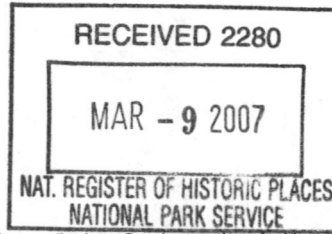


332

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 of eligibility for individual properties or 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 listed in 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 Sannick Family Farm

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 129 Jordan Lane not for publication

city or town South Oxford vicinity

state New York code NY county Chenango code 017 zip code 13830

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I 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.

Beth A. Purpurt DSHPO 3/6/07
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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 this 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:) _____

for
Edson H. Beall 4.18.07
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Sannick Family Farm

Name of Property

Chenango County, New York

County and State

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	Noncontributing	
4	2	buildings
1	0	sites
2	2	structures
0	0	objects
7	4	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 Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellings

AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuildings, storage, fields

INDUSTRY/EXTRACTION/quarry, sluiceway, dam

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellings

AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuildings, storage, fields

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

no style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls vinyl, wood

roof asbestos

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

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The Sannick Family Farm is located in the town of Oxford in south-central Chenango County. The farm is just east of the Chenango River and northeast of the loosely defined hamlet of South Oxford. New York Route 12, which is also the route of the historic Chenango Canal, and the tracks of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad parallel the river. The river flows through the town from northeast to southwest, traversing a mile-wide valley of rolling agricultural land, which contrasts with the otherwise hilly topography of the town. The farm is located within this valley, immediately east of the confluence of two of the river's tributaries, the Padget and Eddy Brooks. The Padget flows east-west south of the farm, while the Eddy flows northeast-southwest through the northwestern quadrant of the farm. The farm is generally located between two county highways, Basswood and Wilcox Roads, which parallel these streams, respectively. Basswood Road forms the southern boundary of the nominated property, while Wilcox Road forms a portion of its western boundary. The nomination boundary was drawn to include all of the farm property included in the Sannick family farm during the period of significance that retains its integrity and original associations with the family. The seventy-one-acre nominated parcel encompasses all but seven of the original fifty acres purchased by John W. Sannick in 1819 (a small portion was sold off by the Sannick family during the period of significance) and an additional twenty-eight acres acquired by Peter Augustus Blake Sannick in 1875. The farm is located in a rural area of the town, amid numerous other nineteenth-century farmsteads.

The nominated farm is an L-shaped property on the north side of Basswood Road. The rolling land slopes steeply down (to the north) from the road before gently rising to a ridge and then falling again toward the creek in the northwest quadrant of the property. The cluster of domestic and farm buildings is sited at a considerable distance back from the road in the southwest quadrant of the farm and is approached via a curving, tree-lined driveway (Jordan Lane) off Basswood Road that crosses in front of the residence and terminates at the barn. The farm includes approximately forty-six acres of cultivated land and pasture, located in the southern and eastern sections of the property, and approximately twenty-five acres of forested land, located in the northwest

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

corner. The latter was probably cleared for pasture during the period of significance, so all but a few ancient trees represent second growth. The cleared areas of the farm are characterized by cultivated hay fields, scattered mature trees, a small orchard, overgrown domestic plants, and wildflowers. The small apple orchard southeast of the house may include trees that are descendents of a nineteenth-century orchard documented in census records. There are three major hedgerows in the southeast quadrant of the farm. These run north from Basswood Road, outlining and subdividing the property acquired in 1878. Numerous stone walls traverse the property, even through the wooded areas, marking former and current field divisions. Water sources include the Eddy Brook, two springs, and a pond. In addition to the agricultural features, the property includes a large nineteenth-century limestone quarry, now within the stream bed for Eddy Brook, and an adjacent sluiceway (or channel for controlled flow) with remnants of a small nineteenth-century stone dam.

Historic buildings include a farmhouse, corncrib/granary, bank barn, silo, and milk house. There is a stone foundation, which is possibly the remains of a second farmhouse, in an overgrown area along the creek northwest of the house. There are also several non-historic farm-related features dating from the late twentieth century. These include a small cottage, chicken coop, workshop, steel shed, and well house. The farm buildings occupy an open parcel with scattered mature trees and shrubs and are generally sited in a linear pattern. The farmhouse is to the west, closest to the entrance drive, while the garage, barn, silo, milkhouse and shed are ranged to the east. The well is adjacent to the house and the small cottage is behind it.

Farmhouse¹ [one contributing building]

The farmhouse is a one and one-half story wood-frame building with a one-story wing perpendicular to the rear elevation. There is a deep fieldstone foundation and basement under the main section of the house and the south

¹ Building descriptions are supplemented with information obtained from personal communication and a brief inspection report from Carl Stearns, Crawford and Stearns, Architects, to Kathleen LaFrank, September 2006.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

half of the wing, while the north half of the wing rests on a fieldstone foundation over a shallow crawlspace. The building was constructed in several stages and repeatedly altered during and after the period of significance. The small one-story wing appears to have been constructed in the early nineteenth century (c1820-c1850), while the larger one and one-half story house was built in the late nineteenth century (c1875-c1900). The rectangular wing (16' by 12') is three bays wide and one bay deep with a gable roof. It features a heavy timber, post and beam frame, with the lower story framed in massive, 8" diameter posts. The east side shows evidence of being extended and the recessed porch was added later. The space is divided into two rooms on the first floor, now a kitchen and a storeroom or pantry, surmounted by an unfinished attic. The roof rests on lighter, sawn rafters with no ridgepole. There is no visible evidence of an original chimney, and this, combined with evidence that the east side may have been extended, suggests that the wing may have originally been L-shaped or served as a secondary wing to an original house. A concrete block chimney pierces the west slope of the roof over the wing. Windows are non-historic and include both metal and wood multi-pane sash.

The main section of the building is rectangular in form (20' by 34'), four bays wide by two bays deep, surmounted by a steep, asphalt-shingled gable roof with overhanging eaves. Framing is not visible except in the attic, which features circular sawn rafters without a ridgepole, and basement, where both sawn and hewn log joists are visible. The building's original clapboard siding was covered in vinyl in 1993. There is no visible evidence of an original chimney, but there is an exterior concrete block chimney on the west wall..

A narrow full-width porch with a shed roof spans the façade; this is a contemporary replacement of an earlier porch. The main entrance is off-center, located in the second bay from the east. There is an additional entrance on the east side elevation, providing access to the cellar. There have been a number of changes to the fenestration. Some original window openings survive, and although none of the windows themselves are original, older openings generally contain two-over-two or one-over-one double-hung wooden sash. On the

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

second floor façade, there are two half-story window openings (others may have been obscured by later changes to the building) with replacement sash. On the first floor, windows in the southwest corner of the house have been replaced by double sliding windows in the 1960s. Paneled doors throughout date to the nineteenth or early twentieth century; many have been moved and some have glass in their upper panels. Two doors now on the second floor are contemporary with the wing.

On the interior, the first floor of the main section of the house is now divided into three spaces. The main entrance opens into a single large room, which was at one time subdivided by a north-south partition. To the right of the main entrance, two small rooms are separated by an enclosed stair. There is a door providing access to the wing in the northwest corner of the main room. The door, possibly moved from another location, dates to the early nineteenth century. The second floor plan dates to the mid-twentieth century. The space is divided into three small bedrooms, which are adjacent to each other across the front of the building. Each is accessed from a hall, which runs east-west along the back of the building. This house was built for stoves and there is one surviving metal grate on the second floor.

The house retains some historic finishes, including plaster walls in some rooms, wide board and hardwood floors, and some doors and window frames. There is little in the way of original moldings and trim, and some finishes have been obscured by non-historic materials, such as artificial paneling or acoustic tiles. Nevertheless, the house retains its form, structural system, and basic functional divisions, and many changes occurred during the period of significance.

Well House [one non-contributing structure]

The well house is adjacent to the farmhouse in the east side. It was constructed in the 1960s of concrete block with composition shingles over a plywood cap.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Corncrib/Granary [one contributing building]

The small building located southeast of the house was probably originally a granary, corncrib or combination of the two. The building is 12' by 14' and features a heavy timber post and beam frame, stone foundation, corrugated metal gable roof with overhanging eaves, vertical wood board siding covered with asbestos, and openings in the west and south elevation. The circular sawn frame dates the building to the post Civil War period. There is a small shed addition on the eastern end of the building that has started to collapse.

Barn, Silo, Milkhouse, Steel Shed [one contributing building; one non-contributing structure]

The barn is a rectangular wood frame structure, 28' by 65', with vertical plank walls. The building was constructed using hewn timbers from an earlier barn or barns and may have been built in the third quarter of the nineteenth century or rebuilt from older materials in the early twentieth century. It sits on a deep stone foundation and is surmounted by a metal gable roof with overhanging eaves. The main entrance is a cross-gabled bay in the center of the north elevation. The latter, which provides wagon access to the upper level (for hay storage) is accessed by a steep bank, which rests on a stone foundation. There are ground level entrances in the north, east, and west elevations (for animal access) and scattered small rectangular windows, some with multi-pane sash. The barn has either been refitted or raised to accommodate cows on the ground level, which features heavy timber sawn posts, a concrete floor, fifteen pipe stanchions, and two box stalls. The upper level is completely open to accommodate hay storage. The round wooden stave silo with adjustable steel hoops is approximately 15' in diameter and 30' tall. It is attached to the barn on the south elevation and dates to the early twentieth century. The silo may have been built by the nearby Unadilla Silo Company. The milk house (10' by 12') is attached to the west end of the barn. This square concrete block structure features a gable roof with overhanging eaves and an entrance on the north elevation. It was built in the early twentieth century. There is a long rectangular corrugated metal shed northwest of the barn. The shed was built in the 1950s by Overland Steel. Damaged by ice in the 1990s, the shed is partially collapsed and does not contribute to the significance.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Cottage [one non-contributing building]

The cottage is a rectangular (12' by 24') one-story wood frame building sited on a rise north of the house. Constructed in 1965, the building is built into the hillside so that the poured concrete basement is exposed on the north elevation. The building features a gable roof with slightly overhanging eaves. Fenestration is generally regular. The main entrance, which is off center, is sheltered by a small porch with a gable roof and wooden posts and balusters. There is a ground level entrance in the west elevation. There is one exterior brick chimney on the east elevation and a small porch with a shed roof sheltering a rear entrance. The interior of the main floor is divided into two rooms and a large enclosed porch.

