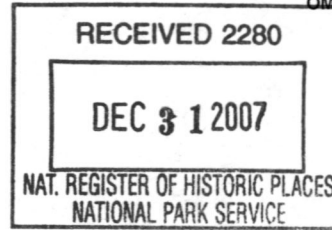


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



21

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 Smith-Ripley House

other names/site number Ripley House Museum

2. Location

street & number 29 East Church Street not for publication

city or town Adams vicinity

state New York code NY county Jefferson code 045 zip code 13605

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.

Ruth A. Purpura DSHPD Signature of certifying official/Title 12/19/07 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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 2.13.08

Smith-Ripley House

Name of Property

Jefferson 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	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	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 dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid 19th Century

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Metal

other

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
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Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

The Smith-Ripley House is located at 29 East Church Street in the village of Adams in Jefferson County. Situated in the northern portion of New York State, Jefferson County is west of the Adirondack Park and south of St. Lawrence County. South of Watertown, the county seat, the village of Adams is one hundred and forty miles south from Ottawa and five miles east from Lake Ontario. Major features of Adams are the Sandy Creek, which flows southwest through the village, and Main Street, a historic commercial hub. East Church Street is off Main Street to the east.

The Smith-Ripley House is located just west of the former Presbyterian Church and east of the Adams Post Office in a neighborhood that includes several other houses from the mid-nineteenth century, three churches, and several new commercial buildings. The house sits on three acres of the original five-acre lot plotted when the village was incorporated in 1851. The lot is on a slight elevation that gently slopes to the north. On the grounds the property features several mature maple and evergreen trees on all sides of the house, including a natural boundary of trees surrounding the open field backyard. A driveway is located on the east side of the house and connects to the former Presbyterian Church driveway to create a circular drive.¹ To the southeast of the building is a contributing carriage house/garage.

Constructed in 1854, the Smith-Ripley House is a two-story Italianate style house with a 1883 two-story addition in the southeast corner and a 1967 one-story addition in the rear. Sitting on a stone foundation, the main block is three bays wide and three bays deep. The exterior is red brick with the exception of the 1967 rear wood addition. Tall wood double-hung windows adorn the façade and sides, with smaller wood-framed

¹ The Smith-Ripley House has no historic connection with the Presbyterian Church; however, both are now owned by the Historical Association of South Jefferson.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

windows in the rear. The house and porches all have low-pitched metal hipped roofs, with the exception of the 1967 rear addition and the west side porch, which feature low-pitched metal shed roofs.

The façade is three bays wide with a right side hall entrance. The entrance is on a single bay open porch supported by square posts with carved rectangular panels. The recessed door has an elaborate enframingent with long sidelights flanking the sides. There are matching proportions to the windows and the main entrance. Wood decorative lintels adorn the long narrow windows. Above the second floor are small rectangular attic windows with ornamental iron grilles. The roof features decorative brackets under wide overhanging eaves and ornate woodwork detailing. A ten-foot side porch constructed before 1883 on the east side of the house has been enclosed with the original pillars still in place. The enclosed porch at the west end, measuring eight feet by sixteen feet, was constructed in the early twentieth century and features several casement windows. The west side open porch is eight feet by seventeen feet in plan. It was renovated in 2003 and features a handicapped accessible ramp.

Very little of the interior of the house has changed over the years. The floor plan remains largely intact with the majority of changes occurring during the 1883 building period. The right side hall entrance leads into a large formal entry room with an impressive curved hardwood main staircase with decorative balustrade. The first floor consists of front and rear parlors in the southwest off the main entry, with a converted bedroom off the rear parlor. Continuing north through the main entry leads to the formal dining room and into the kitchen in the rear of the house. The original plan was altered slightly with an 1883 addition. What had been the kitchen was enlarged and redefined as a formal dining room and a new larger kitchen was added behind it. The L-shaped addition also includes a sitting room off the kitchen leading to a bedroom and bathroom. The expanded kitchen has a large pantry space, service area, and backstairs. There are two small rooms from the 1967 addition in the north rear of the house.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

The second floor has a long central hallway with five large bedrooms and one bathroom in the original footprint of the house. The first addition increased the second floor to include two small bedrooms off the service stairs and two rooms above the first floor bedroom.

