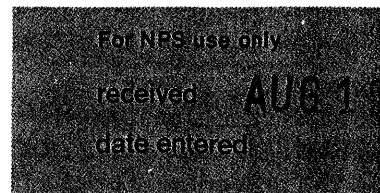


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic

and/or common Morristown Village Multiple Resource Area

## 2. Location

street & number various - see inventory forms not for publication

city, town Morristown vicinity of congressional district

state New York code 036 county St. Lawrence code 089

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA In process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<u>Multiple</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<u>Resource Area</u>		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name multiple ownership - see continuation sheet

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Lawrence County Clerk's Office

street & number Courthouse

city, town Canton state NY

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Statewide Inventory of Historic  
title Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes  no

date 1976 federal  state county local

depository for survey records NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

city, town Albany state NY

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>NA</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Morristown Village Multiple Resource Area possesses eight buildings which appear to meet the criteria for listing on the National Register. The area encompasses the incorporated village of Morristown. The properties include three homes, along with a church, land office, store, windmill and school. The properties are:

Stone Windmill, Morris Street - owner: Village of Morristown  
Stone Store, Main Street - owner: Ronald Wright  
Land Office, Main Street - owner: Village of Morristown  
Morristown Schoolhouse #1, Columbia Street - owner: Village of Morristown  
Samuel Stocking House, Gouverneur St. - owner: Charles Bushnell  
Jacob Ford House, North Umberland Street - owner: David McDonald  
Paschal Miller House, Main Street - owner: Thomas Haines  
United Methodist Church, Gouverneur Street - owner: Board of Trustees.

The village of Morristown is located in the town of Morristown in the southwest portion of St. Lawrence County. Situated along the St. Lawrence River, it is directly across the river from Brockville, Ontario. The village occupies a series of hills and development has been limited due to the very thin soil with bedrock sometimes only one of two feet below the surface. Once home to various small manufacturing concerns, the village functions today primarily as a bedroom community for Ogdensburg.

The village is no longer served by train or ferry and its principal transportation route to the rest of the county is Route 37 which by-passes the village to the southeast.

In 1976, the Morristown Foundation (a local historical organization), under the supervision of the State Historic Preservation Office, completed a comprehensive historical and architectural survey of the village in which these eight properties were identified as potential candidates for the National Register. Although the bulk of the building stock in the village dates from the second half of the nineteenth century, varying degrees of alterations on many of the buildings precluded the establishment of an historic district. No other buildings were identified which appear to meet the criteria for listing on the National Register. The survey did not attempt to identify archeological resources in the village.

Descriptions and individual statements of significance are found on the enclosed New York State building/structure inventory forms (HP-1) for each of the eight nominated properties.

All photographs, unless otherwise noted, were taken by John F. Harwood in April of 1982. All negatives are on file with the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau of New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in Albany, N.Y.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		
<b>Specific dates</b>	1821-38	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	various	

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Morristown Village Multiple Resource Area contains eight individual structures which represent the early nineteenth-century development and history of Morristown. The stone windmill, stone store, land office, schoolhouse #1, Samuel Stocking house, Jacob Ford house, Paschal Miller house and United Methodist Church are all architecturally significant, exemplifying local craftsmanship in their vernacular designs and use of materials. Local limestone was a frequent choice of the early settlers due to its availability, strength and durability. From the coarse, rubble construction of the windmill to the finely dressed blocks, lintels and quoins of the land office, six stone structures survive to represent the early local stone craft in Morristown. The Miller House and Methodist Church, though constructed of wood, are also excellent examples of vernacular design and use of materials. Historically, these eight structures have been associated with the commercial, religious, civic and residential development of the village since its establishment in 1821.

The village of Morristown has a rich cultural heritage which is still evident in a number of buildings sited on a series of hills overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The history of the village was directly shaped by its river location and the changes which have occurred along the river over time in such areas as transportation and commerce. The hamlet, which eventually became the incorporated village of Morristown, was settled primarily during the first quarter of the nineteenth century as a trading center for the surrounding farms and nearby Canada. In June 1787, the New York State legislature offered its northern territory, including the township of Morristown, for sale at auction. Morristown was purchased by Alexander Macomb, a fur trader from Detroit. Macomb went bankrupt in 1792 and he sold the tract to his attorney, Gouverneur Morris. Continued British control of the south shore of the St. Lawrence River stymied Morris's trading ambitions as it had Macomb's, and in 1800 Morris transferred his interests in Morristown to business associates from New Jersey: Samuel Ogden, David Ford, David Judson, Augustus Chapman and Abraham Cooper. Samuel Stocking and James Averill of Ogdensburg also owned large parcels of land in the town at this time. These men and their descendants were influential in shaping the history of Morristown, particularly in the area of government and commerce.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Morristown Village Multiple Resource Area, Morristown,  
St. Lawrence Co., NY

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

For NPS use only
received
date entered

David Ford moved to Morristown in 1808 and opened a land office there in 1815. A survey of the town had been made in 1799 by Jacob Brown and a village plat was laid out at the present site of the village.

