

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Christian Church
other names/site number Fitches Bridge Church

2. Location

street & number NY 10, south side not for publication
city or town East Delhi vicinity
state New York code NY county Delaware code 025 zip code 13752

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.

J. W. [Signature] Dep. Comm'r for Hist. Preservation 22 December 00
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:

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____

Christian Church

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.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival/Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls wood

roof asphalt shingles

other _____

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The Christian Church, also known as the Fitches Bridge Church, is located on the south side of NY 10 in the hamlet of East Delhi, Delaware County, New York. The small church is sited on a slight rise close to the road, with the slopes on the side and rear elevations marked by trees. Surviving trees and remnants of others suggest that there was once a row of well-established maple trees along the road in front of the church. The West Branch of the Delaware River, which parallels NY 10, runs immediately behind the church. The river was one of the region's earliest transportation systems and the narrow river valley, including the fertile riverside lands and steep hillsides, contributed to the development of the distinctive pattern of circulation systems and land uses that define the rural agricultural landscape evident in the valley today. The church is across the road and east of the Judge Gideon Frisbee House, the late-eighteenth century residence of one of the area's earliest settlers. The Frisbee house is now a museum and the headquarters of the Delaware County Historical Association. In addition to the church, the nomination includes a privy and a nineteenth-century cemetery, which occupies land on each side of the church and is enclosed by board fences.

Documentation indicates that the church was constructed in 1860; however, it has not yet been determined whether its distinctive combination of styles is the result of one building period or two. The core of the building represents a typical mid-nineteenth century church design in the region, embodying forms and embellishments typical of the Greek Revival style; however, its overlay of assertive Gothic Revival decoration creates the dominant visual image of the building today. The small wood-frame building is of post and beam construction and sits on a dry-laid stone foundation. It is rectangular in shape, three bays wide by four bays deep, and surmounted by a gable roof clad with asphalt shingles. An interior brick chimney pierces the gable at the rear of the building. The church features clapboard siding, a wide water table and a raking cornice.

The most dramatic exterior decorative elements are the twelve narrow, engaged towers with pinnacles that mark the corners of the building, define the entrance bay and serve as the primary decorative components of the tower. The towers are of wood-frame construction and the pinnacles, originally sheet iron, are now aluminum.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Each of the corner towers rests on a separate stone base, which is not connected to and extends beyond the stone building foundation. The two towers that define the entrance bay rise into a two-stage square tower, which interrupts the front gable of the roof. The raking cornice extends across the tower, either intentionally designed or replicated for the flat roofline at the apex. Each of the two tower stages is defined by corner towers and the whole is surmounted by a tall spire. Each stage of the tower originally featured louvered openings on all sides; however, the louvered elements that survive today are replacements without openings. Towers on each stage were originally connected by decorative balustrades; only those on the upper stage survive.

The main entrance is approached by three dressed stone steps with wrought-iron railings. Entrance is through double wooden doors, each with two panels, set within a classical enframing. Like the roof, the door lintel, which would have been broader in a traditional Greek Revival design, was either adapted to accommodate this particular design intent or altered to allow the addition of the towers. There is an applied wooden sunburst ornament centered above the door. Fenestration is symmetrical, with two windows flanking the entrance and three on each side elevation. Windows on the side elevations are set one bay back from the facade, with the bays nearest the facade accommodating an interior vestibule. Windows are set within flat wooden frames and surmounted by pedimented lintels with saw-tooth moldings, possibly a later addition. Openings contain double-hung wooden sash with sixteen-over-sixteen lights. The “wavy” glass suggests that the windows are original or were installed shortly after the date of construction.

On the interior, the church illustrates a typical meeting house plan, lacking any Gothic Revival embellishment. The space is divided into a small vestibule and an auditorium. The vestibule features a stair to the gallery on the right side and a closet containing a rest room on the left. It is not known whether there was an original matching stair on the left, as was typical of the building type. There are two entrances to the sanctuary, each through a four-panel wooden door. The sanctuary is a single open space with a flat ceiling, now covered with acoustical tiles. The chancel is defined by a raised platform flanked by two low partitions. The center of the

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

rear chancel wall is defined by wooden pilasters crowned by a large wooden hood molding supported on consoles. The sanctuary is arranged with two side aisles and three rows of boxed pews. Walls features a wide-board horizontal wainscot to the chair rail and plaster with painted finishes above. Window moldings are flat, except for one beaded edge, and wide board floors remain. All of the woodwork is painted white; however, some of the front pews show traces of wood graining, and it is likely that the original decorative scheme was considerably more highly embellished with graining, stenciling and decorative painting. The rear pews on each side are oriented backward, facing stoves located in the rear corners of the sanctuary. Those that are operational are twentieth-century models; however, the original stoves remain adjacent to them. The heating system uses pipes running diagonally up the side walls and then horizontally into a decorative metal enclosure at the top of the rear sanctuary wall, where they continue through the attic to a center chimney. Lighting is provided by decorative wall sconces and a late Victorian era chandelier. The recessed gallery extends across the top of the vestibule at the rear of the sanctuary. The gallery is defined by wooden paneled walls and columns or pilasters dividing it into three parts. Although the space is intact and original features survive, the gallery has been enclosed, and four contemporary openings with casement windows allow communication between the sanctuary and the gallery. Other non-historic interior alterations include replacement of the reading desk, removal of choir stalls and construction of reader rooms.

