

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1072

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 MARSH-LINK-POLLOCK FARM

other names/site number POLLOCK FARM

2. Location

street & number 66 WHITE CHURCH LANE not for publication

city or town BRUNSWICK vicinity

state NEW YORK code NY county RENSSELAER code 083 zip code 12052

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

Robert Purpant DSHPO 10/31/14
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

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

other (explain): _____

Eden H. Beall 12-22-14
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

MARSH-LINK-POLLOCK FARM
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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	
4	0	buildings
0	0	sites
3	0	structures
0	0	objects
7	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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage, agricultural

field, animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage, agricultural

field

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19th CENTURY: Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE, CONCRETE

walls: WOOD

roof: SLATE, ASPHALT

other: GLASS, METAL

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

Synopsis

The Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm consists of approximately 107 acres of farmland and is located east of the City of Troy in the Town of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York. The nominated farm contains a number of historic features, principal of which are an L-shaped frame farmhouse that was erected in multiple building episodes beginning ca. 1840, and a sizeable timber-frame barn erected above a 30' by 80' plan and which was built in two episodes, and to which several additions have been rendered. These resources are set in a suitably agrarian context characterized by open expanses of agricultural fields framed by wooded hills and tree-lined field boundaries. While the property is largely open, the core area of the farm, where the house and barn complex is situated, is interspersed with mature deciduous trees, and the driveway from White Church Lane is lined with mature maple trees. The farm house is oriented with its principal elevation facing west, while the principal elevation of the kitchen ell faces south; the barn complex is to the immediate northeast of the dwelling, at the dwelling's rear. The nomination boundary includes the house and main barn, as aggrandized; a smaller light-frame barn, situated to the east of the main barn, which served as a calf barn; and a large concrete block walled cow barn with an associated silo. There is additionally the base of another silo, since taken down, adjacent to the main barn.

Narrative Description

Location & Setting

The property is accessed from a public dead-end road, White Church Lane, which forms an extension of White Church Road. It is situated to the east of Farm to Market Road (State Route 351), which connects the east-west course of State Route 2 with the hamlet of Poestenkill to the south. The property is accessed by way of a 1000-foot long single-lane gravel driveway, which is lined on both sides with mature maple trees. This access road extends from White Church Lane in a northeasterly direction, then swings northward, and then curves again to the east as it approaches the house and barn complex, where it meets a second access road that continues northward between the house and barns. The farm house and barn complex are located at the southwest corner of the property, with open fields extending to the north, northeast and east.

Marsh-Link-Pollock House

The farm has been unoccupied for approximately three years and the buildings thereon are suffering to some extent from deferred maintenance; however, the farm house has had very little alteration since the last historic-period improvements, which were made in the 1920s. This dwelling consists of three distinctive sections, all gable roofed and of frame construction. These are a two-story section, which is oriented with its façade facing westward and which was built ca. 1840, during the popularity of the Greek Revival style; a single-story ell with linear footprint that extends from the rear of this main block, creating an L-shaped plan, and which appears contemporary with the main block; and a two-story section that was added to the north gable end of the ca. 1840 two-story section, in the 1920s, to complete the current plan. The house has four porches, two of which are on the west façade, the remaining ones corresponding with the north and south elevations of the ell; three of these display Late Victorian-period characteristics. Siding consists of pine clapboard while the roof is clad variously with asphalt and slate shingles. Foundations are principally stone and concrete, with brick used above-grade on the ca. 1840 main block; chimneys are brick, with those corresponding with the main block having been brought down below roofline. The interior of the house is characterized by plaster and lath walls and ceilings, modest finish work, and pine board flooring with some hardwood overlay. The original ca. 1840 main block and ell are of timber frame construction, while the ca. 1920 wing was built with a light frame of dimensional lumber. The original block was constructed over a full basement; the ell was constructed over crawl space and a partial basement, while the 1920s addition has no basement or visible crawl space.

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The exterior of the farmhouse is largely unornamented, with the exception of the porches and the Greek Revival-style treatments employed on the main block, in the form of corner pilasters, gable returns and moulded cornices. The façade of the ca. 1840 main block, which is five bays wide by two bays deep, has a central entrance with sidelights and is fitted with a glazed-and-paneled door that dates to the Late Victorian era and the installation of which possibly corresponds with the front porch, which has turned and scroll-sawn wood components. A second porch of this type shields the entrance to the ca. 1920s block, suggesting the possibility that both of these porches—and that on the south elevation of the ell—all date to this period. The porch on the north side of the ell, meanwhile, is of a more utilitarian type, consisting of a gable roof and a partial enclosure in which the well is housed. The majority of the windows in the three sections are of a one-over-one wood type with corresponding aluminum storm windows.

