



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

March 6, 2003

Mr. & Ms. Lance and Susan McKee
4065 Pompey Hollow Road
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Re: Drovers Tavern
4065 Pompey Hollow Road
Cazenovia, Onondaga County

Dear Mr. & Ms. McKee:

Following a detailed review, the State Review Board has recommended to the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, who is the New York State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), that the property identified above be listed on the New York State Register of Historic Places and nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

After reviewing the nomination, the SHPO has agreed with the recommendation of the State Review Board and has listed the property on the State Register of Historic Places. We shall now forward the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D. C.

If the Keeper of the National Register approves the nomination, the property will be listed on the National Register. You will be notified when this decision is made.

Information about the results of State and National Register listing were included in our earlier notification letter. If you have any further questions, please contact your field representative Bill Krattinger, at the New York State Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau or call (518) 237-8643 ext. 3265.

Sincerely,

Ruth L. Pierpont
Director
Historic Preservation
Field Services Bureau

RLP:lsa

NPS Form 10-900
ct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name "Drover's Tavern"
other name/site number _____

2. Location

street & town 4065 Pompey Hollow Road not for publication
city or town Oran Vicinity vicinity
state New York code _____ county Onondaga code 067 zip code 13035

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] SA/NO Date 12/2/72
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet. | Signature of the Keeper _____ | Date of Action _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register. | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____ | _____ | _____ |

"Drover's Tavern"
Name of Property

Onondaga County, New York
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(check only one box)

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

- public-local
- private
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 4 | | buildings |
| | | sites |
| 1 | 2 | structures |
| | | objects |
| 5 | 2 | Total |

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage, agricultural field,
agricultural outbuilding

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

foundation STONE

walls BRICK, WOOD

roof WOOD

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets-

Property Name "*Drover's Tavern*"
Location *Oran Vicinity, Onondaga County, New York*NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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7. Narrative Description*Location and Setting*

Drover's Tavern is situated on a roughly square-shaped parcel located on the west side of Pompey Hollow Road, immediately southwest of New York State Route 92, in the Town of Pompey, Onondaga County, New York. The Tavern and associated historic acreage are located approximately one and one-half miles southeast of the hamlet of Oran, roughly halfway between the Village of Cazenovia in Madison County and the Village of Manlius in Onondaga County on Route 92. This location is approximately one-half mile from the Madison County border. The land that comprises the nominated parcel, approximately six acres in extent, is characterized by a sloping grade that descends gradually in a westerly direction from Pompey Hollow Road. At the highest point on the parcel, immediately west of Pompey Hollow Road and Palmer Hill, is located the Tavern, which maintains an L-shaped footprint with the long axis of the building parallel to the road. Access to the property is gained via a short driveway off of Pompey Hollow Road, which leads to a small turnaround in front of a frame horse barn located immediately south of the Tavern. Deciduous and evergreen trees largely shield the house from nearby Route 92 and Pompey Hollow Road. The grounds along the west side of the house were modified in the twentieth century with the addition of an in-ground swimming pool, a terrace, and an open freestanding porch which runs the length of the kitchen and shed wing. The remnants of an historic orchard beyond the house and pool give way to views of the adjacent hilly countryside further to the west.

Contributing Architectural Resources

Drover's Tavern consists of three distinctly separate but attached units, all constructed primarily of brick laid-up above stone foundations. The main or "upright" block, built circa 1820, was oriented to face north and is a typical five-bay, two-story, center hall plan vernacular Federal-style farmhouse. The middle block, referred to as the kitchen ell, was likely built circa 1803 and faces east, united with the south side of the "upright" block. One-and-one half stories in height, it is three bays wide with a center entrance shielded beneath a deep wood porch. Attached to the south side of the kitchen ell is an elongated shed wing or "back house," also oriented to face east. On the east elevation, moving from north to south, each of the three blocks is set back further from that adjoining it; the three units rest flush with one another on the west elevation. When viewed from a position southeast of the Tavern, the three units form a rambling single building, the long end of the main block giving way to the kitchen ell to which is attached the narrow, rectangular back house. Though certainly not directly influenced by the vernacular tradition common to rural Maine and New Hampshire in the mid-nineteenth century, whereby dwelling houses and agricultural structures were linked, the arrangement was nonetheless likely a similar response to climatic and functional considerations. Also deemed contributing to the nomination are the frame horse barn that, though subsequently altered, retains an open plan with its original hewn heavy timber framing and stone foundation, a small frame privy, a well head, and a cow barn built circa 1940.

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Main or "Upright" Block, circa 1820

The main block of the house is roughly square in shape and measures approximately forty feet in width by thirty-one feet in depth, and rises approximately twenty feet from the threshold of the primary entrance to cornice level. This section of the tavern is constructed of red brick laid-up in common bond with wide mortar joints above a raised rubble limestone foundation, with the exception of the above-grade portion of the façade elevation, the foundation of which is comprised of limestone laid-up in coursed ashlar. The brick and stone work retain a uniform, though slightly faded, whitewash treatment. A moderately pitched gable roof sheathed with wood shakes covers the block. Brick chimneys rise from both gable ends at the ridgeline of the roof. Historic images indicate that the north and east-facing elevations were originally spanned by a wraparound Picturesque-inspired verandah supported by hexagonal, Gothic-type columns. Likely added circa 1860, the verandah was removed circa 1950 due to its deteriorated condition.

