State and National Register of Historic Places Nomination April 2010

THE CHILTON AVENUE – ORCHARD PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Portions of Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway Niagara Falls, Niagara County, NY 14301



Aerial view of the Chilton Avenue - Orchard Parkway Historic District

Prepared by:



Clinton Brown Company Architecture ReBuild The Pierce Building in the Theater Historic District 653 Main Street, Suite 104 Buffalo, NY 14203 PH (716) 852-2020 FX (716) 852-3132 All contents Copyright 2011 CBCA NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 10024-0018 (Oct. 1990)

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 for individual properties and 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 from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property			
historic name THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCH	ARD PARKWAY HIS	TORIC DISTRICT	<u> </u>
other names/site number			
2. Location			
street & number PORTIONS OF CHILTON AVENUE A	ND ORCHARD PARKWA	Y [] not for pub	lication
city or town NIAGARA FALLS		[] vicinity	
state <u>NEW YORK</u> code <u>NY</u> county	NIAGARA	code063	zip code <u>14301</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preserver request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation Places and meets the procedural and professional requirement [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend [] statewide [X] locally. ([] see continuation sheet for additional contents of the contents o	standards for registering properts as set forth in 36 CFR Part 6 I that this property be considered	erties in the National Regi 60. In my opinion, the pro	ster of Historic perty [X] meets
Signature of certifying official/Title		D	ate
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Pres	ervation		
State or Federal agency and bureau			
In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the Na comments.)	ational Register criteria. ([] sec	e continuation sheet for a	dditional
Signature of certifying official/Title		D	ate
State or Federal agency and bureau			
4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that the 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	Signature of the Keeper		date of action
[] removed from the National Register			
[] other (explain)			

THE CHILTON AVENUE- O Name of Property	RCHARD PARKWAY HISTO		NIAGARA C unty and State	COUNTY, NY
5. Classification		Cot	unity and State	
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)		
[X] private [] public-local [] public-State	[] building(s) [X] district [] site	Contributing 103		buildings sites
[] public-Federal	[] structure [] object	103	36	structures objects 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		
N/A		<u>N</u> /A		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		
DOMESTIC/		DOMESTIC		
Single dwellings		Single dwellings		
Multiple dwellings		Multiple dwellings		
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)		
LATE VICTORIA/ Queen Ann	ne	foundation various, mostly concrete		
LATE 19 TH /EARLY 20 TH C. RE	EVIVALS/ Colonial Revival,	walls <u>various, r</u>	mostly wood or brick v	<u>eneer</u>
Tudor Revival		-		
LATE 19 TH /EARLY 20 TH C. AM	MERICAN MOVEMENTS/	roof <u>various, mo</u>	stly asphalt shingle	
Bungalow/Craftsman		other N/A		

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

THE CHILTON AVENUE- ORCHARD PARKWAY HISTOI Name of Proporty			
Name of Property 10. Geographical Data	County and State		
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property14.69			
UTM References			
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)			
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2 1 8 1 7 0 1 3 5 4 7 7 9 9 4 9	4 1 8 1 6 9 7 6 3 4 7 7 9 8 7 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	[Edited and arranged by Daniel McEneny, NYSHPO]		
Organization Clinton Brown Company Architecture	date <u>April, 14th 2010</u>		
•	•		
Street & number 653 Main Street, Suite 104	telephone <u>716-852-2020</u>		
City or town Buffalo	state <u>NY</u> zip code <u>14203</u>		
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:			
·			
Continuation Sheets			
Maps			
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating			
A Sketch map for historic districts and propertie	es having large acreage or numerous resources.		
Photographs			
Representative black and white photographs	of the property		
	c p. sporty.		
Additional items (Check with 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	statezip 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, D.C. 20503

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY

County and State

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District is a residential district which encompasses two residential streets located in the northern portion of the City of Niagara Falls, Niagara County, New York. The boundary of the historic district encompasses all residential buildings along Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway, two east-west residential streets, between the approximately north-south arteries of Whirlpool Street and Main Street, excluding any vacant lots which are otherwise not contributing elements to the district. Included within the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District boundaries is any building which was built within the neighborhood's defined period of significance (ca. 1899-1941) and which retains a significant level or architectural integrity. The district is comprised of one hundred and three (103) total contributing buildings and thirty-six (36) total non- contributing buildings. Of the 103 total contributing buildings, 81 are contributing primary buildings and 22 are contributing secondary structures including garages. The district contains 6 non-contributing primary buildings and 30 non-contributing secondary buildings. The Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District is one of the City of Niagara Falls' last remaining contiguous and largely intact historic residential neighborhoods which represent the City's growth and prosperity at the turn of the twentieth-century and before World War II.

The City of Niagara Falls covers approximately 16.8 square miles and is roughly triangular in shape. The City boundaries stretch from 102nd Street to the east in the LaSalle neighborhood, south along the Niagara River, west to the pinnacle of the American and Canadian Falls, and northward to Divide Road and the Lewiston border in what was once the Village of Suspension Bridge (also known as Bellevue). The City's central business district is located in close proximity to the brink of the Falls, centered on Rainbow Boulevard and Niagara Street. This area contains many of Niagara Fall's tourist attractions include the Seneca Niagara Casino, the Rainbow Mall, the Giacomo Hotel in the former United Office Building (1929, NR 2005), and numerous restaurants, tourist shops, and hotels. Main Street, which runs diagonally north-south before bending to the west where the road meets Portage Avenue, is also a primary commercial and business artery for the City of Niagara Falls. Many buildings along Main Street are significant individual buildings, and several have already been listed on the State and National Registers. The Niagara Falls City Hall (1923-24, NR 2001) is located at 745 Main Street. The former Carnegie Public Library (1902-04, NR 1974) is located at the corner of Ashland Avenue and Main Street, and the present Paul Rudolph-designed Earl W. Brydges Public Library (1969-1974) is located just to the north of the district on Main Street near Pierce Avenue. As a result of the commercial and business development along the Main Street corridor, the eastern edge of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District borders this growth. At one time during the mid-twentieth-century, several commercial entities were located along the western side of Main Street between Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway; several had transformed historic Queen Anne houses into commercial properties while others were replaced by mid-century modest commercial structures. Today, these properties have largely been demolished and these now-vacant lots form the district's easternmost boundary between the intact residential neighborhood and the commercial areas to the east. The rear property lines of the parcels along the north side of Orchard Parkway and the south side of Chilton Avenue still coincide with the original north and south boundaries of the Whitney-Trott farm tract which was established in the early 1800s.

Both Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway were historically located within the western end of a large farm tract which once belonged to General Parkhurst Whitney and was inherited by son-in-law James Fullerton Trott.

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This farm tract remained as such through much of the nineteenth-century, despite the impinging growth and development both from the Village of Niagara Falls to its south and the growth of the Village of Suspension Bridge (also known as Bellevue) to its north. These roads appear to have originally been used as private dirt roads through what was the Whitney apple orchard, and were noted to have once given access to several buildings which served the farm. All traces of this prior fabric have long since been subsumed by the more modern development. By the late nineteenth-century the roads were developed as public streets, and parcelization of the former farm land began. Today this neighborhood remains distinct from the surrounding residential areas by its high retention of contiguous building stock and its relatively high level of architectural integrity.

Chilton Avenue was developed slightly earlier than Orchard Parkway, and its buildings reflect the styles and trends in late Victorian and early twentieth-century domestic architecture. Orchard Parkway was primarily developed in the 1920s and 30s and reflects the tastes of the interwar period. Both residential streets contain primarily single or double-family houses and contain a limited number of multiple family dwellings. Chilton Avenue features a common setback of approximately 10 feet from the street, and much of the street is canopied by large trees. These trees are likely as old as the neighborhood, and it harkens back to the area's original spirit as an apple orchard. While large trees also line Orchard Parkway, the signature feature of the street is its grassy median. This median was created as a unique element of this street, and an attractive feature for prospective homebuyers, created in 1920 by sacrificing some of the valuable residential property for the widened street. Located along this grassy spine is a series of twelve streetlamps which appear to be non-original (ca. 1920s) and are likely a more recent update to the neighborhood in the 1960s or 70s. Houses share a common setback from the street, and rows of large trees create a lush canopy over the street.

Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway form an intact residential pocket within the larger northern area of the City of Niagara Falls, which has otherwise lost much of its architectural fabric. Much of the neighboring residential architecture to the north and south, along streets such as Pierce Street and Ashland Avenue, was created in the mid to late-nineteenth-century, and these areas exhibit a variety of architectural styles from the 1800s. While perhaps of an earlier vintage than the ca. 1899-1942 era Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway area, much of these surrounding neighborhoods are significantly deteriorated and contain substantial demolitions which have created vacant areas throughout their streetscapes. What buildings do remain are generally significantly deteriorated; a majority feature inappropriate additions or construction, replacement or lack of sheathing materials, altered windows and just general neglect and decay. Due to its relatively recent developmental period and the overall maintenance of the buildings, the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District stands out visually from flanking residential streets due to its largely intact, contiguous and well-maintained appearance.

The Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District is also defined by geographical and physical features at its western and eastern boundaries. To its west at Whirlpool Street, the neighborhood overlooks the Niagara Gorge and the Niagara River. The neighborhood is just north of the Falls itself, and spray from the torrent can be seen above the treetops looking south from the historic district. Across the Gorge, the Canadian city of Niagara Falls, Ontario, is clearly visible, only a half-mile from the historic district. This view emphasizes the close connection that the City has with Canada, highlighting its role as a significant international location.

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

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The following list, organized alphabetically by street, provides a brief description of each individual property included in the district.

CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES: 81 TOTAL PRIMARY

Chilton Avenue- north side

620 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Craftsman bungalow, side gabled roof; wood shingle. Open, full-width porch, thick Doric columns, shed roof is extension of main gable, brick balustrade. Recessed shed roof dormer, two pair of windows. Central entrance with sidelights, projecting polygonal bay window in east bay. Rectangular oriel window on west elevation. Other windows 6/1, 8/1 double hung wood sash. Chimney on rear slope.

626 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial, side-gambrel roof; clapboard, wood shingle, sandstone foundation. Full-width enclosed porch, square wood posts, brick piers, rail, foundation. Centered entry way below projecting gabled wall dormer, two windows. 12/1 double hung sash. East elevation has exterior chimney, oriel window. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

628 Chilton Avenue

1912

Ramsdell- Constantine House

Chester R. Phelps (builder)

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; brick. Open, full-width, two-tiered porch, square wood columns, brick piers, open wood rail. Entrance, door doors in east bay. Roof extended over porches, has shed roof dormer, two windows, clapboard. 1/1 double hung wood sash.

634 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1910

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Craftsman, side-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Two-tiered, full-width, open porch, covered second story by flat, bracketed roof; above that large gabled wall dormer, two windows. Two door entrance in east bay. 1/1 double hung wood sash. Polygonal bay window on first, second story. West façade, two story oriel window. Roof has wide overhanging eaves, paired brackets.

636 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1902

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; asbestos shingle, wood fish scale detail. Open, full-width porch; slender, fluted Doric columns, wood rail. Front gable projects forward, encompasses projecting rectangular east bay, supported by fluted brackets.

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

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Entrance in projecting east bay. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash. East elevation has polygonal bay window at first story level.

640 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Joseph Mondia House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; vinyl siding, parged stone foundation. Full-width porch, brick posts. Front gable projects forward, projecting rectangular east bay. West bay supported by scroll brackets. Gable end has Palladian window, pilasters, keystone. Projecting bay window on east elevation.

646 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Edward T. Williams House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, hipped and front-gabled roof; metal siding. Open, full-width porch, slender square posts. Windows 1/1 double hung sash. East elevation bay window. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

650 Chilton Avenue

1919

Robert D. McIntyre House

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; brick. One-story, full-width enclosed porch, brick, half-timbered stucco, exposed rafter tails, 3/1 windows. Overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, gabled front wall dormer. Entrance in projecting rectangular bay, hipped roof. Windows 6/1 double hung wood sash, stone sill. Exterior brick chimney on west elevation. Attached one-car garage, brick, stone. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

654 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1902

Congressman James. S. Simmons House

Contributing primary building; two-story Classical Revival, hipped roof; brick, limestone foundation. Two-story addition creating L-shape. Three-quarter width open porch, square wood columns, stone piers, corner brackets. Center entrance, elliptical oculus on second story. Hipped roof front dormer, clapboard, three windows. 1/1 double hung wood sash, brick jack arch lintels, stone sills. West elevation has three-part window, transom, segmental arch.