The ca. 1840 two-story block was built on a single-pile plan and is accessible from the outside by means of the principal entrance, corresponding with the façade. The first floor of this section consists of two principal rooms disposed to either side of the entrance hall, in which an open-stringer staircase to the second floor is located. At the top of the stairs, to the right (south) is a bedroom with small closet, while there are three additional bedrooms to the left (north), the first of which is part of the original house, in addition to two which correspond with the 1920s addition. These rooms have no hallway and are instead accessed by going through one room to get to the next. The attic over the ell is accessible through a door at the top of the stairs and also communicates with the stair hall of the main block at second-story level. Interior finish in the ca. 1840 section is characterized by plaster and lath walls, wide plank flooring and modest moulded wood trim. The house was originally heated with stoves until a central heating system was installed.

The 1920s section consists of two large rooms and a small kitchen on the first floor and the two second floor bedrooms (described above), which are accessed through the other part of the house. This addition communicates with the north room of the original section at first floor level and from the outside via the kitchen on the east side of the house and via a door corresponding with the porch on the west façade. Walls are plaster and flooring is hardwood.

The ell is presently comprised of a large woodshed in addition to living spaces. The shed, which has corresponding wood doors on rollers on its east elevation, provides access to the dining room—presumably the kitchen at one time, given its relationship to the woodshed and well—which is also accessible from an entrance shielded beneath the porch on the south elevation of that section. Adjacent to the dining room is a small food preparation kitchen, a living room and a bathroom (the latter formerly a small bedroom); there is additionally an enclosed stairway which leads from the dining room to largely unfinished attic space, which was at one time used for a sleeping area, perhaps by seasonal farm hands. A portion of this attic was finished off as a small room with plaster walls and ceilings and is lighted by a small window on the south wall. The small food preparation kitchen has a large cast-iron sink, a wood stove and a small cast-iron hand sink. This area is also accessible from an outside entrance by way of covered porch on the north side of the house, which also provides shelter for a stone-lined well. There are two pantry/storage rooms adjacent to the food preparation kitchen. The living room has a brick fireplace and wood mantle which were added ca. 1960s. Walls are plaster and lath and the flooring presently has an overlay of wood which is covered with vinyl flooring. The floor in the living room is wood overlay over the original wide plank.

Barns & Outbuildings

The principal feature of the barn complex is the 80' by 30' main barn (contributing building), which was built in two phases, both of which likely post-date the Civil War. It is sited northeast of the farmhouse. Both principal sections are of square-rule timber frame construction and were principally erected with circular-sawn hemlock components. Access to the upper level of the barn is via an earthen ramp located on its north elevation, which enters the original, or eastern, portion of the building. The easternmost section contains space for dairy cows

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on the lower level and has a hay mow occupying the upper level, accessed by the north ramp. The middle and western portions are given over to hay mows that are 30' high and separated by an 11' wide at-grade drive that enters and exits via the north and south elevations. The siding is horizontal pine board and the roofing is covered with a mix of asphalt and wood shingles.

To the main barn was added, on its west gable elevation, a four-bay timber frame addition; it was erected to facilitate farm machinery and equipment storage and also contained a work shop in the loft. It measures 30' in width by 42' in breadth; its roof is gabled and it has a horizontal pine clapboards and asphalt and wood shingles on the roof. A second smaller addition, since lost, once extended from the south elevation of the main section. It measured 20' by 30' and contained stables for horses. It was in an advanced state of deterioration which made its retention impractical.

There is, in addition to the main barn, a small light-frame barn that was used for calves and a ca. 1959 concrete block cow barn with a silo. Early pictures indicate there was once a second silo behind the main barn, the footprint and foundation of which remains. At one time there was also a large multistory chicken barn, of which only the footprint presently remains.

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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

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1840- ca. 1959

Significant Dates

ca. 1840; ca. 1870-75; ca. 1910; ca. 1925; ca. 1959

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm is an architecturally and historically significant property located in the Town of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York. The nominated resources portray the history of this property and its agricultural associations during the course of the second half of the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries, at which time the adjacent acreage was farmed by the Marsh, Link and Pollock families. The central features of the property are an L-shaped farmhouse that, while presently suffering from deterioration and deferred maintenance, nevertheless survives essentially intact to the 1920s, and a large timber frame barn the principal section of which was built in two campaigns and which by all indications corresponds with the occupancy of the Link family. There are additionally a light-frame calf barn and a concrete block cow barn that was built for the Pollock family ca. 1959. These resources form a domestic and farmstead core from which extends, to the north, east and southeast, sweeping vistas of agricultural fields and wooded hills. The house was built ca. 1840 for the Marsh family and was last aggrandized in the 1920s by the Pollock family. As for the main barn, it appears to relate most strongly to that period of the farm's history corresponding with Thomas B. Link, a Brunswick native, and formed the core of his dairying operation and related agricultural endeavors. Period documentation indicates that Link was principally engaged in the production of fluid milk in the immediate Civil War period, the large barn serving the dual needs of animal quartering and hay and cereal grain storage. The property is being nominated in association with Criterion A, in the area of agriculture, given its portrayal of over a century of farming in Brunswick by the Marsh, Link and Pollock families, and additionally under Criterion C, in the area of architecture, given the survival of its principal buildings, of which are the house and the main barn are the keynote features. The Marsh-Link-Pollock farm remains an important and locally significant resource that is expressive of Brunswick's agrarian past and that of rural Rensselaer County.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Historical Context

