

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 Elmwood
other names/site number Alward, William N., House

2. Location

street & number 19 North Walnut Street

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Nunda
state New York code NY county Livingston code 051 zip code 14577

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 national statewide X local
Ruth A Purpant DSHPO 12/26/14
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:
X 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:)
Alycia Abeney 2/24/15
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

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

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

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
7	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
8	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/residence
 AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/residence
 AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Italianate

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: stone, brick, concrete
 walls: wood
 roof: asphalt, wood, metal shingle (barns)
 other:

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Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

Elmwood is a property established in the 1850s as farm for William N. Alward, a prominent resident of Nunda who had a large residence built ca. 1855 and used the property mainly for raising horses. The nominated property is located in the northeast section of the village of Nunda in Livingston County, New York. The village of Nunda is south of the village of Mount Morris and a short distance east of the south end of Letchworth State Park. In addition to the residence, the property includes two late nineteenth century barns, a shed/workshop, a small shed, a small greenhouse and a gas house. All extant buildings contribute to the property and there is an original cast iron Victorian era fountain southwest of the house, also contributing. Elmwood is surrounded by agricultural fields to the south and east and a combination of farm fields and residences to the north and west. The residence is the most prominent building on the property and is an architect designed two-story Italianate building with a cupola, and porches on the north and south sides of the house. The building is wood frame with wood siding that is flush to simulate stone. The overhanging low hipped roof has decorative brackets and most of the windows are the original double hung sash set into square shouldered moldings on the first floor and curved moldings on the second floor. The main block of the house has projecting crowns over the windows. The interior of the main block retains much of its historic fabric, which includes plaster walls and ceilings with elaborate decorative moldings and center medallions, inlaid wood floors (from 1927), wood doors, a curving main stair, marble fireplace surrounds and mantels, built-in cabinets and closets in several rooms and a bathroom with a wooden water closet. The remaining contributing buildings on the property are two gambrel roofed barns, a fieldstone gas house south of the house, a small glass and wood greenhouse behind the south barn, a small shed and a larger shed/workshop with two sets of double doors between the house and the east barn. The outbuildings also retain a high degree of integrity, especially in terms of materials and workmanship and when combined with the residence, the entire property is exceptional in illustrating its architectural and historic significance from its long use as a residence and farm.

Narrative Description

Nunda is a small village in Livingston County, New York approximately midway between the village of Dansville to the east and the south end of Letchworth State Park to the west. Mill Street (SR 436) and Mount Morris-Nunda Road (SR 414) are the major crossroads in Nunda, and Elmwood is located north of Mill Street in the east part of the village. Elmwood was established around 1850 as an early farm estate with buildings added gradually. The first was the large house in 1855. The property contains eight contributing buildings centrally located within a ±2 acre parcel on the east side of the street, directly opposite of East and

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Massachusetts Streets. The property includes an adjacent ±51 acre parcel, which is the last remaining farmland associated with the estate.

When viewed from the road, the largest buildings are the residence and two gambrel roofed barns. The house is a two-story wood framed and wood sided Italianate style house, built ca. 1855, designed by Rochester architect A. J. Warner. The main house consists of two blocks, the west block being three bays wide and roughly three bays deep and another two story block connected on the east end that is situated slightly offset to the southeast. This portion of the house is four bays long and has single story porches on the ground level on both sides. The roof on this portion of the house is slightly lower and both roofs are low hipped with a large overhang. Behind this is another square section, one and one-half stories, which contained a laundry, servant's quarters and a trunk room. A basement extends under the entire length of the house and the foundation is of parged and rusticated stone. A late nineteenth century cast iron fountain is located near the road southwest of the house. It is contributing since it was part of the original landscaping and has been painted in non-historic green and copper colors. South of the house is an asphalt paved drive that runs east from the road, ending just beyond the house. A late nineteenth century gambrel roofed barn is at the southeast end of the drive and is currently used as a garage.

Facing Walnut Street, the house is set back from the road with a stone walk ending at the cast stone and concrete steps at the façade entrance. This elevation of the house has two tall, four-over-four double hung windows set into shouldered moldings on the first floor. To the right is the main door. The entrance is wide with a double wood door with inset oval panels set into a large arched door surround of decorative side panels, ornate brackets and a projecting, decorative wood balconette. Windows are evenly spaced and shorter on the second floor, but are still four-over-four sash set into arched moldings. All windows have projecting wood lintels and stone sills. The overhanging roof has scrolled brackets evenly spaced along the eave. A square cupola is centrally placed on the roof in the west block and consists of three rounded windows on each side, an overhanging roof with scrolled brackets and a finial. Windows are similar on the north and south elevations of the west block, except that each has a ground level projecting bay window on the ground level. The south elevation has an L-shaped one story porch with square posts and arched supports sheltering the bay window and a secondary entrance in the southeast block. The porch roof is flat with a slight overhang and scrolled arches along the eave. Windows above the porch are paired, rounded, double hung sash set into wide moldings.

Another porch is on the north side of the house across the first floor of the southeast block, sheltering two additional entrances and two first-story windows. The porch is the same design as the south side porch (square posts with arched supports, flat overhanging roof with scrolled brackets). Windows are similar on both

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the north and south sides and consist of tall, narrow four-over-four windows set into wide square shouldered moldings on the first floor and smaller two-over-two windows set into wide curved moldings on the second floor. The north side is five bays wide, while the south side is only three. The remainder of the house consists of a one and one-half story section with a single story, one bay wide section on the south with an ocular window and a projecting entrance on the east side. The south and east sides of this addition have similar windows as the rest of the house, but only three are present in the second story of the east side. Also attached to the east side is an enclosed entrance with two doors and an ocular window. The north side of the addition has two original windows on the second floor and two large replacement windows on the first floor. The roofs of the addition and the enclosed entrance have the same overhang and scrolled bracket design as the rest of the house. A stone water table runs the perimeter of the entire house and there is an occasional window or louvered ventilation opening in the foundation wall.