The north-facing façade of the main block features well proportioned, symmetrically composed fenestration and an emphasis on clean lines, characteristics commonly associated with Federal-style architecture. Fenestration consists of five bays: four windows and the center entrance corresponding with the first floor and five windows, aligned with the bays below, lighting the second floor. The entrance is recessed from the plane of the façade and is spanned by an elliptical fanlight set within a brick arch. Below the fanlight is a well rendered, molded wood entablature treatment with projecting entablature blocks carried by engaged Tuscan colonettes. Half-length sidelights, the corresponding jambs of which are paneled, flank a six-paneled white pine door. The threshold is reached by a flight of four concrete steps and is formed of a single, hammered limestone slab. Below the level of the threshold is a limestone watertable that gives way to coursed limestone ashlar below. Two pairs of rectangular-shaped windows flank either side of the entrance; they rest on limestone sills and are spanned by brick jack arches. Louvered wood shutters, painted green, remain in place on the first story windows but have been removed temporarily from those above. Windows are double-hung with twelve-over-twelve wood sash; approximately fifty percent of the original glazing appears to survive throughout the main block, the kitchen ell, and back house. The second story windows follow the pattern of the five bays below and are also hung with period twelve-over-twelve sash. Flush with the top of the jack arches spanning the second story window openings is a thin wood frieze, which gives way to a modillioned wood soffit and a boxed wood cornice. A metal gutter is affixed to the cornice, its corresponding downspout attached to the building's northwest corner.

The east-facing gabled elevation is articulated by an asymmetrical fenestration pattern. The first story is pierced by two windows, matching the general profile and treatment of those on the façade, and a six-paneled wood door set within a slightly recessed opening with a limestone threshold and brick jack arch. Two windows matching the characteristics of those on the north-facing elevation light the upper floor and correspond roughly with the two outermost bays of the first story. Centered within the gable field is a modestly scaled elliptical louver formed of thin pine slats with a delicate

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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pine border: this treatment is set within a brick surround. A raking frieze and modillioned cornice define the building's roofline and are terminated by delicately scaled returns.

The west-facing elevation is similar to the opposite gabled elevation, with two windows each lighting to the first and second floors, once again following the general characteristics of those on the north and east elevations. Minor changes have been rendered to this elevation in the form of an exterior brick chimney added 1929 (adjoined to the historic chimney), a single square-shaped window that lights the attic space, and an at-grade entrance to the building's basement which is fitted with a glazed-and-paneled door. The small rectangular window opposite the basement entrance was likewise a modification to the original fenestration pattern.

The south-facing elevation was designed to incorporate the north side of the original 1803 building. Fenestration consists of two windows with double-hung twelve-light sash lighting the first floor and a single window also with double-hung sash lighting the second floor. Both are spanned by brick jack arches and rest on limestone sills.

The first floor of Drover's Tavern is arranged on a north-south axis with a center hall linking the primary entrance with the kitchen ell. The fan-lighted entrance on the north elevation leads into this hall, the walls and ceilings of which are finished in plaster on lath and the floor of which is laid in southern pine painted with a checkerboard pattern. The original first floor plan, still clearly evident from the arrangement of the chimney supports in the basement, was a typical center hall, two pile plan, with four rooms roughly equal in dimension each with a fireplace. The partition dividing the two rooms east of the hall was removed circa 1840, providing for an open dining room. A total of five doorways offer access to the rooms flanking the hall. There are two across from one another toward the front of the hall leading into the dining room to the east and the northwest room to the west, a door further back in the hall on the east wall also leading into the dining room, a door against the south wall leading into the kitchen ell, and a door on the west wall behind the stair leading into the southwest room. The doorways have molded wood casings and the walls wood chair rails and molded wood baseboards, while the doors themselves are six-paneled, constructed of pine handsomely grained in imitation of rosewood; hardware appears to date to the 1840s, which likely is also when the graining was executed. Against the west wall of the hall is an open-stringer staircase to the second floor, its banister carried by delicate squared balusters terminated by a turned newel post.

The northwest room, historically probably one of two front parlors, measures approximately fourteen feet by fourteen feet and is separated from that behind it by means of a pocket door treatment likely reflecting a modification made to the building circa 1840. Walls and ceilings are finished in plaster on split lath and the floor is laid in wide plank pine. Centered against the west wall is a projecting chimney breast with a carved wood mantel and gray marble facing. The mantel is approximately five feet high, highlighted by reeded pilasters carrying projecting entablature blocks and a frieze with an unadorned center panel. Next to the fireplace, between it and the wall between the adjoining rear room, is a narrow rectangular-shaped closet with a grained two-panel door. The doors

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and windows are cased with molded wood architraves; the architrave highlighting the pocket door opening displays a broader profile than the other casings again suggesting subsequent modifications to the original 1810s interior.