Chicken Coop [one non-contributing building]

The coop is a small wood-frame building with a shed roof and horizontal wooden siding. This is a non-historic building constructed of discarded materials. There is a pair of multi-pane windows on the south elevation and a door in the west elevation.

Workshop [one non-contributing building]

This is a small rectangular building (16' by 28') with a gambrel roof. It was built in the 1960s as a horse shed and converted in the 1970s to serve as a storage barn/workshop. It is of wood-frame construction, with plywood siding, a concrete floor, and a metal roof. There is an entrance in the west end, upper level doors into each gable, and one multi-pane wooden window.

Stone Foundation (possible house site) [one contributing site]

There is a deep stone foundation northwest of the house, near the Eddy Brook. Although the site is quite overgrown and therefore difficult to investigate, it appears to be big enough to be the remains of a residence and is possibly the second residence shown on the map of 1863.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Quarry [one contributing structure]

The bluestone quarry is located within the current streambed of Eddy Brook near the northwest corner of the farm. The quarry is several hundred feet in length and shows evidence of extensive excavation. There is a series of three waterfalls, each apparently quarried to its current depth. The stream is contained within deep, smooth, layered and stepped regular rock cuts, which create the effect of a designed, decorative pool. Scattered along the slopes on either side of the stream are large, flat slabs of quarried stone.

Sluiceway and Stone Dam [one contributing structure]

The sluiceway diverges from Eddy Brook near the northwestern corner of the property and parallels the brook for several hundred feet before it terminates at the remains of a small stone dam, from which it flows back into the brook. The dam apparently impounded water for an overshot wheel that powered two mills further south along the Eddy Brook (outside the boundary of this nomination). The dam is partially collapsed.

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 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.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- agriculture _____
- architecture _____
- industry _____
- ethnic heritage _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

c1819-c1924

Significant Dates

na

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

unknown

Primary location of additional data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The Sannick Family Farm is significant as a rare and exceptionally well-documented example of a nineteenth-century farmstead associated with an African American family in the town of Oxford. The core of the farm is the fifty-acre parcel purchased by John W. Sannick, a native of Dutchess County, in 1819. It is not known how Sannick, once a slave, obtained the impetus and the money to purchase his own small farm in Chenango County, but he and his family are the earliest documented African Americans to settle in the town of Oxford. The Sannick family retained ownership of the farm for the next century, during which time it passed to J.W. Sannick's son and daughter, grandson, and great granddaughter. Of the county's known African American population in 1850, the Sannicks were among only a handful to own their own land, and of those who owned farms, theirs was among the highest in value. The farm was continually improved throughout the family's ownership, entering its most prosperous period in the 1870s and 80s under J.W. Sannick's grandson Peter Augustus Blake Sannick, who purchased an additional twenty-eight acres in 1875. With the exception of a few acres sold after Peter Sannick's death, the size of the farm has remained constant (seventy-one acres) since his time. In the first two decades of the twentieth century, Hattie Sannick Jarvis, Peter's daughter, and her family operated a successful dairy farm until 1919, when they sold it to Joseph and Ella Mae Sannick Rounds, who held the property until 1924.¹ Extant resources represent all periods of the farm's history and include a late nineteenth century farmhouse with a c1820-c1850 settlement period wing, a large, late nineteenth or early twentieth century bank barn (with added twentieth-century silo and milkhouse), a c1860s corn crib/granary, a stone foundation (perhaps representing another residence), and an agricultural landscape including cultivated fields, woodlots, treelines, an orchard, and stone walls. The property also includes a substantial bluestone quarry. The latter, which occupies the bed of the Eddy Brook only a few hundred feet east of the former Chenango Canal (built 1834-37), was probably used as a source of canal stone and would have been a lucrative resource that added significantly to the farm economy. The Sannick farm is additionally significant for the

¹ Ella Mae Sannick is believed to be related to the family.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

exceptional level of documentation associated with its history. The property has been documented in an extensive collection of deeds and population and agricultural censuses covering the period 1786-1924. These records provide detailed information about the family's history, exactly who owned and resided on the farm in each period, how the land was used and what crops were grown, harvested and sold, and how the farm was valued. This level of documentation significantly enhances the value of the Sannick Family Farm in representing the themes of settlement, agricultural, and ethnic history in Chenango County.

Town of Oxford

The town of Oxford is in the south-central part of Chenango County. Its most distinctive geographical feature is the Chenango River, which cuts across the town from northeast to southwest, dividing it into two unequal parts. The river, which flows through a valley about one mile wide, takes in several tributaries, including Fly Meadow, Mill, Bowman, Eddy and Padget Brooks, all of which provided suitable sites for mills. NY 12, the country's main north-south route, parallels the Chenango, as does the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad and the route of the Chenango Canal (1837-1878). The town's single incorporated village, Oxford, is located on the river near the town's northern border, while the small hamlet of South Oxford, also on the river, is in its southwest quadrant.

The area now encompassed in Chenango County remained in the hands of Indian tribes until after the Revolutionary War, when the state of New York made several large purchases. While much of the land in the northern part of the county was included in the purchase that became known as the "Twenty Towns," a number of other smaller purchases were made as well. The latter included a parcel acquired in 1786 from the Oneidas and the Tuscaroras that included most of the land south of the town of Norwich and east of the Chenango River, much of which later became the town first known as Fayette and later renamed Oxford. A survey divided this purchase into one hundred lots, each approximately 640 acres in size, which were quickly divided among

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

potential landholders. Lot 97 of this purchase, which included the nominated property, was acquired by Philip Livingston in 1786.

The earliest European-American settler arrived in Oxford in 1790, when Elijah Blackman, a squatter from Connecticut, took possession of a small island near what is now the village of Oxford. The first large land owner to settle in the region was Benjamin Hovey, who had purchased a tract on the east side of the river and arrived shortly after Blackman. Hovey was a native of Oxford, Massachusetts, after which the town was named. Hovey was engaged by the state to open a road from Unadilla to the Ithaca vicinity. After the road was completed in 1793, Hovey moved further west, where he was involved in plans to improve the navigation of the Ohio River. Most of the town's early settlers were New Englanders, natives of Massachusetts or Connecticut, although the county history reports at least one family of German immigrants (the Bartles).² There was also a sizable contingent of Dutch settlers from the Hudson Valley, as local histories record an incident in which local farmers demanded that Episcopal services be conducted in Dutch.³

The town of Oxford was formed in 1793 from the towns of Jericho (now Bainbridge) and Union (Broome County). Oxford (initially named Fayette) originally included both Guilford and part of Coventry, which were taken off in 1813 and 1843, respectively. Even after the town's name was changed to Oxford, the name Fayette persisted in deeds. An early meeting of town settlers was held at the home of Benjamin Hovey on 17 June 1793. At this meeting a town clerk, assessors, tax collector, poor masters, commissioner of highways, and constables were appointed. The first town meeting to elect officers was held in 1794, at which time Ephraim Fitch was elected Oxford's first supervisor. The village of Oxford was the largest and most important village in the town, especially known for its early nineteenth century academy, one of few established west of the Hudson

² "Town of Oxford," *History of Chenango and Madison Counties* (n.p., 1880): 4. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nychenan/1880-21.htm>

³ H.L. Galpin, *Annals of Oxford, New York* (Oxford: Book and Job Printing House, 1906)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

River in this early period. Among the smaller hamlets, South Oxford once had a post office (which was later moved a mile to Coventry Station), a grocery, and a factory making hoes, forks, and edge tools. In 1820, the year after the Sannicks purchased land in Oxford, the town census revealed that there were 14,184 acres of improved land, 3,506 head of cattle, 537 horses, 12,317 sheep, and 1,923 hogs. The census also reported three grist mills and fourteen saw mills, one oil mill, three fulling mills, three carding machines, one woolen factory, one trip hammer, three distilleries, and three asheries. The town's industrial products included fulled cloth, flannel, and linen. In 1834, construction commenced on the Chenango Canal, which opened in 1837, connecting Broome, Chenango and Madison Counties with the Erie Canal in Utica. The construction and operation of the canal brought a demand for labor and materials, bringing prosperity to the village of Oxford and the surrounding region. In addition, the canal also allowed the interior towns to trade within a wider region, a situation that continued with the later construction of the railroad paralleling the route of the canal. While many of the laborers and stonecutters involved in construction of the canal were transients, particularly Irish immigrants, other craftsmen and engineers were local, and materials were usually purchased from local farmers. There was an immediate and continuing demand for timber and stone for construction and maintenance of the canal and later for hay and grain to feed horses. Many quarries were opened along the route of the canal. There were at least three in the town of Oxford and one, the large Simmonds Quarry, was located at South Oxford. The somewhat smaller quarry on the Sannick farm is not widely known and has not yet been identified with the canal in local histories; however, it would be hard to imagine that it was not. It was located only a few hundred feet east of the canal and shows evidence of being extensively quarried.

African American Settlement in Chenango County

When the Sannicks arrived in Oxford, there were few other African Americans in Chenango County. In 1800, the United States census reported that there were 16 enslaved blacks and 40 free blacks countywide. In 1810, there were 13 slaves and 76 free blacks, and in 1820 there were 7 slaves and 189 free blacks. It is likely that the

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Sannicks were the only blacks recorded in the town of Oxford in the 1825 census, which showed 4 blacks in the town. The African American population continued to grow throughout the first half of the nineteenth century; however, and the 1850 census recorded 243 blacks in the county. Of that total, 48 lived in the town of Oxford, which was second only to Norwich (97) in the number of African American residents. Other places with significant numbers of blacks were Plymouth (20), Sherburne (17), Bainbridge (17), Greene (15), and New Berlin (11). Seven towns had no African American residents, while the others had fewer than 10 each. During the Civil War, Oxford reported 20 "colored" soldiers and 1 substitute.