Interior spaces of the residence are divided into formal areas in the first floor, work areas in the east end addition, and bedrooms in the second floor. The façade entrance opens into a narrow vestibule, beyond which is another large door, entry hall and staircase to the second floor. The entrance spans the width of the hall and consists of a set of dark stained wood double doors with large curved glass lights, fitted lace curtains and curved wood inset panels underneath. Above the door is a large curved transom with glass and a fitted curtain that matches the door. Flanking the door are two narrow closets hidden by narrow doors with inset curved panels. Opposite the entrance is the large curving staircase with its heavy newel post and railing with turned balusters. A wall niche is visible at the landing where the stair turns to continue to the second floor. The stair occupies roughly half of the width of the hall, leaving ample room for a hallway that opens into a reception room at the end. A more ornate wood paneled double door on the north side of the hall opens into the formal parlor on the west. The hallway also features a heavy crown molding with a lower section of acanthus leaves and an upper part of gold painted roping and rosettes.

Ceilings in the formal parlor also feature a decorative crown molding and large ceilings panels with ornate plaster medallions. The room includes a large carved fireplace mantel with a mirrored overmantel and metal inset firebox. Windows on the north side projecting bay are floor to ceiling and all windows are set into wide dark stained, square cornered moldings. Two doors at the east end of the room have similar molding/door surrounds. One of these doors enters into a formal dining room, which has the same plaster ceiling moldings and woodwork as the parlor. The floor in the dining room is diamond patterned in-laid wood. A door in the east wall enters into a butler's pantry that still has its original cabinetry and dumb waiter. Another door opens into the kitchen, which has been updated but retains the original call bells. A door in the south wall opens into a sitting room, where the intricate wall and ceiling moldings continue. The woodwork is also the same but has been painted in this room, whereas the woodwork in the other areas is stained. The wood floors in this room

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also have braid pattern inlay work, but it is limited to the perimeter. A large room east of the sitting room is historically known as the nursery and features original wall cabinetry, marble fireplace and an attached closet with original built-in cupboards and attached bath, which has been updated. Walls and ceilings also have decorative plaster work, but it is less elaborate than the other formal areas. The wood floor also has inlay work around the perimeter and it is done in a Greek key pattern. Other rooms in the first floor are a former laundry room and a bathroom. The laundry has the original stove for the house, but the room now functions as a family room, with the bathroom and enclosed entrance at the east end. The bathroom has most of its early twentieth century fixtures.

Access to the second floor bedrooms is either from an enclosed servants' stair between the nursery and the kitchen or from the main curved stair in the west end of the house. When moving from west to east through the floor, a large open landing is at the end of the main staircase with two bedrooms and an enclosed stair to the cupola to the north. The hallway has elaborate ceiling moldings and doors similar to what is seen in the first floor hallway. All doors are dark stained with vertical wood panels and the original hardware. At the end of the front hallway is a pass-through room that connects with the back hallway. This hallway is narrower and its separation indicates that this is the back portion of the house, which contains additional bedrooms, servants' quarters, and the back staircase to the kitchen and nursery. Two small bedrooms, a sitting room/library and a small bath are on the north side of the rear hallway and two larger bedrooms are on the south side. Four of the bedrooms on the second floor have marble fireplaces and one of the rooms on the north side of the house has its original painted walls, done by an unknown artist in 1890. All of the bedrooms have original windows, window moldings, closet doors and wood floors, although much of the flooring is now carpeted. A small bath is on the north side of the back hallway and retains its original nineteenth century water closet, although the fixtures have been updated. The end of the rear hallway steps down for access to a full bath and the trunk room, which is basically an unfinished attic over the northeastern end of the house.

Although a few updates have been made to the house, it is largely intact to A. J. Warner's ca. 1855 plan and retains much its mid and late nineteenth century fabric. The few changes were made to the house and include replacing the wood floors (in-kind) in 1927, renovation of the laundry done after 1969, dividing the northeast bedroom into two rooms, and adding a full bath in the second floor in the early twentieth century.

OTHER CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS:

Red Gambrel Roofed Barn, ca. 1890

One of two barns added by Michael Dowling (third owner) after he acquired the property, this is a barn with a metal shingled roof and a ground level entrance with a large sliding door on the west side, a concrete silo and

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addition on the south and a shed roofed section on the north. The gambrel roof, south addition and silo appear to be early twentieth century additions, as evidenced by the changes in the framing. The barn has two floor levels throughout and is currently used for general storage.

White Gambrel Roofed Barn, ca. 1885

Also added by Michael Dowling, this barn is L-shaped with a stone foundation and metal shingled roof. The barn is on the southeast end of the asphalt paved drive and has three large garage bays on the north elevation. The barn has a ventilation cupola at the ridgeline of the main portion of the barn and ocular windows in each of the gable ends. The barn is currently being used as a garage and for general storage.

Side Gabled Shed, ca 1900.

Now used as a workshop, the building may have been used as a chicken coop. The building has a finished floor, large open interior and large set of double doors on the exterior. Another smaller set of wood double doors is to the left of the large doors. The gable ends have a square windows and the building appears to be re-sided with wall board, although the original framing is still visible in the interior.