There is a second room of roughly the same dimensions, finished in a similar manner, behind the front parlor. Like the front parlor, this room has a projecting chimney breast with a high wood mantel centered against the west wall. This mantelpiece is simpler in execution than that located in the northwest room. A six-paneled door against the south wall leads into the open first floor of the kitchen ell.

On the east side of the hall is the living room which occupies the full twenty-nine and one-half foot depth of the main block. Originally two rooms matching the configuration of those on the west side of the hall, the partition between the rooms was removed circa 1840 to reflect the current configuration. There is a carved wood mantel located on the east wall in what was likely the other front parlor; it is identical in execution to that located in the northwest room. The mantel corresponding with the rear room has been removed, though the chimney support remains in place below in the basement indicating its location. Remnants of the chimney flue remain in the wall above the first floor and the original mantel is in storage in the horse barn.

The second floor is accessed by the stair from the hall, which leads to a landing hall between two small rooms situated in the southeast and southwest corners of the house. A portion of the southwest room has been partitioned off to form a small bathroom. Each of these rooms, including the partitioned portion of the southwest room, measures approximately ten feet by twelve feet. The remainder of the second floor, an approximately thirty-seven foot wide by eighteen foot area, was given over historically to a ballroom that could be opened-up to this size by means of six tall eight-paneled wood doors that separate the space into two rooms. The upstairs walls and ceilings are finished with plaster on split lath, while the floors are laid in white pine plank varying in width from ten to sixteen inches.

The gabled roof of the main block is supported by a major-purlin, common-rafter system, whereby a series of four-by-four inch rafters are braced a single major purlin on either pitch. The rafters themselves are secured into the plate and pegged into a ridgepole.

Kitchen Ell, circa 1803

The kitchen ell is attached to the south elevation of the main block and is built of brick with a side-facing gable roof and a projecting wood porch spanning the east-facing elevation. Documentary evidence suggests it was constructed well in advance of the main block, probably circa 1803. The roof is sheathed with wood shakes and a brick chimney rises from the extreme southern end of the roof ridge. The east elevation is three bays wide with fenestration consisting of a six-paneled door flanked to either side by windows with double-hung twelve-over-twelve wood sash. The porch is constructed of white pine and is carried by squared piers with elliptical arches spanning the space between. In 1929 the rear, west-facing pitch of the roof was raised to provide for additional space

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on the upper floor. Fenestration on the west elevation consists of two windows with brick jack arches lighting the open first floor, both double-hung with twelve light wood sash, a non-historic window with a smaller profile lighting the first story bathroom, and four non-historic windows hung with six-over-six sash lighting the west-facing upstairs bedroom. The south elevation is pierced by three bays, a narrow non-historic window that lights the west-facing upstairs bedroom, a double-hung window lighting the east-facing upstairs bedroom, and a window hung with twelve-over-twelve wood sash lighting the first floor. This latter window bay was modified in 1929 from its original configuration as an entrance to reflect its current appearance.

The first floor interior of the kitchen ell is given over almost entirely to an open plan dominated by a large fireplace situated against the south wall; the remainder of story is comprised of a staircase and a bathroom both aligned with the north wall. Floors are laid with wide plank ash and the hearth is laid with red brick. Walls are paneled with vertical wide board pine and the ceiling is finished with plaster on lath. The fireplace, accented by a simple pine mantel unembellished with the exception of a molded mantel shelf, retains its original cast iron cooking crane and a brick-lined bread oven. A built-in cupboard highlighted by glazing set within a round arched wood frame is situated in the northwest corner, a distinctive Colonial Revival style addition. The upper story of this block consists of two small bedrooms with non-historic finishes, accessed by the stair against the north wall and a door from the room in the southwest corner of the main block.

Back House

The back house is rectangular in shape and constructed with both load-bearing brick and timber frame structural elements above a rubble foundation. The center portion of the east-facing elevation is set behind a deeply recessed porch articulated by two elongated elliptical arches that meet in the center at an unadorned wood pier. Moving from south to north on the east-facing elevation, fenestration consists of a six-paneled pine door set within a deep reveal, two windows with double-hung wood sash flanking a glazed and paneled door against the recessed center portion of the block, and a double-hung window with twelve-over-twelve light sash. A small projecting porch carried by squared wood piers with molded caps shields the northernmost bay of this elevation. The southernmost section is constructed of brick while the remaining surfaces are sheathed with clapboard. Wood shakes cover the gable-ended roof, from which a small brick chimney projects at the extreme southern side. Fenestration on the south elevation includes a double-hung window with twelve-over-twelve lighting the first story and a small window with six-over-six sash lighting the half-story above. The raking cornice of the south elevation is terminated by simple returns and highlighted by a small wood keystone at the crest of the gable. Fenestration on the west-facing elevation consists of a double-hung window (replacing what HABS documentation suggests was a door), a projecting three-sided shed-roofed bay with multiple-pane glazing, and a glazed-and-paneled door providing access to a non-historic porch.

