

96-2075



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 Wampsville Presbyterian Church
other names/site number N/A
related multiple property listing N/A

2. Location

street & number 109 Genesee Street (SR-5) N/A not for publication
city or town Wampsville N/A vicinity
state NY code 36 county Madison code 053 zip code 13032

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

Roxanne Daniel Mack 12/14/17
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
DSHPD
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: _____)
Alexis Abernathy 2-2-18
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

AM

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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	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Early Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE

walls: WOOD

roof: ASPHALT

other:

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Narrative Description

Summary

The Wampsville Presbyterian Church sits on a hill near the crossroads of State Route 5 (Genesee Street) and County Route 10, about a mile from the early-twentieth century courthouse for Madison County. This crossroads was the original locus of settlement for the community. After the arrival of the railroad in 1839, the focus shifted to Wampsville Depot (to the north) and the city of Oneida (northeast). The church is a modified Classical Revival meeting house, constructed in 1830-1832 and renovated and/or remodeled in 1878, 1891, 1911-12, 1915, and 1941; it achieved its current form by 1912 or 1915. The building consists of three parts – the sanctuary (1830-1832), session room (1891), and kitchen (at back, 1912 and/or 1915). Overall, the building presents a mixture of early and late nineteenth-century stylistic influences that reflect social and denominational changes in patterns of worship. The congregation disbanded in 1994 and, since then, the building has suffered losses. However, except for its columns, most of the original fabric and design integrity of the structure remains.

Narrative Description

Site

The Wampsville Presbyterian Church sits on the south side of State Route 5 on a hill slightly east of the Wampsville “Four Corners,” where State Route 5 (Genesee Street) crosses County Route 10 (North Court Street, running north) and County Route 54 (South Court Street, running south). There are late nineteenth-century residences on both sides and an impressive, early nineteenth-century house on the other side of the road (north). The building is approached by a steep road on the east side of the lot; there is parking on the hill below the church and on the level behind the building.



Figure 1. Wampsville Presbyterian Church. (Google Maps)

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Exterior

The Wampsville Presbyterian Church is a modified Classical Revival meeting house, constructed in 1830-1832 and renovated and/or remodeled in 1878, 1891, 1911-12, 1915, and 1941. It achieved its current form by 1912 or 1915.

The building consists of three parts – the sanctuary (1830-1832), session room (1891), and kitchen (at back, 1912 or 1915). Overall, the building presents a mixture of early and late nineteenth-century stylistic influences. The congregation disbanded in 1994 and, since then, the building has suffered losses. However, much of the original fabric and design integrity of the structure remains.



Figure 2. Wampsville Presbyterian Church, façade, 2017.

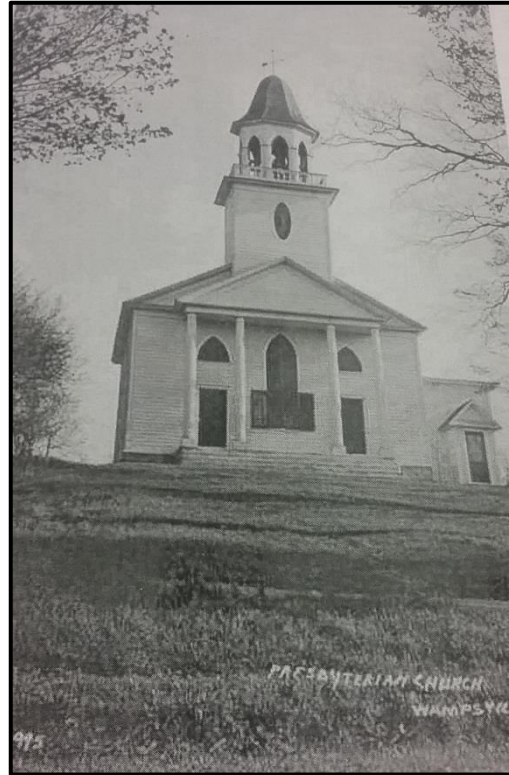


Figure 3. Wampsville Presbyterian Church, early twentieth century photo postcard.

The building is covered with clapboard; the unobtrusive cornerboards are narrower than the clapboards. The foundation is stone; the roof is asphalt.

Façade: The front gable façade faces State Route 5 (Old Seneca Turnpike, now Genesee Street) and has a strong Classical Revival appearance with a full-height (two-story) entry portico that spans three bays. Two doors below arched windows (plain glass, with scribed panes) flank a full-height window (plain glass, arched above with scribed panes, small rectangular panes below.) The arched windows appear to be later additions.

The triangular pediment of the portico echoes the strong cornice returns of the roof. The simple square capitals of four Tuscan columns remain (spaced wider between the two central columns), but the columns themselves have been replaced with metal posts. Above the portico is the tower, consisting of a square box base section with an elliptical oculus surmounted by a short lantern. This octagonal element has simple gothic arches that were originally open, but

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closed during the mid-to-late twentieth century. The lantern is known in the church archives as the belfry and still holds a bell, thought to be from the Meneely Bell Foundry of West Troy (Watervliet), New York.

Side Elevation (East): The east elevation of the main body of the church has three bays holding full-height glass windows; the east elevation of the rear kitchen holds one rectangular window. Each church window has small rectangular panes below an arched section, which has scribed panes. The middle section of all three windows is covered on the exterior, but interior photos show the survival of rectangular glass panes.¹ The shed roof of the rear kitchen addition slopes to the rear.

Rear Elevation (South): The rear elevation of the building consists of the one-story shed-roofed kitchen (attached to the back of the church) and the rear of the one-and-one-half-story session room (on the west). The upper rear wall of the church above the kitchen lacks openings, but traces of a chimney can be seen. The kitchen is roofed with rolled paper and has four bays – a door in bay one and three windows. Differences between the windows in bay two and bays three and four suggest that one section of the kitchen is older than the other, and that the western section may be infill between the kitchen and session room. The back of the session room now lacks openings, but there are traces of a blocked window. The session room roof slopes gently from the front, with a smaller pitch than the kitchen roof.

Side Elevation (West): The west elevation of the session room has three bays, holding double-hung windows with rectangles and squares of colored glass around clear central panes. A parapet hides the slope of roof and is crowned with a cornice and Italianate brackets. The cornice continues on the front (north) elevation of the session room, which holds a window (similar to those on the side) and an entry porch, with late Victorian door. Half of the entry porch door is glass; the trim on the panels is ornate when compared to the simple low-relief doors of the church.

The west elevation of the church is like the east elevation. However, there are only two windows; the third opening is covered by the session room.



Figure 4. Side (east) elevation, 2017.



Figure 5. Rear (south) elevation, 2017.

¹ A photo of the church from the owner (Section 11, Additional Information) shows that the middle section of the windows was blocked as early as 1962.

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Figure 6. Side (west) elevation of session room, 2017.



Figure 7. Side (west) elevation of church and front of session room, 2017.

