

1392

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

RECEIVED 2281
OMB NO. 1024-0018, NPS FORM

OCT 24 1996

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 Sheldon Cobblestone House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 21 Mendon-Ionia Road [] not for publication

town Mendon [] vicinity

state New York code NY county Monroe code 055 zip code 14506

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.)

[Signature] 16 Oct-96
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation Date

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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.

[Signature] 11-29-96
Signature of Keeper Date of Action
Edson H. Beall

Entered in the
National Register

[] removed from the National Register.
[] other: _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property/Category of Property/Number of Resources within Property

(Check as many boxes as apply) (check box) (do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Table with 3 columns: Ownership/Category, Number of Resources, and Resource Type. Includes rows for private/public ownership, building/site/structure/object categories, and a total count of 1 contributing resource.

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION FORM:

COBBLESTONE ARCHITECTURE OF NEW YORK STATE (National Register: 1992)

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

DOMESTIC; single dwelling

Current Function

DOMESTIC; single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC; FEDERAL

Materials

(enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls cobblestone

roof modern shingles

other

Narrative Description

See attached continuation sheets.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Sheldon Cobblestone House
Mendon, Monroe County, New York

Section 7, Description, page 1

Description

The Sheldon Cobblestone House is located on the east side of Mendon-Ionia Road in the small, crossroads hamlet of Mendon, which was once one of several commercial centers for the surrounding rural town of Mendon. (The town, once a sparsely populated rural agrarian area, has recently gained popularity as an upscale, bedroom community for the nearby city of Rochester.) The house occupies a 1.9-acre lot, a portion of the once extensive (approximately 97-acre) farmstead owned by a succession of families during the nineteenth century. Located just south of the historic four corners of the hamlet, the house is surrounded by commercial, residential and religious properties, many of which date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. However, due to extensive alterations to some of the older buildings as well as several modern intrusions and vacant lots, there is no historic district potential in the neighborhood. The Mendon Academy, pending National Register nomination, is located across the street from the Sheldon house. There is one contributing outbuilding on the property. It is a brick smokehouse and is believed to be contemporary with the cobblestone house.

The farmhouse (ca. 1833), an elegant, Federal style building constructed of variously colored and shaped field cobbles, is a two-story, three-bay, side-hall building resting on a stone foundation and surmounted by an asphalt shingle-clad roof. Fenestration is slightly irregular, and original 6/6, double-hung sash survive intact with stone sills and flat-arched stone headers. The side entrance is distinguished by half-sidelights, attenuated woodwork and a transom light with delicate tracery. A lunette is located in the apex of the front gable end.

All walls of the building are constructed of irregularly shaped and sized field cobbles. Unlike many cobblestone houses in the region, which feature carefully cut quoins measuring 8" x 12" x 6" (i.e., the standard size for quoins during the period for cobblestone construction), the Sheldon house features small, irregularly shaped and sized, undressed stone quoins. These irregular quoins, along with the roughly laid, inarticulately crafted cobblestone rows, indicate a relatively unsophisticated, vernacular execution of the building type. In sharp contrast to the vernacular treatment of the masonry is the relatively high-style interpretation of Federal style design features that distinguishes the building as an outstanding example of Adamesque-inspired domestic architecture in Mendon.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Sheldon Cobblestone House
Mendon, Monroe County, New York

Section 7, Description, page 2

The frame wing, attached to the south (side) elevation of the cobblestone block, is believed to date from the 1820s; however, due to extensive modern alterations to this wing, it does not contribute to the significance of the property for National Register purposes.

The interior fabric of the building survives with a remarkably high degree of integrity of design, materials and craftsmanship. Room configurations survive intact, as do virtually all structural and decorative elements in the building's primary spaces. Particularly notable features include the main staircase with elegant newel post, panelled reveals around door and window openings and handsome mantelpieces.

Included in the nomination is a contributing smokehouse, which is believed to date from the 1830s. All other farm-related outbuildings have been lost and the once extensive farmstead has been greatly reduced in size; consequently, the house survives as an "urban" residence in a village setting rather than as a farmhouse in a formerly rural, agrarian context.