The 1850 census reveals that only a handful of Chenango County's black residents owned property at mid-century. The majority worked as laborers (for merchants or tradesmen), farm laborers, or domestics; however, there was also a boatman (on the canal), a teamster, a blacksmith, and several barbers (one of whom was also noted as a fugitive slave). There were eight farmers in the county who owned property, which ranged in value from \$90 to \$2,000.

Sannick Land

The land included in the Sannick Farm was within Lot 97, the 640-acre parcel acquired by Philip Livingston in 1786. Lot 97 was generally rectangular in shape, except for the western boundary, which followed the irregular shore of the Chenango River. Padget Brook bisected the center of Lot 97 from east to west, while a second creek, Eddy Brook, flowed northeast-southwest through the center of Lot 97 before meeting the Padget, which subsequently drained into the Chenango River. In 1792, Livingston sold Lot 97 to Charles Anderson, identified as a New York City "shopkeeper." In 1803, Anderson, then noted as of Oxford, sold 384 acres of Lot 97 to Andrew Miller, of Fairfield County, Connecticut for \$3,000. At the same time, he also sold eighty-five acres in Lot 97 and one hundred acres in Lot 98 to Benjamin Wilson, husband of Miller's daughter Abigail. Miller and Wilson also bought equal parts of a saw mill in Lot 98. In 1804, Miller sold a parcel of one hundred acres to his

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

other son-in-law, Gideon Mead, husband of his daughter Mary. Andrew Miller apparently settled on his land, describing it in his will as "his farm." The Miller farm, a long rectangular parcel that extended across the middle of Lot 97, was bounded by the Chenango River on the west and what is now known as Basswood Road on the south.

The size of the farm at Andrew Miller's death in 1811 was 284 acres. Miller's will carefully apportioned the farm to his wife, Sarah, and his four sons. Miller gave the eastern fifty-acre portion of the farm to his son Josiah and an adjoining fifty-acre parcel (west of Josiah's land) to his son Thomas. Sarah Miller received the "use and improvement of one-third of about 185 acres of land," being the westernmost portion of the farm, as well as all the household furniture. The will specifies that this is the same land hereafter bequeathed to sons Andrew and Underhill and subsequently specifies that the latter two were also awarded all the remainder of the farm along with the buildings, mill, and other improvements. What this suggests is that Andrew and Underhill Miller would receive their mother's share of the land, to be divided equally between them after her death.

It is likely that Thomas Miller never lived on or developed his fifty-acre portion in the center of the farm. In 1816 he sold it to Hunting Sherrill.⁴ In this transaction, Miller, described as a resident of Peru, Clinton County, sold Sherrill several parcels of land located in different parts of the state, including Clinton and Dutchess Counties, as well as the fifty acres he had inherited from his father. The buyer, Hunting Sherrill, was described as a physician in the town of Clinton, Dutchess County. Sherrill also owned a nail factory in the same town.⁵ The Chenango County land was probably not the main focus of Sherrill's purchase because he held it for only three years before selling it to John W. Sannick for \$500.

⁴ Hunting Sherrill was apparently Thomas Miller's brother-in-law. The 1816 deed describes Keziah Miller (Thomas's wife) and Hunting Sherrill as children of Jeremiah Sherrill.

⁵ Personal communication, Bill McDermott, former town historian, Clinton, Dutchess County, to Kathleen LaFrank, July 2006.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

John W. Sannick is described in the deed of 1819 as a black man of the town of Clinton, Dutchess County.⁶ Sannick's purchase is described as the second fifty-acre parcel off the east end of Andrew Miller's farm, that piece left to his son Thomas. Josiah Miller is still noted as the owner of the land to the east (the first fifty acres) and Andrew Miller (the younger) is noted as the owner of land to the west. Other land to the west and north is owned by Underhill Miller, suggesting that the Miller brothers had formally divided the land they inherited from their father.

Although Sannick's purchase is described as "with appurtenances," no improvements are described, and the \$500 purchase price was a reasonable amount for land in Chenango County in this period. The farm was a nearly square parcel, bordered by Basswood Road on the south. Eddy Brook traversed the northern portion of the farm from northeast to southwest and Wilcox Road cut through the northwest corner. In 1845 Sannick divided his fifty acres into two parcels, selling the eastern thirty-two acres to his daughter, Sally Ann, for \$150, and the eighteen acres to the west to his son, Samuel, for \$1. Both parcels included a portion of the Eddy Brook and the bluestone quarry spanned both parcels. The variation in the sizes and prices of the land sold to John Sannick's two children is not explained; however, both transfers were to occur after the senior Sannick's death (which apparently occurred c1850). Sally Ann Sannick apparently did not occupy or improve her land, as her brother continued to operate the entire farm.⁷ In 1855, Sally Ann Sannick sold her land to her nephew, Peter Augustus Blake Sannick, son of Samuel B. Sannick, for \$315.⁸ The deed noted that this land was the same as her thirty-two acres, excluding a very small parcel that she had sold to Gerardus Vanderlyn (her employer) in 1850.⁹ In 1875, Peter Sannick purchased an additional twenty-eight acres of farmland east of his farm along Basswood Road. The new purchase was a portion of the Miller land originally bequeathed to Josiah Miller. In

⁶ The name is sometimes given as Sanicks or Sanick; for consistency, I have used the most common spelling throughout.

⁷ The 1855 New York State census lists Samuel B. Sannick as the head of household.

⁸ Peter Sannick is also identified as Augustus Sannick or Peter A.B. Sannick

⁹ This small parcel of less than an acre was in the northwest corner of her land and ended on bank of the Eddy, suggesting that its purchase had to do with Vanderlyn's need for water access.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

1880, Samuel B. Sannick sold the other eighteen acres of his father's farm to his son Peter, thus uniting nearly all of the fifty-acre parcel once again.¹⁰ The deed specified that Peter would pay his father \$25 plus \$18 a year in money or provisions and pay for his funeral expenses.¹¹ When Peter Sannick died in 1892, his will (dated 1879) left his entire estate, approximately seventy-eight acres, to his wife, Sabra. The following year, Sabra Sannick sold off a small parcel northwest of Wilcox Road. At her death in 1902, Sabra Sannick (in a will dated 1894) left the farm, now seventy-one acres, to her daughter, Hattie Jarvis, and her family. The Jarvis daughters sold it to Joseph and Ella Mae Sannick Rounds in 1919, and the land passed out of the Sannick family in 1924.

Vanderlyn Family¹²

The complete history of the Vanderlyn family and its land transactions in Chenango County is outside the scope of this nomination. Nevertheless, the family was closely associated with the Sannicks on several levels. Henry Vanderlyn, of Kingston, a relative of the famous painter John Vanderlyn, purchased the farm property south of the Sannick Farm in 1818. Vanderlyn became a prominent attorney who resided in the village of Oxford. In 1828, he sold the farm to his brother Gerardus. Over the next few decades, Gerardus Vanderlyn purchased a substantial number of additional acres, including parcels once allotted to Josiah, Underhill, and Andrew Miller. Thus, during much of the Sannick family's occupancy, the Vanderlyns owned land south, east, and west of them. Sally Ann Sannick was also employed by and lived with the Vanderlyn family for much of her adult life. In the 1850 census, she was listed as a resident of the Vanderlyn household, while in 1860, she was counted as a domestic in the household of Henry Vanderlyn, attorney at law, and Gerardus Vanderlyn, farmer. In 1850 she sold Gerardus Vanderlyn a small portion (less than one acre) of her land. Finally, Henry Vanderlyn did legal work, such as witnessing deeds and wills, for the Sannicks.

¹⁰ It is not known why the farm passed to Peter Sannick, rather than to his older brother, Samuel.

¹¹ The date of Samuel B. Sannick's death is unknown, but it probably occurred after 1880.

¹² The name sometimes appears as VanDerLyn. I have chosen the more contemporary spelling for consistency.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Sannick Family

Little is known about the Sannicks before they arrived in Oxford, but evidence suggests that they were among the town's first African American settlers. John W. Sannick was described as a resident of the town of Clinton, Dutchess County, in 1819, when he purchased fifty acres from Hunting Sherrill, a prominent physician and factory owner from the same town. Preliminary research into Sannick's origins in Dutchess County deed books has identified a slave named "Jack Sandrick," the property of William Barber, who was manumitted by Barber's widow, Ann Barbara Bloom, and his friend John Johnston, Esq. on 11 June 1805.¹³ The same source also records that on 18 November 1806, seventeen months after his manumission, Sannick purchased the remaining term (three years) of his wife, Sally, as well as the term of Sally's infant son Samuel (till age 28), both from Johnson, for \$75.¹⁴ The name is variously given as Jack Sannrick or Jack Sandrick and, in several instances, as Sannick. Although we cannot be absolutely certain, the correspondences of names, dates, and relationships strongly suggest that these are the same Sannicks who moved to South Oxford, where some local deeds also referred to John W. Sannick as "Jack." Describing Samuel Sannick's remaining term as "till the age of 28" suggests that he was born after 4 July 1799, as blacks born after this date in New York State were to be freed when they turned 28 (males) or 25 (females). Chenango County sources list the younger Sannick as born c1798, a difference of only one year. No mention has been found in Dutchess County records of John Sannick's daughter, Sally Ann, who was said to have been born in 1794. If she was Sally's daughter, this birth date would support the local tradition that she was "born a slave." However, there is no indication of where she spent the years between her birth and 1820, when the family moved to South Oxford. No other record has been found to document the family's origin; however, if they were born into slavery, they would not have been free by decree

¹³ William Barber was a Revolutionary War office and an aide to Lafayette at Yorktown. He died in 1798, leaving the extensive property that she had brought to the marriage to his wife, Ann (Nancy?) Crook and the rest to his minor daughter.

