

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 North Star School District #11
other names/site number North Star History Center

2. Location

street & number 660 Walker Lake Ontario Road

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Hamlin
state New York code NY county Monroe code 055 zip code 14

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

 national statewide X local

Rickard Purpoint DBHPO 7/3/14
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:)

For Edward B. 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	
3	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	2	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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/school

EDUCATION/research facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Greek Revival

foundation: brick, stone
walls: brick, wood, asphalt

roof: asphalt
other: tin (cupola)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

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Summary Paragraph

Hamlin's North Star School District #11 building is located on the northeast corner of Walker Lake Ontario Road (NYS Route 262) and Church Road in the town of Hamlin, Monroe County, New York. Its form is characteristic of a mid-nineteenth century rural one-room school house, being one-story tall and of a rectangular footprint. The Greek Revival style building is constructed of locally made brick with a foundation of locally quarried stone. The school has a front facing gable oriented to the west. Exterior ornamentation is minimal with the exception of a prominent cornice and bell tower. A cross gabled open porch, added circa 1912, is centered on the west façade. Constructed in 1844, the building has late twentieth century wooden additions at the rear which were added to accommodate use as a community center after the closing of the school in 1952. These are sheathed in faux brick asphalt siding. Currently, the building houses the North Star History Center, containing the office of the town historian, genealogical records and displays of local historical interest. The interior of the original building is dominated by a large classroom with a slanted floor of tongue and grooved wood. Cloak rooms and an entry vestibule are at its western end. Much of the original fabric exterior and interior remains intact, including original plaster above a vertical wood wainscot and other areas with narrow horizontal wood siding above a wide horizontal wood wainscot. A portion of the original 1844 wooden blackboard is also present. Two contributing early twentieth century wooden privies are on the school grounds. A circa 1880 coal house was originally sited elsewhere on the property. It was moved to its current location on the same property and is considered contributing. Non-contributing structures include a small non-historic shed and a 1902 stone barn that lacks association with the school, since it was part of the adjacent farm property that only became part of the history center in 2004.

Narrative Description

Setting

Hamlin is a town in Western New York, northwest of the city of Rochester near the shore of Lake Ontario. The schoolhouse is on Walker Lake-Ontario Road, which runs south of Lake Ontario through the center of the town. The school sits on a slightly raised section of land within a roughly rectangular shaped parcel. The land has a relatively level grade on three sides with a slight slope downward on the west side. The property is primarily given over to lawn with a small parking lot to the east side of the schoolhouse. There are mature trees to the north, east and south sides of the building. A painted wooden sign reading "North Star History Center; Built 1844; Hamlin Heritage Park" faces the intersection. A concrete pad holds a well pump in the northwest corner of the lot. A storage building previously used for coal, two privies, and a small non-historic shed are along the north property border, which is delineated with a non-historic split rail fence. A metal flag pole is centered roughly between the school house and the well. To the east of the parking lot is another split rail fence and beyond it is a 1902 stone barn, its gable running north-south with a large open end on the south. A cast metal historical marker is along Church Road. It is painted blue with yellow lettering which reads *Town of Hamlin, 1852, First named Union, renamed Hamlin 1861, For Vice President, Hannibal Hamlin, County of Monroe 1959*. This marker was moved to the History Center site from its original location in front of the town hall on Lake Road.

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Exterior

The facade of the school house faces west and is of brick with a Medina sandstone foundation. A central door is located under an open wooden porch with a cross gable and round columns at the front. Across the front of the porch is painted "North Star School District #11." The porch was added circa 1912 when a single entrance was added and the existing entrances were made into windows. To either side of the door are single double-hung (six-over-one) windows. Located within the gable is an original single three-light window. The gable end has a large molded wood cornice with returns. The wooden cornice in the gable end is repeated on the south elevation. Above the gable peak is a square bell tower with corner pilasters and centrally located louver on the west, north and south sides for ventilation. The roof of the cupola slightly overhangs and features a denticulated molding. Built with post and beam construction, the cupola supports a tin dome. A brick chimney is directly behind the cupola and was built around 1920 as part of changes made to the school's heating system.