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.
[X] 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: NA

- [] 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.

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1833

Significant Dates

ca. 1833

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

See attached continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Mendon, New York. Mendon Historical Society. Research files.

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Sheldon Cobblestone House
Mendon, Monroe County, New York

Section 8, Significance, page 1

Statement of Significance

The Sheldon Cobblestone House is an architecturally significant example of the cobblestone method of construction in Western New York and is a distinguished example of Federal style domestic architecture in the town of Mendon. Built ca. 1833, the building retains a high degree of integrity of setting, design, materials and craftsmanship and remains a fine example of cobblestone architecture in Mendon.

The house embodies the distinctive characteristics of the cobblestone method of construction as discussed at length in the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form Cobblestone Architecture of New York State (NR: 1992) in the use of medium sized field cobbles (2" to 2 1/2") laid in horizontal rows and bonded with limestone mortar, the use of limestone quoins to decorate and stabilize the corners of the building and the use of stone trim to ornament and reinforce the door and window openings. The building is fairly typical of the Early period of cobblestone construction (i.e., ca. 1825 - ca. 1835) in its use of relatively large and irregular cobblestones. Unlike many cobblestone buildings in the region, the Sheldon house features small, irregularly shaped quoins rather than the rectangular, standard-sized (i.e., 8" x 12" x 6") stone quoins to stabilize the corners of the building. These irregular quoins convey a relatively vernacular character to the execution of the cobblestone masonry, which is in direct contrast to the otherwise quite high-style character of the building in general.

The house is one of only ten surviving cobblestone buildings in Mendon, most of which, according to a comprehensive level survey prepared by the Mendon Historical Society in 1995, appear to survive with a relatively high degree of physical integrity. Most of the other cobblestone buildings in Mendon are, like the nominated property, rural domestic buildings, although there are several intact cobblestone buildings in the village of Mendon. Including the nominated property, Mendon's seven most notable cobblestone buildings are as follows: the Adsit house at 3871 Clover Street (One Dixon Woods), the Cole house at 933 Mile Square Road, the Gates/Livermore house at 4389 Clover Street, the former Mendon Academy at 16 Mendon-Ionia Road, the Sheldon house at 21 Mendon-Ionia Road, the Stewart house on Douglas Road in Mendon

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Sheldon Cobblestone House
Mendon, Monroe County, New York

Section 8, Significance, page 2

Ponds Park and the Whitcomb house at 437 Pond Road. (Three additional extant buildings, none of which appear to be eligible for the National Register, include the Foote house at 1312 Pittsford-Mendon Road, the Hubbell house at 683 Quaker Meetinghouse Road and the former District #12 Schoolhouse in Sibleyville at 7027 Rush-Lima Road.) In addition to the ten that survive, at least two have been lost - a church and a farmhouse.

Although cobblestone buildings are fairly common in Monroe County (there are approximately 130 known to survive), the Sheldon house is nonetheless an impressive example in the larger region due to its relatively high level of physical integrity and stylistic sophistication. In addition to its significance as a cobblestone building, the former farmhouse is also architecturally significant as a distinguished example of Federal style architecture in Mendon; characteristic features include its rectangular, gable-roofed form, its two-story, three-bay, gable-front plan and its slightly recessed front door surrounded by elegant half-sidelights and a transom light with delicate tracery.

According to extensive historical information gathered by Diane Ham of the Mendon Historical Society, the house is believed to have been built ca. 1833 by someone named "Sheldon" whose Christian name has yet to be ascertained. Historical documents in Mendon refer to several Sheldons, including an Ezra, a Dr. Milton and another Milton, the latter of which helped build the first grist mill in Mendon.

At one point the property associated with the house exceeded 97 acres; it may have served as a gentleman's farm, but no agricultural outbuildings survive to attest to this use. Consequently, the property is not considered significant for its association with the history of agriculture in Mendon. Instead, it survives as an imposing village dwelling in the still bustling hamlet of Mendon and remains one of the town's best examples of Federal style, cobblestone architecture.

