

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
White Creek Historic District
AND/OR COMMON

FILE COPY

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
White Creek

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
29th

VICINITY OF

STATE
New York

CODE
036

COUNTY
Washington

CODE
115

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Ownership
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Office Building
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Fort Edward

STATE

New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Inventory of Historic Resources

DATE
1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Office of Parks and Rec., Div. for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN
Albany

STATE
New York

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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White Creek Historic District
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 1

STREET AND NUMBER

PROPERTY OWNER
NAME AND ADDRESS

(All numbers correspond
to locations shown on
enclosed sketch map.)

(All addresses: White
Creek, New York, 12057
unless otherwise indicated.)

1. Residence	Harry Baldwin
2. Residence	Mrs. Susan Cook
3. Residence	Michael King
4. Residence	Horde
5. Parsonage	Gordon J. Nesbitt
6. Residence	Samuel Niles
7. Fire Station	Mrs. George Lobdell
8. Residence	John Souness
9. School	White Creek Volunteer Fire Department
10. Hotel/Tavern	Jack Latham
11. Dyer Sisson Store	Albert Gulley
12. Residence	Charles F. Niles
13. Sisson House	Janet Olsen
14. John Allen House and Dependencies	Norman Gronning
15. John Allen, Jr. House	Jack Latham
16. Methodist Church	Jermain United Methodist Church
17. Allen hat shop site	Jack Latham
18. Christopher Allen House	Joel Towart Box 416 North Bennington, VT 05257
19. Residence	Paul Murphy
20. Dr. William Richards House	William Murphy
21. Jermain Community Hall	White Creek Community Association
22. Paul Cornell House	Donald B. Niles

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

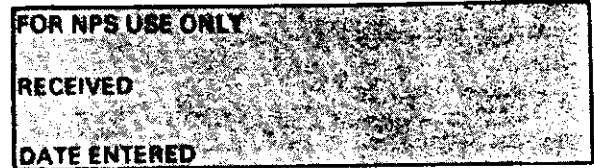
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The nominated historic district encompasses twenty-two individual properties clustered around the intersections of Byars and Niles Roads and County Route 68. The hamlet of White Creek is situated at the extreme southeastern corner of Washington County near the New York-Vermont border. The topography surrounding White Creek Historic District is characterized by agricultural lands and wooded hills. Only those structures noted on the enclosed list of properties and their immediate surroundings are included within the district boundaries. The boundaries define the physical limits of the hamlet to the north and east: The southwest boundary separates the intact portion of the historic community from modern intrusions and buildings which have lost structural integrity farther west along Route 68. The boundaries were drawn to delineate the extent of historic architectural fabric as well as the visual limits of the hamlet's setting.

Included within the district are structures representing a variety of functions and styles spanning the period from 1770 to 1885. The typical structure in the White Creek Historic District is timber framed, clapboard sheathed, and covered by a gable roof of shingle or slate. The buildings are similar in scale, and nearly all are rural adaptations of architectural forms popular during their respective periods of construction. The principal style found in the district is the Greek Revival, though examples of the half-house and shed-roofed dwellings of the eighteenth century, Federal-style residences, and two Queen Anne-style buildings of the late nineteenth century also contribute to the architectural variety. The architectural integrity of the White Creek Historic District is interrupted at only two locations by modern residences.

Though the district is predominantly residential, it also contains several rare surviving examples of Greek Revival-style commercial buildings, including a hotel/tavern, a general store, and a harness shop which now serves as the community fire station. These structures contribute to a sense of vitality in the crossroads hamlet.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