Like the façade, the south elevation is brick with a stone foundation, but has three windows. The window openings have lintels of soldiered bricks and some infill brickwork on one side, done when the windows were replaced in the early twentieth century indicating that the original windows were slightly wider. A large wooden entablature features multiple molded profiles for the cornice and architrave and a wide, smooth frieze. Extending from the east end of the school house is a slightly shorter one-story wooden addition with asphalt sheathing, a cement block foundation and a single horizontal two-light window.

The east façade consists primarily of late twentieth century wood additions; however, the brick wall of the schoolhouse can be seen above the medium pitched roofline of the addition. The roof of the addition rises to just below the bottom of the brick section's cornice, allowing a clear view of the school house gable trim. Extending further east from this side is a small enclosed entry hall with a medium pitched roof. A window is on its south side and an aluminum storm door faces east. This is the current main entrance to the facility. Extending north from the roof line of the previously described addition is a shallow pitched roofline that covers another addition on the north, also with asphalt sheathing. A single small window is on this side. The north side of the addition has a shallow roof line and one window on the east end. This encompasses the depth of the eastern addition and extends partially onto the brick school house, where it meets the cornice. Two windows are in the brick portion of the school house and are the same as the three on the south side.

Interior

The main entrance to the building is through the western (front) door. This enters directly into a small vestibule with doorways to the right and left into the original cloak rooms. Currently the door to the left (north) is closed and blocked by historic displays. The doorway to the right (south) leads into the former girls cloak room, which at one time doubled as a library. To the east of that room is the large classroom of approximately 26 by 29 feet. Historic features include the original plaster visible on the north, south and east walls above a three foot high wainscoting made of vertical tongue and groove wood. The west wall has narrow horizontal tongue and groove wood over the three-foot- high wainscoting made of horizontal tongue and groove wood. The tongue and groove wooden floor is slightly raked, with the west end being lower by design. The original wood ceiling remains, but is obscured by mid nineteenth century fiber ceiling tiles. Centered in the west wall is a portion of the original blackboard with the date 1844 painted at the top. This section of the blackboard was

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discovered during a heating system upgrade and is currently enclosed in a wooden display cabinet. In addition to the painted date, it has arithmetic exercises written in chalk, dating from circa 1920 when the area was enclosed. Between the doorways to the cloak rooms, the wooden boards of the black board are still visible, even though they have been painted over with beige wall paint.

The east wall of the classroom has two doorways, one on the south leading into the addition. A soldiered brick lintel above ceiling height indicates that this opening was part of the original building, but due to the placement of built-in display cabinets, it is impossible to determine if it was a doorway or a window. Also above the ceiling is the original gable window of the same dimensions as the one on the façade. Completed in 1964, this addition was built as a kitchen when the building was used as a community center. It is currently used as display space for museum collections. North through this addition is another addition added in 1969 for restroom facilities and the boiler room. Currently the southern part of this area is used as an office and the northern portion serves as the current kitchen and display space. The restrooms occupy the western portion and are accessible by a doorway in the north wall of the schoolroom. The east wall of the office area has a doorway and both of these openings to the offices and restrooms mark where original windows were placed in the brick schoolhouse. Even with the expansion of the building with the additions, the North Star School retains a considerable degree of integrity to its period of significance with a large amount of historic fabric and extant historic features.

Outbuildings

There are three contributing outbuildings on the property, which include a circa 1880 wood coal storage building painted white, measuring slightly over eight by ten feet with the gable running north to south. This building was originally placed near the southwest corner of the schoolhouse but has since been relocated to near the north line of the property. The interior is lined with horizontal boards of ten to twelve inches in height. The door is constructed of tongue and groove wood with an interior Z-brace. The rear (north) wall has a wooden hatch that could be opened for loading coal. Students have carved their initials into the exterior side walls, including a very visible one from 1911.

Two wood privies are also contributing. Both were built circa 1910-1930, are painted white and were used until 1952 when the school closed. The privies are identical buildings measuring slightly over five by seven feet, with gable roofs running east to west. One privy is labeled *GIRLS* and the other is labeled *BOYS*. Inside each are four outhouse seats. At the bottom of the rear (north) wall is a hinged flap for cleaning out the waste.

