

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| STATE: New York | |
| COUNTY: Dutchess | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

1. NAME

COMMON:
"Springside," Matthew Vassar Estate

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
East of Academy Street, near intersection with Rte 9 arterial

CITY OR TOWN:
Poughkeepsie

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------|
| STATE New York | CODE 36 | COUNTY: Dutchess | CODE 027 |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------|

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ |

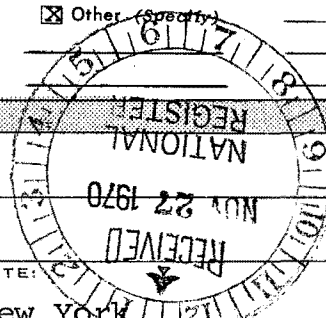
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Ernest Acker, et al

STREET AND NUMBER:
"Springside"

CITY OR TOWN:
Poughkeepsie

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| STATE: New York | CODE: 36 |
|--------------------|-------------|



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Dutchess County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Poughkeepsie

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| STATE: New York | CODE: 36 |
|--------------------|-------------|

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: c. 1968 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| STATE: D.C. | CODE: |
|----------------|-------|

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|------|
| STATE: New York | COUNTY: Dutchess | ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | | | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

*The Gatehouse is the only building now occupied

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Springside" is an estate of approximately 27 acres, located within the boundaries of the City of Poughkeepsie. The landscaping of the site remains essentially as it was designed by Andrew Jackson Downing.

On the estate are various buildings also designed by Downing, including the gatehouse, cottage and barns.

Gatehouse:

Number of stories: two stories
 Layout and/or shape of plan: irregular plan
 Wall construction: board and batten siding
 Structural system: wooden frame construction
 Roof: composed of several intersecting gables
 Porches: entrance porch with gothic detailing
 Chimneys: two brick chimneys

Cottage:

Number of stories: two stories
 Number of bays: front facade is three bays wide
 Layout and/or shape of plan: main portion of house is rectangular in plan, with a porch and small wing at rear
 Wall construction: board and batten siding
 Structural system: wooden frame construction
 Roof: central portion has hipped gable roof; rear wing has gabled roof
 Porches, dormers: a protective stoop over the first floor doorway is formed by a gabled dormer-like projection supported by brackets which extended from the backs of a bench on each side of the doorway
 Dormers: dormers on front and rear of building

The L-shaped barn complex on the estate was severely damaged by fire in the fall of 1969. However, one wing of the complex is still intact, as is the foundation of the damaged section.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1850**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

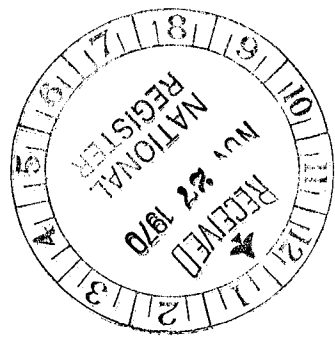
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In 1850 Matthew Vassar, a Poughkeepsie brewer and the founder of Vassar College, purchased this land for the site of a proposed cemetery. Another location for the cemetery was chosen, however, and Vassar subsequently commissioned Andrew Jackson Downing to landscape the property as his estate and to design appropriate buildings for it.

During the 1840's Downing had written several books which established his national reputation as a landscape gardener, horticulturist, and designer of rural buildings. Designs for buildings at "Springside" are preserved at the Vassar College Library.

Much of the "Springside" estate remains intact. The undulating landscape with its winding roads remains largely as Downing designed it, and "Springside" is probably the only extant garden by Downing that has not undergone extensive alterations. The buildings on the estate are important as rare examples of structures designed by Downing individually. Together the grounds and buildings of "Springside" form a unified environment that is an important example of the work of America's foremost proponent of romantic rural design of mid-nineteenth century America.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dutchess County Department of Planning. Springside, A Partnership with the Environment. 1968.

