

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations 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 information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Elka Park Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number various [] not for publication
town Hunter [] vicinity
state New York code NY county Greene zip code 12427

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Julia S. [Signature]
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
Signature of certifying official

2/23/93
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 commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:
[X] 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 keeper [Signature] Date of Action 5/22/93

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

OMB NO. 1024-0018, NPS FORM

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John S. Stoye
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
Signature of certifying official

2/23/93
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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[] determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
[] removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
[] other, (explain:)	_____	_____

Name of Property Elka Park Historic District, Hunter, Greene County
5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	31	2
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	1	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	1	
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		
		33	2
			Total

Name of related multiple property listings (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing) na

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register na

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
<u>DOMESTIC; single dwelling</u>	<u>DOMESTIC; single dwelling</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
<u>LATE VICTORIAN; Queen Anne</u>	foundation <u>mostly stone</u>
<u>Stick/Eastlake</u>	walls <u>mostly wood frame with clapboard</u>
<u>Shingle Style</u>	<u>or shingle siding</u>
	roof <u>mostly shingles</u>
	other _____

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

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Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 7 page 1

DESCRIPTION

The Elka Park Historic District is located in the Catskill Region on the northern slope of Spruce Top Mountain, in the town of Hunter, south-central Greene County, New York. Situated south of Albany on the western bank of the Hudson River, Greene County offers some of the most dramatic views and scenic vistas in the Catskills and has attracted both artists and tourists since the early nineteenth century. The Elka Park Historic District is a planned community of twenty seasonal houses founded and developed as a small, late nineteenth century, summer residential enclave by wealthy German-Americans. The boundary of the 1104-acre historic district has been drawn to encompass the original 195 acres purchased by the Elka Park Association in 1889, as well as additional land purchased by the Association prior to 1935. (The additional acreage is heavily wooded wilderness south of the original parcel on the north slope of Spruce Top Mountain.) The land holdings are a significant component of this planned community recalling the desire for a scenic, secluded, and exclusive enclave promoted by the founders of the Association.

The nominated district contains nineteen summer cottages, one observation tower and one community carriage house, which has been converted into a seasonal dwelling (twenty buildings and one structure). A number of the principal residences have associated studios (e.g., photo 3), carriage houses, garages, guest cottages, clubhouses and gazebos (a total of eleven secondary contributing buildings), as well. The system of roads, footpaths, stone walls (e.g., photo 12), bridges (e.g., photo 13), stone-lined sluiceways, and terraces, with wrought-iron lamp posts, gates and fountains combine to make up the designed plan and landscape of the park (one contributing site). There are two non-contributing buildings including a modern one-story, eight-room guest lodge (1960) and a split level clubhouse (1953), and one non-contributing structure (a modern swimming pool).

The cottages, which are graciously spaced and feature attractive landscaping with both formal and informal gardens, represent a variety of late nineteenth century residential building styles. Ranged along the mountainside in three tiers, the cottages are connected by roads which, following the contours of Spruce Top Mountain, are part of the original park design. Lot sizes and building setbacks vary, as they were adapted to the rugged terrain. While some cottages are regularly spaced and present an attractive, but typical, suburban roadside orientation, others are set high on a hill, sometimes approached by winding drives or terraced walkways

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(e.g., the Tamsen-Perkins Cottage, property #18, photo 11). In these larger, estate-like settings there is evidence of systems of walks and overlooks, both internal and connecting with the other cottages. Because the residences were all sited to take advantage of the magnificent views, there is often a decided contrast between the conventional roadside appearance of a house and its other elevations, where wrap-around porches, balconies and French windows facilitate the enjoyment of panoramic vistas.

Most properties included in the historic district were constructed by the German-born members of the Elka Park Association as summer residences for themselves and their families. These men were prominent individuals in the German-American community of metropolitan New York City and the design and disposition of their summer cottages was intended to reflect the financial and social status which they had attained in America by the 1890's. Therefore, in marked contrast to the intentionally rustic cottages built during this period in the nearby resort communities of Onteora and Twilight Parks, the Elka Park cottages more closely resemble the popular residential designs of wealthy suburban developments of the period, making the park unique in primarily rural Greene County.

The nineteen cottages are all of frame construction, usually two and one-half stories with irregular plans, asymmetrical massing, and clapboard and/or shingle siding. They are all in good condition and well-maintained with little or no alteration to the original designs. Constructed with local labor using local materials, the cottages are large and the quality of craftsmanship and design is high. Prominent porches and balconies and a variety of window and roof forms and decorative embellishments contribute a rich textural quality to the assemblage. Leaded and stained glass (including a coat-of-arms in one window) and distinctive brass hardware are widely seen. Many of the houses are distinguished by wrought iron finials and weather vanes in designs that possibly allude to the names or attributes of the families.

About half of the cottages fall into recognized stylistic categories, including two Queen Anne houses which are characterized by corner turrets, decorative shingle siding and meandering wrap-around porches with ornamental balustrades, turned and chamfered posts and lattice screens. There are four Colonial Revival style designs -- two with pedimented gables and dormers (e.g., the Drackenfeld-Lassiter Cottage, property #4, photo 1) and two with hipped roofs and segmented roof dormers. Other decorative devices of these cottages are Palladian windows and oculi with keystones, pedimented, single bay projecting entrance porches and wide fascia

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accented with dentils or other classical motifs. Three cottages are designed in the Swiss chalet style (e.g., the Tamsen-Perkins Cottage, property #18, photo 11). Among their alpine features are lacy jig-sawn balustrades, wide overhanging eaves and picturesque porch decks and balconies. One cottage -- the Italianate style Kurth-Fitzgerald Cottage -- has been attributed to Park resident and architect Hugo Kafka (property #10, photo 7). Future research may be able to establish Kafka's hand in other park designs. The remainder of the cottages are more eclectic, combining various details and elements of several popular residential trends including the Queen Anne, Shingle Style, Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles for a rich medley of architectural effects. The interiors of many of the cottages are relatively unaltered and display original wood moldings and trim, built-in cabinetry and tongue-and-groove wainscotting.

Unlike the cottages of nearby Onteora, which were planned to promote a rustic summer existence and to relieve owners of mundane household concerns by providing communal dining facilities, the Elka Park cottages were all originally designed with indoor plumbing and full kitchens. Although guests would usually lodge in the 1890 Elka Park Clubhouse (no longer extant), the cottages were designed with five to nine bedrooms to accommodate both family and servants. Most, if not all of the cottages contained large water tanks on their upper floors to provide a gravity-fed water supply. Hot water was supplied both by the heat from the wood and coal cookstoves, and by gas heaters. A central gas distribution system (no longer extant) was an original feature of the park, allowing the cottages to be built with gas lights, said to be the first in the county.

In addition to their primary residential buildings, several properties also contain small buildings which served as studios, offices and guest cottages. In most cases these are frame buildings with shingle siding; however, three of these dependencies are particularly notable because they are constructed in the rustic style (e.g., the studio associated with the Merz-Barnes Cottage, property #5, photo 3). They are characterized by the employment of interlocking logs or log and bark siding, wide overhanging eaves, branch decorations in the gable ends and rough fieldstone chimneys. These buildings provide a strong contrast with the sophisticated suburban styles of the cottages.