662 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1900

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; brick. Open, full-width porch, square wood posts, open rail. Entrance and stair in west bay. Bay window in first story east bay, second story west bay. Gable end continuous eave return. Chimney on east elevation.

666 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Photo 10

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, hipped roof, lower cross gables; wood clapboard. Full-width porch, stone piers, open rail. Front gable projects forward, scroll brackets. Entrance in west bay, below roof pediment, scrollwork, urn. Gable end has Palladian window. Window

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

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1/1 double hung wood sash. East elevation projecting second story, cut-away on first. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

670 Chilton Avenue

1904

John D. Dewitt House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Open, full-width porch, Doric columns, stone piers, wood rail, lattice. Porch roof bracketed pediment, scrollwork. East bay first story polygonal bay window. Bracketed gable-end Palladian window. East elevation bracketed projecting gable over rectangular oriel window.

672 Chilton Avenue

1904

Dr. Frederick C. Havens House

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial; asbestos shingle. Open, full-width porch, bracketed, Ionic columns, turned spindles. East bay polygonal bay window. Hipped front dormer; hipped side dormer. Windows 6/1. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

682 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1920

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; vinyl siding. Open, porch, wood posts, brick piers. Entrances, sidelights. East bay windows. Hipped front dormer, two windows. East elevation bay window.

686 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross gabled roof; brick. Open, full-width porch, wood posts, stone piers. Front gable, triangular panel, three windows. 1/1 double hung wood sash. East elevation, side gable, projects encompasses two-story bay window. Two-car garage, clapboard.

690 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1902

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half, L-shaped story Queen Anne, hipped roof, cross-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Asymmetrical, three-quarter width open porch, wraps L, bracketed eaves, open rail, paired Doric columns, stone piers. Gable end, three part window, triangular section with decorative panel. Center bay polygonal bay window. 1/1 double hung wood sash. East elevation round bay. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

696 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1903

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; wood shingle, clapboard. West bay, half-width, open porch, wrought iron rail, wood posts, stone piers. Bay window at east bay, second story. Front gable, Palladian window, pilasters, keystone. Windows 1/1 double hung

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

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Name of Property

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wood sash; decorative leaded detail. Roof corner brackets. West elevation rectangular flared oriel window, brackets.

702 Chilton Avenue

1901

Thomas B. Lovell House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Open, full-width porch, spindle rail, paired columns, stone piers. Two-story polygonal bay window. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash. Front gable projects forward, bracketed, three arched top windows. East elevation full-height bay window, chimney.

706 Chilton Avenue

1912

Bingenheimer House

Simon Larke (architect)

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, L-shaped Colonial Revival, hipped roof, lower cross gable; brick. Open, full-width porch, brick piers. Entrance with sidelights, shed roof entry porch, slender Doric column. Second story center bays project, side bays small arched casement, stone sill. Hipped roof dormer on south and east elevation. Windows 1/1 double hung sash.

Chilton Avenue- south side

605 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1920

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Tudor Revival; brick, half-timbered stucco. Three-quarter width enclosed porch, roof brackets, two large four-paned fixed windows. Entrance on east elevation in porch. Windows paired on second story, three on gable end. Gable has decorative half-timbering, roof brackets. Chimney on west elevation. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

611 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1902

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, T-shaped, Queen Anne, side-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Open, full-width porch, square wood posts, brick piers, solid paneled rail. Project front-gabled bay, polygonal bay window on first story, second story Palladian. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash, some leaded diamond patter. Side gable projects, encompasses square bay with window. Bracketed cornice returns. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

615 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, T-shaped, Queen Anne, side-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle, aluminum siding. Open, full-width porch, square wood posts, roof pediment with shell and scroll pattern. Projecting front gable has polygonal bay window. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash, leaded diamond pattern. Side gable projects, encompasses square bay. Bracketed cornice returns.

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
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619 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, T-shaped, Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Open, full-width porch, iron posts. Projecting front gable has polygonal bay window, second story 12 pane replacement window. 1/1 double hung wood sash, leaded diamond pattern. Side gable projects, encompasses square bay with window. Bracketed cornice returns.

621 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1920

Contributing primary building; two-story, Craftsman, hipped roof; brick. Open, full-width, two-tiered porch, brick rail/posts on first, wood rail/posts on second. Hipped roof dormer, two windows. 1/1 double hung sash, some decorative leaded glass. East elevation two-story, projecting polygonal bay, side gable.

627 Chilton Avenue

1924

W. J. Breckon House

Contributing primary building; two-story, L-shaped Colonial Revival, hipped roof; brick. Tiered three-quarter width living porch, hipped roof, eyebrow dormer. Wood spandrel panels between windows on first and second. Entry in east bay, covered entry porch, brick posts, elliptical arch. Chimney on west elevation.

631 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1920

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, flat parapeted roof; brick. Built has four-flat building. Symmetrical façade, two-tiered open porches, central entrance vestibule, sidelights, bracketed cast stone arch. Porches have brick posts on first, square posts on second. 6/1 double hung wood sash windows. Two-story, polygonal bay window on east and west elevations.

635 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1920

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, flat, parapeted roof; brick. Built has four-flat building. Symmetrical façade, two-tiered open porches, central entrance vestibule, sidelights, bracketed cast stone and wood arch. Porches have brick posts on first, square posts on second. 6/1 double hung wood sash windows. Two-story, polygonal bay window on east and west elevations.

639 Chilton Avenue

1924

Lindsay Roy House

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; brick, vinyl siding. Enclosed, full-width tiered porch. Entrance with sidelights, transom. Hipped roof encompasses front porch; hipped roof dormer, three windows. Windows 3/1 double hung wood sash. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

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643 Chilton Avenue

1923

George M. Herbst House

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; wood shingle. Full-width porch; enclosed first story, second story open, square wood posts, wood rail. Hipped roof front dormer, three windows. 1/1 double hung wood sash. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

653 Chilton Avenue

1913

William A. Devitt House

Simon Larke (architect),

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, Craftsman, hipped roof; brick. Open, full-width porch, stone foundation, brick piers, paired square wood posts, center pediment above stairs, entrance. Clipped front, hipped roof dormer, four windows, eave returns. Similar dormer on west elevation. Windows 1/1. Chimney on south elevation.

655 Chilton Avenue

1912

John S. Watson House,

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, Craftsman style, side-gable roof; brick. Open, three-quarter width porch, wood rail, brick piers, square wood posts, hipped roof, bracketed eaves. Center entrance; side bays, four windows, stone sills. Windows 1/1, 3/1 double hung wood sash. Front hipped roof dormer, multi-light casements. Exterior chimney at east.

659 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1905

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, hipped and side-gabled roof; brick, clapboard, limestone foundation. Open, full-width porch, paired Doric columns, brick piers, wrought iron rail. Porch and roof eaves bracketed. Façade has first story bay window. 1/1 double hung wood sash, dormer has diamond pattern in upper sash. West elevation entrance, projecting bay, window with fanlight above. Clay tile garage. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

661-663 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1900

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, four bay Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; brick, clapboard. Open, full-width porch, square wood posts, brick piers, solid rail. Entrances on side bays, center bays three part windows, arch lintels. Second story, two polygonal bay windows. Gable end extends forward on brackets, row of four windows in triangular panel. Bracketed eaves. 1/1 double hung wood sash. West elevation bracketed oriel window.

667 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1904

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross gabled roof; brick. Open, full-width porch, square wood columns, brick rail, bracketed flat roof. Entrance, stairs in west bay. Windows 1/1 double hung sash, gable end three part window, diamond panes. East elevation two-story bay window. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
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County and State

Mrs. Fredericka C. Tattersall House

Wright & Kremers (architects)

Contributing primary building; two-story, L-shape Colonial, hipped roof; brick, wood shingle. West and center bays project, hipped roof, hipped dormer with exposed rafter trails, three windows. Three-quarter width porch, Doric pilasters at elevation, brick piers, turned spindles. Entrance with sidelights, bracketed roof. Windows 6/1, 2/1 double hung wood sash.

673 Chilton Avenue

1917

Graves-Thurecht House

Simon Larke (architect)

Contributing primary building; two-story, L-shaped Colonial, hipped roof; brick. West and center bay project, surmounted by hipped roof; hipped former, three windows. Three-quarter width tiered porch, brick piers, square wood posts, wood panels. Entrance with sidelights, bracketed entry roof. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash, stone lintels.

677 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1899

Photo 11

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, hipped roof, lower cross gables; wood shingle. Open, full-width porch, Doric columns, wood rail. Pediment above entrance, bracketed porch roof. Bracketed octagonal turret. Front gable bracketed. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash. East elevation two-story bay window.

681 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1900

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, Queen Anne, hipped roof, cross gable; vinyl siding, fish scale pattern. Open, full-width porch, Doric columns, stone piers, spindle rail. Bracketed octagonal turret, bell-shaped roof. Front gable, pent roof, Palladian window. 1/1 double hung.

685 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1900

Photo 12

Contributing primary building; two-story Queen Anne, hipped roof; asbestos shingle. Symmetrical façade, open porch, pediment, scrollwork. Center entrance, transom, side two-story polygonal bay windows, Palladian window. Roof gabled dormer. 1/1 double hung wood sash, single pane fixed. East and west elevation projecting bay, third story windows, pent at eaves, hipped.

691 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1902

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, hipped roof; brick, Open, full-width semi-circular church, wood rail, Doric columns, stone foundation. Bay windows, first and second. 1/1 double hung wood sash. Bracketed hipped roof, front dormer, three windows. Chimney at west elevation.

695-697 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1910

Max M. Oppenheim House

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 10

THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY

County and State

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, hipped roof; brick. Open, full-width porch, wrought iron rail, fluted Ionic columns, brick piers. Polygonal bay window, first story east and second story west. Windows 6/1 double hung wood sash. Roof with paired corner brackets, hipped front dormer, three windows. East elevation square bay window, chimney.

699 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1903

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, cross-gabled roof; brick. Open, full-width porch, solid wood rail, paired Doric columns, stone piers. Bay window at west bay of second story. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash. Front gabled Palladian window, keystone. East elevation two-story polygonal bay window. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

705 Chilton Avenue

1922

Photo 13

Walter Greig House

Simon Larke (architect)

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, side-gable; brick, clapboard. Symmetrical façade, central entrance with sidelights, pilasters, segmental pediment. Windows 8/1 double hung wood sash, cast stone and wood sills, at first story semicircular brick arches above, wrought iron railings below. Three segmental arched front dormers. Chimney on east elevation.

Orchard Parkway- north side

620 Orchard Parkway

1925

Herman Hein House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Craftsman, side-gabled roof and shed roof dormer with two windows. Open, full-width porch; wrought iron posts, railing. Windows 6/6, 3/1 double hung sash. One-car hipped roof garage. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

622 Orchard Parkway

1922

Contributing primary building; two-story American Foursquare type with Craftsman detail; hipped roof, overhanging eaves, hipped front dormer with two windows. Exterior is wood shingle, stucco. Full-width open porch with wood rail, square wood posts on brick piers. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

626 Orchard Parkway

ca. 1910

Contributing primary building; two-story Tudor Revival, side-gabled roof; stucco. Front façade has enclosed, half-width living porch. Entrance in gabled vestibule with fanlight, keystone, wrought iron railing. Windows 6/6 double hung sash. Non-contributing concrete block garage on property. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

630 Orchard Parkway

1922

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 11

THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY

County and State

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Colonial, side-gabled roof; gabled dormer with cornice returns and two windows. Exterior walls are aluminum sided. Entrance centered with gabled entry cover, wrought iron supports. Windows are 1/1 double sash. West elevation has one-story, enclosed living porch. Property includes side-gabled garage with gabled dormer. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

642 Orchard Parkway

1923

Dr. Oliver F. Walker House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story brick Colonial Revival, front-gabled roof. Enclosed, full-width living porch, center chimney breaking fanlight, cornice returns. Entrance on east elevation with flat roof entry porch, square posts. Windows 9/1, 6/1 double hung wood sash, stone stills, flat brick lintels. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

646 Orchard Parkway 1923

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Colonial Revival, front-gabled roof. Façade has enclosed, full-width porch with multi-light casements, central exterior chimney, broken fanlight. Entrance on east elevation, gabled entry porch, square wood posts. Windows 6/1 double hung sash. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

650 Orchard Parkway

1923

Peter V. Keller House

Contributing primary building; two-story American Foursquare with Craftsman detail, flared hipped roof; brick with shingled dormers. Façade has open, full-width porch with brick rail, square posts. Entrance on east elevation has hipped roof cover supported on large scrolled brackets, square wood posts. Windows are 8/1, 6/1 double hung wood sash, stone sills. Roof has wide overhanging eaves; hipped roof front and side dormers, each with three windows.