Interior

The interior of the Wampsville Presbyterian Church has been stripped of all pews and other furniture, but retains its form and architectural design. The building is clearly divided into three parts, corresponding to the 1830-1832 church, 1891 session room, and early twentieth-century kitchen. Some early cross-and-bible doors remain in the church, which has relatively simple Classical Revival wood trim. One exception is the arched and bracketed trim on the loft, which may date to the alterations in 1878. The raised rostrum and apse were also added at that time, when the altar was moved to the back of the sanctuary. The 1891 session room is more ornate with heavier trim, stained glass windows, and beadboard on the ceiling and below the chair rail. The early twentieth-century kitchen is relatively utilitarian and has been remodeled several times, obscuring older detail.



Figure 8. Front door, 2017.



Figure 9. Arched and bracketed trim, choir loft, 2017.



Figure 10. Session room door, 2017.

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Figure 11. Floor Plan, 2017.

Conclusion

The Wampsville Presbyterian Church retains its basic form, plan, space, and style, at its historic location. Its materials – with the notable exception of its columns – date to its period of significance (1830 to 1968), and its workmanship reflects country adaptations of more urban classical styles. The addition of the 1891 Session Room and the early twentieth-century kitchen are important elements of the church – the session room, in particular, has very good integrity with surviving woodwork and stained glass windows. A photograph of the building in 1962 (see Additional Documentation), towards the end of its period of significance, shows the structure with its simple Tuscan columns and, otherwise, much as it is today.

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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.

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.

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION

ARCHITECTURE

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Period of Significance

1830-1967

Architect/Builder

N/A

Significant Dates

1832, 1878, 1891, 1912

Period of Significance (justification): Period of construction (1830-1832) through 1967 (fifty years from present.) The church achieved its final form in 1912 or 1915, but continued to serve an active congregation until 1994.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The former Wampsville Presbyterian church at 109 Genesee Street in the village of Wampsville, Madison County, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for **Religion** as the edifice of the first religious organization in Wampsville and under Criterion C for **Architecture** as an example of an early-nineteenth-century church that was altered in 1878 and added onto in 1891 and 1912-1915 while retaining many of its original architectural features. The history of the community is closely linked to the development of transportation in this part of Madison County which, first, through the construction of the Seneca Turnpike, brought people to the Wampsville crossroads and, later, through the construction of the railroad, moved the focus to the north to Wampsville Depot. The church congregation was officially established in 1828, but had been worshiping together for almost ten years in a nearby schoolhouse. The decision to build a church required contributions of labor and goods from many church members, and the timber and stone are known to have come from local sources. Throughout the rest of the nineteenth century, the congregation went through a succession of ministers and fluctuations in membership. A low point was the secession of many church members in 1844, who established a new church in the growing city of Oneida; two high points were a series of revivals after the renovation of the church in 1878 and renewed growth in Wampsville after the county seat moved there from Morrisville in 1907. The addition of the session room in 1891 and the development of kitchen facilities in the early twentieth century seem to be tied to these events and to denominational goals to increase the salience of church membership by constructing spaces within the church for greater congregational participation.

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Developmental history/additional historic context information

Criterion A: Religion

Wampsville was founded in the early part of the nineteenth century as a postal village along the very important Seneca Turnpike (now State Route 5), one of the major east-west routes that crossed the eastern half of New York State and gave rise to many European-based settlements south of the Mohawk Valley and north of the Great Western Turnpike (US Route 20). The hamlet was originally called Wempsville after the first European-American settler, Mydert Wemple (1764-1837), known as “Old Wemp.” Wemple owned the first tavern, which became a common stop for the “travelling and emigrating public.”² The name was later corrupted to Wampsville.

There were no houses on the north side of the Seneca Turnpike before 1802 – “all was woodland except here and there cleared spots.”³ But, first, the road and, then, the opening of the Erie Canal made land in Wampsville and the rest of the Town of Lenox much more desirable, and the area built up quickly. The post office was established on January 21, 1825 with William Spencer as postmaster. A later stimulus to growth was the construction of the Syracuse and Utica Railroad, formed in 1836 and opened in 1839. Wampsville was one of five Madison County stops (along with Oneida, Canastota, Canaseraga, and Chittenango) that were connected to the Utica and Schenectady Railroad on the east and the Syracuse and Auburn Railroad on the west. In 1853, all three railroads were consolidated into the New York Central Rail Road, which gave the area access to a larger, national network.⁴ By mid-century, Wampsville included a hotel, store, blacksmith shop, merchant tailor, and shoe factory, most of which appear on *Gillette’s Map of Madison County* from 1859. Figure 12 shows the crossroads of Wampsville (where the church is located) in relation to Wampsville Station; figure 13 shows an inset with the Presbyterian Church east of the crossroads.

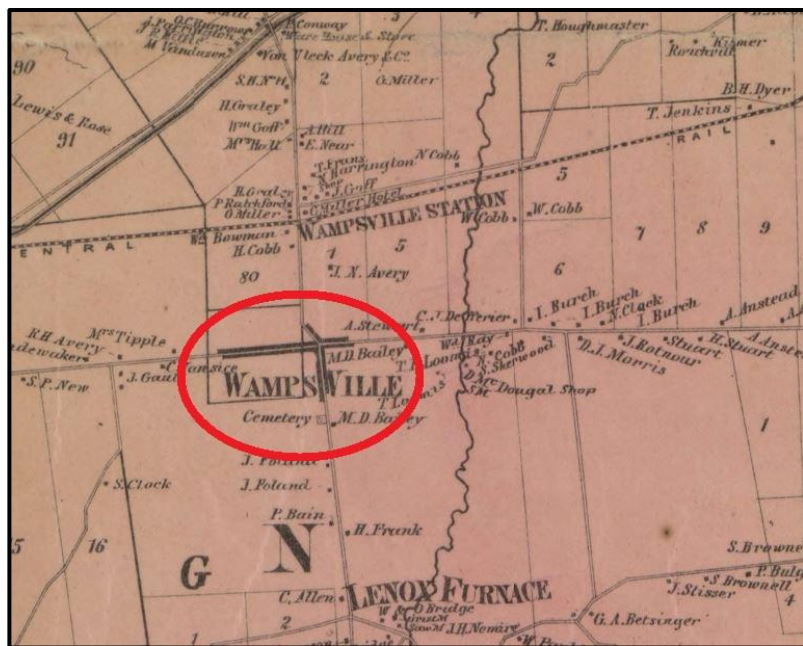


Figure 12. Detail from John E. Gillette, *Gillette’s Map of Madison County, New York from Actual Surveys under the direction of J. H. French*, Syracuse (Philadelphia : Jno. E. Gillette, 1859).

Wampsville Station was one mile north of the older village of Wampsville – at the crossroads of the east-west Seneca Turnpike and what is now north-south County Routes 10 and 54.

Lenox Furnace was one mile south – the site of an early iron smelting operation in Madison County that continued from 1815 until 1847, when local timber (needed for charcoal) was exhausted. The operation produced a variety of hollow castings – kettles, plows, and cooking stoves, including early “Franklin Stoves.” Several of the Avery family, including one of the first trustees of the Wampsville Presbyterian Church, were connected with the Lenox Furnace.⁵

² L. M. Hammond, *History of Madison County, State of New York* (Syracuse, NY: Truair, Smith, & Co., 1872), 487.

³ Hammond, 490.

⁴ Hammond, 134-135.