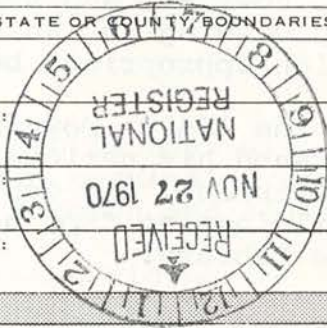
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | 41° 41' 26" | 72° 55' 54" | | | | |
| NE | 41° 41' 30" | 72° 55' 33" | | | | |
| SE | 41° 41' 20" | 72° 55' 30" | | | | |
| SW | 41° 41' 15" | 72° 55' 43" | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 47

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Diana S. Waite, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: New York State Historic Trust DATE: May 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:
Conservation Department

CITY OR TOWN: Albany STATE: New York CODE: 36

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name [Signature]

Title Chairman, NYS Historic Trust

Date 4 18 70

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

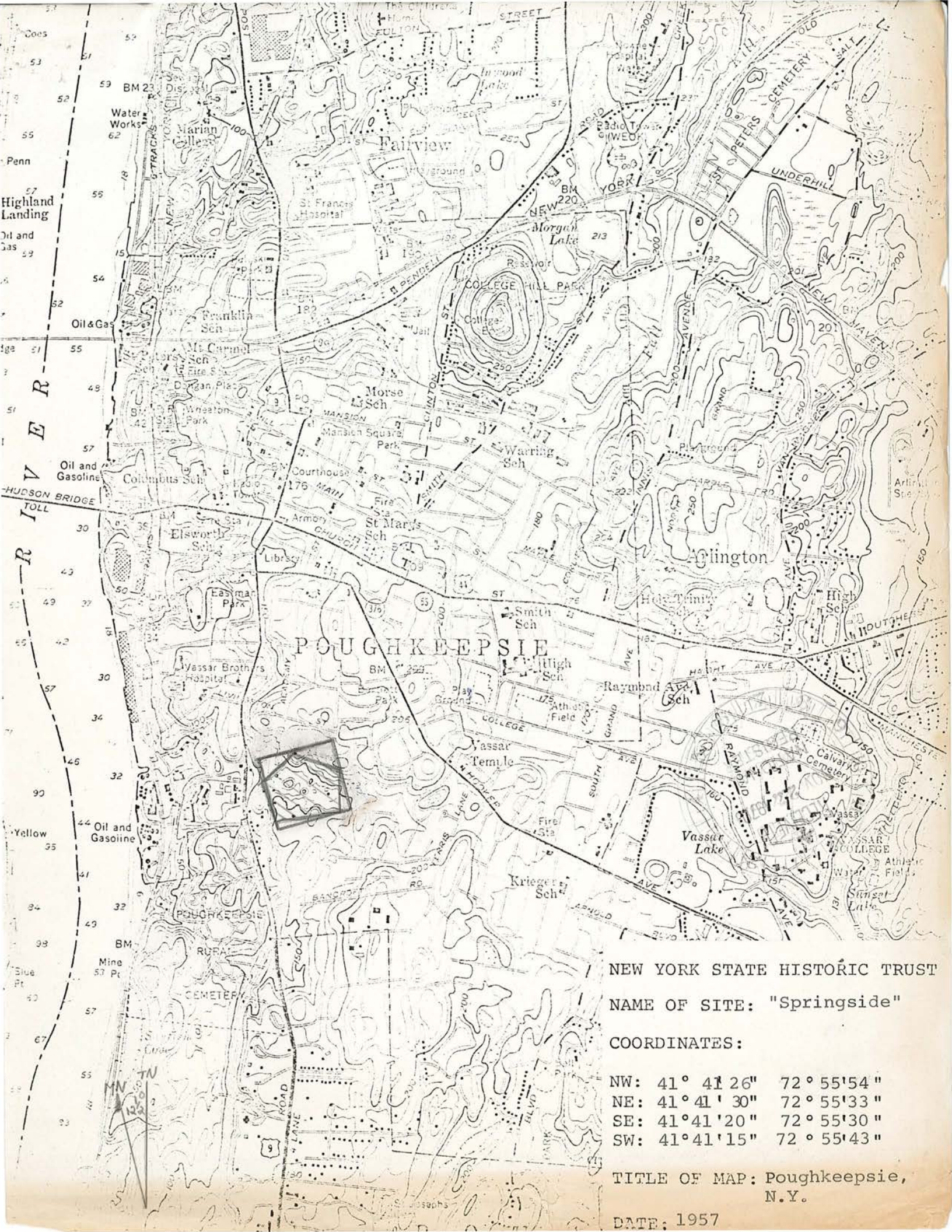
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UTW:CT:um
4-6-76
18/589260/4615300