656 Orchard Parkway

Donald Woodward House

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Craftsman bungalow, hipped roof; brick, stucco. Façade has front, clipped gable wall dormer with three leaded-glass windows, bracketed eaves. Entrance on east elevation surmounted by clipped gable wall dormer; covered with bracketed, flat roof entry porch, square stone piers. Windows paired, single light casements with leaded transoms or 8/1 single hung wood sash. Roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails.

664 Orchard Parkway

1923

1924

Denton A. Fuller House

Simon Larke (architect)

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story brick Tudor Revival, side-gabled roof. Façade has enclosed, full-width clapboard living porch, center chimney with tall cricket. Entrance with fanlight on east elevation in side vestibule, faces façade. Windows are primarily 6/1 double hung wood sash, brick keystone, jack arches, brick sills. Side-gabled ends parapeted, porthole windows. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
NIAGARA COUNTY, NY
County and State

668 Orchard Parkway 1922

Henry Hackenheimer House

Kirkpatrick & Cannon (architects)

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial, front-gambrel roof; wood shingle. Façade has central stone chimney; open, full-width porch on paired wood posts. Entrance on east elevation in gabled vestibule faces façade; has pilasters, round keystone arched window. Windows are 6/1 double hung wood sash. East and west elevation have full-width shed roof dormers. Hipped roof garage. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

672 Orchard Parkway

1922

Photo 5

John H. Keller House

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial, front-gambrel roof; weatherboard. Façade has enclosed, three-quarter width porch; fanlight; pent roof. Entrance on east elevation covered by pent roof. East and west elevations have full-width shed roof dormers. Windows are 1/1, 6/1 double hung wood sash. Hipped roof garage, exposed rafter tails. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

682 Orchard Parkway

1924

Photo 6

Alexis W. Bearce House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story. L-shaped Tudor Revival, side-gabled roof, projecting front-gabled wing on west bay. Side-gabled wing has exterior chimney, projecting west bay with shaped parapet; centered entrance with rusticated stone hood. Front-gabled wing half-timbered, segmental arched window. Paired, multi-light casement windows. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

692 Orchard Parkway

1922

Alpheus R. Phelps House

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, side-gabled roof, paired end chimneys; brick. Façade has open, full-width porch, brick rail and corner posts, paired slender Doric columns flank center steps. Central entry, sidelights, segmental fanlight. Windows are 1/1 double hung wood sash, stone lintels. Front gabled dormer with arched window. Hipped roof garage. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

696 Orchard Parkway

1924

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial Revival, front gambrel roof; brick, vinyl siding. Enclosed, three-quarter width living porch, pent roof; central chimney, broken fanlight. Entrance with sidelights, transom on east elevation. Pent roof, bracketed projection, segmented pediment over doorway. Windows 6/1 double hung wood sash, multi-light casements, transoms. East and west elevation full-width shed roof dormers. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

702 Orchard Parkway

1938

Dr. Garland E. Lewis House

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
NIAGARA COUNTY, NY
County and State

James Robertson & Son (builder)

Contributing primary building; two-story Tudor Revival, cross-gabled roof; brick, half-timbered stucco. West and center bay of façade project forward, surmounted by front-facing gable. Entrance in shed-roof projecting bay, segmented pediment. Second story east bay shed roof dormer. Windows 6/6 double hung wood sash, multi-light transoms. Hipped roof garage. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

710 Orchard Parkway

Mrs. Catherine F. Giles House

1924

1922

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, gable-on-gable roof; brick, wood shingle. Full-width porch; enclosed west and center bay, east bay open with brick rail and post, wood post on second story. Windows 6/1 double hung wood sash, stone sills. Front gables have fanlights. East elevation hipped roof dormer. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

Orchard Parkway- south side

609 Orchard Parkway

John Henry Wasnidge House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, rectangular, Craftsman; front-gabled roof, bracketed returns, enclosed front porch. Second-story, 1/1, 3/1 double hung wood sash windows, west elevation has rectangular oriel window, exterior chimney. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

615 Orchard Parkway 1931

Bradley Norton House

W.S. Johnson Building Co. (builders)

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story L-shaped brick Tudor Revival, cross-gabled roof. Entrance located in cylindrical vestibule at the crux of the L, with a rounded arched transom above the door, and conical roof. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

619 Orchard Parkway 1928

Maggs House

James Cook (builder)

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story L-shaped brick Tudor Revival, cross-gabled roof. Façade has central chimney, enclosed porch with hipped roof; front gable features cornice returns. Windows are multi-light casements, with transoms, stone sills, decorative lintels. House has one-story rear addition. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

625 Orchard Parkway

1924

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
NIAGARA COUNTY, NY
County and State

John A. Curry House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story single-gable Craftsman; open, full-width porch, brick rail, paired square wood posts. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash, first story rectangular oriel window, hipped roof on east elevation. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

629 Orchard Parkway

Roudebush-Upton House

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial Revival, front gambrel roof. Façade has pent roof and fanlight; entrance has bracketed segmental arch cover. Windows are 8/1 double hung vinyl sash and multi-light casements. East and west elevations have full-width shed roof dormers; one-story wing located at rear. Property includes hipped roof garage. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

633 Orchard Parkway

1922

1922

Stephen R. Stilip House

Contributing primary building; two-story brick, T-shaped Colonial Revival, hipped roof; two-story side-gabled addition on west elevation. Entrance has elaborate Colonial enframement, broken scroll pediment, entablature, pilasters, sidelights. Windows 8/8, 6/1, 4/1 double hung wood. Two-car hipped roof garage. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

635 Orchard Parkway

1922

John J. Rohleder House

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Craftsman bungalow, side-gabled roof; open, full-width porch with shingled rail, square wood posts. Exterior walls are asbestos shingle. Windows are 1/1 double hung sash. Façade has centered, half-width shed roof dormer with three windows. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

641 Orchard Parkway

1924

Tracy G. Levee House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Craftsman with clipped-gabled roof; brick, wood shingle. Full-width, three-quarter enclosed porch with bracketed eaves. Entrance in open west bay with solid brick rail, battered square wood post. Windows are 4/1 double hung wood sash. Gable end has wide, bracketed cornice returns, brackets on horizontal cornice in clipped peak, fanlight. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

643 Orchard Parkway

1922

Hugo Lauroesh House

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; hipped front dormer. Brick façade has enclosed, full-width porch with multi-light casement windows. Entrance on east elevation has gabled entry porch with square wood posts. Windows are 6/1 double hung sash with stone sills. Chimney on west elevation.

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY

County and State

647 Orchard Parkway

1923

Fred W. Frommert House

Contributing primary building; one-story Craftsman bungalow, hipped roof. Façade has cutaway corner main entry porch with brick rail, posts. Windows are 1/1 double hung wood sash, cast stone sills. Secondary entrance on east elevation has bracketed, hipped roof cover. Roof has wide overhanging eaves with dentil cornice; hipped roof front and side dormers, each with three windows. Property includes hipped roof garage.

653 Orchard Parkway

1922

Max Teller House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Colonial Revival in L-shaped plan, cross-gabled roof. Brick façade has enclosed, full-width porch, central exterior chimney, broken fanlight, cornice returns. Main entrance at intersection of L with hipped roof entry porch. Windows are 1/1 double hung sash, stone sills. West elevation has projecting polygonal bay window. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

655 Orchard Parkway

1929

Photo 4

Hall House

Allen Smith Co. (builder)

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; exterior yellow brick, vinyl sided dormers. Façade has open, full-width porch with brick rail, battered stucco piers; entrance centered below bracketed porch gable. Windows are 1/1, 6/1 double hung wood sash, stone sills. Chimney on east elevation. Roof has wide overhanging eaves; gabled front dormer with brackets, modified Palladian window; hipped side dormer, two windows. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

659 Orchard Parkway

1922

Wilson & Cudebec House

Simon Larke (architect)

Contributing primary building; two-story, L-shaped Tudor Revival, cross-gabled roof; stucco. Façade of front facing gable has central chimney, cornice returns. Main entrance on façade of side-gabled wing. Doorway has bracketed entry cover, metal roof. East elevation of front wing has entry with bull-nosed jambs. Windows are 6/1 double hung wood sash; casements in threes. Roof has round arched dormers.

667 Orchard Parkway

1924

Anna D. Meyers House

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY

County and State

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Colonial Revival, side-gabled roof; brick. Central entrance with sidelights has semicircular entry porch, Doric columns, wrought iron rail on roof. Windows are 8/1 double hung wood sash; first story side bays paired full-height casements with round, keystone arch stucco panels above. Roof has three gabled dormers with cornice returns, round arched windows. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

669-671 Orchard Parkway

1922

George W. Camahan House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Craftsman, side-gabled roof; brick. Façade has half-width porch, open on first with brick rail, posts, enclosed on second, 3/1 fixed windows, transoms. Entrance with sidelights has bracketed shed roof cover. Windows are 6/1 double hung wood sash. Roof has overhanging bracketed eaves; wide center shed roof dormer with four windows. East elevation has wide, two-story project rectangular bay; shed roof dormer. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

675-677 Orchard Parkway

1925

Robert LaVan House

Contributing primary building; two-story, L-shaped Craftsman, hipped roof; brick, stucco, wood shingle. Façade has open, three-quarter width, tiered porch; first story wood rail, second story stucco-paneled rail, square brick posts. Entrance with sidelights on west elevation, semicircular bracketed entry cover. Windows 1/1 double hung wood sash. Hipped roof dormer on west elevation. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

683 Orchard Parkway

1928

Photo 7

Elmer A. Bowen House

James Robertson & Son (builder)

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Tudor Revival, side-gabled roof; brick, stucco, stone, wood shingle, slate roof. Façade has open, half-width porch, wrought iron, stone posts; recessed second story porch, wood posts. Entrance in projecting, clipped gabled bay. Windows are multi-light casements. Rear wing is front gabled, chimney on west elevation. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

687 Orchard Parkway

1925

Mrs. Barbara Welch House

Contributing primary building; one-and-one-half story Craftsman, front-gabled roof; brick, vinyl siding. Façade has open, full-width porch, paired square wood posts, lattice. Central chimney, triangle window. East and west elevation has full-width shed roof dormers, cornice returns.

693 Orchard Parkway

1921

Henry A. Keller House

Contributing primary building; two-story Colonial Revival, side-gabled roof; vinyl siding. Open, full-width porch, wood rail, Doric columns. Central entrance, sidelights. Windows 1/1 double hung sash. Two shed roof dormers, two windows. Contains contributing secondary building (garage).