¹⁴ Poughkeepsie, NY, Dutchess County Courthouse, Grantee Book 19, p. 289 and 563.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

until 1827, eight years after they purchased land, an unlikely scenario that suggests they had been manumitted in Dutchess County.¹⁵

Several Sannicks also show up in the 1790 federal census for the town of Clinton; however, their relationship (if any) to this family and to Hunting Sherrill is unknown. Former Clinton town historian Bill McDermott has speculated that John Sannick may have been a laborer in Sherrill's nail factory; however, there is no evidence to support this.¹⁶ Hopefully, further research will support a more definitive interpretation of the family's early history and explain how Sannick, a former slave, came to purchase farmland as a free man in Chenango County.

J.W. Sannick arrived with two children, Sally Ann and Samuel B. There is no mention of a wife; however, the New York State census for 1825 shows four "colored persons" in the town of Oxford. As John and his two children were among them, it is possible that the fourth was the senior Sannick's wife, Sally. If Sally Sannick did accompany her husband to Chenango County, she must have died early in their tenure, since she is never mentioned in Chenango County records. The fourth person may also have been another Sannick child - or perhaps a relation.¹⁷ Both J.W. and Samuel B. Sannick were listed in the federal census of 1830 without additional information. The 1840 federal census shows Samuel B. Sannick as head of a family of eight; however, its members are not named. They could have included his wife, Rosie (or Rosanna), born c1788, and his father (J.W), who was still alive in 1845; the others are perhaps his children. The 1850 federal census enumerates a six-person household: Samuel B. Sannick (52), his wife, Rosanna Sannick, a mulatto (62), and four children, Peter Augustus Sannick (25), Harriet A. Sannick (14), Elizabeth Sannick (20), and Samuel Sannick, also listed as a mulatto (34). J.W. Sannick apparently died just prior to or during 1850, as he is no

¹⁵ In New York State slavery was abolished until 1827.

¹⁶ Personal communication, McDermott to LaFrank, July 2006.

¹⁷ Research has turned up another Sannick male, slightly older than Samuel and Sally, in Elmira in the early nineteenth century who was a physician; the name is not a common one and we are investigating a possible link to Hunting Sherrill, also a physician.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

longer listed in that year. In the New York State census of 1855, Peter A. Sannick (29) is listed as a widower; however, there is no other record of a first wife for him. Elizabeth Sannick also appears to have married, as “Sannick” is crossed out and replaced with “Randall.” There are also two Randall children in the household, William A. (4) and George A. (1), perhaps her sons; however, there is no adult male named Randall.¹⁸ There was one extra adult, Charles S. Butler (37), a mulatto, who could have been a relative or a hired hand.

Five years later, in the federal census of 1860, there are two Sannick households. The first consists of Samuel and Rosie Sannick, their son Samuel, their daughter Elizabeth Randall, and the two young Randalls, William (7) and George (5). The younger Samuel Sannick (1823-1875) later died unmarried. In the second household, Samuel and Rosie’s son Peter Augustus (1825-1892), now remarried, lived with his wife, Sabra (1825-1901), and their daughter Harriet A. (1). A fourth person, Burt Robbins (20), was possibly a hired hand. The fourth child of Samuel B and Rosie Sannick, Harriet A. (who would have been 19), has disappeared, perhaps married or deceased. An 1863 county map shows two Sannick homes, noted as A. Sannick and S. Sannick, which seems to reflect the division noted in the 1860 census.

The 1875 county map shows only one Sannick house, and the 1880 federal census lists [Peter] Augustus B. Sannick, Sabra J. Sannick, Hattie A. Sannick and DeLoss Towsley, possibly a hired hand, as one house. As for the second household, we know that Peter Augustus’s father (Samuel B.) was still alive in 1880, but he was not living on the farm. We have one clue as to his whereabouts: In the deed of 1880, by which Peter purchased the eighteen-acre parcel from his father, the senior Sannick was noted as “of Norwich.” There is no information about his mother, Rosie; perhaps she had died. His older brother Samuel had also died, and the Randalls are not noted. However, when Samuel B. Sannick sold Peter his land in 1880, the deed specified that he would support

¹⁸ There is, however, a 28-year-old-black man, Abner Randall, living on the nearby farm of George Brown. Randall is listed as a farmer with \$200 of property. No evidence links him to Elizabeth Randall at this time.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

his father until his death and subsequently pay his sister, Sarah Jane Elizabeth Sannick ("Elizabeth Randall"), \$25. After Peter Augustus and Sabra Sannick died (in 1892 and 1901, respectively), their daughter, Hattie E. Jarvis (42), inherited the farm.¹⁹ In 1900, Hattie, her husband, Charles (45), and three daughters, Christella (15), Phebe (13), and Lena (6), were all noted as residents of Oxford.²⁰ In 1919, the Jarvis heirs sold the farm to Joseph and Ella Mae Sannick Rounds, of Oxford. Although Ella Mae Sannick is believed to be related to the family, her exact relationship is not yet known.

Sannick Farm

The Sannick farm is a remarkable record of more than a century of settlement and use by a single family. The most evocative and intact resource is the landscape itself, which preserves a record of the Sannick family's acquisition of the farm more than two hundred years ago and their use of it over the following century. The site preserves evidence of both agricultural activity, including its pattern of small fields, stone walls, treelines, mature vegetation, a barn and other agricultural outbuildings, and industrial use, represented by the large nineteenth-century bluestone quarry, adjacent sluiceway, and remains of a small stone dam. The property also retains architectural evidence of the family's early settlement, particularly the small wing of the farmhouse, and its late nineteenth and early twentieth century occupation, represented by the main section of the farmhouse. In addition, a stone foundation, perhaps representing another residence, will provide further information once an archeological study is completed.

¹⁹ Earlier censuses gave her middle initial as "A." In 1880, Hattie Sannick, age 21, was listed as a servant in the household of Judson B. Galpin.

²⁰ The oldest daughter, Luella, was not listed; she may have been a domestic boarding at another house. She is listed as a domestic boarding at home in 1910.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

John W. Sannick Era - 1819-c1840

The land John Sannick purchased in 1819 for \$500 was described as “with appurtenances”; however, no specific improvements were described, and it seems unlikely that there were significant buildings on the property when the Sannicks arrived. There is little tangible information about the history of the property before the federal census in 1850, and the only features that may survive from the J.W. Sannick era are the small wing on the rear of the existing farmhouse and possibly the stone foundation near the creek, which may also represent an early residence. We also don’t know what skills Sannick brought with him from Dutchess County: was he a factory worker or a farmer? It is possible that J.W. Sannick may have farmed only on a subsistence level and primarily supported his family through industrial activity. The presence of the large quarry on the property as well as the two documented mill sites south of the Sannick land suggest that the creek may have been the most significant resource during this early era, during which the Chenango Canal was largely completed.²¹

Samuel B. Sannick and Rosie Sannick Era - c1840-1870

By 1840, when he was listed as head of a household of eight, Samuel B. Sannick (c1788-c1880) was apparently running his father’s farm. The federal agricultural census of 1850, when he was 52 years old, lists him as a farmer with fifty acres, suggesting that he continued in this role even after his sister Sally Ann had contracted to purchase thirty-two acres of the farm in 1845. In this period, the farm included one six-person household, comprising Samuel and Rosie and their four children. It is not known exactly where the Sannicks lived in this period. The c1820-c1850 wing is only a small two-room space with an unfinished attic, while the extant two-story house attached to it dates to the late nineteenth century. Perhaps the existing house replaced an earlier addition to the small wing. There is also what appears to be the foundation of a small house in the southwest part of the property, but it has not yet had the benefit of a professional archeological investigation.

²¹ Unfortunately, income from the quarry was not listed in agricultural census records.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

The 1850 (federal) and 1855 (state) censuses provide an overview of this and several nearby farms in the Samuel Sannick era. The farms analyzed were all owned by white farmers and were all larger than the Sannick farm. Although the small sample is not sufficient for a definitive comparative analysis, it does provide a bit of context. The Sannick farm included twenty to twenty-five acres of improved land and thirty acres unimproved. The overall cash value of the farm was \$900 in 1850, decreasing to \$700 in 1855. Production reported in these two years was fairly consistent, including hay, oats, rye, corn, buckwheat, hay, and potatoes, normal for a farm of this size but lower than some of the surrounding larger farms in most categories. Likewise the family's farm animals, including horses, milk cows, swine, and oxen, were just equal to or fewer in number than those of their neighbors. Unlike their neighbors, the Sannicks reported none of some of the most common cash crops: no wool, orchard products, maple sugar or molasses, no poultry or eggs, nothing reported under home manufacture, and only 450 pounds of butter. By comparison, a few of the nearby farms reported more than two, three or four times that much butter and between 100-300 pounds of maple sugar, and all but the Sannicks reported some income from home manufacture. However, the Sannicks reported the largest amount of rye, 50 bushels, as well 20 bushels of oats. Both of these grains were often used in the manufacture of high quality straw, which would have given the family a substantial cash crop. Another, perhaps more likely, outlet for the rye may have been the three local distilleries reported in the 1820 census. The Sannicks also reported 45 bushels of potatoes, enough both to provide food for the family and to sell, and an income from animals (apparently hogs) slaughtered.

In terms of worth, the Sannick farm was lower in value than its immediate neighbors. This, however, may be a factor of its smaller size. Its value compared to other local farms of similar size owned by whites, a more useful assessment, has not yet been researched. In comparison with Chenango County's other African American farmers in 1850, the Sannick farm was among the county's top three in value. While five of the county's eight black farmers had property valued at less than \$300, only two surpassed the Sannicks in value: one in Sherburne

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

with a farm valued at \$1,200 and a second in Norwich with a \$2,000 farm. The sizes of these farms are also unknown.