Most of the walls are still plaster covered with wallpaper depicting late eighteenth century scenes. Sheet rock was used only where the plaster could not be repaired in one bedroom ceiling on the second floor, the ceiling of the front hall, and the ceiling of the front hall. The hardwood floor features an inlaid pattern of narrow boards in alternating wood tones with a geometric border. All woodwork and interior doors are original hardwood. Most of the old fixtures remain – hanging chandelier, light fixtures, etc. A modern kitchen has been removed and replaced with the original 1854 cabinets, which had been stored in the carriage house/garage.

The carriage house/garage is original to the 1854 building period. Originally two stalls, the horse stables of the Presbyterian Church, were moved to the site around 1900 and added onto the south end. Garage stalls were later added to the west and east end in 1960 and 1967, respectively. The structure is frame construction with gable and shed roofs. The clapboard exterior is painted red.

See continuation sheet

Smith-Ripley House

Name of Property

Jefferson County, New York

County and State

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)

- Architecture
Social History

Period of Significance

1854-1957

Significant Dates

1854; 1883

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data

- x 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

Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance

The Smith-Ripley House is significant under Criterion A and C. Built in 1854 for Philander Smith, a prominent business man, the residence has been associated with several of the village's most prominent families over its long history. These include members of the Smith, Huntington, Brown, and Ripley families, all of whom were influential members of the village's business community. The house is a notable and substantially intact example of the vernacular Italianate architectural style of the mid-nineteenth century in the village of Adams. The house retains a high degree of integrity of design and construction that is consistent with its style and period. There has been one substantial addition to the property (in 1883) that is compatible with the form and architectural style of the original. The Smith-Ripley House sits on a three-acre parcel of land in a neighborhood that reflects the relative prosperity of the village and the social prominence of its owners. Although an architect has not been identified with the design of the house to date, the building represents one of the finest and best preserved nineteenth century homes in the village.

Adams

The town and village of Adams is located in south central Jefferson County. Settled in 1800, the town was formed from Mexico [now in Oswego County] in 1802, and the village incorporated in 1851. Adams received its name in honor of President John Adams. Water power from the Stony Creek, which runs directly through Adams, influenced early settlers to choose this location as the site for the village. These earlier settlers were largely from older parts of the state, particularly the Mohawk Valley, the New England states, and the eastern part of Pennsylvania. Agriculture has been the leading industry in Adams since it was first settled. Dairy farming and cheese making have also been important since the mid-nineteenth century and remain so in the early twenty-first century. Manufacturing included an oil-free paint producer (1898), the W.S. Rice Truss Factory (1886-1991), Hale's Household Ointment Co (1887-1960s), and Frazer Bros Small Engine Machine Shop

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
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Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

(1905-40). Charles Grandison Finney (1792-1875) was working as a lawyer in Adams in 1821 when he underwent a religious conversion, the first step toward his becoming the most prominent revivalist of his era.

Italianate Architecture

The Italianate style of architecture, a product of the Picturesque Movement, became a popular style of construction from 1840 to 1890. It reached its peak of popularity in New York State in the 1850's and 1860's. The Smith-Ripley House exemplifies the Roman-Tuscan mode of the style. This house in particular mirrors the form and massing of many of Italy's rural vernacular farmhouses. As travel and documentation became more available in the mid nineteenth century, expressions of the style better reflected the character of their prototypes in the Italian countryside.

The Smith-Ripley House is a distinctive example of this style. The footprint of this construction is described by its symmetrical and cubic floor plan. Notable elements of this style include: symmetrical façade, the absence of massive projections or recessions, tall narrow windows, decorative window lintels, low pitched roofs with large overhanging eaves and decorative cornices, large support brackets, and spacious rooms allowing air to flow from front to back.

The Smith-Ripley House History

The house was built c. 1854 by Philander Smith, son David Smith, who founded the village of Adams in 1802. The Smith family ran the first saw and grist mills in the town. Philander Smith was a prominent business man, trustee of the Hungerford Colegiate Institution, and director of the Hungerford Bank. The property was sold to Richard Huntington (1834-1900) in 1866/67. Huntington was co-owner of White Malt House from 1866 to 1876. The Malt House was a prominent business in Adams from 1850 to 1909. The Smith-Ripley House changed hands again in 1876, when it was sold to Arthur and Roxana Brown. Arthur Brown was a well

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

respected attorney in Adams from 1860 to 1881. The Brown family was responsible for the 1883 expansion of the house. The addition not only increased the square footage, but it expanded the house to include a new dining room and a larger kitchen, features that would be desirable to a more sophisticated and upscale homeowner.