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
NIAGARA COUNTY, NY
County and State

695-697 Orchard Parkway

1924

Lawrence M. Snyder House

Contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, hipped roof; brick, vinyl siding. Full-width porch; enclosed first story; open second story, wood rail, square posts. Sidelight entrance on west bay, transom. Windows 1/1, 6/1 double hung wood sash, stone sills. West elevation entrance, bracketed hipped roof cover. Hipped roof dormer, three windows on façade. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

701 Orchard Parkway

1922

R. Clarence Mason House

Contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story Craftsman, front-gabled roof; brick, vinyl siding. Façade has open, full-width porch, wood rail, battered square wood posts, cornice. Windows 1/1, 4/1 double hung wood sash, stone sills. West elevation gabled dormer. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

707 Orchard Parkway

1942

Joseph Kobas House

Contributing primary building; two-story, L-shaped, Colonial Revival, cross gabled roof; clapboard. Entrance in projecting gable, hipped roof, scallop detail. Windows 6/6 double hung sash, multi-light transoms. Exterior stone and brick chimney in east bay. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES: 6 TOTAL PRIMARY

614 Chilton Avenue

1922

H.J. Wills House

Non-contributing primary building; two-and-one-half story, Colonial, clipped side-gabled roof; vinyl siding. Enclosed, full-width porch, shed roof, entry pediment. Windows are 6/1 double hung wood sash. Chimney on north elevation. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

616 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1920s

Non-contributing primary building; two-story Craftsman, side-gabled roof; vinyl sided. Open, full-width porch, wood post, gable extends to cover porch. Front, shed roof dormer, two windows. Over-hanging eaves, brackets. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

674 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1899

Non-contributing primary building; two-story Dutch Colonial, gambrel roof with cross gable; asbestos shingle. Narrow, full-width uncovered porch, turned wood spindles. Two entrances, east has cutaway porch, west is filled. Windows 1/1 double hung sash. Peak of gambrel four multi-light windows, upper slope wide vergeboard with brackets. West elevation oriel window.

710 Chilton Avenue

ca. 1899

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Name of Property
NIAGARA COUNTY, NY
County and State

Willet W. Read House

Non-contributing; two-and-one-half story Queen Anne, hipped roof with cross gable; vinyl sided. Open, full-width porch, wrought iron rail, stone foundation. West bay, two entrances, front gable dormer. East elevation, side gable projects over two-story, polygonal bay window. Windows 1/1. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

638 Orchard Parkway 1922

Dr. Irwin M. Walker House

Non-contributing; two-and-one-half story Colonial, side-gabled roof and paired end chimneys. Façade has open, full-width porch with wrought iron rails and posts. Paired windows are 6/1 double hung wood sash. Contains non-contributing secondary building (garage).

678 Orchard Parkway 1950 Mrs. Mortimer J. Brown House

W.S. Johnson Building Co. (builder)

Non-contributing primary building; mid-twentieth century vernacular, two-story side-gable, attached two-car garage on west elevation; wood shingle. One-story rear wing. Entrance on façade, covered with pent roof. Windows are single-light casements, 6/1, 1/1.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1

THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT Name of Property **NIAGARA COUNTY, NY County and State**

The Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District, which encompasses all contiguous residential properties along Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway between Whirlpool Street and Main Street, is significant under Criterion C for its rare collection of contiguous, largely intact residential buildings in Niagara Falls, New York. Several of these houses were designed by well-known Niagara Falls architects and builders for clients who included prominent political, business and community figures. The neighborhood exhibits a wide variety of building styles which were popular at the end of the 1800s and in the early 1900s including Tudor Revival, Queen Anne, Colonial and Dutch Colonial Revival and many others. The neighborhood features a mix of architect-designed buildings and builder-constructed houses. Because of the deterioration and demolition of much of the City of Niagara Falls' historic housing stock in the downtown area, the contiguous, largely intact residential properties along these two streets is a rare remaining reflection of the appearance and character of the City at the height of its international prowess.

Niagara Falls and the Whitney-Trott Farm Tract

Although the extant architecture and landscape is of a relatively recent vintage, the story of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District can be traced back to three of Niagara Falls' most prominent founding citizens. While the current district contains no remnants of previous historic buildings or structures from this settlement period, the neighborhood owes its present boundaries and relatively recent development following the turn of the twentieth-century to its earliest history as a rural, agricultural farm tract. This tract remained in the position of a single family through much of the nineteenth-century, and was kept largely intact as a rural farm retreat for three generations of owners until the late nineteenth-century.

The land now included in the historic district originally belonged to Judge Augustus Porter, one of the region's earliest settlers. After travelling through the area during a family trip in 1795, Augustus Porter, along with Joseph Ellicott, surveyed the area in 1797 for the Holland Land Company. Porter realized the immense value and potential of the Falls during his initial visits and settled in the region in 1805 with his brother, Peter. After his purchase of lots 39 through 44 of the Mile Strip Reserve following New York State's auctioning off of the lots in this desirable ribbon of land, Augustus Porter was the largest landholder in the area surrounding the Falls, owning property which included several islands near the precipice. In 1808 Augustus Porter constructed the first house in the village he laid out, which he named "Manchester" due to his vision of the area's potential to become a great seat of American industrial power, in the model of Manchester, England. Along with his brother, Augustus Porter purchased the American Falls from the State of New York at a public auction, and also acquired the water rights to the eastern rapids above and below the Falls as well. The Porters were visionaries for their belief in the great energy potential of the Falls, and Augustus himself established several businesses in the village including a sawmill, blacksmith shop, gristmill and tannery. But Porter tempered his passion for industrialization and growth with an appreciation for the beauty of the Falls. In 1816 he purchased Goat Island

¹ The "Mile Strip" Reservation was a mile-wide ribbon of land purchased by the State of New York from the Seneca Indians which ran along the westernmost boundary of New York State from Lake Ontario to the northern boundary of the Village of Buffalo. The valuable strip of land prevented the ownership of land adjacent to the rivers and lakes along the Western New York shoreline, preventing the establishment of a harbor. The land was surveyed by the Holland Land Company and Joseph Ellicott in 1789 in order to establish the boundaries of the mile strip. In 1802, New York State moved to extinguish the Native Americans' title to the land, and quickly began parceling and creating roads, selling the land off to settlers.

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD

PARKWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY

County and State

to protect it from industrial development; beginning the debate on how to balance the tremendous industrial potential of the Falls with the desire to maintain its natural beauty.

Although he had purchased the land in 1805 Porter's name appears on the first deed to the future Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway neighborhood, which was dated May 8, 1814. In January of 1816 Porter sold the area to Gad Pierce for \$1,371. Gad Pierce was the proprietor of a popular tavern located at the corner of what is now Pierce Avenue and Portage Road. In 1828, Pierce transferred ownership of the land to his sons for \$500.

In 1835 the property was sold to Parkhurst Whitney at a price of \$2,100. At the time of the sale, the parcel consisted of 262 acres, and was half of Lot 38 of the Mile Strip, measuring approximately 682 feet wide at its western extents.² The property extended to the Mile Strip line, one mile east from the Niagara River to what is approximately Nineteenth Street today (map 1). Whitney's tract also extended further eastward beyond the Mile Strip land into property originally part of the Holland Land Company purchase (map 2).

General Parkhurst Whitney was one of Niagara Falls' earliest and most prominent pioneer settlers and entrepreneurs (image 1). Born September 24, 1784 in Conway, Massachusetts to Ester (nee Parkhurst) and Jonathan Whitney, Parkhurst Whitney was a descendant of one of the oldest families in America and a distant relative to Eli Whitney, the inventor of the cotton gin. Jonathan Whitney was one of Western New York's earliest settlers, arriving in Ontario County from Massachusetts in 1789. Jonathan Whitney purchased Township ten, Range one of the Phelps and Gorham purchase and subsequently relocated his familiar, including Parkhurst Whitney, to what eventually became the town of Phelps. Jonathan died shortly after in 1792, leaving Parkhurst Whitney to live with his elder brothers and sisters until he was nineteen. On October 10, 1805, Parkhurst Whitney married Miss Celinda Cowling, a native of Rochester, Massachusetts, and subsequently moved to "Old Castle" near Geneva, NY. In 1810, Parkhurst Whitney arrived in Niagara County as one of the region's earliest settlers. He initially lived on a farm (later known as the Thompkins farm in the present LaSalle area) about four miles from the small town of Manchester. In 1812 he relocated once again to the village of Manchester where he rented Augustus Porter's sawmill at Canal Street near Main Street. Whitney was a farmer, and like Porter, was also a surveyor; Parkhurst Whitney made the first survey of Goat Island and other surveys for the Holland Land Company and for New York State. Whitney's family was among those who were forced to flee their homes, heading to the safety of Batavia, in December 1813 when the British swept through the region from Lewiston during the War of 1812, burning and decimating nearly every structure they encountered. It was said that the Whitney family left is such haste that "they left the breakfast on the table." 3

As a result of his service during the war, Parkhurst Whitney was commissioned as General. He served under General Winfield Scott at the Battle of Queenston, where he was taken prisoner but later released. On

² Whitney purchased the southern half of Lot 38, and it appears that W.O. Buchanan purchased the northern half. Buchanan's house appears to have been located on the eastern side of the intersection of Main Street, Pierce Avenue and Portage Road where the Public Library is presently located.

³ Williams, Marjorie F. "Passing of Old Trott Homestead Reduces Number of Landmarks Remaining in Falls."

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June 19, 1820, New York Governor DeWitt Clinton made Whitney a brigadier-general of the 5th Brigade, and he was named a major general of the 24th division on March 4, 1826.⁴

Following the war, Parkhurst Whitney played an early role in developing the tourist business in the Niagara Region, becoming a significant proprietor of two of the area's most prominent inns and taverns. After returning home from Batavia, Whitney rented the Eagle Tavern from Joshua Fairchild; one of the few major buildings which remained standing following the devastation inflicted by the British. He and his family relocated to a small house which stood at the corner of Main and Falls Streets which had been only modestly damaged by fire during the attack. He soon bought the Eagle Tavern from Fairchild and the entire block from Augustus Porter and Peter Barton in 1817, taking over its management as well as adding a large addition to the building. In 1831 he purchased the Columbian Hall which was renamed as the Cataract House (built 1825 by David Chapman), located across Bridge Street from the Eagle Tavern, assuming control of the hotel in 1838. In 1836, Whitney sold the Eagle Tavern to Benjamin Rathbun, a prominent regional businessman from Buffalo who owned that city's Eagle Hotel. The firm of Parkhurst Whitney & Sons was organized in 1839 while Whitney maintained management of the Cataract House, partnering with his son Solon M.N. Whitney and his sons-in-law James Fullerton Trott and D.R. Jerauld as the firm of Whitney, Jerauld and Company which formed in 1846.

General Parkhurst Whitney was one of Niagara Falls' most prominent and well-known citizens. In 1825 he entertained the Marquis de Lafayette during his tour of the county, and Whitney escorted the General to Lockport in his own carriage to celebrate the opening of the Erie Canal. In 1848 when the Village of Niagara Falls was officially incorporated, Whitney was elected its first president.

Whitney retired from active business in 1846, turning his hotel businesses over to his son and sons-in-law, and settled in for a quiet life on the multi-acre farm which he had purchased from Augustus Porter in 1835. Of his tremendous rise as a hotelier and subsequent retirement, Whitney wrote in 1846: "During the above period (when he ran the hotel) I changed my circumstances from making my own fire, being hostler, tending bar, waiting on tables, my wife doing the cooking, all together, four or five servants, to the employment of one hundred servants and giving up the establishment to my old calling of farming." At this time, Whitney's farm was located two miles north of the village of Niagara Falls, with his house being located on Main Street (then known as Ontario Street) adjacent to where Chilton Avenue presently intersects. No written record of this house presently exists, but it was likely constructed of red brick like many contemporary houses. In the Fall of 1849, Whitney's son-in-law James F. Trott and his family moved into the Whitney homestead. During this period the land west of the house, the area of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District, was the Whitney apple orchard and potato fields, while the land on the east side of Main Street was the pear orchard. On February 17, 1860 the Whitney house was devastated by fire, which destroyed the contents of the house including Whitney and Trott's substantial library and much of Whitney's collection of military memorabilia. The house was subsequently rebuilt ca. 1861 in the same location, being constructed as a two-story, yellow

⁴ Kostoff, Bob. "Thousands Mourned Whitney." *Niagara Falls Reporter*. 22 Sept. 2002. Web. 12 Mar. 2010. http://www.niagarafallsreporter.com/kostoff4.html.

⁵ Quoted in Kostoff, Bob. "Tiny Clarksville Becomes Part of a Prosperous Falls." *Niagara Falls Reporter* (Dec 19-27, 2006): 7.