Behind the southwest corner of the building is a small privy. This is a wood-frame structure with two chambers. The privy is intact but deteriorated. A large cemetery is dispersed east and west of the church. The two sections are enclosed by board fences. They contain markers dating from 1820-1975, representing a variety of nineteenth-century styles. There are approximately twenty-five graves marked with simple fieldstones without inscription.

See continuation sheet

Christian Church

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.

Criteria considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. **Private, non-religious use**
- 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 Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- architecture
- social history
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1861

Significant Dates

1861

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

James Adams, builder

Primary location of additional data

- 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

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The Christian Church, also known as Fitch's Bridge Church, is significant for its distinctive blend of Greek Revival and Gothic Revival styles and for its long association with the history of the hamlet of East Delhi. The church occupies a site set aside for a church and cemetery by prominent Delaware County citizen Gideon Frisbee in 1822. Frisbee, whose residence is located west of the church on the north side of NY 10, allocated a portion of his holdings for the use of the Christian Church, a New England sect that broke away from the prevailing sixteenth and seventeenth century Calvinist theology. The original Christian Church trustees included some of East Delhi's prominent early citizens, including members of the Farrington and Frisbee families. The nominated building replaced an earlier church constructed in the 1820s, which is believed to have been demolished in c1859. The new building was dedicated on 1 September 1860. Its design is attributed to James Adams, a regional carpenter from nearby Hamden. The origin of the building's unusually vibrant combination of Greek and Gothic revival design features has not yet been determined. It is possible that the church was constructed in two stages or that Adams accommodated the congregation's specific design ideas by grafting Gothic forms onto a typical mid-nineteenth century meeting house form. Alternately, the building may represent Adams's own imaginative interpretation of ecclesiastical design. Overall, the church is characterized by post and beam construction, a rectangular form, clapboard siding, a wide raking cornice, classical entrance and traditional interior plan and decoration. Its assertive Gothic Revival image is primarily conveyed by the twelve narrow, engaged towers with pinnacles that outline its frame, entrance and two-stage tower, as well as by the decorative pedimented lintels with saw-tooth moldings. The Christian Church recalls the early settlement and development of East Delhi and continues to maintain an especially distinctive visual presence in the region.

East Delhi

The town of Delhi was created in 1798, deriving land from the towns of Walton, Kortright and Middletown. Records identify the first settler as George Fisher, who arrived in the area in 1784-86. Gideon Frisbee followed a few years later in 1788. The wooded mountainous area with access to numerous streams and branches of the

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Delaware River supported the earliest regional economy, which was based on forest products. By 1800, a turnpike had been established on what is now New York State Route 10, thus greatly facilitating settlement and economic development in the West Branch, Delaware River Valley. Among the town's early settlers was Samuel Sherwood, who believed that a village would be built around his home at Sherwood Bridge. Another pioneer, Thomas Fitch, who arrived from Connecticut in 1803, believed that the settlement would grow up around his own farm near Fitch's Bridge. Both assumptions proved incorrect: the village of Delhi (incorporated 1821) grew up between them. However, a small settlement also grew up around the Fitch property, now the hamlet of East Delhi. Fitch is credited with building the first bridge over the Delaware at East Delhi (no longer extant). A prominent citizen, Fitch was one of ten physicians who organized the Delaware County Medical Society in 1806, serving as its first treasurer. Thomas Fitch left Delaware County after seven years; however, he sold his property to his brother, Dr. Cornelius Root Fitch, who joined the medical society in 1815 and served as its president in 1822 and 1923.

Perhaps the area's most important citizen was Gideon Frisbee, who purchased a large tract of land at the mouth of Elk Creek in 1798. It was here that Frisbee, who came to the region from Columbia County, established residence, constructing a large and elegant residence in c1798. Frisbee was instrumental in the formation of Delaware County in 1797 and held several important local offices. He served as a member of the first board of trustees at Delaware Academy (founded 1820) and as an associate judge of the Court of Common Pleas, a position he held until his death in 1828. On the first assessment roll in 1798, Frisbee had the largest assessment, indicating the relative value of his holdings in that early period.

