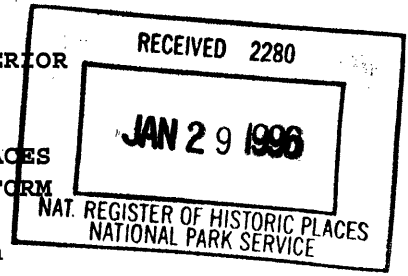


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION FORM



New Submission

Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historic and Architectural Resources of the Village of Mount Morris

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Historic Contexts: Settlement Period
Canal Era
Railroad Era
Agriculture and Industry
Early 20th Century Development

C. Form Prepared by

name/title Nancy L. Todd, Program Analyst
organization Division for Historic Preservation
street & number Pebbles Island, Box 189 city Waterford
state New York zip code 12188-0189
telephone 518-237-8643 date December 1995

Survey by: Kathy Howe, Bero Associates, Rochester, New York

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.

JW Alden 8 Dec. '95
Signature of certifying official Date
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

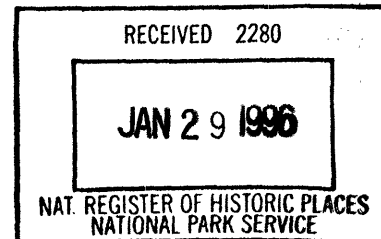
Edson R. Beall 3/1/96
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
for

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-1



E: HISTORIC CONTEXT/HISTORIC OVERVIEW STATEMENT

The village of Mt. Morris is located in the township of Mt. Morris in Livingston County, about 40 miles south of Rochester. The Genesee River is located to the north and west of the village. Mt. Morris is situated on the high banks of the Genesee at the point where the river leaves the narrow, steep shale gorge and flows through the flat Genesee Valley. To the east, between Canaseraga Creek and the high tableland on which the village is situated, is a broad alluvial plain two miles wide of very fertile land. From the plain the ground rises abruptly to the first terrace and from here stretches toward the river to the west.

There are five historic contexts identified for the MPDF. They are:

1. Settlement Period
2. Canal Era
3. Railroad Era
4. Agriculture and Industry
5. Early Twentieth Century Development

SETTLEMENT PERIOD

The development of the area that came to be known as Mt. Morris paralleled settlement patterns of other population centers within western New York following the Revolutionary War. When the Revolutionary War ended in 1783 it was clear that the Iroquois lands in western New York were to be divided because the Seneca Nation had aligned themselves with the losing side in the conflict. Both New York and Massachusetts claimed these lands. Under the terms of the Treaty of Hartford in 1786, Massachusetts had the right to purchase approximately six million acres from the Seneca Indians while recognizing the political sovereignty of New York over the same land. In 1788 Massachusetts sold all of its land on either side of the Genesee River to a group of investors represented by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham.

The Senecas relinquished title to 2.5 million acres of land east of the Genesee River and approximately 200,000 acres west of the river at the Treaty of Buffalo Creek in July 1788. This allowed Phelps and Gorham to begin selling the land. In spite of their best efforts in land sales Phelps and Gorham could not meet the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-2

conditions of their charter from Massachusetts and had to return the land west of the river back to Massachusetts in 1790. This left Phelps and Gorham with approximately 2.6 million acres from the Pre-emption Line¹ to the Genesee River Valley.

The financial situation for Phelps and Gorham continued to go poorly and in 1791 they were forced to sell all but two townships of their remaining land to Robert Morris of Philadelphia, signer of the Declaration of Independence, financier of the Revolution, and would-be land speculator. The town and village of Mt. Morris are named in his honor. In 1792 Morris likewise sold most of his land east of the Genesee River to Sir William Pulteney and his London-based associates.

Morris retained a strip of land along the Genesee River for himself which later became known as the Mt. Morris tract. The tract was four miles square, and contained 10,240 acres. The current village of Mt. Morris is situated nearly in the geographical center of the tract. The tract had been settled earlier by Ebenezer Allan, who persuaded the Senecas to give him the land in trust for his daughter by an Indian wife. Allan moved to the Genesee Valley about 1780-82 where he first resided in the home of Mary Jemison on the Gardeau flats. In 1785 he moved to the site of the present village of Mt. Morris which became known as Allan's Hill. Robert Morris bought the land from Allan in 1793 in exchange for goods.

Morris, considered the richest man in America in 1793, died in 1806 in a debtors prison in Philadelphia. The Bank of North America held the title to the Mt. Morris tract as collateral for loans made to Morris. After Morris's death the Bank had the land surveyed by Stephen Rogers. In 1807, the bank sold the tract, excepting the

1 The Pre-emption Line went from Sodus Bay, running south to the western side of the present-day Geneva, to the Pennsylvania border.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-3

Squawkie Hill Indian reservation², to John R. and Harriet Murray, William and Susan Ogden, and John Trumbull of New York City, and James and Naomi Wadsworth, Sr., of Geneseo, New York.