Two other buildings on the property are a small wooden shed of recent construction and a 1902 stone barn, which measures 37 by 52 feet. The shed is non-contributing since it was built after of the period of significance and the barn is considered non-contributing for lack of association with the school. The land the barn sits upon became part of the current Heritage Park parcel in 2004 and was a separate farm parcel. When built, the stone barn was used for storage and is no longer used for agricultural purposes. The date, 1902, is carved into a stone located near the top eastern corner of the southern end. The south end has a large rough opening for trucks and the north end has a wooden door suitable for small vehicles. The interior walls are lined with horizontal wooden tongue and groove planks with holes drilled near the top and bottom of the walls for ventilation.

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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.)

education
architecture

Period of Significance

1844-1964

Significant Dates

1844, 1952, 1964

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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 is when the building was constructed in 1844 to when it was first expanded in 1964.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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

The North Star History Center is a historically and architecturally significant resource located in the town of Hamlin, Monroe County, New York, serving the community for 170 year of its existence, first as school, built in 1844, and then as a community center, beginning in 1952. As a school, the building was in response to the town's early commitment in providing education in a rural setting. Early in the town's history, state law required that it establish districts and schools and, although the populace was sparse and scattered on distant farms, the town selected a centrally located site for the school and made a major financial commitment of replacing an older, decaying school with a more permanent brick building. This remained as the main school for the North Star area until the mid-twentieth century when the state embarked on a school centralization plan and the children were sent to the newly created Hilton Central Schools. With support from the local community, the empty building became a community center, serving in that capacity for another decade. The period of significance ends with 1964, when a kitchen and indoor bathrooms were added on to the building. After the community center ceased operating, the building served in a different educational capacity as the office of the town historian, history and genealogy research center and, since 1987, as a local history museum. The building is also significant for its architecture as an intact example of a brick one room school built of locally manufactured materials. The school follows the Greek Revival style, which conveyed its connection to a democratic society and suggested that the local community was dedicated to the best education it could provide for its students. The North Star School is the last of fifteen one room schools built by the town in the nineteenth century that continues in it an educational capacity, even if slightly altered from school to history center.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

CRITERION A: EDUCATION

Lands that became part of the town of Hamlin were originally part of the Triangle Tract of the Morris Reserve of lands, deeded to Robert Morris in 1791. Land sales began after the Treaty of Big Tree in 1797 settled land claims with the New York Iroquois and the northern portions of the tract were the last areas to be sold. Settlement in the area was slow due to the land being marshy and heavily forested. Attempts were made at improvements to aid settlement, one of them being a road in 1803, which would later become known as Walker Lake Ontario Road. The first lot in the Hamlin vicinity was purchased in 1804, but no established settlements existed until the years directly preceding the War of 1812. In 1812, Stephen Baxter purchased the first lots in the eastern part of the town that, over time, became School District #11, with the North Star School being built in 1844.

Hamlin was originally part of another town before being set off as a separate municipality. In 1819, the town of Clarkson was created from part of the town of Murray and in 1852, Clarkson was divided and the north portion named Union. The name of Union was not universally accepted as it was easily confused with other settlements using the term "union" as part of the name. After the residents petitioned the town officials, the name was changed to Hamlin in 1861, honoring Hannibal

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Hamlin, the vice-president of the United States. Located in the northwest corner of Monroe County, the town of Hamlin was the county's last town to be formed (1852) with an area of 26,387 acres, the second largest in the county. The town eventually grew to contain six active settlements within its boundaries. At present, the town is still the second largest, with an agriculturally based economy and no incorporated villages.¹

As the population in the town increased, the question of how to provide public education challenged these fledgling communities in Western New York. A series of education acts passed by the state legislature set the groundwork for the public education system in the early nineteenth century and by 1826, New York State instituted one of the most comprehensive common school systems in the country.² Common schools, permanently established by state law as early as 1812, required that towns elect at least three school commissioners who would divide the town into districts. School funds collected by the state would be distributed to local districts based on the number of school age children aged five to fifteen living in the district. In 1814, the legislature approved a bill that would allow districts to issue local rate bills to supplement the costs of education. The acts passed by the state also required towns to set aside land for schools and to provide a building.