Green House, ca. early twentieth century

The greenhouse is a small rectangular, glass and wood building that consists mostly of a pitched glass roof and glass walls. The supports and gable ends are wood and the building sits on a concrete base. The wood support posts appear to be clad in similar wall board as seen in the side gabled shed. An aluminum and glass door was added in the 1970s.

Potting Shed, ca. 1885

The potting shed is a small, square shaped building that mimics the design of the portico on the residence in that it has rounded windows and a low, overhanging roof; however, it lacks decorative brackets. The base of the shed is concrete and it is wood framed with vertical board siding. The interior walls are clad with narrow, horizontal boards and the door is vertical boards with the original hardware.

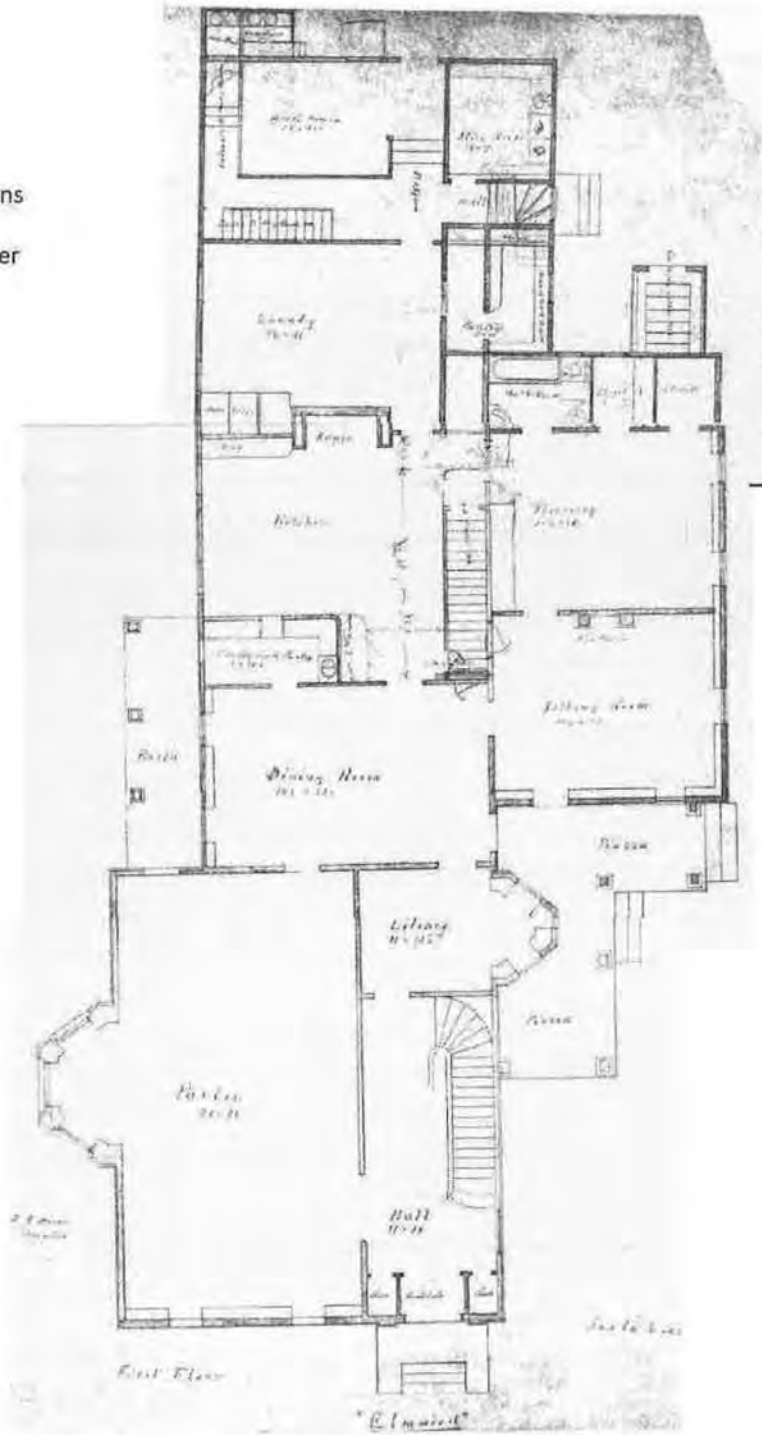
Carbide Gas House, ca. 1891

This is a stone building built into the side of a rise on the property with stone in a broken ashlar pattern and a brick lintel over the entrance. The building was built by Michael Dowling to supply gas lighting for 51 gas jets installed in the house. When the house was converted to electricity, the building's contents were vacated and it is now used for garden storage.

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Elmwood
First floor plans
By A. J. Warner



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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1850-1891

Significant Dates

1850, 1885, 1891

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.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

A. J. Warner (residence)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period begins with the date that the property was acquired by William N. Alward and ends with the last year of improvements by Michael Dowling.

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.)