In 1860 (after Sally Ann had sold her parcel to Peter) the census divided the Sannicks into two separate households and the agricultural census reported their production individually. In 1863 there were also two houses on the property (map documented) and the family had divided into two households: Samuel B, his wife, several adult children, and two grandchildren in one house and Peter, his wife, and young daughter in the other.²² However, the farm's production can be considered as a whole for comparative purposes. Although the overall value remained at \$700, the farm was much more productive in 1860. There were forty acres of improved land and only five unimproved. There were 9 milk cows, 3 other cattle, 4 sheep, and 4 swine. Production of crops was significantly increased in a few categories: from 12 bushels of rye in 1855 to 90 in 1860 and from 10 tons of hay to 18; from no orchard products in 1850 to \$18 in 1860; from 450 pounds of butter to 550; from no maple sugar to 100 pounds, and an increase in the value of livestock from \$254 to \$450. Once again, the Sannicks reported a substantial yield of potatoes, an great increase in buckwheat, the second highest income in animals slaughtered, and a crop of rye that far surpassed any raised by their neighbors.

Peter Augustus Blake Sannick and Sabra Sannick Era - 1870-1901

In 1870 production on the fifty-acre farm was recorded solely in the name of Peter Sannick, even though he would not officially own his father's eighteen acres until 1880. In 1875 he purchased an additional twenty-eight acres, increasing the farm's size by more than 50 percent. By the 1870s there was only one house and one family recorded as living on the property. The larger portion of the extant farmhouse appears to date to this period; perhaps this is the frame house worth \$100 noted in the 1875 census. As documented by federal census

²² Again it is difficult to imagine how two families were housed in the extant resources. An archeological survey may help to resolve questions such as this.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

records for 1870 and 1880 and state census records for 1875, the Peter Sannick years were the farm's most prosperous era. Cash value on the fifty acres nearly quadrupled, from \$700 in 1855 to \$3,000 in 1870. This indicates a substantial improvement to the property, perhaps the addition or expansion of the barn. Farm value increased again to \$3,200 (for seventy-eight acres) in 1875, when Sannick reported the value of farm buildings as \$200, before dropping to \$2500 in 1880. A large barn would have been needed by 1880, when the Sannicks had a good size herd: 8 milk cows, 8 other cattle, and 5 calves; and the Sannick barn is comparable in size and design with many extant barns throughout the town. Even at seventy-eight acres, the Sannick farm was still smaller than its neighbors, but nearly all of its land was listed as improved and production was generally up in almost all categories. Notably, in 1880 the Sannicks listed fleece, poultry, eggs, molasses, orchard products, and maple sugar, as well as cheese and butter. They were again the only ones in the small sample with a crop of rye. The substantial increase in butter production and addition of cheese also represented a major increase in value for the household. This time they were the only ones reporting an income from home manufacture (\$35), and, although they were the only ones making cheese, they sold no milk. Nevertheless, by 1880, Peter Sannick appears to have been operating a profitable dairy farm. Peter continued to operate the farm until his death in 1892, when it was passed to his wife and subsequently to his daughter and her husband (Hattie E. and Charles Jarvis) in 1901.

Hattie E. Sannick Jarvis and Charles Jarvis Era - 1901-1919

Although the Jarvis family continued to operate the farm for the next eighteen years, extensive information has not been found to document their activity. Other than the few acres sold by Sabra Sannick after her husband's death, the acreage remained the same, and in the 1910 federal census Charles Jarvis was identified as a dairy farmer. The concrete floor and fifteen pipe stanchions in the basement of the barn, the wooden silo, and the concrete block milk house are all typical twentieth-century improvements, suggesting that the family continued to develop the property as a dairy farm. In 1910, the oldest Jarvis daughter (Luella) is listed as a servant in a

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

private house, while Christella, next in age, is identified as a cutter in a shirt factory. By 1920, the year after the Jarvis family sold the farm, Luella Jarvis, now married to Garrett Waverly, was living in Triangle, Broome County. Information about the other Jarvis sisters is forthcoming.

Joseph Rounds and Ella Mae Sannick Rounds Era - 1919-1924

In 1919, Hattie Jarvis Sannick's heirs sold the farm to Joseph and Ella Mae Sannick Rounds. Research is proceeding to learn the exact nature of Ella Mae Sannick's relationship to the rest of the family. The farm was sold to Sarah A. Powell in 1924.

Post-Sannick Era - 1924-c1960

After 1924, the seventy-one acre property passed to at least seven owners. Not much is known about the farm's later history until the 1960s, when the family of the current owner purchased the farm. It continued in use as a dairy farm through 1972.

Sally Ann Sannick (1794-1882)

There are several references to Sally Ann Sannick, sometimes referred to as "Aunt Sally Ann Sannick," in histories of the town of Oxford. She is noted as of African descent, a former resident of Dutchess County, and born a slave. Sannick arrived with her father in 1819 and probably lived on the nominated farm for a period of time; however, she was employed by the Vanderlyn family and lived with that family for much of her adult life.

An interesting but unexplained aspect of her life is her purchase of thirty-two acres, more than half of her father's farm, in 1845 and her subsequent sale of the same parcel (minus a half-acre) to her nephew for more than twice the purchase price in 1854. She neither lived on the parcel nor improved it, and it is difficult to speculate on her or her father's motives, especially as her brother Samuel (who only acquired eighteen acres

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

from his father) continued to run the entire farm even after Sally's purchase until he turned it over to his own son Peter.

In 1820, shortly after she arrived in Chenango County, Sally Ann Sannick joined the Oxford Methodist Church, which was organized in 1815 and incorporated in 1831. The congregation built its first church in 1842.

Sannick was remembered in local histories for her "pure life and holy character." The history of the church notes that "although she was born a slave she was one of the most devout and self-sacrificing members."²³

When she died in 1882, she left \$150, most of her estate, to the church. Her will specified that the interest from an investment of \$50 was to be allocated for the support of the Sabbath school (particularly the library) and the interest on the remaining bequest of \$100 was to be directed to the repair or improvement of the church building or parsonage. She also left money for a head and foot stone for herself. In 1887, the church used money from her bequest to erect a memorial stained-glass window in her honor. This was one of a group of memorial windows specially designed for this church to honor those who were associated with Methodism in Oxford.

Sally Ann Sannick never married and never lived on the Sannick farm as an adult. After the Vanderlyns died (c1860s), she resided with the Derrick family of Oxford. At her death, she left Herman Derrick, described as a friend, that part of her estate not bequeathed to the church. Despite achievements and economic success unusual for an African American woman in this period, Sally Ann Sannick remained a domestic for much of her adult life and never had a home or a family of her own. Although she left a bequest to the church school and library, she herself was illiterate. The resource most closely associated with her, the Oxford Methodist Church is no longer extant. Even her gravesite, now perhaps the most tangible evidence of Sally Ann Sannick's presence in Oxford, has yet to be located.

²³ *Annals of Oxford.*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 19

Conclusion

The Sannick Family Farm is the first resource associated with African Americans in Chenango County to be identified and documented. The survival of so much information about the Sannick farm presents an opportunity to study the full history of how this family lived and their impact on the landscape. From the information discovered so far, the Sannicks stand out for their early date of settlement, long history of land ownership, and continued improvements to the farm. A thorough analysis of their economic status is not possible without a better understanding of the operation of the quarry and whatever economic benefits they derived from control of water flow on the creek. Despite their long tenure and continued improvements, their farm remained smaller than those of their immediate neighbors. Although it is likely that they profited from selling industrial products (rye for straw or liquor, bluestone for canal construction), the Sannicks did not match their neighbors in some of the more common agricultural enterprises of this period, such as trading in butter and milk. Even those pursuits at which the Sannicks far surpassed their neighbors do not suggest that they were the most progressive farmers. For example, in *A History of Agriculture in the State of New York*, Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick noted this of rye, the Sannicks most successful crop: “there was always a fair yield on poor land in the hands of careless farmers.”²⁴

Evaluating the Sannicks in comparison to other Chenango County farmers is not possible without a larger sample. While the Sannick farm was among the highest valued black farms in the county in 1850, we have not yet analyzed detailed census records of the other black-owned farms. Likewise, while the Sannick farm was smaller than those of their immediate white neighbors, we have not yet compared it with farms of comparable size owned by white farmers. Finally, without the income from the quarry, we do not have an accurate assessment of the farm’s value or the family’s income. Thus it is not yet possible to speculate as to the effects of race or class on the family’s economic or social life.

²⁴ Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, *A History of Agriculture in the State of New York* (1933; New York: Hill and Wang, 1966), 338.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 20

Nevertheless, some interesting research questions about the property's agricultural history present themselves. Among them, what opportunities did the Sannicks have to exchange information with other farmers? Did the Sannicks belong to the local Grange, for example? Based on our current knowledge of Chenango County history, it seems unlikely. However, there were a number of social and fraternal organizations in the county made up exclusively of African Americans: was there one devoted to agriculture? Did the Sannicks subscribe to agricultural journals? J.W., Sally Ann, and Samuel B. Sannick read no journals because they were all illiterate, but Peter and Sabra Sannick and their children could all read. Did this account for Peter's ability to improve the farm substantially? More research is necessary to draw any firm conclusions about questions such as these, giving this resource an extraordinary amount of interpretative potential. Nevertheless, the integrity of the farm and the documentation that has been preserved are exceptional for a vernacular African American farm. The Sannick Family Farm adds significantly to our understanding of the history of Chenango County.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Beers Atlas of Chenango County. 1855, 1863, 1875.

Galpin, H.J. *Annals of Oxford, New York.* Oxford: Times Book and Job Printing House, 1906.

McFee, Michele A. *Limestone Locks and Overgrowth: The Rise and Descent of the Chenango Canal.* Fleischmanns, NY: Purple Mountain Press, 1993.

Norwich, New York. Chenango County Surrogate's Office. Wills, 1811-1894 (copies in New York State Historic Preservation Office, Waterford, New York).

Norwich, New York. Chenango County Clerk's Office. Deeds, 1786-1893. (copies in New York State Preservation Office, Waterford, New York).

