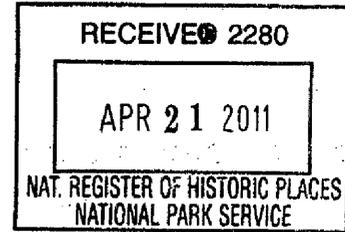


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



326

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility 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 the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories listed in 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 Schoolhouse No. 5

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number 5942 Dunk Hill Road  not for publication

city or town Hamden  vicinity

state New York code NY county Delaware code 025 zip code 13856

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I 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.

Richard Purpurt DBAPO 4/13/11  
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 6-1-11

**Schoolhouse No. 5**

Name of Property

**Delaware County, New York**

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

no style

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls wood

roof asphalt

other

**Narrative Description**

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

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Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Schoolhouse No. 5 is located on the east side of Dunk Hill Road just south of its intersection with Fish Hollow Road in the town of Hamden, Delaware County. The school is situated in the far northwest corner of the town, virtually on the border of the town of Walton, to the west, and Franklin, to the north. Hamden is an interior town located in the center of Delaware County. Like much of the county, Hamden is characterized by steep mountains broken by deep hollows, and the school is located at an elevation of 2,000 feet above sea level. The town's main waterway is the West Branch of the Delaware River, which cuts a northeast-southwest path through its center; however numerous other streams and tributaries run north-south, creating various hollows. The town's main east-west transportation artery is NY 10, which follows the path of the Delaware. Two county roads, CR 2 and CR 26, branch off NY 10 to connect with Andes (to the east) and Downsville (to the south), respectively. Hamden is an extremely rural town, with no incorporated villages and only several small hamlets, all located on or near the NY 10 corridor. The school is located close to the road on a grassy site surrounded by woods. The latter, which occupy former farmland, appear to be approximately forty to fifty years old; however, they are mixed with maple trees that are more than a century old. A low fieldstone wall (about thirty inches high) defines the school yard on three sides; the road side, although originally enclosed by a stone wall, is now open. Within the schoolyard are three surviving trees (two sugar maples and a Norway spruce) that were presumably planted by students to celebrate Arbor Day. All are more than one hundred years old, and one of the sugar maples is approximately 150 years of age. A fourth tree of the same vintage was recently removed due to disease. The school retains a high degree of integrity of setting. The nomination boundary is defined by the stone walls, which indicate the original boundary of the school yard. The nomination includes two buildings, the school and a wood shed, and a designed landscape, the schoolyard.

Built in 1858, the schoolhouse is a small, rectangular, wood-frame building (24' 4" x 20' 4") with wood clapboard siding on a fieldstone foundation. It features narrow corner boards, a wide frieze and is surmounted by a broad gable roof with deep overhanging eaves and a molded cornice. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, which were installed in 1998 over a red cedar shingle roof of unknown date. A small vestibule

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Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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(6' 3" x 4') is centered on the façade. The vestibule, which was added between 1900 and 1937 (based on historic photos), is also sheltered by an asphalt-shingled gable roof with deep overhanging eaves.

Fenestration is generally symmetrical, with two windows evenly spaced on each of the side and rear elevations. The façade features only one window, which is adjacent to the vestibule. Windows are set within narrow wood frames and feature two-over-two wood sash. The current windows replaced the originals, which were double-hung sash with nine-over-six lights, between 1900 and 1937 (also based on historic photos). Window sash is in poor condition and two lack glass. A single interior brick chimney pierces the ridge line near the rear wall of the building. A non-historic satellite dish has been added to the roof.