Elmwood is a residence built for William N. Alward around 1855 after Alward bought the property on the outskirts of the village of Nunda, Livingston County, in 1850. The house is significant under Criterion C in architecture as an outstanding and extremely intact example of the early work of Andrew Jackson Warner (1833-1910), one of Rochester's most prominent architects. The large Italianate style farmhouse house also reflects ideas about rural architecture promulgated in the writings of A.J. Downing. Warner adapted these ideas to meet the needs of his client using his own creative genius, resulting in an original design that reflected period trends, which helped to establish Warner's career. He had a prolific career as the well-known designer of a number of civic and commercial buildings in the Rochester and Finger Lakes Region. His many important works include the First Congregational Church in Warsaw (NR listed 2012) and the Powers Building in Rochester (NR listed 1973), one of his best known works. Warner began his career in the late 1840s as a draftsman in the office of his uncle, architect Merwin Austin, and Elmwood was one of his first commissions after becoming a partner in the firm (1855). William Alward was a merchant and farmer who planned to establish a horse farm in the village of Nunda and hired Warner to design a house worthy of his status as a successful businessman and the son of a wealthy property owner. The result was a large residence in the latest Italianate style that was inspired by the historic villas of the Italian Renaissance. Alward named the property after the elm trees on the grounds (no longer extant) and Warner supplied him with a highly detailed, substantial building that would stand out from its surroundings with its size and extensive decoration and be noticed by those traveling along Walnut Street in the village. The third owner of Elmwood, Michael Dowling, improved the grounds with new agricultural buildings and his only alteration to the house was to install gas lighting. After the house was sold out of the Dowling family in 1968, few changes were made to the residence, preserving much of Warner's work, adding to the long list of architecturally significant buildings completed during his long career (ca. 1855-1893).

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

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Nunda was described in an 1881 history of Livingston County as:

...being the last town but one on the south-western border. It is bounded on the north by Mount Morris; on the south by Grove, (Allegany County); easterly by West Sparta and Ossian and westerly by the town of Portage. It has an area of 22,291 acres. The soil in some parts is a sandy loam; in other parts a gravelly loam with an intermixture of clay. The soil is adapted to the culture of cereals, of which, especially of wheat, the town was at one time a prolific producer...The name Nunda is an Indian word said to signify 'the meeting of the hills;' the

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popular signification being 'Potatoo Ground,' applied because of the richness of the soil, which favored the culture of that tuber...The early settlers came chiefly from New England, New Jersey, and from Cayuga County, N.Y. A few were from Pennsylvania, and from Oneida County, in this State.¹

Actually, the first to reside in Nunda were members of the Seneca Nation, and an Indian trail followed along the Keshequa Creek between Tuscarora and within a mile or so of the village of Nunda in the northwest part of the town. The trail then crossed to the north side on East Street, passing diagonally to the upper part of Portage Street and beyond, where it crossed over to the Genesee River. By 1800, Seneca claims to the lands were relinquished and the lands opened up for sale. From 1808 to 1811, only three pioneer families made the trip west and resided within Nunda's present day limits. By 1816 more pioneers found their way to Nunda, including James Paine, who arrived with his wife and two sons in 1817, and George Merrick, who built the first frame house in the town, also in 1817. In 1824, the village of Nunda was laid out and later incorporated in 1839.

With the arrival in Geneseo of the first steamboat in 1824, a new era of shipping and transportation began for Livingston County. Steamboat travel on the Genesee River cut shipping times for crops and products and opened up new markets as far away as Utica. This also spurred interest in planning and building the Genesee Valley Canal, which would link the region to the Erie Canal. Steamboat traffic on the river and boats on the canal were the predominant shipping methods through the 1840s, until the introduction of the railroad. Along with improvements in transportation came the growth of the village, with the first frame houses being built in 1824, a school established around 1828, followed by the construction of two churches. Stores were built near the intersection of the two main roads in the village and, by 1834, the area was known as Merchant's Row. A post office was added in 1831. By 1839, Nunda was no longer a pioneer settlement, but a village with shops, factories, mills, churches and a school. The Nunda Literary Institute, a private school run by the Presbyterians, opened in 1843 and remained the premier school in the village until it was destroyed by fire in 1859. A few years later, a new school known as the Nunda Academy took the place of the institute and later became part of the Nunda Union Free Schools when the latter was formed in 1876. With good roads from Mt. Morris and canal packets running from Rochester to Dansville just east of Nunda, the village was less isolated, and even after a devastating fire destroyed most of the commercial center in 1852, it was able to rebuild and remain part of the transportation network in Western New York.

Some vague references in the county histories mention that a tannery may have been started by William Alward, near Mount Morris, north of Nunda. Alward was the son of a wealthy farmer from Scipio, Cayuga

¹ James H. Smith, *History of Livingston County, New York* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1881), 242.

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County, born there in 1820 but living in Mount Morris in the 1840s. In 1850, Alward had the opportunity to buy the lands of the former Herrick and Colby Nursery on the eastern edge of the village of Nunda. By this time, Alward turned his attention to raising horses, which was a large part of the livestock trade in Livingston County. His plan was to raise horses to sell in the New York City market, as horses raised in the region had a fine reputation for excellence in quality and breeding. After buying the grounds, he had a large house built and named it Elmwood after the several elm trees on the property. Presumably he added barns and stables for his horse farm but these buildings are no longer extant. During his time in the village, Alward served as a village trustee, was active in the Presbyterian Church, and was noted as being a successful country merchant and large land holder. In 1863, he was commissioned by New York Governor Horatio Seymour as a lieutenant colonel in the 58th Regiment of the New York National Guard and the entire unit was ordered to Elmira in August of 1864 to provide guard duty for 100 days at the Confederate prisoner of war camp. After the unit was mustered out of service in December 1864, Alward was offered a sutler's position in Philadelphia and he eventually mustered out of service in 1867. Before he left for Elmira, he sold Elmwood to another Nunda resident, Hiram Ashley, who immediately sold the estate to Henry Martin. After the war, Alward briefly returned to Nunda before permanently relocating to Rochester in 1877.

