

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name George Stickney House (Additional Documentation)

other names/site number _____

Name of Multiple Property Listing _____

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

2. Location

street & number 1904 Cherry Valley Road not for publication

city or town Bull Valley vicinity

state Illinois county McHenry zip code 60098

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: ___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date _____

Illinois Department of Natural Resources - SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:): _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action _____

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5. Classification

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.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

GOVERNMENT/government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

foundation: Stone

walls: Brick; Limestone

roof: _____

other: Wood

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Additional documentation is being provided to update the "Summary Paragraph" and "Narrative Description" to meet the current standards for the National Register of Historic Places, provide a detailed physical description of the resource, and document the physical changes that have occurred over the last 45 years, since the original National Register nomination in 1979.

Summary Paragraph

The George Stickney House is located in the rural community of Bull Valley in Nunda Township, McHenry County, Illinois, at 1904 Cherry Valley Road. The residence is situated at the center of the former 260-acre George Stickney Homestead. The homestead was historically bounded by Mason Hill Road to the north, the township line between Nunda and Dorr townships to the west, Crystal Springs Road to the south, and the center line of Section 7 in Nunda Township to the east. Cherry Valley Road historically bifurcated the homestead. Since the majority of acreage associated with the Stickney Homestead has been subdivided and sold to private owners beginning in the mid-twentieth century, the nomination includes only the approximately 0.92-acre parcel at the center of the historic homestead, which encompasses the George Stickney Residence and its immediate surroundings. Construction of the building began in 1848, as the third residence for Stickney, and was completed by 1856. Thus, the period of significance is 1848 to 1856, reflecting the construction date of the resource. Due to its consistent use as a residence for approximately 125 years, and the careful adaptive reuse of the structure by the Village of Bull Valley as Village Hall in 1985, many of the residence's significant architectural details and character-defining features from the period of significance remain intact. The George Stickney Residence retains a high degree of integrity and remains worthy of listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Narrative Description

The George Stickney House is located at 1904 Cherry Valley Road in Bull Valley, Nunda Township, Illinois. The farm is situated on level land at the crest of a gently rolling hill, elevating the residence above the adjacent native landscape and agricultural lands. To the south of the residence is a dense grove of trees that extends north along the western edge of the site, creating a windbreak along Cherry Valley Road. To the east of the residence is a restored prairie and active croplands. North of the residence is a non-historic gravel parking lot utilized by the Village of Bull Valley, further described below.

Immediately surrounding the residence, at the west and south elevations, are non-historic native prairie plantings. There are limited historic (pre-mid-twentieth century) photographs of the residence. For the exterior, there is only one known undated photograph, which appears to be from the 1800s, and a photograph from 1947. Based on available illustrations, the site had minimal plantings. A semicircular drive may have been located at the front (west) elevation, which provided access to the residence from Cherry Valley Road, as depicted in the 1872 McHenry County Atlas. The site was enclosed by a fence or hedgerow with iron gates, as illustrated in the 1860 and 1872 McHenry County atlases, respectively. Small shrubs are depicted in the front lawn in both atlases. The lack of formal plantings is also visible in the 1939, 1961, 1967, and 1974 aerial photographs of the site.

The property is accessed from Cherry Valley Road via a gravel driveway that enters the site at the northwest corner of the parcel. Historically, this drive was part of a semicircular farm drive that provided access to the agricultural buildings on the homestead. The agricultural buildings were located to the north of the residence, and included the extant historic Rainbow Arch dairy barn, silo, milkhouse, and several machine sheds. Exact dates of construction are not known for the agricultural buildings; however, based on the construction methods, materials,

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and building forms, these buildings were constructed in the twentieth century, and are not associated with the Period nor Areas of Significance pertinent to the George Stickney House. At the southeast corner of the farm drive is the aforementioned gravel parking lot. Based on a 1939 aerial photograph, a gravel drive branched from the farm drive on a northwest-southeast axis to provide vehicular access to the rear of the residence where a small parking area was created. By 1961, the residential drive was shifted to head immediately south from the southeast corner of the farm drive, and the vehicular area at the residence was moved from the rear to the northeast corner of the site. As the parking lot is minimally invasive, and the remainder of the residence's site and setting remains intact, the parking lot has not impacted the integrity of the residence.

The Stickney House is a significant example of the Late Victorian Italianate style, showcasing Stickney's artistic creativity and embodying his belief in Spiritualism. The architectural significance of the residence is further explored in Section 8 of the nomination. In form, the residence represents the Cubic typology popularized in the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The Cubic form is identifiable by its square footprint, typically two stories in height, a central hall and entrance, a covered front porch, and a strict application of symmetry – all of which are present on the Stickney House.

The residence sits on a partially above grade stone foundation. At the exterior, the foundation is clad in neat courses of cobblestones. While there are no sources to confirm the builder/contractor, this distinctive detail was utilized by local and prolific mason Andrew Jackson Simons, who constructed several cobblestone-clad buildings and brick buildings, with the cobblestone detail at the foundation. Extant examples of the latter can also be found at the Colonel Palmer House and Daniel Ellsworth House, both in nearby Crystal Lake and constructed by Simons. The corners of the foundation are rounded, which serve as the base for the rounded corners at each elevation. Above the foundation, the residence is two stories in height and clad in cream brick. It is crowned by a flat roof, obscured by an imposing brick parapet wall. The parapet is accentuated by a towering corbel table, which terminates at a recessed brick course, creating a distinct dentillated pattern. Historically, the roof line also featured four symmetrically placed brick chimneys. Based on available historic documentation, the chimneys appear to have been removed prior to 1947.