The kitchen and shed wing appears to retain most of its original floor plan, though some modifications were rendered in the twentieth century. Historically this wing probably would have served a variety of support functions characteristic of "back houses," and probably accommodated a

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summer kitchen, a wood storage area, space for the production of agricultural goods or other home-made goods, and butchering. Moving from south to north, a door leads from the open first floor of the kitchen ell into a shed room that has been renovated to serve as a kitchen. Adjoining this is a second small room that provides an eating area, lighted by the projecting bay window of the west-facing elevation. Beyond the eating area is what was likely a wood storage area that, at the time of HABS documentation in the 1934, retained its original dirt floor. The southernmost end of this block is terminated by a square-shaped room that appears to have provided space for the production of agricultural goods; it is separated from the adjoining area by a solid brick partition. In the southwest corner of this room is situated a cast iron cauldron and the remnants of its housing.

Horse Barn

The horse barn, situated to the south of the house, was likely constructed in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Although altered with the addition of two overhead garage-type doors on the east-facing elevation and hopper-type windows on the west and south-facing elevations in 1929, the barn nonetheless retains its original open plan interior with a heavy mortise-and-tenon hewn timber frame, and its original exposed-at-grade rubble stone foundation. It likewise maintains its historic orientation with the site. The building is currently sheathed with vertical wood battens, painted red, and is covered by a roof sheathed with raised-seam metal.

Privy

Immediately south of the kitchen and shed wing of the tavern is privy. Constructed of pine with vertical board exterior sheathing, it is of the "three-holer" type and is covered by a gabled roof clad with wood shakes. The entrance side, which faces east, features a plain door and a small window.

Well head

The remnants of a period well are situated on the west side of the house underneath the current porch.

Cow Barn, c. 1940

The frame cow barn, built circa 1940, is situated in a hollow southwest of the core of the complex. It was erected to replace an earlier cow barn lost to fire shortly before.

Non-contributing resources

There are two non-contributing resources included within the boundaries of the nominated six-acre parcel, the in-ground swimming pool located immediately west of the tavern, constructed circa 1985, and the freestanding porch, also built at that time. The porch framing was not tied into the house.

"Drover's Tavern"
Name of Property

Onondaga County, New York
County and State

8. 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EXPLORATION/ SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

c. 1803- c. 1940

Significant Dates

c. 1803, 1820, c. 1850, 1929, c. 1940

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Materials maintained by current owner

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8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Drover's Tavern satisfies National Register Criterion C as an outstanding and highly intact representation of vernacular Federal-style architecture in Onondaga County, New York. Likely built during two campaigns and completed circa 1820, the tavern is a rambling grouping of buildings reflecting trends in style and construction characteristic of the post-Revolutionary period in central New York State and distinctive elements of the vernacular tradition. Constructed along the route of the Cherry Valley Turnpike, a major early nineteenth century thoroughfare that linked the Syracuse region with the Hudson River before the advent of the Erie Canal, Drover's Tavern has long been recognized for its considerable architectural merit as an early landmark in eastern Onondaga County. The Tavern is additionally significant under Criterion A for its associative value in illustrating the growth and settlement patterns characteristic of central New York State following the conclusion of the American Revolution. Following the transfer of property from the state, many veterans subsequently sold their land shares to speculators who further subdivided the parcels to sell to western-moving settlers. Although it is somewhat unclear, physical and documentary evidence suggests that Enos Peck, who acquired the land on which the tavern is situated from Ebenezer Clark in 1798, settled the property and likely constructed the first buildings on the land sometime prior to 1805. The period of significance for the nomination, circa 1803 to circa 1940, encompasses the construction of all the built features concluded with the erection of the dairy barn, constructed to replace an earlier building.

A thorough research of deeds associated with the property, conducted by the current owner, has traced the land on which Drover's Tavern is situated back to 1790. In July of that year the State of New York issued Lot 23 in Township 10, comprised of 600 acres, to Israel Coleman, a corporal who served with a New York artillery regiment during the Revolution.¹ By an act passed in 1789 by the Legislature of New York State, the Surveyor General was directed to lay out tracts of land, referred to as the "military lots," to be transferred to veterans as compensation for their service during the war. Government and Army surveyors were dispatched to central New York to map out boundaries for these military townships, each of which measured ten miles square and were subsequently subdivided into one hundred smaller lots. Beginning in the 1790s veterans received shares of the surveyed lands, which they either settled or sold off to speculators. Records indicate that Coleman transferred land to Ebenezer Clark who subsequently moved the property to Enos Peck, transactions all made in 1798. It appears that Peck maintained the property, noted as "all of Lot 23," until 1805, at which time he transferred 136 acres to Daniel Thomas and 169 acres to John Lee, the latter transaction representing the parcel on which Drover's Tavern is situated. John Lee maintained the property until 1815, at which time he transferred 124 acres to James Stanley, Jr. According to the date centered in the ellipse on the east-facing elevation, the main block was completed in 1820 during the Stanley's ownership. An 1814 advertisement that ran in *The Pilot*, published in nearby

¹ This information and the subsequent chain of title to the Drover's Tavern property was compiled by Susan McKee, current owner.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018, NPS Form

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Cazenovia, makes it clear that the property was well-developed by the time of Stanley's acquisition and the subsequent construction of the "upright":

Valuable Property--

For sale one of the best farms in the Western District, situated in the town of Pompey on the Great Cherry Valley Turnpike at the fork of the road leading forth into Fabius and Homer, half way between the flourishing villages of Cazenovia and Manlius-- Said farm contains 175 acres, 100 of which are under good improvement and in a high state of cultivation. A convenient house, two large barns with spacious cow houses, a new cider mill with two presses all under cover and an excellent orchard from which 60 or 70 barrels of cider may be made in a season. For further particulars inquire of Deacon John Lee, living on the premises.