Mt. Morris was slow to develop as a settlement primarily due to the lack of direct waterpower and the presence of the Genesee fever or ague. Many of the early settlers were drawn here, however, by the rich alluvial soil. By 1813 Mt. Morris had four frame and 22 log houses. Small stores, artisans' shops, and grist and lumber mills were established in the early 1800s as Mt. Morris developed into a self-supporting community. Early industries included wool carding, a grist mill, a distillery which used the wheat grown on the flats, and the making of cloth from hemp also grown on the flats. The early settlers of Mt. Morris were primarily from eastern New York and New England. While the town of Mt. Morris was established in 1818, the village was not incorporated until 1835.

The period of 1830 to 1840 was one of steady settlement for the village. According to the 1835 Census the village had two grist mills, six sawmills, three fulling mills, three carding machines, one distillery, three asheries, and two tanneries. At that time the village also contained three churches, three taverns, nine dry goods stores, three groceries, one shoe factory, a bakery, an iron foundry, one hemp factory, a tin factory, two saddlers, three tailors, two drug stores, and one printing office.

One of the first permanent settlers of Mt. Morris was William A. Mills who, in 1794 at the age of seventeen, decided to remain in the Genesee Valley after his family had returned to Connecticut following the death of his father. He befriended the nearby Seneca

2 Squawkie Hill was reserved for the Indians at the Treaty of Big Tree in 1797, when the title of Robert Morris to this tract was made valid by extinguishing the Indian title, and their grant to the heirs of Ebenezer Allan. the site is located on the northern side of the Genesee River in the present town of Leicester.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-4

Indians and built a log cabin at Allan's Hill. In 1838, at age sixty, he built an impressive Greek Revival brick house at 14 Main Street, known today as Mills Mansion (National Register listed 12/19/78).

Mills was dedicated to the development of this region both commercially and politically. He is credited with being the founder of Mt. Morris. As a prosperous grain farmer, he created a trade for the growing community. By the end of his life in 1844 he had become a large landholder, owning approximately 1,800 acres of land, much of it used for agriculture. He helped establish Livingston County in 1821 and the Town of Mt. Morris in 1818, serving as justice of the peace and town supervisor for 20 years. With the outbreak of the War of 1812, Mills organized the first state militia for Livingston County. He rose to the rank of Major General in the New York State Militia. Mills helped petition the Legislature to authorize the construction of a dam across the Genesee River in 1833. In 1827 he was one of the chief supporters for the construction of a race from the Genesee River to the northeast part of the village, a distance of one mile. This race provided the water power necessary for the development of local industry. Mills was also influential in lobbying for the construction of the Genesee Valley Canal.

Other prominent early citizens of Mt. Morris include John Rogers Murray and his wife Anna Vernon Olyphant who, in 1839, built a house atop what is known today as Murray Hill. Murray's parents were among the original group of eight persons who purchased the Mt. Morris tract from the Bank of North America.

John Rogers Murray was influential in the early industrial history of Mt. Morris, establishing a glass works, a saw and planing mill, and a paper mill in the 1840s. The Murrays contributed to many

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-5

civic improvements and charitable causes,³ including the construction of the Gothic Revival style St. John's Episcopal Church, built in 1856, at 23 State Street (National Register listed 7/19/91). They are buried at a contributing grave site located east of the church. The graves are marked by a large granite stone surrounded by cast iron posts and a chain.

Prior to the completion of the Genesee Valley Canal between Rochester and Mt. Morris in 1840, water travel in Livingston County was limited to seasons of high water on the Genesee River. The distance was 65 miles by river from Geneseo, the county seat, to Rochester. Small, manually powered cargo boats were used to carry goods and agricultural products to Rochester when the water level was sufficiently deep. Passenger and freight steamboats were also used for a short time on the river. The first steamboat on this waterway made a trip on July 28, 1824. The unpredictable water level made this a short-lived enterprise.

The first bridge to span the Genesee River and connect Mt. Morris with the Town of Leicester to the north was built about 1830. This covered, wooden bridge remained in use until 1897, when it was replaced by a 325-foot long, steel-frame bridge. The replacement bridge was, for many years, the longest single-span bridge in the United States. This bridge was replaced by a new steel bridge in 1958.

3 Lavish spending and major investment losses forced the Murrays to auction off the Murray Hill property in 1862. In 1933 the property was sold to the State of New York as a Tuberculosis Hospital.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-6

THE CANAL ERA

Of great importance to the development of Mt. Morris and the region was the Genesee Valley Canal, which provided an efficient means of transporting agricultural products and other goods to outside markets, including connection to the Erie Canal at Rochester. This canal system gave the farmers of the Genesee Valley access to expanded markets thus resulting in the transition from subsistence to commercial farming. General Mills and other local residents petitioned for the Genesee Valley Canal beginning in 1823, and a route was surveyed in 1826. Excavation for the canal did not take place until 1836. The stretch from Rochester to Mt. Morris was completed by 1840. The canal extended to Olean, its terminus, by 1857, making the canal a total distance of 107 miles.