18/589260/4615300



NEW YORK STATE HISTORIC TRUST

NAME OF SITE: "Springside"

COORDINATES:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| NW: 41° 41' 26" | 72° 55' 54" |
| NE: 41° 41' 30" | 72° 55' 33" |
| SE: 41° 41' 20" | 72° 55' 30" |
| SW: 41° 41' 15" | 72° 55' 43" |

TITLE OF MAP: Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

DATE: 1957

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

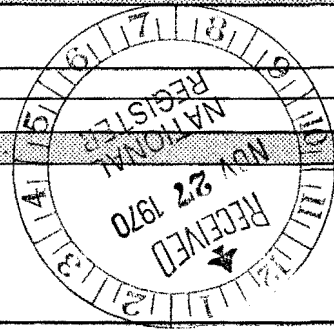
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

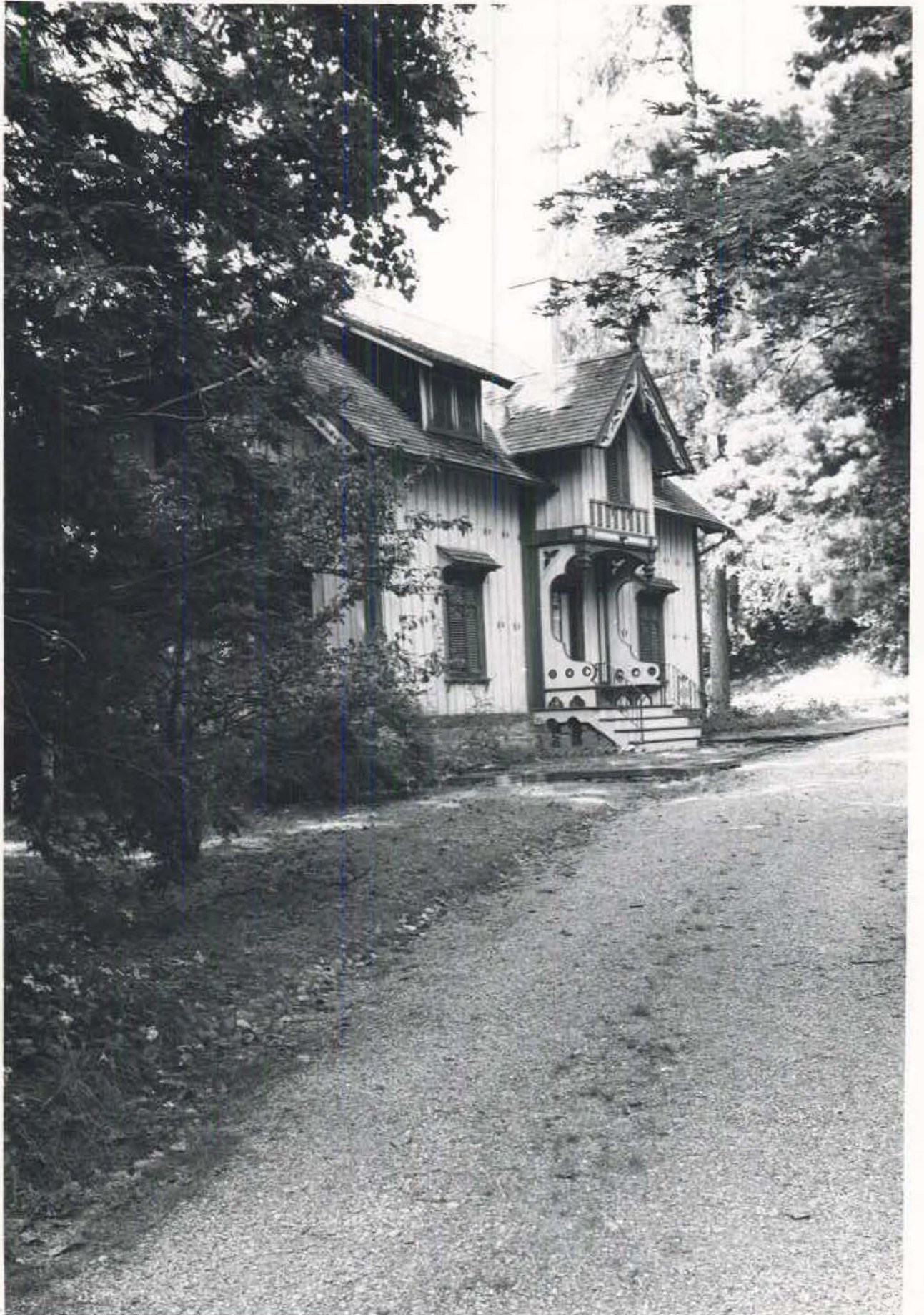
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|------------------|------|
| STATE | |
| New York | |
| COUNTY | |
| Dutchess | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|---|------|----------|------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: "Springside" | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | | | |
| E. of Academy Street, near intersection with Rt. 9 arterial | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | | | |
| Poughkeepsie | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| New York | 36 | Dutchess | 027 |
| 3. MAP REFERENCE | | | |
| SOURCE: | | | |
| USGS 7 1/2' quadrangle | | | |
| SCALE: 1:24000 | | | |
| DATE: 1957 | | | |
| 4. REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS | | | |
| 1. Property boundaries where required. | | | |
| 2. North arrow. | | | |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference. | | | |