On April 21, 1884, the house was purchased by Vernelia Ripley, widow of Rufus Ripley (1817-1883). The Ripley family came to the area in 1806 and has been involved in the business concerns of the community from its early settlement. Rufus and son Adelbert Ripley (1841-1906) established the 'Ripley & Son' Shoe Store in 1867. The store was owned and operated by Vernelia and Adelbert from 1883 to 1906. In 1913, the house passed to Vernelia's grandson, Rufus W. Ripley, vice-president of the Citizens Trust Company of Adams and later the Citizens and Farmers Trust Co. of Adams. In 1968, the property was inherited by Marion Ripley Steele. Marion was married first to Dr. Duncan Chalmers, physician, and then to R. Frank Steele, president of the Adams Electric Company. The Steele family owned and operated the Adams Electric Light Company for three generations. Through the family's efforts, the village, and eventually the entire southern part of Jefferson County, received electricity for the first time. The company was merged with Niagara Mohawk Power Company in 1967.

The house retains a high level of integrity. In May of 2003, at the age of ninety-one, Marian Steele donated the Smith-Ripley House to the Historical Association of South Jefferson. Following fifteen months of renovations, the new 'Ripley House' Museum opened in August 2004. The building is now home to the museum, genealogy and local history research departments, and association offices. The carriage house/garage is currently being renovated for agricultural and marine displays.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

The Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Debbie Quick. Adams, N.Y. Ripley House Museum. Archives.

Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company. 1969

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Knopf, 1984

Scharer, Laura Lynne. "Adams" *Encyclopedia of New York State*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2005

Smith-Ripley House

Name of Property

Jefferson County, New York

County and State

10. Geographical DataAcreage of property 3.0 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	417881	4851178	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		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 Byname/title Daniel McEneny/ Parks and Recreation Aideorganization New York State Historic Preservation Office date June 2007street & number Peebles Island State Park, Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643 x 3257city 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 Historical Association of South Jeffersonstreet & number 29 E. Church St telephone 315-232-2616city or town Adams state NY zip code 13605**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

Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include all the acreage associated with the Servoss House.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Smith-Ripley House
Adams, Jefferson County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 1

