

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

RECEIVED NB 280. 1024-0018, NPS FORM
OCT 20 1998
1386
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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 Conklin Mountain Home

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 304 East State Street [n/a] not for publication

city, town Olean [n/a] vicinity

state New York code NY county Cattaraugus code 009 zip code 14760

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

21 Sept. 98
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: Edson H. Beall Signature of keeper Date of Action 11-19-98

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:)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		objects
		2	Total
Name of related multiple property listings (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register	
n/a		n/a	

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/Second Empire</u>	foundation <u>stone</u>
	walls <u>wood frame</u>
	<u>bevel siding</u>
	roof <u>asphalt</u>
	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

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

(Section 7, Description)

Description

The Conklin Mountain Home is located on approximately a third of an acre parcel, on the corner of East State and South Clinton Streets in the City of Olean, Cattaraugus County, New York. The 1886 house, outbuildings and associated grounds are surrounded by residential property and located adjacent to the main intersection of downtown Olean. The lot is 100' x 108' and is delineated by a black wrought iron fence. The nomination consists of the main dwelling and an adjacent two story, two car contributing garage. This late nineteenth century residence and its associated grounds retain a high level of architectural integrity associated with its design, materials, and workmanship.

The Conklin Mountain Home is a three story asymmetrical building that is mainly rectangular in plan with all of its features set beneath a mansard roof with characteristic gables. The straight mansard roof is bound by molded cornices above and below the slope. The wood frame house rests on a stone foundation and is covered with original bevel siding.

The front facade is highlighted by the three story entryway tower, one story wrap around porch and the building's characteristic two story bays. The wrap around porch features detailed porch supports, segmental arches with carvings and keystone and twentieth century spindlework in the balustrade derived from the segmental arches above. The double front rectangular doors are 4-5 inches thick with etched, large-pane arched glazing. The door is encased within a segmental arch mirroring the porch supports. The tower is surmounted by a straight mansard roof and contains dormer windows with pedimented crowns.

The windows around the home are double-hung sash and are approximately 10 feet in height. Three of the windows on the first floor adjacent to the porch open from the bottom and act as either a door or a window. Both side elevations contain two detailed bay windows on the first and second story. The north elevation retains its original iron cresting encasing the bottom half of the second story windows.

The interior features a large entryway with French doors and transom lights leading from the vestibule into the foyer which contains one of the longest free standing spiral staircases in New York State. The newel post is delicately carved and remains as the visual anchor for the staircase. French doors with bevelled glass separate many formal rooms throughout the ground floor, including the formal parlor, ladies parlor and dining room. The house retains much of its original layout to its period of significance and architectural details including original doors, window sash, molded architraves, baseboard and cove moldings, mantels, and plaster walls and ceilings. The home also features three gas fireplaces. A rather chaste fireplace made of red brick is located in the gentleman's parlor, a delicate ivory ceramic tiled hearth with wooden carved dragons is located in the ladies' parlor and a black marble Renaissance Revival style fireplace is located on the third floor.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

Of special recognition is the dining room which features intricately wood carved details including the wainscoting, a ten foot built in china cabinet and a four foot wooden carved chandelier inspired by the arts and crafts movement. The dining room itself was made of plaster of paris and retains one of its leaded windows.

The contributing two story garage retains a significant amount of integrity and adds to the overall setting of the house and its grounds.

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

1886
[]
[]
[]

Significant Dates

n/a
[]
[]

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a
[]
[]

Architect/Builder

Builder: William C. & Dewitt Conklin

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: NYS Div. for Hist Pres., Waterford, NY

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 1

(Section 8, Significance)

Significance

The Conklin Mountain Home is significant under National Register Criterion C as a building that embodies the distinctive characteristics of Second Empire style residential architecture. The house is an architecturally distinguished example of a late nineteenth century high style Victorian design that retains its integrity to a remarkable degree. Constructed ca. 1887, the house features the asymmetrical massing with entryway tower, mansard roof with dormer windows, fenestration proportions and Italianate details all characteristic of the Second Empire style. Historically, this house is associated with the original inhabitants and builders, William and Dewitt Conklin responsible for the development of one of Olean's most important industries known as the Conklin Wagon Works. Following the Conklins, the house became property of the Mountain Family, known for their succession within the medical field and their establishment of the "Mountain Clinic Infirmary" within the City of Olean. Architecturally as well as historically this house remains as a prominent historic feature within Olean's downtown.