Thanks to the canal, the village became a busy milling and commercial center for the surrounding rural town. The population grew from 1,851 in 1860 to 2,060 by 1873. When the canal was being built, many Irish came to work on its construction and remained in Mt. Morris. While the canal was a great boon to the region's economic development, its operation proved too costly to maintain. The canal's operating and maintenance costs were about three times as great as its revenue from tolls, thus forcing it to close in 1878.

Portions of the canal bed are still visible in the eastern side of the village, as is the towpath of the canal which later became a track bed for the railroad. Genesee Street was originally known as Canal Street due to the route it followed parallel to the Genesee Valley Canal.

THE RAILROAD ERA

Improvements in transportation continued in the mid-nineteenth century with the coming of the railroads. The railroads provided a means of transporting both passengers and freight quickly and inexpensively over great distances. Mt. Morris began to thrive on the rapid growth of an agricultural economy, the availability of natural resources, and the expanding railroad network which facilitated trade. The railroads encouraged the development of industry by establishing year round access to raw materials and by

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-7

providing a reliable network for the distribution of manufactured goods. Railroad transportation was not only an important factor in the commercial and industrial development of Mt. Morris, but it also brought tourists here to visit the beautiful gorge of the Genesee River, south of the village.

When the Genesee Valley Canal ceased operations in 1878 many of the communities along its route, including Mt. Morris, petitioned the State to allow a railroad to be constructed along the abandoned canal route. In 1881 the State sold the abandoned canal to the Genesee Valley Railroad Company. By 1882, Rochester and Olean were linked via this railroad. Much of this line followed the canal towpath. This line became part of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Erie Railroad came to the Genesee Valley about 1865 with a branch line between Rochester and Mt. Morris. The Erie and Genesee Valley Railroad, later known as the Dansville and Mt. Morris railroad, or D. & M., was a 16-mile line built in 1870 between Dansville and Mt. Morris. This line served passengers and freight coming from the Erie Railroad in Mt. Morris, and traveled to Groveland Station where it met the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad (D.L. & W.), enroute back to Dansville. The D.L. & W. Railroad established service to Mt. Morris in 1882. The D.L. & W. depot, built in 1890, still stands on the east side of the village on Lackawanna Avenue.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

The village of Mt. Morris prospered during the second half of the nineteenth century and the early twentieth century due to the combination of fertile growing soil, available waterpower (mill race), and improved transportation routes (first the canal, followed by the railroads). Farming was the primary business in the area. Wheat was the principal cash crop throughout Livingston County and the entire Genesee Valley until the 1850s. The year 1855 marked the end of the great wheat producing era for Mt. Morris and the area due to destruction by the weevil. By the mid-nineteenth century farmers began growing more corn and oats. The Genesee Flats of Mt. Morris became known for its large production of broom corn in the late 1850s. By the 1870s Mt. Morris had ten broom factories.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section E, Historic Contexts, Page E-8

Many of the industries that sprang up in Mt. Morris were associated with agriculture, including the production of brooms, flour milling, and later the canning industry.

By 1894, the principle industries and businesses in Mt. Morris included the following: The Allan Lumber Company (established in 1863), The Genesee Valley Manufacturing Company (manufacturers of farm equipment, established in 1880), Winters and Prophet Canning Works (established in 1878), The Royal Salt Company (daily output of 660 barrels of salt a day in 1894, established in 1884), Enterprise Flouring Mills, Equity Flouring Mills (rebuilt in 1893), Exchange Flouring Mills, Empire Machine Works (spoke machines), Mt. Morris Illuminating Company, F.C. Simerson's Broom Factory, and James Kellogg's Broom Factory.

About the turn of the century, a wave of immigration brought many Italian families to Mt. Morris. They were attracted by the job opportunities provided by the canning industry, salt mines, and the railroads.

The bricks used to build Mt. Morris' buildings were made in various brickyards in the vicinity, an early one being located on Chapel Street at the corner of Sand Hill Road, just below the cemetery. A later brickyard was located on the mill race, west of the former D.L. and W.R.R.

EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT

Mt. Morris continued to prosper during the first quarter of the twentieth century primarily due to the success of the agribusinesses and light industries established during the late nineteenth century. The village also continued to flourish as the commercial, social, religious and educational center for the surrounding rural agrarian region. The region stagnated during the mid-twentieth century partly as the profitability of agriculture declined in New York and partly because the newly completed New York State Thruway, the state's primary east-west thoroughfare during the automobile age, was too far north of Mount Morris to facilitate easy access. With the recent completion of a superhighway nearby, coupled with its fortuitous location at the north end of Letchworth State Park, Mount Morris is undergoing a slow, but steady, revitalization.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-1

F: ASSOCIATED PROPERTY TYPES

1. Residential Buildings
2. Religious Buildings
3. Civic/Institutional Buildings
4. Commercial Buildings

1-I. Name of Type: Residential Buildings

1-II. Description: Residential Buildings

Residential buildings comprise the most prolific property type in the incorporated village of Mount Morris. The dwellings included in the present Multiple Property Submission date from ca. 1833 to ca. 1945 and embody a broad range of popular American styles. They are executed in several typical building materials and methods of construction, primarily frame construction (either heavy timber framing or balloon framing) and standard masonry construction (primarily brick with occasional examples of stone). Clapboard-sided frame buildings prevail. Virtually all are single family, detached residences on small, simply landscaped village lots. (Generally, the closer the property is to the historic core of the village, the smaller is its respective lot.) Most are one and one-half to two stories tall, and have standard gable or hipped roofs, many with dormers.