Photos

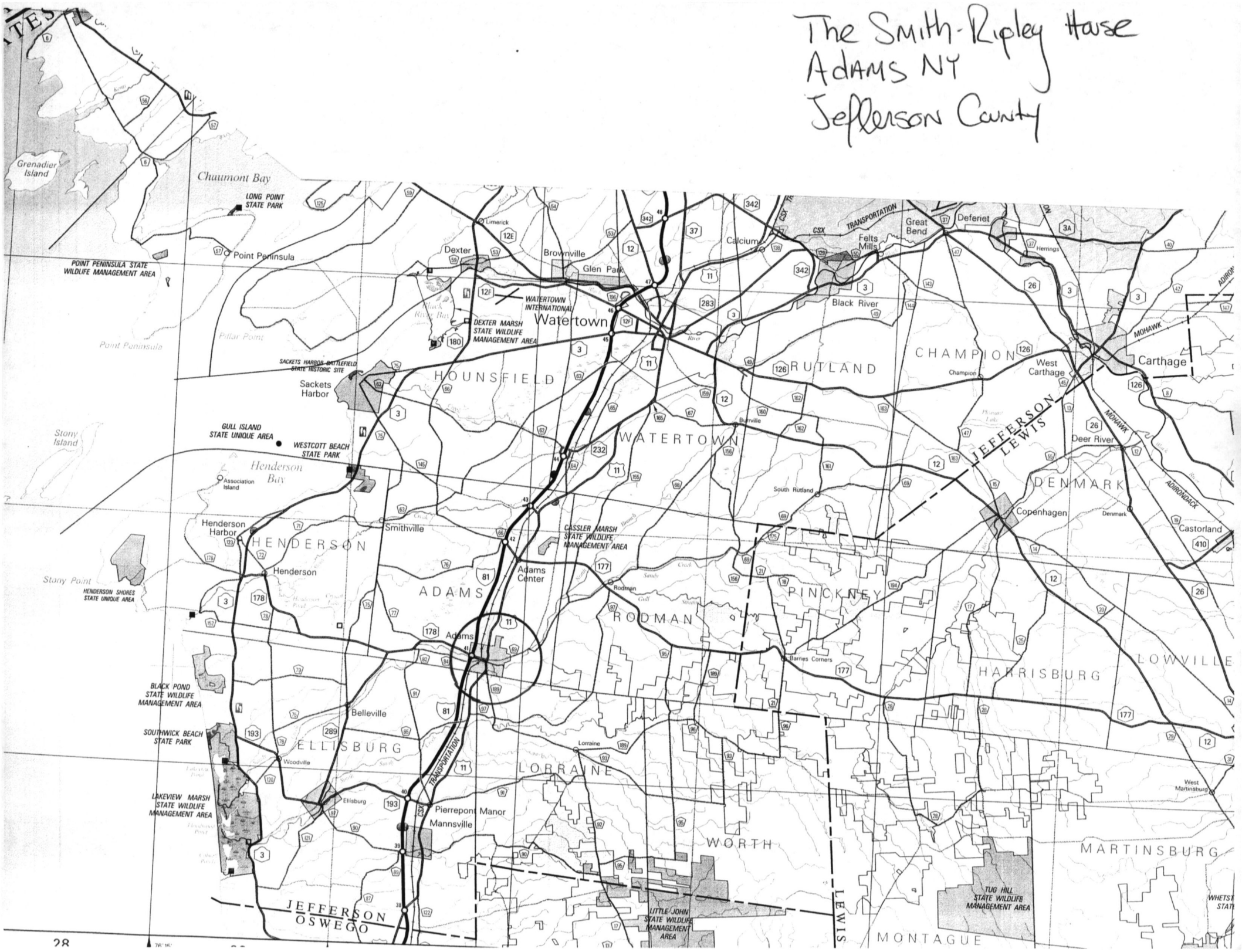
Photographed by Lynn Garofalini
On-File: NYS SHPO