--Pompey Oct. 28, 1813²

In 1805 when Peck transferred the 169 acres to Lee, the property was valued at \$3,442.50; the parcel Peck sold to Daniel Thomas that same year, comprised of 136 acres, sold for \$325. This significant disparity in cost suggests that the parcel Lee acquired was already considerably improved for agriculture and included built features. In 1815, when Lee sold the property to James Stanley, Jr., subsequent to the above advertisement, the 124-acre farm was valued at \$7,250, a price reflecting considerable agricultural improvements on Lee's part but also the probable existence of significant built structures. In assessing the relative value of the farm during the Peck and Lee ownership periods, it appears likely that the kitchen ell was constructed as the initial dwelling house in advance of the main block, circa 1803. Although earlier dwelling structures were often retained to be incorporated into enlarged houses during this period, the method of construction of the kitchen ell-- brick and not heavy timber frame-- does not entirely support this supposition. Yet the presumed presence of a brick factory in immediate proximity to the property,³ in addition to the advertisement in *Pilot* and the value ascribed to the farm, all suggest a permanent dwelling, likely the brick ell, was in place by the time Lee acquired the property. Physical evidence, namely in the form of the ell's northern wall, which is a load-bearing brick wall separate from the south wall of the upright, also suggest that this was once a freestanding unit.

While the brick ell, if in fact constructed circa 1803, represents a typically modest early nineteenth century vernacular dwelling, the circa 1820 "upright" section erected by James Stanley, Jr. is indicative of a higher level of architectural sophistication. The 1820 block is characteristic of the five-rank center hall type houses constructed in the Federal style during the period in the region, the

² *The Pilot* [Cazenovia, New York], 17 August 1814; courtesy of Susan McKee.

³ *Pompey: Our Town in Profile*, 2 vols. (Pompey, 1976), 2:369. "Although not listed on any of the early maps or in any of the early censuses, a brick factory is believed to have been located on the east branch of limestone creek just west of the present intersection of the Manlius- Cazenovia Road, Route 92, and the Pompey Hollow Road."

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plan reflecting a continuation of eighteenth century building practices. Unlike more modest examples, however, built of heavy timber-frame construction, Stanley's house was constructed of brick laid-up above a limestone foundation, and was highlighted with refined neo-Adamesque details including ellipses and a fan-lighted entrance. Regional examples of this type, including the Paddock House in Camillus (1805), the Hill House in LaFayette (1810), and the Palmer House in Manlius (1825), are indicative of the proliferation of this form prior to the onset of the Greek Revival style and the increasing popularity of side-hall entry plans. Among the more notable examples of this type house is Lorenzo, one of the more sophisticated examples of this form in central New York, completed in 1808 and located in nearby Cazenovia. Constructed of brick with Federal-style detailing, houses of this type represent the first generation of permanent and stylistically refined dwellings erected on the newly settled central New York frontier. When Stanley's house was completed in 1820 it undoubtedly formed a prominent and handsome landmark on the route of the turnpike, a statement of Stanley's material prosperity and taste. As with many examples of rural vernacular architecture that evolved in the early to mid-nineteenth century, the new upright was constructed to incorporate the earlier dwelling as a kitchen ell. It is also likely that the "back house" was erected at this time, though it may also have predated the main block. The house's masonry and carpentry work was likely executed by contractors working out of Cazenovia.

Interestingly, in 1830 Stanley leased a portion of the house to his son William Stanley. According to the agreement William Stanley held privileges to the following parts of the house:

. . . the two East rooms [current open living room] with the chambers over them
and the cellar under same, privileges to the well cistern and part of the woodhouse
subject to keeping them in good repair and paying the taxes. . .⁴

The Stanley's retained the property until 1836, at which time it changed hands again, and would do so more than half a dozen times until 1859, when the house and 161 acres were acquired by Noah Palmer at the cost of nearly \$10,000.

Although some of the history surrounding the property is unsubstantiated, numerous data aside from the architectural fabric survives to provide some account of the farms and taverns history. Yet the most unusual absence of material, given the fact that the property has seemingly been known since the early twentieth century as Drover's Tavern, is a lack of information confirming this historic function. Various published and unpublished sources note the use of the house as a tavern for "drovers." Travelling on the Cherry Valley Turnpike and other less-used routes, drovers moved their herds slowly, spending nights at taverns along the way.

Scarcely less important on the old highways than wagons of freight were the droves of cattle, hogs, and even turkeys, which were taken hundreds of miles to market. . .

⁴ Lease agreement transcribed and provided by Susan McKee.

