BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
UNIQUE SITE NO.
QUAD
SERIES
NEG. NO.

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Howk DATE: Dec., 1994.

YOUR ADDRESS: 133 S. Fitzhugh St. Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

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IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S):
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE:
3. STREET LOCATION: 879 North Greece Road
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒
5. PRESENT OWNER: Philip E. D'Amico ADDRESS: (same) Rochester, NY 14626
6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐
   Interior accessible: Explain private residence

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☐ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐ e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☒ g. stucco ☐ other:
   Roof = asphalt shingles. Foundation = cobblestone veneer.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known)
   a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☒
   b. wood frame with light members ☐
   c. masonry load bearing walls ☐
   d. metal (explain)
   e. other
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☒ b. good ☐ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when?
    c. list major alterations and dates (if known):

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"This house would be more distinctive if there was a more appropriate porch (or no porch at all) on it. Originally, there may have been no porch at all. Also, the front door would have been of Greek Revival design as well. The house now has shingles (originally it would have been clapboards). This is a 'green.' " P. Malo.

COLOR CODE

Green

An Equal Opportunity Agency

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☒ b. zoning ☐ c. roads ☐
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐
f. other: _____

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☐
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☒ f. greenhouse ☐
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐
i. landscape features: deciduous trees & shrubs
j. other: _____

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land ☒ b. woodland ☒
c. scattered buildings ☒
d. densely built-up ☐ e. commercial ☐
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒
h. other: _____

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1830s - 1850s

ARCHITECT: not determined

BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: residential

22. THEME:

11c.

The house is currently clad with wood shingles. These appear to be later additions (early 1900s?). Originally, the house was probably clad with wood clapboard siding.

The rear wings appear to be later additions: the one-story, gable-roofed west wing (early/mid-20th century) and the small, gable-roofed west addition (c. 1970s-80s).

Two contemporary, window-sized, greenhouse units have been installed in the first-floor window openings on the south elevation, c. 1980s-90s.

The louvered, wood shutters appear to be late-20th-century additions.

On the north elevation, it appears that the original two, first-story windows have been removed and three, 20th-century, double-hung windows installed (mid-20th century?).

The gabled, front entrance porch with square posts and concrete front steps appear to be a early/mid-20th century additions.

A contemporary, open deck has been constructed on the northwest corner of the house, c. 1980s-90s.

17. This house is located on a 1.1-acre site on the west side of North Greece Road in the northwest quadrant of the town. The house is located in a distinctive setting with its deep setback (over 100′) from the roadway. It is surrounded by undeveloped fields and woodland to the south, west, and north. There is a driveway to the south of the house. A non-contributing, gable-roofed storage shed (c. 1980s-90s) is located to the northwest of the house. The surrounding neighborhood has post-World War II residential buildings (mostly ranch houses).

18. One-and-one-half-story, side-gabled, frame house (c. 1830s-1852) with one-story, gable-roofed rear wing and small, gable-roofed west addition. The main block, with side gables, is four-bays-wide by two-bays-deep. The house stands on a foundation (probably fieldstone) that has a cobblestone veneer. Fenestration is regular and symmetrical with 1/1, double-hung windows. Four, small, two-pane, frieze windows

18. continued

are located in the cornice of the facade, just under the eaves. The one-story rear wing includes several contemporary windows (casement) and a shed-rooed porch on the south elevation. On the south elevation of the small, west addition there is a long contemporary window with two rectangular panels topped by a fan-shaped window.

Under the low-pitched, gable roof is a wide, Greek Revival style cornice with gable-end returns.

The main entrance is located in the center of the facade. It is sheltered by an early/mid, 20th-century, gable-roofed entrance porch with square posts and fan-shaped, wood panel set in the pediment. A contemporary, open deck has been added to the northwest corner of the house.

To the northwest of the house is the sole outbuilding on the site: a contemporary, non-contributing frame storage shed.

20. This c. 1830s-50s house is architecturally significant in the town of Greece as a distinctive example of an early/mid-19th-century, vernacular Greek Revival farmhouse. It is also historically significant as a visual reminder of the agricultural heritage of Greece. The house's unusually deep setback from the road is a major distinguishing feature of this site.

The 1852 county map shows this area of North Greece Road, just south of English Road, but it is difficult to distinguish the buildings in the vicinity. Because of its distinctive vernacular Greek Revival massing, scale, and design, this house appears to have been constructed c. 1830s-50s, when the Greek Revival style was in fashion.

The side-gabled, rectangular plan of the house is representative of the typical vernacular Greek Revival farmhouse built in Greece during the early- to mid-19th century. Its distinctive wide cornice, gable-end returns, and frieze windows are all characteristic of this style.

Greek Revival architecture was the dominant style of American domestic architecture during the interval from about 1830 to 1850, during which its popularity led it to be called the National Style. The largest surviving concentrations of Greek Revival houses are found today in those states with the

20. continued

largest population growth during the period from 1820 to 1860. New York State leads the list in having the largest number of surviving Greek Revival style buildings.

The 1872 county map shows this property, just south of English Road. There are only three buildings shown on the west side of North Greece Road, between English and Podunk (now Mill) Roads. This house appears to be the building located the farthest south of the three shown. It is marked, "J.B. Raynsford" as owner.

The 1902 county map shows this property as a 50-acre parcel on lot 11. A small building is shown at the northeast corner of the rectangular lot and it is marked "James Doty Est." (Estate).

The 1924 county map shows this property as a 49-acre parcel owned by John Wolf. The house is shown with two small frame outbuildings (one to the northwest and one to the southwest of the house). Smith Creek is shown to the west. The 1930 suburban directory lists John and Frederica Wolff here; the house is not numbered, but it is shown between the houses at #885 and #903 North Greece Road.

The Wolff family continued to reside here through the late 1950s. The 1959 county map shows this property as a 47.24-acre parcel owned by J.C. and F. Wolff. The house is shown with three small and one large, frame outbuildings to the north, west and south. It appears that these may have been agricultural buildings on this site through the 1950s (they are no longer extant). Smith Creek is shown to the west of the outbuildings, bisecting the lot.

21. See final report for bibliography.