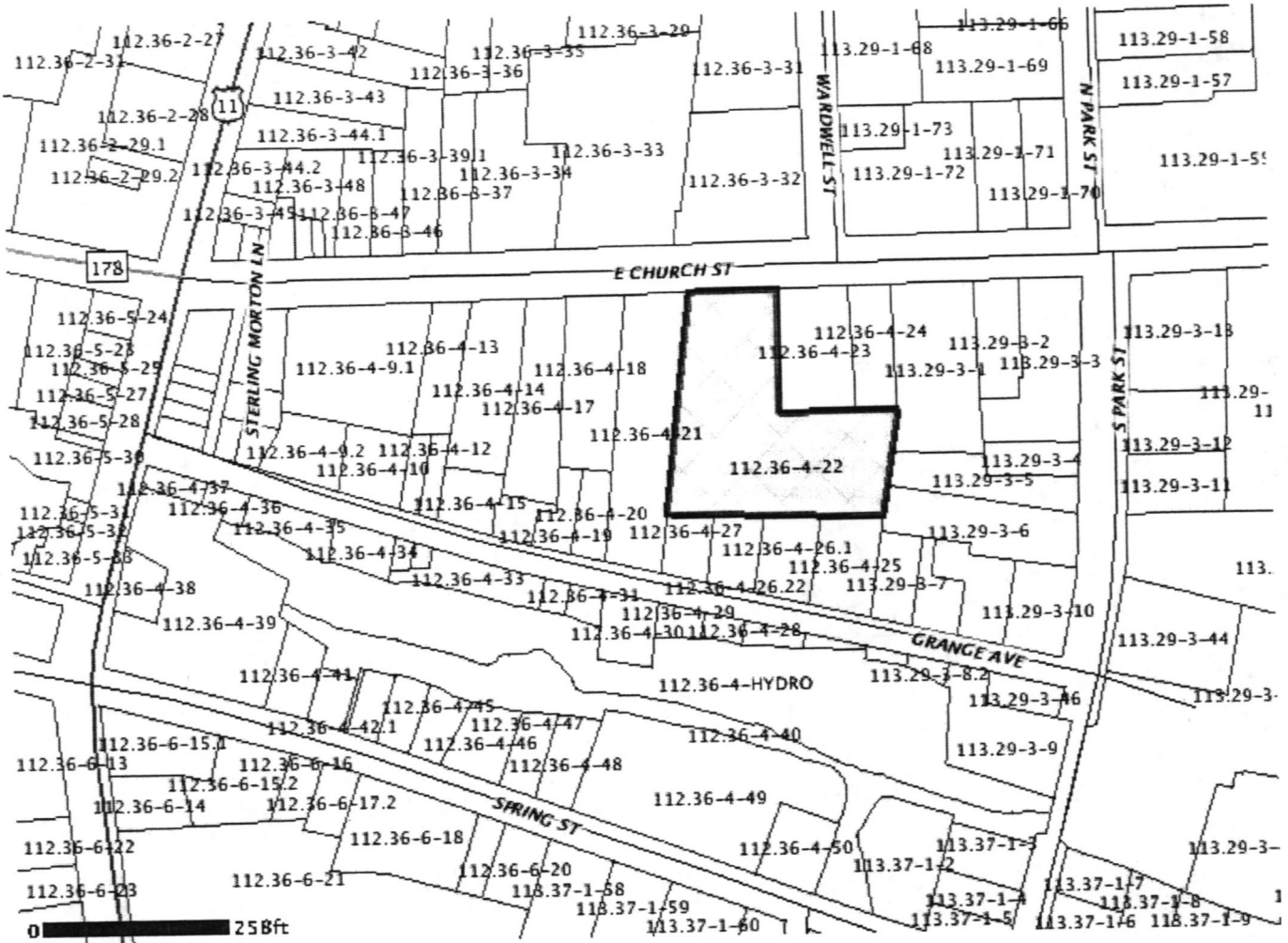
List-

1. Façade- view faces north
2. ¾ Façade
3. Rear- view faces south
4. Main parlor
5. 2nd floor hallway
6. Inlaid flooring in the dining room

