

**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, 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.

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RECEIVED 2280

JUL - 2 2008

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 1229 Birdsey Road [ ] not for publication

town Junius [ ] vicinity

state New York code NY county Seneca code 099 zip code 13165

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [ X ] 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 as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [ X ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [ X ] locally. ([ ] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard Perpoint DSHPO 6/23/08  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Commissioner for Historic Preservation Date

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

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:

- ☒ entered in the National Register  
[ ] see continuation sheet  
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register  
[ ] see continuation sheet  
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register  
[ ] removed from the National Register  
[ ] other (explain)

Edson H. Ball  
Signature of the Keeper

8-6-08  
date of action

## 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	Non-contributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>

### 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

Cobblestone Architecture of New York State

NA

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC; single dwelling

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC; single dwelling

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century: Greek Revival

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone  
walls cobblestone  
roof asphalt shingles  
other       

### Narrative Description

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

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places**

**Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road  
Junius, Seneca County, NY**

Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

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**Description**

The Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road is located on the east side of Birdsey Road in the predominantly rural town of Junius in northwest Seneca County. The cobblestone farmhouse is located on a 12-acre farm (a small portion of the former 100-acre farmstead) characterized by relatively flat terrain, small cultivated fields and scattered copses of deciduous and evergreen trees. The farmhouse is complemented by a large, late-nineteenth century frame barn; all other farm-related support structures have been lost. The farm is surrounded by scattered working farms and a few modern houses, including three small modern ranch houses to the north and one altered, older farmhouse across the road. Also located on the property is a non-contributing, early 20<sup>th</sup> century corrugated metal garage/machine shed. Despite its proximity to the New York State Thruway, its quiet, rural character survives essentially intact.

The house is a two-story, five-bay-wide, center-hall cobblestone building with Greek Revival style details. Brick interior end chimneys pierce the gable roof, which is sheathed with modern shingles. The superstructure, oriented on a north-south axis, rests on a raised fieldstone foundation articulated by a limestone water table. The walls are constructed of irregularly sized (2" to 3" wide and 3" to 4" tall) and variously colored field cobbles laid on a slight diagonal with simply tooled "V" joints between stones. Smoothly hewn, untooled limestone quoins stabilize the corners of the building and smooth stone lintels and sills articulate the door and window openings. Fenestration is symmetrical on the main block; all window openings are rectangular and contain modern, 6/1 double-hung sash.

The centrally placed front entrance is sheltered under a one-story, hip-roofed porch with late 19<sup>th</sup> century Victorian details, including elegant, scroll-sawn brackets. The trabeated front door is surrounded by simple, Greek Revival features, including half side-lights, simple wood panels, and square pilasters. A one-story, gable-roofed former kitchen wing, oriented on an east-west axis, is attached to the east (side) elevation of the main block.

The interior of the main block features an intact, double-pile plan with a central staircase providing access to the second story. Simple Greek Revival style features, including wood trim around door and window openings, also survive in the main block.

A large, gable-roofed frame barn, believed to date from the late 1800s, is located north of the house. It is sheathed with vertical board siding. A modern machine shed/garage is located behind the house.

## 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 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 boxes that apply.)

- ☐ **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:** See continuation sheets

### Areas of Significance:

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

### Period of Significance:

ca. 1830/40s - 1900

### Significant Dates:

Ca. 1830s

### Significant Person:

NA

### Cultural Affiliation:

NA

### Architect/Builder:

unknown

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

*American Life in Seneca County, 1820-1880.* Waterloo: Seneca County Historian's Office, 2006.  
*Atlas of Seneca County, 1874.* Philadelphia, PA: Pomeroy, Whitman & Company.  
*History of Seneca County.* Philadelphia: Ensign and Everts, 1876.

### 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 Building 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 repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Office of the Seneca County Historian

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places

**Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road  
Junius, Seneca County, NY**

**Continuation Sheet**

**Section 8 Page 1**

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**Significance**

The Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road, believed to date from the 1830/40s, is architecturally significant as a substantially intact, representative example of the cobblestone method of construction in Seneca County, New York. The building embodies the distinctive characteristics of the cobblestone method of construction (as discussed at length in the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form [MPDF] *Cobblestone Architecture in New York State* [1992]) in the use of field cobbles laid in horizontal rows and bonded with limestone mortar, the use of stone quoins to decorate and stabilize the corners of the building, and the use of stone sills and lintels to ornament and reinforce door and window openings. Typical of vernacular cobblestone buildings executed during the Middle Period (ca. 1835 – ca. 1845) of this particular method of construction, the dwelling features fairly regularly shaped, and variously colored field cobbles roughly laid in rows of between 3 to 4 courses per quoin; the smoothly hewn limestone quoins are untooled. Also typical of vernacular buildings of the Middle Period are the simply hewn stone lintels and sills around door and window openings. The house is additionally significant under criterion C as an outstanding example of vernacular, Greek Revival style domestic architecture in Seneca County.