Each elevation is articulated into three bays due to the design of the fenestration openings. At the front (west) elevation, the outer bays are flanked by brick pilasters crowned with modest limestone Doric capitals. Identical pilasters are also located at the outer edges of the north and south elevations. Within each bay, at both the first and second floors of the west, north, and south elevations, is a window or door. Entrances are located at the first floor of the center bay at each of these elevations, as well as the second floor, center bay of the front (west) elevation. Each entrance is set within a round arch opening, crowned by an arched limestone window hood accentuated by a bas-relief keystone, except for the main entrance at the front (west) elevation, which is further described below. An arched transom window, with Gothic-style tracery, is located within the tympanum of each arched opening. Only the north entrance is missing its transom, and the tympanum has been infilled with brick. At the north and south entrances, the doors have also been replaced with non-historic metal flush doors. At the front (west) entrances, both retain a wood paneled door, though only the second floor door is historic. The first floor entrance (main entrance) is concave, set within a round arch opening, and the door, sidelights, and transoms are curved to meet the shape of the opening. The entrance is accentuated by compounded wood mouldings which enframe the door and inner transom and then the outer transom and sidelights. Access to the entrance is provided by a non-historic stair, clad in slate tile with a simple, metal railing. The location of the entrance is further defined by the two-story wood porch located at the center bay of the front (west) elevation. The porch is non-historic and was constructed following the purchase of the residence by the Village of Bull Valley to replace the original porch, which was partially removed prior to 1947 (second floor). The existing porch is a simplified version of the original and features prominent cylindrical classical columns that support a flat roof with curved corners.

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A single window is located in all other bays at the first and second floors of the west, north, and south elevations, with one exception. At the first floor of the center bay of the south elevation, the aforementioned entrance and a window comprise the width of the center bay. Originally, there was a one-story porch at this elevation, and the additional entrance was provided for access to the dining room. This is the only anomaly in the symmetry of the fenestration openings on the residence. All windows are set within round arched openings and crowned with limestone window hoods, identical to those found at the entrances. Windows are wood double-hung windows of which the lower sash is comprised of six lights, and the upper sash is arched with eleven lights – six standard square lights and five lights set within the arched section with mullions reminiscent of Gothic tracery.

The rear (east) elevation does not feature any architectural ornamentation, as it was heavily deteriorated and rebuilt in the latter quarter of the twentieth century. This elevation is clad in a brick veneer in a cream-colored blend. At the center bay on the first floor is a non-historic metal door. A metal French door is located immediately above this entrance at the second floor. A single eight-over-eight vinyl double-hung window is located at the outer bays on each floor. A concrete ramp has been installed along this elevation to provide an accessible path and entrance into the building from the gravel parking lot.

Once inside the residence, the floor plan is organized around the first floor central entry hall and wood staircase. Upon passing through the main entrance at the front (west) elevation, one enters the entry hall. Flanking the entry hall to the north and south are two parlors. At the east elevation of the entry hall is a pair of two passageways. Both passageways are set within a round arched opening framed by wood archivolt. Set within each opening is a historic wood-paneled door and a wood transom with Gothic tracery. The north passage provides access to the staircase to the second floor, while the south provides access to the dining room. The dining room comprises the center third of the south half of the first floor plan. Located in the final third of the south half of the plan, to the east of the dining room, is a contemporary kitchen for village staff and a restroom. In the center and eastern thirds of the north half of the plan is the existing space for the Village of Bull Valley Police Department and the stair to the basement. The historic uses of contemporary spaces are unknown.

On the second floor, the staircase terminates at a landing located at the center of the plan. A hall runs the full length of the north half of the residence parallel to the staircase. The hall provides direct access into the bedroom and closet located in the northeast corner of the plan. At the south end of the hall is a large space (historic use unknown) which comprises the center third of the south half of the plan. From this space, access to a smaller bedroom with a closet and a bathroom is provided. These smaller spaces encompass the eastern third of the south half of the plan. As the residence was subdivided into multiple apartments during the mid-twentieth century, the use and layout of these spaces may not be original, but there is currently no available documentation to confirm. The entire western third of the second floor plan is dedicated to the original ballroom and assembly space which is documented in the histories of the building. A partition wall has been added to subdivide the space as part of the residence's conversion to multiple apartments.

Finishes within the residence are modest and consistent throughout the spaces. The walls and ceilings are plastered, and the floor is a historic wood floor. A historic wide beveled wood baseboard is located throughout the intact historic spaces. There are no other wall treatments, except for a historic wood chair rail in the dining room. Window openings are framed with a wood archivolt, and a carved wood panel is set between the base of the wall and sill. Historic wood paneled doors are located throughout the residence and are set within a standard rectilinear opening framed with a wide compounded wood moulding, unless otherwise previously noted. Other original features include a wall shelf in the northeast bedroom and a wood built-in which also served as a pass-through between the dining room and the space now utilized as the staff kitchen.

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INTEGRITY

The George Stickney House retains its historic location, setting, exterior design, materials, and workmanship. It retains a significant amount of historic material throughout the exterior and interior despite the conversion of the residence from a single-family dwelling to apartments, and then to a village hall. Each owner and occupant have preserved the original design and character-defining features of the residence.

