

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

MB NO. 1024-0018, NPS FORM  
RECEIVED 2280

947

24 1997  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 Jacob P. Mesick House

other names/site number n/a

**2. Location**

street & number 68 Van Wyck Lane [n/a] not for publication

city, town Claverack [n/a] vicinity

state New York code NY county Columbia code 021 zip code 12534

**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. Adams  
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
Signature of certifying official

10 July 97  
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:

Elson W. Beall Signature of keeper Date of Action 8/21/97

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:)

Jacob P. Mesick House

Columbia County, New York

Name of Property

County and State

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)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listings (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)  
**The Architectural and Historic Resources of the Hamlet of Claverack, Columbia Co., NY**

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

n/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions

(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

MID 19TH CENTURY/ Greek Revival  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Materials

(enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone  
 walls Frame  
 roof Wood shingles  
 other \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Jacob P. Mesick House  
Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

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The Jacob P. Mesick House occupies a 79 acre parcel of land on the east side of NYS Route 9H/23 in the agriculturally utilized south edge of the Hamlet of Claverack. Van Wyck Lane, which borders the property, is characterized by open land and scattered residences. The nominated property itself contains stand of mature trees, open fields and is bisected by the Claverack Creek as its flows west to the Hudson River.

The house and outbuildings are set back to the east of Van Wyck Road. Gently sloping grassy lawns surround the east and south sides of the house. The land gradually declines to meet the banks of the Claverack Creek, which cuts through the center of the property. The heavy black outline on the attached county tax map identifies the boundary of the nominated property. The boundary lines coincides with the current legal boundaries of the Mesick house. This property is not located with an historic District.

Contributing buildings: 1  
Non-contributing elements: 3

The Jacob P. Mesick property includes a large Greek Revival era house (contributing), garage (modern, non-contributing), pole barn (modern, non-contributing), and a barn/apartment (altered, non-contributing).

The house, erected ca. 1840, is a two story, five by five bay, timber framed, center hall plan dwelling. The building is covered by narrow clapboards, rests on a stone foundation and is covered by a hipped roof. The roof is pierced by four interior chimneys. A one and one-half story frame wing extends from the rear (east) elevation of the house. Fenestration throughout the main block of the house is regular and symmetrical. Windows contain six-over-six light sash and are flanked by louvered wood shutters.

The front facade of the house, oriented westward, is highlighted by a central entrance. The entry is framed by flat pilasters supporting a molded entablature. Set within this frame is a slightly recessed entry. The original Greek Revival era entry and three bay portico were altered in the late nineteenth century. At that time the Greek Revival portico and entrance was replaced with a Victorian style entry and porch, which spanned the full width of the facade. In the mid-twentieth century the Victorian renovations were moved and the Greek Revival entry surround was restored. Also at that time the Victorian entrance was replaced with the present Colonial Revival style entry. This current Federal inspired arrangement is composed of a paneled door flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a fanlight. The roof line is highlighted by a molded frieze that encircles the building.

The south elevation of the house is highlighted by four windows on the first and second floor of the house.

The east elevation is dominated by the rear wing. The south elevation of the wing features a single story porch, which shelters an entrance. Narrow eave windows are located above the porch roof just below the eaves. The east elevation of the wing features two windows on the first floor and two eave windows above. The north elevation

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Jacob P. Mesick House  
Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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of the wing is similar to that of the east. A single story porch spans the full width of this elevation.

The north elevation of the main block of the house is highlighted by a finely crafted Greek Revival era central entrance. The deeply recessed entrance is framed by flat pilasters supporting a molded entablature. The entrance itself is composed of a paneled door flanked by sidelights and pilasters.