Very little is known about Martin, other than a reference in the 1865 New York State census that identified him as a miner and shipper, living in the house with his wife, Louisa, and their four daughters. By 1885, he was in debt and the Elmwood property ended up in foreclosure. It was purchased in 1885 by Michael Dowling, a wealthy railroad contractor and businessman who had a large farm north of the village in the town of Mount Morris. Dowling was an Irish immigrant, described as having

...started at the bottom of the ladder, and had both feet squarely planted on one of the uppermost rounds when he was forced by ill health to cease hustling and take a much needed rest. Born in a household of nineteen children, he and the rest of them had to set to work early in life and to look out for number one. Good, strong, substantial common sense regulated the judgment that made his chief occupation, that of contractor on public works, successful and highly remunerative. His successes lay along the line of finance, and the abundant competency he secured is proof of his sound judgment and executive ability.²

According to one biographical account, Dowling began working for another Nunda resident, H. N. Packard, whose contracting firm was building the Chicago and Mississippi Railroad near Springfield, Illinois. At the age of 19, Dowling was put in charge of a work gang, where his leadership, initiative and common sense attracted the attention of the railroad managers. By 1867, Dowling was in charge of large contracts on the Union Pacific Railroad and while working on the line in Wyoming, his crew discovered a silver vein while cutting through a hill. The crew formed a mining company and between the mining and the railroad, Dowling

² H. Wells Hand, ed., *Centennial History of the Town of Nunda* (Rochester, NY: Rochester Herald Press, 1908), 438.

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was able to return to Nunda in 1870 as a very wealthy man. After Dowling purchased Elmwood in 1885, he leased the property back to Martin, using Elmwood as a tenant farm until he could move into the property for his own use. At the time, Dowling's business interests took him to Binghamton, where he maintained another residence, but in the meantime, he made improvements to the Nunda property that included building two large barns and outfitting the house with gas. The family moved into the house six months before Dowling died of consumption in November 1891. Dowling's success and business ventures allowed his widow, Harriet Barron Dowling, to maintain the estate and continue farming the majority of the lands. By 1968, much of the farmland was sold by the Dowling family and the house and remaining 54 acres was sold to the present owners, who lease a majority of the lands for agriculture.

CRITERION C: Architecture

It may have been on one of his business trips to Rochester that William N. Alward met with architects Merwin Austin and his new partner, A. J. Warner, who were then commissioned with providing him a new house on his recently acquired property in the village of Nunda. Warner took on the commission as sole designer to provide Alward with a large mansion or villa in the fashionable Italianate style. When it was introduced in the 1840s, the style was one of three (Gothic, Italianate and "Swiss") that were deemed suitable for the American rural countryside. In 1846, landscaper and publisher Andrew Jackson Downing included "Hints on the Construction of Farm Houses" in his latest issue of the *Cultivator*, in which he stated that farmhouses needed to reflect American taste and that Greek porticos and other similar embellishments were out of place. For Downing, utility was the most important characteristic of the house, which should be reflected in the design. A farmhouse was a farmhouse and not a Greek Temple. Embellishment or ornament should be relegated to the most prominent features of the house, which he identified as verandas, entrances, gables and chimneys.³ Downing explained the virtue of the Italian style in his book, *The Architecture of Country Houses* (1850), as "one that expresses not wholly the spirit of country life nor of town life, but something between both, and which is a mingling of both." Downing also proposed that the style was better suited to warmer southern climates rather than northern, colder climates, with its flat roofs and wide verandas, but its flexibility and economy were factors that made it universally popular. As the farmer's needs grew, the house could be expanded as finances allowed.

This was exactly what Alward was looking for. His property was on the edge of the village ("town life") and surrounded by farms ("country life"). Warner provided a design for a building that was set back from the

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village street, but not lost in the vast surrounding farm fields by its placement at one edge of the property. The sides of the house facing the street were tastefully decorated large windows set into rounded or shouldered moldings. Other features of the style were a low, overhanging roof with decorative eave brackets, verandas and bow windows, all features incorporated into Warner's design. Downing also recommended that "villas" or country houses include three or four good sized rooms on the first floor, a dining room, a drawing room and a room devoted to "intellectual culture", i.e., a library. Warner followed the suggested plan with a sufficiently large entry hall that opened either into a large formal parlor or a library. Next in progression were a dining and sitting room and access to two verandas. Functional, less formal spaces were logically placed near the back of the house, close to gardens, outbuildings and other interior spaces that required the effective and seemingly invisible movement of servants. Warner added a large nursery next to the kitchen with ready access to a back stair from either room. One place where Warner (and undoubtedly Alward) differed from Downing was in interior design, which Downing dictated should be "simple and chaste." The formal interior spaces had elaborate decorative wall and ceiling moldings, plaster ceiling medallions and heavy, dark stained woodwork throughout. It was clear from the moment that a visitor came down the front path on to entering into the hallway that this was the house of a successful, wealthy "farmer."

Several Italian style homes were being constructed throughout the region with many of them sharing the same characteristics as Alward's house. A house designed by another well-known architect, Gervase Wheeler, was being built for Patrick Barry, one of the co-owners of the Barry and Ellwanger Nursery in Rochester. Both houses were variations of the Italianate and shared similar features of a low overhanging bracketed roof, round arched windows, accented entrances and verandas. Wheeler's house featured a six sided tower while Warner used the more common feature of a cupola centered on the forward portion of the roof. Both houses had stone foundations and stone and concrete entrance stairs. Gervase used brick and cast stone for the exterior while Warner simulated the appearance of masonry construction by using exterior clapboards laid flush. Wide framing mimicked stonework, which conveyed a sense of a mixture of luxury and economy through the use of a more flexible material (wood) to create various degrees of decoration, reflecting the function of the space within.