Property Name "Drover's Tavern"
Location Oran Vicinity, Onondaga County, New YorkNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Wagon taverns were sometimes used by the drovers, but, on the whole, wagoners and drovers did not mix well, and a tavern keeper soon found it to his interest to specialize. A drover's tavern needed several large fields, into which the separate herds could be turned for the night.⁵

Being approximately twelve miles from Syracuse, the tavern's location would have made it a probable stop for eastward-moving drover's completing the first leg of their journey to the Hudson River and points south. The tavern may likewise have offered accommodations for drovers moving between the Cazenovia region and local destinations like Fabius and Homer. Among the physical evidence supporting the history of the farm as a stop for drover's is the presence of a large hand-painted sign, claimed to be original, that reads "Entertainment for Travelers and Drovers," perhaps suggesting that the tavern was not exclusively geared to the interests of drovers. Considerable facilities, including extensive corrals and barns, would have been required to support the drovers herd. Of considerable interest is the second-floor ballroom, which could have easily provided space for the "entertainment" proposed on the sign. Earlier references to the tavern's history, largely unsubstantiated, claimed the ballroom to be a center of social activity for those in the immediate vicinity of the farmstead as well as lodgers. Various oral accounts claim that the house was in fact a tavern for drovers; it is the belief of the current owner, who has spent considerable time researching the history of the property, that the tavern operation likely spanned a period from roughly 1836 to 1859. According to an oral history interview conducted by the current owner with Frank Lewis, whose father and grandfather were drovers, the tavern operation ceased with the acquisition of the property by Noah Palmer in 1859.

Information provided in the censuses of 1855 and 1865 offer considerable insights into the value of the property in the middle part of the nineteenth century. They likewise provide an image of a diverse and seemingly profitable farm operation that may well have superceded the tavern enterprise. In 1855 Drover's Tavern was comprised of 140 improved acres of land valued at \$16,500, the house itself appraised at \$1,200.⁶ The dwelling was resided in at that time by Charles K. Wellington and his wife Mary, natives of Oneida County, two African Americans and a mulatto. Ten years later the tavern was owned by Noah Palmer, Jr. and his wife Olive, who lived there with four children. In that year there were a total of 205 acres noted as under improvement, with the total cash value of the farm listed at \$14,000 and the house itself valued at \$1,400. A variety of crops were raised during these years, among them oats, barely, corn, tobacco, peas and beans. Also noted was an apple orchard, which was situated northwest of the house; the presence of the orchard is noted as far back as the 1814 advertisement in *The Pilot*. The farm also supported dairying operations probably into the early twentieth century, as the censuses recorded the production of butter and in 1865 cheese as well. In the late-1930s one of the farm's dairy barns, likely of mid-nineteenth century vintage, burned,

⁵ Alexander Flick, ed., *History of the State of New York*, vol. 5 (Port Washington, New York: Ira Friedman, 1962), 278-79. Chapter entitled "The Turnpike Era" by Oliver Holmes.

⁶ These census materials are courtesy of Susan McKee.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Property Name "Drover's Tavern"
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replaced by the current circa 1940 cow barn. It appears that significant portions of this historical agricultural acreage survive to the south and west of the tavern. Additional documentation will be necessary to assess the integrity of this land to justify a Criterion A argument in association with agriculture.

Although the particulars of the history of the property as a tavern for drovers and other travelers remains unclear, it is apparent that throughout the nineteenth century the acreage surrounding Drovers Tavern sustained successful and diverse agricultural activity. This agricultural heritage is manifest in the layout of the architectural features of the complex, particularly the arrangement of the three units comprising the tavern. As configured, the upright, kitchen ell, and back house are indicative of a vernacular solution that was similarly evolved for rural architecture in Maine and New Hampshire towards the middle of the nineteenth century, though there the barn, too, was attached to the other units. The interconnection of buildings on farmsteads in eastern New England not only allowed for internal passage between the different architectural units during winter, but also provided for a shielded "dooryard," a south or east-facing work area shielded from winter winds coming from the north and west. The dooryard linked the units on the outside and reinforced the functional relationships of the various components.⁷ Although not directly influenced by this distinctive New England vernacular custom, one that evolved long after the tavern's construction, the arrangement of the buildings at Drovers Tavern nonetheless reflects a similar response to climatic and functional considerations. When completed in 1820, the main block provided a wind-break from northern winds for activities conducted in the "dooryard," which was likewise shielded from the west by the kitchen ell and backhouse. The horse barn is likewise related to the linear arrangement of the other components, oriented on a north-south axis with its primary elevation oriented to face east, where its barnyard connected with the south side of the dooryard.

Drover's Tavern was acquired in 1929 by Melville and Dorothy Clark. In 1979 the property was transferred to the current owners from the Clark estate, having been vacant for the prior 13 years. During the Clark's ownership minor changes were made to the physical fabric of the tavern, yet it was also likely their insistence that led to the documentation of the property in 1934 by the Historic American Buildings Survey. Significant changes to the property made in the twentieth century, notwithstanding those alterations noted in section 7 that affected the tavern, included the loss of a number of support buildings. These included the dairy barn lost to fire in the late-1930s, the loss of a "dilapidated" barn south of the horse barn, and the loss of an ice-house, corn-crib, and chicken house.⁸ The corn-crib and chicken house were both constructed during the Clark's ownership in the mid-1930s. Drover's Tavern nonetheless maintains a relatively high level of integrity and is an outstanding resource chronicling the early development of eastern Onondaga County. It likewise

⁷ Thomas C. Hubka, *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England* (Hanover, New Hampshire: University Press of New England, 1984), 3-30.