Since the original nomination, alterations to the residence have been limited. At the exterior, only two major alterations have been made since the original nomination, which includes the reconstruction of the porch at the front (west) elevation and the addition of the concrete ramp at the rear (east) elevation. On the interior, minor alterations include the adaptive reuse of historic spaces on the first floor as a staff kitchen and the police department, and the reconfiguration of the smaller bedrooms and bathroom on the second floor. However, these spaces had been previously altered as part of the apartment conversion at the time of the original National Register nomination, and no additional historic material or features have been removed. The Village of Bull Valley (current owner), in partnership with the Stickney House Foundation, has ensured that the residence retains a high degree of integrity through the preservation of materials and primary character-defining features, which contribute to the significance of the residence.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1848-1856

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

Additional documentation is being provided for Section 8 to establish a Period of Significance, 1848-1856, which reflects the original construction period; provide an introductory contextual history on the founding of McHenry County and Nunda Township as established by the first non-indigenous settler to the township, George Stickney; and provide a detailed narrative on the design and architecture of the residence, missing in the original nomination. Biographical data and historic context are only provided to address Criterion C as it relates to George Stickney's migration to the Midwest and his personal interests in art and religion, which influenced the design of the residence.

The George Stickney House is significant statewide under Criterion C for Architecture as an original and unprecedented embodiment of the Italianate style applied to the Cubic form, with specific details derived from the eclecticism that characterized architecture and the reform movements in the middle of the nineteenth century. The residence stands as a singular example, within the state, as a unique and very personal expression of one man's artistic ideals and religious beliefs.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

FOUNDING OF MCHENRY COUNTY

European and American settlement of the area that would become McHenry County began shortly after the end of the Black Hawk War of 1832, prompting the creation of the County in 1836 from portions of Cook and LaSalle counties. Early pioneers consisted predominantly of New Englanders, New Yorkers, and West Virginians who followed the established Native American trails from Chicago in search of the rolling, fertile prairies and large oak groves of present-day northeastern Illinois to establish new homesteads. James Gillilan is regarded as the first white settler in McHenry County. Gillilan arrived from West Virginia in November 1834 and settled near the present site of the Village of Algonquin with his wife and family. Shortly after Gillilan's arrival, two primary settlement centers for McHenry County were founded in 1835. The first was known as the "Virginia Settlement" and was located in the eastern section of Dorr Township. Early settlers of the Virginia Settlement included James Dufield, Christopher Walkup, John Walkup, Josiah Walkup, William Hartman, John Gibson, John McClure, and Samuel Gillilan. The settlement was aptly named to reflect many early settlers' homeland. The second settlement was known as "Pleasant Grove," which is the present area of Marengo. The first settlers to Pleasant Grove included Oliver Chatfield, Calvin Spencer, A. B. Coon, Porter Chatfield, Russel Diggins, Richard Simpkins, and Moody B. Bailey. Settlement in the northern part of the County began in the following year of 1836 with the arrival of Josiah H. Giddings to the present-day area of Hebron.

The county saw a significant increase in population during its first five years with an estimated population of approximately 200 people in 1837 to over 2,500 by the 1840 census. The newly formed county originally encompassed the area bounded by Wisconsin on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, and present-day Boone and Kane Counties on the west and south, respectively. The settlement of McHenry (now the City of McHenry) was established as the county seat due to being at the county's geographic center and at a fordable location on the Fox River. The eastern half of the county was eventually carved away to establish present-day Lake County in 1839. Following the redrawing of the county boundaries, a more central location for the county seat was demanded by its constituents, and in 1844, the county seat was relocated to Woodstock (formerly known as Centerville).

The county's early, economically successful settlement centers, such as Crystal Lake, Marengo, and Richmond, were typically established along the former Native American trails that radiated northwest from Chicago. Settlements outside of these trails would be isolated from the economic centers and markets of northeastern Illinois until the arrival of the railroad through McHenry County. The first railroad to arrive in the county was the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad (later known as the Galena Division of the Chicago & North Western Railway) in 1851. The line was constructed to connect its two namesake towns and ran on a northwest-southeast axis through McHenry County with stations in Huntley, Union, and Marengo before it turned west toward neighboring Boone County.

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In 1855, the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac Railroad (later known as the Wisconsin Division of the Chicago & North Western Railway) was completed to Woodstock. This line traversed diagonally across the county, entering just southeast of Cary (historically known as Carey Station) and exiting at the northwestern corner of Chemung Township, with stops at Cary, Ridgefield, Woodstock, Kishwaukee (present-day Hartland), Harvard, and Lawrence.

Simultaneously, the Fox River Valley Railroad (later known as the Elgin & State Line Railroad, a branch of the Chicago & North Western Railway) was under construction in the eastern portion of the county. The line ran north to south through McHenry County with stations in Algonquin, Nunda Station (near the community of Terra Cotta), West McHenry, and Richmond. Within five years, a fourth rail line was constructed near the northern boundary of the county, known as the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad (later also part of the Chicago & North Western Railway). Opened in 1861, the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad entered McHenry County just west of Chemung and then ran northeast with stations in Hebron (formerly Mead's Station), Alden, Harvard, and Chemung before exiting the County northwest of Richmond.

The communities built in partnership with each rail line, such as Harvard, Crystal Lake/Nunda, and Cary, economically prospered as farmers located on the peripheries of these towns could now ship their fresh produce and finished products (e.g., cheese, milk, and butter) to markets in Chicago. Quickly, the primary industries of the county became agriculture, dairying, and livestock, and new industrial complexes developed along the railroad to support a thriving agrarian society, including creameries, pickle factories, lumber yards, and feed mills. With the construction of the county's extensive rail network, the advent of cold storage rail cars, and the mechanization of farming, McHenry County's early railroad communities and the neighboring farmlands became flourishing centers of settlement and society, supporting the prosperity of the county.