On the interior of the house the room configuration and much of the nineteenth century detailing survives. The main entrance opens into a wide center stair hall. Of particular interest in the hall is the intact ca.1840 French print wall covering. Flanking the hall on each side are large parlors. Each parlor retains most if not all of its original woodwork, floors and wall finishes. Behind the two large parlors are smaller rooms. These spaces also retain virtually all of their original finishes. In the mid-twentieth century an archway was established between the front and rear rooms on the north side of the house. The second floor of the main block of the house contains four chambers and a modern bathroom. These spaces also retain original moldings, mantels, doors and hardware. The rear wing of the house features a first floor kitchen. This space is composed of a large front room with a cooking fireplace and oven on its east wall. Behind the fireplace is a small space now used as the kitchen. This area once contained a massive baking oven. The oven was removed in the mid-twentieth century. Also located in this room is an iron heating kettle. The large vessel is set into the brickwork of the fireplace mass. Beneath the kettle is a firebox. Piping from the cistern beneath the floor of this space rises through the chimney mass and exists above the kettle. The pump that once supplied water to this system is no longer in place. A box stair leads from the front kitchen room to servants quarters above the kitchen. Throughout the residence molding, mantels, flooring, wall finishes, architraves, doors and hardware survive through the residence in high state of preservation.

South of the house is located a modern two car garage (non-contributing). East of the house is a pole barn (modern, non-contributing) and a barn/apartment (altered, non-contributing).

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

(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.

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]

Period of Significance

ca.1840
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]

Significant Dates

ca.1840
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]

Architect/Builder

n/a
[ ]
[ ]
[ ]

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 [X] 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 Record # [ ] Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Dubois-Phelps House  
Montgomery, Orange County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Jacob P. Mesick House (ca.1840) is a unique example of Greek Revival residential architecture in the Hamlet of Claverack, Columbia County. It well illustrates the assimilation of the Greek Revival style into the local vernacular. The building embodies a number of the characteristics associated with this style. These elements include the dwelling's rectangular massing, two story form, symmetrical fenestration, multiple light sash divided by thin muntins, low pitched roof, broad frieze, ornate entrances, and center hall double pile plan. The detailing of this building coupled with its grand size and intact overall agrarian setting enhance the significance of the nominated property. The building stands as a local landmark and reflects the Hamlet's development as a prosperous rural farming community during the mid-nineteenth century.

Originally part of the Van Buren manor, it was owned by Jacobus Delamater, who purchased it from John Van Rensselaer in 1785. Jacob P. Mesick purchased the farm from Delamater in 1831. Mesick established a prosperous farm on the lot and is believed to have erected this lavish farmhouse in the 1840s. Mesick also served as a representative in the New York State Assembly. The farm and house passed to Jacob's only son, John and then to his grandson Jacob P. (1848-1921). The house remains in the family to this day.

As built, the dwelling is one of only a few example so Greek Revival style architecture in the hamlet. The Greek Revival style was popular in this region between 1820 and 1850. A formal, dignified style, the Greek Revival form was based upon ancient Greek temple forms. Like the Federal era houses, Greek Revival residences also feature rectangular of massing and a low pitched gable roof. The roof line is usually set off by the use of a heavy cornice molding and frieze boards. Entrances often feature recessed, trabeated surrounds with the entrance door flanked by side lights and a rectangular transom or wood entablature. Windows are generally double-hung sash with multiple lights. Massing varies, but always consists of rectangular blocks. Symmetry is an important element of this style.

The Mesick house, with its intact form and floor plan, remains an important example of mid-nineteenth century residential architecture in the Hamlet of Claverack. The architectural significance of this property is enhanced by the survival farm acreage and agrarian setting.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Jacob P. Mesick House  
Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Blackburn, Roderic and Piwonka, Ruth. A Visible Heritage Kinderhook, New York: Columbia County Historical Society. 1975.

Miller, Stephen B. Sketches of Hudson. Hudson, New York: Hendrick Hudson Chapter of the DAR. Reprint ed. 1985.

Schram, Margaret. Claverack Township: The History and Heritage. Claverack, New York: Town of Claverack Historical Society, 1976. reprinted. 1983.

Webb, F.H. Claverack, Old and New. Claverack, New York: private published. 1892.