⁸ Melville Clark, Jr., "Partial Answers to Preliminary Information Form for National Register of Historic Places." This 6 page list notes changes made to the property during the twentieth century and is in the possession of Susan McKee.

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National Park Service

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remains an excellent manifestation of the vernacular tradition in central New York State and is one of the more notable examples of Federal-style residential architecture in the Town of Pompey.

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National Park Service

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Location Oran Vicinity, Onondaga County, New York

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9. Major Bibliographical References

The Cazenovia Pilot. Cazenovia, New York.

Hubka, Thomas C. *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England.* Hanover, New Hampshire: University Press of New England, 1984.

Flick, Alexander, ed. *History of the State of New York*, vol. 5. Port Washington, New York: Ira Friedman, 1962.

Pompey: Our Town in Profile, 2 vols. Pompey, New York, 1976.

"Drover's Tavern"
Name of Property

Onondaga County, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 10 acres

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 425300 4757420
Zone Easting Northing

2
Zone Easting Northing

3
Zone Easting Northing

4
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William E. Krattinger

organization NYS OPRHP date _____

street & number Post Office Box 219 telephone 518-237-8643 x3265

city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name/title Lance and Susan McKee

street & number 4065 Pompey Hollow Road telephone 315-682-2064

city or town Cazenovia state NY zip code 13035

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Property Name "*Drover's Tavern*"
Location *Oran Vicinity, Onondaga County, New York*

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10. Geographical Data

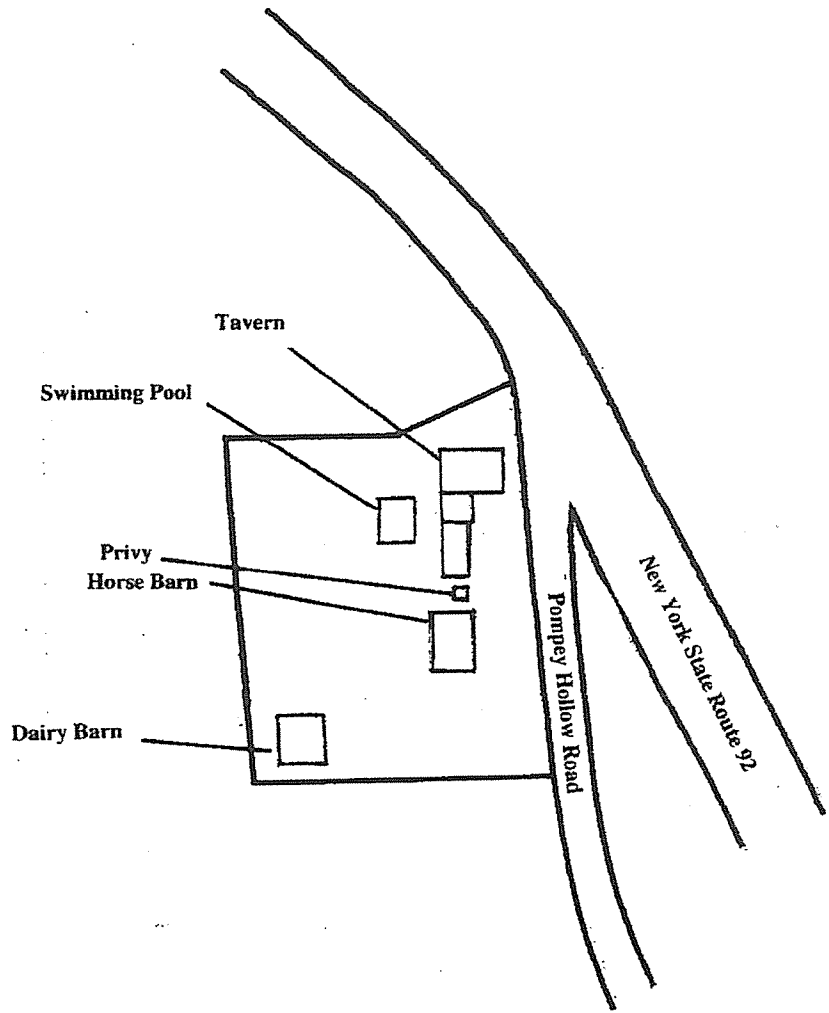
Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for "*Drover's Tavern*" is shown as the heavy black outline on the enclosed map, entitled *Drover's Tavern, Town of Pompey, New York*.

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the proposed nomination has been drawn to coincide with the current legal boundary for the nominated parcel.