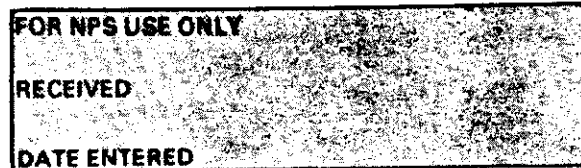
White Creek Historic District
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Street and Number	Photo No.	Date of Constr.	Architectural & Historical Data
(All numbers correspond to locations shown on enclosed sketch map)			
1. Residence	1	1818	Two-story frame double dwelling, corner pilasters, sheathed in asphalt shingles. Part of building once used as funeral parlor.
2. Residence	2	ca.1830	One and one-half story frame Greek Revival-style dwelling with center chimney. Sheathed in asbestos shingles-basic structure remains intact.
3. Residence		modern	Ranch house-modern intrusion
4. Residence		ca.1910	One and one-half story, gable roofed frame dwelling-compatible in scale with surrounding buildings of the district.
5. Parsonage		ca.1850	One and one-half story, frame Greek Revival-style structure with corner pilasters, frieze, original entrance; built as Baptist church parsonage.
6. Residence		ca.1870	One and one-half story frame house sheathed in asbestos shingles-a modest, compatible structure.
7. Fire Station	3	1849	Small, unusual Greek Revival-style commercial building sheathed in clapboard. Despite two-bay shed addition, building retains its decorative pilasters, raking cornice and architrave-built as harness shop.
8. Residence		ca.1850	Heavily altered structure compatible in scale with others in the district.
9. School		ca.1885	Rectangular, single-room frame district school characterized by Queen Anne-style scalloped shingle sheathing in fields of both identical end gables.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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White Creek Historic District
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

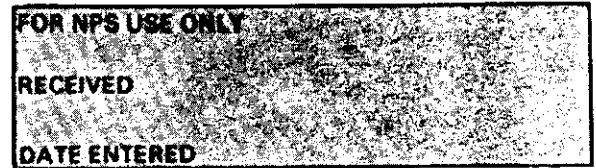
7

PAGE

3

<u>Street and Number</u>	<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Date of Constr.</u>	<u>Architectural and Historical Data</u>
10. Hotel/Tavern	7	1840	Two-story, twelve-bay, clapboard-sided Greek Revival-style inn encompassing an earlier eighteenth-century dwelling at northeast end. Retains considerable historic fabric from both periods—a key visual element in the district.
11. Dyer Sisson Store	4	ca. 1840	Three-story frame commercial building which continues to be focal center of hamlet. Greek-Revival style pilasters, porch architrave, loading bays and hoist are significant original features.
12. Residence		ca. 1800	Three-bay, two-story, Federal-style frame house. Decorative elements include corner pilasters, Federal-style door surround with side lights, bracketed porch on rear wing.
13. Sisson House	5	1787	Two-story, three-bay half-house, bracketed portico added, sash replaced, mid-nineteenth century. Former storekeeper's residence.
14. John Allen House and dependencies	8	1770	Two-story, five-bay Georgian-style frame house with end chimneys, unusual two-story portico, and adjoining three-bay kitchen wing with center chimney. Structure little altered, retains all interior mantels, moldings. Outbuildings include frame carriage shed, barn, tool shed, brick smokehouse. Focal residence in the district.
15. John Allen, Jr. House	6	1780-extensively altered, 1850's	Greek Revival-style dwelling encompassing earlier house as south wing. Former hatmaker's residence characterized by unusual louvered tympanum treatment.

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White Creek Historic District
Washington County

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<u>Street and Number</u>	<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Date of Constr.</u>	<u>Architectural and Historical Data</u>
16. Methodist Church		ca. 1850, altered, 1880's	Transitional Greek Revival-style church featuring clapboard sheathing, engaged pilasters on principal elevation; bell tower added, 1880's. Design elements resemble those of number fifteen above. Built as Baptist church.
17. Allen Hat Shop Site		early 19th century	Surface traces of structure visible- foundation rubble-building removed at undetermined date.
18. Christopher Allen House	9	1772	Three-bay, frame half-house joined to five-bay, center chimney, gable-roofed dwelling with shed roof extension - building was a tavern, retains its second-story ballroom. Served as temporary hospital following Battle of Waloomsac, (Bennington), 1777.
19. Residence		modern	Two-story residence- modern intrusion.
20. Dr. William Richards House		1798	Two-story, vernacular frame residence with center chimney and attached kitchen wing-unusual floor plan-retains extensive historic fabric with few alterations.
21. Jermain Community Hall		1928	Vernacular frame meeting hall with steep-pitched gable roof characteristic of the region. The clapboard sheathed structure was built on site of a creamery which burned in 1928.
22. Paul Cornell House		1772	Rural adaptation of Georgian style, with center hall, end chimneys, Palladian window on east facade. Alterations include installation of basement garage, removal of original front porch.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The White Creek Historic District is a significant cluster of individual properties which illustrate the historical development of architectural styles in rural Washington County. Settled by Quakers during the last quarter of the eighteenth century, White Creek remained a prosperous farming community and seat of local commerce throughout the nineteenth century. With its wealth of colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, and Queen Anne style architecture, the White Creek Historic District reflects the tastes of a rural New York hamlet as they changed over more than a century.