NUNDA TOWNSHIP

As McHenry County's population grew during the mid-nineteenth century, the township system of government was formally adopted in 1850 to manage the developing rural landscape of the county.

Originally named Brooklyn, Nunda Township earned its name following a suggestion of Colonel William Huffman for his native town in New York after the settlers of Nunda learned there was already a town and post office by the name of Brooklyn in southern Illinois. Settlers were attracted to the native landscape of the township, which made it ideal for farming. The township is characterized by rolling hills, deep valleys and ravines, dense stands of timber, and several significant bodies of water, including the Fox River along its eastern edge, Griswold Lake, Lake Defiance, and Lily Lake, in addition to Hanly's Creek and Stickney's Run.

The first settler in present-day Nunda township was George Stickney, who arrived from New York in December 1835. Following Stickney was Benjamin McOmber (also spelled Macomber or McUmber) of New York, and then Samuel Terwilliger, also of New York, who arrived in June 1836. Between 1837 and 1840, several other well-known families arrived in Nunda Township, including those of Cameron Goff, George T. Beckley, Abram Vincent, Dewitt Brady, Joseph Walkup, Charles Patterson, William Huffman, William St. Clair, Fred Bryant, J. Gracy, G. A. Palmer, John Fitzsimmons, J. E. Beckley, A. Colby, D. Ellsworth, A. and W. Musgrove. Community developments to support the burgeoning population were swiftly constructed across Nunda Township, including the first schoolhouse in 1838, a sawmill in 1845 by James and Samuel McMillen, a carding mill built in 1846 by G.W. Truesdell in the northern part of the township, and the first grist mill was built at Barreville by T.J. Ferguson in 1856.

By the mid-1850s, Nunda Township had two railroads serving the area. The first was the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac Railroad (later known as the Wisconsin Division of the Chicago & North Western Railway), which opened in 1855 through the southwestern corner of the township. The second and more prominent railroad in the township's history is the Fox River Valley Railroad. Opened in 1855, this line runs north to south through Nunda, bifurcating the township. The Fox River Valley Railroad intersected with Nunda Station, near where Edgewood Road crosses the Fox River Valley Railroad line (demolished), to serve the central interior of the township. The station actually predates the railroad by about five years and was established as the first post office in the township until it was moved to the Village of Nunda

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(incorporated into Crystal Lake) in 1855. While the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac Railroad supported the economic success of the Village of Nunda, the Fox River Valley Railroad spurred the development of the community of Terra Cotta and the establishment of the American Terra Cotta Company.

While new enterprises flourished in Nunda, dairy remained the township's predominant industry in the nineteenth century. To strengthen the thriving dairy industry, the Crystal Spring Butter and Cheese Factory was constructed by the farmers of Nunda township in 1874 with J.S. Watrous as manager. In the fall of 1876, Watrous made the butter, awarded the gold medal at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition by the National Butter and Egg Association. The factory ruins are still visible at Crystal Spring, near the intersection of Cherry Valley and Crystal Springs Road. Two years later, in 1876, the farmers surrounding Griswold Lake sought to erect a butter and cheese factory but were unsuccessful in funding the project. Instead, the factory was completed by W. H. Mudgett, O. M. Hall, and L. A. Parker (demolished). These countryside manufacturing centers led to the formation of several rural communities that have been lost over time as industries close and suburban development expands further into the rural landscape.

GEORGE STICKNEY (1809 – 1897)

George Stickney was born in Jaffrey, Cheshire County New Hampshire on June 26, 1809. In the fall of 1817, at the age of 8, he moved with his parents to a farm in Lisle, Broome County, New York, where he resided until the age of 19. He worked on a nearby farm for one season while he finished his schooling the following winter, and then moved to Binghamton, New York the next spring to work in the lumber business. He worked in the lumber business until 1835, at which time he decided to head west along the Erie Canal, before boarding a schooner at the mouth of the St. Joseph River for Chicago.

Stickney arrived in Chicago on June 25, 1835. From Chicago, he headed west to the present-day city of Elgin on the Fox River. Here, he claimed 20 acres and built a log cabin. He remained in Elgin only a short time and decided to head further north along the Fox River in December 1835 – finally settling in present-day Nunda Township in McHenry County on December 10, 1835.

In 1836, he broke 10 acres in Section 7, with the help Samuel Terwilliger, and constructed the first house, a log cabin, in the township, and established Nunda as his permanent home. When the township was first organized, Stickney served as the first Supervisor. He also served as the Road Commissioner for three years and as a School Director for sixteen years, even helping build the first log schoolhouse for the township in 1838.

On October 27, 1839, he married Sylvia Marilla Beckley (1819-1879), which was the first recorded marriage in the township. Together, they had ten children, though only three survived until adulthood. Oral history states that the loss of their children moved the Stickneys to the Modern Spiritualism movement after its founding in 1848. By this time, George was also established as a prosperous farmer, fruit grower, and merchant, and he and Sylvia began the construction of the extant residence and family estate at 1904 Cherry Valley Road in circa 1848-1849. The family resided in the residence until circa 1870, when George and Sylvia moved to the extant residence at 3608 Walkup Road.^{i ii}

During the Stickney family's occupancy of the Cherry Valley Road residence, the home also served as a center of community in rural Nunda Township. On the second floor of the residence is the ballroom. Commonly referred to as

ⁱ Several written contemporary histories falsely state that George Stickney died in the house and that his wake was held in one of the front parlors in the home on Cherry Valley Road. It is well documented in newspaper articles and the McHenry County Land Records that the Stickneys sold the house to James and Kate Watrous, who received the Warranty Deed in 1876, but was living in the home by the time of the 1872 McHenry County Atlas Map. The Watrous' then sold the property to James R. Jackman whose family owned the property into the mid-twentieth century as documented in land records and on the historic atlas maps.

