on or near the green. Risdon frequently wrote about Fourth of July celebrations, militia drills, election gatherings, traveling circuses, and wild animal shows that were conducted in this central public space. Risdon also wrote about attending church services, meetings and other events at the town hall, first referred to as "the meetinghouse" in his diary. An unpublished memoir by John A. Harran (1904-1963) includes many recollections of events and activities he attended at all three locations in his early years. Perhaps most exciting of all was the 1912 visit to Hopkinton by President Theodore Roosevelt, who spoke to a gathered crowd on a platform set up in the green while on his Bull Moose campaign for president, an event which was recounted in elaborate detail by both Harran and in other oral historical accounts. In the twentieth century, the green was the site of celebrations like the end of the Second World War and for years by the local volunteer fire department for its annual field days, as well as weddings, ice cream socials, and fundraisers. Most recently, townspeople organized a large celebration of the bicentennial in 2002 of the town's founding; the green, church and town hall were all featured, and annual summer festivals have continued each year since.

In 2006, Traditional Arts in Upstate New York, or TAUNY, the non-profit, regional folk arts organization, selected the Hopkinton Town Green—including the Congregational church and town hall—for its Register of Very Special Places (RVSP), an inventory of cultural landmarks throughout the 14-county North Country region of New York. RVSP recognizes and celebrates a broad array of sites that maintain a special significance to life in North Country communities. The Hopkinton Green nomination met all 10 of TAUNY's criteria for inclusion on its RVSP.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

N/A

¹⁶Sanford, *Hopkinton*, 136.

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County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Hough, F.B. *A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York*. Albany: 1853.

Sanford, Carlton E. *Early History of the Town of Hopkinton*. Boston: Bartlett Press, 1903.

Stilgoe, John. *Common Landscape of America 1580-1845*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1982.

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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.72 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>523458</u> Easting	<u>4948620</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing

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

The boundary for this NRHP nomination is shown on the two enclosed maps, drawn at 1:24,000 and 1:3,000 scale, both of which are entitled "Hopkinton Green Historic District."

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary for the nominated district encompasses those parcels set aside for a village green and the construction of public buildings by Roswell Hopkins in 1808, deeds which were subsequently confirmed by Abraham Varick, in 1827, to affirm their validity. All of this land is historically associated with period of significance for the Hopkinton Green Historic District, ca. 1808-1963. No additional lands, outside of those above described, are included within the boundary.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title William E. Krattinger
organization NYS Division for Historic Preservation date August 2013
street & number Peebles Island State Park telephone (518) 237-8643 ext. 3265
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188
e-mail William.Krattinger@parks.ny.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs:

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

Photographs, TIFF format, by Varick Chittenden, August 2013

- 0001 View looking northward towards Hopkinton Green, church and town hall in center background
- 0002 View looking northward towards church, town hall to right
- 0003 View looking to northeast showing church's principal elevation
- 0004 View looking to northwest showing east elevation and façade of church
- 0005 View looking northward towards town hall
- 0006 View looking to northwest showing non-contributing gazebo

Property Owner:

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

name Various: historic district
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

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

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ABOVE & BELOW, panoramic historic views depicting the Hopkinton Green, ca. 1900