Settlement in the town of White Creek began after the granting of the Cambridge Patent in 1761. The first settlers in the present hamlet of White Creek were Quakers. John Allen built the first permanent residence in 1770, a house which remains as the best-preserved structure surviving from the eighteenth century in White Creek. The Cornell House and the Christopher Allen House (both built 1792) also survive from the colonial period, reflecting a rich variety of house styles. According to local tradition, the Christopher Allen House was operated as a tavern, and its ballroom also served as a temporary hospital for wounded from the nearby Battle of Waloomsac (Bennington) in 1777.

White Creek became a center of regional commerce late in the eighteenth century, and local prosperity reached its high point during the 1840's. Among the most interesting and important of White Creek's historic buildings are its commercial structures. The hotel and tavern, the harness shop, and the unusual three-story Dyer Sisson general store are outstanding, rare Greek Revival-style rural commercial buildings whose presence in the historic district contribute to a fuller understanding of life in White Creek during the nineteenth century. The businesses housed in these and other White Creek structures prospered, enabling owners to build comfortable homes along the streets of the hamlet. Most of these residences survive within the present district, and their stylistic treatment illustrates the relationship between wealth and taste in White Creek from the 1780's to the 1880's.

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Washington County

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The fortunes of White Creek declined as transportation changes passed the community by. The effect of these changes was de facto preservation of a significant concentration of historic architecture in a rural settling nearly free of modern intrusions. The quality and variety of buildings within the hamlet make the White Creek Historic District a significant and unusual community deserving attention and sensitive preservation and protection.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Johnson, Chrisfield, History of Washington County, New York, 1737-1878.
Philadelphia, 1878.

Jones, J. Geoffrey. Our Yesteryears. Cambridge, New York, 1959.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 41

Also see Continuation Sheet

QUADRANGLE NAME Hoosick Falls

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 7,40 | 47 | 5,88,80 |

B | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 6,80 | 47 | 5,87,60 |

C | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 3,80 | 47 | 5,85,20 |

D | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 3,20 | 47 | 5,86,20 |

E | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 3,00 | 47 | 5,86,00 |

F | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 2,50 | 47 | 5,86,60 |

G | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 3,50 | 47 | 5,09,50 |

H | 1,8 | 6 | 39 | 4,10 | 47 | 5,90,30 |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Raymond W. Smith, Program Analyst

12/78

ORGANIZATION

DATE

NYS Office of Parks and Rec., Div. for Historic Preservation 12/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Agency Bldg. #1, Empire State Plaza

518-474-0479

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Albany

New York

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

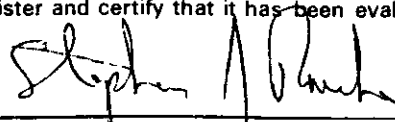
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XXX

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Director, Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau DATE 12/13/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

White Creek Historic District, Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET

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UTM References (continued)

Zone	Easting	Northing
I. 18	639320	4759100
J. 18	639470	4759380
K. 18	639550	4759340
L. 18	639440	4759040

Verbal Boundary Description

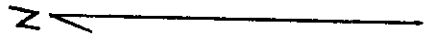
From a point approximately 400 feet east of the present Gronning residence, the district boundary extends generally southwest parallel to County Route 68 and 300 feet southeast of the road center for a distance of approximately 1,300 feet, whence the boundary turns northwest to follow the west property lines of the present Cook and Baldwin residences. From a point approximately 300 feet northwest of the road center on said Baldwin property line, the district boundary proceeds north in a straight line to the intersection of Byars and Niles Roads, jogs northwest 300 feet, northeast 1,100 feet, east 300 feet, and returns along the center of Niles Road to a point 300 feet north of the intersection, whence the boundary continues east in a straight line to the point of origin.