History of Olean

In 1803, the Holland Land Company sold 20,00 acres of land to Adam Hoops at the head of navigation on the Allegheny River. This river was able to provide hundreds of families with seasonal access to the west to connect with the Ohio river and eventually the Mississippi River. As a result of this advancement, a small community began to grow and meet the demands of the westward travelers. As time passed, the area eventually evolved into a strong regional center offering an array of high quality goods and services. However, Olean's long term prosperity was secured by its variety of abundant natural resources.

Partly as a result of the seasonal influx of people, Olean experienced an expansion of commercial activity and began to utilize a variety of natural resources to stimulate growth. The initial industry centered around the vast timber resources in the region. As early as 1807, Wyllys Thrall and William Shepard built saw mills on Olean Creek, while Robert Hoops, Adam's brother, built the first gristmill in 1809. The surrounding forest had a variety of hardwoods and tall pine trees, which were harvested and floated down river on large rafts to distant markets. Economic development through lumbering reached its zenith during the period between the 1830s and 1840s, it remained a significant activity throughout the nineteenth century and provided the basis for a number of other related industries such as tanning, manufacturing of wagons, farming implements, building construction materials and home furnishings.

Throughout the nineteenth century important advances in transportation lead to the prosperity of Olean. The completion of the Genesee Valley Canal in 1856 connected the Erie Canal in Rochester to Olean providing a dependable travel pattern south. Initially this traffic pattern was important to Olean but proved to be more expensive to operate as the competition of railroads increased. The arrival of the New York and Erie

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 2

Railroad, later called the Erie, in 1851 was a key factor in the substantial growth in population, manufacturing and agricultural development because it provided a less expensive avenue of reaching eastern/western markets. By the 1870s, several small railroads combined to become the Pennsylvania Railroad, which provided an important connection for Olean, between Emporium, Pennsylvania and Buffalo. Olean had a central location where lines of travel and traffic branched off in several directions, carrying coal, iron, hemlock, dairy and farm products, oil and lumber. This advance in transportation ushered a new era of growth and wealth in Olean leading to the development of residential enclaves and the establishment of many commercial and manufacturing enterprises.

History of the Conklin Mountain Home

The Conklin Mountain Home was originally built by William C. Conklin and his son, Dewitt C. Conklin in 1886. They were joint owners of the "Conklin Wagon Works", located in Olean near the Allegany River. The Conklin Wagon Works was one of the most important of Olean's industries, and one that was for almost half a century a potential factor in the industrial wealth of this city. They manufactured approximately 2,000 wagons per year and sold them throughout the United States and also to foreign countries such as Latin America and South America. When World War I began, the Conklin Wagon Works was commandeered by the United States Government to make wagons with steel wheels to hold the artillery guns.

The Mountain Family purchased the home from the Conklins in 1919. Dr. William H. Mountain built his own hospital, "The Mountain Clinic", located near this home in 1917, and is registered by the American Medical Association. Dr. William Mountain was a leading physician and surgeon of this part of the country. The Mountain Clinic was the first clinic in Western New York and was recognized as the highest class small clinic in the country. Dr. Mountain's four children, Dr. Joseph L. Mountain, Dr. Ruth Mountain (who became the first women dentist in New York State), William H. Mountain, Jr., Attorney, and Dr. Robert E. Mountain were all associated with the Mountain Clinic, and worked with their father. The nurses who worked at the Mountain Clinic, lived on the third floor of the Mountain Home located at 304 East State Street.