Sheldon Cobblestone House, Mendon, Monroe County

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.9 acres

UTM References

A. 18/295855/4763293

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary coincides with legal lot lines of the nominated parcel as identified by county tax map 216.12-1-2.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the 1.9 acres presently associated with the nominated farmhouse and represents only a small portion of the once much larger farmstead, which has since been subdivided and partially developed.

11. Form Prepared By: Diane C. Ham, Mendon Town Historian

contact: Nancy L. Todd, Program Analyst
organization NYSHPO, Division for Historic Preservation date July 1996
street & number Peebles Island, PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188-0189

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

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

Additional items

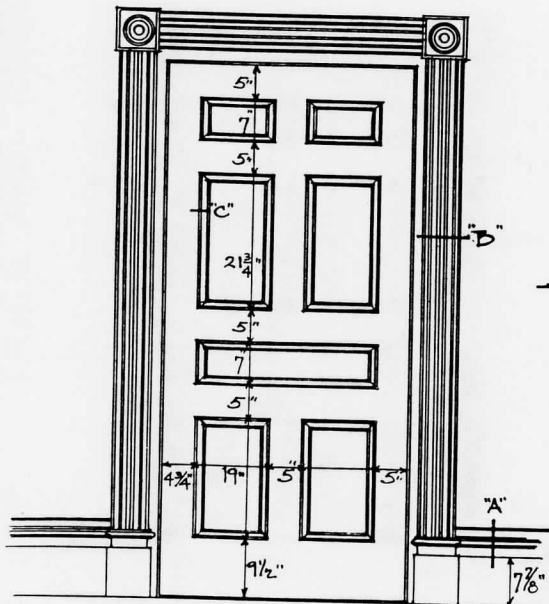
(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

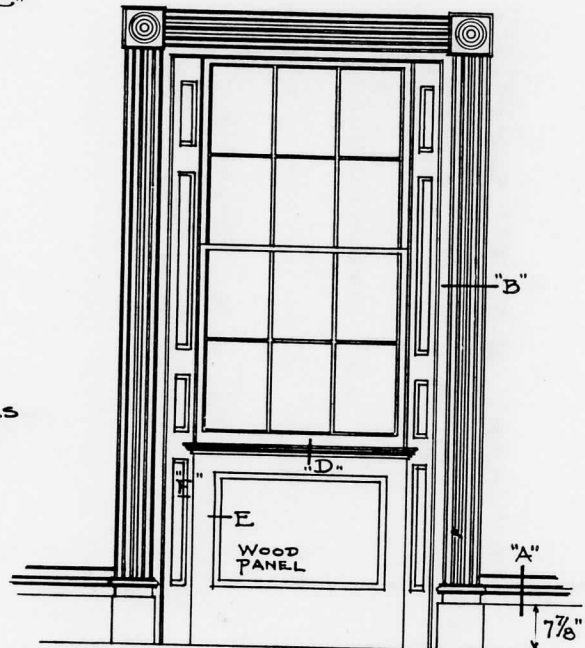
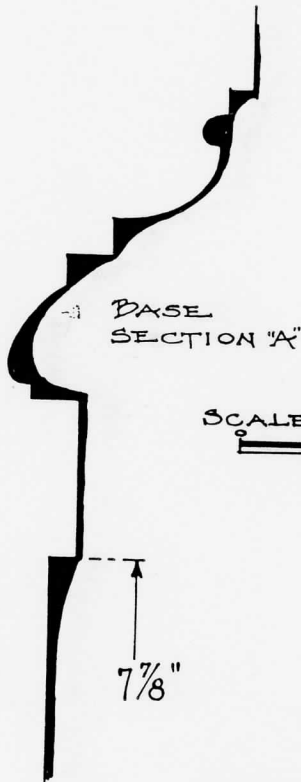
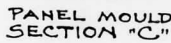
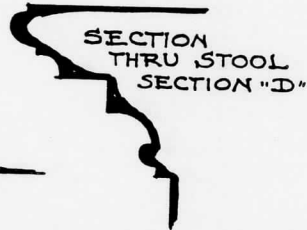
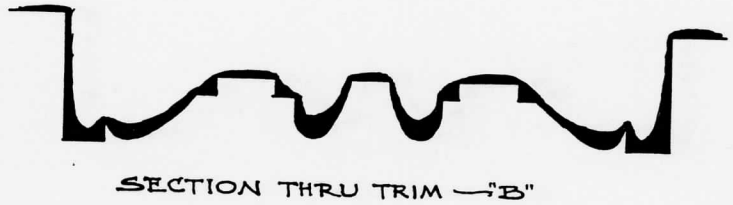
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
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.).