Entrance is through a five-panel wood door into the vestibule, which lacks windows and has coat hooks on its inside walls. On the interior, the original open schoolroom has been slightly compromised by the addition of several temporary partitions to mark living spaces. These are in the process of being removed. The schoolroom retains a substantial amount of historic fabric from various periods. Walls are beaded board on the bottom and homasote panels above. Neither of these wall finishes is original; however, both date to the last period in which this building was used for education. Original plaster and lathe walls, with one layer of wallpaper, survive behind the homasote, which is a twentieth-century addition. The beaded board is also believed to be a later addition, in part because it extends right to the window sills, obscuring the lower portion of the window frames. In addition, boxed corner posts are exposed but the amount of post exposed differs on the top and bottom. On the bottom, the wall obscures almost the entire post, suggesting that the thick beaded-board wall was applied over an earlier treatment, perhaps an earlier paneling of some kind. The majority of the flooring is hardwood and bears holes where desks were bolted to the floor. In a built-in cabinet in the southwest corner, original wide-board flooring can be seen. This space also reveals an original boxed corner post as well as thin, twelve-inch-wide horizontal planks, which may have been the original mortar bed for the first coat of plaster (see item 8). It is difficult to say for sure without a more thorough structural investigation. The current kitchen area

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features linoleum over plywood; the condition of the floor beneath the linoleum is not known. The current dropped ceiling is homasote panels; the original ceiling was plaster and lathe. The condition of the ceiling above the paneling is not known. Above the ceiling, the building's heavy timber framing, log rafters, and the lathe for the original ceiling can be seen. The school is heated by a cast-iron stove (a twentieth-century replacement) vented through the original stove hole in the brick chimney, which is exposed on the interior wall. While electricity has been installed, there is no indoor plumbing (the current sink is just a drain for carried water).

There is a small shed adjacent to the school on the south. The shed appears to date to the nineteenth century and its use is currently unknown; however, it is similar in form and style to the school and it was most likely a woodshed. The shed is a rectangular wood-frame building on a fieldstone foundation. It features a wide frieze and is surmounted by a gable roof with overhanging eaves and a narrow cornice. Like the school, it features an asphalt shingle roof. There is a sliding barn door on the north side and small windows in the gable ends. Until recently it had a dirt floor; however, a concrete floor has recently been installed.

There are two features outside the stone wall that were excluded from the nomination. The first, located behind the school and outside the stone wall, is a small privy constructed of plywood. Although a privy would have been integral to the schoolhouse, this particular privy is not old and it is outside the defined school yard. The only other feature near the school is a contemporary well, also outside the schoolyard.

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Schoolhouse No. 5

Name of Property

Delaware County, New York

County and State

8 Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "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.
C Property 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 prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

education

architecture

Period of Significance

1858-1954

Significant Dates

1858

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

unknown

Criteria considerations

(mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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.

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):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
recorded by Historic American Engineering

Primary location of additional data

- x State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### Summary

Schoolhouse No. 5, the Upper Dunk Hill School, is significant as a representative intact example of a mid-nineteenth century one-room schoolhouse in the town of Hamden. Hamden, a sparsely settled and mountainous interior town, established eight school districts shortly after it was formed in 1826. As the town grew, reaching its most populous period in the 1850s, additional districts were defined according to need, with the number growing to more than twenty by 1855. Nearly half of these were joint districts, which included children from more than one town. Driven by demographic and economic changes, the boundaries and sizes of districts continued to shift right up until school centralization began in the late 1940s. Built in the winter of 1857-1858 in the far northwest corner of Hamden, the nominated school originally served Joint District 20, including students from the towns of Hamden, Franklin and Walton. In 1868, the districts were redrawn again and the school became Hamden District School No. 5, sometimes known as Upper Dunk Hill School. The small rectangular building is typical of the majority of schools built in this region during the mid nineteenth century and embodies local building traditions. The building was built with a heavy timber frame, rests on a stone foundation, and is surmounted by a gable roof; it features extremely modest Greek Revival style details. This is one of the smaller schools in the region, just two bays deep and two bays wide. Like almost all others of its type, it was heated by a wood stove. Later changes, probably occurring in the early twentieth century, include the addition of a vestibule and replacement of the original nine-over-six sash windows with two-over-twos. On the interior there have been several changes to finishes, but the current wall coverings appear to date to the 1930s. The building retains the iconic form of a nineteenth-century one-room rural school, an image that is greatly enhanced by its intact schoolyard, which is defined by a dry-laid stone wall and marked by several mature trees planted by students to mark Arbor Day. The school also retains its nineteenth-century woodshed, a feature integral to its function. Serving the children of Hamden from 1858 to 1954, Schoolhouse No. 5 is a valuable record of a century of educational history in the town of Hamden.

