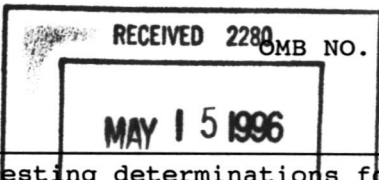


671

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



OMB NO. 1024-0018, NPS FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties or districts. See instructions in 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 BUTTERMILK FLAT SCHOOLHOUSE NO.22

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number SOUTH SIDE BUTTERMILK FLAT ROAD [N/A] not for publication

city, town TOWN OF ORLEANS [N/A] vicinity

state NEW YORK code NY county JEFFERSON code 045 zip code 13656

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

J.W. Alden
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
Signature of certifying official

29 March '96
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.)

N/A
Signature of commenting or other official

_____ Date

N/A
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:)

f Signature of keeper Butch Savage Date of Action 6/20/96

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

BUTTERMILK FLAT SCHOOLHOUSE NO.22
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

The **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** is located on the south side of Buttermilk Flat Road approximately 200 yards east of where the road turns off from Carter Street, in the Town of Orleans, Jefferson County. The building stands on 9.71 acres of land. Now somewhat overgrown by bushes, it is located close to the road in an extremely rural setting of woods and croplands. A modern mobile home is located directly across the street in an otherwise unpopulated landscape. The clapboard 1-1/2 story building, built c.1850, is approximately 20 feet wide by 30 feet long. Since almost all of its features are original and the building has never been altered for another use, it exhibits an unusually high degree of architectural integrity.

Under a seamed metal roof and a plain wooden cornice, the building's front gable entrance displays a narrow central wooden plank door with three transom lights and a high west window for unloading firewood directly into the school. This window has a single wooden shutter. The east and west facades each have two long sash windows with 6/6 panes. Probably due to the strong southwesterly winds blowing off Lake Ontario, no windows were placed in the building's south facade. All windows and doors have shallow pedimented lintels. The building rests on a stone foundation and has narrow corner boards. Its original stairs are missing.

The building retains its original floor plan, with the front third of the building evenly divided into three rooms: a cloak room on the east end, a central hall, and a woodroom to the west. These three rooms have plank floors. The schoolroom has a hardwood floor and horizontally planked walls, the lower thirds of which are painted ochre to simulate wainscoting. The upper walls are white, rising to a ceiling covered in thin wood paneling with a checkerboard pattern made out of molding strips. This detail may be a later addition. Moldings throughout the building are plain and without modulation or decoration. The schoolroom's woodstove was located in the middle of the south wall. The upstairs half-story of the building was used for storage. With the exception of the schoolroom ceiling, all of the schoolhouse's interior, including the paint, appears to be original.

Edgar Smith, deceased husband of the present owner, purchased the school along with some of its furnishings at public auction in 1932 when township schools were consolidated.¹ The building was then used as a granary and is now used for storage. Considering its age and material, it is in fairly good structural condition. Its simple lines and good craftsmanship clearly place

1. Edith Brown, Ed. *Subjective History of the Town of Orleans*, produced by Town of Orleans Public Library from papers of the LaFargeville Evening Study Club, 1958-60, p.74.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

BUTTERMILK FLAT SCHOOLHOUSE NO.22
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

Section number 7 Page 2

the **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** within the classically inspired vernacular tradition.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark an "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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1850 - 1932

Significant Dates

c.1850; 1932

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

BUTTERMILK FLAT SCHOOLHOUSE NO.22
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

Section number 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance

The **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** was identified as a result of a comprehensive historic resource survey of the Town of Orleans conducted in 1980 and reevaluated in 1994. Subsequently, with the assistance of the State Historic Preservation Office (NYSOPRHP/FSB), specific properties and districts were identified as meeting the criteria for listing on the State/National Registers of Historic Places. The **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** is a component in the multiple property listing, **The Historic and Architectural Resources of the Town of Orleans, Jefferson County, NY.** Additional contextual information for this property can be found in Section E of the Multiple Property Documentation Form, under the context of "**Commercial Prosperity and Civic-Mindedness, c.1837 - c.1900.**" Additional associated property type information can be found in Section F in the category of "**Civic/Public Buildings/Properties, c.1850 - c.1900.**"

The **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** is architecturally significant as the only intact example of a wooden one-room school house in the Town of Orleans that remains at its original location. Its high level of architectural integrity adds to its significance. The building's location is pinpointed on the earliest 1855 map of Jefferson County, making it contemporary with the stone **Carter Street Schoolhouse No.21** (individual component in multiple property listing) to its south, as well as with the wooden Schoolhouse No.1 (now moved from its original site and located at the Stone Mills Agricultural Museum). On an 1888 map, the Buttermilk Flat building is identified as "Schoolhouse No.22." Of the many one-room schoolhouses built by Town of Orleans's citizens in the mid-19th century in brick, stone, and wood, only a handful survive. These schoolhouses were important focal points in the pre-automobile isolation of the rural Town of Orleans. Not only did they serve educational purposes, they were also frequently used for evening community and prayer meetings.