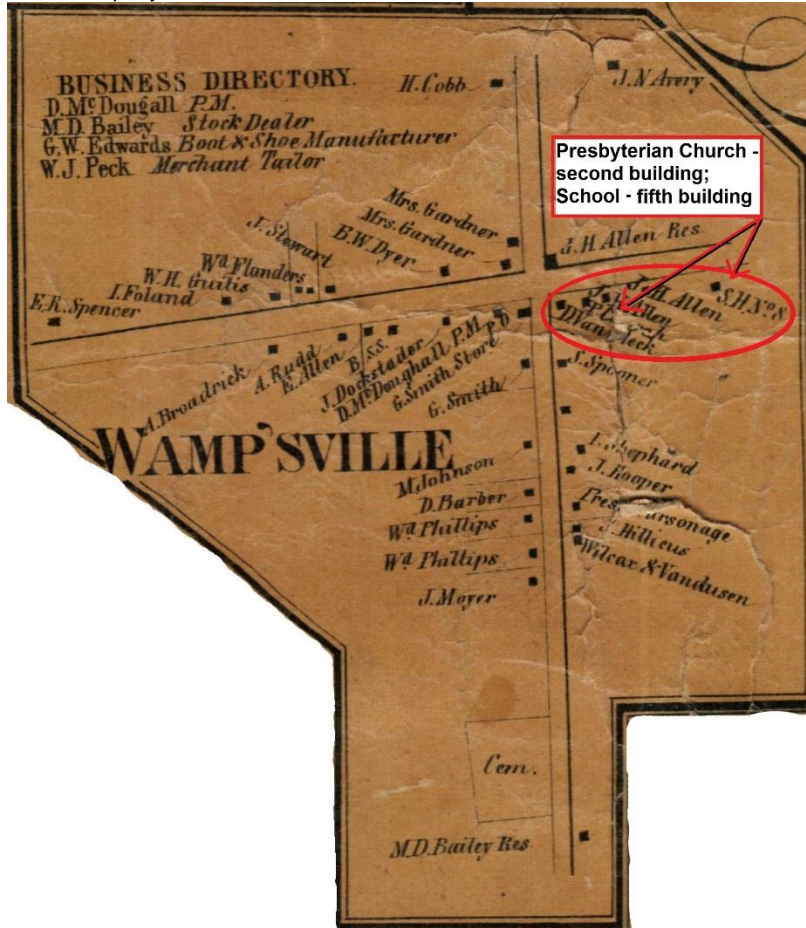
⁵ James H. Smith, *History of Chenango and Madison Counties*. Part 2 (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1880), 732. Available at: www.hathitrust.org

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The inset from Gillette's 1859 map shows the Presbyterian Church at Wampsville east of the crossroads, along with the local school (three buildings further east).

By the 1870s, the focus of the community had shifted north from the crossroads to an area nearer the rail lines. In the early twentieth century, the same area became the site for the Madison County Courthouse.

When the Madison County was organized in 1806, the first county seat was at Cazenovia, one of the oldest settlements in the county. County government moved to Morrisville in 1817, where it remained until 1907. When the competing communities of Oneida and Canastota vied for the title of county seat, Wampsville, which is located between them, was chosen as a compromise, and the new courthouse constructed soon after. (The building is said to face north so as not to favor one community over the other.)

Figure 13. "Wamp'sville," in John E. Gillette, *Gillette's Map of Madison County, New York from Actual Surveys under the direction of J. H. French*, Syracuse (Philadelphia : Jno. E. Gillette, 1859).

Wampsville Presbyterian Church

On April 9, 1828, the Wampsville Presbyterian Society was organized after its members had met in the first schoolhouse near the crossroads for almost ten years. The first trustees were James Stewart, Jared N. Avery, and Elisha Cranson. Among the families associated with the church at that time were those of the trustees and Harvey Cobb, Solomon Klock, Joseph Van Sice, Joseph A. Phillips, Jacob Foland, Daniel Van Vleck, Simon Hew, Zachariah W. Link, Ira Shepard, Peter Cooper, Captain William Ure, and Benjamin W. and Burton H. Dyer. The members were men of some property. A brief history from 1891 notes that, "Miles Johnson usually rode to church on a fine horse, with his wife gracefully seated behind him on the horse."⁶ The first minister of record was the Rev. Hezekiah N. Woodruff, hired for the year in April, 1829.

The society continued to meet in the schoolhouse until 1832, when the current building was completed at a cost of \$1,500.⁷ The church lot was originally part of the land of the Oneida Nation, who had deeded it to local entrepreneur Angel DeFerriere earlier in the century; it came to the Presbyterian Society from trustee James Stewart and his wife Eliza in 1832. Preparation for building seems to have begun as early as 1829, with construction underway by 1830. All

⁶ *Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian Church of Wampsville, N.Y., 1891* (Oneida, NY: Post Print, 1891), 7.

⁷ The church reincorporated the same year. Apparently, the 1828 incorporation papers were wrongly filed, and there was no record of a church society being in existence to receive the deed.

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the session records were lost in a fire in the nineteenth century, but an historical sketch from 1891 pulled together “the recollections of about half a dozen living participants in the events of sixty years ago.”⁸

...Mr. Daniel Worden, still living near by (sic), states that he drew the timbers from the Raymond saw-mill in 1829, being but fifteen years of age. The ox-team and large two-wheeled cart employed, is well remembered not only by himself but by other residents of the vicinity, the latter especially for its quite unusual proportions. Mr. Burton H. Dyer, (now of Oneida) was among those who donated team work for the delivery of stone for the foundations, from the quarry near Clockville, but does not recall the year. Capt. William Ure claims the honor also of having drawn some of the stone for the foundations. Mr. Jared N. Avery, at the time resident manager of the Lenox Furnace Iron Works, then newly organized, had selected and secured the material for a home for his family. As the time drew on at which it seemed desirable to begin the Church building, it was found impossible to obtain sufficient seasoned lumber for the work, and for this reason considerable delay was feared. In this dilemma Mr. Avery told his brother trustees to “Go and take my lumber and build the Church. I can wait until I get more, and in any event can better do without my new home than the Society can get along with a place of worship.” By means of his thoughtful and self-sacrificing assistance the work was enabled to proceed.⁹

The Rev. George K. Freeman was the first clergyman in the new building; he served six months in 1832. The next was the Rev. William H. Cooper, who served twenty-three years. He was born on June 27, 1808, the son of Henry and Elizabeth Cooper of Pittstown, NY, and graduated with honors from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1830. He married Mary Thompson on July 20, 1831 in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and apparently had four children, all of them born in New York. Cooper was recruited in July 1833; his brother joined him sometime later and managed the church music program. The Rev. Cooper remained until 1856 – “becoming warmly endeared to the people as the result of his long and fruitful ministry” – when he moved to Bellport, NY, to another church. He died on February 24, 1880 in the home of his son, Edward Payson Cooper, in Parsippany, NJ.¹⁰

The congregation split in 1844 when a new church opened in what is now the City of Oneida. Twenty of the thirty original members left the Wampsville church, “others following soon after, which proved quite a serious depletion for the time.”¹¹ Whether the split was ideological or due to the growth of Oneida as a separate railroad community is not known. Thereafter, however, the Oneida Presbyterian Church grew while Wampsville – and the Wampsville church – stagnated. The Rev. Henry Hickox, who served three years after the Rev. Cooper, recalled:

Our history at that date was uneventful, except for the passing time. Nothing occurred out of the ordinary of a small country parish. The sanctuary was kept open, the word was preached, services of prayer maintained, the sick were visited and the dead buried, all in the Name that is high above All.¹²

The church had begun a slow decline. *The History of Chenango and Madison Counties* summed up the situation in noting the rapid succession of clergy between 1856 and 1880:

[The Rev. William Cooper] was followed by Revs. Mr. Hickok, Warren, Corey, Allen, Wurts, Dr. Franklin, and Traver, although this is by no means a full list. Rev. Mr. Walker, of DeWitt, is at present occupying the pulpit as state supply, and has been with them for about three years.

