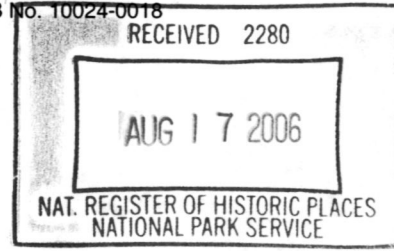


880

**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 G.A.R. Memorial Hall

other name/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Main Street not for publication

city or town Hunt vicinity _____

state New York code NY county Livingston code 051 zip code 14846

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] Carlton, SAPO 8/1/06
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
State or 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:

- 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:) _____

[Signature] Edson H. Beall 9.28.06
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(check only one box)

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

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

	Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		0	buildings
			sites
			structures
2		0	objects
3			Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL/meeting hall

RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

GOVERNMENT/town hall

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL/meeting hall

RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls brick

roof asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description

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

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

The G.A.R. Memorial Hall is located on a half-acre parcel on Main Street in the hamlet of Hunt, Town of Portage, in southwestern Livingston County. The terrain in the hamlet is generally flat. The parcel is grassed with a gravel drive that encircles the building. Landscape plantings consist of a single one-story ornamental tree. The front sidewalk is flanked by a Civil War-era 20-pound Parrott rifle on a gun carriage and a simple pipe flagpole. The surrounding parcels are occupied by detached residences and commercial buildings.

The hall is a three- by three-bay rectangular one-story brick building on a high basement and capped by a gable roof. The building is oriented north-south, with the north gable end facing Main Street. The main entrance comprises a pair of simple doors with six vertical panels in each door; this entrance is accessed by a broad flight of steps leading to a wide landing. The entrance is flanked by tall four-over-four double-hung sash windows set in segmentally arched openings set in segmentally arched recesses; these windows match those on the east and west sides of the building. At the south, or rear, end of the building there is a single door at the building's southeast corner.

The main floor of the interior is divided into a large single room that occupies the southern three quarters of the building. At the north end, the center bay is given over to an entrance vestibule. The northeastern corner of the building contains a dog-leg stair to the small balcony area over the vestibule, a small rest room and a small ticket window that opens into the vestibule. The analogous space at the northwest corner contains a stair that leads to the basement.

The main room contains a small stage at the south end. Centered on the east, west and south walls are memorial tablets of polished gray marble that list the local Civil War veterans. The walls feature a simple wainscot of vertical beadboard with a simple bull-nose cap rail. Above the wainscot, the walls and ceilings are plastered; the walls in the main room have been covered with panels of masonite and painted.

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

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1880-1956

Significant Dates

1880

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

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: _____

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1

The G.A.R. Memorial Hall in Hunt is architecturally significant as a largely intact example of a multi-purpose community hall dating from the last quarter of the nineteenth century. It is historically significant for its association with the local chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic and as a reflection of the community's major contributions to the Union's prosecution of the Civil War.

Residents of the Town of Portage provided a great deal of support to the Union cause during the Civil War. Of the 152 men from this small town who served in the Union forces, 35 were killed in battle or died in Confederate prisons. Portage residents on the home front raised a total of \$45,501.47 for various charitable support groups such as the Sanitary Commission and the Christian Commission, including "cash and goods to the amount of \$374.76 [that] were forwarded to the freedmen of the South in March, 1864".¹

Efforts to create a lasting monument to the local men lost in battle or internment during the Civil War began shortly after the end of the war. The Soldiers' Monument Association of the Town of Portage was organized on Saturday, 9 June 1866 in accordance with Chapter 237 of the New York State Laws of 1866. Fund raising began by means of July Fourth celebrations, fairs, festivals, school exhibitions in addition to direct contributions. The fund for the monument grew even as contention over the ultimate site for it also grew.

By the early 1870s, there arose a desire among some in the Association and the community at large to use the funds to erect a hall for town meetings and other events as a memorial of practical as well as commemorative utility. Judging from contemporary newspaper accounts, the controversy over the question of monument or hall continued for several years while the related issue of where to put the memorial also raged. Ultimately, the decision was reached to build a memorial hall; in the early 1870s, the law under which the Association operated was amended to allow the use of funds raised for the memorial for this purpose. A site was chosen on the south side of the main street in Hunt's Station, as Hunt was then known, the largest settlement in the town and the immediate area's largest shipping point on the Erie Railroad.