Architecture

Reflecting the architectural eclecticism popular during the period, this home is a distinguished example of a High Victorian residential design and construction. Embodying the picturesque, asymmetrical form and massing of the Second Empire style, the Conklin Mountain Home is highlighted by fanciful, Italianate ornaments. Interior details likewise reflect the eclecticism of the era including molded, double-leaf entrance doors with etched glass panels, a turned stair balustrade, a long free standing winding staircase, marble, brick and tile fireplaces, detailed woodwork, molded door and window architraves and angular wall bays.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 3

Due to the abundance of wood surrounding Olean, mills produced items that were incorporated into many exteriors and interiors throughout Olean's residential neighborhoods. The elaborate and extensive woodwork throughout the Conklin Mountain Home highlights the popularity of the lumber industry throughout Olean during its construction. Throughout the exterior and the interior, wooden details are exposed including the segmental arches and porch supports, balustrade and porch frieze, its doorway, newel post and highly detailed dining room. Overall, the Conklin Mountain Home is notable for its high level of integrity throughout and as a rare example of its type and period in the City of Olean.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Crandall, Kelly. Conklin Wagon Works.
2. Scott, Lynn. Olean's Heritage Homes 1845-1900. Published by The Olean Historical and Preservation Society, Crown printing and Graphics, Inc. 1989.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1/3 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Table with 4 columns: Reference Number, Zone, Easting, Northing. Contains data for references 1, 2, 3, and 4.

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 Michelle Petrick
organization NYS Office of Parks, Rec., & Historic Preservation date
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.).

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

Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County, NY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 1

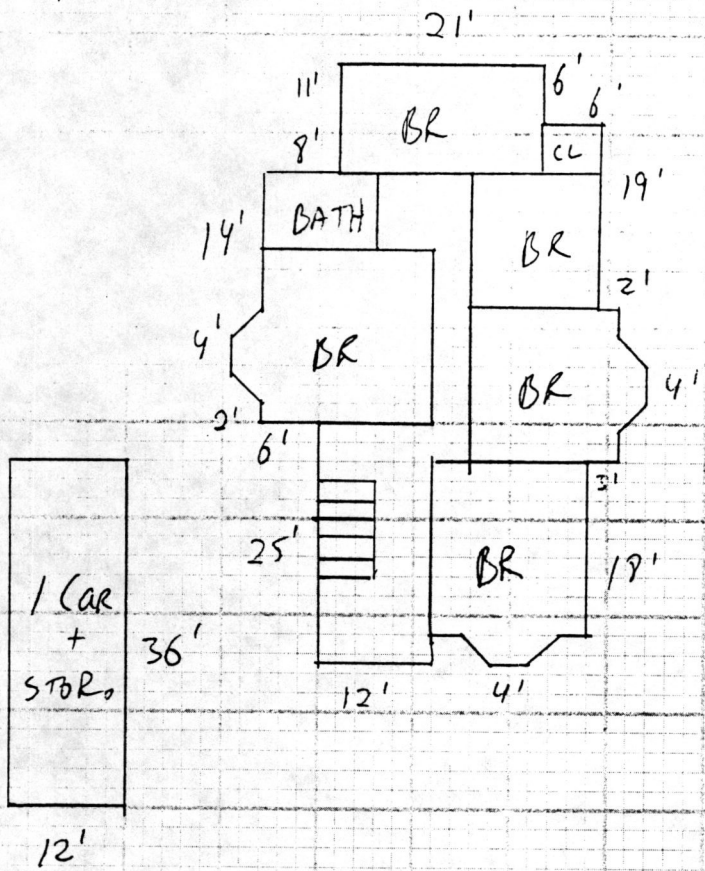
10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the nominated property includes all intact historic features associated with the house and its associated grounds.

Boundary Justification

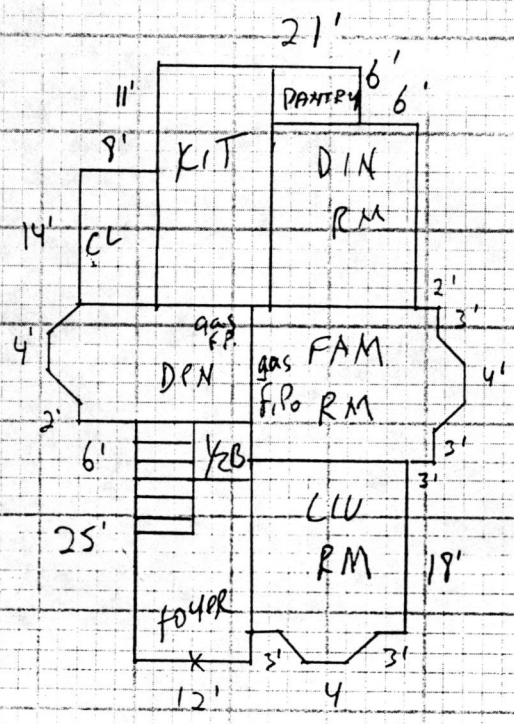
The boundary for the nomination has been drawn to coincide with the current legal lot for the property.