⁸ *Historical Sketch*, 6.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Find a Grave.com, *Rev William H Cooper*. Available at: <https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&Grid=67286018>; “William H Cooper, Town of Lenox, Madison County,” *Census of the State of New York, for 1855*; *Historical Sketch*, 8.

¹¹ *Historical Sketch*, 10.

¹² *Historical Sketch*, 9.

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.... Present membership is: church about 25 and Sunday School about 30. Daniel VanVleck was appointed clerk in 1844 and still holds that office.¹³

Nonetheless, the small membership had faith and, in 1878, invested in a major renovation of the church building, as described in the February 28, 1878 *Cazenovia Republican*:

*The trustees of the Presbyterian Church, Wampsville, commence work on their edifice this week, and as they expect to give it a thorough repairing, it will take some two or three weeks, during which time services will be held in private homes.*¹⁴

A much later newspaper article says that the church was “remodeled and enlarged” at that time.¹⁵

The call of the Rev. George Nicholls in June 1889 further invigorated the session. Nicholls had been “engaged in Evangelistic labor” for several years before being called to the pulpit. He was ordained and installed October 8, 1889, and fostered a revival. The *Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian Church of Wampsville, N.Y., 1891* (published as a fundraiser for the building fund) outlined activities that required the addition of a session room, among other improvements.

A Young People’s Society of Christian Endeavor was organized. The blessing of God rested upon the preached word, and a short time after his installation a work of grace was apparent.... The Spirit manifested His presence. Mr. Nicholls conducted protracted meetings for five successive weeks, and about forty were added to the church of those who were being saved.... Under the benign influence of Mr. Nicholls’ faithful labors, the church has moved up to a place among those more favored.

Coupled with his work at Wampsville he has preached regularly at Oneida Valley [City of Oneida], Sunday afternoons, being a drive of six miles. Both Churches have undergone substantial repairs.... At Wampsville old debts have been cancelled, a new session room has been built, the Old Church beautified and made more convenient, stoves having been replaced by a furnace.

*A new era having dawned, praise to God, peace on earth and good will to men.*¹⁶

In 1907, the county seat moved from Morrisville to Wampsville, which led to the construction of a new county courthouse and county offices less than a mile away. Another round of renovation took place around 1912; another article in the *Cazenovia Republican* refers to the rededication of the church after “recent improvements.” The article also notes that, at the time, the church was considered amongst the “oldest churches in the county.”

*The historic Presbyterian church at Wampsville was rededicated last Sunday afternoon with appropriate ceremonies. The church was built in 1830-1831 and was remodeled in 1878. A session room was added in 1891. It is one of the oldest churches in the county, and has numbered among its pastors some of the ablest and best-known ministers in Central New York. The members of the congregation are justly proud of the recent improvements, which make it both comfortable and attractive, and which reflect great credit upon the entire community.*¹⁷

¹³ Smith, 732. A different – and longer – list of ministers is given in the *Historical Sketch*, 9.

¹⁴ “County News,” *Cazenovia Republican* (February 28, 1878), 3.

¹⁵ “Church Rites at Wampsville,” *Rome Daily Sentinel* (January 24, 1941), 6.

¹⁶ *Historical Sketch*, 10-11.

¹⁷ “Church Rededicated,” *Cazenovia Republican* (January 25, 1912), 3.

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A speech read at the rededication noted that the church interior had again been redecorated, the rostrum enlarged, and new carpet and electric lights installed. The Young People's Christian Endeavor Society, which had become "dormant," was once again "in a flourishing condition."¹⁸ A reference to the involvement of "the ladies" suggests that this was when the kitchen was either added or enlarged.

Three years later, the Wampsville church was one of six county churches (of all denominations) reporting more than 10% increases in Sunday School attendance, and additional renovation apparently took place.¹⁹ By this time, the minister was Rev. John N. Steele, who had been noted for his evangelical work at his previous parish in Potsdam, NY. He left the congregation in 1917 to get married to a widow from South Dakota and to tour Hawaii, Japan, and the Philippines.²⁰

Several obituaries in 1931 note that the current minister then was J. S. Wilbanks.²¹ He was followed by the Rev. George Brown Swinnerton, pastor emeritus from Oneida. Swinnerton served through at least 1941, when another round of renovations was funded by the Betsinger family. A contemporary newspaper article noted "the renovating of the entire edifice, both in the interior and exterior." (However, according to photos, little structural alteration took place.)²²

By 1963, the Rev. Richard Bundy was minister.²³

The church closed in 1994.

Criterion C: Architecture

The Wampsville Presbyterian Church is also eligible for the National Register under **Criterion C: Architecture** as an example of an early church meeting house that was altered to reflect the changing tastes of the late-nineteenth century. The building, when erected in 1832, was simple and Classical Revival in style; the remodeled structure retains some six-panel doors that appear to date from that period. However, a lot changed in the succeeding century, according to Daniel Campbell, who spoke at the 1912 rededication:

In the church as it was originally built the pulpit was located in the opposite end of the main room or auditorium from the present, the pews or slips as they were then called facing the entrance, each pew having a door next to the aisle.²⁴

Denominational changes, as well as the evolution of architectural styles and technology changes, drove the three sets of alterations that took place in 1878, 1891, and 1912-15, after which the building assumed its current appearance. (The fourth renovation in 1941, seems to have focused more on rehabilitating the existing structure.) As early as 1844, the national Presbyterian Church began to provide financial and technical support to new and rural congregations building or rebuilding churches. In addition, church extension journals like the *New School Presbyterian Magazine* started to appear in the mid- nineteenth century with model floor plans and catalogues of church furnishings to implement a more congregational style of worship.²⁵ Among other innovations, the auditorium plan eliminated box pews and brought the

¹⁸ Daniel D. Campbell, [Manuscript], (January 14, 1912). Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, PA.

¹⁹ "Church Rites."

²⁰ [Social Notices], *Ogdensburg Republican-Journal* (January 5, 1917), 8; "Personal and Social Items," *Cazenovia Republican* (January 11, 1917), 5.

²¹ "Mrs. Millie Adsit Dies at Daughter's Home," *Pulaski Democrat* (April 15, 1931), 8; "Gertrude Blakeman Hadden, 83," *Pulaski Democrat* (July 1, 1931), 1.

²² "Church Rites."

²³ "Services Wednesday for Cole," *Massena Observer* (July 30, 1963), 3.