According to a survey of cobblestone buildings in New York State, conducted by retired engineer Robert Roudabush in the late 1970s/early 1980s, there were some 500-600 cobblestone buildings that survived at the time. In May 1979, Roudabush found approximately 20 cobblestone buildings in Seneca County; most were farmhouses. Also found were a barn, a smokehouse and a hog house. Subsequent investigation suggests that by the early twenty-first century, only about 18 of those 20 survive; of the survivors, only 12-14 appear to retain a relatively high degree of physical integrity. The nominated farmhouse, one of several cobblestone buildings in Junius, is a remarkably intact example of a cobblestone farmhouse executed in the Greek Revival style. In terms of integrity of design, material and craftsmanship associated with the primary components of the cobblestone method of construction, the dwelling is highly intact: all cobblestone walls and stone quoins and door and window lintels and sills are virtually intact to the early nineteenth century date of construction. Its wide, flat-arched stone lintels, exaggerated cornice returns, and trabeated main entrance distinguish it as a fine example of vernacular, Greek Revival style architecture in Seneca County.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places**

**Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road  
Junius, Seneca County, NY**

**Continuation Sheet**

**Section 8 Page 2**

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As is often the case with rural vernacular farmhouses built in the region, little is known about the builder of this cobblestone house or the first/early occupants of the property. Recent research by Walter Gable, Seneca County Historian, and the current owners of the property reveals that a Josiah B. Porter acquired the property on March 7, 1828. In 1842, the property is believed to have been owned by a John Serven. The 1874 *Atlas* indicates the owner as an "M. Story," about whom nothing is known. Regardless of the lack of historical information about the property per se, the house is nonetheless an outstanding example of the cobblestone method of construction in the Finger Lakes region of the state. Similarly, although no information is available about the specific agricultural history of the former farm (and, thus, cannot be justified under criterion A), the complementary barn is significant as an intact, representative example of building technique popular for farm buildings during the nineteenth century in its form, design and materials.

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property 12 acres

UTM References: Zone 18

1: 348061/4758851  
2: 348072/4758731  
3: 347881/4758703  
4: 347865/4758854

**Verbal Boundary Description:** The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the legal lot lines as delineated on the attached county tax map (12-1-12.112).

**Boundary Justification:** The boundary coincides with the full extent of land historically and currently associated with the nominated resource.

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**11. Form Prepared By:**

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name/title Nancy L. Todd, Program Analyst

organization Division for Historic Preservation date June 2008

street & number Peebles Island, Box 189 telephone (518) 237-8643 x 3262

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.