Landscape styles of the individual properties range from informal rock garden arrangements to formal terracing (e.g., the Tamsen-Perkins Cottage, property #18, photo 11). Driveways of some of the larger lots are marked by impressive stone and wrought iron

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gateways. Several of the private tennis courts have survived, as have fanciful rustic gazebos and arbored outdoor dining pavilions.

The careful planning which went into the creation of Elka Park is evidenced by the high quality of the road and lot patterns, stone walls, bridges and sluiceway designs (e.g., photos 12 and 13) and by the services such as the aforementioned gas plant, the sewerage treatment plant of 1911 (no longer extant) and electric street lamps of 1913. It is not known who is primarily responsible for the park layout; however, the amenities almost certainly reflect the design and engineering expertise of many of the original residents. Notable features include the remains of a network of footpaths, including stone steps and slab bridges, interconnecting the cottage grounds. Along the main thoroughfares, groupings of rhododendron and copper beeches are enhanced by the purplish cast of the iron-rich local clay. Near the center of the park is a community playground in which stone-lined streams and inviting shade trees combine for a naturalistic appearance.

One highly romantic feature in the landscape is Katharina Tower, a seventy-five foot, conical roofed stone tower built in 1898 by Park resident Ferdinand Wesel as a memorial to his wife. Located above Wesel's "Chalet", the highest cottage on the mountainside, the tower serves as an observation deck and is the most prominent landmark of Elka Park.

The following building list includes complete descriptions of each building in the Elka Park historic district. The building numbers are keyed to the district map (map 1). The buildings are identified by their former or original names, followed by their current names (in parentheses).

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BUILDING LIST**1. Keller Cottage (Cunningham Cottage) 1896**

Built for John M. Keller of Brooklyn, New York; two-and-one-half story Swiss Chalet style cottage; rectangular plan; wood frame construction with wooden clapboard siding; medium pitch cross-gable roof with slightly bell-cast shape and wide over-hanging eaves supported by wooden brackets; multi-pane upper sash and single-pane lower sash, double-hung windows with simple molded surrounds; double doors with glass panels; off-center brick interior chimney; one-story recessed porch on first story front facade featuring square piers with molding, jig-sawn braces and balustrade, and a multi-pane casement window enclosure; balcony extensions on second story level supported by decorative carved braces and embellished with jig-sawn balustrades; balcony under gable end has protective shed roof overhang supported by decorative wooden braces; one of three Swiss Chalet style cottages in the park.

2. Ehrmann Cottage (Badenhausen Cottage) 1890

Built for Francis Ehrmann, who served as the first vice president of the Elka Park Association after its founding in 1889; purchased in 1938 by the Badenhausen family, brewers and importers of malt and hops; remains today in the Badenhausen family; two-and-one-half story vernacular cottage; large, irregular plan; wood frame construction with wood clapboard (first story) and wood shingle (second story and above) siding; irregular roof line composed of a combination of intersecting jerkin-head roofs and hip roof dormers; nine-over-two and sixteen-over-two double-hung windows with simple surrounds and wooden louvered shutters; flared eave projections, simple wooden posts and corresponding balustrade; unique entrance from the road, located above the second story and reached by a walking ramp from the road; interior is intact. Contributing one-and-one-half story carriage house (circa 1890): wood frame with flush vertical (first floor) and wood shingle (above first floor) siding, medium-pitch gable roof with shed roof dormers, exposed rafters, multi-pane casement windows, central double door carriage entrance.

3. Hasslacher Cottage (Menzies/Crane Cottage) 1896

Built for the renowned chemist, Jacob Hasslacher, who served for many years on the Elka Park Association Board of Directors, and served as president from 1901 until his death in 1921; two-and-one-half story eclectic late Victorian cottage; irregular plan; massive

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wood frame construction with wood clapboard (first and second stories) and ornamental shingle (gable ends) siding; unique floor line formed by roof dormers, slightly flared eaves, and a mansard turret-like roof projection at one corner of the structure; interior brick chimney, varied fenestration, including two-over-two double-hung, multi-pane casement, small oval, and Palladian-like window with fan-light; one story shed roof wrap-around porch with slender columns and turned balustrade, an octagonal-shape projection at one corner of the structure enclosed with multi-pane window. Contributing one story studio/guest cottage (circa 1896; rustic design, rectangular plan, log construction, gable roof, fieldstone end-chimney and contributing garage.

4. Drackenfeld Cottage (Lassiter Cottage)
Photo No.: 1

1894

Two-and-one-half story Colonial Revival style summer residence; rectangular plan; wood frame construction with clapboard siding; medium-pitch pedimented gable roof with wide, molded entablature and cornice; central brick interior chimney; gable roof dormer projections; two-over-two double-hung windows with wooden louvered shutters and molded surrounds; Colonial Revival style oval window to left of main entrance with molded surrounds; pedimented, recessed corner entrance features molded cornice and entablature, engaged piers, slender Doric order columns, and a turned balustrade; entrance transom and sidelights; one-story shed roof wrap-around porch with corner octagonal shape projection more typical of Victorian eclecticism; porch features molded entablature, slender Doric order columns and turned balusters. Contributing frame garage.

5. Merz Cottage (Barnes Cottage)
Photo No.: 2, 3

1895

Originally owned by a Mr. Merz, one of the founders of the Elka Park Association; two and one-half story eclectic Victorian summer residence; L-shape plan and irregular massing; wood frame construction with wood clapboard (first story) and wooden shingle (above first story) siding; intersecting medium-pitch gable roof with pediment, various size gable roof dormer windows, molded entablature, cornice with dentils, and two corner tower projections; one corner tower projection is octagonal in shape with a conical roof and showing the influence of the Queen Anne style; the other corner tower is square in shape, crowned by a balustrade, with molded entablature and dentil cornice, and featuring an oval window with decorative lintel head; two-over-one double-hung windows with

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molded surrounds; wrap-around porch features slender Doric order columns, turned balustrades, broad entablature, and dentil cornice molding. Contributing one-story former ice house (circa 1890's): square plan (approximately ten feet by ten feet) wood frame, shingle siding, hip roof, two-over-two windows, central entrance, porch with wooden balustrade and lattice-work base. Contributing one-story guest cottage/studio (circa 1890's; photo 3): rustic design, log construction, square plan, gable roof with gable roof dormer, decorative bargeboard stick design, roof extends over porch with criss-cross wooden balustrade, unique cottage. Contributing frame gazebo.