Frisbee married twice, first to Huldah Kidder (1756-1804) and, after her death, to Freeloove Friske (1780-1857). Each marriage produced six offspring, one of whom died at a young age. There is no record of Frisbee's will; however, in a document dated 22 October 1822, Frisbee leased the parcel that became the site of the church to

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

the Christian Church. The deed stipulates that the land be used for a burial ground and for the erection of a suitable house of worship for the Christian Church and other Christian denominations.

Christian Church

The Christian Church was a religious domination of its own, such as the Presbyterian or Baptist denominations. Early immigrants to Delaware County were generally from New England states, where the Christian denomination was popular. The sect was founded by Elias Smith, who had been raised near Woodstock, Vermont in the 1780s. Smith had been raised as a Calvinist Baptist. The new denomination was a reaction against the old Calvinist doctrine of predestination, and, like other new sects in this period, believed in shifting the responsibility for salvation to men and women. The Christian Church held that the New Testament, accessible to all, was the only authority and could be used without divine assistance. By the early nineteenth century Smith had broken with the Baptists altogether and, with others of like mind, formed the loosely-knit Christian Church, or Christian Connection. A mid-nineteenth century newspaper article described the tenets of its faith as:

“an unadulterated fraternal love for all men and a free unlimited, Christian and denominational union with Christians of all denominations, or with those of their own.”
They also believe that the Bible is divinely inspired and it is the RULE OF FAITH
IN THEIR LIFE” (*Bloomville Mirror*, 13 March 1860).

Another source described the Bible as “the only book that really mattered or was accessible to them,” noting that “their preachers were self-educated and ordained by others of their number...” (*The Passion of Ansel Bourne*). The name “Christian” reflects its believers’ focus on the New Testament and their commitment to a more active role in their own salvation.

In the second decade of the nineteenth century, neighbors at East Delhi began to talk about forming a Christian Church. Newspaper accounts state that Elder William Cummings came to the area in 1818 and began preaching

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

the doctrines of the Christian church. A local society was formed in 1822, presumably in conjunction with Frisbee's 1822 lease. The lease named Putnam Farrington, Daniel Frisbee, John Hammond, Clarke Sloat (or Sloat) and Newell Dodge as trustees. These men, nearly all farmers, were generally prosperous and prominent citizens with strong connections to East Delhi and the region; some were related to the Frisbees, either by blood or marriage. Morris Lamb Farrington, for example, married Ruth and Gideon's daughter Ruth and served as a town justice and president of the Delaware County Agricultural Society. (See Appendix A for more detailed information about these early congregation members.) The first pastor, the Rev. William Cummings, was succeeded by the Rev. D. Call, the Rev. J.M. Westcott, the Rev. Mr. Southwick and the Rev. Daniel Grant, who was pastor when the 1860 building was constructed.

There were several other Christian Church congregations in Delaware County. Munsell's *History of Delaware County* tells us that in 1880, the First Christian Society in Lansingville (DeLancy) had been in existence since at least 1839 and was sharing an elder with the East Delhi church. In 1857, another source notes that a "free church used mostly by the Christians" had been built at North Harpersfield and that Elder Daniel Grant, who often led the services at East Delhi, had been known to preach there.

Christian Church Building

There are a number of references, some conflicting, to the history of the church building. However, most sources agree that a church was built c1822, shortly after the congregation acquired the lease, and that a new building replaced the old after a reorganization of the parish in 1859. Almost nothing is known about the 1820s building, except that the 1860 church was described of as a little smaller, but an improvement, in relation to the original. Although some assert that the original building burned, most accounts link the new church to the 1859 reorganization. Numerous newspaper accounts and local histories report the dedication of the new building on 1 September 1860, at which time the Rev. B.F. Summerhall summarized the parish's thirty-seven-year history for an overflowing crowd (*History of the Christian Church at East Delhi, N.Y.*). Five years later, the 1865

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

census recorded the value of the church as \$1800 and its congregation as numbering forty-eight. The census noted the clergy's salary as one hundred dollars and the average attendance as fifty.

The 1860 church was built by a local carpenter, James Adams. Adams had been born in Otsego County and was then residing either in Delhi or in the nearby town of Hamden. To date, no other information about Adams has been found. Information about other buildings that he constructed might prove useful in establishing a context for the East Delhi church's unusual design. The core of the church embodies features typical of the Greek Revival, the most popular choice for ecclesiastical buildings in rural New York in the mid-nineteenth century. Characteristics include a rectangular form, gable roof, raking cornice, double-hung wood-frame windows with sixteen-over-sixteen panes, flush-board siding on the facade, and a wooden paneled door within a classical enframing. The interior follows a familiar model. It is laid out in a typical meeting house plan, divided into a vestibule and a single open auditorium with boxed pews and classical moldings and trim. The most distinctive interior feature is the over-scale classical pediment supported on corbels that defines the altar area.