The town was formally established in March 1821 and David Ford was named the first town supervisor. Augustus Chapman (1786-1860) became supervisor in 1823 and again in 1827. Structures such as the stone windmill, stone store and land office represent the efforts made by the first permanent residents in the first quarter of the nineteenth century to establish the village and conduct trade with Canada once treaties ending military conflicts were in place. Upon his arrival in 1820, Augustus Chapman engaged in both retail and wholesale trade. He constructed a wharf and a stone store in 1821. This building is being used as a store today after interim use as a printing office, an inn and a business office. A large lumber yard and saw mill, owned by Richard B. Chapman (Augustus's son), was a major employer during the mid-nineteenth century in the same general location. Other structures which date from the first half of the nineteenth century include the schoolhouse, the windmill, the Stocking house, the Ford house and the Miller house. The schoolhouse represents the first efforts of Morristown residents to provide education for their children. The windmill is the only example of its type in St. Lawrence County and is evidence of an early settler's skill and ingenuity in taking advantage of a prominent site along the river in order to grind grain. The houses of key individuals reflect the wealth of these large landowners, their commitment to settlement of Morristown, and their interest in current architectural styles.

Throughout the nineteenth century the village churches, represented in the nomination by the United Methodist Church, played central roles in community life. Churches in a small, rural community such as Morristown have a much more extensive function than simply a place of worship. The Methodist Church has acted as a community center for both Presbyterians and Methodists in Morristown.

The eight buildings identified in this nomination represent some of the earliest structures to be built in Morristown. The survival of most of them is due in part to their stone construction. However, the schoolhouse and windmill represent the preservation efforts of the concerned citizens of the Morristown Foundation.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property see continuation sheet

Quadrangle name Morristown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References see continuation sheet

A 

Zone	Easting				

B 

Zone	Easting				

C 


D 


E 


F 


G 


H 


Verbal boundary description and justification

see individual site maps

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John F. Harwood, Field Representative

organization NYS Div. for Historic Preservation date July 1982

street & number Empire State Plaza, Bldg. 1 telephone 518/474-0479

city or town Albany state NY 12238

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date August 10, 1982

For NPS use only

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

See continuation sheet for listing date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Morristown Village Multiple Resource Area,  
Morristown, St. Lawrence Co., NY

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Brown, Jack. "Stone Wind Mills on the St. Lawrence," The Quarterly.  
January, 1971. p. 6, 19.

"Charles S. Chapman, N.A." Red Barn Museum brochure. August, 1973. n.p.

Durant, S.W. and H.B. Pierce. History of St. Lawrence County, New York.  
Philadelphia, 1878.

Hough, Franklin B. A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties.  
Albany, New York, 1853.

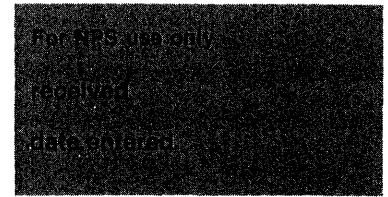
Morristown Foundation, Inc. "Village of Morristown Survey Material."  
Unpublished manuscript. March, 1980.

"Old Leary House in Morristown Will Become Parochial School." Watertown  
Daily Times. 27 January, 1949.

Shaw, Robert. History of the Comstock Patent Medicine Business and  
Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills. Washington, D.C., 1972.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 1

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Morristown Village Multiple Resource Area  
State New York

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |     |                                  |                           |        |                                  |
|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| 1.  | Ford, Jacob, House               | <b>Substantive Review</b> | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  |                           | Attest | _____                            |
| 2.  | Land Office (Morristown Library) | <b>Entered in the</b>     | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  | <b>National Register</b>  | Attest | _____                            |
| 3.  | Miller, Paschal, House           | <b>Entered in the</b>     | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  | <b>National Register</b>  | Attest | _____                            |
| 4.  | Morristown Schoolhouse           | <b>Entered in the</b>     | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  | <b>National Register</b>  | Attest | _____                            |
| 5.  | Stocking, Samuel, House          | <b>Entered in the</b>     | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  | <b>National Register</b>  | Attest | _____                            |
| 6.  | Stone Windmill                   | <b>Substantive Review</b> | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  |                           | Attest | _____                            |
| 7.  | United Methodist Church          | <b>Entered in the</b>     | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  | <b>National Register</b>  | Attest | _____                            |
| 8.  | Wright's Stone Store             | <b>Entered in the</b>     | Keeper | <u>9/2/82</u> <u>[Signature]</u> |
|     |                                  | <b>National Register</b>  | Attest | _____                            |
| 9.  |                                  |                           | Keeper | _____                            |
|     |                                  |                           | Attest | _____                            |
| 10. |                                  |                           | Keeper | _____                            |
|     |                                  |                           | Attest | _____                            |