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brick building with a gabled attic with a large oriel window on the front flanked by large windows (image 2). The house featured six bedrooms, a large hall, a spacious library and an elegant dining room with a built-in sideboard. It was outfitted with the finest materials including high, paneled wood ceilings. The décor must have been equally as elegant, and it was noted to feature two John Singleton Copley paintings, including one of Joshua Winslow, an ancestor of Trott's.⁶ A large rear portion of red brick (perhaps retained from the original house) was at the rear of the house and was used for the servant's quarters. Overall, this new house was a substantial building and was one of only two houses in Niagara Falls to have two bathrooms.

Besides his business interests, Parkhurst Whitney and his family played a significant role in shaping modern Niagara Falls, NY as it is known today. In the Spring of 1834, three of Whitney's daughters, Asenath, Angelina and Celinda Eliza, crossed the Niagara River during a period of decreased water flow, to three small islands just south of Goat Island. As they were the first women of Euro-American descent to brave the rapids to stand upon the islands, they were named the "Three Sisters Islands" in honor of the Whitney girls. When a ferry service between the Canadian and American sides of the Niagara River launched in 1846 (two years prior to the construction of the first suspension bridge), the small steamboat was named the *Maid of the Mist* after the suggestion of Celinda Eliza Whitney, who by that time was Mrs. James F. Trott. Both the "Three Sisters Islands" and the *Maid of the Mist* remain enduring legacies of the Whitney family which are familiar to modern-day Niagara Falls residents and visitors.

General Parkhurst Whitney died at his home on Main Street on April 26, 1862, bequeathing his farm and house to his son-in-law James Fullerton Trott. James F. Trott was, like his father-in-law, was a significant figure in the history of Niagara Falls (image 3). Born in Boston, Massachusetts on March 25, 1815 in the fashionable Fort Hill district to Captain James Fullerton Trott, Trott descended from one of the most prominent families in Boston. The younger James F. Trott was educated at Boylston Public Grammar school where he was awarded the Franklin medal for scholarship, a highly prized honor at the time, and later attended High school for three years. After leaving school, Trott first lived in New York City for several years before he arrived in Niagara Falls in 1841 as a scenic photographer. Trott married Celinda Eliza Whitney on September 9, 1844 at the Cataract House. The Trotts then moved to Galena, Illinois and later to Bellevue, Iowa. At the request of General Whitney, James F. Trott and his family returned to Niagara Falls in the Fall of 1845, where Trott entered the partnership of Whitney, Jerauld & Trott which managed the operations of the Cataract House. Following his return, the Cataract House became a significant tourist destination, and the inn attracted visitors from around the world.

In addition to his business interests, James F. Trott was perhaps even better known for his role as "father" of the Niagara Falls schools. In 1848, Trott was elected as a trustee of School District No. 2, Town of Niagara and would later serve for many years as its president. In 1855 the Union Free School District No. 2 was formed, and Trott was elected president of the Board of Education. He continued in this role for over 40

⁶ John Singleton Copley (1738- 1815) was one of the most well-known, fashionable portrait painters in American during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth-centuries. He was noted as being the greatest and most influential painter in colonial America, and his portraits capture the likenesses of many of early America's greatest Revolutionary War-era people. Copley's paintings are hung in galleries across the US and in Great Britain, including the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Among his most famous works are portraits of John Hancock, Paul Revere, and Samuel Adams.

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years, serving until 1898 when he became the first member appointed on the new city board when the City of Niagara Falls was incorporated in 1892. Trott was responsible for building up a substantial library for the school during his tenure, and it was noted that he often rose early in the morning to repair and recover the valuable library books in the collection. Trott Vocational School was later named in his honor, recognizing his almost 50 years of service in building the Niagara Falls school district. Trott also held public office, serving as trustee of the Village of Niagara Falls, president of the Village and for six years served as supervisor for the Town. James F. Trott was known to be highly regarded and an upstanding member of the growing Niagara Falls community in many areas.

The late 1890s saw the breakdown of the Whitney-Trott farm tract. What had once been a rural fringe between two small villages, had by the late nineteenth-century become a profitable development project. While retaining the spacious farm parcel may have been appealing to the Trotts, the lure of the profits which could be made by selling off land for residential development must have been even more attractive. The eastern portion of the farm tract was sold off for development during James F. Trott's lifetime, and was developed in the early 1890s. The western portion of the farm tract between Whirlpool and Main Street began being developed by the mid-1890s. The area surrounding Chilton Avenue was sold off in the 1890s, and became the first paved street in the city of Niagara Falls in 1895 and was opened to the public in 1897 (see the next section for additional information).

After many years in the public spotlight, James F. Trott passed away in 1898, leaving what was then known as the Trott House and farm to his son James P. and daughter Elizabeth C. Trott. Both James and Elizabeth never married and had no children. After their deaths, the house was inherited by their brother John Winslow Trott, the last remaining Trott family member, who died in 1920. The property was eventually purchased in 1927 by the Kellogg Motor company. After owning the property for over twenty years, in October of 1949 the almost ninety-year old Whitney-Trott house was demolished to make way for the Kellogg Motor Sale, Inc. new used car lot. The loss of the building was widely lamented by city historians, noting that with its loss, the City of Niagara Falls lost another connection to its early past. Today an Off-track Betting facility is located on the site of the old Whitney-Trott House.

The Development of Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway

The present Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway neighborhood developed as the western portion of the Whitney-Trott farm tract. The breakdown of the original farm tract began shortly before the death of James F. Trott in 1898. The larger farm tract appears to have been whittled down over the later decades of the 1800s and into the early twentieth-century, and was surely aided by the increasing land values and high profits which could be made from parceling and selling the land for development. By the late nineteenth-century, the character of this area of the City of Niagara Falls was changing from the rural agrarian fringe it had been in Whitney's lifetime into the more urbanized neighborhood it is today. Based on maps, it appears that Trott parceled and sold off the farmland which lies east of Portage Avenue. For about a century, this land remained agricultural in purpose, thanks to the continued ownership of the Whitney and Trott families during the nineteenth-century; however, it appears that the increasing land values coupled with the impingement of commercial and residential areas to the north and south, led to the parceling and development of this former farm land.

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The earliest description of the physical appearance of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway neighborhood was typical of a working farm. The present Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway appear to correspond with historic, private roads through the farm tract and appear on the 1892 Sanborn map of the area. As a farm, the structures in this area during the later half of the 1800s were described as "typical" outbuildings. A variety of outbuildings were noted as being located along the present Chilton Avenue, indicating its presence as an early private path through the farm land. An oil house was noted as being located near the center of this area of the farm; this building may be the structure pictured in the 1897 Sanborn which featured a one-story service building attached to a small dwelling. Closer to the house, east of Main Street, was located a large stable and barn, a pig sty, a chicken house and a small machine shop for maintaining various tools used by the farm. The farm grew a variety of crops for use by the family including peanuts, and also featured a large apple orchard located in the area which is now traversed by Orchard Parkway (hence its name) and a potato field which appears to have been located in the vicinity of Chilton Avenue.

Although General Parkhurst Whitney's original farm tract contained 262 acres and extended inlaid for almost two miles, it appears that James F. Trott during the later years of the nineteenth-century began the process of selling off the property for development. Maps from the mid-1800s depict the farmland as a narrow slice of land, located just north of the small hamlet of Clarksville and just south of the developing settlement of Suspension Bridge (map 1 & 2). Clarksville joined with the Village of Niagara Falls in 1887, expanding the Village boundaries in response to the area's growing population and rapidly expanding development. The Village of Suspension Bridge, north of the Whitney-Trott farm, would also join with the Village of Niagara Falls, becoming united as the City of Niagara Falls on March 17, 1892. Within this newly defined city boundary, the western portion of the Whitney-Trott farm tract retained much of its original agrarian appearance and function up until the late nineteenth-century. The slice of orchard and farm property wedged between the growing urban development to the north and south appears as a remnant of the area's earliest agrarian character.

In response to the pressures of developing this increasingly valuable farm land, it appears that James F. Trott sold off the eastern portions of the farm by 1892. The farm tract was already bifurcated by the tracks of the Erie Railroad which ran north-south through the property by 1875 (map 3). By 1892, the area east of these tracks extending to the historic Mile Strip line was parceled and sold off for primarily residential development. Today's Whitney Avenue (named for the Whitney family), Orchard Avenue, and LaSalle Avenue run through the length of the former farm property. 9

⁷ The exact boundaries of the hamlet of Clarksville are unclear, and maps indicate that the Whitney-Trott farm tract was located north of the developed areas of the hamlet which centered around the present-day Ashland and Elmwood Avenues, corresponding to the tract owned by Henry Wells Clark and shown on the 1854 city map. However, when the residents of Clarksburg presented Assemblyman Peter A. Porter with a petition to unite with Niagara Falls on February 26, 1887, the first name on the petition was James F. Trott. Trott's signature on the petition would indicate that portions of the Whitney-Trott farm tract were thought to be located in Clarksville.

⁸ These tracks once ran in the land between Portage Road and 11th Street.

⁹ A majority of the architecture along these streets appears to date primarily to the period between the 1880s and the early twentieth-century, and would indicate that this was the time period in which the area was developed.

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While the Trott family retained a parcel located in the triangular area between Main Street and Portage Avenue, centered around the 1861 family homestead, it appears that the western portion of the farm was parceled and sold to a land syndicate for development in the 1890s. In the late nineteenth-century, the western farm tract was traversed by three private roads, Washington Place, Whitney Avenue, and Chilton Avenue. Whitney Avenue, which ran down the center of the western portion of the property, appears to have been the earliest road in this area, as it is depicted on a map dating to 1857, while the present courses of Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway appear as small paths or dirt roads. These roads were identified as private, and likely reflect the presence of the earlier farm roads. Initial residential development in this area occurred along Main Street at Chilton Avenue, where several Queen Anne style houses were constructed by 1892. The area further west continued to be used as the Trott family orchard and farmland.

Chilton Avenue was the first public street in the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District to be opened. The street was named by James F. Trott to honor his ancestor, Mary Chilton, who was regarded as being the first European woman to step off of the Mayflower onto Plymouth Rock. Chilton Avenue was laid out by a land syndicate who owned the land around the road in the 1890s and it became the first street to be paved in the newly-formed City of Niagara Falls in 1895. The syndicate clearly intended to sell the land off for residential development as they were also responsible for installing water mains and sewer lines along the street. Chilton Avenue remained a privately owned street for several years after it was paved and prepared for development, until it was deeded to the City on February 23, 1897 (map 5). Chilton Avenue was developed first since it would have been the easiest to clear for development; the area north around today's Orchard Parkway was still noted as being an orchard, and thus covered with trees, as late as 1897. Although it seems to have been parceled around 1875, the earliest constructed houses appear to be 674, 677, and 710 Chilton Avenue, which each date to ca. 1899 (map 3). This would correlate to the 1895 paving of the street, reinforcing a development date beginning in the late nineteenth-century. By 1908, several individual houses had been constructed along the street, especially along the north side and towards the eastern end near Main Street, although several vacant lots were still scattered along Chilton Avenue.

Although Whitney Avenue appears on maps during the late nineteenth-century, it appears that this road was dissolved shortly after the turn of the twentieth-century. A map from 1908 indicates this road with dashed lines but property lines extend through the roadway, indicating it was being incorporated into larger parcels for the north side of Chilton Avenue and the south side of Orchard Parkway (map 6). By 1914, Whitney Avenue between Whirlpool and Main Streets had completely vanished (map 7).

Orchard Parkway was developed after Chilton Avenue. Known as Washington Avenue or Place in its earliest incarnation, this street ran north of Chilton Avenue through what had been the Trott apple orchard through the nineteenth-century. Washington Avenue appears to have initially served as a private road through the orchard. Washington Place was dedicated as a public thoroughfare in 1901 when it was open to the public, although maps note that the street was not graded until after 1914 (map 7). By the early twentieth-century the

¹⁰ Horton, John Theodore. *History of Northwestern New York: Erie, Niagara, Wyoming, Genesee and Orleans Counties*. New York: Lewis Historical Pub., 1947; 153.

¹¹ "Chilton Avenue." Niagara Falls Gazette 23 Feb. 1897: 3. Print.