TYPICAL INTERIOR DOORS
SCALE 6" 12" 24"



TYPICAL INTERIOR WINDOWS
SCALE 6" 12" 24"

THE SHELDON-CLAY HOUSE
INTERIOR DETAILS OF AN EARLY COBBLESTONE
HOUSE IN MENDON, NEW YORK.

CRB

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Sheldon Cobblestone House

MULTIPLE NAME: Cobblestone Architecture of New York State MPS

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Monroe

DATE RECEIVED: 10/24/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/05/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/21/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/08/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96001392

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 11.29.96 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: **Entered in the
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



21

#25 Sheldon / Wasilewski house
Mendon - Sonia Rd Mendon
MONROE 6

Photo: E. Malin, 1996

Neg: Mendon Historical

Society

front door

6101N-1N12



27 Sheldon Smokehouse
Mendon Cornia Rd Mendon
MONROE Co.

Photo: E malin, 1996

neg: mendon historical Society

Contrib. smokehouse

(buildings in background
belong to adjacent property)

6101N-17112



#29 Sheldon house
Mendon - Ionia Rd Mendon
Monroe Co

Photo: E. Malin, 1996

Neg: ~~APR 1996~~ Mendon Historical Society

north (side) elevation

6101N1N12



30 Sheldon / Wasilewski house
Mendon - Ionia Rd Mendon
Monroe Co.

Photo: E. Malin, 1996

neg: ~~XXXXXX~~ Mendon Historical Society

Front (west) facade

6101 N-1 N-1 2



Sheldon Cobblestone House
Mendon, Monroe Co.