Fashionable, middle-class buildings comprise the bulk of the intact historic building stock, with scattered examples of imposing and elegant upper-class houses surviving along South Main and State Streets, the village's premier residential thoroughfares. (Historic working-class housing, in general, either no longer survives or has been extensively altered.) Many of the dwellings included in the present submission are text-book examples of American building styles popular during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; all chronicle the various periods of the village's development. For ease of discussion, Mt. Morris's residential buildings can be described by period and style. Examples cited in the following narrative are already listed, or NRE as individual properties, or NRE as contributing components of NRE historic districts.

Federal and Greek Revival Styles: The earliest extant style found in Mount Morris is the Federal style, popular in the region between ca. 1820 and ca. 1840. Most of Mount Morris's examples date from the 1830s, at the very end of the village's settlement period, and most are vernacular, transitional representations of the late Federal/early Greek Revival styles. Mount Morris contains no "pure, high-style" renditions of the Federal style so popular in the more progressive urban centers of Central and Western New York during the early heyday of the Erie Canal. Nonetheless, in the local context, Mount Morris contains a number of outstanding late Federal/early Greek Revival style dwellings, most notably

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-2

the General William A. Mills House at 14 North Main Street (1838; NR listed 1978). Meticulously restored by and headquarters for the Mount Morris Historical Society, the building features a typical Federal era form, i.e., a two-story, three-bay, rectangular, gable-roofed main block with its ridge parallel to the road and typical, finely crafted Federal era details, i.e., a narrow, molded wood cornice, delicate, semi-circular fanlights in the side gable ends, and four interior corner chimneys (harkening back to the late eighteenth century Georgian style popular in General Mills's native Connecticut). The nascent Greek Revival style is evident in the bold, flat-arched stone lintels above the door and window openings, and the recessed entrance flanked by Ionic columns in antis.

Gen. William A. Mills House



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-3

A similar late Federal/early Greek Revival style dwelling is the original two-story, three-bay wide main block of the Dr. Myron H. Mills House at 8 North Main Street (1833 with later alterations; individually NRE). Although extensively "modernized" twice during the nineteenth century (so that its final character is more evocative of the Italianate mode), the 1833 main block features typical late Federal/early Greek Revival style form and details, including flat-arched stone lintels above six-over-six, double-hung sash windows, and a slightly recessed entrance surrounded by sidelights, a transom light and a flat-arched stone transom.

Dr. Myron H. Mills House



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-4

An equally fashionable example of the Greek Revival style is the Summer House at 34 State Street (a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District). Built ca. 1845, this brick dwelling features an imposing five-bay, center-hall facade and simple, yet elegant, period trim.

34 State Street



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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-5

The NRE Murray Street Historic District contains a number of representative examples of the late Federal and Greek Revival modes, including the dwellings at 38, 39, 41, 42 and 45 Murray Street. The H. P. Mills House at 38 Murray Street is an excellent, remarkably intact, vernacular Greek Revival style frame cottage, with a three-bay, side hall, gable-roofed form (with the gable ridge parallel to the street), a wide frieze with exaggerated cornice returns and finely crafted entrance details.

H. P. Mills House



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-6

The house at 42 Murray Street, elegantly rendered in brick, is similar in form and details to its companion at 38 Murray Street.

42 Murray Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-7

The asymmetrical frame dwelling at 45 Murray Street, with its hallmark eyebrow windows, is also a good, representative example of vernacular, Greek Revival style, domestic architecture in Mount Morris.

45 Murray Street



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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

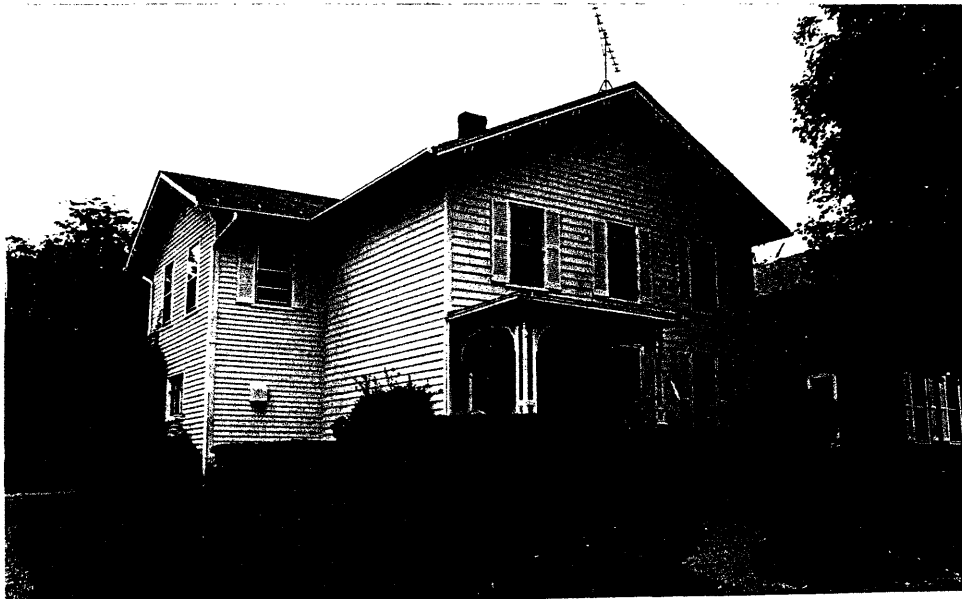
Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-8