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land adjacent to the street was parceled and sold off. In 1908 much of the property along Washington Avenue was owned by Laurence and Charles Davis (map 6). The Davis brothers, along with brother Barron, were owners of the Niagara Falls Museum; one of the most popular tourist attractions in Niagara Falls during this period. ¹² It appears that the Davis brothers purchased the land from the Trott family, most likely to use the desirable land for residential development.

The land sat vacant for several years following their purchase of the property, likely resulting from the onset of World War I.. Following the end of the war, on May 12th, 1919 the City Council authorized the construction of sewer and water main lines along Orchard Avenue (as Washington Place was then known), which would have been the first step in preparing for residential development. A group of six unknown citizens petitioned the Council on February 16th, 1920 to establish the street as a divided parkway during the process of laying the sewer and water main. The petitioners asked that the 50 foot wide present street should be widened to 66 feet to accommodate a grassy median, sacrificing some of the residential land along the street to the expanded parkway. The Council approved the petition and the measure was approved in June of 1920. ¹³ Development began along what was then called Orchard Parkway shortly after this resolution. Many of the houses date to 1921 and 1922, indicating that this new parkway was an attractive location in high-demand for new house construction during the booming years between the World Wars (map 8).

Notable residents of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District

Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway developed as an upper middle-class neighborhood at the end of the nineteenth-century and into the early decades of the twentieth-century. As one of the newest residential areas at the time, it became a popular location for many of the City of Niagara Falls' notable political and business figures. It was conveniently located to the downtown business district and the civic center of the City of Niagara Falls, making it an optimal location to live in close proximity, yet the open landscape and tree-lined streets provided a quiet suburban retreat.

The two earliest residences on Chilton Avenue were built by Willet W. Read (at 714 Chilton, currently numbered as 710 and non-contributing to the district) and Thomas H. Paterson (at an un-numbered house on Chilton) which were both constructed ca. 1899 and appear in the 1899 City Directory. Paterson was a native of Canada, who was owner of the Walker & Paterson Hardware store at the time, located at 40 Falls Street. Read was a civil engineer and a prominent figure in the City at that time. A Cornell graduate, Read located in Niagara Falls in 1894 where he became chairman of the City's Democratic Committee in the early 1900s. He also served as City Engineer for Niagara Falls during the time he built and resided in his house at 714 Chilton

¹² The Niagara Falls Museum was originally established in 1827 to house a wide variety of novelties and curiosities; it was claimed it held over 700.000 exhibits. It was originally owned by Thomas Burnett and was located in Niagara Falls, Ontario across the border. In 1888 it was demolished. The collection was purchased by Solomon Davis and relocated to the American side in Niagara Falls. Following Davis' death his sons Laurence, Barron and Charles took ownership of the museum around 1900. It remained an architectural, if not cultural, landmark in Niagara Falls until it was demolished in 1957.

¹³ Proceedings of the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, NY for the Municipal Year 1920. Niagara Falls, 1920; 141, 145, 152. ¹⁴ The 1899-1901 City Directories and 1900 census do not number the houses along Chilton Avenue during this earliest period, so unless the same property owner retained the house and was identified on the 1908 city map, it is difficult to determine which residence was owned by which person during this foundation period.

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Avenue. He later resigned this post to serve as President of the Read-Coddington Engineering Company. ¹⁵ The fact that both of Chilton Avenue's founding residents were prominent local business and civic leaders is a strong indication that this developing neighborhood was one of the most fashionable and desirable areas in the City of Niagara Falls, with its tree-lined streetscapes and view overlooking the Niagara River and Canada, at the turn of the twentieth-century.

By 1901, Chilton Avenue had several residences. There was the house built by Read (710), the residence of Maurice P. O'Brien, D.R. Lovejoy, electrician for the Atmospheric Products Company in Niagara Falls, William P. Baker, a Massachusetts-native who was active in real estate, Frank H. Manley, who hailed from Kansas and worked as a notary public and as treasurer of the Carborundum Company, and Julius Michael who was identified as a merchant who was well-to-do and had two live-in servants.

One of the most prominent residents on Chilton Avenue was Congressman James Samuel Simmons who resided at 654 Chilton (ca. 1902, contributing) during the first decade of the 1900s. Simmons was born near Liberty, Maryland on November 25, 1861 and attended the local schools in that city. A graduate from Frederick College, he moved to Roanoke Virginia in 1880 to work in real estate. In 1894 he relocated to the City of Niagara Falls and continued his work in the real estate industry as president of The James S. Simmons Real Estate Company. He also served as president of the Homestead Building Company, Insides Property Company, Erie City Buildings Company, Cataract Building Company, and treasurer of the Simmons and Baker Company. He served as director of the Niagara Falls Trust Company. Simmons served as Chairman of the Republic City Committee in 1907 and 1908, and was elected as a Republican to the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses (March 4, 1909- March 3, 1913). Congressman Simmons lost his bid for a third term in 1912, but then served as a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1912. Following his political career, Congressman Simmons returned to the real estate business, dividing his time between his residence on Chilton Avenue in Niagara Falls and also in St. Petersburg, Florida. Congressman Simmons died on November 28, 1935 in St. Petersburg.

Another notable resident of Chilton Avenue was journalist and editor Edward Theodore Williams who lived at 646 Chilton Avenue (ca. 1904, contributing) in the 1910s. Born April 30, 1868 in Somerset, Niagara County, NY, Williams first worked with the Lockport "Daily Union" paper before he took journalism courses at Cornell University in 1889 and 1890. After leaving Cornell, Williams was a reporter with the Buffalo "Courier" for six years. In 1897, he moved into a different role, purchasing the Niagara Falls "Journal" which, when consolidated with the "Daily Cataract" in 1900 to become the Cataract-Journal Company, Williams would serve as editor of both the weekly and daily papers. Williams was also active in politics as well, and served as the chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee of the 34th District. He also was president of the Niagara County Pioneer Association, president of the Niagara Falls Civic Club, corresponding secretary of the

¹⁵ McGuire, James K., and Martin W. Littleton. *The Democratic Party of the State of New York: a History of the Origin, Growth, and Achievements of the Democratic Party of the State of New York, including a History of Tammany Hall in Its Relation to State Politics*. Vol. I. New York: United States History, 1905; 189. Google Books. Web.

¹⁶ "SIMMONS, James Samuel - Biographical Information." Web. 18 Mar. 2010. http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=S000418.

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Niagara Frontier Historic Society and was an active member of the Niagara Falls YMCA and the Niagara Falls Masonic lodge. ¹⁷

Residing at 628 Chilton Avenue (1912, contributing) in the 1920s was Henry A. Constantine, a prominent lawyer and deputy corporation council for the City of Niagara Falls. Born in Oneida County on October 6, 1876, Constantine studied law at Syracuse University, graduating in 1898. Shortly thereafter, he came to Niagara Falls to work at the law office of Devereux & Knox. He left this firm to form his own in 1904, partnering with George W. Knox in the firm of Knox & Constantine, which operated until 1912. He then worked as independent counsel, and was known as a "resourceful trial lawyer." Constantine resided in the house until the late 1920s when it was purchased by Everett Ramsdell.¹⁸

Charles Elihu Graves, resident of 673 Chilton Avenue (1917, contributing) was a descendant of an old and distinguished family which traced its ties to the area back to 1835 and ancestor Elihu Pomeroy Graves. Born in Niagara Falls in 1876, Charles Elihu Graves was educated in the public schools and received a business education through his employment in several local companies. Early in his life, Graves was recorded as being employed as a sign painter in Niagara Falls. Graves was notable as being in charge of the bituminous coal and coke interests for the E.L. Hedstrom company of Buffalo, which was noted as being the heaviest dealer in coal and coke in that city. He and his wife, Elizabeth (nee Kokemiller), resided at 673 Chilton Avenue in the 1920s, a house designed by architect Simon Larke in 1917.¹⁹

640 Chilton Avenue (ca. 1904, contributing) was home to Joseph Mondia, an Italian immigrant born 1858, who was associated with the Gorge Railroad in Niagara Falls. Mondia came to New York City in 1881 where he worked in railroad construction in northern Pennsylvania. A year later, he arrived in Niagara Falls where he worked with William Carlin, a contractor who was building the Michigan Central Railroad bridge in the Village of Suspension Bridge. Mondia travelled around the US and Canada, working on various railroad projects in Michigan, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia. He returned to Niagara Falls where he lead a team of 100 men tasked with construction of the railway on the Canadian side of the Niagara River. Mondia was referred to as the "pioneer" of the Gorge Railroad, a narrow-gauge rail line along the American side along the edge of the Niagara Gorge just above the river, which would offer tourists a spectacular view of the Falls and the Niagara River. His work and thorough knowledge on railroad construction were credited with the eventual success of the difficult project, which faced setbacks and delays.²⁰

Although developed two decades later than Chilton Avenue, Orchard Parkway also contained many fine houses owned and occupied by leading figures in Niagara Falls. Some noteworthy individuals include M. Bradley Norton, owner of the Norton Advertising Service, who built 615 (1931, contributing), John Henry Wasnidge, a druggist, at 609 (1922, contributing), Charles P. Upton, superintendant of a paper box factory, at 629 (1922, contributing) and Max Teller, the German-born music teacher, who built 653 Orchard Parkway in

¹⁷ Hills, Frederick Simon. New York State Men: Biographic Studies and Character Portraits. Vol. I. Argus Company, 1910; 220.

¹⁸ Williams, Edward T. Niagara County, New York, One Hundred of the Most Wonderful Regions in the World: a Concise Record of Her Progress and People, 1821-1921, Published during Its Centennial Year. Chicago: J.H. Beers, 1921; 551-552.

¹⁹ Ibid, 555-556.

²⁰ Ibid. 752.

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1922 (contributing). Alexis W. Bearce, sales manager for the William A. Rogers company specializing in silver plating, built the large and dramatic Tudor Revival house located at 682 Orchard Parkway in 1924 (contributing). The architects Kirkpatrick and Canon were hired by Henry H. Hackenheimer, an office manager for an alkali company, to design his charming Dutch Colonial house at 668 Orchard Parkway in 1922 (contributing). One of the more interesting characters who briefly resided on Orchard Parkway was playwright Charles Wisner Triechler, who lived at 653 Orchard Parkway (1913, contributing) in the 1930s. Under the pseudonym of Carl V. Shaw, Treichler wrote "No More Daddies: A Play in 3 Acts" and "Then Came Abby: A Comedy in 3 Acts." Many on the street were Canadian natives, including Upton, Wasnidge, plumber Frank L. Weiler, who resided at 622 (1922, contributing) in the 1930s and Elmer A. Bowen at 683 (1928, contributing), indicating that the successful and thriving economic climate of Niagara Falls, NY was attracting many Canadians to cross the border to live and work on the American side.

Several doctors built elegant houses and resided on Orchard Parkway as well. Dr. Oliver F. Walker resided at the Colonial Revival house at 642 Orchard Parkway (1923, contributing) in the 1920s. His brother, Dr. Irwin Walker, resided next-door at 638 Orchard Parkway (1922, non-contributing). Dr. Garland E. Lewis built the Tudor Revival styled house at 702 Orchard Parkway in 1938.

Bertha Cudabec and Mary Wilson hired architect Simon Larke to design the two-family Tudor Style house located at 659 Orchard Parkway in 1922. Mary Wilson was a stenographer for the Power Plant. Originally from Seneca Falls, NY, Bertha Cudebec worked as the head librarian of the Niagara Falls Public Library in the 1920s and 30s. Cudebec was a graduate of the University of Rochester, receiver her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1914. She worked as a librarian in Rochester and at the New York State Library in Albany before she came to Niagara Falls in 1920 to serve as head of the city's library. She was highly regarded for increasing the library's circulation from about 90,000 in 1919 to 530,000 in 1930, as well as for helping to establish five branch libraries during this same period.

Like Chilton Avenue, Orchard Parkway also had its share of prominent local officials as well. John A. Curry, once the Chief of Police for the City of Niagara Falls, built the Craftsman-style house at 625 Orchard Parkway in 1924 (contributing). Henry A. Keller, the City's Food Inspector, was responsible for building the Dutch Colonial house at 672 Orchard Parkway (1922, contributing) and also 693 Orchard Parkway (1921, contributing). The house at 672 later was home to John H. Keller, an engineer who later became a City Councilmember, in the 1930s.