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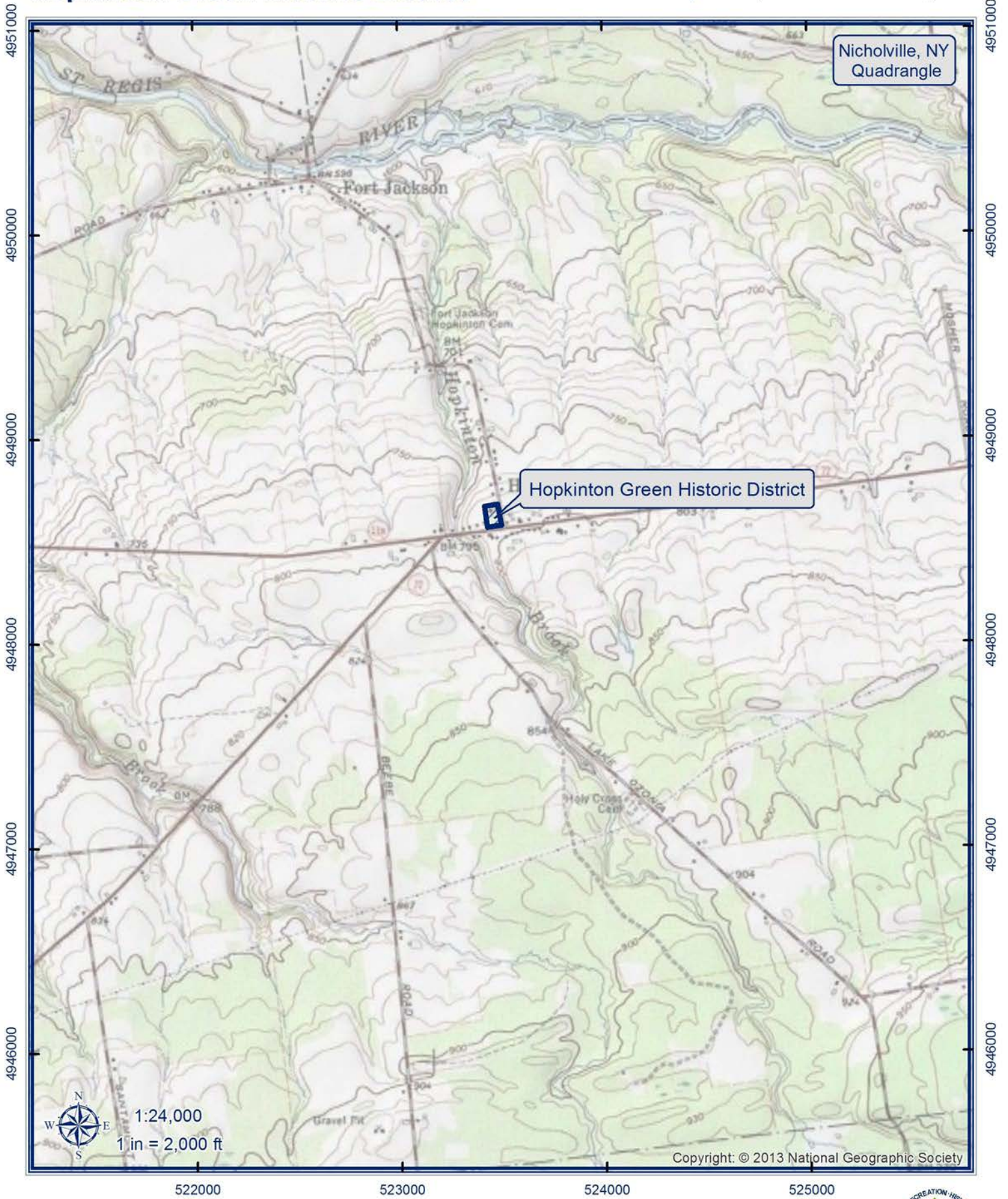


ABOVE, historic view of Town Hall, viewing looking north; BELOW, postcard view of green, ca. 1900