The decision to construct the memorial hall reflects a larger trend in small communities in the period. Through the course of the nineteenth century, as conditions in rural areas became more settled and advancing technology allowed for greater leisure time, demand grew for musical, theatrical and other entertainments; along with this rose a desire and need for venues where these things could take place. In larger communities, fraternal organizations and entrepreneurs built a variety of assembly halls. In many instances, such halls were incorporated into the construction of government facilities. In smaller places, various ingenious means were employed to meet the desire among the residents of the community for an amusement hall. In Conesus, in northern Livingston County, funds for such a building were raised locally through the sale of stock at thirty dollars per share. In the town of Portage, local residents were able to provide public assembly facilities by tapping a desire to memorialize

¹ Smith, James H., *History of Livingston County, N.Y.* (D. Mason & Co., Syracuse, NY 1881) pg. 272.

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2

fallen Civil War soldiers and building a memorial with a practical use, foreshadowing a pattern followed in the large nearby cities of Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse in the twentieth century.²

Since its completion in 1880, the hall has been the location of community entertainments, dinners, meetings, G.A.R. and other veterans' groups' activities and town government deliberations. The building remains as a tribute to Portage's contribution to the Union War effort, its lost soldiers and continues to provide a community focal point in the town.

² Buffalo's Memorial Auditorium was constructed between 1939 and 1941 as a memorial to soldiers of World War I; Rochester's War Memorial, part of the county's Civic Center, was constructed in the early 1960s; Syracuse's Onondaga County War Memorial Auditorium was constructed between 1949 and 1951 and was listed in the National Register in 1988.

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 1

Major Sources

-----, Livingston County Historian's Files

-----, Town of Portage Historian's Files

Smith, James H., *History of Livingston County, N.Y.* Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1881.

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Name of Property

Livingston County, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.31875

UTM References

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

1 18 254280 4714620
Zone Easting Northing

2 18
Zone Easting Northing

3 18
Zone Easting Northing

4 18
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 Robert T. Englert, Historic Preservation Program Analyst
organization NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation date February 2006
street & number PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188-0189

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 Town of Portage
street & number 2 North Church St telephone _____
city or town Hunt state NY zip code 14846

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.

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The nominated property conforms to its current and historic parcel, Lot 196.20-1-23, as indicated by the heavy black line on the appended section of the Town of Portage tax map.

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 11 Page 1

Research Assistance provided by:

Town of Portage Historian
Mary Ransom
1283 Thompson Road
Hunt, NY 14846

Amie Alden
Livingston County Historian
5 Murray Hill Dr.
Mt. Morris, NY 14510

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number **Photo Key** Page 1

Photographs

Photographers: Robert Englert
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Pebbles Island
PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Amie Alden
Livingston County Historian
5 Murray Hill Dr
Mt. Morris, NY 14510