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### Town of Hamden

Hamden is an interior town, located in the center of Delaware County. It is primarily mountainous upland, broken by the West Branch of the Delaware River, which flows through its center, and numerous north-south hollows, created by the river's many streams and tributaries. A portion of the town was part of the eighteenth-century Hardenberg Patent; other sections were contained in various other land grants. Before 1797, when Delaware County was formed, the area that became the town of Hamden was part of Otsego and Ulster Counties. Between 1798 and 1825 the land was part of the towns of Delhi and Walton. On 4 April 1825 parts of Delhi and Walton were combined in the new town of "Hampden," later changed to Hamden. The original name reflects the origin of many of its early settlers from Hampden, Massachusetts. Encompassing fifty-three square miles, Hamden was the seventeenth town in Delaware County.

Permanent settlement began after the Revolution, and Hamden's earliest settler is believed to be David Harrower, who arrived with his family in 1779. Other settlement-era families include those of Joseph Fisk, Henry Van Waggoner, James Mason, Reuben Ward, Henry and Joseph Edwards, Henry and John Howard, Samuel Robinson, William Cornell, John and Silas Grimes, James and John Howard, Samuel Olmstead, Benajah McCall, Matthias Sweeney, and General Elias Butler. While the first settlers came from Massachusetts and other New England states, in the early nineteenth century Hamden, like much of Delaware County, saw an infusion of immigrants from Scotland, most of them Presbyterians, who played important roles in the development of the town. At the first town meeting, held in March 1826, Jabez Bostwick was elected supervisor.

Lumber, which was floated down the Delaware, was Hamden's first important industry, followed by milling, taking advantage of the easy availability of water power. James Howard is believed to have opened the first inn in 1796 and Matthias Sweeney the first grist mill in 1797. About 1800, the Kingston Turnpike was opened, providing easier travel to the Hudson River and greatly enhancing the town's ability to participate in commerce.

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The first blacksmith shop was established in c1809-10 in the hamlet of Hamden, while Samuel Tiffany opened a shoe shop c1810 in DeLancy. Soon those two hamlets were populated with saw mills, grist mills, a woolen mill, a tavern, grocery stores, a cooper, a distillery an ashery, a hat shop, a physician, a hotel, and numerous other businesses.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, agriculture played a leading in role in Hamden's economy, particularly dairy, one of the few agricultural pursuits suited to the town's steep, rocky hillsides. Between 1860 and 1890, butter making was the town's most important industry, as it was in many Delaware County towns, and in Hamden it brought great prosperity to the farming community. After the butter industry waned, the shipment of fluid milk to urban areas became an economic staple, made possible by the development of railroad transportation through the county. For western Delaware County it was the O&W, which connected Delhi, DeLancy, and Hamden to the mainline at Walton, thence to Cornwall on the Hudson, and finally south to Weehawken, NJ. There were also a number of successful cooperative creameries that enabled farmers to market their milk products more effectively. Large creameries were located in the hamlets of Hamden and DeLancey, as well as in nearby Delhi, and smaller ones in other locations. Raising sheep and manufacturing wool and yarn were also important, as was bluestone quarrying in the mountains. The town's initial growth was slow but population grew steadily until 1850, when it peaked at 1,919; thereafter, Hamden declined in population, and today the town includes only approximately 1,100 inhabitants.

### Education in Hamden

New York State's common school system dates to 1812, when a state law required the appointment of a state superintendent of common schools and the election of three school commissioners in each town. These commissioners were responsible for creating school districts, while another group of inspectors was elected to license teachers and ensure regularity. The inhabitants of each district were required to select the site for the school and vote taxes to support it, and trustees were elected in each district to manage the school's business

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affairs. For those schools that could certify that they had met certain requirements, such as being open for at least three months, state aid was available to help pay teacher salaries; however, this aid could not be used to fund the construction of buildings, a burden that had to be born by the district voters. The fact that school districts were often rural and poor meant that schools were often built to minimum standards.