Despite the strong Neoclassical influence, the building's distinctive appearance is derived from the bold application of Gothic Revival style exterior features. These include the twelve, narrow engaged towers with pinnacles that define the corners, mark the entrance and outline the two-stage tower, as well as the pointed-arch lintels with saw-tooth trim. The origin of the towers is unclear. There is no mention of them in newspapers or other accounts, one of which described the new church as "very neat and pretty...filled up in a simple but comfortable style" (*Delaware Republican*, 8 September 1860), and there is no mention of them as a later addition, which would probably have been a memorable local event. Structural analysis of the building suggests that the towers were not part of the 1860 construction. The four corner towers rest on their own separate stone piers, with no structural connection to the main body of the church. Evidence also suggests that the classical cornice was cut away at the corners to accommodate the towers. If the towers were contemporary with the 1860

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

construction, the new building may have been rebuilt on the 1820s foundation, which was adapted for the new design. Another possibility is that the carpenter simply constructed a traditional meeting house form, common throughout the region, and combined elements of the two popular stylistic idioms to meet the congregation's or his own ideas for a contemporary design. This theory is supported by the fact that the raking cornice was carefully continued over the flat roofline between the two center facade towers. A more detailed investigation of the frame may shed additional light on the building's history. In any case, it is interesting to note that no mention of these especially distinctive visual features has been found in any written accounts of the building until 1950, when the Christian Scientists took over its use.

The only subsequent reference to construction activity on the site is Munsell's note in his 1880 *History of Delaware County* that "sheds and other conveniences have been added to the property this year." The sheds are no longer extant; however, the double privy survives in deteriorated condition. Christian church pastors after 1880 were recorded as Elder Gallup, a "Mr. Taylor," T.N. Davis, Nelson Putnum, Alonzo Shaver, James Topping and G.E. Evans, who is believed to have been the last regular pastor. Subsequently, members continued efforts to hold Christian Endeavor and prayer meetings, and the Rev. O.C. Teachout from the Delhi Baptist Church held services occasionally until he left the area in 1925. The congregation continued to use the building until that year, when there were only two members left. The church was closed until 1940, when it was reopened for services through the efforts of Emily Dannheimer of Meredith. These services proved very popular and the congregation swelled to nearly one hundred members. Dannheimer served until 1947-48.

Christian Scientist Period

In 1950, a local Christian Scientist group took occupancy of the church. Although this congregation was accorded use of the building, it was restricted from using the cemetery. Between 1950 and 1962, the Christian Scientists made a number of alterations to the church, including adding a new roof and an acoustical tile ceiling, enclosing the gallery, removing choir boxes and constructing reader rooms. None of these changes has had a

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County , New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

significant effect on the integrity of the building and most are reversible. Other damage was the result of Hurricane Hazel, which damaged the spire, later repaired. Minor changes include addition of a white board fence, flagstone step and iron rails. In 1990, the Christian Scientists returned the property to the Delaware County Historical Association, which retains stewardship of the Frisbee estate.

Cemetery

A small cemetery, containing burials from the 1820s through the mid-1970s, is divided into two sections, one adjacent to each of the side elevations. Stones represent a variety of types popular during the nineteenth and early twentieth century and mark the graves of many citizens important in the history of East Delhi. At least twenty-five graves are marked by small fieldstone slabs without inscriptions.

The Christian Church of East Delhi is a distinctive and unusual example of nineteenth-century ecclesiastical architecture in Delaware County. Its interesting design history and long association with the hamlet of East Delhi contribute to its significance in regional history.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8A Page 1

Addendum: Founding Trustees of the Christian Church

Putnam Farrington

The Farrington family was among Delaware County's earliest pioneers. According to Munsell's *History of Delaware County*, Colonel Thomas Farrington settled in 1786 north of the village of Delhi in a double log house. His sons, Putnam, Philip and March, came to Delhi with him. Putnam Farrington built a house near George Fisher, Delhi's first settler, in 1787. He was a volunteer in the War of 1812 and organized the force in Delhi in 1814. He was an original member of St. Andrew's Lodge No 289, F.&A.M., which was chartered as No. 48 on 26 December 1796 in Hobart. His brother Philip Farrington died in Delhi in 1839, at the age of 68.