In the Hamlin area, town officials first met in 1817 to comply with the legislation and created School District #8, the forerunner of the North Star School District #11. The first meeting (November 18, 1817) addressed the location of a school house and it was decided that a log school house should be built on a lot owned by Asahel Baxter. Commissioners were selected and commenced discussions on hiring a teacher and ways of providing for the school. It was decided that each scholar in attendance would supply a half cord of wood for heating. By autumn, the school had yet to be finished and at a meeting on September 26, 1818, the town issued its first school levy, taxing each property owner in order to finance school construction. Residents were also asked to donate labor with the intention of completing the building within the next month. The district commission held its December 12, 1818 meeting in the finished schoolhouse and once again turned its attention to finding a teacher. Apparently the district had difficulty and finally, in May 1819, announced its intention to hire a female teacher provided that there would be at least 16 students.

By 1821, settlement increased the population in the area enough to allow for more school districts. On December 15, 1821, a meeting took place in the town to organize School District #11 and establish the district boundaries. The town also resolved to build a school house on the southwest corner of lot number 11, owned by Stephen Baxter, who agreed to donate the rights to the land. At the same meeting, a resolution was passed to sell the old log school house and build a frame school of at least twenty-two by twenty-four feet, with Asahel Baxter (Stephen's father) named as the builder. The frame school house was in use until 1843, when the town decided to build a cobblestone school and appropriated \$400 for construction. The decision was reconsidered one month later in favor of a brick school house of 38 by 28 feet. At that time, few rural school houses in New York State were of brick and the town made a show of its commitment to common school education with such construction. Residents were asked to pay a portion of their assessment in labor and materials to assist with the building. It was also in 1844 that the newly completed school was given the name North Star School.

¹ Town of Hamlin, *Comprehensive Master Plan 2007*, online at <http://www.hamlinny.org/pdf/master-plan/Master-Plan.pdf>.

² Susanne R. Warren, *Context Study: The Schools of New York State—Development of the School as a Building Type* (Ithaca, NY: NYS OPRHP, 1990), 16.

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Expenditures for the school's construction were reviewed at meeting in 1845 and it was reported that an amount outstanding of \$383 remained, which was to be raised by a tax levy. Beginning in 1849, students were no longer required to supply wood for heating since the district directly purchased up to fifteen cords of wood each year for the school. In 1880, coal replaced wood as a heat source and the district bought a stove to supply heat for the school.

Around the time of the construction of the North Star School, a "free school" movement was gaining in popularity in New York State. Since 1814, school districts were allowed to cover costs of teacher salaries through setting a rate per pupil, charged to the parents. The district-mandated rates were unpopular, resulting in a general lack of support for public common schools. Supporters of the free school movement, such as Henry Barnard, argued for more state support and stated that it was necessary on moral grounds. Reformers made the point that even though the rates could be waived for the poor, the stigma discouraged the parents from asking for the exemption, resulting in the children being kept from school.³ A bill was introduced in 1849 to abolish the rate bill, which failed even though rural districts overwhelmingly approved of eliminating the rates. In 1864, a resolution was made to discontinue the North Star School, possibly over the rate issue, but the school remained open due to a tie vote. In 1867, the rate bill was finally abolished and common schools in New York State were free to all for the first time.

From 1867, the North Star School provided free public school education until it closed in 1952. When it was built in 1844, the school house had two front entrances, one on the north for boys and the other on the south for girls. The entrances were replaced in 1912 with a central double door and converted to windows. The rest of the windows were also replaced, but were slightly smaller, requiring some infilling with brick. By 1920, 65 students received regular instruction in eight grades, all taught in one room by one educator. It was decided to hire two teachers and divide the school into two classrooms in order to better meet the needs of the district. The division ran east to west with a wall of narrow bead board built down the center of the classroom. A south cloak room then doubled as a library. The dividing wall was removed several years later when the older classes were transferred to a middle school in Hilton and students in the first through six grades were once again taught by one teacher. In 1949, town residents voted to consolidate with the newly organized Hilton Central School District and beginning in 1952, all Hamlin children were sent to schools in Hilton.

In the fall of 1952, town residents met to discuss the future of the closed North Star School and the result was to support its use as a community and recreational center. Early the next year, the Board of Education sold it to the North Star Community Center, a not-for-profit organization formed to coordinate use of the building. For several years the community center hosted a variety of activities that included monthly dances, annual Halloween masquerades, Christmas parties, weekly card parties, church services and picnics. To accommodate the needs of the activities, two additions were built in the 1960s, a kitchen and bathroom facilities (1964) and oil stoves were replaced with a gas furnace. In 1987, declining membership, however, made maintenance difficult and the members of the Community Center unanimously voted to sell the building to the town of Hamlin. The town used the school as an office for the town historian, an archives/research library, and a museum. The town kept the name North Star as part of the agreement, and the building became known as the North Star History Center in Heritage Park.