Another popular form during the Federal and Greek Revival eras was the gable-fronted upright (usually one and one-half to two stories tall and three bays wide), often with a side wing. Two modest, vernacular examples of this typical form are the frame dwellings at 39 Murray Street (with a simple, yet exceptionally fine, Federal entrance) and 41 Murray Street. Both were built ca. 1830, and both were "modernized" during the Civil War era with Italianate style cornice brackets, projecting bay windows and/or Victorian entrance porticoes.



39 Murray Street

41 Murray Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-9

Several fine Greek Revival style dwellings are located in the NRE South Main Street Historic District, most notably the imposing, temple-front frame dwelling at 130 South Main (with its square-pillared portico), and the three-bay wide, side-hall frame dwelling at 150 South Main (with its exceptionally finely crafted entrance details).



130 South Main

150 South Main



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-10

Two slightly more modest and less intact examples are found at 135 and 155 South Main; although sided, both retain their original Greek Revival style form (three-bay, side-hall upright with side wing) and outstanding Greek Revival style trabeated entrances.



135 South Main Street

155 South Main Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-11

The completion of the Genesee Valley Canal between Rochester and Mount Morris in 1840 marked the beginning of village's heyday as a busy milling and commercial center for the surrounding rural agrarian township, while the arrival of the Erie Railroad in 1865 ensured the community's prosperity throughout the late nineteenth century. Many of Mt. Morris's residential buildings date from this period, with fine examples of Italianate, Italian Villa, Gothic Revival, Second Empire and late Victorian eclectic styles scattered throughout the village.

Italianate and Italian Villa styles: The aforementioned, individually eligible Dr. Mills House at 8 North Main is, despite its Greek Revival style main block (1833), is an outstanding example of Italianate style domestic architecture. Extensively remodeled in 1855 and again in 1870, the house is distinguished by its hipped roof (with broadly projecting eaves), its prominent cupola (with elaborate brackets and round-arched windows) and its front verandah (with Egyptian Revival style columns).

Dr. Mills House, 8 North Main Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-12

A second, high-style rendition of the mode is located at 8 State Street (1850s; individually eligible). It is distinguished by a particularly elaborate cupola, and projecting, tri-partite bay windows with segmentally arched, double-hung sash.

8 State Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-13

The house at 33 Murray Street, with its cubic massing, cupola-crowned hipped roof, and paired, segmentally arched windows with molded lintels, also embodies the distinctive features of the Italianate mode. (The house is a contributing component of the Murray Street Historic District.)

33 Murray Street



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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-14

Another fine example of the Italianate style is located at 16 State Street, a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District. This restrained, yet elegant, brick building is distinguished by characteristic cubic massing, a hipped roof and segmentally arched, floor-length windows.

16 State Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-15

Although the cubic-massed, hip-roofed form is most typically associated with the Italianate mode, another common variation was the three-bay wide, gable-ended upright so popular during the Federal and Greek Revival periods. Mid- and late nineteenth century builders simply embellished the "old" form with fashionable "new" veneers and details, such as brackets, round or segmentally arched windows with elaborately crafted drip molds, and ornamental verandahs, porches and/or porticoes. The two-story, three-bay, side-hall brick cottage at 20 Murray Street (individually eligible), is an outstanding example of this trend, with its broadly projecting eaves supported by elaborately carved wooden brackets, its ornamental window surrounds with exaggerated keystones, and its entrance hood with bold, decorative woodwork.

20 Murray Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-16

As common as the "text-book" interpretations of the Italianate mode are the vernacular renditions, such as the modest frame cottage at 29 State Street, distinguished only by its finely crafted drip molds and elaborate entrance porch, and the equally modest frame cottage at 39 State Street, distinguished only by its decorative entrance hood with turned and molded wood knee braces. (Both are contributing components of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District.)



29 State Street

39 State Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-17

A popular variation of the Italianate style at mid-century was the Italian Villa style, manifested in Mount Morris in the high-style dwelling at 12 Eagle Street and the more modest dwellings at 35 State Street and 127 South Main Street. (The two former buildings are contributing components of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District while the latter is a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District.) All are distinguished by asymmetrical configurations and prominent towers, hallmarks of the Italian Villa mode.