At the very first meeting of the town of Hamden, in March 1826, Marcus L. Bostwick, Joseph S. Combes, and Donald Shaw were appointed to be the commissioners of schools, while Elias Ensign, Daniel Colemean Jr and Jabez Botswick were appointed inspectors of common schools. Several months later, in June 1826, the commissioners divided Hamden into eight school districts. The town's sparse population meant that each district encompassed as much as nine square miles. From the description given of these districts, the area in the northern part of the town along its border with the town of Franklin, including Dunk Hill Road, appears to have been part of District No. 5. By 1832 there were twelve districts; the number rose to eighteen and eventually to more than twenty. In January 1845, old District 5 was incorporated into a new district, Joint District 20, including parts of Hamden, Walton, and Franklin, and a log school was built to serve its students.

A list of Hamden's common school districts in 1855 included twenty-two districts; of them, fourteen were joint districts, including parts of one or more adjoining towns. Those on the east side of the town were generally combined with parts of the town of Delhi, those on the west with Walton, Colchester or Franklin. In 1868, joint districts 19 and 20 were combined into Hamden District No 5 (Upper Dunk Hill) and served by the school on Upper Dunk Hill Road. The newly created District 5 is shown on the 1869 Beers map, as is the nominated building. Hamden District No. 5 was preserved as a district until the school closed in 1954.

Beginning in the early twentieth century, New York State began to urge the consolidation of common schools into larger districts. Under the Central School Law of 1925, the state promised substantial aid, including transportation costs, assistance with new building construction and teacher salaries for districts that

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consolidated. In 1949, voters approved the creation of Central School District No 1, including the towns of Walton, Hamden, Tompkins, Franklin and Sidney. Although all high school districts attended the new central school in Walton, a number of the common schools continued to provide elementary education. A 1951 report on buildings and grounds made for the Walton Central School District showed that only four common schools remained in operation in the town of Hamden: districts 1, 5, 12 and 13. All of these districts were dissolved by the mid-1950s.

### Schoolhouse No. 5

There is some documented building history about Schoolhouse No. 5, mostly from the minutes kept to record meetings of district voters to make decisions about the school. However, there are also some gaps in available documentation. Although a district was formed in the 1820s, there is no record of a school serving the northwest corner of Hamden until January 1845, when Joint District 20, including parts of Hamden, Walton, and Franklin, was formed and voters resolved to build a schoolhouse on a lot divided off from the Obadiah Sands farm, described as part of Great Lot No. 2, on the road leading from Franklin to Walton. [This is the same lot that the nominated school occupies.] This lot was later described as measuring 6 rods in front and 4 rods in back, and a later source noted that it was not fenced, had no shade trees, and there were no separate privies for the sexes. The school approved in 1845 was specified to be an 18 by 20 log structure with a fireplace, three windows of twelve lights each, and a shingled roof. One record, from an unknown year, noted that forty-six students attended this school, eighteen from Hamden; seventeen from Walton, and eleven from Franklin. Another record, also from a later date, indicates that School 20 was "very Cold" and, because it was in poor condition, it was valued at only \$10. Its library was noted as containing sixty-three volumes.

In the 1850s, a proposal to build a new school came before the voters of District 20 at least four times before construction finally went forward. The proposal was approved in 1852 and again on 6 December 1856. At the very next meeting, 29 December 1856, the approved specifications were revised to meet a lesser standard before