March Farrington (d.1849) was Thomas Farrington's second son. The younger Farrington joined the Revolutionary army at the age of thirteen, serving as waiter to his father, an officer. He later served as a drummer, observed the Battle of Bunker Hill and witnessed Benedict Arnold's escape from West Point. In the Battle of Chipeway, his clothing was pierced with bullets. March Farrington married Betsey Colton (d.1841). The *Biographical Review* notes that March Farrington settled in Mededith Square, in the town of Meredith, in 1792 and moved to the Fitch's Bridge area in 1794; he later served in the War of 1812, as did his son Morris Lamb Farrington. After the death of his father in 1848, Morris L. Farrington continued the family homestead.

Morris Lamb Farrington (1790-1882) was two years old when his parents came to Delaware County. In 1827 he married Ruth Frisbee (1797-1876), daughter of Gideon and Huldah Frisbee. Morris Farmington held several prominent positions in the community. He served as master of Cassia Lodge of Delhi (est. 1809) in 1827 and Delhi town justice in 1831. In 1848 he was president of the Delaware County Agricultural Society. The Farringtons had five children, two of whom died in infancy and are buried in the Frisbee family cemetery. The others were prominent in local history and are mentioned in the diaries of Rosella Graham Frisbee. They

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8A Page 2

are Anzolette (b.1828), Zenas (b.1831), who married Mary Roberts Fitch, a daughter of Dr. Thomas L. Fitch II, and Maurice (b.1827), who married Frances Thomson.

There are several Farrington family diaries in the collection of the Delaware County Historical Association, including that of Morris Lamb Farrington. In the several years of this diary that have been preserved, there are numerous references to the Christian church and the East Delhi community. Farrington recorded that on 9 February 1840, D. Grant led the meeting, while the next week, Elder Cummings presided. On 15 April 1840, Farrington went to Daniel Grant's house raising; eight days later he went to a similar event at the Griswold place. On 17 August, Farrington attended the funeral of Daniel Grant's child. The diary indicates that Elder Cummings was still preaching in 1842.

Maurice Farrington was the son of Morris and Ruth Frisbee Farrington. The younger Farrington was a well-known figure in Delhi. He lived on the homestead at East Delhi for several years, and he reportedly made many improvements. Farrington was also Delhi's leading photographer for over fifty years and owned a drug store in the village. His son Frank assisted him with the drug store and succeeded him in the business. Maurice Farrington is remembered as a zealous member of the Christian church, teaching Sunday school and Bible classes. Reported to have a fine tenor voice, Farrington probably also sang in the choir. He is also credited with introducing the first Christmas tree to the area.

Daniel Frisbee

Daniel Frisbee, born in Canaan, New York in 1781, was the oldest son of Gideon and Huldah Frisbee. Daniel Frisbee married Ruth Beardsely in 1803. The younger Frisbees cleared land and built a log house across the valley, on the south side of the Delaware River (now CR 18) and north of Fitch's Bridge. Today, this property is known as Maple Shade Farm. The Frisbees had twelve children, the youngest of whom was Edward, born in 1829. Edward Frisbee built the house, barn and dependencies that survive on Maple Shade Farm today. He married twice. His first wife, Esther Howland, daughter of George and Sally Stilson Howland, died in 1854,

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8A Page 3

leaving no children. Edward's second wife was Rosella Graham of the town of Meredith, daughter of Henry Rice and Esther Stilson Graham. This marriage produced two children, Ettie and Willie. Rosella Graham Frisbee is known for her diaries, several of which (held by the Delaware County Historical Association and by Willard Frisbee of East Delhi) have been published as the *Diaries of Rosella D. Graham Frisbee 1856-59*. Rosella and Edward Frisbee attended the Christian church, and she consistently noted the scripture read at services.

John Hammond, Clark Sloat (or Sloat) and Newell Dodge

Not much is known about these three trustees, and their gravesites have not been identified. There are several Hammond stones in the church cemetery and several Sloats in the Frisbee cemetery. Clark Sloat's obituary describes him as a native of the county, industrious, hard working and honest; he was a blacksmith by trade, as was his father (*Delaware Gazette*, 18 December 1850.)

Other noteworthy early congregation members.....

Adam Hall (1766-1825) came to the area in 1795 (Munsell). He lived near Fitch's Bridge and was a farmer; his son Leander took over the farm after his father died. Both Halls are buried in the church cemetery. The senior Hall's marker is the earliest stone in the church cemetery. Ira Hulslander, also buried in the church cemetery, served in the Civil War (101st Regiment of the New York Volunteers, Co. G.) and died at his home while on furlough. John B. Fiasco (Co. A., 1st N. Y. engineers) was buried in the cemetery in 1887. Jacob Bloomhower, another local resident, came to the area in 1797.