**Property Owner** (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name \_\_\_\_\_

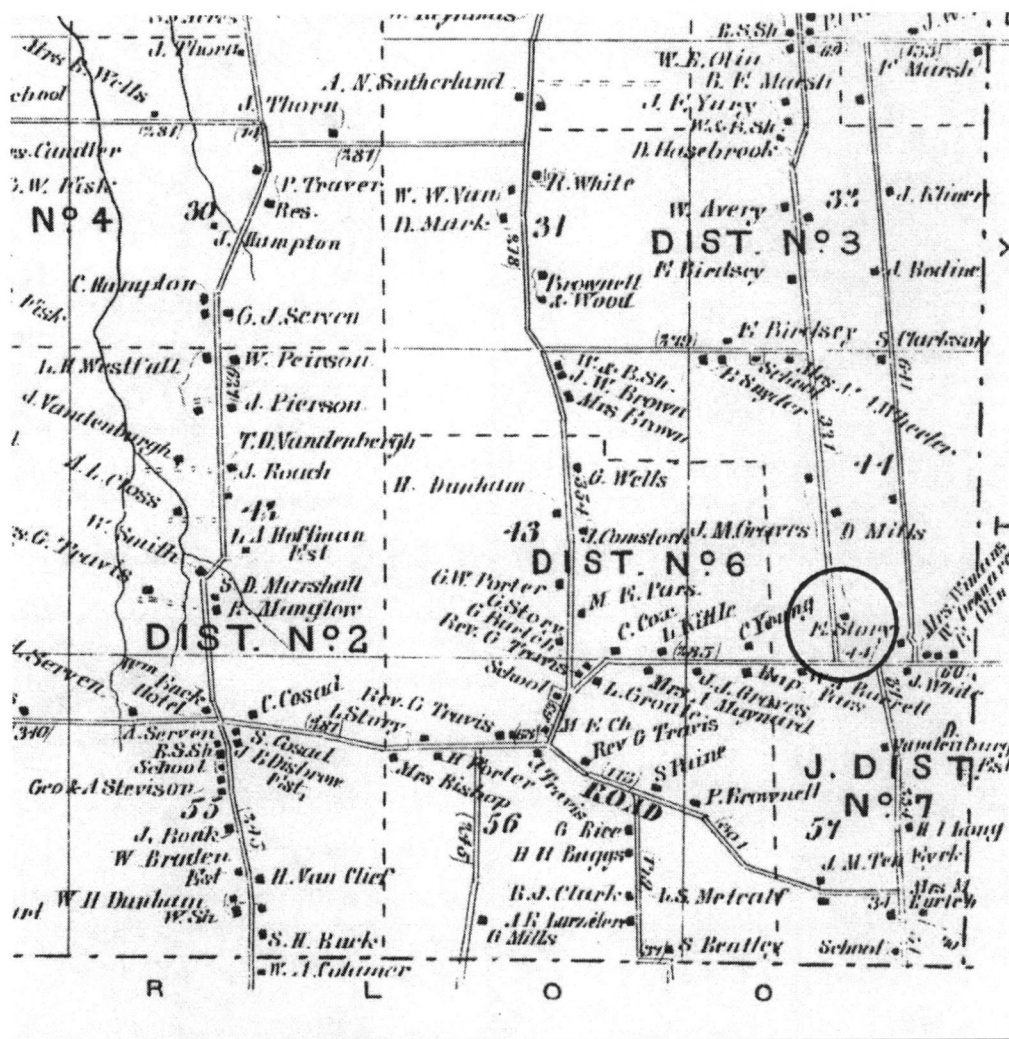
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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**Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road  
Junius, Seneca County, NY**

Section additional documentation Page 1



*Atlas of Seneca County, 1874*

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road  
Junius, Seneca County, NY**