The nominated farmstead at one time consisted of approximately 200 acres of land which were leased by John McChesney Jr. from Steven Van Rensselaer. The property was subsequently deeded to Jonas Abbott and, following his death, was transferred to Judd Abbott, guardian of Jonas Abbot's five children. In 1835 the property nominated parcel, roughly half of that leased from Van Rensselaer by McChesney Jr., was deeded to Prentiss and Laura Marsh, and it was they who by all indications had the original portion of the house erected. In 1850 the nominated land was deeded to Thomas B. and Sarah Link; the Links were prominent in the agricultural affairs of Brunswick and farmed this land for nearly a half century. In 1898 the farm was deeded to Ella Pollock, who died in 1917, and it was then willed to George H. Pollock. In 1954 it was transferred to George H., Bertha E. and G. Donald Pollock, and was acquired in 2013 by the present owners.

During the second half of the nineteenth century the farm was operated under the auspices of Thomas B. Link. The following is a biographical overview of the Link family was offered in *Landmarks of Rensselaer County*, 1897:

Link, Thomas B., born in the town of Brunswick, June 19, 1817, is the son of Helmus and Esther Link, she a daughter of Thomas Betts. Helmus followed farming. He was a public spirited man and was actively interested in churches and schools. He was a self-made man and was respected by all his neighbors. Helmus's children were Thomas B., Burwell B., Edward, Azubah, Rachel and Martha. Thomas B. received his early education in the common schools which he attended winters and worked summers. When eighteen years of age he started in life as a farm laborer and received \$100 for his first year's work. He is active in schools and education. June 22, 1838, he married Sarah A. McChesney and his children were Maria Augusta, John Thomas, Jane Frances, Harriet Arazina, William Henry, Martha Ann, Mary Alice, Helmus Eugene, Esther Floetta and Emma Josephine. His

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second wife was Emaline Ives, but they had no children. On November 17, 1884, he married Sarah Jane Rodgers and their children are Lottie May, Roscoe Conklin and Mabel Elizabeth.¹

The Link household was recorded in the 1855 New York State census. It consisted at that time of Thomas and Sarah A. Link (1818-1855), eight children of whom three were born in Columbia County—the remaining family members were born in Rensselaer County—and Patrick Fitzgerald, a native of Ireland who worked on the farm. The house was valued at \$600. By the time of the 1870 Federal census Sarah, Thomas Link's first wife, had died, and Link was married by that date to Emaline Ives (1826-1881). Link's eldest son, William H., 26, was working the farm with his father, and two daughters, Emma and Esther, were still at home. The household additionally included two New York-born farm laborers, John Miller, 20, and Regnal Wager, 18. Link's real estate was valued at \$10,000 and he additionally claimed \$2,000 in personal assets.²

The nominated farm's output was recorded in the 1870 Federal agricultural census, which provides significant insights into its complexion in the first years after the conclusion of the Civil War. The farm, indicated as being comprised of 136 acres of improved land and 5 acres of woodlot, was valued at \$13,900. Link maintained a total of 40 milk cows, a sizeable amount when contrasted with other Brunswick farms, and additionally kept six horses, 30 head of sheep, and five pigs. The value of his livestock, \$2,670, was well above that of his neighboring farmers. Link's arable land was devoted to rye, Indian corn, oats, Irish potatoes and buckwheat, with the greatest emphasis placed on oats, of which he cultivated 600 bushels, potatoes, of which 1,250 bushels were raised, and hay. The farm also produced 90 pounds of wool from its 30 sheep. Two additional figures are noteworthy as they relate to the Link's dairy herd, which was considerable by contemporary local standards. These are the 8,000 gallons of milk the farm sold, and the 60 tons of hay the farm produced. Only a handful of local Brunswick farms were producing milk at this date, as butter was instead the principal dairy product. The Link farm, by contrast, produced no butter and was instead fully invested in the production of fluid milk.³

By the time of the 1875 New York State census the Link household was recorded as consisting of Thomas Link, by then 58 years old; his wife, Emaline, 48; daughter Emma, 21; and two non-family members, Mary Meyers, 15, a domestic, and William McCabe, 19, a farm laborer. Link was still farming the property, but apparently doing so without the assistance of his son William.⁴ It appears that at times he took an active part in reporting on issues of interest to other farmers; in 1877 he wrote in to the *The Daily Times of Troy* to report that he had fed potato bugs removed from his fields to his fowl, all of which subsequently died.⁵