New York State Census. Population, Agriculture and Domestic Manufacture Schedules, 1855; 1875.

Hedrick, Ulysses Prentiss. *A History of Agriculture in the State of New York.* 1933. New York: Hill and Wang, 1966.

Poughkeepsie, New York. Dutchess County Courthouse. Grantee Book 19, p. 289; 563.

"Sannick, Sally Ann." Obituary. *Oxford Times.* 28 November 1882.

Smith, James H. *History of Chenango and Madison Counties.* Syracuse: L D. Mason and Co., 1880.

United States Census. Population and Agriculture Schedules, 1850-1920.

See continuation sheet

Sannick Family Farm
Name of Property

Chenango County, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 71 acres SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	Zone	Easting	Northing	3	Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

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 Kathleen LaFrank, Program Analyst - see continuation sheet
organization New York State Historic Preservation Office date July 2006
street & number Pebbles Island State Park, Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643 x 3261
city or town Waterford state New York 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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

UTM Coordinates

Oxford Quad - All Zone 18

1. 449821/4693369
2. 449838/4693047
3. 449247/4693012
4. 449379/4693579
5. 449568/4693591

Verbal Boundary Description

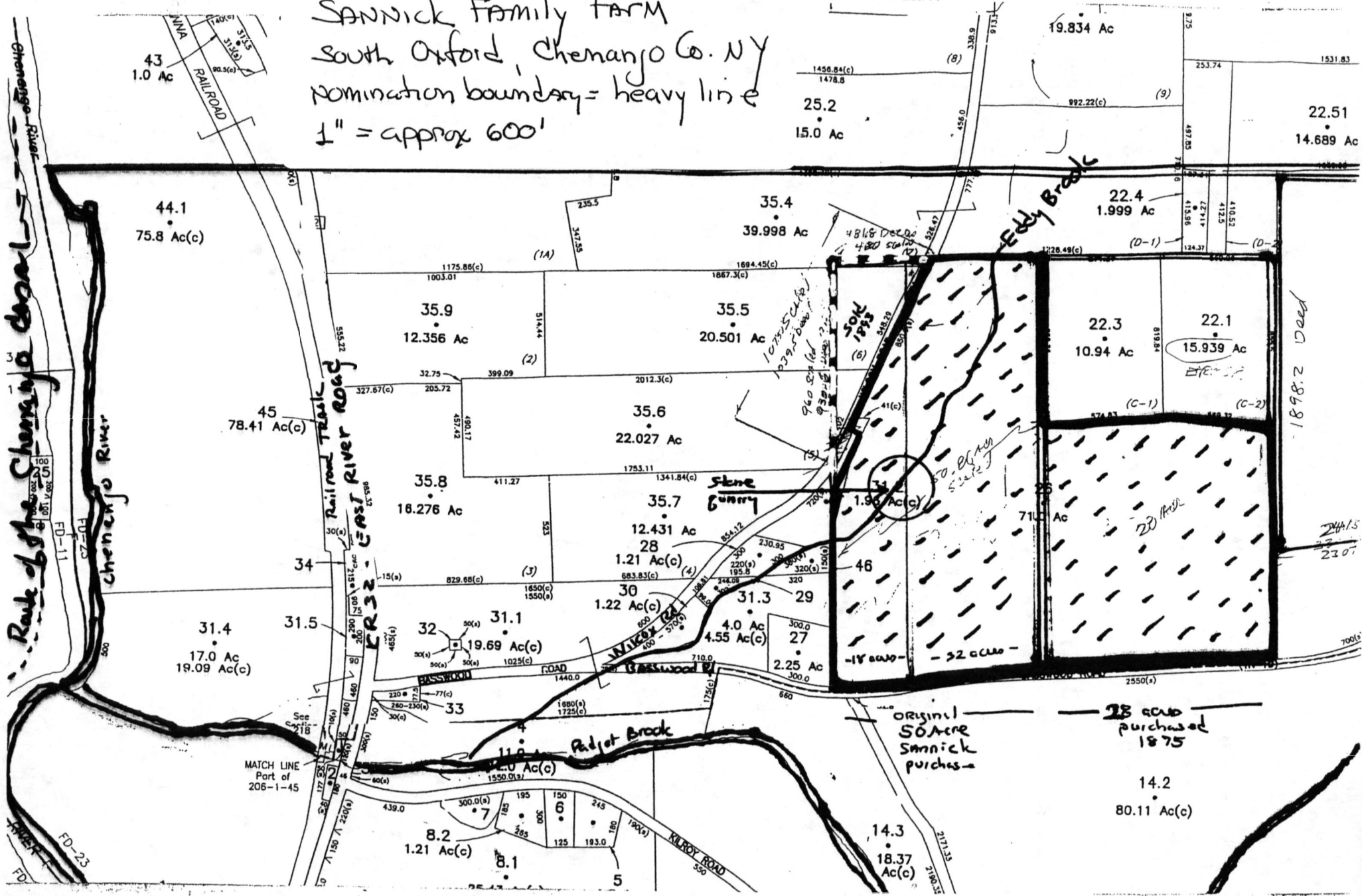
The nomination boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include all of the farm property included in the Sannick Family Farm during the period of significance that retains its integrity and associations with the family. The seventy-one acre nominated parcel encompasses all but seven of the original fifty acres purchased by John W. Sannick in 1819 (a small portion was sold off by the Sannick family during the period of significance) and an additional twenty-eight acres acquired by Peter Augustus Blake Sanford in 1875. The farm has been the same size since 1893.

See continuation sheet

SANNICK Family Farm
 South Oxford, Chemango Co. NY
 Nomination boundary = heavy line
 1" = approx 600'



Route of the Chemango Canal

Eddy Brook

Stone Quarry

1898.2 Deed

Original 50 acre Sannick purchase

28 ac purchased 1875

MATCH LINE
Part of 206-1-45

43
1.0 Ac
RAILROAD

25.2
15.0 Ac

19.834 Ac

44.1
75.8 Ac(c)

35.4
39.998 Ac

22.4
1.999 Ac

35.9
12.356 Ac

35.5
20.501 Ac

22.3
10.94 Ac

22.1
15.939 Ac

45
78.41 Ac(c)

35.6
22.027 Ac

35.8
16.276 Ac

35.7
12.431 Ac

31.3
1.96 Ac(c)

31.4
17.0 Ac
19.09 Ac(c)

32
19.69 Ac(c)

30
1.22 Ac(c)

31.3
4.0 Ac
4.55 Ac(c)

46
2.25 Ac

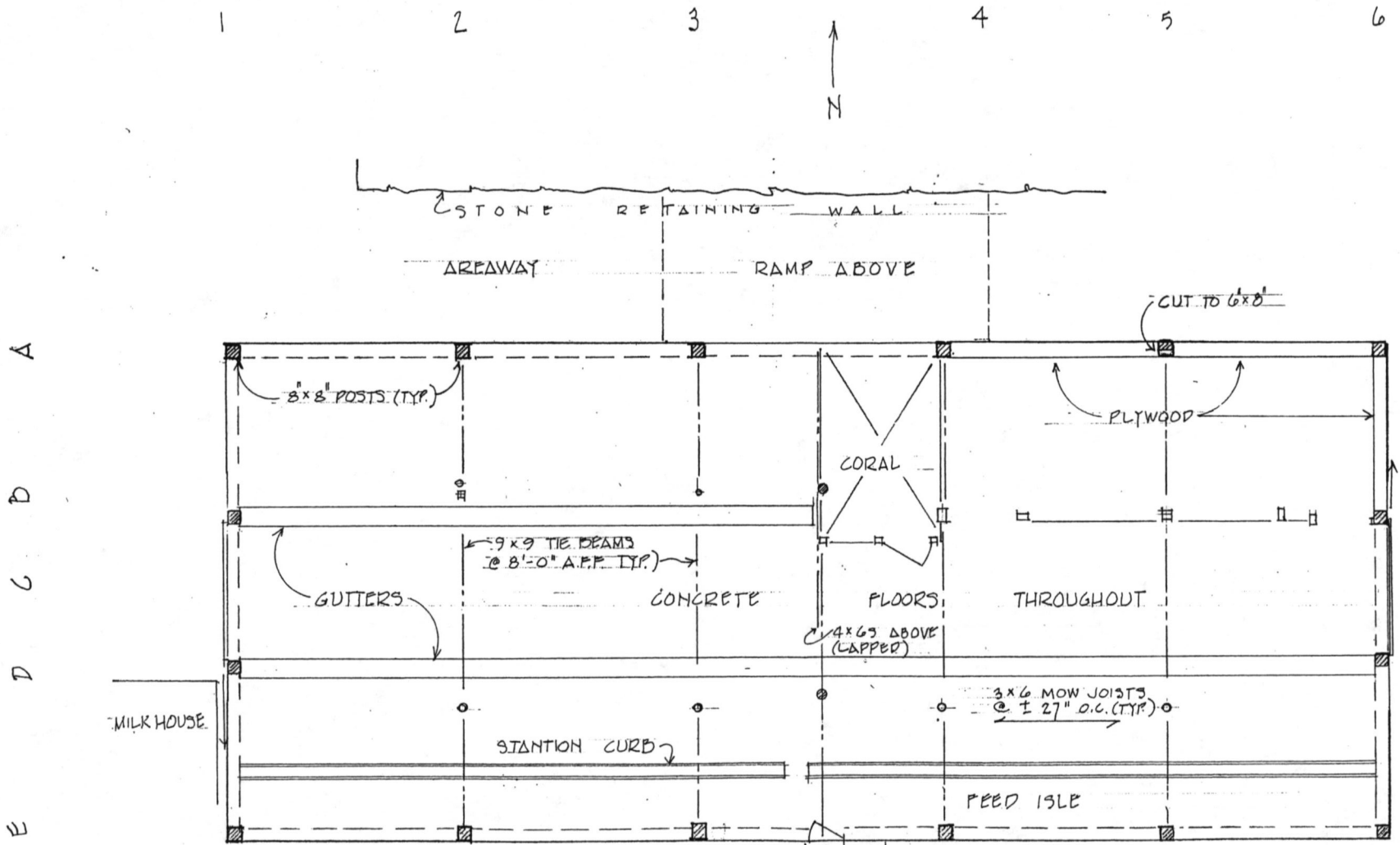
8.2
1.21 Ac(c)