Warner's commission came at a time when he moved from draftsman to architect, as he became a partner with Austin in 1855. A. J. Warner was born in Hampden, Connecticut in 1833 and moved to Rochester at the age of 14 to become an apprentice in the architectural practice of his uncle, Merwin Austin. Warner learned

³ Sally McMurry, *Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), 40.

Elmwood

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the craft, working first as a draftsman, then assisting with commissions until he was made partner in 1855. Elmwood (Alward's house) was a product of the Austin & Warner years, but as the plans attest, it was solely Warner's design. In 1858, Warner established his own practice, taking on a number of partners throughout the years, including his son J. Foster Warner in 1883. Warner trained his sons, John Foster and William Amos, very much as he was trained by having them begin as draftsmen. John Foster (known as J. Foster), left the practice in 1889 to found his own highly successful firm. A. J. Warner officially retired in 1893, but he retained offices in the Powers Building in Rochester until his death in 1910. Throughout his long career, Warner designed a number of important buildings including the Powers Building in Rochester (1869), Erie County Hall in Buffalo (1871), Rochester City Hall (1875), St. Bernard's Seminary (1891), Corning City Hall (1893) and the Willard Memorial Chapel in Auburn, New York that has a Tiffany decorated interior. All of these buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (Willard Memorial Hall is a National Historic Landmark) and all attest to his prolific work in civic and public architecture. Elmwood serves as an excellent study of his early domestic work and retains much of its historic and architectural integrity.

Elmwood

Livingston County, NY

Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

"Buffalo City Hall Designer is Dead." *Buffalo Courier*, 6 September 1910, p. 7 col. 6.

"Conclusion of Dr. Mills Address." *Mt. Morris Enterprise*, 25 August, 1894. (Article on Nunda & Livingston County history.)

Cook, Bill. *Celebrating Our Past: Livingston County in the Twentieth Century*. Geneseo, NY: Livingston County Board of Supervisors, 2000.

Cook, Tom. "Faded Glory Parts I & II." *Nunda Times*, 29 March & 5 April 1995.

"Death of Michael Dowling, a Well Known Railroad Contractor." *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*, 23 November 1891, p. 5 col. 2.

Dowling Family papers. Private Collection, Nunda, New York.

Frost, Marjorie C. "Michael Dowling—Rail Builder." *Nunda Times*, July 1975, p. 12.

Hand, H. Wells, ed., *Centennial History of the Town of Nunda*. Rochester, NY: Rochester Herald Press, 1908.

McMurry, Sally. *Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

"Old Battleax Discourseth" (Genesee Valley History). *The Livingston Republican*, 15 July 1937, p.4, col. 1-3.

Riesem, Richard O. *200 Years of Rochester Architecture and Gardens*. Rochester, NY: Canfield & Tack, Publishers, 1996.

Smith, James H. *History of Livingston County, New York*. Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1881.

"A Successful Railroad Contractor." *The Nunda News*, 22 August 1891.

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: Nunda Town & Village Historian

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Elmwood
Name of Property

Livingston County, NY
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ±53.7 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18N	259688	4718886	3	18N	259566	4718267
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	18N	259688	4718358	4	18N	259411	4718211
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

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

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary is the surviving acreage of the original farm, portions of which were sold off by the Dowling family, the second significant owners, until it reached its current size in the early to mid-twentieth century. It contains the house, outbuildings and remaining farm fields within the village of Nunda.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marchelle Vianese and Virginia L. Bartos, Ph.D. (NYS OPRHP)

organization _____ date 4 December 2014

street & number 51 Vermont St telephone 518-237-8643 x3256

city or town Nunda state NY zip code 14517

e-mail Mvcharmed1@yahoo.com, virginia.bartos@parks.ny.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Elmwood

Livingston County, NY

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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: Elmwood

City or Vicinity: Nunda

County: Livingston State: New York

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos

Date Photographed: 23 October 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0026: West and south elevations of residence with contributing historic fountain, view looking northeast.
- 0002 of 0026: North elevation with shed and barn in background, view looking southeast.
- 0003 of 0026: Detail view of north elevation porch and secondary entrance.
- 0004 of 0026: South elevation of main part of house, view looking north.
- 0005 of 0026: South and east elevations of rear portion of house, view looking northwest.
- 0006 of 0026: Interior view of main entrance hall and door (west end of house).
- 0007 of 0026: Looking east through main entrance hall with stair on right.
- 0008 of 0026: Detail view of main entry hall showing wood work over entrance to parlor and ornate ceiling moldings.
- 0009 of 0026: Parlor, view looking east.
- 0010 of 0026: Fireplace in south wall of parlor.
- 0011 of 0026: Dining room, view looking southeast.
- 0012 of 0026: Upper landing sitting area, main hall second floor (west end of house).
- 0013 of 0026: Bedroom, north side of second floor.
- 0014 of 0026: Bedroom, south side of house.
- 0015 of 0026: Bedroom with painted walls, north side of house.
- 0016 of 0026: Bedroom, southeast side of house.
- 0017 of 0026: Back staircase viewed from 2nd floor landing.
- 0018 of 0026: Interior view of cupola, looking west.
- 0019 of 0026: Wood water closet, northeast side of house (2nd floor).
- 0020 of 0026: Interior view of part of basement showing foundation.
- 0021 of 0026: North elevation of gambrel barn, view looking south from driveway.
- 0022 of 0026: Green house in foreground and potting shed in background, view looking northeast from gambrel barn.
- 0023 of 0026: Former gas house with gambrel barn to right and house in background (looking north).
- 0024 of 0026: West and south sides of large shed, looking northeast.
- 0025 of 0026: View looking east from end of drive with large shed and red gambrel roofed barn in background.
- 0026 of 0026: Southeast wing red gambrel barn, looking southwest.