In 1890 Thomas Link was apparently the victim of a financial scam that was widely reported in area newspapers, and which cost him \$5,000. The following news item, entitled "An Oft-Repeated Warning," was carried in *The Daily Times of Troy*:

The bunco business by which farmers have so often been swindled has been repeated so frequently, and usually in the same way, that it seems as if suspicion would be excited the moment the attempt is made to play the game. But audacity and plausibility on the part of the swindlers disarm suspicion, as in the case of Thomas Link of Brunswick, who mourns the loss of \$5,000 which was very sharply and successfully taken from him by swindlers. One of the swindlers, as usual, wanted to buy a farm, and with Mr. Link, accidentally of course, met the confederate on the road, and the three-card

¹ George Anderson, *Landmarks of Rensselaer County* (Syracuse: D. Mason & Co., 1897).

² Data culled from the 1855 New York State census and the 1870 Federal census.

³ Data culled from the 1870 Federal agricultural census.

⁴ Data culled from 1875 New York State census.

⁵ *The Daily Times of Troy*, 29 May 1877.

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monte game was successfully played. Link was induced to draw and exhibit his \$5,000, and by a clever sleight-of-hand performance the money got into the hands of the swindlers, and Mr. Link had nothing but an empty box as a souvenir of the transaction. The farmer borrowed the money at the Central national bank, and if he had made known the purpose of the borrowing it at the time he would have been cautioned. As nothing was said of the purpose of the loan there was no opportunity to warn the victim. Mr. Link is a man of means, and the loss of the money is felt more for the mortification of being so boldly and successfully swindled than because of the financial effect upon himself. The incident has its moral, but it will be like many another moral—soon forgotten.⁶

Thomas B. Link died in 1902 and is interred in Oakwood Cemetery in Troy.

The 1900 Federal census records the presence of Willard and Ella Pollock on the nominated farm; the Pollocks acquired the property towards the end of the 1890s. Willard Pollock and his son, Frank, were farming the land with the assistance of Leonard Angel, a German-born farm laborer. The household additionally consisted of Louisa Pollock, a daughter-in-law, and son George H., who was of school age at the time. Ella Pollock's death, in 1917, was noted in *The Troy Times*:

Mrs. Ella M. McGary Pollock, wife of Willard Pollock, a well-known resident of Brunswick, died yesterday at her home in that town after being ill for some time. She was born in Brunswick sixty-three years ago and was almost a lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church of Brunswick. Besides her husband she is survived by one daughter, Ludia [Lucia] Pollock of Brunswick; two sons, Frank Pollock of Troy and George Pollock of Brunswick; and five grandchildren.⁷

Ella Pollock's will stipulated that the former Link farm would pass to her son, George H., "who is to maintain his father on it and pay him \$100 a year." A second farm, noted as the "Wright or Abbott farm," was left to Lucia E. Pollock. Frank B. Pollock received \$1,000 while the residue was distributed between George H. and Lucia E. Pollock.⁸ George H. and Bertha Pollock appear in the 1920 Federal census, along with four children; George Pollock's father, Willard W. Pollock; and a hired man, John Gerald. The Pollocks continued farming the land into the 1960s, and were responsible for the construction of the concrete-block cow barn ca. 1959. George H. Pollock died in July 1965. An obituary noted that "he for many years tilled the land originally owned and farmed by his parents..." and that he was a member of the Farm Bureau.⁹

Architectural Context

The earliest portion of the nominated house was built ca. 1840. The two story gable-end form with corresponding five-bay façade, center entrance and single-pile plan was well established by this time, if not more characteristic of the first-quarter of the nineteenth century. The dwelling was built during the popularity of the Greek Revival style, which was pervasive in its influence, and it exhibits woodwork characteristic of this style though in restrained and largely understated fashion. The exterior retains its trabeated entrance treatment, though with a later-period door, and the original paneled corner pilasters, cornice returns, and flat-profiled mouldings. On the interior the remaining original woodwork, while restrained, is also expressive of the Greek Revival aesthetic, as manifested in flat-profiled moulding profiles and vertical two-panel doors. The lack of fireplaces and an open-stringer staircase—the main stair is of an enclosed type—provided less opportunity for finish work expressive of this time and aesthetic.

⁶ "An Oft-Repeated Warning," *The Daily Times of Troy*, 25 October 1890.

⁷ *The Troy Times*, 26 July 1917.

⁸ "Two Wills Probated," *The Troy Times*, 1 August 1917.

⁹ "Mr. Pollock, Brunswick Farmer, Dies," *The Times Record*, 29 July 1965.