²⁴ Campbell.

²⁵ Sally E. Svenson, *Adirondack Churches: A History of Design and Building* (Keeseville, NY: Adirondack Architectural Heritage, 2006), 100-101.

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congregation together in open seating; the liturgy was changed to engage people more openly in choral singing and praise; and space for socialization and Sunday schools was added to existing sanctuaries to further involve church members and to build a broader community of believers.

The greater inclusion of women in decision making by the beginning of the twentieth-century is referred to in the 1912 rededication speech by David D. Campbell:

The early founders of the church must have had in mind the words of Paul as found in First Corinthians 14th chapter and 34 verse, as the certificate of incorporation further states that "the male members of the society then and there present proceeded with the necessary business of organizing." I think that those men if they had it to do today would hardly dare to go ahead without first consulting the ladies; in fact the building committee on the present occasion found it quite necessary to consult the ladies.²⁶

The exterior of the building shows a variety of changes imposed on the building in the course of its evolution from simple Classical Revival meeting house of 1830-1832 to late nineteenth/ early twentieth century country church. The original building may have been almost square, with its projecting porch and short steeple with oculus. All the windows were probably rectangular – certainly, the gothic-arched windows over the doors on the façade are framed with different trim than the doors themselves. The interior was reversed, with the pulpit at the front and box pews.

In 1878, the building was remodeled. This was probably when the apse was added, the rostrum moved to the rear, and the loft above the foyer given its blind arch trim. This may also be when the church windows were given their arches.

In 1891, the session room was added on the east. It shows late-Victorian design influences in its simple stained glass and beadboard wall and ceiling trim. The kitchen lines up at the rear with this addition, but the two were probably not built at the same time. Given the involvement of "the ladies" in the 1912 renovations, the kitchen seems to have come then. The 1915 renovations may also have involved updates at the back of the building, including the infill with the current rear door.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

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Figure 14. Façade (north) (January, 2017). Elements of the steeple and lantern resemble those of other early nineteenth century meeting houses.



Figure 15. East elevation (January, 2017). Note window construction.



Figure 16. Rear (south) elevation with session room at left and kitchen at right (January, 2017).



Figure 17. West elevation, showing 1891 session room in more detail. There is an outside entrance on the front elevation and what may have been a window at rear (January, 2017).

Interior

The interior retains a high degree of architectural integrity from 1878 with a large open auditorium-style sanctuary, pointed apse at the rear above the rostrum, choir loft across the front wall of the building enclosed with a wood rail with blind arches, several interior doors from the original and late nineteenth-century remodeling periods, and flat metal ceiling.

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Figure 18. Sanctuary with pointed arch (January 2017).



Figure 19. Choir loft (over Foyer) (January 2017).



Figure 20. Interior sanctuary windows.

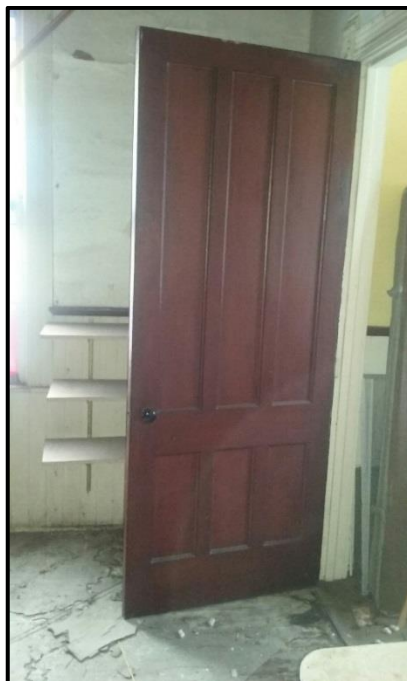


Figure 21. Early nineteenth-century door (January 2017).

The session room was added in the late nineteenth century and reflects that date. The session room windows retain their trim and have a simple pattern of square and rectangular colored panes around a plain central panel. There is a chair rail with beadboard below and beadboard on the ceiling. The outside door has a large glass panel and heavy molding.

The kitchen has simpler windows and more utilitarian finishes, more likely dating from the early twentieth century.

Since Closure

After the congregation closed the Wampsville Presbyterian Church in 1994, the building was used as an antique store, which preserved its large auditorium space and session room. Some walls were repainted and shelving apparently added throughout, but the main features of the building were left unaltered. The current owner is a neighbor of the building and is interested in rehabilitating the church for retail or office space.

Conclusion

The Wampsville Presbyterian Church is locally significant as the first church built in Wampsville and one of the oldest church buildings in the Town of Lenox; it is an excellent example of an early Classical Revival country church. Its history is closely associated with the early settlement of this part of Madison County, and its design elements reflect the

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changing denominational goals of the Presbyterian Church in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as the national church sought to engage congregations more directly in worship and community life through open seating, congregational singing, and social activities.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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"County News." *Cazenovia Republican* (February 28, 1878), 3.

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Smith, James H. *History of Chenango and Madison Counties*. Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1880. Available at: www.hathitrust.org

[Social Notices]. *Ogdensburg Republican-Journal* (January 5, 1917), 8.

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Name of Property

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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: Presbyterian Historical Society, Phila, PA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.59 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>442565E</u> Easting	<u>4769383N</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

The boundary coincides with the lot line indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map.