Elmwood
Name of Property

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Property Owner:

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

name M/M Nicholas Bucci
street & number 19 N Walnut St PO Box 266 telephone N/A
city or town Nunda state NY zip code 14517

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

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

Elmwood

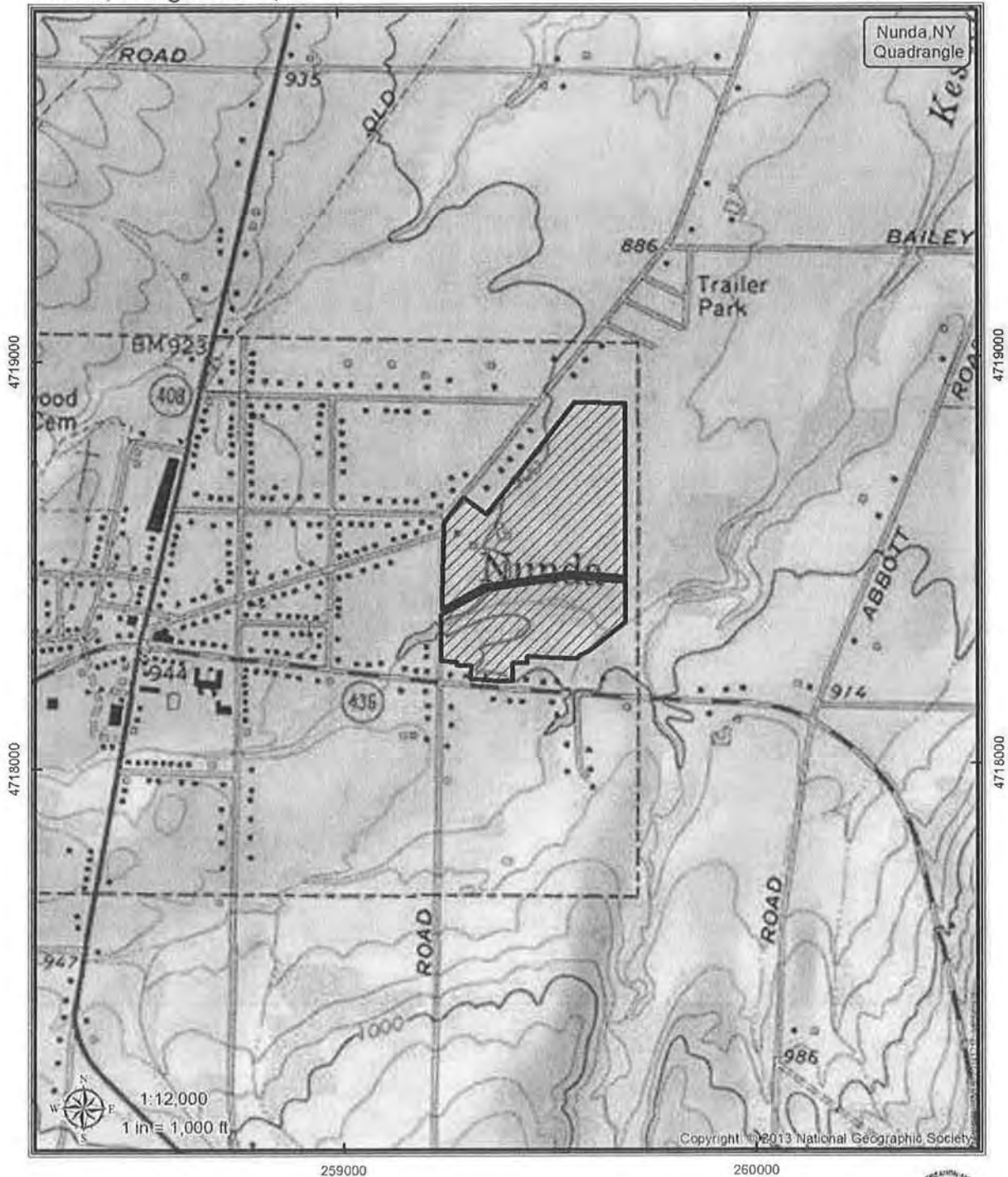
Livingston County, NY

Name of Property

County and State

Elmwood (William N. Alward House)
Nunda, Livingston Co., NY

19 North Walnut Street
Nunda NY 14517



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



Tax Parcel Data:
Schuyler Co. RPS
schuyler.sdgny.com

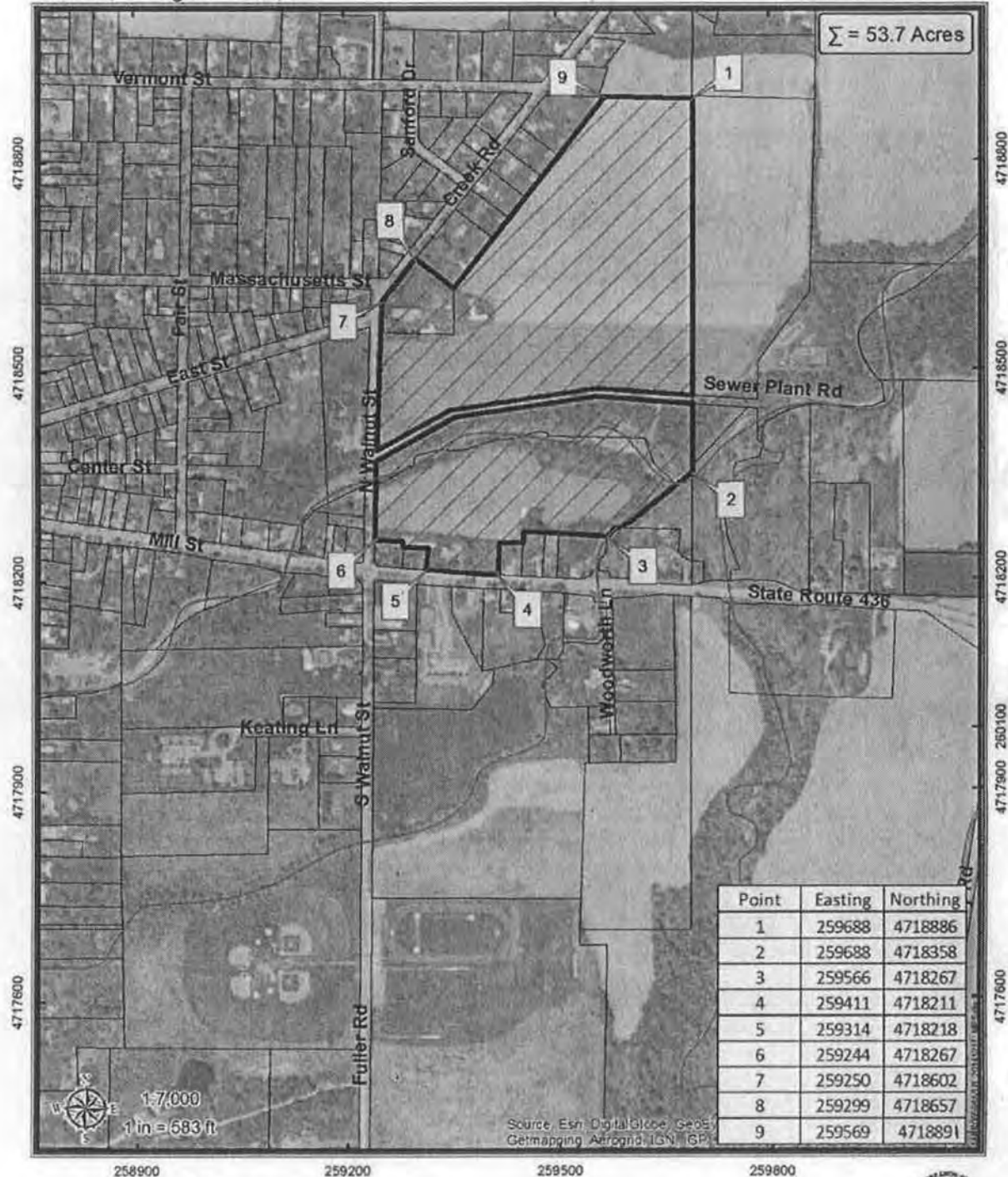


Elmwood
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 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Datum: North American 1983
 Units: Meter

0 190 380 760 Feet



Tax Parcel Data:
 Schuyler Co. RPS
 schuyler.sdgny.com























































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Elmwood

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Livingston

DATE RECEIVED: 1/09/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/06/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/24/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000030

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/24/15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

NYSHPO sending replacement PDF with period of significance to 1891. Elmwood good local example of Iddahamata architecture

RECOM./CRITERIA C

REVIEWER *Abingler* DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

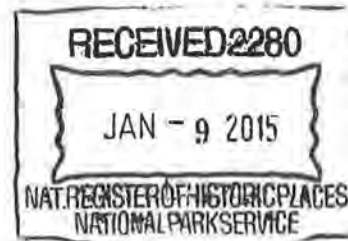