Architects and Builders of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District

The housing stock on both Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway reflects the general trends in house building during the turn of the twentieth-century. Several houses in the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District were designed by prominent local architects. Many are recorded as being constructed by local contractors and builders, reflecting a more affordable option to hiring an architect and also reflecting the neighborhood's growth as a land development project.

One of the more prominent designers of the Chilton Avenue- Orchard Parkway streetscape was architect Simon Larke. Toronto-native Larke was a prominent local architect in Niagara Falls in the early twentieth-

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century, designing a multitude of buildings throughout the Niagara Falls region. Larke began his career in Niagara Falls as a draftsman for George W. Wright, becoming a partner of George W. Wright & Co. architects in 1894, before he established himself as an architect in his own right. Two of Larke's most noteworthy projects include the James G. Marshall House on Park Street in Niagara Falls (1913 with his son, Russell, NR 2004) which is an excellent example of Larke's proficiency in residential design, and also the former Niagara Falls High School (1923-24 with C.F. Obenhack, NR 2001), which displays his talent with the classical Beaux-Arts architectural vocabulary in a large-scale public project. Larke also designed the Jenss Brothers Building (ca. 1914) located on Main Street, and with his son Russell, designed the former LaSalle Theater (1937, now demolished) on Buffalo Street in Niagara Falls. In 1925 Larke served as president of the Buffalo/ Western NY Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) indicating his prominence in the regional architectural practice. Simon Larke is noted as architect of the Wilson & Cudebec House at 659 Orchard Parkway (contributing) the William A. Devitt House at 653 Chilton Avenue (contributing), the Peter Thurecht House at 673 Chilton Avenue (contributing) and the Walter Greig House at 705 Chilton Avenue (contributing). These houses display his adeptness with working in a variety of popular styles including the Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival and Craftsman styles.

Another architect who worked in the Chilton Avenue- Orchard Parkway neighborhood was Norton Kirkpatrick. Like Larke, Kirkpatrick was also a Toronto native. After receiving his bachelor's degree in architecture from Cornell University in 1911 and studying at the Ecole de Beaux-Arts in Paris in 1914, Kirkpatrick opened his Niagara Falls architectural office in 1915, and partnered with Niagara Falls-native Will Alban Cannon in 1921. The firm of Kirkpatrick and Cannon was responsible for many prominent buildings throughout Niagara Falls including the Niagara Falls City Hall (1924, NR 2001), First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara (1921-22, NR 2006), the Carborundum Company Office Building on Buffalo Street, LaSalle Junior High School (1931, demolished) and South Junior High School (1922, NRE). The firm also acted as supervising architects for the Esenwein and Johnson-designed Niagara Hotel (1927, NR 2008). After Kirkpatrick's death in 1934, Cannon went on to form Cannon Partnership, relocating the firm to Grand Island, NY, and the company went on to become a significant international architectural firm which is still in existence. Architects of several prominent, large-scale commissions, the firm of Kirkpatrick and Cannon designed the Henry Hackenheimer House, a gambrel roof Colonial Revival residence located at 668 Orchard Parkway (contributing).

Other houses in the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District reflect the neighborhood's origins as a development project in the late 1890s and early twentieth-century. While a select group of houses were individually designed by architects, many other houses reflect the prominence of local developers and contractors. Since both Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway were known to have been part of development projects, many of these housing styles were probably selected by the development company from the builder's or contractor's stock catalog of plans and were constructed in the neighborhood before residents would move in. An obvious group of these houses is the set of three matching houses at 611, 615 and 617 Chilton Avenue. Owned by D.M. Thompson in 1908, these three houses were constructed in an identical Classical-variant Queen Anne design. Each was created as a two-story, cross-gable building with a brick veneered first floor and frame second story, an ample one-story front porch with pediment above the steps, prominent front gable with return which featured a small second-story sleeping porch on the front façade. Although each has been somewhat

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altered, it is clearly visible that these three houses were constructed at the same time and from the same design, suggesting they likely came from a builder's catalog of stock plans. Many of the district's American Foursquare houses are also very likely plan houses, as this style was highly popular by many builders and carpenters at the time. Another pair of these houses may be those at 636 and 640 Chilton Avenue which both feature nearly identical massing, large front gables, and projecting bays to the east side of the primary façade. The John H. Keller House at 672 Orchard Parkway also seems to be a likely candidate as a plan house since this type of Dutch Colonial with the small, centered entry door with a hooded porch roof was a ubiquitous design for many builders during the 1920s. Numerous other houses on both Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway likely came from the stock architectural plans of area builders and contractors as the style, scale and materials appear consistent with many of the plans and designs offered during the period.

Summary

The Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District is significant under Criterion C as a rare, remaining contiguous and intact collection of residential architecture dating from ca. 1899 until 1942. This intact group of buildings in generally good condition is one of the City of Niagara Falls' last remaining neighborhoods which captures the spirit and feeling of an intact early twentieth-century residential community; many other neighborhoods have faced demolition and a significant loss to the integrity and continuity of the residential landscape. The Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway historic District represents an excellent collection of early twentieth-century residential designs ranging from late Queen Anne, Tudor Revival, and Colonial Revival among others, and developed as one of the downtown's last residential neighborhoods at the close of the nineteenth-century. Originally land used as a working farm by the prominent Whitney and Trott families who have deep ties to the region dating to its earliest pioneer era, Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway developed as an upper-middle class neighborhood suburban-style residential enclave with close proximity to offices and businesses nearby.

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- Sanborn Maps for Niagara Falls: 1892, 1897, 1914, 1914 updated to 1927, 1914 updated to 1950, 1914 updated to 1954, 1914 updated to 1955
- City Atlases including: 1854, 1854, 1857, 1875, 1908
- The files of the Local History Room at the Niagara Falls Public Library
- Ancestry.com files for "Parkhurst Whitney," "James F. Trott" and others
- Census records for 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930
- Niagara Falls City Directories

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District are drawn to coincide with the legal lot lines of all residential properties along Chilton Avenue and Orchard Parkway between Whirlpool Street and Main Street as shown on the attached boundary maps.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District were established using the historic extents of the Whitney-Trott farm tract as identified in historic maps (see attached). Due to the deterioration of portions of this historic farm tract, properties located further east in the tract were identified as being not eligible for inclusion at this time. The boundaries were drawn to coincide with the rear (north) property lines of the houses along Orchard Parkway, and the rear (south) property lines of the parcels along Chilton Avenue, which also appear to correlate to the historic property boundaries of the Whitney-Trott farm tract. The district's western boundary is at Whirlpool Street, and its eastern boundary is formed by the vacant lots along the west side of Main Street. The boundaries of the historic district were recommended following an Intensive Level Historic Resource Survey completed in 2005, and encompass all extant contiguous residential buildings along these two streets.

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Additional Information

UTM Coordinates-

Zone 18

E: 170143 N: 4780046 E: 170135 N: 4779949 E: 170080 N: 4779858 E: 169763 N: 4779874 E: 169867 N: 4780060

Photos-

Photographed by Jennifer Walkowski, 2010

On file Peebles Island Research Center, Waterford, NY

Photo 1: Orchard Parkway, looking north-west

Photo 2: Orchard Parkway, looking north-east

Photo 3: Orchard Parkway, looking south-east

Photo 4: The Hall House, 655 Orchard Parkway

Photo 5: John H. Keller House, 672 Orchard Parkway

Photo 6: Alexis W. Bearce House, 682 Orchard Parkway

Photo 7: Elmer A. Bowen House, 683 Orchard Parkway

Photo 8: Chilton Avenue, looking south-east

Photo 9: Chilton Avenue, looking north-east

Photo 10: 666 Chilton Avenue

Photo 11: 677 Chilton Avenue

Photo 12: 685 Chilton Avenue

Photo 13: Walter Greig House, 705 Chilton Avenue

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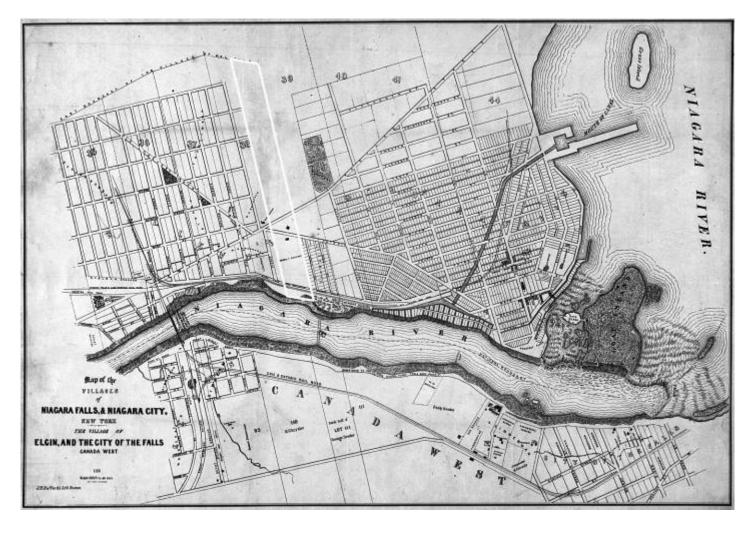
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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
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Maps:

Map 1: Map of the Villages of Niagara Falls & Niagara City, NY and the Village of Elgin and the City of the Falls, Canada (1854) - Highlighted to show extents of Whitney property to Milestrip line.



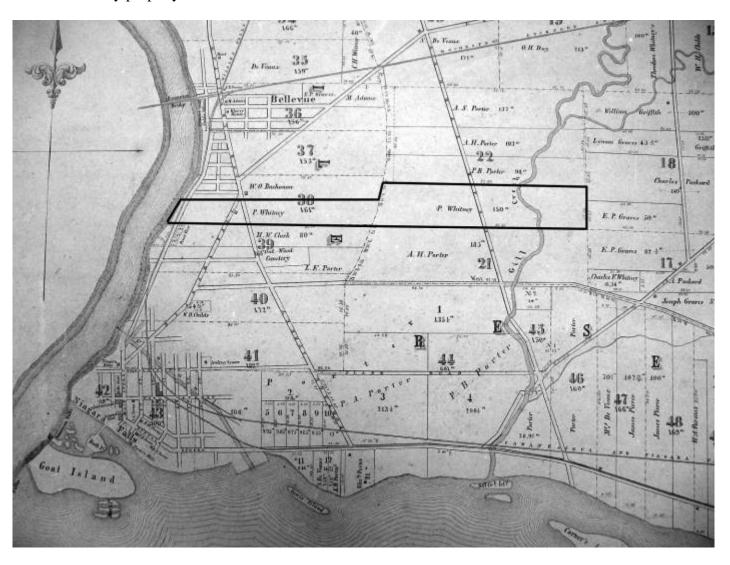
NPS Form 10-900a (8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018

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Map 2: Map of the Town of Niagara by Tobias Witmer, Surveyor (1854) - Highlighted to show full extents of Whitney property.