CONRAD L. WIRTH, ~~CONRAD L. WIRTH~~ Vice ChairmanLOUIS C. JONES, ~~LOUIS C. JONES~~ Chairman

JAMES E. ALLEN, JR.

SEYMOUR H. KNOX



NEW YORK STATE HISTORIC TRUST

JOHN H. G. PELL

LAURANCE S. ROCKEFELLER

MILDRED F. TAYLOR

WILBUR E. WRIGHT,
Executive Secretary

DIVISION OF PARKS

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT, ALBANY, N. Y. 12226

September 28, 1970

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
of Historic Places
National Park Service
801 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As Chairman of the New York State Historic Trust, the officially designated State Preservation Agency, and as the State Liaison Officer, I am forwarding the enclosed nominations to the Nation Register of Historic Places:

Binghamton City Hall, Binghamton, New York

Clermont, Germantown, New York

Coeymans School, Coeymans, New York

Dutch Reformed Church, Newburgh, New York

Executive Mansion, Albany, New York

Gasholder House, Troy, New York

Grant Cottage, Mt. McGregor, New York

New York State Maritime Museum Block,
New York, New YorkOld Stone Barracks, Plattsburgh Air Force
Base, Plattsburgh, New York

Senate House, Kingston, New York

"Spiringside", Matthew Vassar Estate,
Poughkeepsie, New York

"The Hill", Livingston, New York

Walt Whitman House, South Huntington,
Long Island, New York

First Universalist Church, Rochester, New York

Campbell-Whittlesey House, Rochester, New York

National State Bank Building, Troy, New York

Ilium Building, Troy, New York

"Pioneer Farm", Dansville, New York

Harmony Mill No. 3, Cohoes, New York

Herkimer House, Danube, New York

Historic Cherry Hill, Albany, New York

Indian Castle Church, Danube, New York

John Brown Farm, Lake Placid, New York

Joseph Henry Memorial, Albany, New York

Lock 18 of Enlarged Erie Canal, Cohoes, New York

Lorenzo, Cazenovia, New York

Music Hall, Cohoes, New York

New York Shakespeare Festival Theater, New York,
New York

New York State Capitol, Albany, New York

New York State Court of Appeals Building,
Albany, New York

New York State Department of Education Building,
Albany, New York

The above nominations have been reviewed and approved
by the Governor's Advisory Committee in accordance with the
criteria outlined in Sec. 2.2 of the Grants Guide.