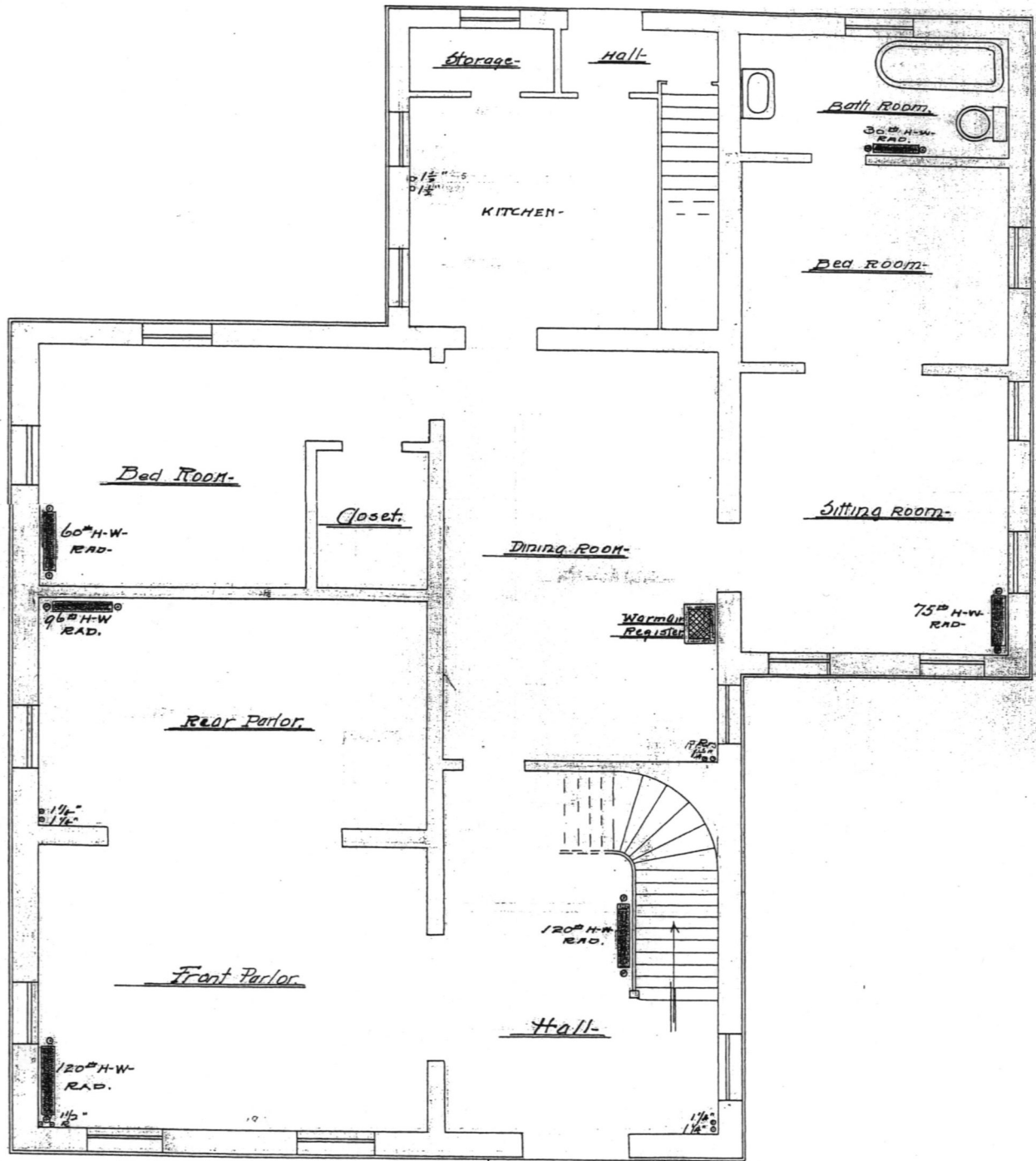
See continuation sheet

The Smith-Ripley House
Adams NY
Jefferson County





The Smith - Ripley House
 Adams NY
 Jefferson Co.