Jacob P. Mesick House  
Name of Property

Columbia County, New York  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of property** 79 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 8	6 0 5 3 3 2	4 6 7 3 9 6 8	2	1 8	6 0 5 1 5 2	4 6 7 3 6 5 9
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	1 8	6 0 4 9 4 4	4 6 7 3 7 6 6	4	1 8	6 0 4 9 0 6	4 6 7 4 2 7 2
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
5	1 8	6 0 5 1 9 0	4 6 7 4 2 2 8	6			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Explain the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John A. Bonafide, Historic Preservation Program Analyst  
organization NYS Office of Parks, Rec. & Historic Preservation date May, 1997  
street & number P.O. Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643  
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

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

**Photographs**

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

**Additional items**

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

**Property Owner**

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

name Earl & Margaret Schram  
street & number RD4 Box 247  
city or town Claverack state New York zip code 12534

**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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Jacob P. Mesick House  
Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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#### **10. Geographical Data**

##### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary for the nominated property is shown as the heavy black outline on the accompanying map entitled "Jacob P. Mesick House, Claverack, Columbia County, New York."

##### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary for the nomination has been drawn to coincide with the current legal lot for the property.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Dubois-Phelps House  
Montgomery, Orange County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number Photographs Page 1

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Photographs

**Jacob Mesick House**  
**Claverack, Columbia County, New York**  
**Photo by: Ian Nitschke, 1997**

**Clover Reach**  
**P.O. Box 360**  
**Claverack, NY 12513**

**Neg. at: Clover Reach**  
**Claverack, NY**

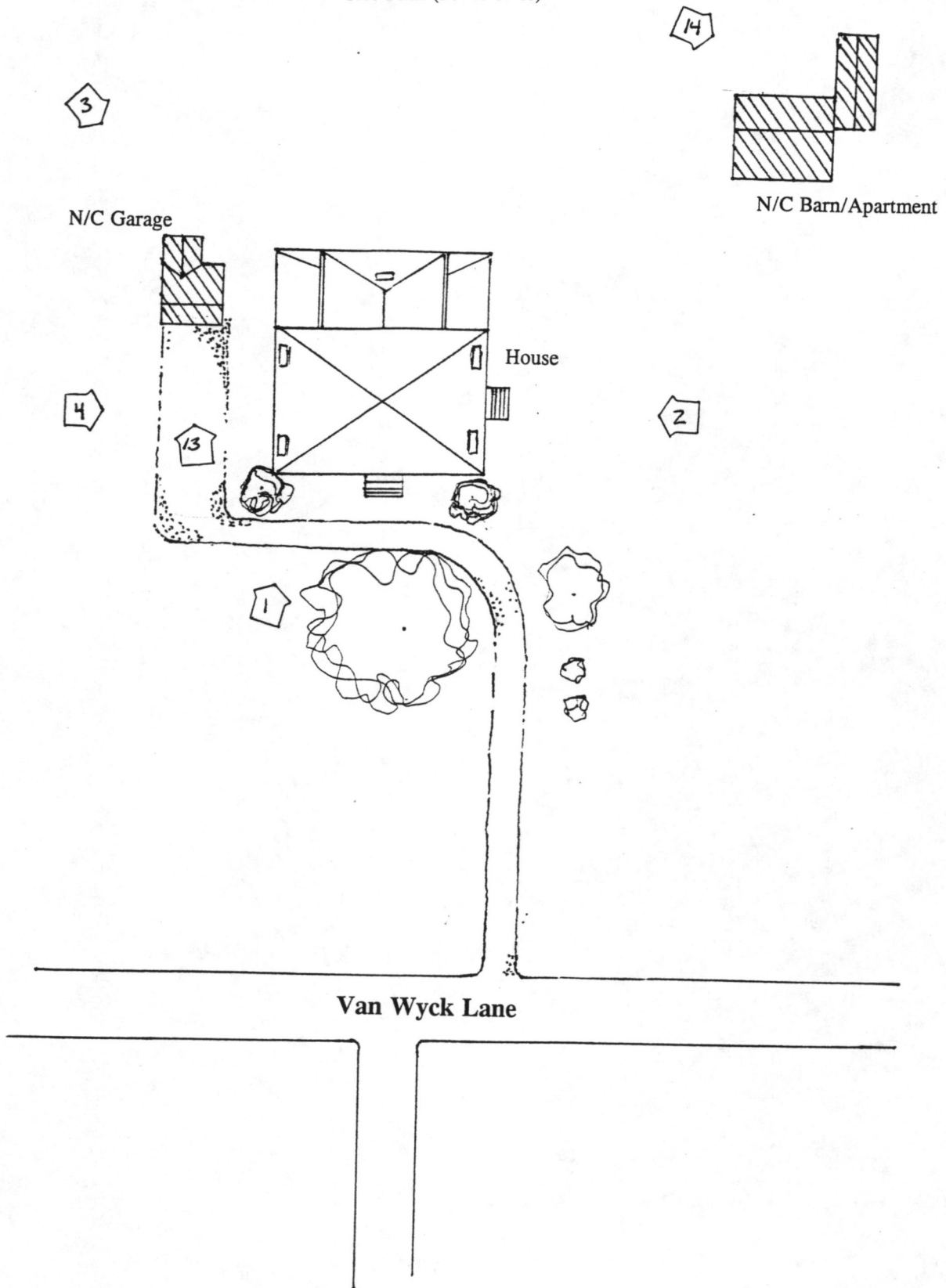
- View 1. West facade
- View 2. North elevation
- View 3. East elevation
- View 4. South elevation
- View 5. Interior detail,
- View 6. Interior detail,
- View 7. Interior detail, stair
- View 8. Interior detail, door surround
- View 9. Interior detail, hall wallpaper
- View 10. Interior detail, south parlor mantel
- View 11. Interior detail, second floor hall
- View 12. Interior detail, south room mantel
- View 13. Interior detail, kitchen fireplace
- View 14. Interior detail, set kettle in kitchen
- View 15. Non-contributing garage
- View 16. Non-contributing barn/apartment
- View 17. Non-contributing pole barn