Date: January, July 2006

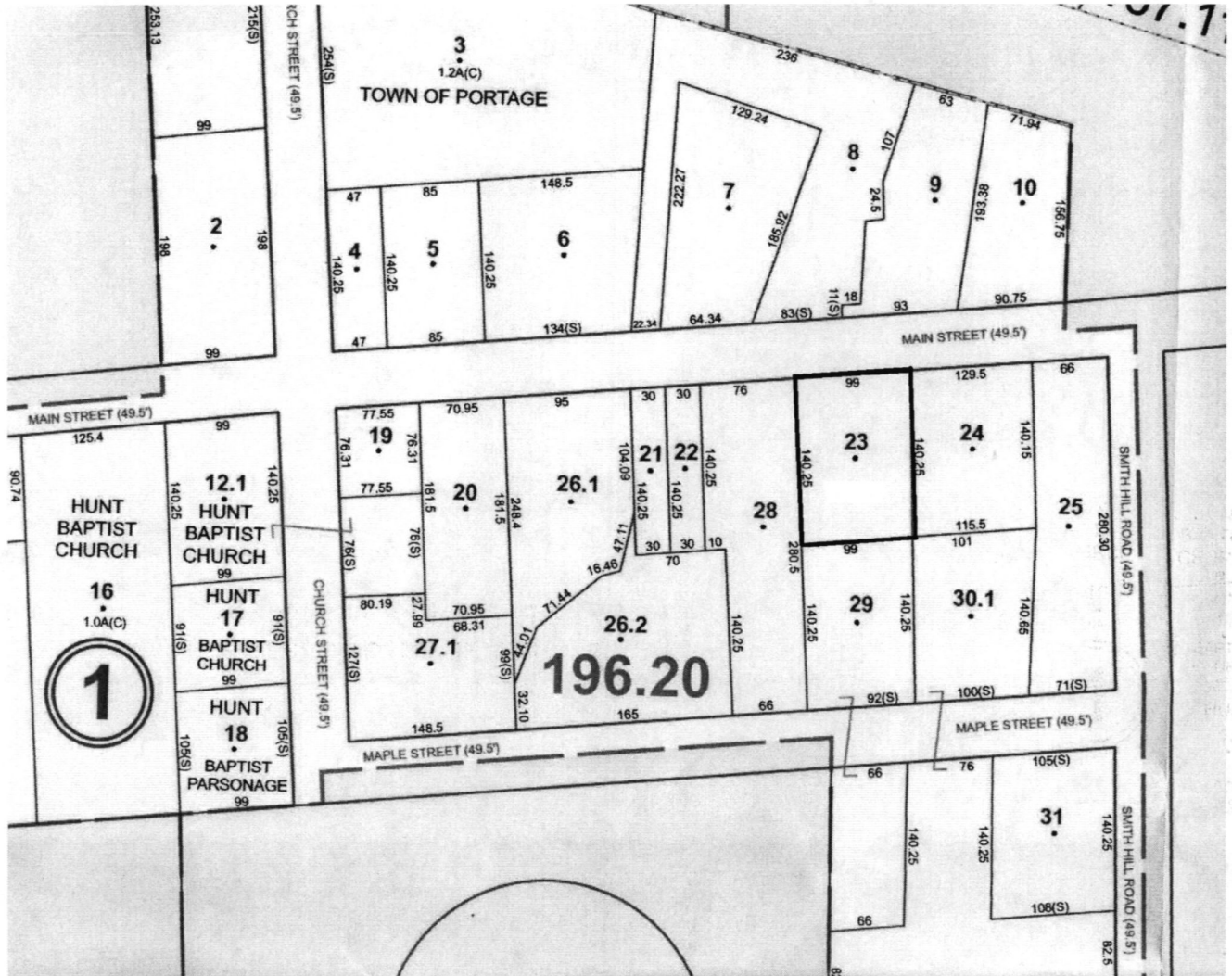
Negatives: Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Pebbles Island
PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

1. Exterior: View to SSW.
2. Exterior detail: Main Entrance. View to S.
3. Interior detail: Ticket window. View to SW.
4. Interior: View from balcony. View to S.
5. Interior: View toward balcony and entrance. View to N.
6. Interior: Memorial plaque on south wall. View to S.
7. Interior: Memorial plaque on east wall. View to E.
8. Interior: Memorial plaque on west wall. View to W.

G.A.R. Memorial Hall
Livingston County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number **Tax Map** Page 1



The G.A.R. Memorial Hall is located on lot 23 of Section 196.20 in the Hamlet of Hunt in the Town of Portage, Livingston County, NY.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY G.A.R. Memorial Hall
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Livingston

DATE RECEIVED: 8/17/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/05/06
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/20/06 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/30/06
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 06000888

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 9.28.06 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

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.