UPPER LEVEL

- $6 \times 21 = 126$
- $5 \times 27 = 135$
- $14 \times 35 = 490$
- $12 \times 37 = 444$
- $4 \times 31 = 124$
- $19 \times 28 = 504$
- $3 \times 12 = 36$
- $3 \times 7 \times 3 = 63$

- 1,922



LOWER LEVEL

- $6 \times 21 = 126$
- $5 \times 27 = 135$
- $14 \times 35 = 490$
- $12 \times 37 = 444$
- $4 \times 31 = 124$
- $19 \times 28 = 504$
- $3 \times 12 = 36$
- $3 \times 7 \times 3 = 63$

- 1,922

To Go. Co. Aa = 3,844

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Conklin Mountain House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Cattaraugus

DATE RECEIVED: 10/20/98 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/03/98
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/19/98 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/04/98
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98001386

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 11.19.98 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



CONKLIN MOUNTAIN HOME
OLEAN
CATTARAUGUS CO., NY
M. PETRICK
NEG. & P.I.



CONKLIN MOUNTAIN HOME

OLEAN

CATTARAUGUS CO., NY

M. PETRICK

NEG. of P.I.



CONKLIN MOUNTAIN HOME

OLEAN

CATTARAUGUS CO., NY

M. PETRICK

NEG. at P.I.



CONKLIN MOUNTAIN HOME
OLEAN
CATTARAUGUS CO., NY
M. PETRICK
NEG. of P.I.