6. Fink Cottage (Fuller Cottage)
Photo No.: 4

1890

Originally owned by Frederick W. Fink, renowned chemist and park founder, who served as the first treasurer of the Elka Park Association Board of Directors; two-story vernacular Victorian summer residence; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with flush clapboard (first story) and decorative wooden shingle (above first story) siding; medium-steep pitch cross-gable roof with gable roof dormers; decorative treatment of gable ends, having slight eave overhangs with decorative modillions and semi-circular louvered vents, molded cornices; interior brick chimney; nine-over-two double-hung windows with molded lintel heads and wooden louvered shutters; notable one-story wrap-around porch featuring two corner octagonal porch projections with octagonal conical shape roofs with crowning finials; porch also features decorative turned posts, criss-cross design wooden balustrade and vertical board and lattice-work base. Contributing one and one-half story guest cottage (circa 1890's): same design and decorative features as main structure, wood frame, decorative pattern wood shingle siding. Contributing one and one-half story studio/club house (circa 1890's): small rectangular plan, log construction, rustic design, gable roof with wide overhanging eaves, gable roof dormer, stone end chimney, two-over-two double-hung windows.

7. Steinecke Cottage (Gibbons Cottage)
Photo No.: 5

1891

Two and one-half story summer residence with Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style features; irregular plan, wood frame construction with clapboard (first story) and wood shingle (above first story) siding; low-pitched hip roof with small eyebrow dormer windows; crowning finial and modillion cornice; two brick interior chimneys, one with ornamental chimney pots; bay-window projections on second floor;

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also on second floor, an octagonal-shape corner turret-like projection with conical roof and finial; matching roof treatment and finials above bay windows; one-over-one double-hung windows with molded lintel heads; first story windows are taller than those above; one-story wrap-around porch features molded cornice, turned posts and slender turned balustrades; base with decorative shingle pattern and lattice-work vents. Contributing small octagonally shaped club house (circa 1890's): built next to house for use by "men only" as a meeting place to discuss business, stocks, or to play cards; wood frame; shingle siding; two-over-two double-hung windows with decorative pediment; molded cornice; octagonal conical roof with crowning finial.

8. Zoller Cottage (Freeley Cottage) 1893
Photo No.: 6

Two and one-half story vernacular Victorian summer residence; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with clapboard (first story) and decorative pattern wooden shingle (above first story) siding; steeply pitched jerkin-head roof; one and one-half story dormer-like projections on side facades with double-gable on one facade; two-over-two and nine-over-two double-hung windows; some leaded and stained glass windows; two-story bay-like projections on main facade are enclosed; formerly open porches; first-story enclosed porch features groups of three tapered columns, decorative shingled piers and turned balusters.

9. Lehmann Cottage (Hartter Cottage) 1896

Two and one-half story summer residence with Colonial Revival style features; irregular plan; wood frame construction with clapboard siding and decorative wooden shingles in gable ends; medium-pitched gable roof with end pediments and gable roof dormers; wide molded entablature and molded cornice; two-over-two and one-over-one double-hung windows with simple surrounds and wooden louvered shutters; gable ends feature double window with segmental lintel head and single window with fan-light lintel motif, both flanked on either side by keystone oval windows; one-story wraparound porch with slender columns, turned balusters, and roof-peak finial decorations; brick interior chimney.

10. Kurth Cottage (Fitzgerald Cottage) 1896
Photo No.: 7

(Designed by Hugo Kafka, architect of the 1890 Clubhouse); purchased in 1923 by John H. Kliegl, internationally known co-inventor of the

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Klieg light (for theatrical use); two-story Italianate style summer residence, unusual for its date of construction; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with narrow clapboard siding; corner pilasters; low-pitched hip roof with overhanging eaves, modillioned cornices, wide unadorned entablature, and very narrow frieze windows; one-over-one double-hung and multi-pane casement windows with molded lintel heads, Palladian windows on second floor and segmental arch window and bay-window projection on first floor, one-story hip-roof porch, glass enclosed, with slender Doric order columns, turned balusters, and vertical board base with lattice-work vents.

11. Carriage House/Chauffer's Cottage (Alward Cottage) 1910's

One and one-half story original carriage house now converted to a summer residence; rectangular plan, mortise and tenon wood frame construction with wood clapboard siding (first story) and wood shingle siding (above first story); medium pitch cross-gable roof; two-over-two double-hung windows with simple surrounds; two large stable doors with criss-cross timber design.

12. Keuffel Cottage (Shea Cottage) 1896

Two-story vernacular Victorian irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with clapboard and decorative shingle siding; medium-pitch cross-gable roof; interior brick chimney with ornamental chimney pots; multi-pane, Queen Anne style upper sash windows and transom light over one second-story window; one-story wrap-around porch with two corner octagonal porch projections (one enclosed); porch also features chamfered posts with simple square capitals, decorative wooden balustrade, and a lattice-work base.

13. Green Gables (Eckoff-Vitz Cottage) 1890
Photo No.: 8, 9

Purchased in 1908 by William A. Hasmann, a business associate of Chemist, Jacob Hasslacher (property #3); two and one-half story eclectic cottage with Queen Anne style massing and decorative features; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with wood clapboard (first story) and decorative patterned wood shingle (above first story) siding; jerkin-head roof with jerkin-head dormers and two corner turrets; one octagonal in shape, the other smaller and hexagonal in shape, both with conical roofs and crowning finials; bay window projection of first story; slightly flared projection between first and second stories; roof overhang supported by shingled brackets; nine-over-two double-hung windows with molded

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lintel heads; one story entrance porch with flat roof, Doric order columns, molded cornice, plain entablature, and turned balusters. Contributing rustic Adirondack style gazebo.

14. Keuffel Cottage (Teller Cottage)
Photo No.: 10

1893

Built for W. J. D. Keuffel of the Keuffel and Esser Company, known internationally for its design and manufacture of survey instruments; two and one-half story vernacular Victorian summer residence with Queen Anne style massing and decorative elements; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with wood clapboards (first story) and decorative patterned wooden shingle (above first story) siding; broad sloping hip roof with hip-roofed dormers and two corner turret-like projections of hexagonal shape and having conical roof with crowning finials; one turret projection is a full three stories high; two porches on the second story front facade are recessed between the turret projections and a central pavillion projection; one-over-one double-hung windows of varying sizes, with molded lintel heads; wrap-around one-story porch partially recessed under second story turrets and porches; featuring central pediment over stairs and landing, knobbed newel posts, turned balusters and post supports and shingle-covered base with lattice-work vents.

15. Esser Cottage (Barrand Cottage)

1894

Two and one-half story cottage with Colonial Revival and Bungalow style features; rectangular plan; wood frame with clapboard (first story) and wood shingle (second story) siding; broad sloping jerkin-head roof extending down to first story; large gable roof, central pedimented pavillion projecting perpendicular from ridge pole, featuring molded cornice, dentils, a Palladian window under the gable end, and a recessed sleeping porch with small fluted columns having Doric order capitals and bases; Queen Anne style multi-pane upper sash windows with molded lintel heads; multi-pane, Queen Anne style transom lights above double doorways on front facade; one-story porch recessed under second story sleeping porch featuring fluted columns with Doric order bases and capitals (supported by wooden piers), elegantly proportioned wooden balusters, simple entablature and molded cornice, stone masonry base supports and lattice-work in-fill.