12 Eagle Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-18



35 State Street

127 South Main Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-19

Gothic Revival: The Gothic Revival style, characterized by steeply pitched, cross-gable roofs and/or elaborate bargeboards, is manifested in the **John C. Witt House** (1860s) at the west end of Grove Street (individually eligible), the **St. John's Parsonage** at 23 State Street (NR listed: 1991; also included within the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District) and **10 Eagle Street** (a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District).

John C. Witt House



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-20



St. John's Parsonage

10 Eagle Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-21

Second Empire Style: Representative examples of the Second Empire style are found at 152-154 South Main Street, a large and ostentatious brick building in the NRE South Main Street Historic District, and 47 Murray Street, a relatively small a quirky brick cottage in the NRE Murray Street Historic District. Both are distinguished by their prominent Mansard roofs, hallmark of the Second Empire style.



152-154 South Main Street

47 Murray Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-22

Scattered examples of other late nineteenth century styles also survive in the village, including the Eastlake style dwelling at 13 Grove Street (potentially individually eligible), the modest Stick Style cottage at 80 Chapman Street (potentially individually eligible) and the eclectic frame dwelling at 125 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District). All are characterized by varying levels of asymmetry and decorative wooden trim, hallmarks of late Victorian eclectic architecture.

13 Grove Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-23



80 Chapman Street

125 South Main Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-24

Queen Anne Style: Some of Mount Morris's finest examples of domestic architecture date from the 1890s and embody the distinctive characteristics of the Queen Anne style, including bold, asymmetrical massing, multi-gabled roofs with prominent turrets, towers and/or cross gables, a variety of surface textures and juxtapositions (including brick, roughly and/or smoothly finished stone, square and/or scallop shingles, and/or clapboard siding of various widths), broad sweeping verandahs, prominent chimneys (often with corbelled brickwork) and a variety of window shapes and types often with leaded, beveled and/or stained glass. Excellent local examples are located at 139 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District), 30 Murray Street (individually NRE), 27 State Street (a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District) and 157 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District). Slightly less imposing examples are found at 149, 151 and 153 South Main Street, all contributing components of the NRE South Main Street Historic District.



139 South Main Street

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-25



30 Murray Street

27 State Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-26

Mount Morris continued to thrive well into the twentieth century; Colonial Revival, Neoclassical and Foursquare style buildings scattered throughout the village attest to the community's continued prosperity. The massive two-story, five-bay, center-hall, gable-roofed brick buildings at 32 State Street (a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District) and 140 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District) are outstanding examples of high style Colonial Revival style domestic architecture. The dwelling at 137 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District), executed in wood, is also representative of the taste and period.

32 State Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-27



140 South Main Street

137 South Main Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-28

The Neoclassical style is found in several early twentieth century alterations to mid-nineteenth century buildings, including most notably the monumental, two-story porticos at 34 State Street (a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District) and 145 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District). The former is a massive, pedimented portico supported by fluted, Ionic order columns while the latter is a flat-roofed portico with a projecting, circular pavilion supported by fluted Corinthian order columns.

34 State Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-29

On a more modest scale, several representative examples of the popular Foursquare mode reflect the continued economic well-being of Mt. Morris's middle class during the first quarter of the twentieth century. Typical of Foursquares throughout American, Mt. Morris's Foursquares feature boxy, square massing, hipped roofs (all with prominent dormers), broad, one-story front porches, and restrained, often classically inspired detailing. Good examples are found at 36 and 40 Murray Street (both contributing components of the NRE Murray Street Historic District) and 8 Eagle Street (a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District.)

36 Murray Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-30



40 Murray Street

8 Eagle Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-31

Mt. Morris also contains a fine example of the Prairie style, a style not often found in small, rural hamlets in the northeastern states of America. Championed by Frank Lloyd Wright and members of the Chicago School, the Prairie style, distinguished by low, horizontal massing, low-pitched, hipped roofs with broadly projecting eaves, and banks of multi-paned windows, was far more popular in the midwest and southwest states. The house at 148 South Main Street (a contributing component of the NRE South Main Street Historic District), with its stucco-clad exterior, bold, horizontal banding above and below windows, and exaggerated, broadly projecting eaves, is a rare surviving example of the mode.

148 South Main Street



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-32

1-III. Significance: Residential Buildings

All buildings included in this category are either individually eligible under criterion C as intact, representative examples of their respective period, style and/or method of construction or as contributing components of eligible historic districts whose primary significance is under criterion C in the area of architecture.