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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

26 December 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:

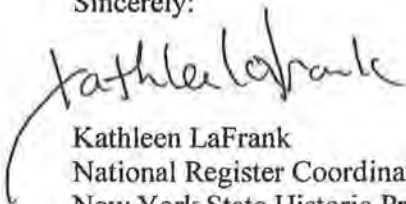
I am pleased to enclose the following five nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Congregation Shaare Zedek of Harlem, New York County
Elmwood, Livingston County
James Bolton House, Steuben County
Potsdam State Normal School Campus, St. Lawrence County
Washington Park Historic District (Boundary Increase), Albany County

Please note that there is an additional submission for the Washington Park Historic District. The original Washington Park Historic District, listed in 1972, did not include a building list. As part of the project to add two small areas to the district, a building list for the original district was prepared according to current standards. The new building list is included on a separate disc because it should be filed with the 1972 district.

Please feel free to call me 518.237.8643 x 3261 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:



Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office

Elmwood
Name of Property

Livingston County, NY
County and State



FIELD SERVICES BUREAU • DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTERS OF HISTORIC PLACES PROGRAM

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:

Mr. Nicholas and MURIEL Bucci ^{are} are the owners of the property at.
(print or type owner name)

19 WALNUT ST. NUNDA, New York 14517
(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.

Nicholas Bucci, Muriel M. Bucci
(signature and date)

Mailing Address:

P.O. 266
Nunda, N.Y. 14517

Revised 3/08