G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

1 OF 8

MEMORIAL
HALL
1880



G. A. R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

2 of 8



G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

3 of 8



G. A. R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

4 of 8



G. A. R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

5 of 8

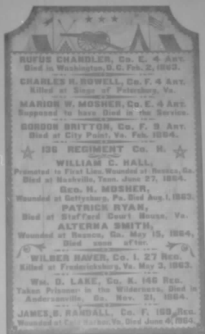
IN MEMORY OF THE DEAD OF THE 50 TH REG'T N.Y. VOL. INFANTRY	
WM. J. WRIGHT, Co. I.	DIED AT SUFFOLK, VA. Nov. 6, 1863.
JOHN KEGAN, Co. A.	Killed at Deserted House, Va. Jan. 30, 1863.
HENRY E. YOUVELLS, Co. I.	DIED AT NORFOLK, VA. Apr. 3, 1863.
EMMERSON RUDE, Co. I.	WOUNDED IN BATTLE OF THE WILDERNESS, DIED May 10, 1864.
ELISHA T. AMES, Co. I.	WOUNDED IN WILDERNESS DIED IN WASHINGTON, D.C. June 26, 1864.
GEO. W. LOWELL, Co. F.	DIED AT Ft. SCHUYLER, N.Y. July 27, 1864.
GEO. M. GEARHART, Co. I.	KILLED AT THE BATTLE OF CEDAR CREEK, VA. Oct. 19, 1864.
PROSPER SWIFT, Co. I.	TAKEN PRISONER AT THE Wilderness, May 7, 1864, Died at Andersonville, Ga.
FLETCHER WALKER, Co. F.	
HORACE C. ORTON, Co. I.	
PETER J. QUANT, Co. I.	Died near Hagerstown, Md. Dec. 30, 1864.



G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

6 of 8



G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

7 of 8

33 REGIMENT Co. F.

★ JAMES C. GILLETTE, ★
Discharged Aug. 4, 1861, Died at Oakland, N. Y.
★ HENRY SCHWARTZ, ★
Died at Harrison's Landing, Va. Aug. 1862.
★ JOHN H. DELONG, ★
Died at Nagarstown, Md. Dec. 4, 1862.
★ EBEN PATTERSON, ★
Died at Runda Station, N. Y. Dec. 30, 1862.

★ 85, REGIMENT Co. E. ★

★ ALBERT O. TABER, ★
Died at Suffolk, Va. Oct. 28, 1862. 3
-c-
CHARLES BUCKBEE, WERE TAKEN PRISONERS
JAMES HOLDROCK, AT PLYMOUTH, N.C. APR.
JAY J. MILLS, 20, 1864, AND DIED IN
THEODORE ELLIOT, ANDERSONVILLE, GA.
-c-
CHARLES MALE, DIED JAN. 1863.