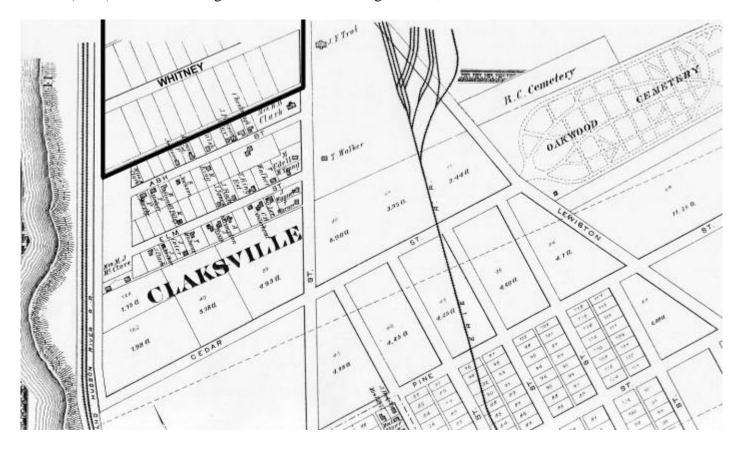


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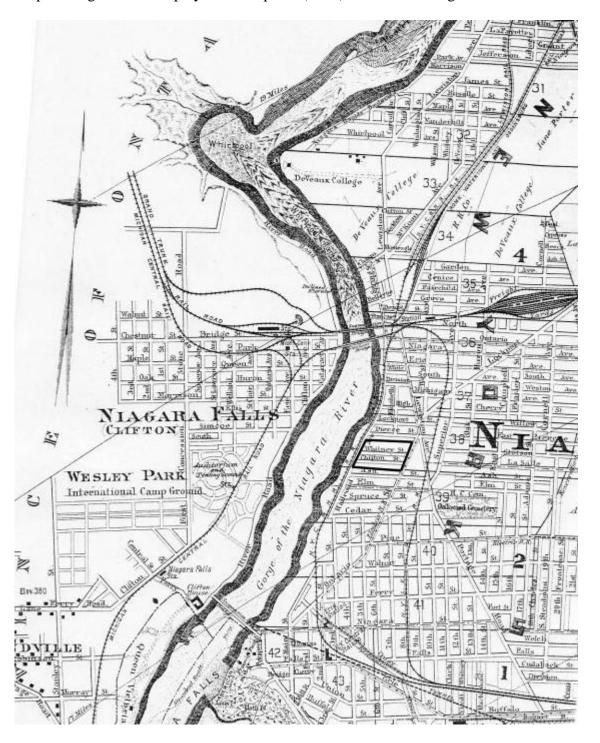
Map 3: Niagara Falls and Clarksville, from Niagara and Orleans County 1875 Atlas by D.G. Beers & Co. (1875) - Detail showing northern extents of Niagara Falls, NY and Clarksville.



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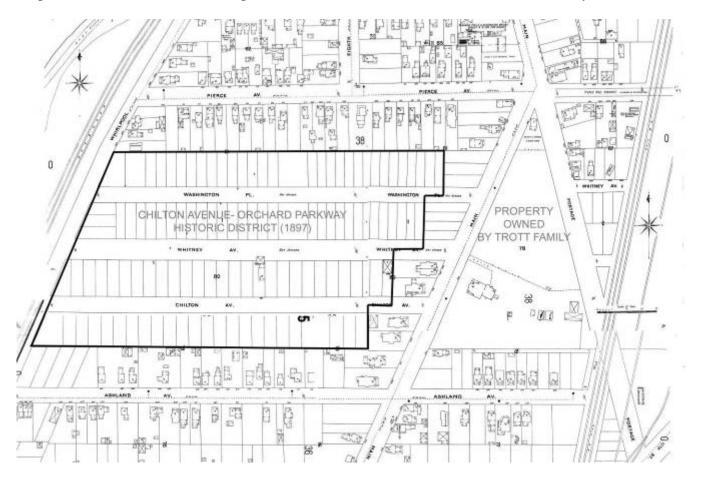
Map 4: Niagara Falls map by G.M. Hopkins (1893) - Detail showing Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway area.



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Map 5: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1897) - Detail of Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway area.

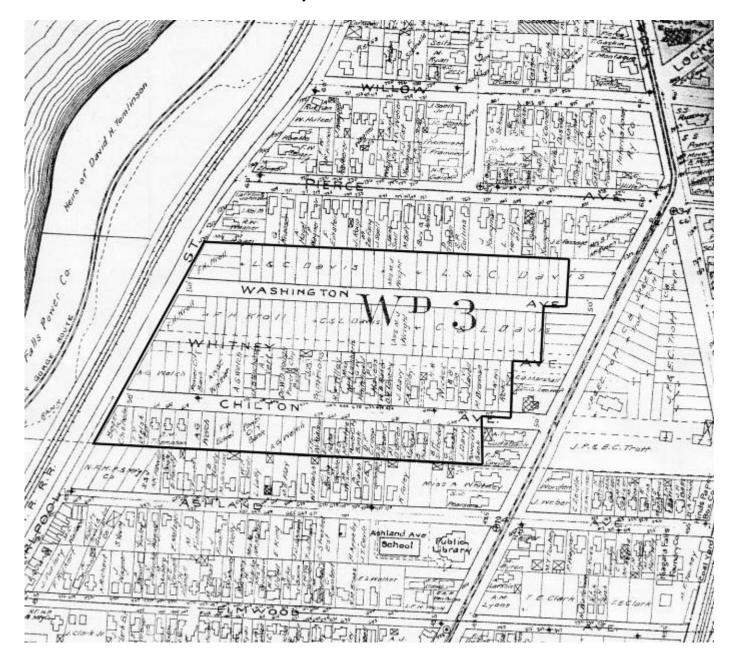


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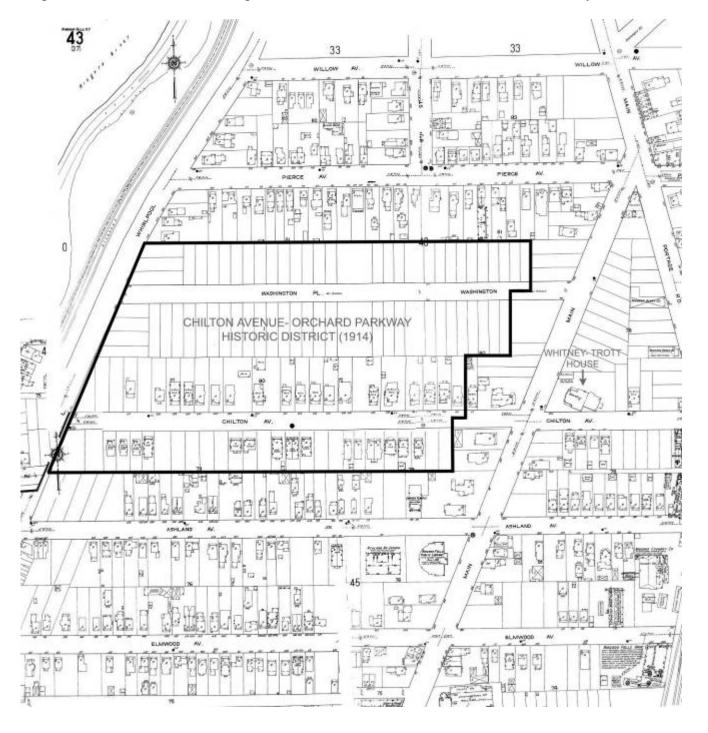
Map 6: Niagara Falls map from Niagara County atlas by Century Map Co. (1908) - Detail showing ownership of Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway area.



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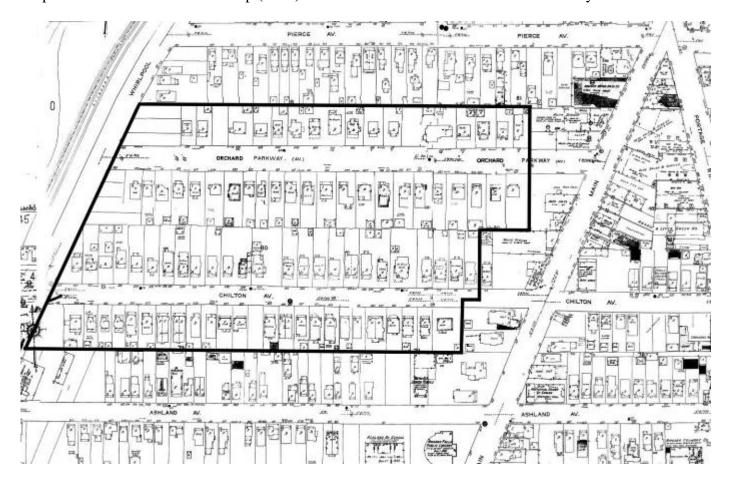
Map 7: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1913) - Detail of Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway area.



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Map 8: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1950) - Detail of Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway area.



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Map 9: Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District Aerial Map (2008)

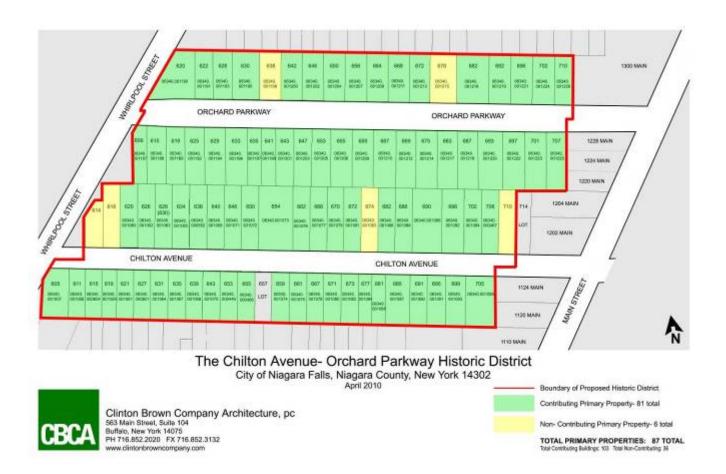


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Map 10: Chilton Avenue-Orchard Parkway Historic District Boundary Map



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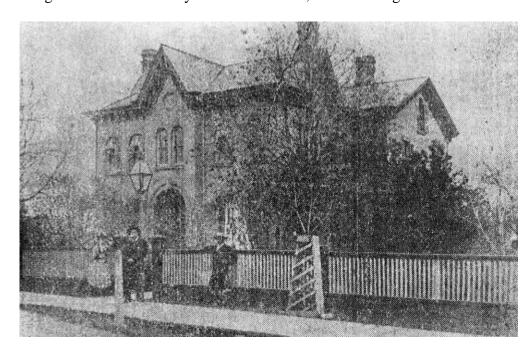
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Historic Photos:

Image 1: General Parkhurst Whitney



Image 2: The Old Whitney-Trott Homestead, undated image



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Image 3: James Fullerton Trott



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Annotated Property List:

Contributing Properties- Chilton Avenue:

- 605 Chilton Avenue
- 611 Chilton Avenue
- 615 Chilton Avenue
- 619 Chilton Avenue
- 620 Chilton Avenue
- 621 Chilton Avenue
- 626 Chilton Avenue
- 627 Chilton Avenue
- 628 Chilton Avenue
- 631 Chilton Avenue
- 634 Chilton Avenue
- 635 Chilton Avenue
- 636 Chilton Avenue
- 639 Chilton Avenue
- 640 Chilton Avenue
- 643 Chilton Avenue
- 646 Chilton Avenue
- 650 Chilton Avenue
- 653 Chilton Avenue
- 654 Chilton Avenue
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- 673 Chilton Avenue
- 677 Chilton Avenue
- 681 Chilton Avenue
- 682 Chilton Avenue
- 685 Chilton Avenue
- 686 Chilton Avenue
- 690 Chilton Avenue
- 691 Chilton Avenue

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695 Chilton Avenue

696 Chilton Avenue

699 Chilton Avenue

702 Chilton Avenue

705 Chilton Avenue

706 Chilton Avenue

Contributing Properties- Orchard Parkway:

609 Orchard Parkway

615 Orchard Parkway

619 Orchard Parkway

620 Orchard Parkway

622 Orchard Parkway

625 Orchard Parkway

626 Orchard Parkway

629 Orchard Parkway

630 Orchard Parkway

633 Orchard Parkway

635 Orchard Parkway

641 Orchard Parkway

642 Orchard Parkway

643 Orchard Parkway

646 Orchard Parkway

647 Orchard Parkway

650 Orchard Parkway

030 Ofchard I arkway

653 Orchard Parkway 655 Orchard Parkway

656 Orchard Parkway

659 Orchard Parkway

037 Ofchard Farkway

664 Orchard Parkway

667 Orchard Parkway

668 Orchard Parkway

669-671 Orchard Parkway

672 Orchard Parkway

675-677 Orchard Parkway

682 Orchard Parkway

683 Orchard Parkway

687 Orchard Parkway

692 Orchard Parkway

693 Orchard Parkway

696 Orchard Parkway

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THE CHILTON AVENUE-ORCHARD
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675-697 Orchard Parkway

701 Orchard Parkway

702 Orchard Parkway

707 Orchard Parkway

710 Orchard Parkway

Non-contributing properties:

614 Chilton Avenue

616 Chilton Avenue

674 Chilton Avenue

710 Chilton Avenue

638 Orchard Parkway

678 Orchard Parkway