Reference to Elder D. Grant is found in a number of newspaper articles. These refer to Daniel Grant (1812-1879), son of John and Jane Stillwell Grant, who was born in Delhi and later lived near Fitch's Bridge. In the 1860 census, Grant is described as a Christian clergyman with property valued at \$700. Grant married Sally Frisbee, a granddaughter of Gideon Frisbee. The Grants had five children: Naomi, Huldah, Darius, George and

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8A Page 4

John. Several newspaper articles solicit donations for Grant, reminding citizens that he had no salary. In 1867 the Grant residence burned and in 1876, there is a report that a house had been donated to the family.

See continuation sheet

Christian Church
Name of Property

Delaware County, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	509968	4682767	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		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, Program Analyst
organization New York State Historic Preservation Office date October 2000
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 Delaware County Historical Association
street & number NY 10 telephone _____
city or town East Delhi state New York zip code 13752

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

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

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See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, New York

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include the land dedicated for church use in 1822.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Christian Church
East Delhi, Delaware County, NY

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 11 Page 1

Research provided by:

Bernice Graham Telian
Meredith Town Historian
HC 87, Box 341
Delhi, New York 13753.

See continuation sheet

Christian Church

East Delhi
Delaware Co NY

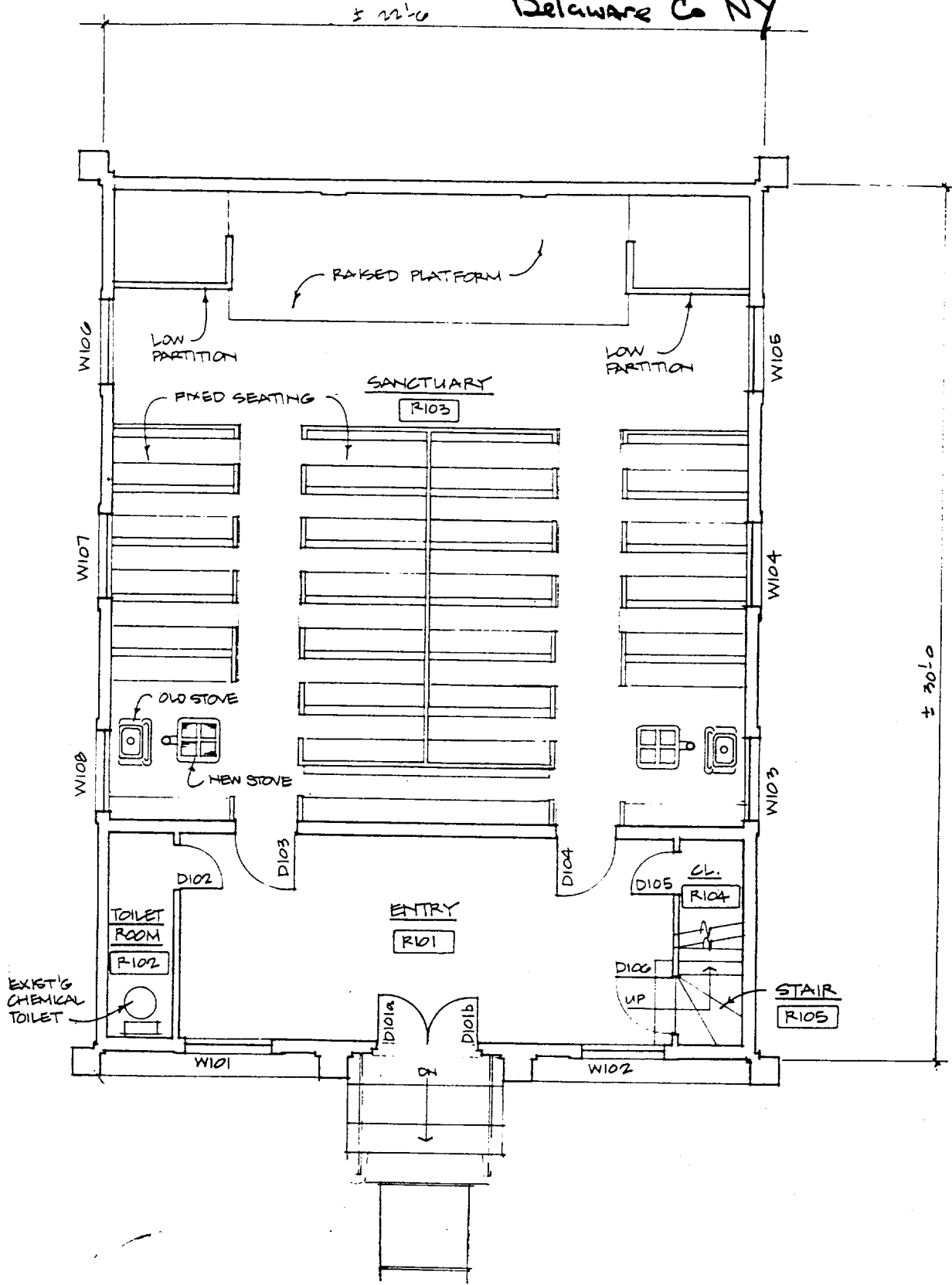
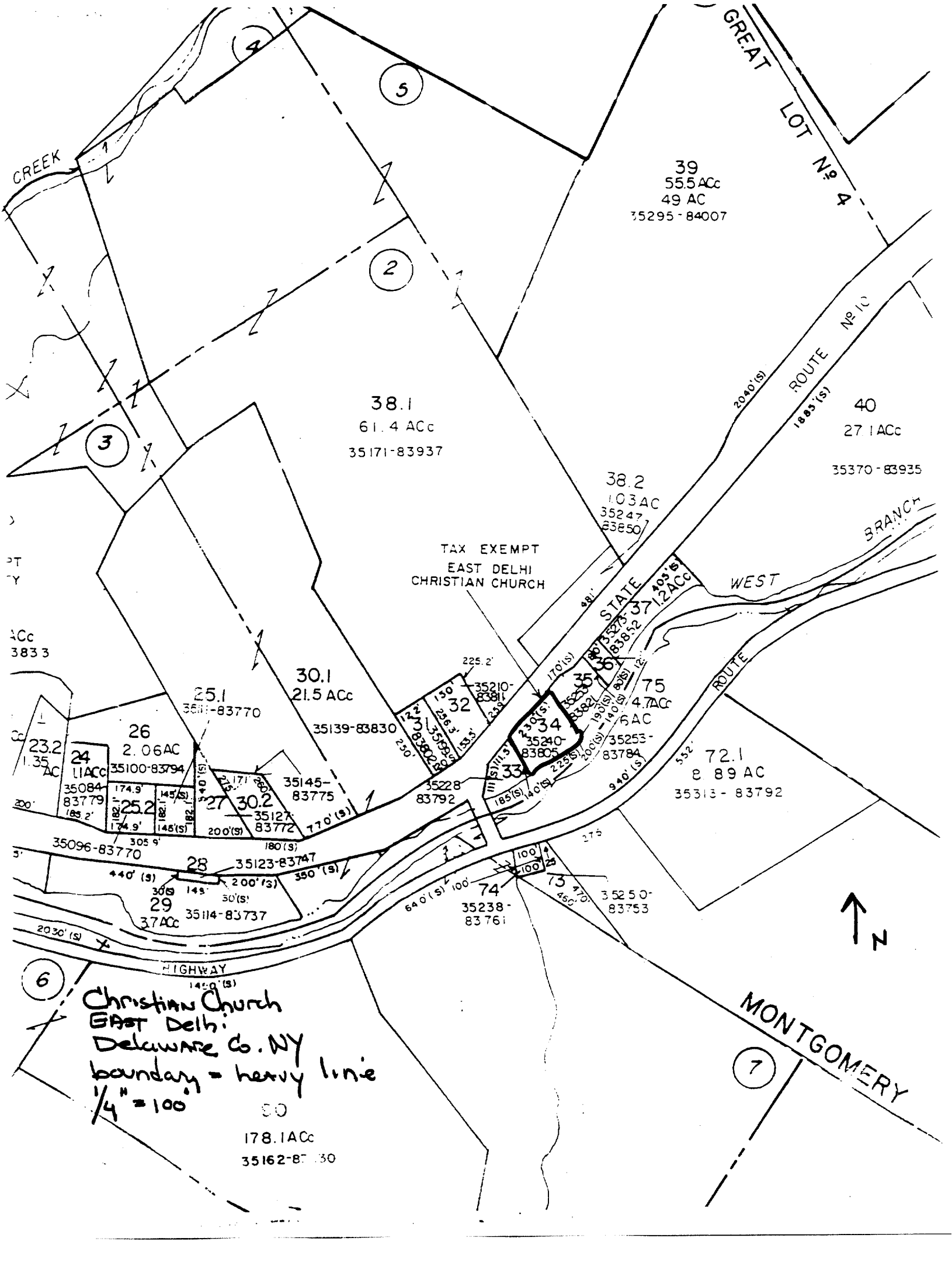


Figure 2.1: Existing Condition First Floor Plan.
Not to Scale.