WHITE CREEK

HISTORIC DISTRICT

WHITE CREEK, WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEW YORK

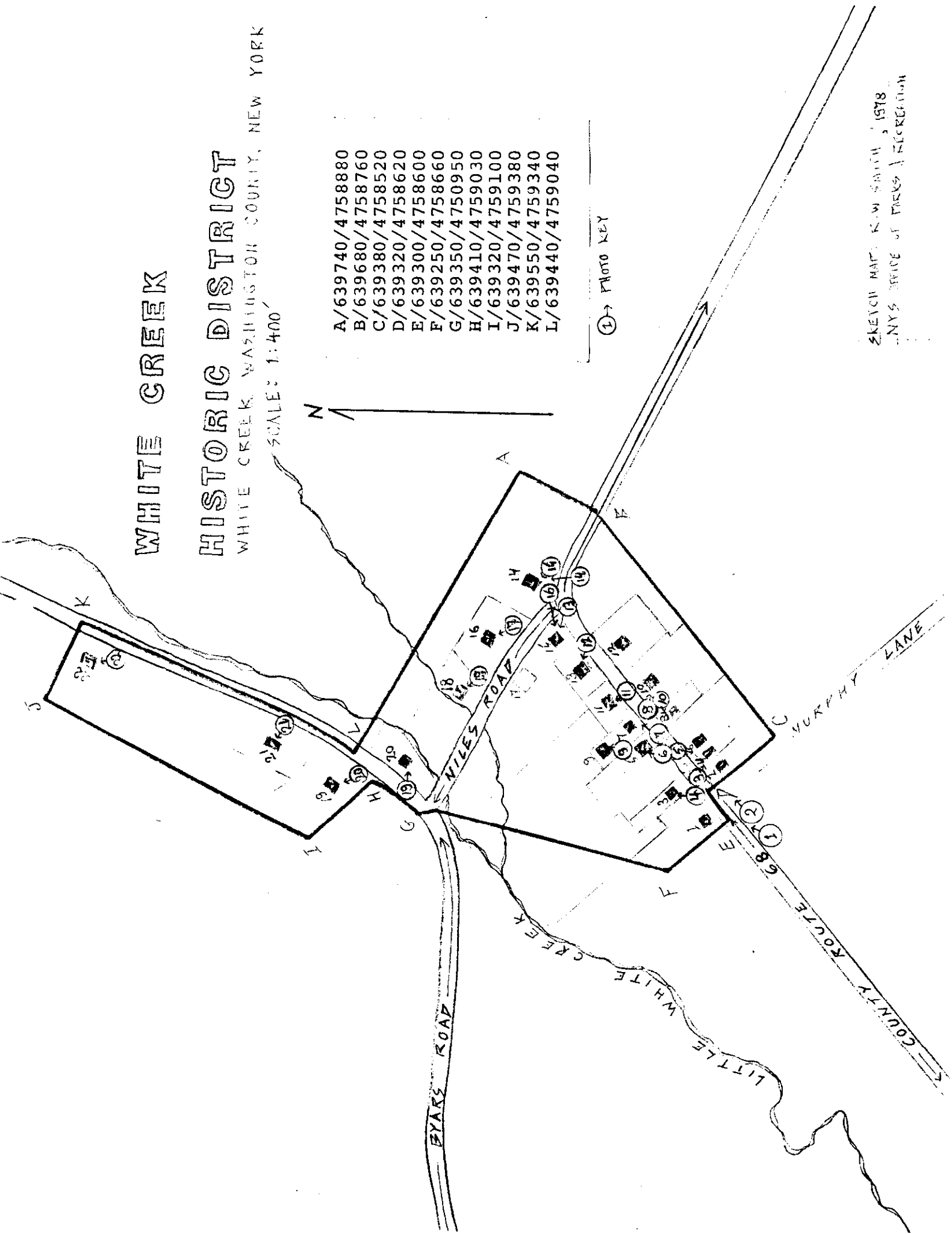
SCALE: 1:400



- A/639740/4758880
- B/639680/4758760
- C/639380/4758520
- D/639320/4758620
- E/639300/4758600
- F/639250/4758660
- G/639350/4750950
- H/639410/4759030
- I/639320/4759100
- J/639470/4759380
- K/639550/4759340
- L/639440/4759040