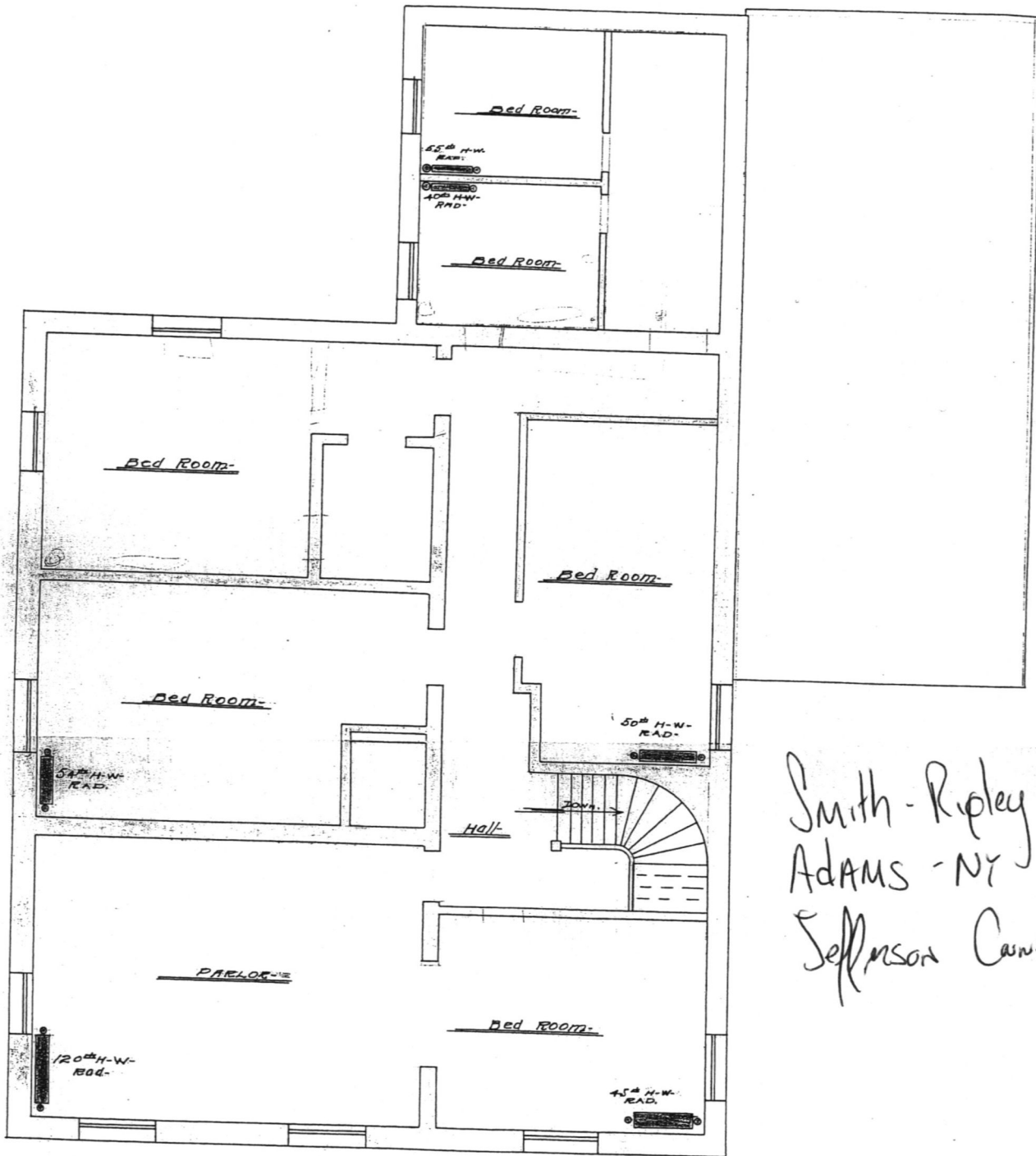


PLAN OF HOT WATER HEATING
RESIDENCE - R. W. RIPLEY
ADAMS - N. Y.

ZIMMER E. PALMER - ENG.
610 - SNOW BUILDING
SYRACUSE - N. Y.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
- 1/4\" scale -

The Smith Ripley House
 Adams NY
 Jefferson County



Smith - Ripley House
 Adams - NY
 Jefferson County

PLAN OF HOT WATER HEATING
RESIDENCE - R. W. RIPLEY
ADAMS - N. Y.

SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 1/4" scale

ELMER E. PALMER - ENG.
610 - SNOW BUILDING
SYRACUSE - N. Y.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Smith--Ripley House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 12/31/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/22/08
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/06/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/13/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000021

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 2.13.08 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*red 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.



N.Y. - Jefferson Co.

Adams

Smith - Ripley

Photo 1 ✓



NY- Jefferson Co.