Stylistically, the building can be related to the **Thousand Island Grange Hall** and the **Union Cheese Factory** (both individual components in multiple property listing), both modest, utilitarian wood-frame structures with simple, classically inspired lines. However, **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** was built 50 years earlier than either of these. The schoolroom's ceiling, covered in thin wood paneling with a checkerboard pattern made out of molding strips, is similar to the dining room ceiling of the **Isaac Mitchell Farmstead** (individual component in multiple property listing).

Because it is a rare surviving property type with an extremely high level of architectural integrity, **Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No.22** is a very significant resource within the Town of Orleans (and perhaps beyond). It is easy to imagine it functioning in the manner described so well by the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETBUTTERMILK FLAT SCHOOLHOUSE NO.22
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

Section number 8 Page 2

children's author, Laura Ingalls Wilder, when characterizing early one-room schoolhouses in her *Little House* series: A wood wagon draws up under the window to deliver a morning load. The teacher arrives early to heat up the room. As the first smoke rises from the stove's chimney, children trudge over snow-covered roads and enter, leaving their cold wraps in the cloakroom. The day in a one-room rural schoolhouse begins.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Beers, S.N. and D.G. and Assistants, *New Topographical Atlas of Jefferson County, New York*, Churchville, New York, 1975 (reprint of Philadelphia, 1864 edition).

Brown, Edith, Ed., *Subjective History of the Town of Orleans*, produced by Town of Orleans Public Library from papers of the LaFargeville Evening Study Club, 1958-60, mimeographed and softbound. Copies are located at the Stone Mills Agricultural Museum and in the Town of Orleans Historical Room, LaFargeville.

Child, Hamilton, *Geographical Gazetteer of Jefferson County, New York, 1684-1890*, edited by William H. Horton. Syracuse: The Syracuse Journal Company, 1890, 2 vols.

Emerson, Edgar C., *Our County and its People, a descriptive work on Jefferson County, N.Y.*, Boston History Company Publishers, 1898.

Everts, L.H. and J.M. Holcomb, *History of Jefferson County, New York, 1791-1878*, Philadelphia: L.H. Everts, Co., 1878.

French, J.H., *Historical and Statistical Gazetteer of New York State*, Syracuse: R.P. Smith, 1869.

Hough, Franklin B., *History of Jefferson County of the State of New York*, Albany: Joel Munsell; Watertown, N.Y.: Sterling & Riddell, 1854.

Jefferson County Bicentennial Committee, *Jefferson County 1976*, Watertown, N.Y. Printed by Jefferson County ARC Print Shop. Located in Town of Orleans Historical Room, LaFargeville.

Levey, Morris, *Jefferson County Map from an actual survey*, Philadelphia: J.B. Shields, 1855. Located at Flower Memorial Library, Watertown New York.

Powell, Thomas F., *Penet's Square*, Lakemont, N.Y.: North Country Books, 1976.

Robinson's Atlas of Jefferson County, New York. New York: E. Robinson, 1888. Located in Town of Orleans Historical Room, LaFargeville.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State historic preservation office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> previously listed in the National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Other State agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> previously determined eligible by the National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> designated a National Historic Landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> Local government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Building Survey # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | Name of repository: _____ |

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of property 9.71 ACRE

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 8	4 2 4 1 2 2	4 8 9 1 3 0 7	2			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

NOMINATED BOUNDARIES ARE OUTLINED IN BOLD ON THE ATTACHED MAP.

Boundary Justification

NOMINATED BOUNDARIES FOLLOW CURRENT LEGAL LOT LINES.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda M. Garofalini, Program Analyst (see also below)
 organization NYS Office of Parks, Rec. & Historic Preservation date 9/6/95
 street & number Peebles Island, PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643
 city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188-0189

Research and documentation provided by:

Claire Bonney	Jan Maas
Blasiring 156	113 North Broad St.
4057 Basel	P.O. Box 436
Switzerland	Sackets Harbor, NY 13685