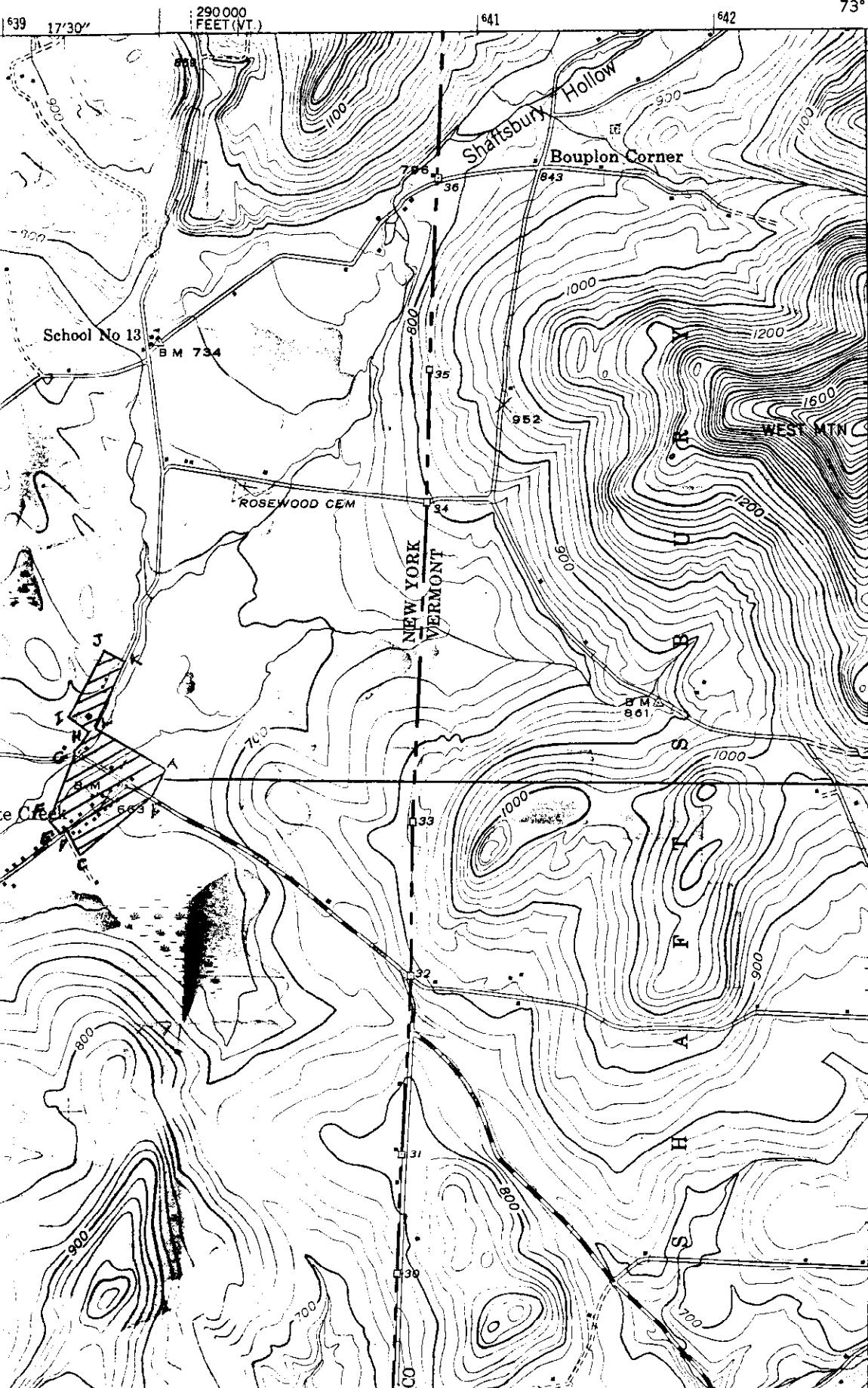
① → PHOTO KEY

SKETCH MAP BY K. W. SMITH, 1978
NYS OFFICE OF PARKS & RECREATION



WHITE CREEK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 WHITE CREEK, WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEW YORK
 NEW YORK-VERMONT
 HOOSICK FALLS QUADRANGLE
 7½-MINUTE SERIES

63701
 (Equivalent)
 1
 62500



WHITE CREEK HISTORIC DIS
 WHITE CREEK, WASHINGTON COV
 NEW YORK

18/	A	639740/4758880
	B	639680/4758760
	C	639380/4758520
	D	639320/4758620
	E	639300/4758600
	F	639250/4758660
	G	639350/4750950
	H	639410/4769030
	I	639320/4759100
	J	639470/4759380
	K	639550/4759340
	L	639440/4759040