Hopkinton Green Historic District

Hopkinton, St. Lawrence Co., NY



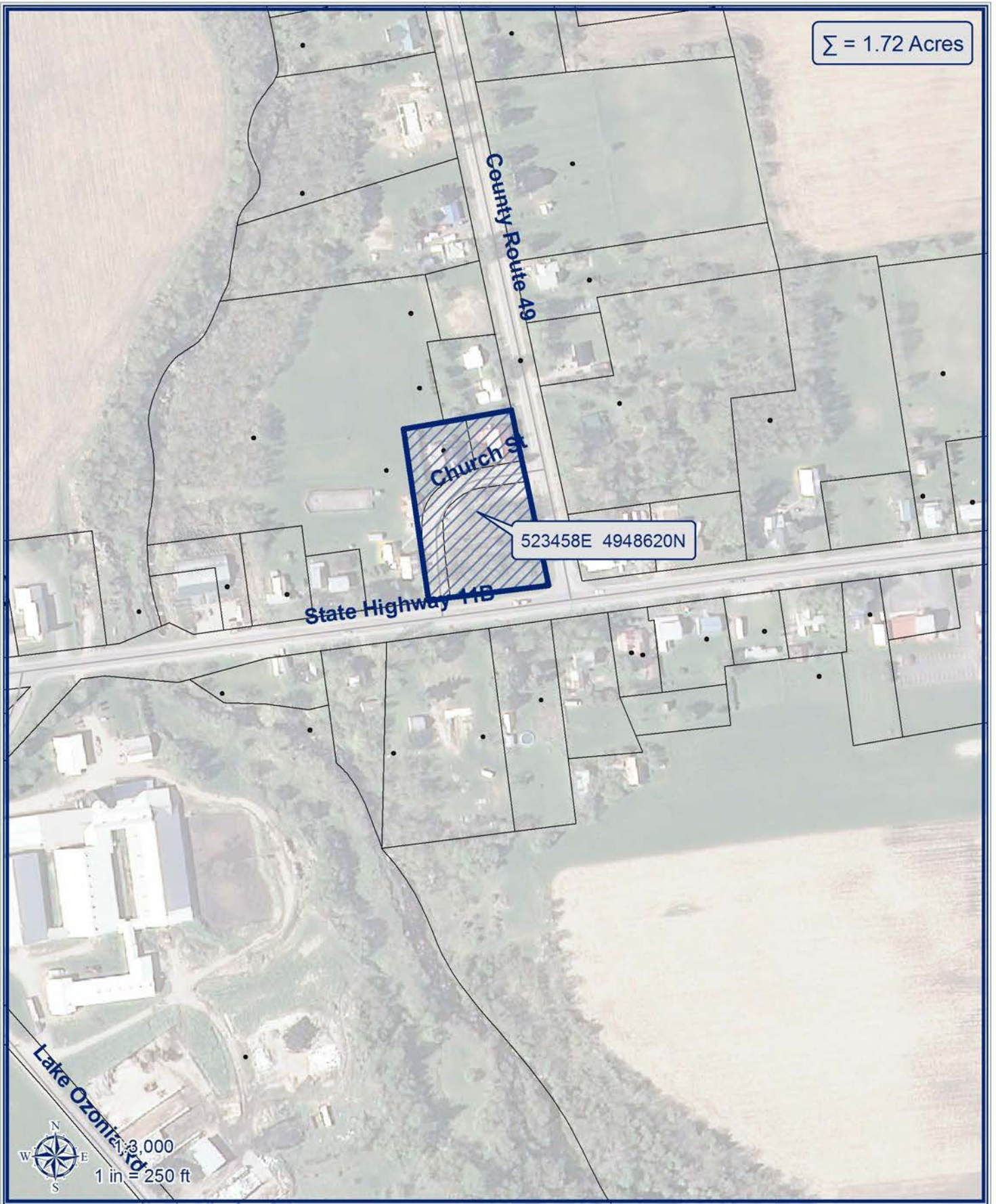
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter



Hopkinton Green HD

Tax Parcel Data:
St. Lawrence Co, RPS
opengeohost.com/maps/stlawrence





$\Sigma = 1.72$ Acres

523458E 4948620N

3,000
1 in = 250 ft

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

0 90 180 360 Feet



Hopkinton Green HD

Tax Parcel Data:
St. Lawrence Co, RPS
opengeohost.com/maps/stlawrence





MUSEUM
LIBRARY
TOWN OFFICE
CHURCH
TOWN HALL









Town Council
Wed. 8:00



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Hopkinton Green Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, St. Lawrence

DATE RECEIVED: 7/25/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/10/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000583

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 9.10.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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



Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

Rose Harvey
Commissioner

9 July 2014

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

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

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

Oakwood Cemetery, Niagara County
First Presbyterian Church of Le Roy, Genesee County
North Star School District # 11, Monroe County
Western New York Wine Company, Steuben County
Hopkinton Green Historic District, St. Lawrence County

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