Adams

Smith R. pley

Photo 2



NY - Jefferson Co.
Adams
Smith - R. ley
Photo 3



NY Jefferson Co
Adams
Smith Ripley
Photo 4



NY - Jefferson Co.
Adams
Smith - Ryley
Photo 5

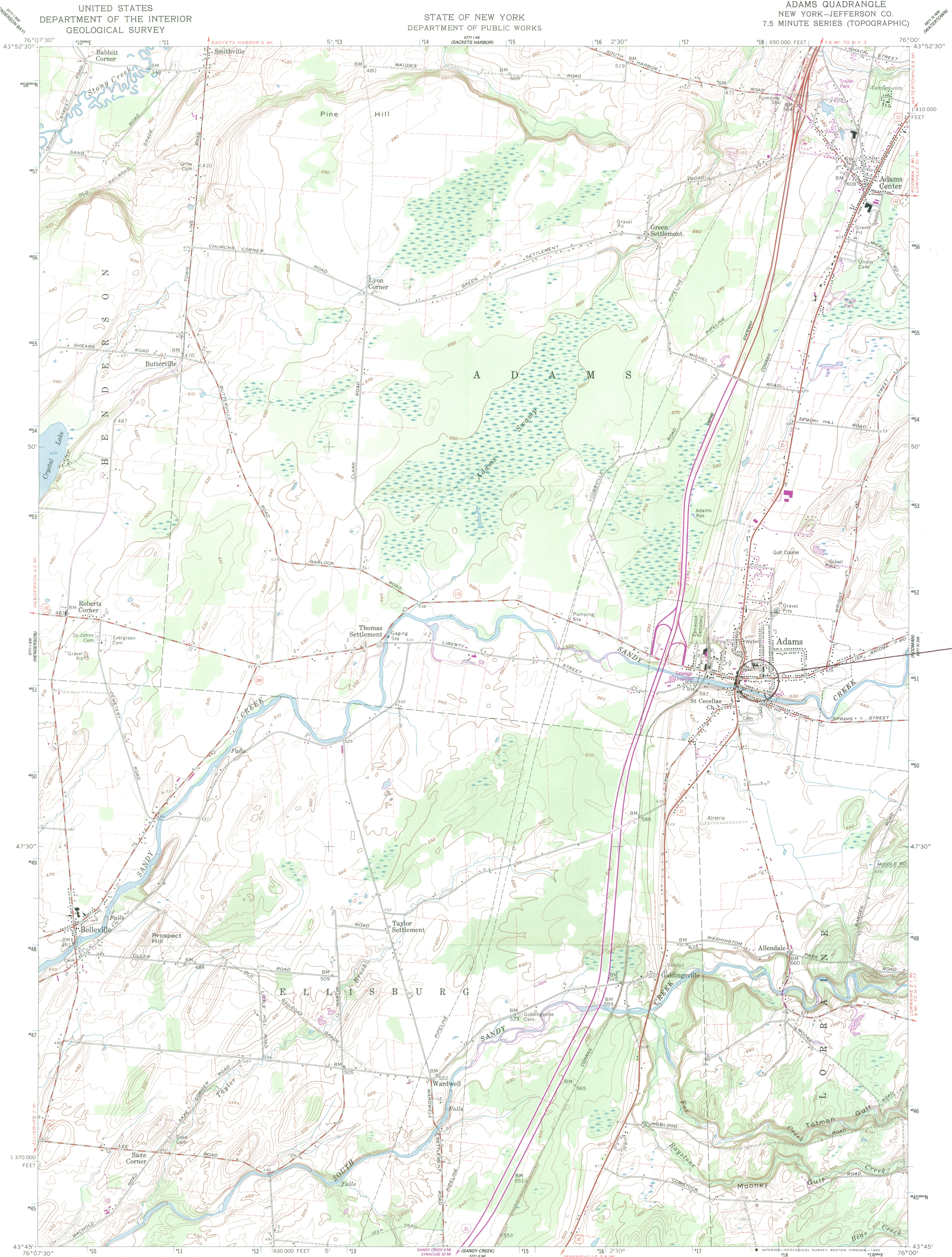


NY - Jefferson

Adams

Smith - R. pley

Photo 6



Smith-Rapley House
Adams NY
Jefferson Co.
Zone 18
Adams Quad
E. 417881
N. 4851178

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Tennessee Valley Authority

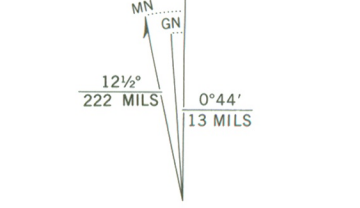
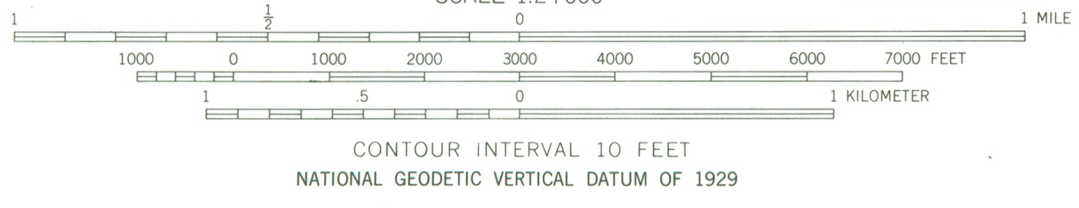
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1959

Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on New York coordinate system, central zone. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue

1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 2 meters south and 26 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

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

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial photographs taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1982



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



ADAMS, N. Y.
N4345—W7600/7.5

1959
PHOTOREVISED 1982
DMA 5771 I SE—SERIES V821