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the new school was rejected altogether in June 1857. The building was finally approved again in September of the same year. At that meeting, the trustees were voted the authority to complete the job, with the proponents perhaps not wanting to risk another reversal of sentiment. Voters agreed that the school would be 20 by 24 and that building would commence as soon as possible. Construction of the school was apparently completed by March 1858, when the minutes state that the extra boards from the construction of the building, as well as those salvaged from the old building, would be used to construct a backhouse (probably an attached woodshed), and that any remaining boards from the old school would be sold at auction. The minutes also specified buyers for several specific components of the old school, including its windows, which were sold to R. Cobine. In August 1858, the voters met again to vote on the question of whether they would be willing to pay for plastering the school. This proposal was passed, and the minutes state that one coat of plaster of lime would be applied and finished in a workmanlike manner. The job would go to the lowest bidder and the boards belonging to the school would be used as a mortar bed. One coat of plaster over boards would have produced a fairly primitive and unsatisfactory finish, and the school awarded the job to the lowest bidder, Joseph Northrup, who did it for \$14. These debates suggests that funding was a real issue to district voters, who were either unable or unwilling to come up with funds to build a first class schoolhouse. Evidence of lathe under the current wall coverings suggests that the building was afforded a more professional wall treatment at a later date.

Recorded discussions at other meetings of district voters reveal that voters dealt with the same issues that confronted every common school district, including who would hold the various offices related to running the school and maintaining the building, the length and dates of the year's school sessions, who would supply the wood, and who would teach. A lack of records after the 1860s means that we do not have definitive information about any changes to the building after construction; however, an exterior photo of the school taken in 1900 shows that in that period the building was sided in clapboard with narrow cornerboards and a wide frieze. It features double-hung nine-over-six window sash and was surmounted with a broad gable roof. A wooden gable decoration, which can be seen on several other nineteenth-century Hamden schools, may have been added in the

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later part of the nineteenth century. All these features are consistent with a mid-nineteenth century construction date. In the absence of further evidence, this photo appears to show the exterior of the building as it was constructed in the late 1850s.

In 1936, a report on Schoolhouse No. 5 revealed the building to be in "very dilapidated condition." The report stated that "Mr. George Tweedie, who was trustee that year, reconditioned the whole building that year and made it habitable for school purposes." While we have no record of what these changes entailed, a photo taken in 1937 shows the building with two-over-two replacement sash windows and a small wood-frame vestibule. Since photos reveal that the windows were changed between 1900 and 1937, it is possible that these were among the changes made by Mr. Tweedie. If so, the windows may have been salvaged from another building, as two-over-two sash would have been old fashioned at that late date. Nevertheless, the replacement of windows and the addition of vestibules were typical changes for this building type.

On the interior, the school appears to have gone through many changes, most of them during the period of significance. Records specify an original plaster coat over boards; lathe and wallpaper on the upper walls document later finishes. The current homasote, a 1930s material, may reflect the 1937 rehabilitations. The beaded-board siding on the lower part of the walls also appears to be a later covering, perhaps also dating to 1937. The boxed posts evident in the corners of the room are consistent with other schools of the mid-nineteenth century; however, the differences in how much the various posts are exposed suggests that there are several layers of wall covering beneath the current ones. Although we don't know the exact dates of every change, we do know that all but the recent partitions were made during the school's period of significance to serve the building's continuing historic function as a school.

In 1949, Hamden School District No 5 was folded into Central School District No 1, towns of Walton, Hamden, Tomkins, Franklin and Sidney. The nominated building continued in operation as a common school, serving the

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Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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residents of Upper Dunk Hill Road and vicinity until 1954, when it finally closed. In the same year, district inhabitants held a special meeting to decide on the building's future. On 11 January 1954, a resolution was offered and adopted by a majority authorizing the school board to sell the former school property. Subsequently the school and schoolyard were sold to the Lathan family, who owned the surrounding farm. The Lathans probably used the school for storage. In 1979, the school, schoolyard and three acres were divided off from the farm and sold to the Mulcans, who used the building as a hunting cabin until 2008. It was during this period that interior partitions and a small kitchen were installed in the building. Even so, the building still lacked interior plumbing. In 2010, the former school was sold to the current owner, who is removing the partitions and returning the school to its original appearance.