Section additional documentation Page 2

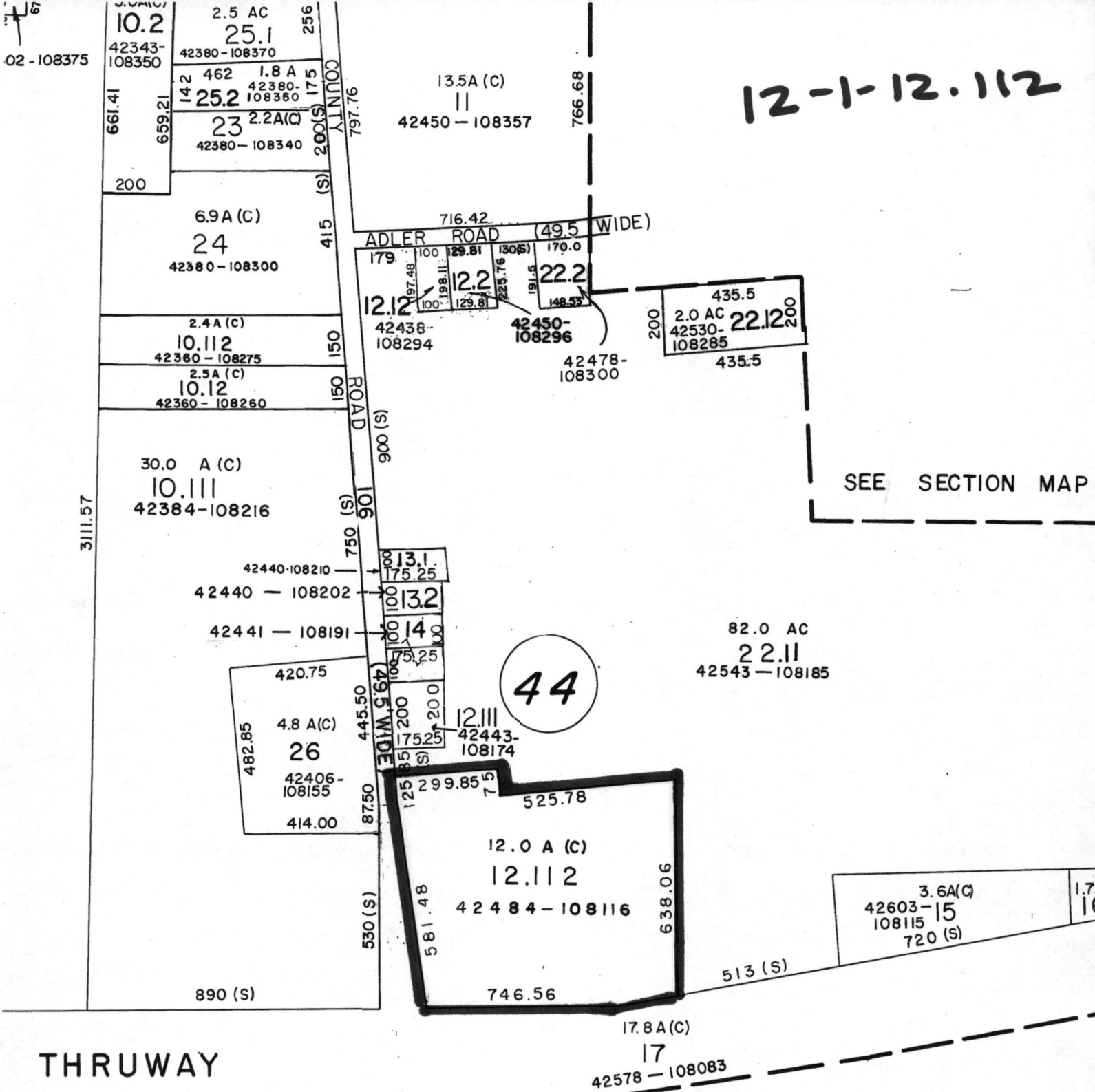
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**Photo Key**

All digital photos by Nancy L. Todd, 2007, OPRHP

- 1: Front (west) and south façades
- 2: Detail of Victorian trim on front porch
- 3: Detail of quoins and cobblestones
- 4: View of house and barn from southwest
5. Barn, viewed from south

02 - 108375



Cobblestone House at 1229 Birdsey Rd  
Junius, Seneca County  
Heavy Black outline defines  
boundary of nominated  
property

Tas map 12-1-12.112  
1" = 400'

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Road  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Cobblestone Architecture of New York State MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Seneca

DATE RECEIVED: 7/02/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/21/08  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/05/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/15/08  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000772

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 8/6/08 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.



Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229  
Birdsey Rd

Junius, Seneca Co., Ny

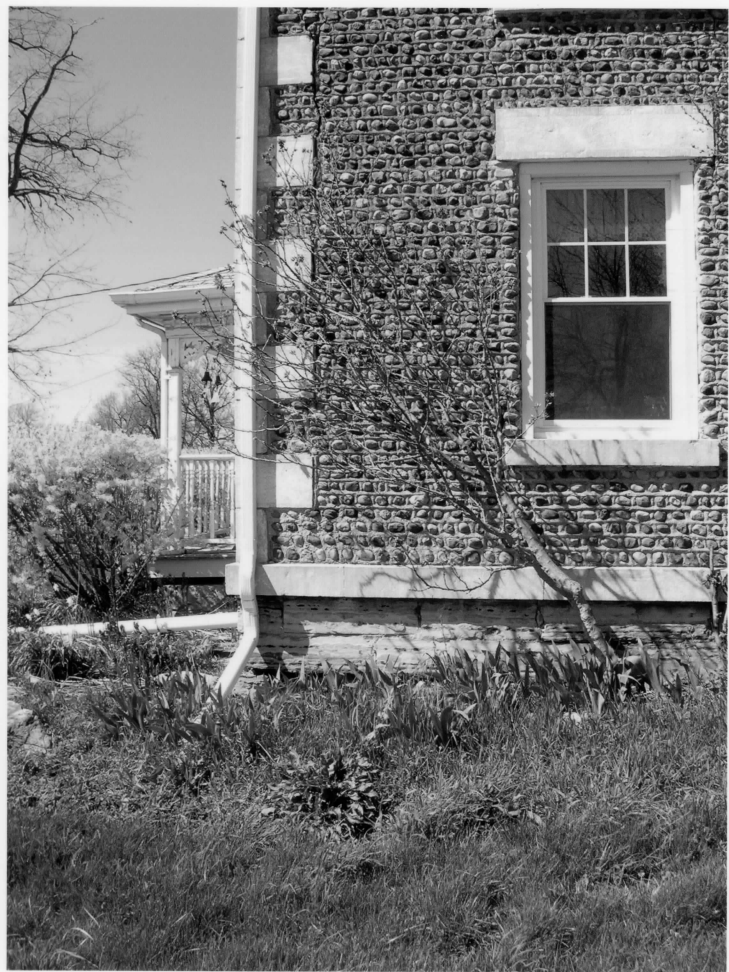
1



Cobblestone House at 1229  
Birdsey Rd

Junius, Seneca Co., NY

2



Cobblestone Farmhouse at  
1229 Birdsey Rd

Tunius, Seneca Co., NY

3



Cobblestone Farmhouse at  
1229 Birdsey Rd

Junius, Seneca Co, NY

4



Cobblestone Farmhouse at

1229 Birdsey Rd

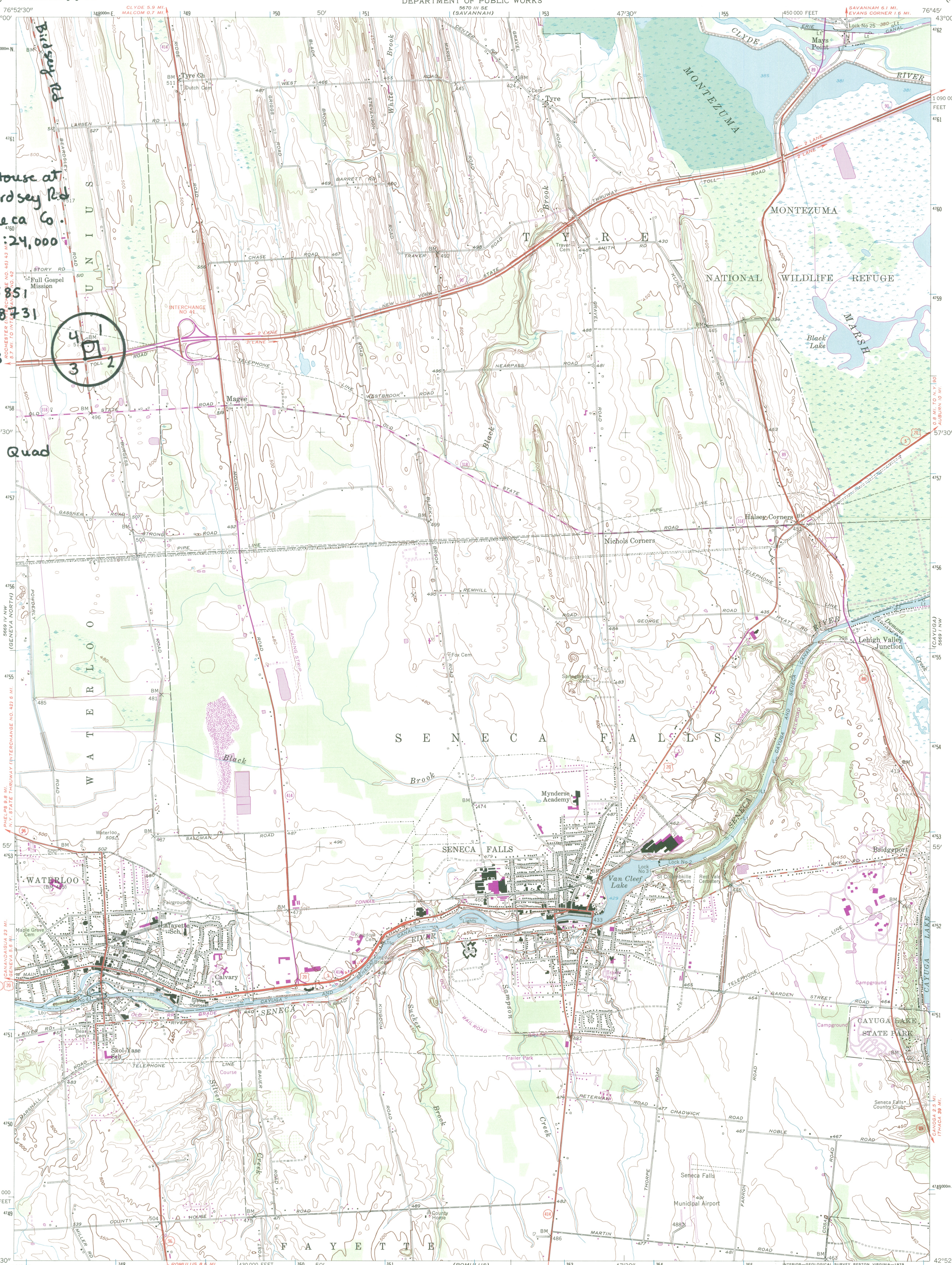
Junius, Seneca Co. NY

5

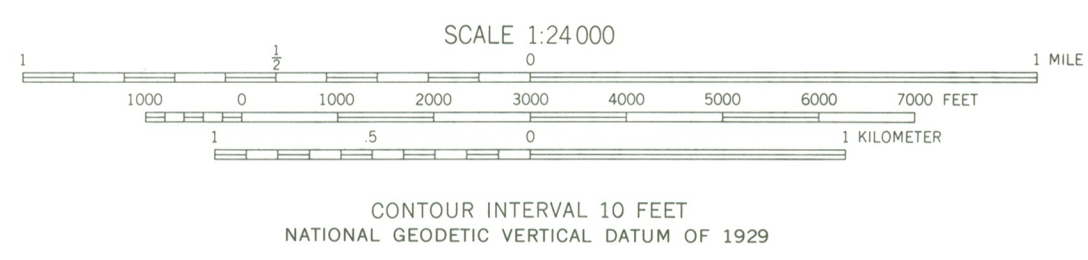
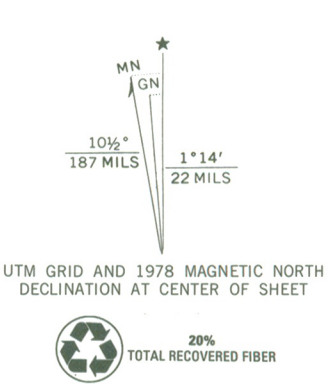
Cobblestone House at  
1229 Birdsey Rd  
Junius, Seneca Co.  
Zone 18; 1:24,000

1: 348061/4758851  
2: 348072/4758731  
3: 347881/  
4758703  
4: 347865/  
4758854

Seneca Falls Quad



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and TVA  
Culture and drainage in part compiled by Corps of Engineers,  
U. S. Army, from aerial photographs taken 1942  
Topography by planetable surveys 1953  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on New York coordinate system,  
central zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map  
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1976 and other source data. This information not  
field checked. Map edited 1978



**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

Interstate Route  
 U. S. Route  
 State Route

SENECA FALLS, N. Y.  
N4252.5—W7645/7.5  
1953  
PHOTOREVISED 1978  
AMS 5669 IV NE—SERIES V821

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



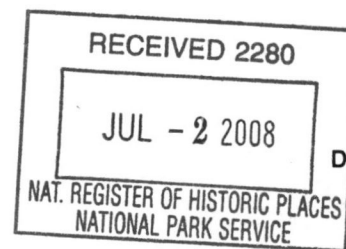


## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

www.nysparks.com



David A. Paterson  
Governor

Carol Ash  
Commissioner

June 25, 2008

Ms. Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Transmittal of National Register  
Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to transmit four new National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register as follows:

Blatchley House, Jordanville, Herkimer Co., NY

Friendship Free Library, Allegany Co., NY

Christ Church, Middletown, Orange Co., NY

Cobblestone Farmhouse at 1229 Birdsey Rd., Seneca Co., NY  
(Cobblestone Architecture of New York State MPDF)

Thank you for your assistance in processing these proposals. Please feel free to call on me at 518-237-8643 ext. 3258 if any questions arise.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Peckham  
National Register  
Program Coordinator

enclosures

## STATEMENT OF OWNER SUPPORT

Before an individual nomination proposal will be reviewed or nominated, the owner(s) of record must sign and date the following statement:

I (WE) Doris and Walter Wolf ,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(print or type owners names)

own the property at 1229 Birdsey Road

We support its nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Sign and date below, and provide legal mailing address(s) of owner(s)

*I am doing research on the history of the house.*

DEC 3 - 2007

*Doris and Walter Wolf*

1229 Birdsey Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165