³ Thomas C. Finegan, *Free Schools: A Documentary History of the Free School Movement in New York State* (Albany, NY: The University of the State of New York, 1921), 171.

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CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

In addition to being a proponent of the free school movement, Henry Barnard also promoted improvements in school design through his book, *School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School-houses of the United States*, first published in 1842. His purpose was to avoid common errors made when planning for school construction and to consider what he called general principles, which included proper location of buildings, style, lighting, ventilation and students' needs. Barnard began his school improvements campaign as early as 1838 with lectures and articles on the subject before publishing his 1842 book, which eventually went through ten editions. Barnard's book was a full of practical advice and included examples of school designs submitted by fellow reformers such as Horace Mann and George B. Emerson.

Location, style and construction were the first of Barnard's principles where he stated that a school should be in a dry, quiet, healthy location and that too often, schools were built along noisy, busy streets, exposed to dirt, dust and traffic. The location of the school also considered the arrangement of the buildings on the property and that the property itself should be never be less than half an acre and surrounded by a yard. The style of the building was supposed to "exhibit good, architectural proportion, and be calculated to inspire children and the community generally with respect for the object to which it is devoted."⁴ As for construction, he warned against resorting to the cheapest materials available and stated that as a public building, "No public edifice more deserved, or will better repay the skill, labor, and expense, which may be necessary to attain this object, for here the health, tastes, manner, minds, and morals of each successive generation of children will be, in a great measure, determined for time and eternity."⁵ Rooms were to be large enough for each student to be able to move to and from a seat or desk without disturbing the others and allow the teacher an unobstructed view of the entire space. He also advocated separate entrances for boys and girls for privacy and to promote what he termed as orderly habits. He also stated that schools should be large enough to include a library, blackboards, desks and a clock.

Being in rural Monroe County, the North Star School was a good indication of how widely Barnard's ideas spread, since many of the principles he discussed were included in the 1844 brick school building. The school was on a one acre corner lot, set back from the roads and surrounded by a large lawn. Outhouses were set at a respectable distance from the school house. The building had two entrances, one each for boys and girls, each entering into a separate cloak room, following Barnard's advice so as to "prevent much confusion, rudeness and impropriety."⁶ Whether or not the school had a clock was irrelevant since it had a bell tower with access to the rope for the bell in a small room between the cloak rooms. The school room had ample room for students and had a raked floor to allow the teacher a better view of the room without the need for a raised platform. This feature also allowed the students a better view of the teacher and the blackboards. A similar slanted floor was included in a cobblestone school house built in 1849 in Albion, Orleans County, approximately twenty miles from the North Star school house, and is now part of the Cobblestone Society Museum complex.

⁴ Henry Barnard, *School Architecture*, 4th edition (New York: A. S. Barnes, 1850), 41.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

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Barnard insisted that windows supply adequate light and ventilation and be arranged to “prevent the inconvenience and danger of any excess, glare, or reflection, or of cross-light.”⁷ Natural lighting and ventilation was supplied by three windows on each side of the classroom. In 1920, the classroom was divided into two, one on the north and the other on the south side of the building. The class in the southern room faced west and the class in the north room faced east, allowing natural light to fall over the left shoulder of the students, which was the current advice for proper school design. Heat was supplied by pot-bellied stoves in each room. Barnard advocated for a library in every school, but it took until 1913 for the North Star School to turn part of the girls’ cloakroom into a library.

When it came to choice of style for the school, Barnard offered the following advice:

The style of the exterior should exhibit good, architectural proportion, and be calculated to inspire children and the community generally with respect for the object to which it is devoted. It should bear a favorable comparison, in respect to attractiveness, convenience and durability, with other public edifices, instead of standing in repulsive and disgraceful contrast with them. Every school house should be a temple, consecrated in prayer to the physical, intellectual, and moral culture of every child in the community, and be associated in every heart with the earliest and strongest impressions of truth, justice, patriotism, and religion.⁸

For the North Star School, the obvious choice was the popular Greek Revival style, also known as the “National Style,” and widely used for important public buildings in large and small cities throughout the country. The height of its popularity was between 1830 and 1850, when America’s relatively young age as an independent country and a democracy led to sympathy with Greece during its war of independence (1821-30). After the War of 1812, Western New York communities felt particularly keen to abandon British influences and embrace what was seen as an evolving American identity.