Boundary Justification

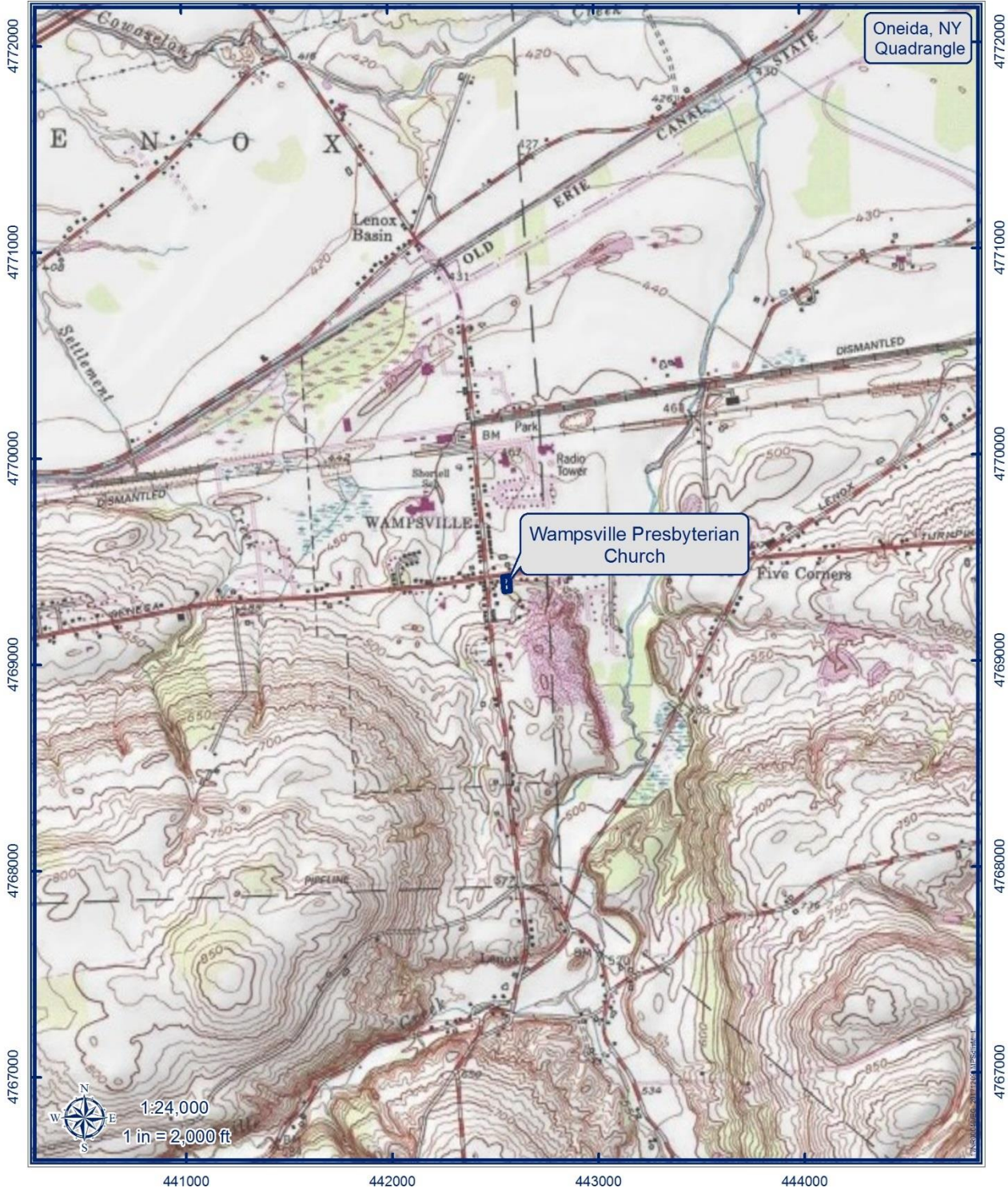
The boundary encompasses the lot historically and currently associated with the nominated building.

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Name of Property

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County and State

Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Town of Wampsville, Madison Co., NY

109 East Genesee St. (SR 5)
Wampsville, NY 13032



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

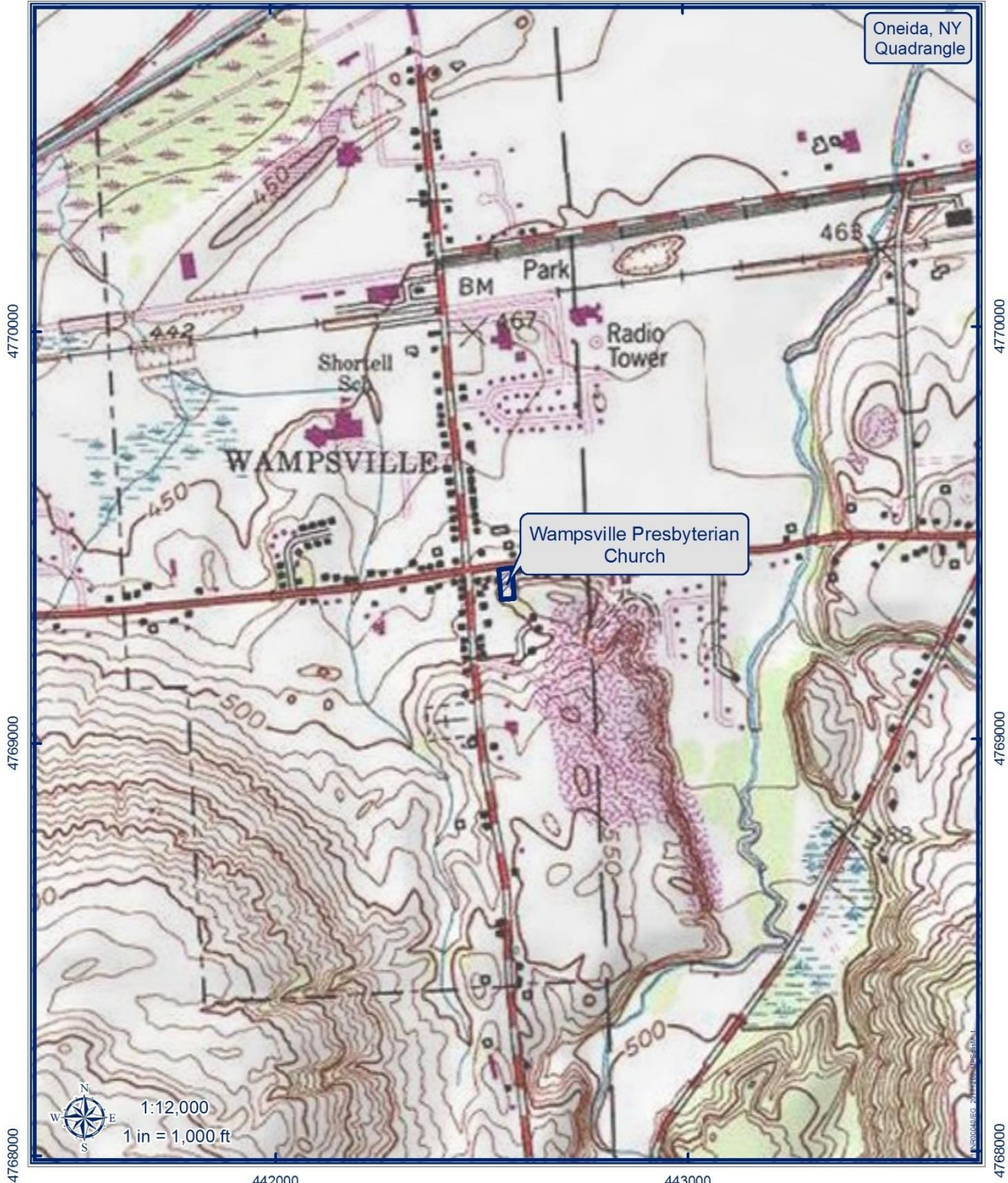


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Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Town of Wampsville, Madison Co., NY