16. Heitemeyer Cottage (Kuser Cottage)

1896

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Two and one-half story vernacular summer residence having some Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style features; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with wood shingle siding; broad sloping hip roof with crowning finials and small hip roof dormer; octagonal-shape, two-story corner turret-like projection with crowning finial; small three-bay recessed porch on second story, front facade; wide entablature and molded cornice under roof eaves; one-over-one double-hung windows with molded surrounds; interior brick chimney with ornamental chimney pots; wrap-around one-story porch featuring three-bay central porch projection on front facade with crowning pediment, wide molded entablature, slender columns with Doric order bases and capitals, turned balusters, vertical board base with lattice-work vents.

17. Poppenburg Cottage (Kliegel Cottage) 1893

Two and one-half story vernacular Queen Anne style summer residence; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with clapboard (first story) and decorative patterned wood shingle (above first story) siding; broad-sloping hip roof with pedimented gable roof dormer projections, wide entablature and molded cornice, and two octagonal corner turrets (one being three stories high) with conical roofs and crowning finials; slightly flared shingle projection between first and second stories; one-over-one double-hung windows with molded lintel heads; one-story wrap-around porch with pediment over steps leading to porch, molded cornice, turned posts and balusters, decorative braces, clapboard sided base with lattice-work vents; interior brick chimney.

18. Tamsen Cottage (Perkins Cottage) 1893
Photo No.: 11

Two and one-half story cottage with Swiss Chalet style features; one of three cottages in this style in Elka Park; irregular plan, wood frame construction with clapboard siding; medium-pitch cross-gable roof with jerkin-heads and a crowning hexagonal shaped cupola; very wide overhanging eaves; recessed segmental arched porch under eaves on second story; one-story wrap-around porch with decorative jig-sawn balustrade, turned posts, carved braces, clapboard sided base, and lattice-work vents; two-over-two double-hung windows with molded lintel heads; brick interior chimney; decorative weather-vane on top of cupola.

19. Keppler Cottage (Luders Cottage) 1893

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CONTINUATION SHEETElka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 7 page 12

Built for Joseph Keppler, illustrator and owner of Puck Magazine; two and one-half story vernacular cottage with Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style features; irregular plan and massing; wood frame construction with clapboard (first story) and wood shingle (above first story) siding; broad-sloping hip roof with small hip roof dormers and three projecting turrets of varying sizes having conical roofs; the most prominent of the towers is three-stories tall and protrudes beyond the structure with a circular one-story porch wrapping three-fourths of the way around the base; the tower features round arched openings at the third story and a slightly flared projection between its second and third story levels; below this tower, marked by a balustrade above the porch eave, are wide central steps to the one-story wrap-around porch; porch features fluted columns with Doric order bases and capitals resting on wooden piers, elegantly proportioned wooden balusters, newel posts, and a lattice-work base; one-over-one double-hung and multi-pane casement windows; some stained glass windows flanked by fluted engaged pilasters; main entrance features slender flanking engaged columns, molded entablature and segmentally arched fanlight with finely molded surrounds.

20. Wesel Cottage (DeMelle Cottage)

1895

Two and one-half story Swiss Chalet style cottage; one of three such cottages in Elka Park; rectangular plan; wood frame construction with wooden clapboard siding; broad sloping gable roof with wide overhanging eaves supported by decorative wooden braces; roof extends on front facade over porch extension above second story level; this porch has a broad round-arched opening and decorative "Swiss" style balustrade; nine-over-one double-hung windows of varying size with molded lintel heads; transom lights over doorways on first-floor front facade; second-story balcony extensions with "Swiss" style balustrades; first-story front facade porch (under second-story balcony) features turned posts, large decorative brackets, "Swiss" style balustrades and lattice-work base.

21. Katharina Tower
Photo No.: 14

1898

A seventy-five foot stone tower on a stone platform. The round tower is medieval German in appearance, with a round arched doorway leading to the interior stairway and topped by conical roofed belvedere supported by heavy timber braces and posts. The tower was built by park resident Ferdinand Wesel as a memorial to his wife.

22. Guest Lodge

1960

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 7 page 13

Photo No.: 15

Non-Contributing. Modern one-story building with stone chimney.

23. Clubhouse

1953

Photo No.: 16

Non-Contributing. Modern split-level clubhouse and modern, non-contributing swimming pool. (Original clubhouse, designed by Hugo Kafka, was completed in August 1890 and expanded in 1914; destroyed by fire in 1949; see There's a Place up in the Mountains, pp. 12-13.)

Name of Property Elka Park Historic District, Hunter, Greene County

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 that 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 pre-history or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(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): Primary location of additional data:

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Building Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

RECREATION

Period of Significance

1889 - ca. 1935

Significant Dates

1890 - 1896; ca. 1935

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

unknown

Name of repository:
Div. for Historic Preservation

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETElka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 8 page 1

SIGNIFICANCE

The Elka Park Historic District is historically and architecturally significant for its association with the development of recreation and seasonal use of the Catskill Mountain region, and for its well-preserved collection of late nineteenth century eclectic architecture. Elka Park, a small residential enclave developed between 1889 and 1935 by German-Americans is notable for the design and craftsmanship of its nineteen turn-of-the-century summer cottages, for its dramatic natural setting, and for the design quality of its initial planning and development. The layout of the roads and building lots unified by dry-laid stone walls, stone bridges and sluiceways, the provision of all cottages with gravity-fed water supplies and the central gas distribution system, said to be the first in the county, all relate closely to trends in contemporary suburban developments. These amenities reflect the expectations as well as the design and engineering expertise of the park's founders, who were successful professionals from metropolitan New York. As a summer retreat, Elka Park recalls a significant component of the history of the Catskill Mountains. The tendency among wealthy urbanites to eschew the fashionable summer hotels in favor of private residential enclaves founded and developed by individuals of shared cultural and social backgrounds, is reflected throughout the Catskills in the numerous planned settlements such as nearby Onteora and Twilight Parks. Elka Park is a representative example of this historical Catskills tradition. The period of significance extends to 1935 to include the development and evolution of the community, which continued during the early twentieth century. This continued development included a street electrification program (1913), and the accumulated purchase during the early twentieth century of the 1104-acre nominated property (most of which is heavily wooded wilderness along the northern slope of Spruce Top Mountain). (All additional acreage was acquired by ca. 1915.)

The founders of Elka Park were all members of the Liederkrantz Club of New York City, a social club of prominent German-Americans. In selecting a site in the Catskills for their summer holidays, the founders of the Elka Park Association were following a long tradition dating back to the early 1800's. By the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the area had gained international renown through the literature of James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving and William Cullen Bryant, and the paintings of Thomas Cole, Asher B. Durand, and other artists of the Hudson River School. The peaks and valleys of the Catskills became a mecca for summer visitors who travelled upriver by steamboat, then by carriage, and later, by rail

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 8 page 2

to their mountain resort destinations. The first and most famous of the resorts was the Catskill Mountain House in the town of Hunter, founded by the Catskill Mountain Association as the Pine Orchard House in 1823. Other resorts soon followed, fostered by the expanding railway systems. By 1880 over two million people lived within one day's travel of the Catskills¹, and the region had developed into a prominent resort attraction.