1-IV. Registration Requirements: Residential Buildings

Registration Requirements for listing in the State and National Registers are based on the level of integrity of each particular example. Because residential architecture is not a rarity in the village, a relatively high degree of original integrity of setting, design, materials and craftsmanship on both the interior and exterior is required for those dwellings that are proposed for individual listing. Only a moderate degree of exterior integrity is required for those dwellings that are considered contributing components of an eligible historic district, particularly if they are surrounded by intact streetscapes. (District boundaries are determined by strong, intact anchors; boundaries will not be stretched to incorporate "moderately" intact examples of any particular period or style.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

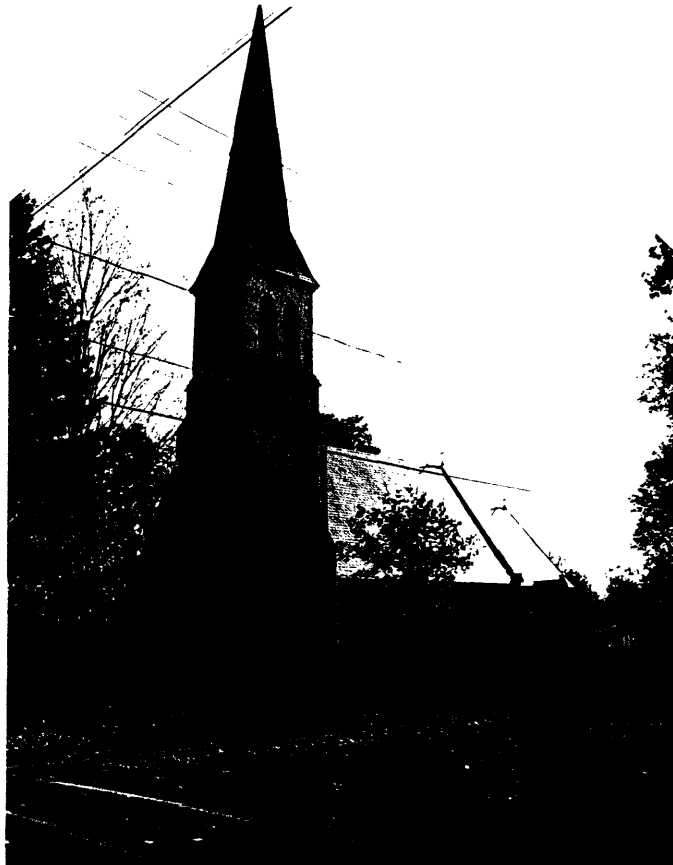
Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-33

2-I. Name of Type: Religious Buildings

2-II. Description: Religious Buildings

Mt. Morris contains a wide variety of historic ecclesiastic architecture, executed in a broad range of styles and materials over nearly three-quarters of a century. Five historic churches survive essentially intact; all are concentrated in a quiet, roughly two-block, residential neighborhood near the intersections of Stanley Street with Chapel and State Streets. Building materials include stone, brick and wood; dates of construction range from ca. 1842 to ca. 1910. Styles represented include Greek Revival, Romanesque Revival, Gothic Revival, late Victorian eclectic and Tudor Revival. All continue to serve as places of worship. Most retain a remarkably high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, craftsmanship, feeling and association.

One of the village's finest examples of religious architecture is the St. John's Episcopal Church on State Street, listed in the National Register in 1991 and encompassed by the proposed NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District. Designed by W. Hamlin and built in 1857 by W. Hinman, the Gothic Revival, stone church is an outstanding American embodiment of the Ecclesiological movement popularized in England by A.W.N. Pugin.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-34

Another excellent example of the Gothic Revival mode is St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1869) on Stanley Street, an individually eligible component (pending) of the Multiple Property Submission. Reflecting Continental European (as opposed to Anglican) tastes, this church is a symmetrical brick building with a soaring central tower, tall, narrow, Gothic-arched windows and a variety of decorative stone and brick trim.



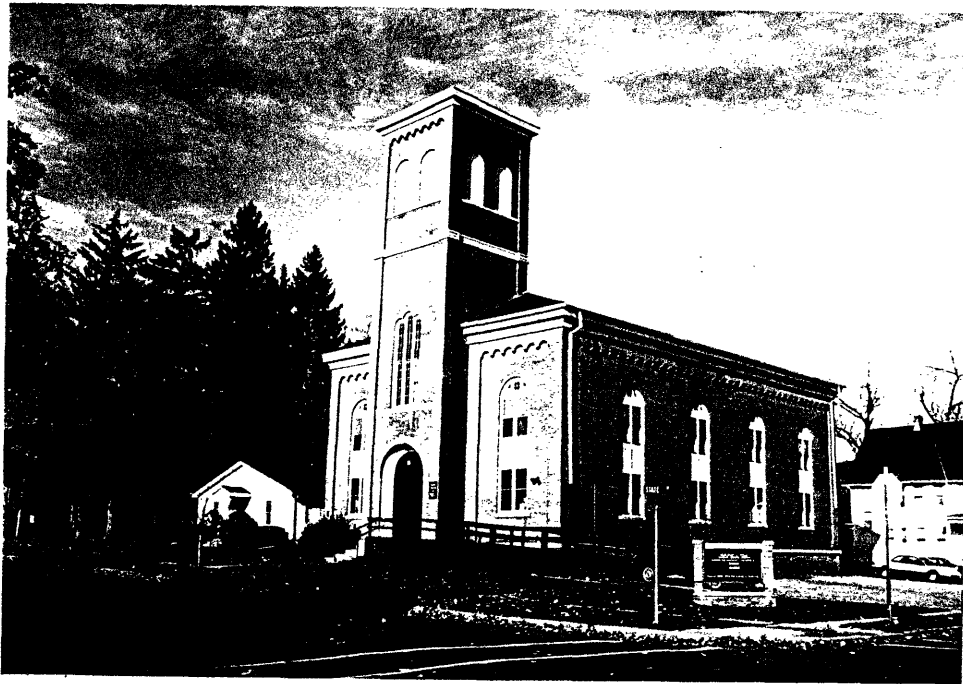
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-35