GREAT LOT No 4

39
55.5 AC
49 AC
35295 - 84007

40
27.1 ACc
35370 - 83935

38.1
61.4 ACc
35171 - 83937

38.2
10.3 AC
35247
83850

TAX EXEMPT
EAST DELHI
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

30.1
21.5 ACc
35139 - 83830

25.1
35111 - 83770

26
2.06 AC
35100 - 83794

23.2
1.35 AC
35084
83779

24
1.1 ACc
35084
83779

25.2
1.74 AC
35114 - 83737

27
30.2
35127
83772

30.2
35145 -
83775

32
1.59 AC
35333
83822

33
1.85 AC
35238
83761

34
1.35 AC
35240
83805

35
1.40 AC
35253
83784

36
1.40 AC
35253
83784

72.1
8.89 AC
35313 - 83792

74
1.00 AC
35238
83761

75
4.7 AC
35253
83784

35096 - 83770

28
35123 - 83747

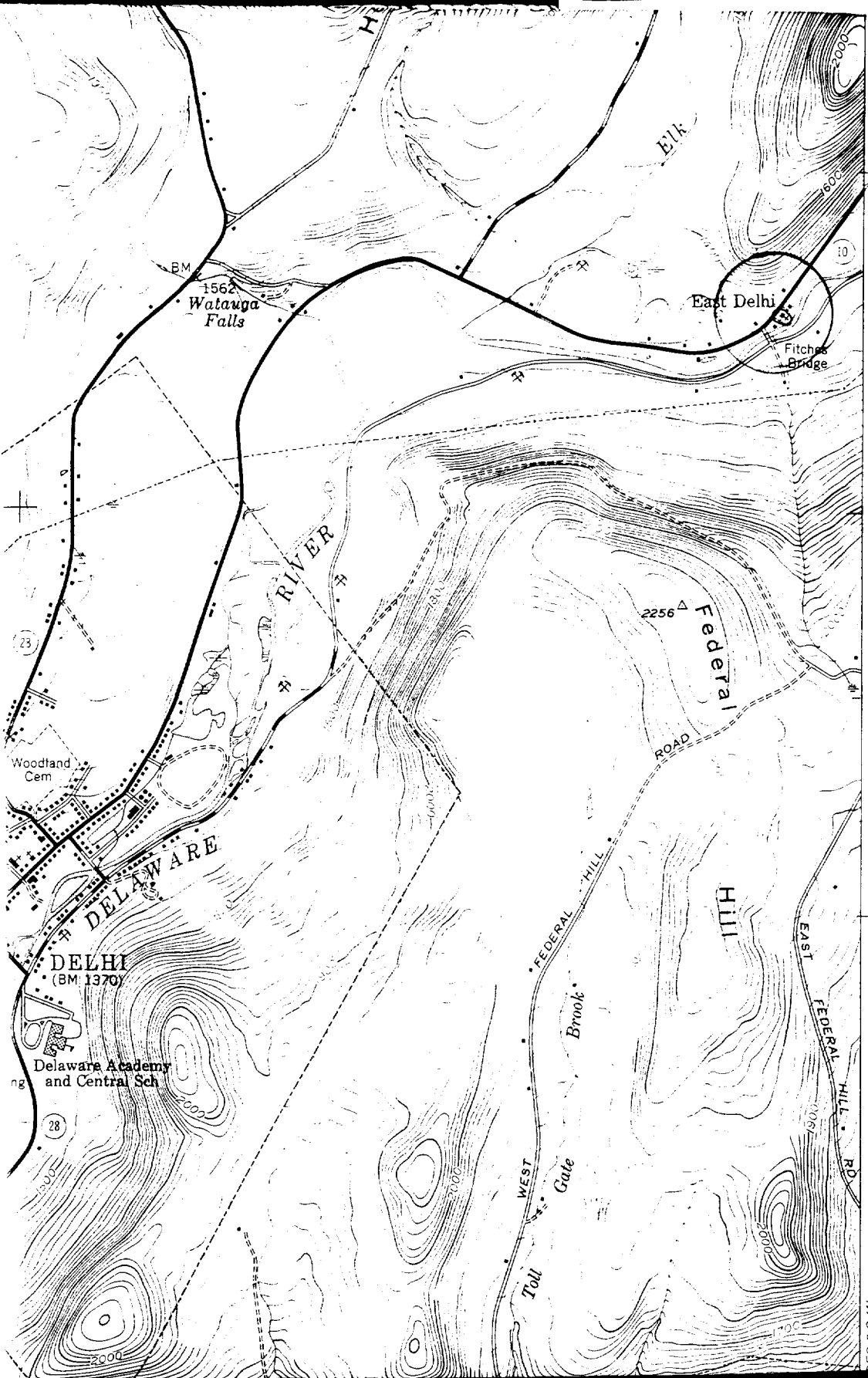
29
3.7 ACc
35114 - 83737

6
Christian Church
EAST Delhi
Delaware Co. NY
boundary = heavy line
1/4" = 100'

178.1 ACc
35162 - 83730

MONTGOMERY





Christian Church
 EAST Delhi
 Delaware Co
 18/509968/4682767
 1730"
 Delhi Quad

4.4 MI
 STANFORD 17 MI

8.2 MI
 GARETVILLE 17 MI