For the majority of nineteenth-century vacationers, accommodations in the Catskills ranged from the large, socially and architecturally prestigious hotels, such as the Catskill Mountain House, to boarding houses and small family hotels. However, the 1880's saw the growth of another type of development -- individually owned summer residences in private communities founded by and for people of similar backgrounds. The founders of Elka Park were all members of the Liederkrantz Club of New York City, a social club of prominent German Americans.

An article written by two summer residents of Elka Park in 1977 provides an account of the origins of Elka Park:

In the spring of 1889, seven German-born New Yorkers ventured up the Hudson in search of an idyllic summer home for their families. Led by the lawyer Paul Goepel, they travelled by boat to Catskill, then by the Otis incline cable train to the famed Catskill Mountain House. They proceeded by narrow-gauge railroad and horse-drawn carriages to a tract of 195 acres on the slopes of Spruce Top Mountain in the town of Hunter.²

The Elka Park Association was incorporated as a land holding corporation on August 6, 1889. Under this arrangement members of the board of directors could exercise control over who became stockholders. Stockholders were given ninety-nine year leases on lots upon which they could build summer cottages. In 1889 the directors began to lay out lots and roads and to make plans for a clubhouse to be designed by Hugo Kafka, one of the founding members. This two-story clubhouse, complete with a "knieppe" or taproom, was built in 1890. The country club atmosphere was further enhanced by the card rooms and clay tennis courts associated with several of the individual cottages. Twenty-one private residences and the original clubhouse and memorial tower

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 8 page 3

were built between 1890 and 1898. Nineteen of these original cottages are extant; two cottages and the 1891 clubhouse were destroyed by fire.

The desire for exclusiveness at Elka Park was not an uncommon feature of resorts in the Catskills. Many of the Catskill hotels forbade children and/or certain ethnic groups. Beginning in the 1880's, private summer communities were developed around particular themes or interests. For example, at nearby Onteora Park, founded by the designer Candace Wheeler, residents were governed by a common desire to live a "rustic" summer experience in communion with nature. At Elka Park the theme was one of comfort and recreation among families of like social standing and cultural heritage. Elka Park was the product of the middle-class prosperity of northeastern American cities in the latter part of the nineteenth century. By the end of the century, private summer resort colonies such as Elka -- the offspring of the urban clubs of metropolitan New York and Philadelphia -- were common features of the northeastern seacoast.

The original members of the Elka Park Association were all native-born Germans, many of whom had come to the United States during the 1840's and 1850's, settling primarily in New York City and Hoboken, New Jersey. These wealthy and successful professionals were members of the Liederkrantz Club of New York.

The name Elka was derived from the "L" and "K" of Liederkrantz.³ A significant number of these men were industrial chemists, electrical engineers and civil engineers, including Frederick Fink, William Hamann, Jacob Hasslacher, Augustus Kurth and August Munning. Paul Goepel, who was instrumental in the Elka Park site selection, was a well-known New York City attorney. Hugo Kafka, a native of Austria-Hungary, received his architectural training in Europe before coming to Philadelphia where he worked for Hermann Schartzman, architect of several buildings at the 1876 Centennial Exposition. By the time of the founding of Elka Park, Kafka had established his own practice in New York where he was known for his residential work and as the designer of some of New York's earliest apartment buildings⁴. Emil Hantsche, another member of the Association, was the head of a cabinet-making firm acclaimed for its fine interior woodworks. Joseph Keppler was a nationally known artist and illustrator and Wilhelm J. D. Keuffel was a manufacturer of precision drafting and surveying instruments.

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National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETElka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 8 page 4

These men brought their talents to the design and planning of Elka Park. Although designed as a seasonal resort rather than a residential community, the concept of Elka Park was influenced by the tradition of the planned picturesque suburb developed by Andrew Jackson Downing and promulgated in such later works as F. J. Scott's influential The Art of Beautifying the Home Grounds of 1870. Inspired by the initial success of Llewellyn Park in Orange, New Jersey, developed by Llewellyn Haskell and designed by Davis in the 1850's, Scott advised that the best way to settle a suburb was for a group of people to buy a tract of land, divide it and lay out the grounds according to agreed-upon principles⁵. Large lots allowed a certain latitude for individual tastes within a comprehensive design scheme. In the second half of the nineteenth century, many sophisticated suburban communities were developed following this precedent, Elka Park among them. What makes Elka Park unusual, however, is that it is not the garden suburb of a large city, but a seasonal retreat in a relatively remote mountain setting.

Constructed on three tiers of the mountain side, graciously spaced and attractively landscaped, the summer cottages of Elka Park are architecturally and aesthetically significant. While many of these structures are individually distinctive, it is their collective blend of stylistic qualities, their highly intact condition, romantic landscaping and scenic natural setting that combine to make Elka Park a significant historic district. These cottages are notable not only for their fine craftsmanship, as evidenced by their high degree of physical and architectural integrity, but also for the variety of late nineteenth century stylistic currents they represent. While a few of the cottages may be identified as distinct examples of the Queen Anne or Colonial Revival styles, most are truly eclectic, variously combining the design elements and decorative details of a number of popular styles. Three of the cottages are notable for their Swiss Chalet designs (e.g., the Tamsen-Perkins Cottage, property #18, photo 11), alluding to the cultural background of the community, while three of the secondary structures are notable for their log construction in the rustic style (e.g., the studio associated with the Barnes Cottage, property #5, photo 3). At least one cottage is known to have been designed by association member Hugo Kafka. The relatively large scale of the Elka cottages make them notable for the contrast they provide to the more typically rustic designs and relatively low-cost construction of the many summer cottages built elsewhere around

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 8 page 5

Hunter during the same period. Elka Park is among the finest examples of late nineteenth-century residential design in the region.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Betsey Blackmar, "Going to the Mountains: A Social History," in Resorts of the Catskills (New York: Architectural League, St. Martin's Press, 1977), p. 82.
2. Patrick Gibbons, Jr. and Mrs. Christine McKay, "Elka Park Association," Windham Journal, November 11, 1978.
3. Alf Evers, The Catskills (Woodstock, New York:1972), pp. 543-544.
4. This information has been provided through personal communication with Mrs. Christine McKay, who cites the American Art Annual, Volume 12, 1915.
5. David P. Handlin, The American Home (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1979), pp. 171-181.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Section 9 page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Blackmar, Betsey. "Going to the Mountains: A Social History."
Resorts of the Catskills. NY: Architectural League, St.
Martin's Press, 1977.

Evers, Alf. The Catskills. Woodstock, NY: 1972.

Handlin, David. The American Home. Boston: Little, Brown and
Company, 1979.

There's a Place up in the Mountains. Elka Park, NY: Elka Park
Association. 1988.