Additional items

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

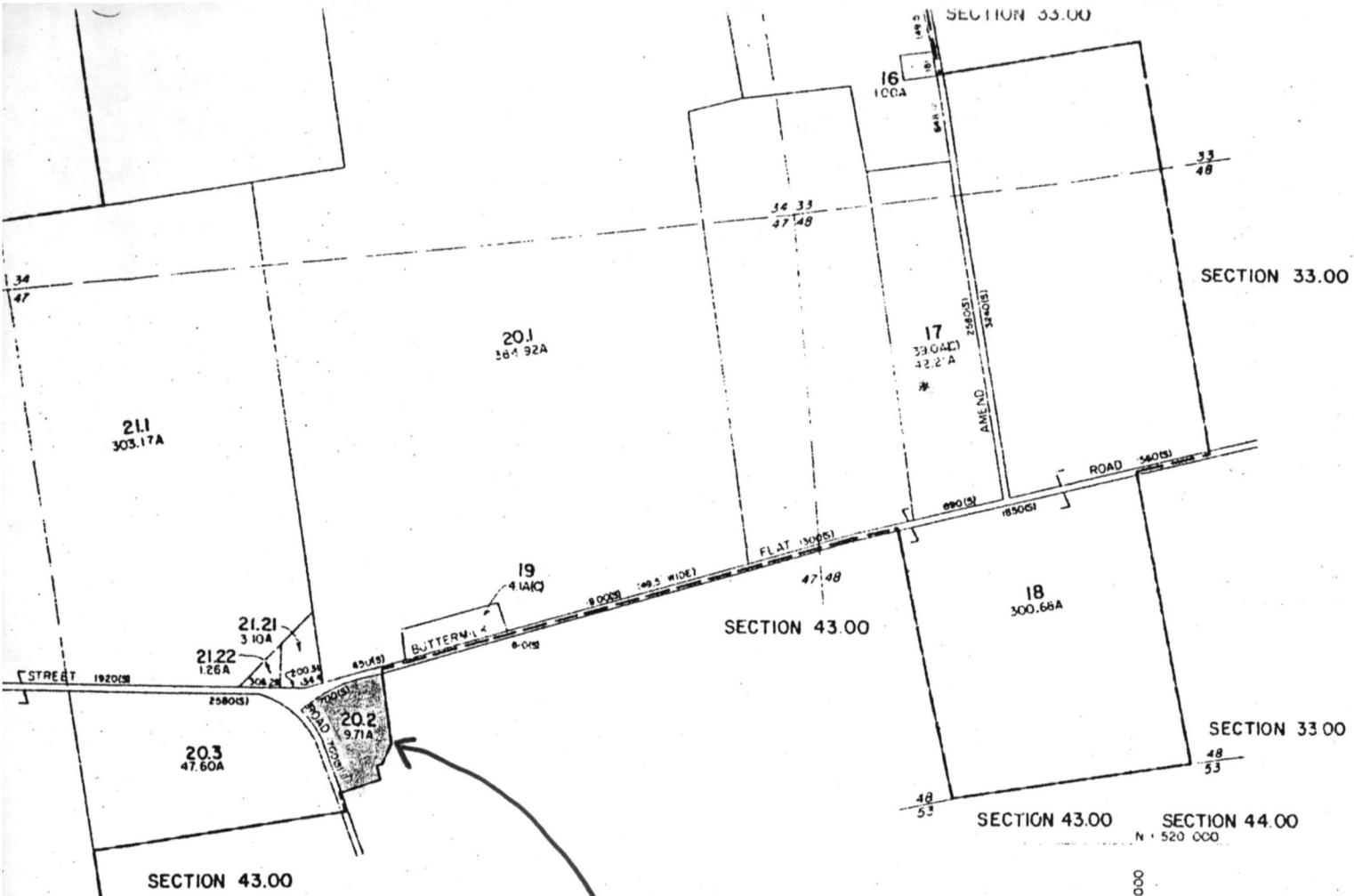
Property Owner

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

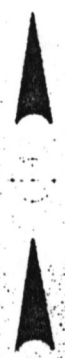
name _____
 street & number _____
 city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



BUTTERMILK FLAT Schoolhouse No. 22
 BUTTERMILK FLAT Rd.
 TOWN OF ORLEANS



PREPARED BY
 JEFFERSON COUNTY TAX MAPPING DEPT.
 FOR
 JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEW YORK

ER	133	GREAT LOT NUMBER	35
ER	76	CALCULATED ACREAGE	234.4(C)
ER	47	DEED ACREAGE	34.50A
ER	(37)	SCALED DIMENSION	223(8)
		DEED DIMENSION	281.4

DELETED PARCELS	
32.00-2-9	
32.00-2-14	
32.00-2-25	
32.00-2-23	

TAX MAP 32.00
 TOWN OF ORLEANS ©
 JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEW YORK
 SCALE 1"=800'
 MAP DATE FEB. 1975

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Buttermilk Flat Schoolhouse No. 22
NAME:

MULTIPLE Orleans MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 5/15/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/29/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/14/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/29/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000671

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AXC

REVIEWER Savage

DISCIPLINE Architectural History

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 6/28/96

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y N see attached SLR Y N



BUTTERMILK FLAT Schoolhouse No. 22
BUTTERMILK FLAT Rd.
ORLEANS, Jefferson County NY

Looking southwest

PHOTO: Claire Bunney, 1994



BUTTERMILK FLAT Schoolhouse No. 22
BUTTERMILK FLAT Rd.
TOWN OF ORLEANS, Jefferson County
N.Y.

LOOKING SOUTHWEST

Photo: Claire Bunney 1994



BUTTERMILK FLAT Schoolhouse No. 22

BUTTERMILK FLAT

Town of Orleans, Jefferson County
NY

Plot: Claire Bowley, 1994

BUTTERMILK