# Jacob P. Mesick House

Claverack, Columbia County

Site Plan (not to scale)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Mesick, Jacob P., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Claverack MPS

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 7/24/97      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/05/97  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/21/97      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/07/97  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97000947

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    8/21/97 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ JACOB P. MESICK HOUSE
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPR HP
6. West facade, looking east

Photo 1



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ JACOB P. MESICK HOUSE
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. North elevation, ~~of~~ looking south

Photo 2

50 06 14 14 2



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ JACOB P. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. DPRHP
6. East and north elevations of house and garage,  
looking south west.

Photo 3

50 06 N N 14-1 2



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob T. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. South elevation, looking north

Photo 4



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ **Jacob P. Mesick House**
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Newel post and stair case, looking north

**Photo 5**



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ JACOB P. Mesick  
Howe
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Doorway from hall to north parlor,  
looking north

Photo 6



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob P. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Original French wallpaper in hallway, looking north

Photo 7



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob P. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Mantel South parlor mantel, looking south

Photo 8



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ JACOB P. mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Upstairs hallway, looking east

Photo 9



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ JACOB P. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. South middle room mantel, looking south

Photo 10

52 06 14 14 14-1 2



1. ~~John Merick House~~ Jacob P. Merick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Original kitchen fireplace, looking south east

Photo 11



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob P.  
mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. April 1997
5. Large <sup>set</sup> kettle behind kitchen  
fireplace, looking south

Photo 12



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob P. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Jan Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. Garage west elevation, looking east

Photo 13



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob F. Mesick House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. North and east elevations of carriage house/barn converted to residence, looking south west

Photo 14



1. ~~John Mesick House~~ Jacob P. Mesick House
2. Columbia Co. NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRMP
6. South and east elevations of machinery shed,  
looking north west

Photo 15

50 06 11 14 2

# Jacob P. Mesick House

## Claverack, Columbia County

Jacob P. Mesick House  
 Claverack, Columbia County  
 Claverack Quadrangle  
 Zone 18  
 Scale 1:24,000

- 1. 605332 4673968
- 2. 605152 4673659
- 3. 604944 4673766
- 4. 604906 4674272
- 5. 605190 4674228