Name of Property Elka Park Historic District, Hunter, Greene County

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1,104 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing		
A	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 7 0 3 1 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 7 4 5 0 </u>	B	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 9 9 8 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 6 7 4 0 </u>
C	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 9 4 6 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 7 0 0 0 </u>	D	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 9 1 0 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 6 2 0 0 </u>
E	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 8 2 4 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 6 0 0 0 </u>	F	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 7 3 3 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 6 7 4 0 </u>
G	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 8 6 1 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 8 6 0 0 </u>	H	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 9 4 3 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 7 9 2 0 </u>
I	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 9 6 8 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 8 1 2 0 </u>	J	<u>1 1 8 </u>	<u>15 6 9 7 9 0 </u>	<u>14 6 6 7 7 4 0 </u>

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the property coincide with the legal lot lines presently associated with the nominated resources as identified on the attached county map (196.00-01-13).

Boundary Justification

See item 7, Description

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy L. Todd, National Register Program Assistant
organization Division for Historic Preservation date February 1993
street & number Peebles Island, Box 189 telephone (518) 237-8643
city or town Albany state NY zip code 12188-0189

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

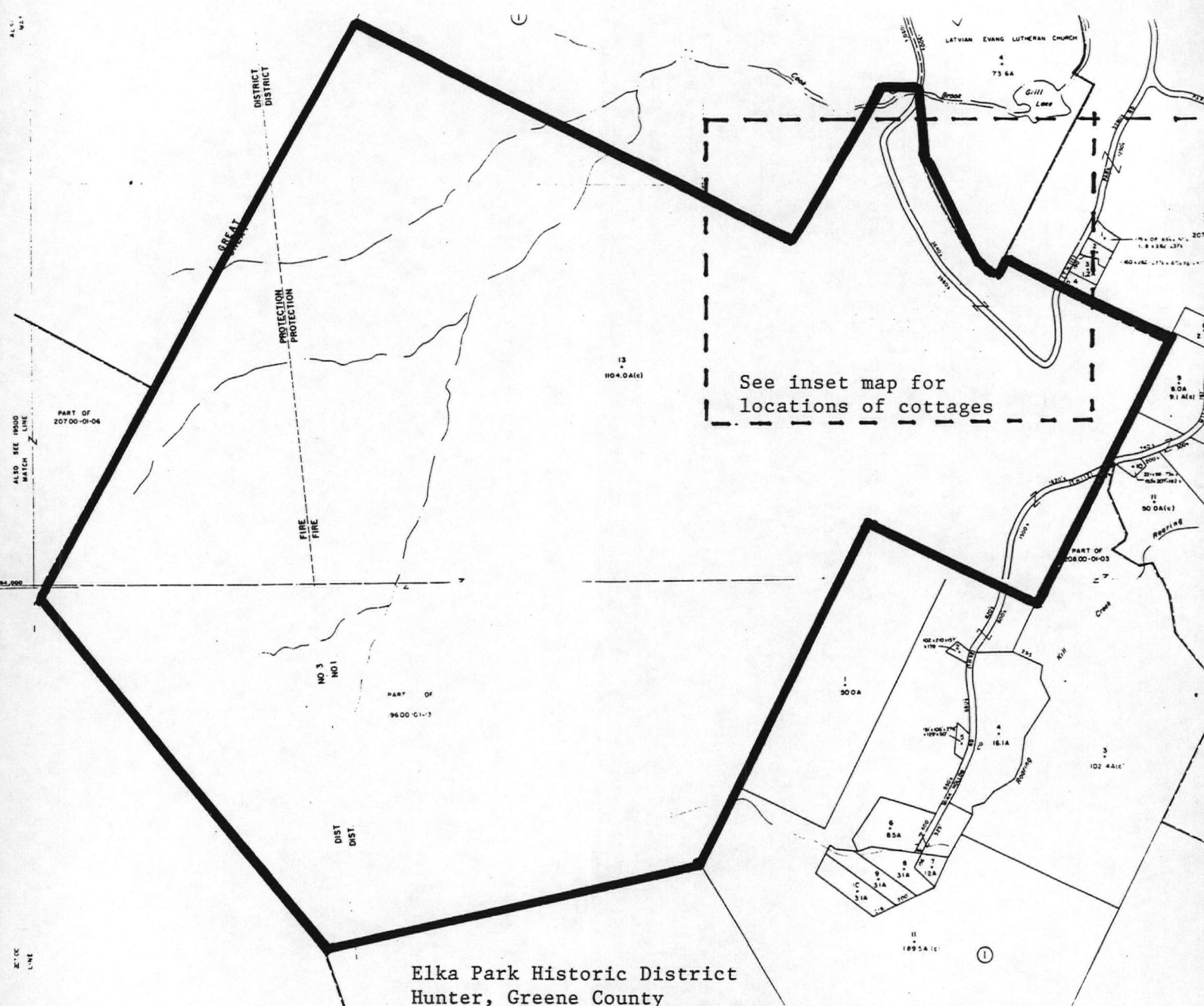
Property Owner

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

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

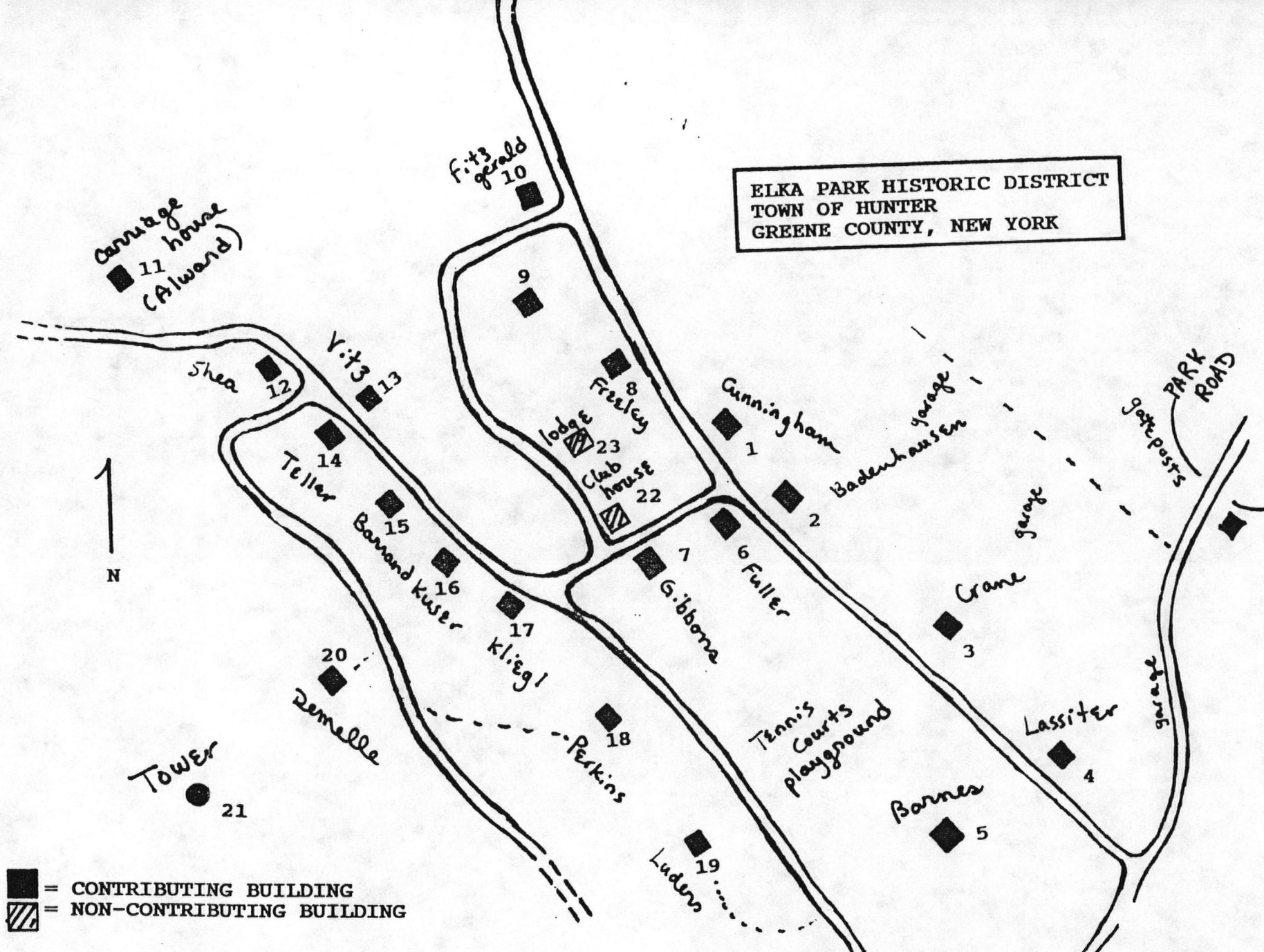
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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 the time for reviewing instructions, gathering