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While by some accounts the ell is an earlier dwelling that predates the ca. 1840 main block, physical evidence does not seem to bear this out. Both sections were built in similar manner, with braced timber frames with square rule joinery and with hemlock components, and the intersection of the two foundations seems consistent on the south wall. As such it appears that the main block and ell were built in a single episode. This seems all the more likely given that no accommodation was made for a kitchen in the main block, necessitating its placement elsewhere. Rear kitchen ells were an increasingly commonplace feature of farmhouses beginning in the early nineteenth century in New York and New England and expressive of the increasingly specialized nature of farm and domestic life.¹⁰ In the case of the nominated house, it appears the ell accommodated a dining room, kitchen and woodshed—and possibly a privy—with the kitchen having direct communication with both the woodshed and the well.

The main barn at the Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm is a noteworthy expression of regional vernacular architecture, expanded and modified over time to meet the functional demands of evolving agricultural practices and increased productivity. The earliest portion—the eastern part of the main section—is an example of English or three-bay barn design, whereby a center drive floor flanks outlying bays, and was built into a banked site so as to provide for two tiers of interior space, an arrangement that became increasingly common in New York after 1850 and which corresponds with the rise of the dairy industry, a development itself tied to the rise of efficient railroad transportation. The main frame largely consists of mill sawn hemlock, as does the added section, which on the basis of physical characteristics likely followed soon after the main block was built. That section was given over almost exclusively to hay mow, the two towering mows separated by a drive that allow loaded hay carts to enter and exit. These mows could be loaded by means of a ridge-mounted hay fork, a post-1850 innovation which allowed for the greater height of the walls. The large addition which abuts the main section's west elevation, beyond the added hay mows, provided equipment storage space and also a work area in the loft. The only loss to this impressive structure is a small timber-frame addition that extended from the main section's west elevation; it appears this functioned as a horse barn with associated stables, but deteriorated to an extent so as to make its removal a necessity. The barn's two main sections were likely built ca. 1865-75, corresponding with Thomas Link's farm operation. The height of the building's side walls, the banked arrangement of the original section, and the square-rule framing consisting of circular-sawn hemlock components, all suggest a date in this time frame.

The light frame barn to the east of the main barn appears to have been built for or otherwise modified to serve as a calf barn. The concrete block barn, meanwhile, was built to accommodate to the Pollock's dairy herd, which was presumably quartered in the main barn until this time. It is representative of a more modern era of the farm's history and the continuation of dairying there.

The spatial interrelationships of the various Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm components provide valuable insights into period farm arrangements and their evolution over time in Rensselaer County. The dwelling was oriented in order that its façade faced westward towards the distant road but the ell was nevertheless provided with the desired southern exposure in order to fully capitalize on solar heat and natural light. The orientation of the principal elevation of the house towards the road became customary at the expense of southern exposure as the nineteenth century progressed, with the space between the house and the roadway, the “front yard,” often times improved with fencing and plantings in order to distinguish between domestic and work spheres and to call out the formal entrance into the dwelling.¹¹ The areas on the north and south sides of the house's ell

¹⁰Thomas C. Hubka, “The New England Farmhouse Ell: Fact and Symbol of Nineteenth Century Farm Improvement,” *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, vol. 2 (Vernacular Architecture Forum, 1986).

¹¹Nineteenth century images of farmsteads in this region indicate both formal and unfinished front yards; for an overview of considerations relating to the arrangement of New England farmsteads into spatial zones such as “yards” see Hubka, *Big House, Little House, Backhouse, Barn* (Hanover, NH: University of New England Press, 1984), 70-85.

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served as the farm's "door yard" and provided informal access to the house via the kitchen. The door yard served as a general-purpose work area where male and female work spheres on the farm overlapped.¹² It was also typically where the house's well and associated water pump was located, in close proximity to the kitchen, and offered close communication with the main barn complex and barn yard. The area to the south of the ell was likely preferable for some tasks, given its better sun exposure, though the well is located on the opposite side, east of the main block.

The earliest section of the main barn has occupied its current position from the time of its construction and exhibits a characteristic orientation for this type of barn as observed in Rensselaer and Washington counties, arranged as it is with its long sides on an east-to-west axis and its drive floors aligned north to south. The area immediately south of the main barn, which evolved over successive generations, is the so-called "barn yard." Its position to the south of the main section and west extension offered some measure of protection from winter winds and adequate sunlight.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

¹²Hubka, *Big House*, see Fig. 114.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Anderson, George. *Landmarks of Rensselaer County*. Syracuse: D. Mason & Co., 1897.

Hubka, Thomas C. *Big House, Little House, Backhouse, Barn*. Hanover, NH: University of New England Press, 1984.