### Social History

New York's Common School system remained the backbone of rural education until well into the twentieth century. Despite many variations, these schools share an overall similarity of appearance and functional divisions. Most can be described as small rectangular buildings, seldom larger than two or three bays wide and two or three bays deep, with windows on at least three sides. Many were approximately 16 by 20, 18 by 20 or 20 by 24 feet in size; the vast majority were sided in clapboard and surmounted by broad gable roofs. While some entrances were on the side elevation, most were on the end; most schools featured a single open room, with space allocated for storing coats and lunches, for library books and for chalkboards. Nearly all were heated with a single wood stove. Every school had to have storage for wood, either in an attached shed or in a separate building, and every one had to have one or more privies. The main variables seemed to be the amount and quality of decorative embellishment: while one might have a door surround with full entablature, another might have a simple trabeated frame. Some roofs featured fully detailed, heavy, raking cornices; others had simple molded cornices. Nearly all schools had a clearly defined schoolyard with a fence or other enclosure, and shade trees were prized. Likewise, the pattern of schooldays and the roles of students and teachers were remarkably

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consistent. Teachers strove to meet the state's education standards; however, rural schools were also flexible and responsive in trying to meet the specific needs of local farming families.

There are two twentieth-century accounts from teachers who taught in the nominated schoolhouse. Though neither described the building itself, both recalled a remarkably similar pattern of days and activities. Wilda Tweedie Shackelton began her career at the Schoolhouse No 5 in 1936 and taught there until 1946. She was hired by the district trustee, a position held by her father (George Tweedie) for seven years, and described the experience of teaching all eight grades. She emphasized the necessity of procuring wood for the district. Eleanor Belmont also began her teaching career in the Dunk Hill School. She started in 1948, shortly after Schackelton left, and continued in her position until 1951. She recalled the one-room school, woodshed and privy, as well as the vestibule to store outdoor clothing. Belmont taught the children of seven families, from first grade through eighth. Both teachers described their problems getting to school each day, their particular duties with regard to starting the fire, and the cold and drafty building. Nevertheless, both reported on the immense satisfaction that they derived from their teaching jobs. After Walton voted to centralize in 1950, Belmont expressed satisfaction that this guaranteed the rural schools hot lunches and bus transportation. However, centralization also meant the beginning of the end, for School No 5 closed in 1954, after which the district children were all bussed to the Townsend School.

Schoolhouse No. 5 is a distinctive, intact example of its type and an iconic feature of the rural landscape. Although there have been some changes to the building, almost all reflect its continuing adaptation to serve the children of district 5. Even the presence of non-historic interior partitions fails to make the school unrecognizable as an example of its type. Further, those partitions are in the process of being removed. Schoolhouse No. 5 is an important resource in the town of Hamden.

See continuation sheet

Schoolhouse No. 5

Name of Property

Delaware County, New York

County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of property** less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	492948	4679531	3	Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe 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 Kathleen LaFrank, National Register Coordinator

organization New York State Historic Preservation Office date January 2011

street & number Peebles Island State Park, Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643 x 3261

city or town Waterford state New York 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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## Boundary Description

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the attached map with scale.

## Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include to the historic schoolyard, which is defined by the rock wall that outlines the property used for school purposes on the three sides and Dunk Hill road on the fourth side.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Schoolhouse No. 5  
Hamden Vicinity, Delaware County, New York

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Photographer: Katherine Bridges  
268 East Broadway  
New York, NY 10002

Date: April 2011

Tiff Files: CD-R of .tiff files on file at  
National Park Service  
Washington, D.C.

and

New York State Historic Preservation Office  
Waterford, NY

Photo List:

1. school, woodshed and site, looking southwest
2. school and woodshed, looking northeast
3. façade, looking east
4. rear elevation, looking northwest
5. interior
6. interior, stove

See continuation sheet

Schoolhouse No 5  
Delaware Co NY

June 5

Mabel DeF  
+  
her sister



C1900

ABOVE L-R:

Photo courtesy of Anna D. Ogden

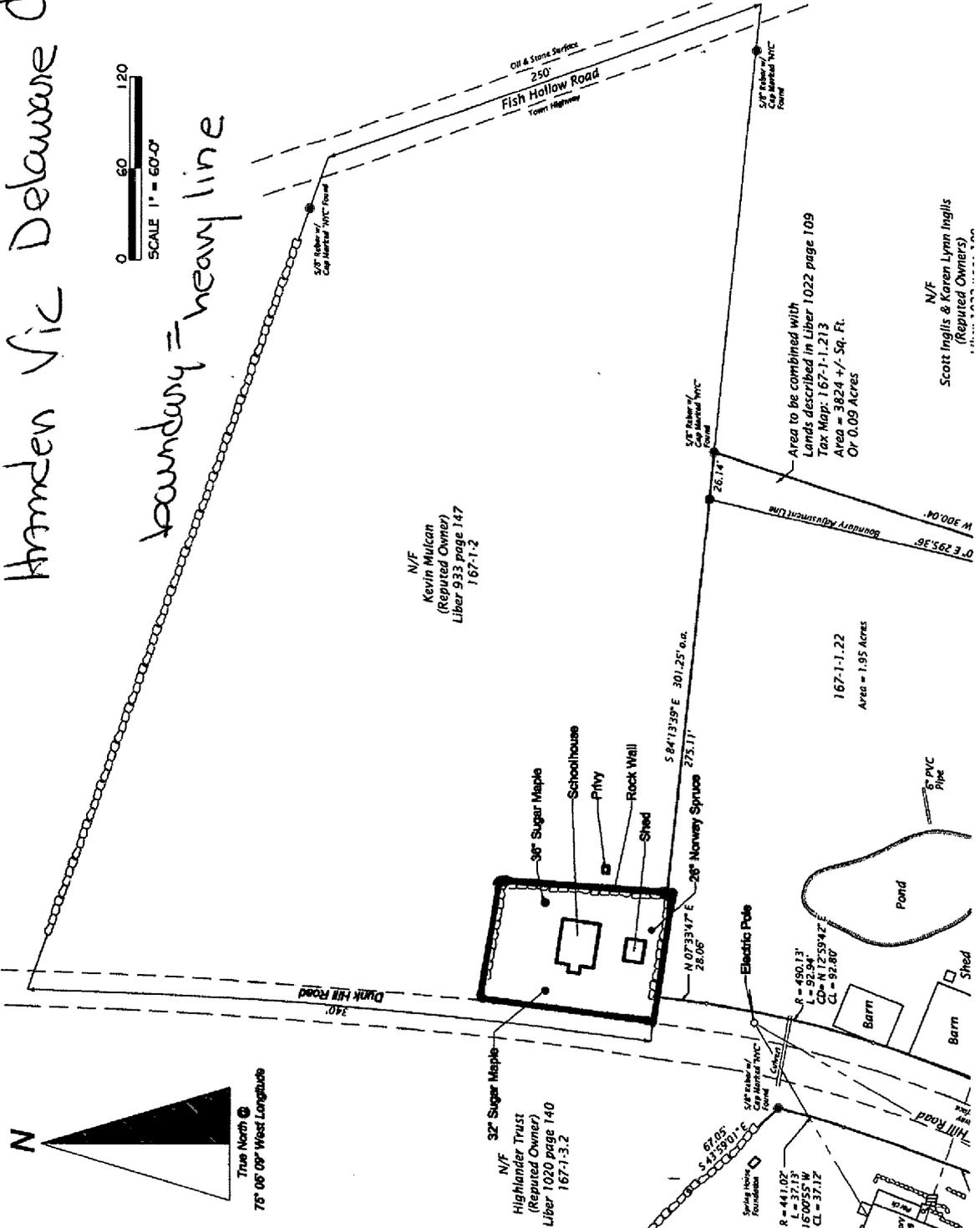
Augusta Schreher, Floyd Lathan, Lizzie Robinson, Evelyn Scott,  
Janie Cobine, Bertie Robinson, \_\_\_\_\_ Robinson, Myrtle Scott,  
Bertha Lathan, Marvin Scott, Mabel DeForest, teacher

Wilda Shackelton in front of District No. 5(J), Dunk Hill School - April 24, 1937



1937

# Schoolhouse No 5 Hamden Vic Delaware Co NY



Portion of Survey showing structures and trees.