109 East Genesee St. (SR 5)
Wampsville, NY 13032



Oneida, NY
Quadrangle

Wampsville Presbyterian
Church

1:12,000
1 in = 1,000 ft

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



 Wampsville
Presbyterian

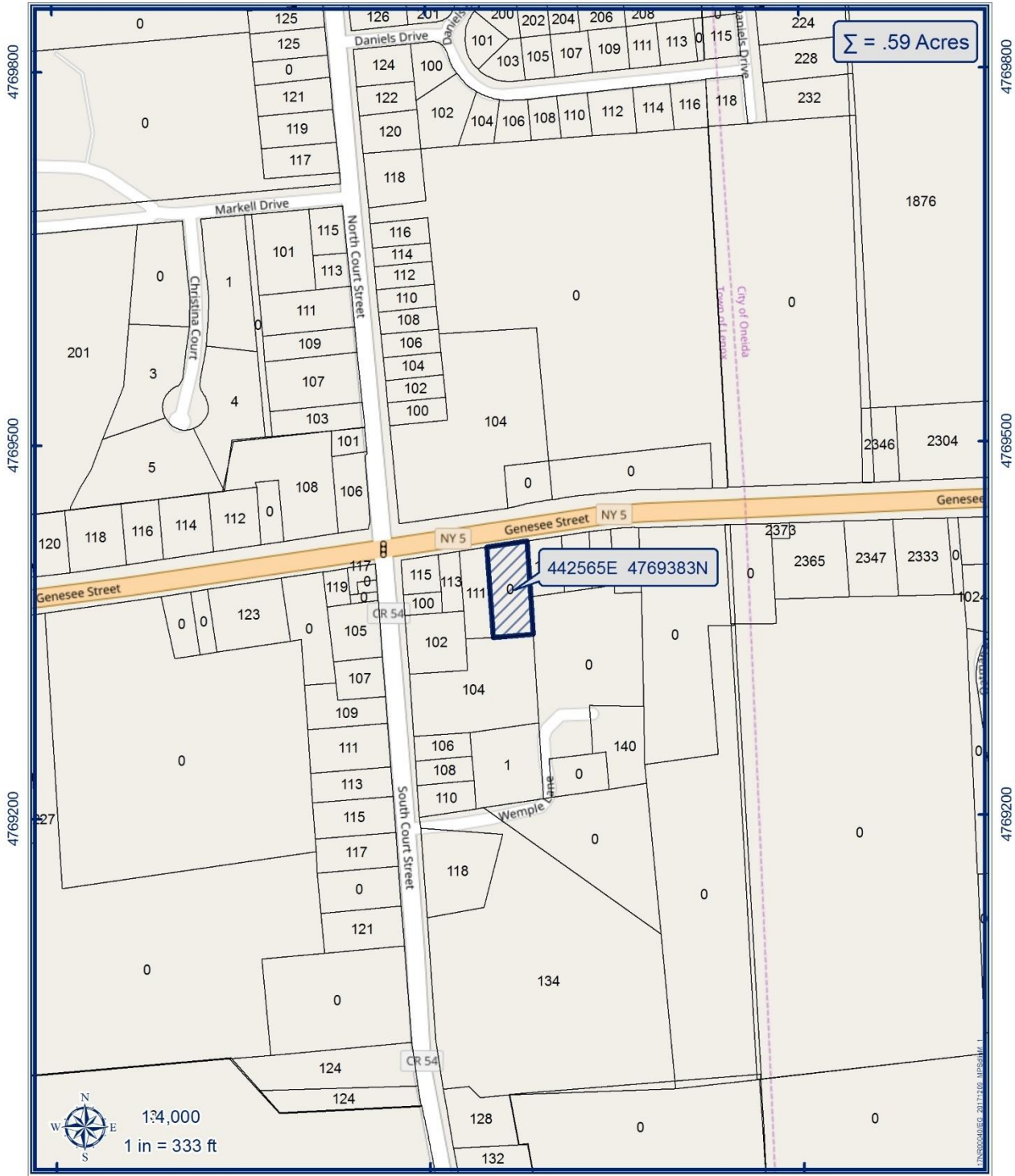
 NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY
Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

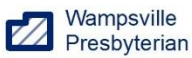
Madison County, NY
County and State

Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Town of Wampsville, Madison Co., NY

109 East Genesee St. (SR 5)
Wampsville, NY 13032



442200 442500 442800
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter
1 in = 333 ft
0 100 200 400 Feet



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Name of Property

Madison County, NY
County and State

Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Town of Wampsville, Madison Co., NY

109 East Genesee St. (SR 5)
Wampsville, NY 13032



442200 442500 442800

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

0 100 200 400 Feet



Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Madison County, NY
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11. Form Prepared By:

name/title Emilie W. Gould, Historic Preservation Program Analyst
organization NY State Historic Preservation Office date August 25, 2017
street & number PO Box 189 telephone 518-268-2201
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188
e-mail Emilie.Gould@parks.ny.gov

Additional Documentation:



Photograph, 1962 (Owner information).

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Table of Figures:

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Figure 5. Rear (south) elevation, 2017.

Figure 6. Side (west) elevation of session room, 2017.

Figure 7. Side (west) elevation of church and front of session room, 2017.

Figure 8. Front door, 2017.

Figure 9. Arched and bracketed trim, choir loft, 2017.

Figure 10. Session room door, 2017.

Figure 11. Floor Plan, 2017.

Figure 12. Detail from John E. Gillette, Gillette's Map of Madison County, New York from Actual Surveys under the direction of J. H. French, Syracuse (Philadelphia : Jno. E. Gillette, 1859).

Figure 13. "Wamp'sville," in John E. Gillette, Gillette's Map of Madison County, New York from Actual Surveys under the direction of J. H. French, Syracuse (Philadelphia : Jno. E. Gillette, 1859).

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Name of Property

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Photographs:

Name of Property: Wampsville Presbyterian Church

City or Vicinity: Wampsville

County: Madison State: New York

Photographer: Ellen Bowe and Emilie W. Gould (as noted)

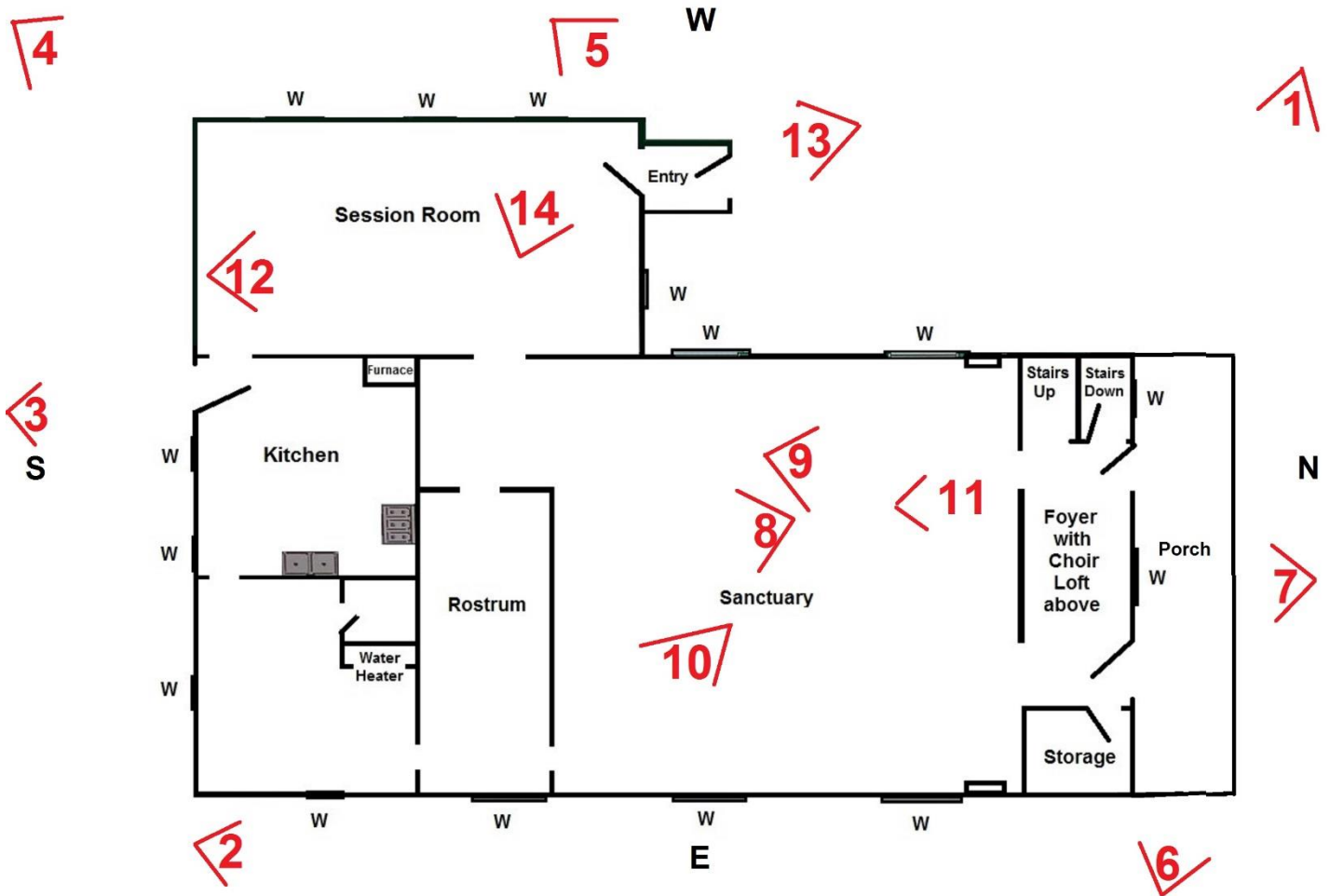
Date Photographed: January, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001. Façade (north), facing State Route 5. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0002. East elevation. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0003. South (rear) elevation. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0004. Southwest corner showing session house, rear (south) elevation. (Emilie W. Gould)
- 0005. East elevation of church. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0006. Porch, detail of façade. (Emilie W. Gould)
- 0007. Central window, porch. (Emilie W. Gould)
- 0008. Sanctuary, looking south at rostrum. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0009. Sanctuary, looking north at entrance and choir loft. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0010. Sanctuary, ceiling. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0011. Sanctuary, early nineteenth century door. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0012. Session room, looking east. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0013. Entrance door (north elevation) to session room. (Ellen Bowes)
- 0014. Stained glass window, session room. (Ellen Bowes)