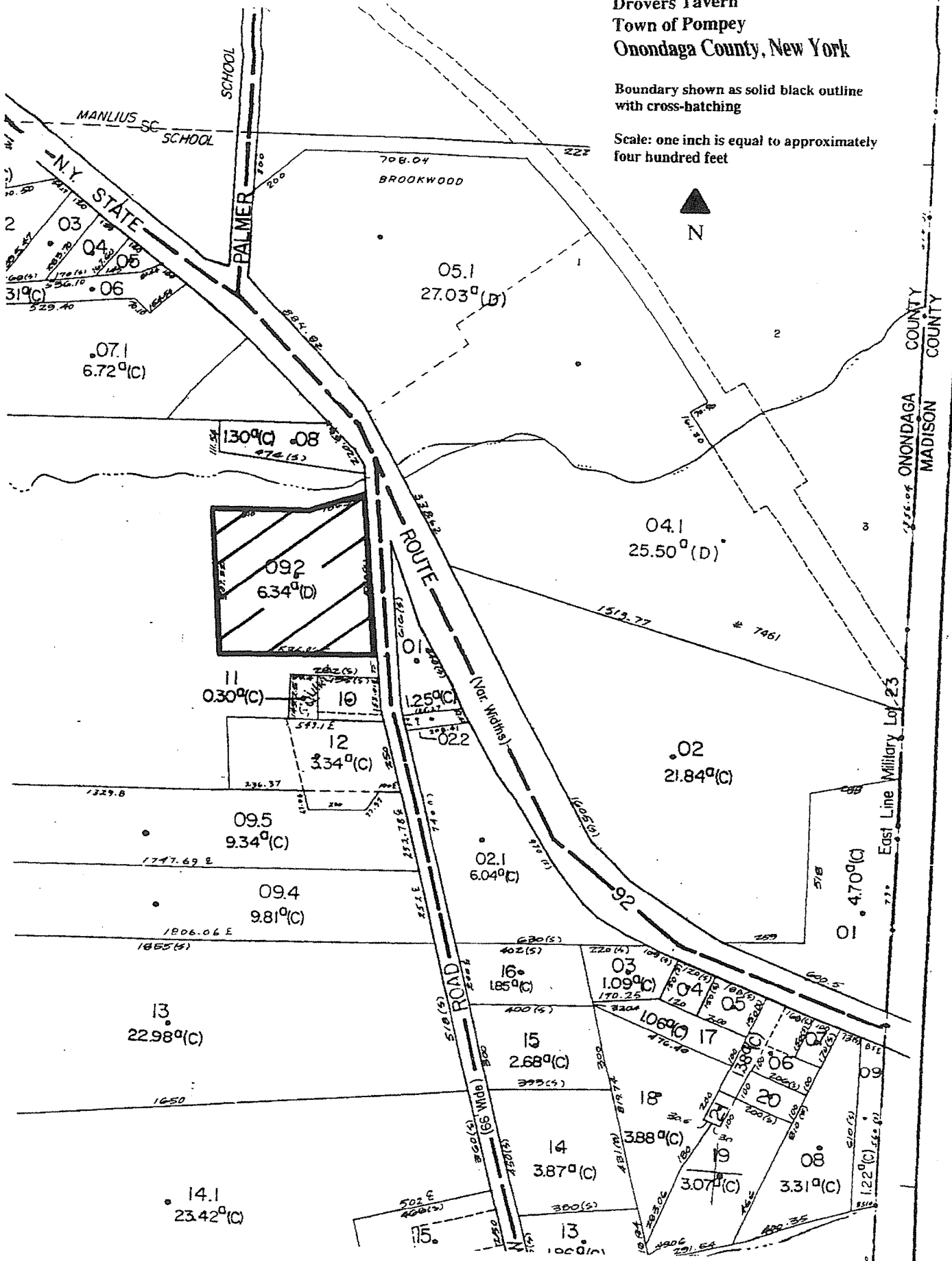
Drover's Tavern Site Map
(Not Drawn to Scale)



Drovers Tavern
Town of Pompey
Onondaga County, New York

Boundary shown as solid black outline
with cross-hatching

Scale: one inch is equal to approximately
four hundred feet



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National Park Service

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Property Name *"Drover's Tavern"*
Location *Town of Pompey, Onondaga County, New York*

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Photographs

Photograph key

Pictures taken March 2002

Photographer: Bill Krattinger

Negatives: NYS OPRHP, Field Services Bureau, Peebles Island, Waterford, New York

- 1. View north, from left to right, privy at far left, back house, kitchen ell, main block**
- 2. North-facing façade of main block**
- 3. West facing elevations of, from left to right, main block, kitchen ell, back house**
- 4. East facing elevation of kitchen ell, center**
- 5. View looking northeast showing porch and portion of swimming pool, far left**
- 6. Detail of main entrance, main block**
- 7. View of main hall looking towards door**
- 8. View of main hall looking towards kitchen ell**
- 9. Mantel in northeast room of main block**
- 10. Cooking hearth in kitchen ell**
- 11. Paneled doors of second floor ballroom, main block**
- 12. West elevation of horse barn**

*Driver's Tavern, T/ Pompey, Onondaga Co.
New York*

*Scale 1:24,000
18/425300 4757420*

7.5 MINUTE
ORAT

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

423 5870 III SW (MANLIUS) 424 425 55' 680 000 FEET 427