See inset map for
locations of cottages

Elka Park Historic District
 Hunter, Greene County
 Heavy black outline defines boundary of nominated
 property; derived from tax map 196.00-01-13
 1" = apprx. 1,600 '
 Dotted line defines approx. boundaries of inset map



ELKA PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
TOWN OF HUNTER
GREENE COUNTY, NEW YORK

Map of Elka Park Historic District, Hunter, Greene County, NY

Inset map - denotes locations of cottages and roadways; area covered = approx. 100 acres

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Elka Park Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Greene

DATE RECEIVED: 4/07/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/20/93
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/06/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/22/93
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000399

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: Y LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/22/93 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept a+c
REVIEWER Swase
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 5/22/93

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#1 - View: Drackenfeld - Lassiter Cottage (4)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OP&P, Albany

#2 - view: Merz-Barnes Cottage (5)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPEHP, Albany

#3 - view: Studio associated with
Merz-Barnes Cottage (5)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OP2HP, Albany

#4 - View: Fink - Fuller Cottage (6)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#5 - View: Steinecke - Gibbons Cottage (7)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#6 - View: Zoller-Freelley Cottage (8)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPHP, Albany

7 - View: Kurth-Fitzgerald Cottage (10)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#8 - View: Vitz. Eckoff Cottage (13)



Elka Park Historic District, Hunter
Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#9 - View: Vitz-Eckoff Cottage (13)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#10 - view: Keuffel-Teller Cottage (14)

Elka Park Historic District, Hunter
Greene Co.



Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: k. kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

11 - view: Tamsen (Parkins) Cottage (18)



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, 1990

#12 - View: stone walls along roadway



Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene County

Photo: K. Kramer, 1990

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#13 - View: typical stone arch bridge



Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene County

Photo: N Todd, 1992

Neg: OPRHP, Albany

#14-View: Katrina Tower (21)



7-22

15

Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: N. Todd, 1992

neg: OPRHP, Albany

#15-view: Guest Lodge, non-contributing



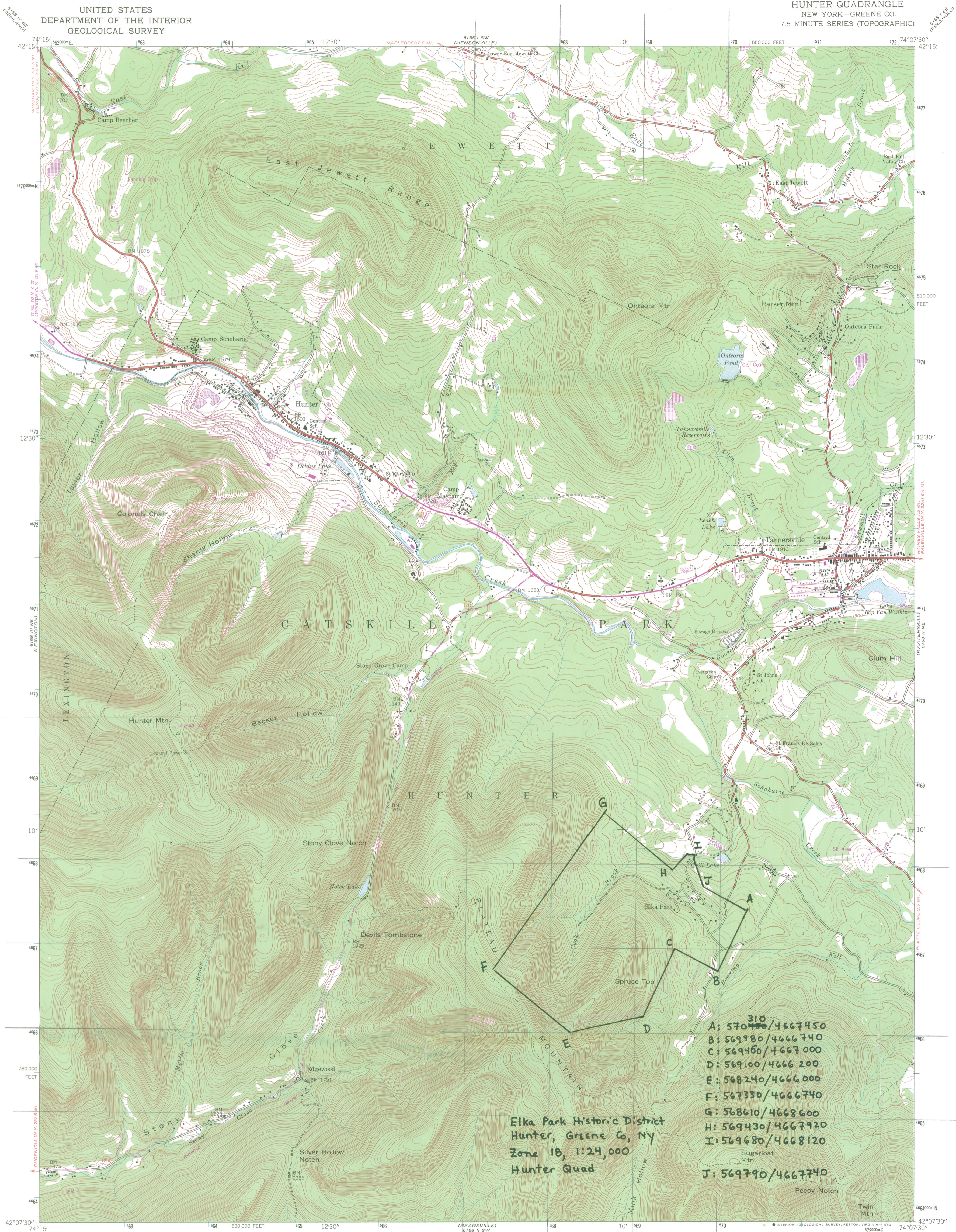
Elka Park Historic District

Hunter, Greene Co.