The United Church of Mt. Morris, a contributing component of the NRE State and Eagle Streets Historic District, was completed in 1854-55 and is a representative example of Romanesque Revival style religious architecture. It is distinguished by broad, horizontal massing, a low-pitched hipped roof, a large, square central tower, round-arched door and window openings and corbelled brick trim.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-36

The Village Baptist Church, built ca. 1842 and enlarged and remodelled in 1893, features a Greek Revival style main block (distinguished by broad, horizontal massing, a rectangular, gable-roofed profile [with a pedimented front gable end], and a wide frieze and corner boards), late nineteenth century, round-arched windows, and a prominent corner tower with fanciful Victorian ornamentation. Recently sided, this building needs further investigation before an official eligibility determination can be made.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Associated Property Types, Section F, page F-38

2-III. Significance: Religious Buildings

All of the building included in this category are either individually eligible for the National Register under criterion C (criterion exception A) as intact, representative example of their respective type, period, style and/or method of construction or are National Register eligible as contributing components of historic districts whose primary significance is under criterion C in the area of architecture.

2-IV. Registration Requirements: Religious Buildings

Registration requirements for residential buildings, the village's most prolific type, are very high (i.e., high levels of physical integrity are required in order to merit registration). Religious buildings, although far fewer in number in the village context, will also need to retain relatively high levels of integrity, particularly of design, materials, craftsmanship (of both interior and exterior fabric) and setting, because churches are rare in neither the region nor the state. Very high levels of integrity will be required for the exterior features of Mt. Morris's churches, while interior features will be reviewed and evaluated with slightly less demanding standards. Finally, religious building retaining sufficient integrity in the four aforementioned areas must also embody the distinctive characteristics of a particular type, period, style or method of construction.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section H, Methodolgy (Identification and Evaluation), page H-1

H: SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION METHODS

The Multiple Property Documentation Form for the Historic Resources of Mount Morris is derived from a comprehensive, intensive level survey of the village's historic and cultural resources prepared by Kathy Howe, Architectural historian at Bero Associates in Rochester, New York in July 1994. The project was sponsored by the Mount Morris Historical Society and coordinated by Dolores Scura, President of the Society. The survey was funded by the Rural New York Historic Preservation Grant Program administered by the Preservation League of New York State with the support of the J. M. Kaplan Fund; and by the Preservation League of New York State and New York State Council on the Arts Grant Program.

SUNY Geneseo interns Kevin Green, Tanya Marshall and Catherine Stephens conducted research under the supervision of Kathy Howe and Professors James Somerville and Daniel Find. Deed research for a number of properties was completed by the following volunteers: Agnes Adoninno, Frances Barone, Dianne Cicero, Josephine D. Coniglio, Federic Harter, Ann Hunt, Concetta Loncao, Barbara Paul and Dolores Scura. Several homeowners also provided historical information for the survey by responding to a questionnaire.

An in-depth bibliographic search was conducted, after which an exhaustive historic overview of the development of the community was prepared, focusing on historic contexts which could later be incorporated into a National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form. A variety of primary and secondary sources as well as a preliminary windshield survey of extant properties revealed several hundred pre-World War II resources worthy of further investigation. These properties were further researched and documented on New York State Building/Structure and Historic/Natural District Forms. The survey was limited to the extant, built environment (and associated landscape features); archeology was beyond the scope of the project.

Preliminary technical guidance was provided by Nancy Todd, Survey and Register Program Analyst, of the NY State Historic Preservation Office, who made several field visits to the village. Additional information was obtained by several Cultural Resource Reports on file with SHPO, which identified two National Register eligible historic districts (the South Main Street [Residential] Historic District and the Main Street [Commercial] Historic District) and several individually eligible properties. National Register level documentation was then prepared for these previously determined eligible resources. Upon completion of the survey, copies of all materials were sent to Ms. Todd for review and comment.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Section H, Methodolgy (Identification and Evaluation), page H-2

Based on information provided in the survey, Ms. Todd wrote Section F (Property Type Statement) of the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The information included in the survey's historic overview and methodology segments was then reformatted and transferred into Section E (Historic Context Statement) and Section H (Identification/Methodology) of the MPDF and the Historic District Inventory Forms were converted into official National Register nomination forms.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Historic and Architectural Resources of Mount Morris
Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Bibliography, Section I, page I-1

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

Bibliography, Section I, page I-2

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Mount Morris, Livingston County, NY

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