Photo: N Todd, 1996

Neg: OPRHP

original mantelpiece

mendon

wailes

26-1

Sheldon Cobblestone House
Mendon, Monroe County

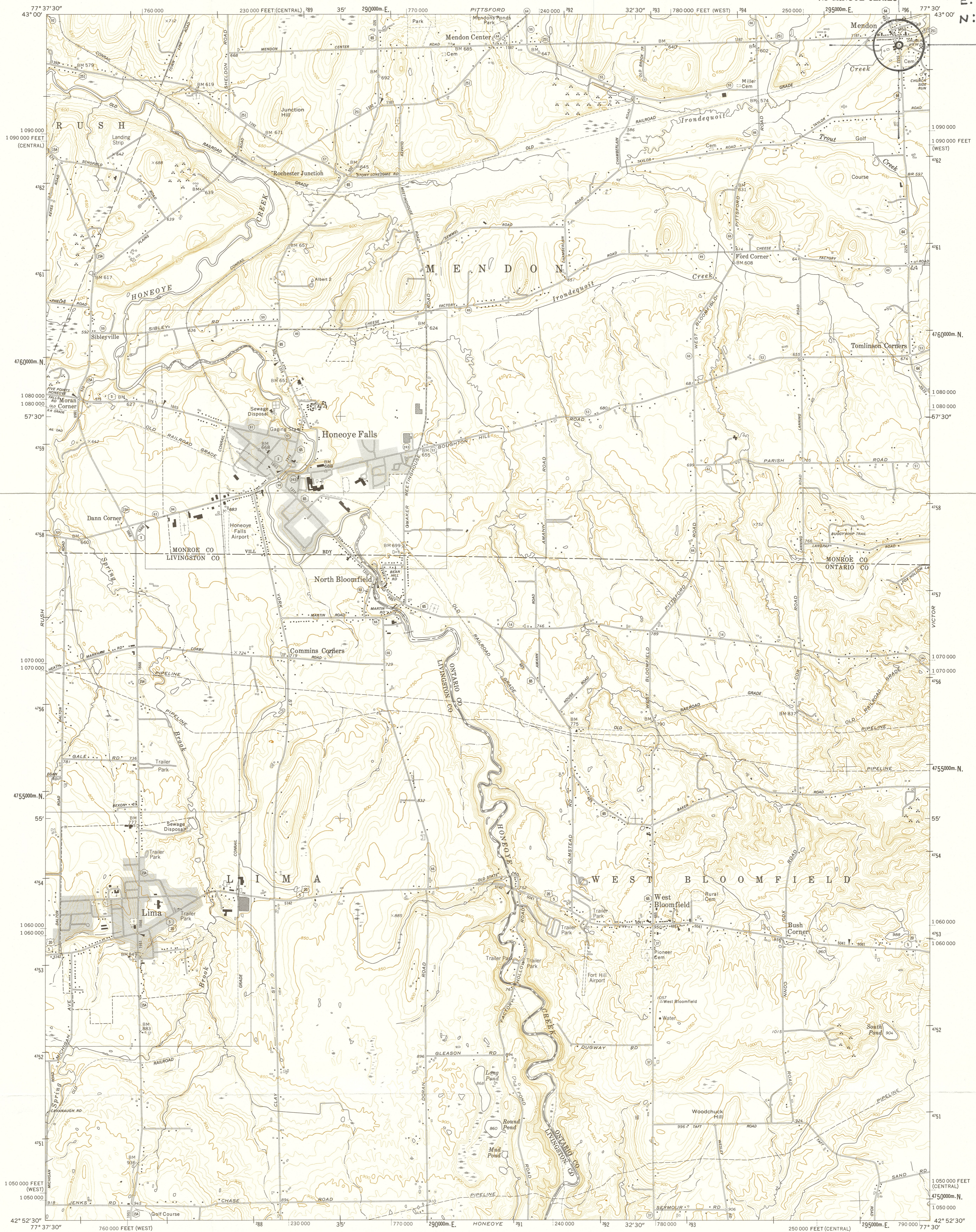
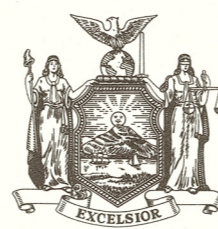
1:24,000 Zone 18

HONEOYE FALLS QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK
7.5 MINUTE SERIES

E: 296856
N: 4762293

WEST HENRIETTA

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



96 NR 1082

Prepared and published in 1980 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.
Map base from 1971 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle.
Map revisions made using 1980 aerial photography, construction plans, official records and other sources. Features revised include: highways and other transportation facilities; civil boundaries; recreation sites; hydrography; and buildings. Grey tint indicates intensively developed areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.
Revisions may not comply with National Map Accuracy Standards.
Correspondence concerning this and other maps of the Department of Transportation should be directed to: Map Information Unit, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, New York 12232.
1980 revisions by G. D. Schmidt

SCALE 1:24,000
1 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum.
1000-meter ticks based on the New York Transverse Mercator grid.
Between 72° and 78° West Longitude, this grid is identical to Zone 18 of the Universal Transverse Mercator grid. Areas east of 72° and west of 78° are direct mathematical extensions of Zone 18.
10,000-foot ticks based on the New York Plane Coordinate grid, West and Central Zones.
Magnetic declination for 1980 is approximately 10 1/2° West
SPECIAL TOPOGRAPHIC EDITION
Contours, at 10-foot intervals, shown unrevised from 1971 U.S. Geological Survey map. Datum is mean sea level.

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

INDEX TO 1:9600 (1" = 800') MAP COVERAGE

BOUNDARIES:
State.....
County.....
Town or City.....
Incorporated Village.....

ROADS:
Touring Route markers:
Interstate.....
U. S.
State.....
State Highway number and limit.....
County road.....
Interchange number.....

Divided highways and streets:
Wide mall.....
Narrow mall or barrier.....
Undivided highways and streets:
4 or more lanes.....
Less than 4 lanes.....
Vehicle track; trail.....