ⁱⁱ Based on a historic photograph, the Walkup Road residence appears to have been of the Upright and Wing typology with architectural detailing derived from the Greek Revival style, popular prior to the onset of the Civil War. The residence also appears on the 1862 McHenry County Atlas Map and believed to have been extant when the Stickneys moved to the property.

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“Stickney’s Hall” in local newspapers, the family hosted community events and dances for Valentine's Day, the 4th of July, and Christmas.

In the 1862 McHenry County Atlas Map, a sketch of the Stickney House is depicted. At the cornice, the illustration labels the home as “Universal Liberty Hall.” The philosophy of “universal liberty” is commonly associated with Spiritualism, specifically the Harmonial Philosophy teachings of Andrew Jackson Davis. In May 1851, Davis presented a constitution for the Harmonial Brotherhood to a group of followers in Hartford. Davis chose the motto “Universal Liberty, Fraternity, and Unity.” However, this is the only mention in a primary source of the Stickney House as “Universal Liberty Hall,” and no announcements for Spiritualist events held there have been found. All references to the house serving as a center of Spiritualism, and even that Sylvia Stickney was a Spiritualist medium, are found in oral history interviews in newspapers nearly a century later. Other newspaper articles and Spiritualist publications note that meetings were typically held in existing Baptist or Universalist church buildings. George Stickney’s own funeral services were held in his home and at the Methodist Church in Nunda.

Following Sylvia’s death in 1879, Stickney married Lavina Congdon (1812-1905) on September 30, 1881. George resided at the Walkup Road residence until his death, and Lavinia lived there until approximately six months before her passing, when she moved to Wilmette to live with Jeanette Stickney Drury, a daughter of George and Sylvia. The George Stickney House passed out of the family’s ownership in 1876, when a Warranty Deed was granted to James and Kate Watrous in 1876. The Watrous family had already been living in the residence since circa 1870.

DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE GEORGE STICKNEY HOUSE

The George Stickney House is sited at the crest of a gently rolling hill along Cherry Valley Road, precisely centered between the intersections of Mason Hill Road and Crystal Springs Road – both early major overland routes in McHenry County. When first constructed, it was the only residential structure located on Cherry Valley Road and only one of two high style residences in the vicinity. The other being the extant Greek Revival style Samuel Terwilliger House located at the intersection of Mason Hill and Cherry Valley roads and constructed in 1849. The George Stickney House remains as a singular and unique example of the Italianate style adapted to embody the artistic creativity and religious beliefs of its first occupants George and Sylvia Stickney.

The design of the residence follows the modest Cubic form, common during the mid-nineteenth century, and specifically popular within the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The Cubic form is identifiable by its square footprint, typically two stories in height, a central hall and entrance, a covered front porch, and the application of symmetry – all of which are present on the Stickney House.

The residence then exhibits characteristic features of the Italianate style (1840-1885), a popular nineteenth-century style, derived from the architecture of medieval pastoral Italian villas. The style originated in England at the start of the Picturesque and Romantic movements and was popularized by the writings of landscape designer Andrew Jackson Downing. Together, these movements rejected the formal classical ideals of art and architecture that predominated in the end of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and instead emphasized greater artistic freedom through more organic, complicated forms, which complemented the natural surroundings.

Signature traits of the Italianate style include wide overhanging bracketed eaves, an emphasis on vertical proportions, tall, curved, or arched topped windows and doors with hooded molds, decorative brackets or brick work at cornices, stone trim with carved ornament, paired or single doors with large pane glazing in the door itself, and both entry porticos and full width porches. The Stickney House possesses several of the style's trademark characteristics, including a focus on verticality, tall, arched-topped windows crowned with carved stone window hoods, an imposing brick corbel table at the cornice, and a two-story front entry porch, as well as full-width porches at the side elevations.

From here, the George Stickney House deviates from the hallmarks of the Italianate style. While a practical farmer, merchant, and local leader, George Stickney was an artist. An avid poet and, in a poem, wrote for his own obituary, he

George Stickney House

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referred to himself as an artist, stating, "In meandering through life, both in finance and art, I have made a success, and well played my part." In the 1885 *History of McHenry County*, Stickney also wrote his biography in a 33-stanza poem, entitled "An Old Pioneer's Biographical Romance."

The Stickney House evokes its owner's creativity and artistic ideals through the rare application of rounded corners and edges at the exterior and interior walls of the residence. Beginning in the 1840s, there was an increase in experimental house forms, following the construction of phrenologist Orson Squire Fowler's octagon house (colloquially known as Fowler's Folly, Fishkill, NY), constructed between 1848 and 1853. The study of phrenology focused on diagnosing an individual's strengths and weaknesses to help people know themselves better, gain deeper insight into their personalities, and improve self-awareness. Phrenology melded into the period's culture of reform, focused on changing economic and social conditions, and fit alongside other movements, including temperance and hydropathy. At the heart of each movement was an attempt to create a better life for the common man and society as a whole.