Wampsville Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
Photo Key:

Madison County, NY
County and State



Property Owner: _____
name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state NY zip code _____

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

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

















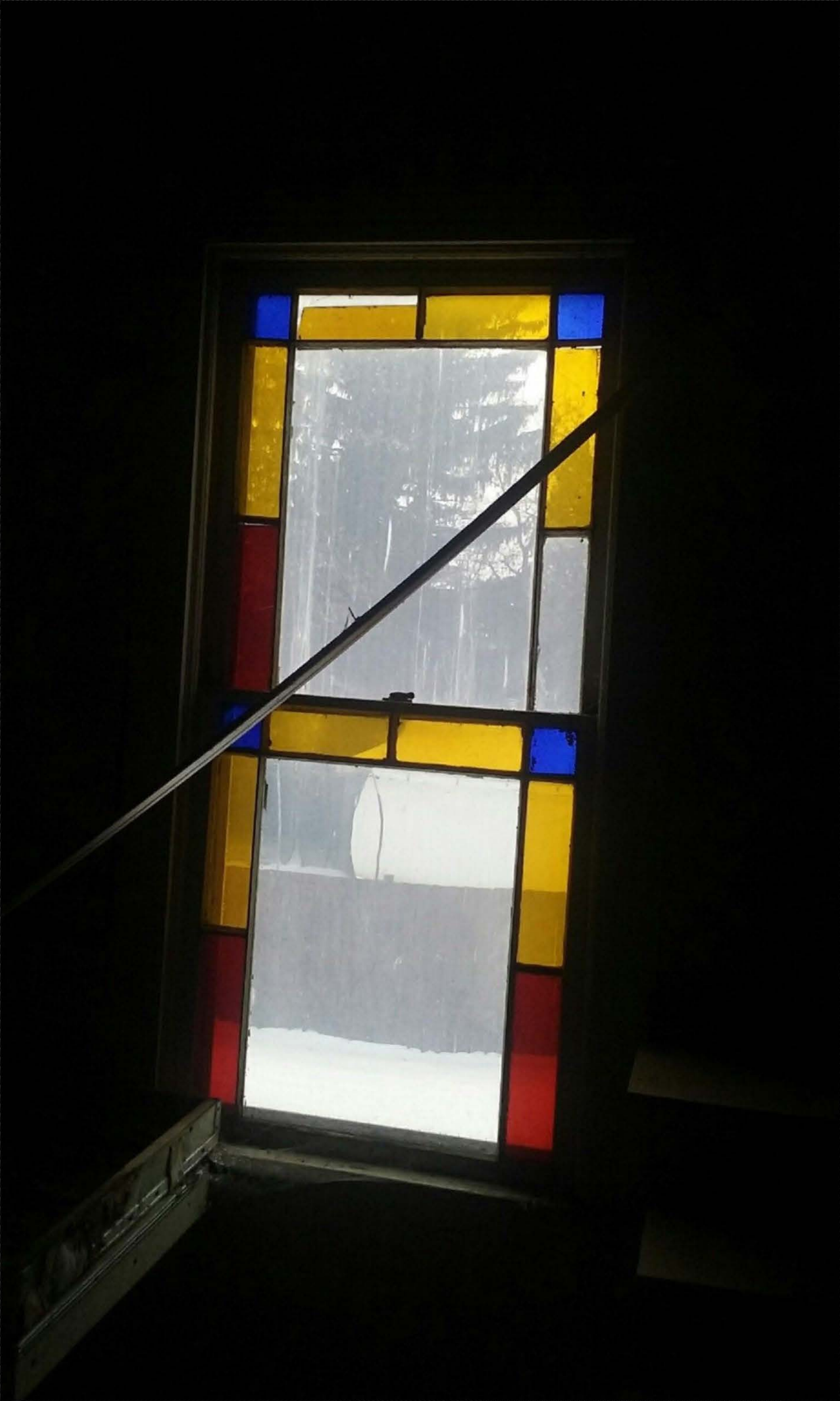












UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 12/19/2017 Date of Pending List: 1/29/2018 Date of 16th Day: 2/13/2018 Date of 45th Day: 2/2/2018 Date of Weekly List: 2/2/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 2/2/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

DEC 19 2017

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROSE HARVEY
Commissioner

14 December 2017

Alexis Abernathy
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places

Mail Stop 7228

1849 C Street NW
Washington DC 20240

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

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

John and Sarah Trumbull House, Dutchess County
New Guinea Community Site, Dutchess County
George W. Bellows House, Ulster County
Wampsville Presbyterian Church, Madison County [not owned by religious]
Lipe -Rollaway Corporation Building, Onondaga County
Ridgewood Reservoir, Kings and Queens Counties
Greenacre Park, New York County
Lanai, New York County
Smith-Ransome Japanese Bridge, Suffolk County
Old Town of Flushing Burial Ground, Queens County
Saxe Embroidery Company Building, Bronx County
Kingston City Almshouse, Ulster County

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office