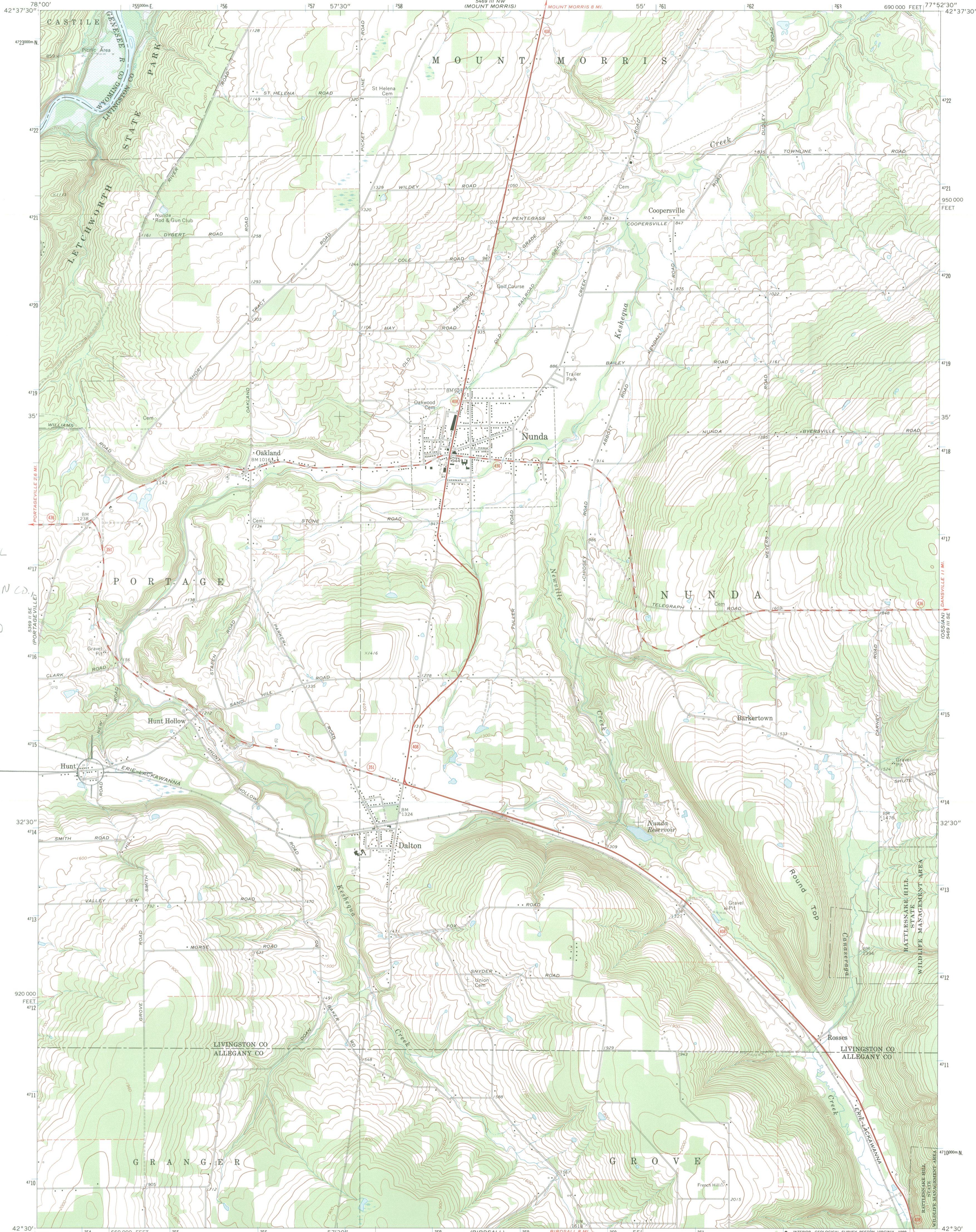
★ 104 REGIMENT Co. A. ★

★ GEO. W. BRITTON, ★
Died in Washington, D. C. March 1, 1865.
★ WILLIAM DAVIS, ★
Killed at Gettysburgh, Pa. July 3, 1863.
★ GEO. H. DRAHAN, ★
Died in Boston, Mass. Dec. 8, 1864.

G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL

HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO., NY

8 of 8



G.A.R. MEMORIAL
HALL
HUNT, LIVINGSTON CO.
N.Y.
NUNDA QUAD
ZONE 18
E 254280
N 4714620

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

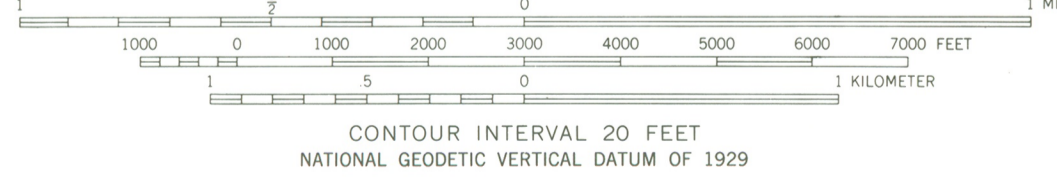
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1972. Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1943.

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: New York coordinate system, west zone (transverse Mercator). 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum.

Area covered by dashed light-blue pattern is subject to controlled inundation by Mount Morris Dam.

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

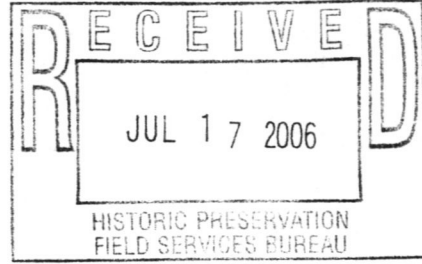
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 2 meters south and 23 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

NUNDA, N. Y.
42077-E8-T0-024
1972

DMA 5469 III SW - SERIES 8821

DWS



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, Town of Portage, am the owner of the property at
(print or type owner name)

G.A.R. Memorial Hall, Hunt, NY 14846
(street number and name, city, village or town, state of nominated property)

I support its consideration and inclusion in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

John C. Davis 7-1-06
(signature and date)

Town of Portage
2 North Church St
Hunt, NY 14846
(mailing address)