Fowler's work extended further to encompass the home. By the mid-1840s, his beliefs included the idea that owning a good home was a key component to personal development and supported two key needs: "constructiveness" and "inhabitiveness." Under phrenology, Fowler pushed home ownership as an accepted measure of self-improvement that could now be readily achieved. To help individuals realize self-improvement through the home, Fowler published *The Octagon House: A Home for All* in 1848. As Fowler continued to expand on his idea, he reissued the publication every year between 1848 and 1857, and then intermittently for the next 30 years. The octagon house was touted as an affordable solution, that enclosed more square footage per length of exterior wall, bringing homeownership and, subsequently, self-improvement to everyone.

Following the construction of Fowler's octagon house was Enoch Robinson's Round House (Somerville, MA) in 1856. Both men believed that right corners wasted more space, provided fewer opportunities for natural light, and hindered heat circulation. Both residences also exhibited details of the Italianate style, including intricately carved window hoods, centered front entry porches or porticos, Juliette balconies, and bracketed cornices. The known number of octagonal and round houses reached approximately 560 across the country between the 1840s and 1920s, though the form was particularly popular during the 1850s and 1860s in the Northeast and Midwest.

In the Midwest, approximately 260 of the total known examples were found in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, with a peak construction period between 1848 and 1870. While Fowler's home in the Northeast accounts for the concentration in that region, migration westward can be attributed to several factors. First, New York and New England are commonly referred to as the "cultural hearth" of the Midwest, as many Northeastern families migrated westward to the region. This mass migration, referred to as the "Yankee Empire" or "Yankee Migration" between 1820 and 1890, brought an economic boom and a need for new housing to the Midwest, during the height of popularity for the octagon house and at a time when the region was building more housing than any other part of the country. Secondly, the consistent publication of Fowler's work, coupled with an annual lecture tour he began in the early 1850s and continued until his death in 1887 proliferated the idea of experimental house forms across the country. Fowler's work was also published in the *Phrenological Journal* between 1846 and 1857, of which nearly one-third of subscribers were located in the Midwest. Several other pattern books and agricultural journals also showcased experimental house design, broadcasting the concept beyond Fowler's followers to a broader audience of other reform-minded individuals of the period, including Abolitionists and Fourierists. Lastly, the physical migration of people and printed materials along the nation's expanding overland routes, waterways, and railroads, several of which are located within the immediate vicinity of the Stickney House, resulted in a concentration of experimental house forms in both town and country areas directly serviced by transportation corridors.

Aesthetically, the octagon house offered an alternative to Classicism and often incorporated elements of more eclectic styles, such as Italianate, Moorish, and Exotic Revival. The house form offered standard benefits to the economics of construction but was easily adapted to the needs of individual homeowners through size, exterior features, and interior layout, resulting in uniquely different residences with an underlying design foundation.

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The standardized, yet experimental form, combined with individualistic architectural ornament, is physically evident in the design of the George Stickney House. While round or octagonal houses were common during the period of significance, rounded corners applied to an orthogonal shape were unprecedented. At the exterior of the Stickney House, each elevation, from grade to the top of the parapet, has rounded corners. Furthermore, the edges of the two-story front entrance porch and the south porch are rounded. The front entrance opening is concave and features a curved door, sidelights, and transoms. On the interior, the edges of interior walls are curved, and each space features a cove ceiling. Even the built-in cabinet, which served as a pass-through to the dining room, is curved, and an attempt was made to curve the east wall of the second floor main hallway.

The George Stickney House remains as a singular and unprecedented example of an individual's artistic and religious beliefs expressed through architecture within the State of Illinois. In a 1973 article by the *Crystal Herald*, Paul Sprague, Jr. (1933-2023), Director of the Illinois Historic Structures Survey (1970-1975), identified the Stickney House as a standalone "unique design" with the state. The work began by the Illinois Historic Structures Survey was furthered by the seminal publication, *The Octagon House Inventory* in 2011, which catalogued all known (demolished and extant) experimental house forms (e.g., octagonal, hexagonal, and round) across the country at the time of publication. In Illinois, approximately 37 houses were identified, of which 18 are still extant. Only one round house was identified, formerly located on Hinman Avenue in Evanston, Illinois, and demolished in 1899, leaving the Stickney House as the only known extant round house within the state. By using a common building form and applying decorative details of the popular Italianate style, Stickney adapted the experimental house form to his personal convictions as an artist during the Picturesque and Romantic movements, as well as to his faith in the Modern Spiritualism movement, creating a significant and singular work of architecture within Illinois.

RELIGION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPIRITUALISM IN MCHENRY COUNTY

The original nomination form for the George Stickney House attributes the significant architectural design of the home solely to the Stickney family's belief in Spiritualism. George and Sylvia Stickney were well-known Spiritualists during the period of significance. Oral histories recounted in *The Herald* that "the round corners we are told were to keep the spirits from hiding in them" (August 6, 1936) or "so the spirits could go around the house easily" (March 13, 1947).

The following section supplements the original nomination with additional information on the establishment of the earliest religious institutions in McHenry County and the growth of Spiritualism. This history is provided chronologically to understand how the construction of the Stickney House coincides with the spread of Spiritualism at a national and local level.

The first church in McHenry County was established in December 1835. Known as the "Virginia Church," the non-denominational congregation was founded by Christopher Walkup, Uriah Cottle, A.W. Beardsley, and George Stickney in the present-day area of Ridgfield (formerly known as the "Virginia Settlement). The church was organized to serve the religious needs of the area, with the first organizational meeting held in the home of Cottle and the first religious service in the home of Walkup. Over the following two decades, several congregations, including Methodist, Presbyterian, and Universalist denominations were established throughout the county at centers of settlement. By the end of the 1850s, there was also a steady, yet growing population in the county practicing Spiritualism.