Greek Revival architecture commonly used the form of the ancient temple as its precedent, which was particularly appropriate for the school house, following Barnard’s advice. The North Star School used the rectangle, a simple geometric shape, as its footprint. The roof mimicked the Greek temple form with a front gable with a cornice return and highlighted by a bell tower. The tower was wood, painted white and decorated with narrow flat pilasters with Doric order capitals and a closely placed dentil molding under the roof eave. The school had twin entrance doors, each boldly outlined with prominent wood door surrounds of wide pilasters and a large, plain entablature above a transom window. The front gable peak featured a three light window similar to the use of ocular or half-ellipse windows in gable ends of residences. Unlike many public Greek Revival buildings of the period, the brick was left in its natural color rather than be painted white to simulate stone. The North Star School used locally made brick made from the Hoy brickyard, four miles south of the school house. One student recalled that when the school opened, he and his classmates thought that it was largest and best country school house in Monroe County. When the front entrance was modified around 1912, the Greek Revival influence continued with the addition of a one bay porch with a cross gabled roof supported by narrow box beam posts.

By the early twentieth century, the town of Hamlin had fifteen one room schoolhouses with two more built of brick (Districts 5 and 15) and one of cobblestone. North Star was the only one to survive intact into the twenty-first century, as others were converted into private homes or razed. North Star School # 11 stands as a rare surviving example of mid-nineteenth

⁷Ibid.

⁸Ibid.

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century school design and how the 1844 community saw it as a temple of education. The plan of the school was similar to other rural one-room schools of the time and incorporated the advice of reformer Henry Barnard. Clearly the community, as rural as it was in the northern most corner of Monroe County, had access to his articles and publications of the 1840s. Barnard's treatises were the leading contemporary source for guidance on planning and building of rational and efficient school houses, which is still evident in the North Star School, now the North Star History Center.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Barnard, Henry. *School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School-houses of the United States, Fourth Edition*. New York: A. S. Barnes, 1850.

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McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Knopf, 2002.

McIntosh, W.H. *History of Monroe County, New York*. Philadelphia, PA: Everts, Ensign & Everts, 1877.

Minutes of North Star School, District #11, Hamlin, N.Y. (as transcribed by Mary Smith) and available in the office of the Hamlin Town Historian, North Start Historical Center.

Peck, William F. *Landmarks of Monroe County, New York*. Boston, MA: The Boston History Company, Publishers, 1895.

Smith, Mary E. *Remembering Hamlin: 1802-2002*. Published by the Town of Hamlin, 2005.

Various deeds, records and transcripts of interviews, available in the office of the Hamlin Town Historian, North Start Historical Center.

Warren, Susanne R. *Context Study: The Schools of New York State—Development of the School as a Building Type*. Ithaca, NY: NYS OPRHP, 1990.

North Star School District #11
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY
County and State

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: North Star History Center

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>268096</u> Easting	<u>4800194</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 is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The property boundary is the same as during the period of significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Erin Anheier (edited by Virginia L. Bartos, Ph.D., NYS OPRHP)
organization (consultant) date June 12, 2014
street & number 4690 Bennetts Corners Rd telephone 810-965-7248
city or town Holley state NY zip code 14470
e-mail erinanheier@aol.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

North Star School District #11
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY
County and State

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

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

Name of Property: North Star School

City or Vicinity: Hamlin vicinity

County: Monroe State: NY

Photographer: Erin Anheier

Date Photographed: 11 March 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

0001 of 0008. School building and outbuildings, view looking from west to east.

0002 of 0008. North elevation of building, view looking south.

0003 of 0008. South elevation of building, view looking north.

0004 of 0008. Detail view of bell tower.

0005 of 0008. Classroom interior looking west toward original entrance.

0006 of 0008. View from classroom into south cloakroom

0007 of 0008. Cabinet with original 1844 blackboard.