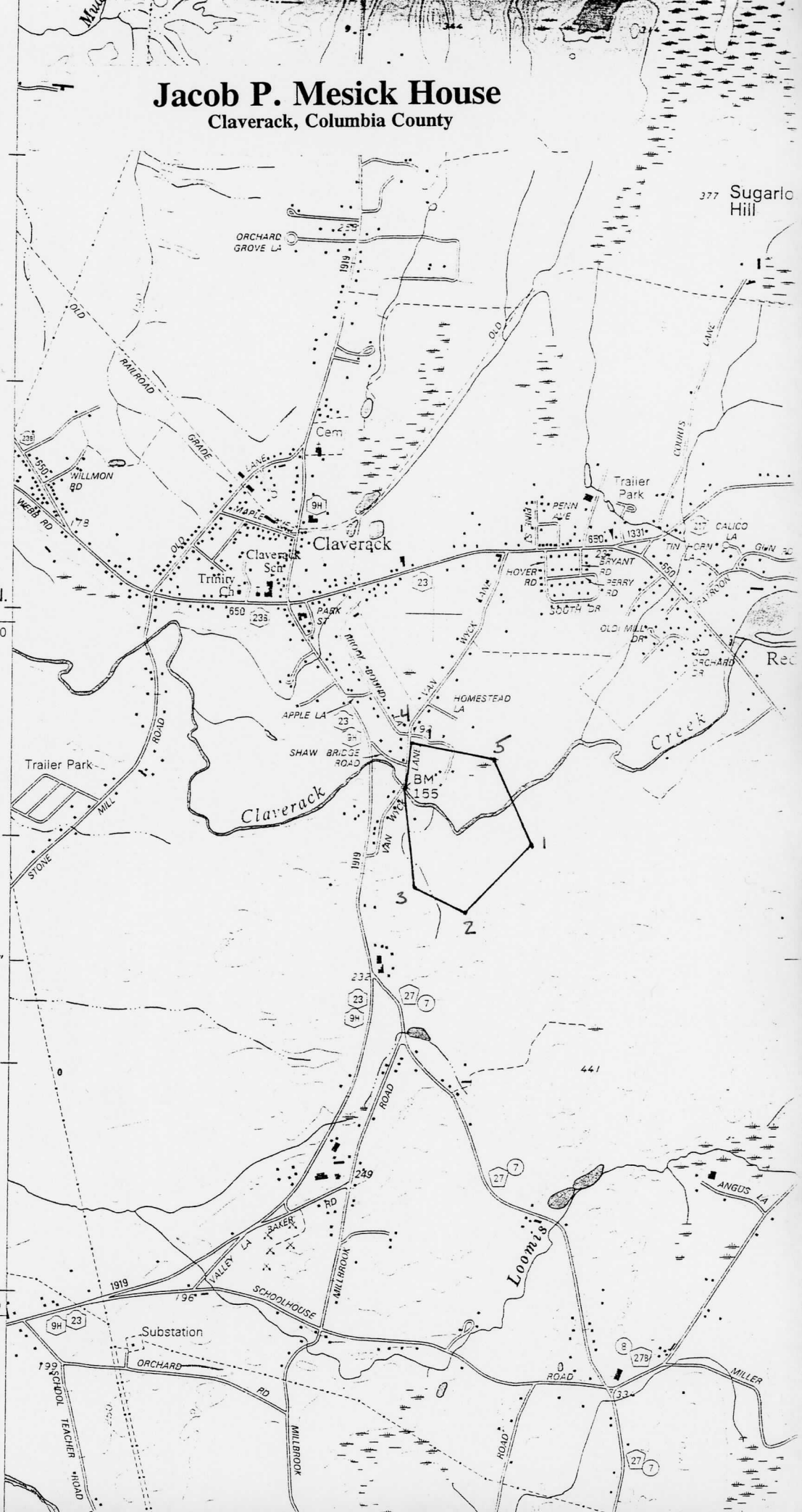
4675000m. N.

810 000

12'30"

800 000

SON SOUTH



377 Sugarlo Hill

Rec

Creek

Loomis

ANGUS LA

MILLER

Claverack

BM 155

SHAW BRIDGE ROAD

APPLE LA

PARK ST

TRINITY CH

650 235

650

CLAVERTON

CLAVERTON

CLAVERTON

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Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500446