_____. "The New England Farmhouse Ell: Fact and Symbol of Nineteenth Century Farm Improvement," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, vol. 2. Vernacular Architecture Forum, 1986.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 107.55 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>617976</u> Easting	<u>4733052</u> Northing	4	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>619352</u> Easting	<u>4732513</u> Northing
2	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>618799</u> Easting	<u>4732910</u> Northing	5	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>618284</u> Easting	<u>4732649</u> Northing
3	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>619376</u> Easting	<u>4732639</u> Northing	6	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>617883</u> Easting	<u>4732735</u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

The NRHP boundary for the Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm is depicted on the two enclosed maps, which were drawn at a scale of 1:24,000 and 1:12,000. The boundary is shown as a solid black line with crosshatching.

Boundary Justification

The boundary, consisting of 107.55 acres, encompasses only land associated with the Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm during the cited period of significance, ca. 1840- ca. 1959. All of this land is associated with the nominated farm; no additional or buffer land has been included.

MARSH-LINK-POLLOCK FARM

Name of Property

RENSSELAER COUNTY, NY

County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William Krattinger
organization NYS Division for Historic Preservation date August 2014
street & number Peebles Island State Park telephone (518) 237-8643
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12180
e-mail William.Krattinger@parks.ny.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs:

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

Photographs by William E. Krattinger, TIFF format, October 2014
Original digital files at NYS Division for Historic Preservation, Peebles Island State Park

- 0001 Exterior, house, view looking east towards principal elevation
- 0002 Exterior, house, view to northeast showing south gable-end of front block and south elevation of wing
- 0003 Exterior, house, view to southwest showing north elevation of wing and east elevation of main block
- 0004 Exterior, barn complex, view to east showing south elevations of main barn and attached shed
- 0005 Exterior, barn complex, view to the southwest showing east and north elevations of main barn
- 0006 Exterior, concrete block dairy barn, view to the east showing setting
- 0007 Exterior, calf barn, view looking to southeast

Property Owner:

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

name William and Barbara Darling
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

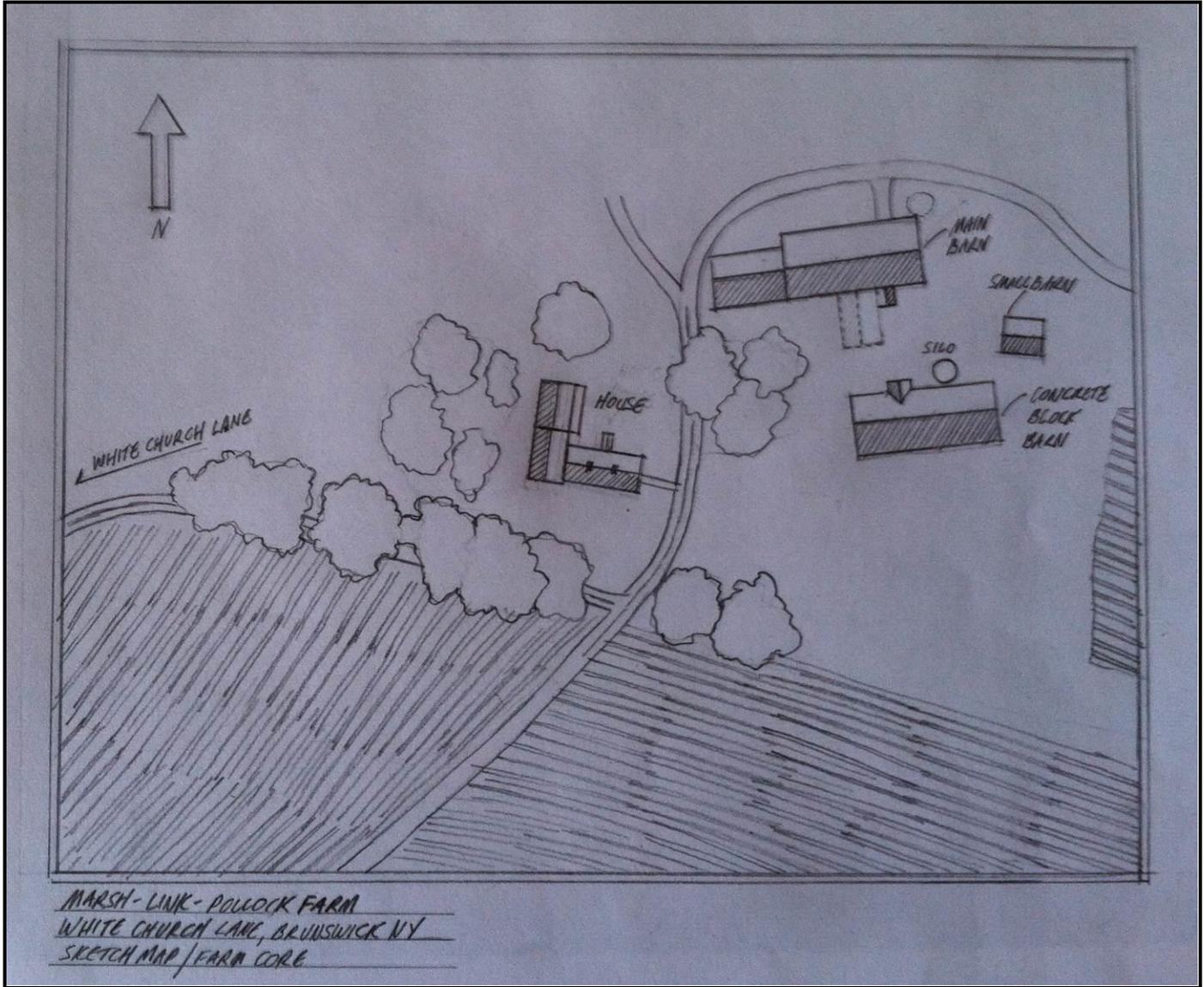
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to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