8.1

14.3
18.37 Ac(c)

14.2
80.11 Ac(c)

Sannick Family Farm
 South Oxford, Chenango Co NY
 Dairy barn - plan

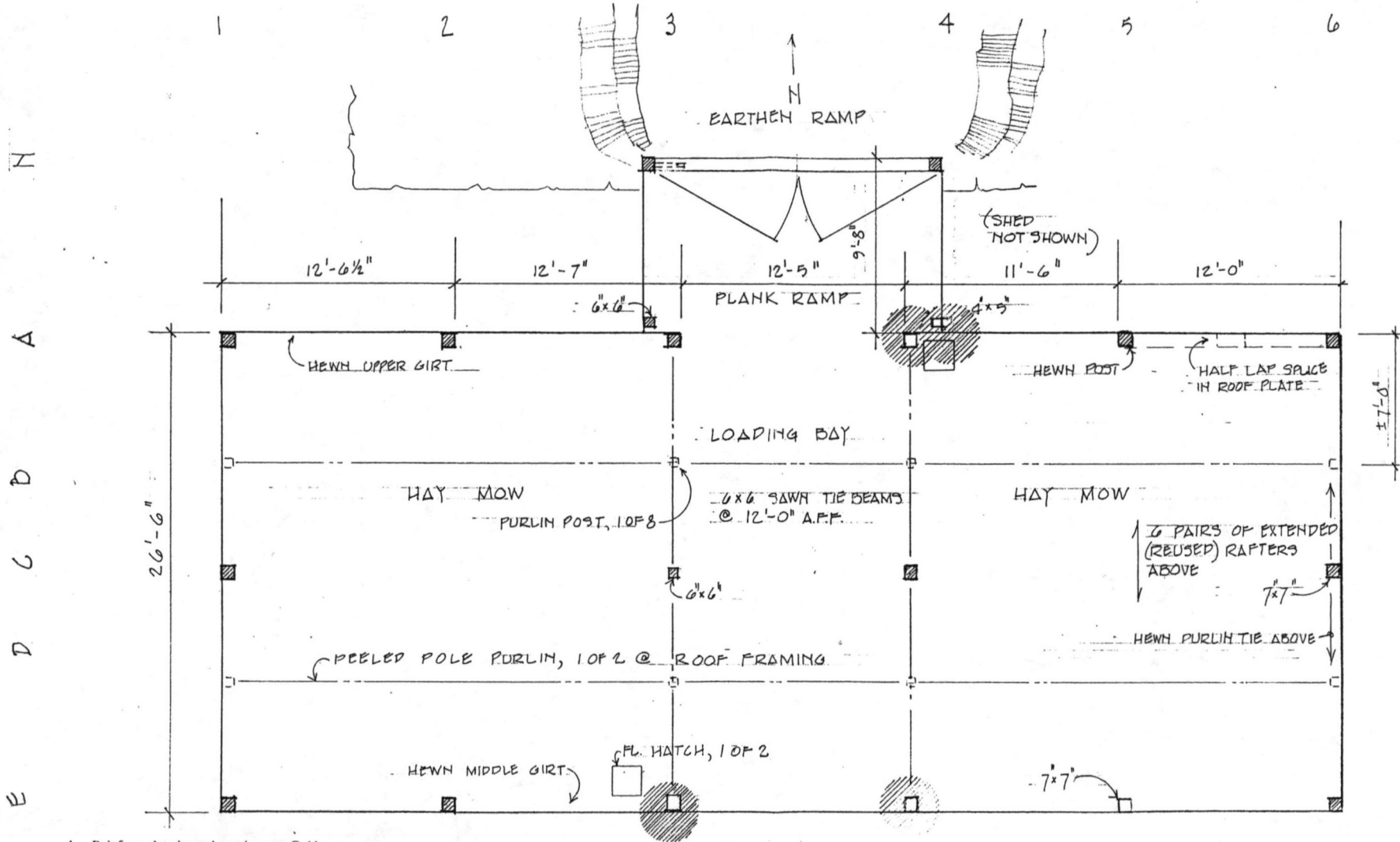


LOWER PLAN
 @ 3/16" = 1'-0"

1. Repair sliding doors, door to silo connector and windows.
2. Install rising braces @ A1 through A6 & 3E; screw attach rising brace at 4E.

CRAWFORD & STEARNS • ARCHITECTS AND PRESERVATION PL
 134 WALTON STREET • ARMORY SQUARE • SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13202 • PHONE 315/471-2162 • FA
 SUBJECT: MAIN BARN, POITS - SANNICK FARM, OXFORD NY DATE: 25 SEPT. 2006 SHT 2

Sannick Family Farm
 South Oxford, Chenango Co. NY
 dairy barn - plan



1. Reinforce deteriorated post in mow @ 4A.
2. Reinforce deteriorated roof plates @ 3E, 4A & 4E.
3. Reinforce end connections of the beams with posts at 3A, 3E, 4A & 4E.
4. Install 2" x 6" sisters on both sides of mow tie beams.
5. Post the tie beams beneath the 4 freestanding purlin posts @ 3B, 3D, 4B and 4D.
6. Screw back in place all braces which are loose and/or dislocated.
7. Post or bolt-up lap splice in roof plate between A5 & A6.
8. Jack up entry enclosure corners N3 & N4.
9. Install new rising brace @ 4N.

UPPER/MOW PLAN
 @ 3/16" = 1'-0"

CRAWFORD & STEARNS • ARCHITECTS AND PRESERVATION P
 134 WALTON STREET • ARMORY SQUARE • SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13202 • PHONE 315/471-2162 • FA
 SUBJECT: MAIN BARN, POTTS, SANNICK FARM, OXFORD, NY DATE: 28 SEPT 2006 SHT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Sannick Family Farm
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Chenango

DATE RECEIVED: 3/09/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/26/07
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/10/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/22/07
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000335

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 4.18.07 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.



Sannick Family Farm

South Oxford, Chenango Co. NY

photo: Tommy Brown, 2006

Obj: PO Box 746
Oxford NY 13830

view: looking north at Sannick Farm

#1



Sannick Family Farm

South Oxford, Chenango Co NY

photo: Tommy Brown, 2006

neg: PO Box 746
Oxford NY 13830

View: Sannick farmhouse
looking northeast

#2



Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango Co NY

photo: Tommy Brown, 2006

neg: Po Box 746

Oxford NY 13830

view: Sannick Farmhouse

looking southwest

showing original wing

at rear

#2
#3



Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango Co NY

photo: Tommy Braw, 2006

neg: PO Box 746
Oxford NY 13830

view: dairy barn, looking
southwest

#4



Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango Co NY

photo: Tommy Brown, 2006

neg: PO Box 746
Oxford NY 13830

view: dairy barn + silo
looking northwest

#5



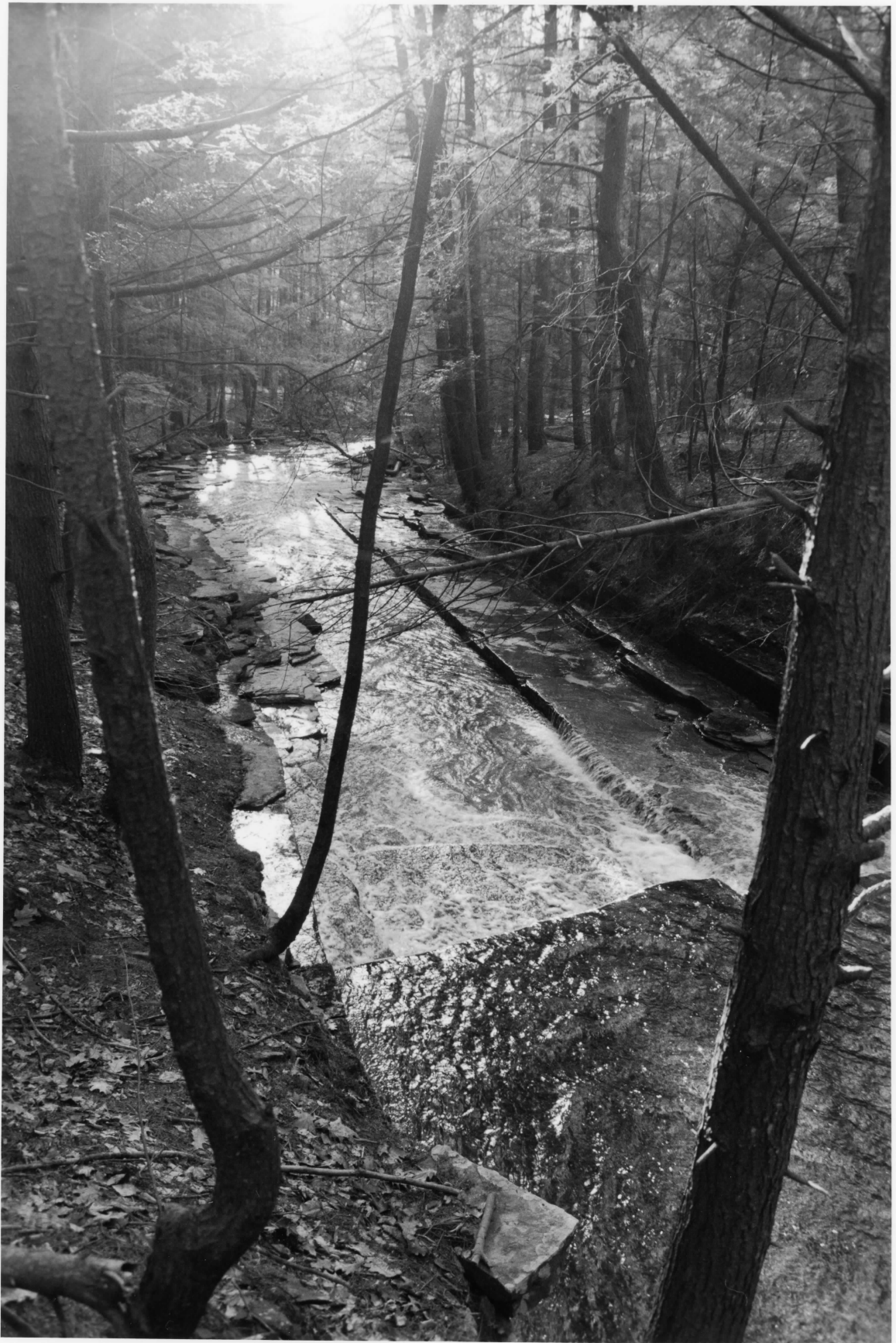
Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango Co NY