CONKLIN MOUNTAIN HOME

OLEAN

CATTARAUGUS CO., NY

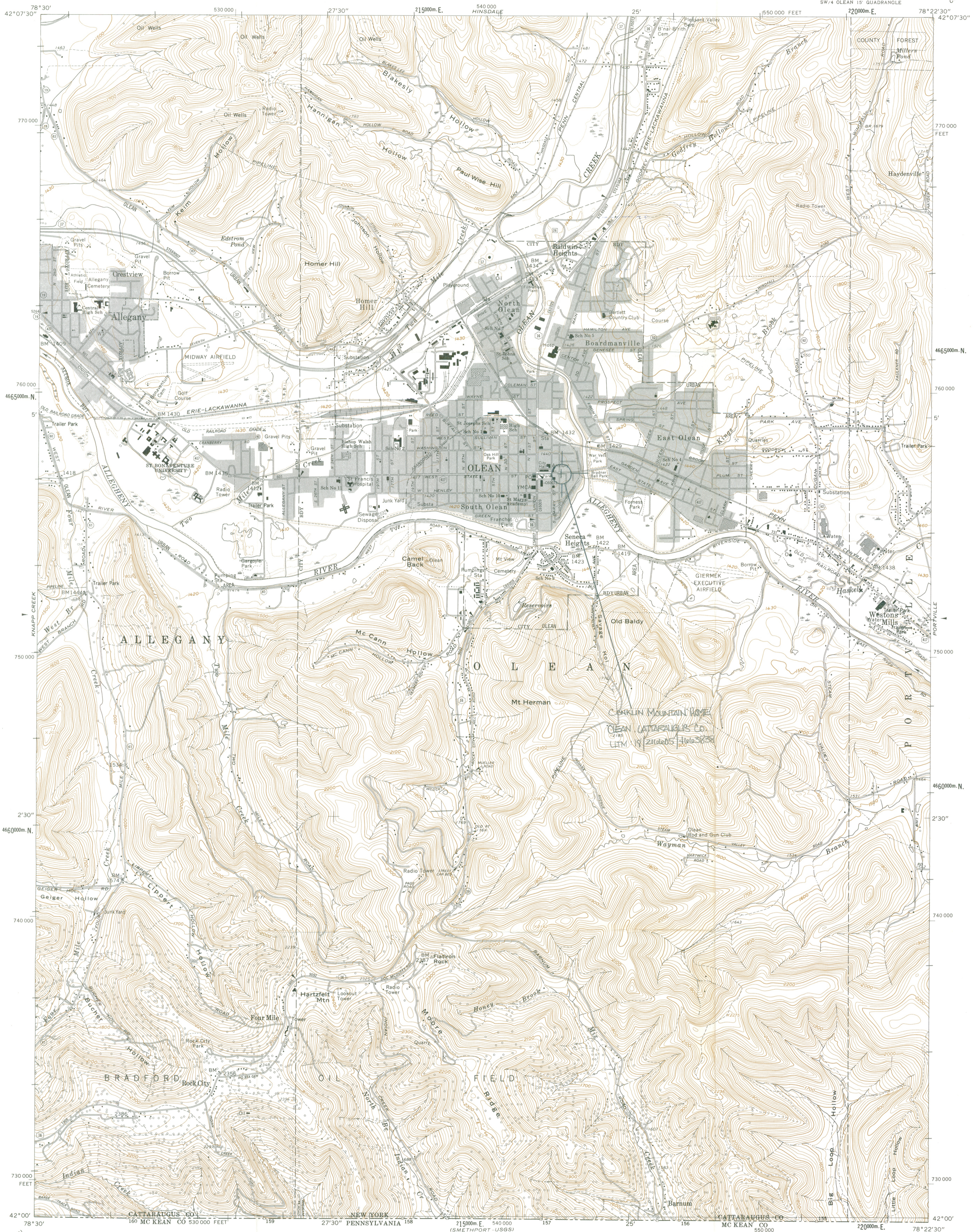
M. PETRICK

NEG. of P.I.

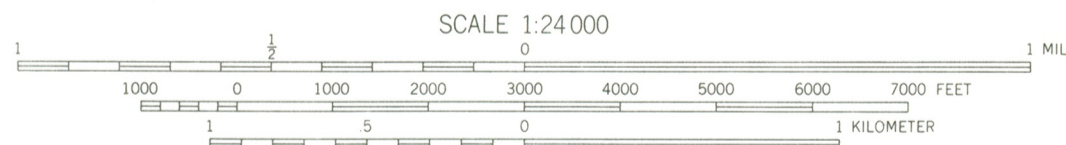
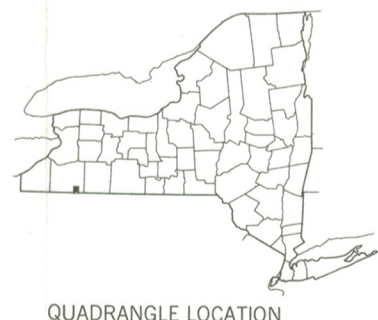


NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OLEAN QUADRANGLE NEW YORK 7.5 MINUTE SERIES PLANIMETRIC



Prepared and published in 1975 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Map base from 1961 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle. Map revisions made using 1974 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 intensely 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. 1975 revisions by J. E. Farah



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 Zone.



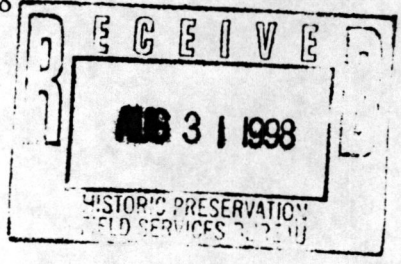
- BOUNDARIES: State, County, Town or City, Incorporated Village, Federal-Aid Urban Area. ROADS: Touring Route markers, Interstate, U.S., State, State Highway number and limit, County road, Interchange number, Divided highways and streets, Undivided highways and streets, Vehicle track; trail.

MKP

**Department of
Economic
Development,
Planning
& Tourism**

John J. Sayegh, Director

August 28, 1998



Ruth L. Pierpont, Director
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Peebles Island
PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

RE: Conklin Mountain Home
Olean, Cattaraugus County

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

The Cattaraugus County Planning Board, at its August 27, 1998 meeting, reviewed the above referenced proposed nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

The County Planning Board voted unanimously to support the nomination of the Conklin Mountain Home to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

Sincerely,
Carol O'Brien
Carol M. O'Brien
Planner

CMO:mep