0008 of 0008. Outbuildings on north side of property (coal house and privies).

Property Owner:

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

name Town of Hamlin

street & number 1658 Lake Road

telephone 585-964-2421

city or town Hamlin

state NY

zip code 14464

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.CIRCA460 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 CIRCA Street, NW, Washington, DCIRCA.

North Star School District #11
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY
County and State

North Star School District #11
Hamlin, Monroe Co., NY

864 Walker Lake Ontario Rd.
Hamlin, NY 14468



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



- School
- USGS quad index

Tax Parcel Data:
Monroe Co. RPS
monroecounty.gov/gis



North Star School District #11
Name of Property

Monroe County, NY
County and State

North Star School District #11
Hamlin, Monroe Co., NY

864 Walker Lake Ontario Rd.
Hamlin, NY 14468



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



Tax Parcel Data:
Monroe Co. RPS
monroecounty.gov/gis





Steeple

NORTH STAR SCHOOL DIST. NO. 11

NORTH
60













1849



Suggestions to Teachers.

15,



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY North Star School District No. 11
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Monroe

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: 14000579

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 _____

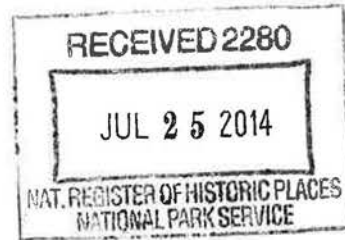
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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

STATEMENT OF OWNER SUPPORT

Before an individual nomination proposal will be reviewed or nominated, the owner(s) of record must sign and date the following statement:

I, Thomas N. Breslawski am the owner of the property at
(print or type owner name)

864 Walker Lake Ontario Road, Hilton, NY 14468
(street number and name, city, village or town, state of nominated property)

I support its consideration and inclusion in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Thomas N. Breslawski 8-13-13
(signature and date)

THOMAS N. BRESLAWSKI, SUPERVISOR
HAMLIN TOWN HALL
1658 LAKE ROAD
HAMLIN, N.Y. 14464 (mailing address)



TOWN OF HAMLIN
Supervisor's Office

1658 Lake Road • Hamlin, New York 14464 • Phone (585) 964-8981

19 April 2014

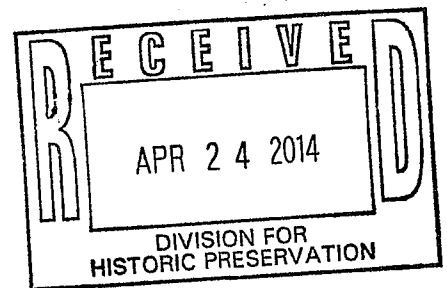
Dear Ruth Pierpont,

I am writing to you to encourage the Park Service to add the **North Star School, Hamlin District #11** to the Register of Historic Places. I feel that it is an important piece of history in our community. This is an original one room schoolhouse that now is our Historical Center. Our town takes great pride having this building and it serves as a strong reminder of our Town heritage.

I strongly support adding the **North Star School, Hamlin District #11** to the Registers.

Sincerely,

Eric G. Peters
Hamlin Town Supervisor



Clarkson Historical Society ~ PO Box 600 ~ Clarkson, NY 14430

Ms. Ruth Pierpont
NY State Division for Historic Preservation
NY Office of Parks, Recreation and & Historic Preservation
Peebles Island State Park
PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

April 23, 2014

Dear Ms. Pierpont,

In reference to the nomination for the North Star School, Hamlin District #11, I would like to heartily endorse the nomination of the school for being put on the Register of Historic Places. Our own recently restored Clarkson Academy was built in 1853, and we have looked to the North Star School as a model for how the older country schools in our area functioned and how to display historic memorabilia to its best advantage.

As its current steward, Bob Kruger is totally dedicated to doing everything he can to highlight its history and the history of Hamlin, NY, and he does an outstanding job in both of those areas.

An open house Bob put on at the North Star School last summer attracted so many Hamlin area residents, all of whom seemed so proud of the history of their school and how it has been so well documented and preserved. The building and its contents are a wonderful resource, and stand as a testament to the relevance of historic preservation, and the pride and pleasure it brings to the community.

Sincerely,



Mary Edwards, President
Clarkson Historical Society