photo: Tommy Brown, 2006

neg: PO Box 746
Oxford NY 13830

view: quarry

#6



Sannick Family Farm

South Oxford, Chenango Co NY

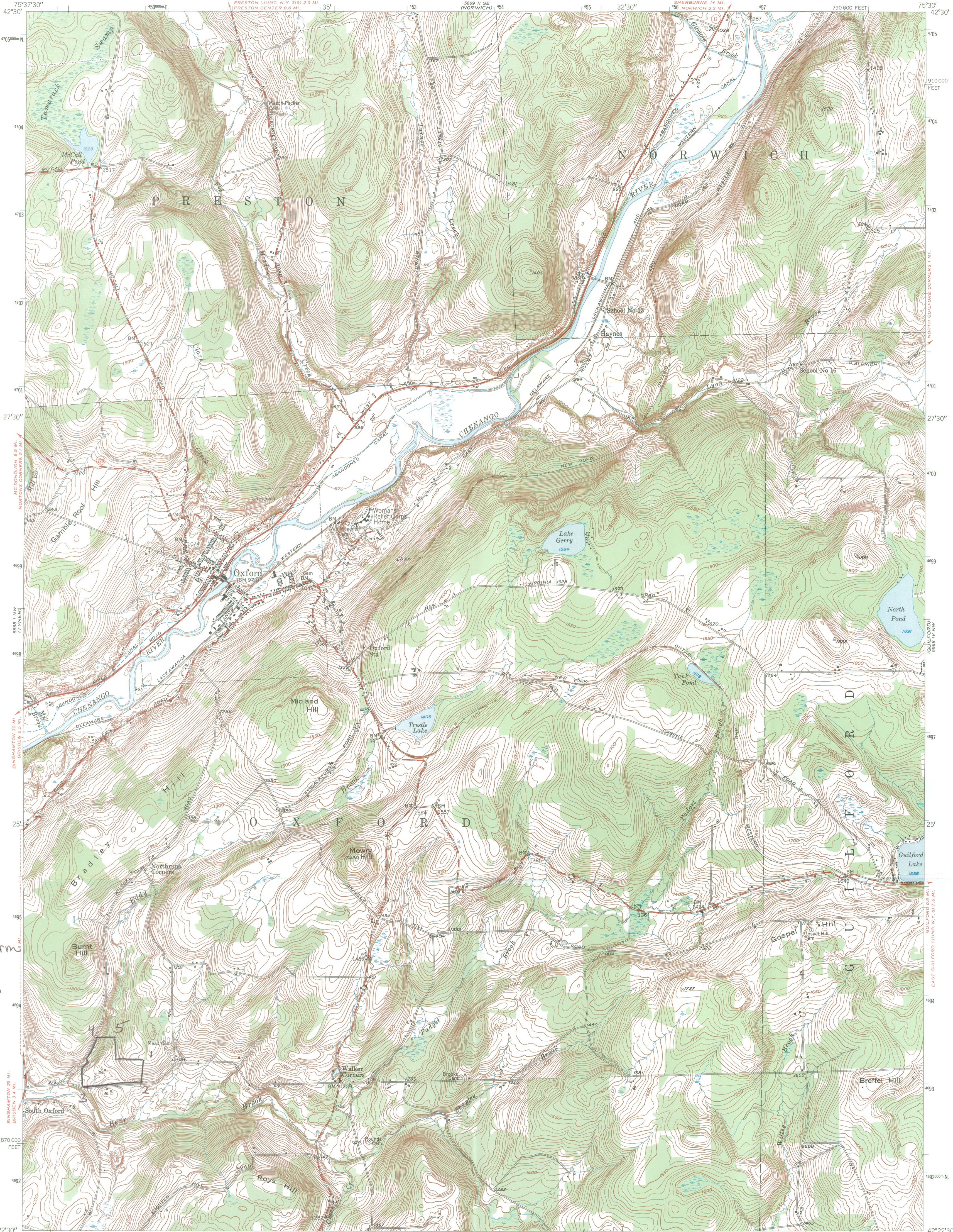
photo: Tommy Brown, 2006

neg: PO Box 746

Oxford NY 13830

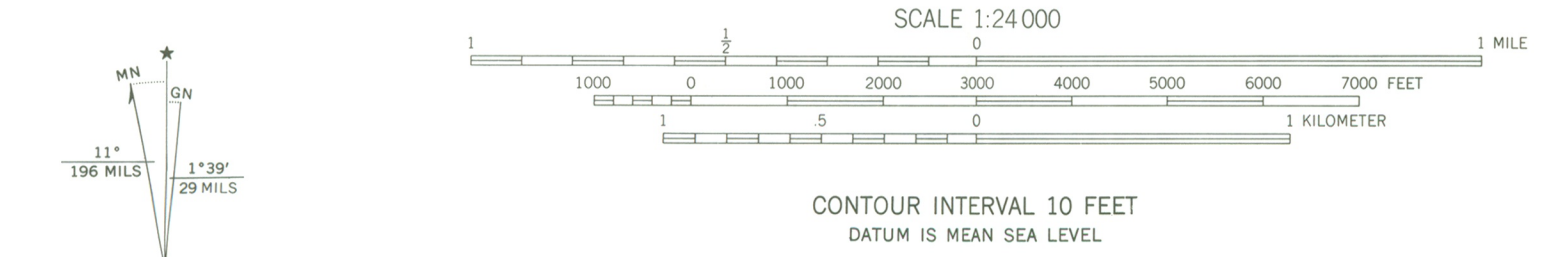
view: quarry

#17



Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford
Chenango County
New York
Oxford Quad
zone 18
1. 449821/4693369
2. 449828/4693047
3. 449247/4693012
4. 449379/4693579
5. 449568/4693591

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1944. Field check 1949
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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	4 LANE 16 LANE	Light-duty
Medium-duty	2 LANE 16 LANE	Unimproved dirt
	U. S. Route	State Route

SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

OXFORD, N. Y.
NE/4 OXFORD 15' QUADRANGLE
N4222.5-W7530/7.5
1949
AMS 5688 1 NE-SERIES V821

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, Glenna Potts, am the owner of the property at
(print or type owner name)

129 Jordan Lane, Oxford, NY 13830

(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.

Glenna J Potts 1/5/06

(signature and date)

Glenna J. Potts

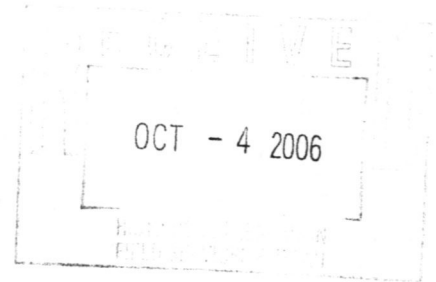
235 Manwarren Rd.

Oxford, NY 13830

(mailing address)

235 Manwarren Road
Oxford, NY 13830
October 1, 2006

New York State Historic
Preservation Review Board
c/o Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island, PO Box 189
Waterford, New York 12188-0189



Re: Sannick Family Farm
South Oxford, Chenango County

Dear Review Board Member,

Thank you for considering my application. I am thrilled that Sannick Family Farm may be included in the state and federal Historic Registers.

It has been so gratifying to slowly document Sannick family history and to have the rarity of this African American farm confirmed by our county historian, Dale Storms. I owe so much to her and everyone else who helped, especially the huge time and effort of Kathleen LaFrank in putting it all together so beautifully.

For me Sannick Farm is both evocative, transporting me to an earlier time, and provocative of endless thought about the place, people, and events. I was familiar with the property's natural beauty and farming for many years, but knew nothing of its creation. That has changed and now I am looking to the future and believing the Historic Register listing would assist in preserving this special place.

I hope you also feel Sannick farm deserves the recognition and honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenna J. Potts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Glenna J. Potts

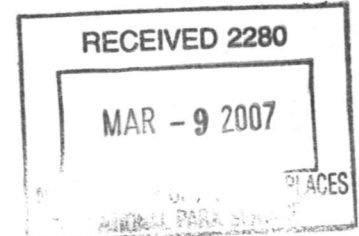


New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

March 7, 2007

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



Re: Transmittal of National Register
Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

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

- Sannick Family Farm, South Oxford, Chenango Co., NY
- Copake Iron Works Historic District, Columbia Co., NY
- Dr. Cornelius Nase Campbell House, Stanfordville, Dutchess Co., NY
- Public School No. 13, Yonkers, Westchester Co., NY
- Bar Building, Westchester Co., NY
- Albert E. and Emily Wilson House, Westchester Co., NY
- Dundee Village Historic District, Yates Co., NY

I have also enclosed the nomination form for the Susan B. Anthony Childhood Home in Battenville, Washington Co. NY. This nomination was returned to us by Beth Savage in January requesting additional justification and photographs. The nomination form has been expanded to address the concerns expressed by Beth and new photos were taken to illustrate the non-contributing addition. We are hopeful that the listing of this property can proceed smoothly in order to facilitate grant applications. Please call me if there are any remaining questions about this proposal.

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