Photo: N Todd, 1992

neg: OPRHP, Albany

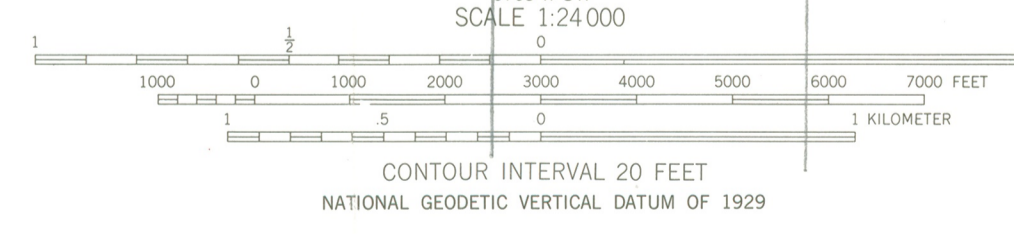
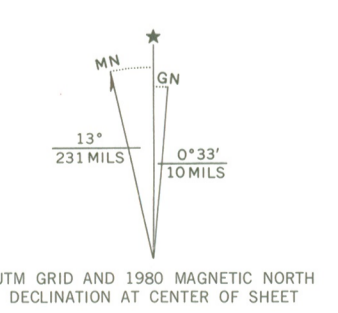
16 - view: Clubhouse, non-contributing



Elka Park Historic District
Hunter, Greene Co, NY
Zone 18, 1:24,000
Hunter Quad

A:	570440/4667450
B:	569980/4666740
C:	569460/4667000
D:	569100/4666200
E:	568240/4666000
F:	567330/4666740
G:	568610/4668600
H:	569430/4667920
I:	569680/4668120
J:	569790/4667740

Mapped by the Defense Mapping Agency
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and TVA
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field checked 1945
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid based on New York coordinate
system, east 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
6 meters south and 34 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey
from photographs taken 1978. This information not
field checked. Map edited 1980



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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
State Route	

HUNTER, N. Y.
N4207.5-W7407.5/7.5

1945
PHOTOREVISED 1980
DMA 6168 II NW-SERIES V821

Elka Park
Greene County, N.Y.

Mrs. Harry P. Barrand, Jr.
206 McKinley Place
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

November 29, 1992

Ms. Orin Lehman, Commissioner,
State Historic Preservation Officer

Dear Commissioner Lehman,

As property owners at Elka Park we are gratified to learn from your letter of November 6, 1992 that our community is under consideration by the State Review Board for nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

Considering the history of Elka Park for the past century, we feel that this designation is merited and will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Helen and Harry Barrand

RECEIVED
DEC 1 1992
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FIELD SERVICES BUREAU

TOWN OF HUNTER
GREENE COUNTY
TANNERSVILLE, NEW YORK 12485-0070
AREA CODE 518
TELEPHONE 589-6150

RECEIVED

APR 7 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

December 2, 1992

Mr. Larry Gobrecht
Historic Preservation Field
Services Bureau
N.Y. State Office of Parks,
Recreation & Historic Preservation
Peebles Island,
P.O. Box 189
Waterford, New York 12188-0189



Dear Mr. Gobrecht:

As Town of Hunter Historian, I enthusiastically endorse the nomination of Elka Park to the national and state registers of Historic Places.

This summer community is a fine example of a late nineteenth century concept in vacationing--the Club or Association. Here those sharing like interests established summer residences. Elka Park was established by a singing group called the Liederkrantz Club comprised of German-Americans. The establishment of a summer community offered an opportunity to share common interests and tastes.

The club introduced German-American culture and folk life to this part of the Catskills. The members built their houses on the northern side of Spruce Top mountain in unique styles reflecting, in most cases, the German alps. Most of the houses were built between 1889 and 1905. During the summers, the community continues to renew some of its early customs through pageants and parades, thus maintaining a German-American characteristic.

It is a pleasure to add my endorsement to the nomination of the Elka Park Community.

Sincerely,

Justine L. Hommel
Mrs. Hillard Hommel
Town of Hunter Historian

PROPERTY NAME: Elka Park Historic District

OTHER NAME/ NOT APPLICABLE
SITE No. :

MULTIPLE NAME: NOT APPLICABLE

ADDRESS/ SE of Hunter town center
BOUNDARY :

CITY: Hunter

VICINITY

COUNTY: Greene

STATE: NEW YORK

Restricted Location Information: Owner: PRIVATE Resource Type: DISTRICT

Contributing Noncontributing

Buildings	31	2
Sites	1	0
Structures	1	0
Objects	0	0

Nomination/Determination Type: SINGLE RESOURCE

Nominator: STATE GOVERNMENT

Nominator Name:
NOT APPLICABLE

Federal NOT APPLICABLE
Agency:

NPS Park Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Certification: DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION

Date: 04/07/93

Other NOT APPLICABLE
Certification:

Historic DOMESTIC
Functions: HEALTH CARE

Historic SINGLE DWELLING
Subfunctions: SECONDARY STRUCTURE
RESORT

Current DOMESTIC
Functions: LANDSCAPE

Current SINGLE DWELLING
Subfunctions: SECONDARY STRUCTURE
FOREST

Level of LOCAL Applicable Criteria: EVENT
Significance: ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING

Significant Person's Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Criteria Considerations: NOT APPLICABLE

Area of Significance: ARCHITECTURE
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Periods of: 1875-1899 1900-1924 Circa: Specific Sig. Years:
Significance: 1925-1949

1890
1896
1935

Architect/Builder/Engineer/
Designer:

Cultural Affiliation:
NOT APPLICABLE

Unknown

Other Documentation:

NOT APPLICABLE

HABS No. N/A

HAER No. N/A

Architectural QUEEN ANNE
Styles: STICK/EASTLAKE
SHINGLE STYLE

Describe Other Style: NOT APPLICABLE

Foundation Materials: STONE
Wall Materials: WEATHERBOARD SHINGLE
Roof Materials: SHINGLE
Other Materials: WOOD

Acreage: 1,104.0

UTM	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
Coordinates:	18/	5 70 310/	46 67 450	18/	5 69 980/	46 66 740
	18/	5 69 460/	46 67 000	18/	5 69 100/	46 66 200
	18/	5 68 240/	46 66 000	18/	5 67 330/	46 66 740
	18/	5 68 610/	46 68 600	18/	5 69 430/	46 67 920
	18/	5 69 680/	46 68 120	18/	5 69 790/	46 67 740