MARSH-LINK-POLLOCK FARM

Name of Property

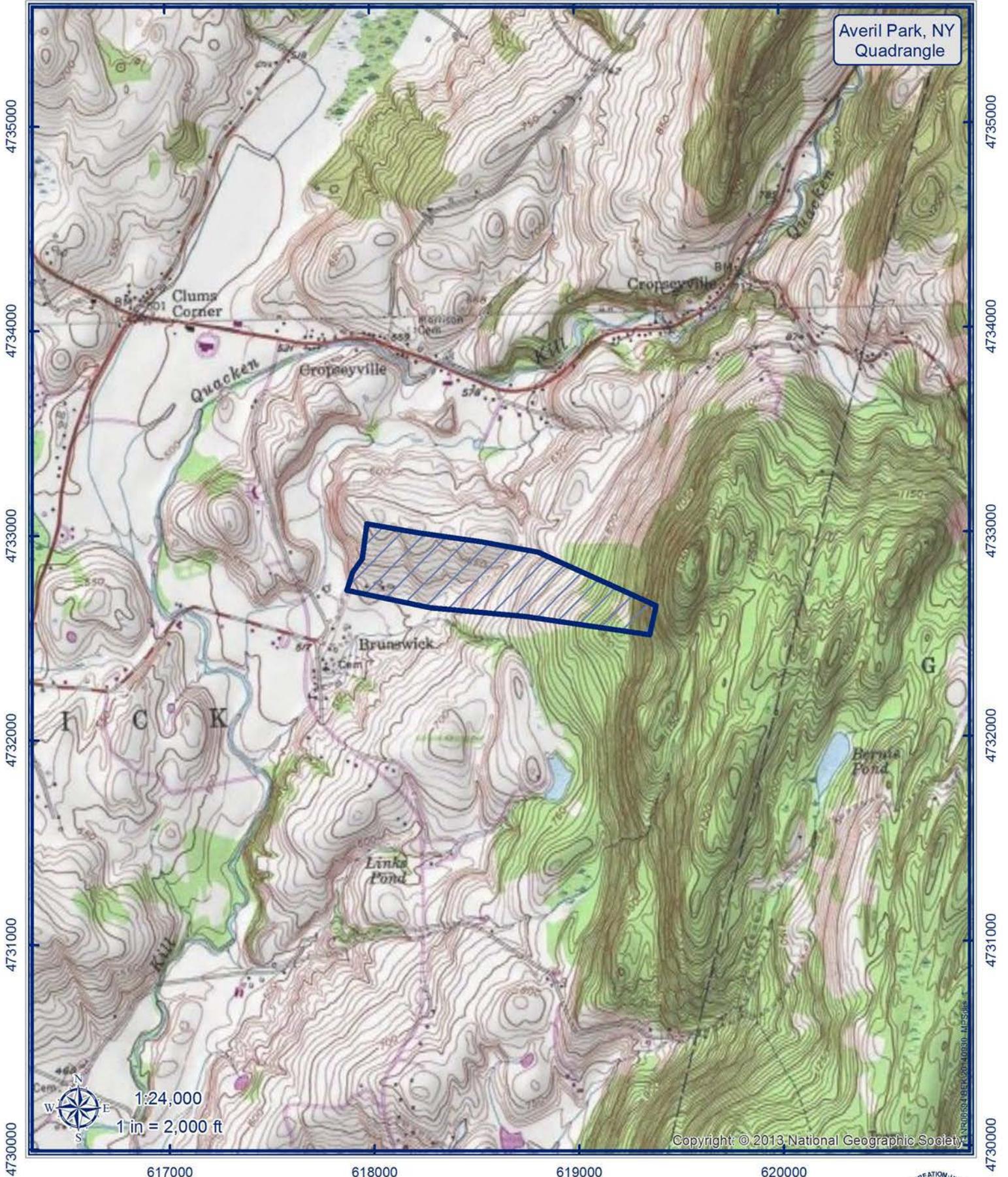
RENSSELAER COUNTY, NY

County and State



ABOVE, sketch site map

Averil Park, NY
Quadrangle



1:24,000
1 in = 2,000 ft

Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society

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

0 650 1,300 2,600 Feet

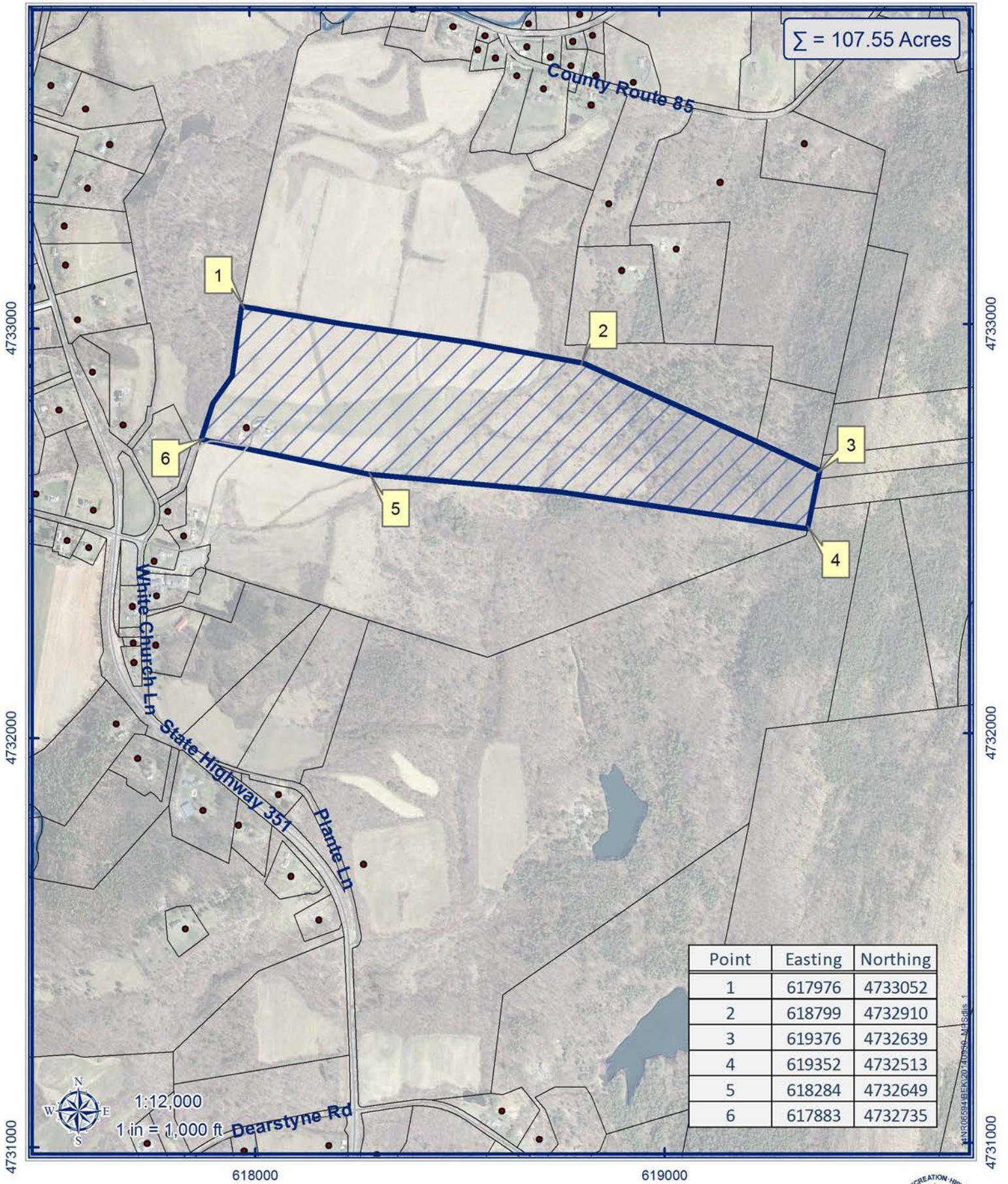


Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm

Tax Parcel Data:
Rensselaer Co, RPS
rensco.com/countymaps



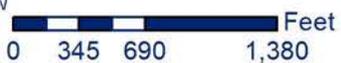
$\Sigma = 107.55$ Acres



Point	Easting	Northing
1	617976	4733052
2	618799	4732910
3	619376	4732639
4	619352	4732513
5	618284	4732649
6	617883	4732735



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



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

 Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm

Tax Parcel Data:
Rensselaer Co, RPS
rensco.com/countymaps

















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Marsh--Link--Pollock Farm
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Rensselaer

DATE RECEIVED: 11/07/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/05/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/22/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/24/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14001072

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12-22-14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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



Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

Rose Harvey
Commissioner

31 October 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 nomination, on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Marsh-Link-Pollock Farm, Rensselaer County

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

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office