The origins of Modern Spiritualism date to March 31, 1848, when the Fox sisters (Maggie and Kate) claimed to be able to communicate with spirits of the deceased through rappings or knockings – with their first public demonstration on November 14, 1849. The event catalyzed the religious movement of Modern Spiritualism, founded on the core tenet that an individual's awareness or consciousness persists after the physical death and may be contacted by the living. To reach those in the afterlife or "spirit world," mediums - individuals either gifted with the abilities to communicate with the dead or self-taught through study and practice - were at the center of the movement.

Modern Spiritualism did not reach the Illinois prairie until the arrival of "rapping" medium Julia Lusk to Chicago in 1849. Her first convert was Ira B. Eddy in Chicago. Spiritualism grew slowly in Chicago until November 1852, when there were

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enough Spiritualists in the city to establish a society. Eddy rented the hall on the third floor of his building at 409 N. Clark Street (formerly 48 Clark Street, demolished), aptly named "Harmony Hall," to convene Spiritualist meetings and lectures. Early in 1856, Andrew Jackson Davis, an influential figure in the early spiritualist movement in the United States, lectured in Chicago, and across the state. Those who favored Davis' teachings and doctrines were accordingly referred to as "Harmonialists" by him.

As noted in the 1884 *History of Chicago* by Alfred Theodore Andreas, since the founding of the Harmonialists in 1856 by Davis, there was little movement in the establishment of a strong Spiritual community for several years. Lectures were delivered from time to time by Spiritualists from different parts of the country. In McHenry County, the earliest mention of an event associated with Spiritualism was found in an article in the *Woodstock Sentinel* from November 1856. The published announcement was for lectures by Andrew Jackson Davis at Metropolitan Hall in Marengo and Durfee's Hall in Woodstock. Unfortunately, the earliest available publication is the *Woodstock Sentinel* from July 1856. Archives for the newspaper's predecessors, the *Illinois Republican* (1846-1853, McHenry County's first newspaper) or the *Republic Free Press* (1854-1856) have not been located. Due to the lack of primary sources, it cannot be confirmed whether there was an earlier and substantial population of Spiritualists in McHenry County. Throughout the remainder of the 1850s and into the mid-1870s, the county hosted several lectures and exhibitions that provided evidence in support of Spiritualism, while others tried to detract from the religion by exposing fraudulent mediums.

In the 1860s, a revival of interest in Spiritualism took place across the country in response to several factors, including the immense national grief and subsequent desire for connection following the Civil War, shifting social and cultural views on death during the Victorian era, and the empowerment of women through mediumship. Known Spiritualist conventions occurred in McHenry County in October 1863 and 1867. For both conventions, announcements were published in the *Woodstock Sentinel* by George Stickney on behalf of the "Committee." No further record of the events of these conventions has been found. Simultaneously, the National Convention of Spiritualists met in Chicago in August 1864 for the first time in the United States or any other country. Annual conventions at the national state level continued throughout the nineteenth century.

In an article entitled "Spiritualism in McHenry, ILL.," published in *The Spiritual Rostrum* Vol. I No.2, July 1868, several families are mentioned by name, including George Gage, Hiram Rogers, Samuel Stocker, J. McOmber, H.N. Owens, Durland, Wilber, and Dr. O.J. Howard, as well as John W. Smith, owner of the Spiritualist publication the *Religio-Philosophical*, who lived three miles from the village of McHenry. It also notes that the article may go on "enumerating the names of many others" in the county that practice Spiritualism but noticeably absent from the list of prominent members is Stickney.

By the latter part of the nineteenth century, interest in Spiritualism declined in McHenry County. In the 1877 publication *Biographical Directory of the Tax-Payers and Voters of McHenry County*, only four Spiritualists are noted, while the 1885 "History of McHenry County..." makes no record of a local Spiritualist organization.

While the construction date of the residence coincides with the founding of Spiritualism, no primary sources have been identified to confirm this. Judge Charles P. Barnes (born February 14, 1862, just west of Holcombville) recalled the following in a March 13, 1947 article, in *The Herald*, "...he [George] married one of the Beckley girls [Sylvia], and the new house was very expensive and took a long time before builders completed it." Given the length of construction and the spread of Spiritualism in the 1850s, it is possible that revisions to the design were made during construction to accommodate Stickney's growing faith and specific beliefs in the movement.

9. Major Bibliographical References

George Stickney House
Name of Property

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Baker, John Milnes. *American House Styles, A Concise Guide*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1994.

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McCarley, Rebecca Lawin. "Orson S. Fowler and a Home for All: The Octagon House in the Midwest." *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture* 12 (2005): 49–63. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20062045>.

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National Register of Historic Places, George Stickney House, Bull Valley McHenry County, Illinois, National Register #79003115.

National Register of Historic Places, Spirit House, Georgetown, Madison County, New York, National Register #06000160.

Reynolds, David S. *Walt Whitman's America*. United States: Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 1996.

Seeman, Erik R. *Speaking with the Dead in Early America*. Germany: University of Pennsylvania Press, Incorporated, 2019.

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Walker, Glynnis., Anderson, Arabella. *Lost Farms of McHenry County*. United States: Arcadia Pub., 2010.

MAPS:

- Historic Atlas Maps of McHenry County, Illinois: 1872, 1892, 1908, and c. 1940
- Aerial Photographs: 1939, 1946, 1953, 1961, 1972, 1980, 1981, 1987, 1988, 1993, 1999, 2022, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2021.
- Historic Topographic Maps of McHenry County, Illinois: 1926, 1946, 1958, 1964, 1965, 1973, 1990, 1992, 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2021.

NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES (AVAILABLE THROUGH NEWSPAPERS.COM):

- Northwest Herald
- The Daily Sentinel
- The McHenry Plaindealer
- The Herald
- Marengo Beacon / Republican – News
- The Chicago Tribune

PERIODICAL ARCHIVES (AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE PRESERVATION OF SPIRITUALIST AND OCCULT PERIODICALS):

- The Spiritual Rostrum
- The Spiritual Age
- Banner of Light
- The Lyceum Banner
- The Spiritual Republic

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

- Bureau of Land Management
- Illinois State Archives: Federal Township Plats of Illinois
- U.S. Census Records
- McHenry County Recorder of Deeds
- Vintage Aerials

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency

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previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .92 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>42.301120</u>	<u>-88.352542</u>	3	<u>42.300572</u>	<u>-88.351881</u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	<u>42.301133</u>	<u>-88.351910</u>	4	<u>42.300555</u>	<u>-88.352516</u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary description follows the legal description for the parcel (PIN: 14-07-300-015): Point of Curve East of the Center of Cherry Valley Rd; Part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter. 1/4 SW1/4; /Ex Doc 2020R0012804/; Owns; 14-07-300-013, 14-07-300-015, 14-07-300-018, 14-07-300-019.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

No amendments are proposed to the existing boundary which corresponds to the parcel upon which the George Stickney House is located.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Erica Ruggiero / Architectural Historian date July 31, 2025
organization McGuire Igleski & Associates, Inc. telephone 847. 328. 5679 ext. 4
street & number 1330 Sherman Avenue email erica@miarchitects.com
city or town Evanston state Illinois zip code 60201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Name of Property: George Stickney House
City or Vicinity: Bull Valley
County: McHenry **State:** Illinois
Photographer: Erica Ruggiero
Date Photographed: July 14, 2025

Photo 1 of 39

View of the front (west) elevation looking southeast from Cherry Valley Road.

Photo 2 of 39

View of the front (west) and side (south) elevations looking northeast from Cherry Valley Road.

Photo 3 of 39

View of the side (south) elevation looking northeast from Cherry Valley Road.

Photo 4 of 39

Detail view of the cobblestone coursing at the southwest corner of the foundation.

Photo 5 of 39

View of the side (south) elevation looking north from the south yard of the residence.

Photo 6 of 39

Overall view of the southern portion of the site looking northeast with the George Stickney House in the background.

Photo 7 of 39

Overall view of the southern portion of the site looking north with the George Stickney House in the background.

Photo 8 of 39

View of the side (south) and rear (east) elevations looking northwest.

Photo 9 of 39

View of the rear (east) and side (north) elevations looking southwest from immediately east of the parking lot.

Photo 10 of 39

View of the side (north) elevation looking south of from the center of the parking lot.

Photo 11 of 39

View of the side (north) and front (west) elevations looking southeast from the western end of the parking lot.

Photo 12 of 39

View of the central entry hall looking northwest toward the passageway into the north parlor.

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Photo 13 of 39

View of the north parlor, looking north, from the passageway off of the entry hall.

Photo 14 of 39

View of the entry hall looking southeast toward the passageway into the dining room.

Photo 15 of 39

View looking west toward the entry hall from inside the dining room.

Photo 16 of 39

View of the dining room looking south from the north end of the space.

Photo 17 of 39

View of the dining room looking southeast from the northwest corner of the space.

Photo 18 of 39

View of the dining room looking northwest from the southeast corner of the space.

Photo 19 of 39

View of the dining room looking southwest from the northeast corner of the space.

Photo 20 of 39

View of the staff kitchen, located immediately east from the dining room, looking east.

Photo 21 of 39

View of the staff kitchen looking west toward the dining room.

Photo 22 of 39

View of the passageway to the second floor staircase located at the north end of the east elevation of the entry hall looking northeast.

Photo 23 of 39

View of the passageway between the second floor staircase and entry hall looking west from the base of the stair.

Photo 24 of 39

View looking up toward the second floor from the base of the staircase.

Photo 25 of 39

View of the central second floor hallway looking south from the north end of the space.

Photo 26 of 39

View of the northern third of the historic ballroom looking west from the passageway between this space and the central hallway.

Photo 27 of 39

View of the northern third of the historic ballroom looking northwest from the southeast corner of the space.

Photo 28 of 39

View of the northern third of the historic ballroom looking northeast from the southwest corner of the space.

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Photo 29 of 39

View of the southern two-thirds of the historic ballroom looking south from the passageway between this space and the northern third of the ballroom.

Photo 30 of 39

View of the southern two-thirds of the historic ballroom looking north from the south end of the space.

Photo 31 of 39

View of the southern two-thirds of the historic ballroom looking southwest from the central hallway.

Photo 32 of 39

View of a non-historic bathroom located in the southeast corner of the second floor looking southeast.

Photo 33 of 39

View of the large bedroom located at the center of the second floor, at the south end, looking northwest.

Photo 34 of 39

View of the large bedroom located at the center of the second floor, at the south end, looking south from the central hallway.

Photo 35 of 39

View of a smaller bedroom space located at the center of the second floor plan, along the rear (east) elevation, looking northeast.

Photo 36 of 39

View of the central second floor hallway looking north from the south end of the space.

Photo 37 of 39

View of a historic closet looking northeast from the central hallway and toward the interior passageway to the bedroom located in the northeast corner of the second floor.

Photo 38 of 39

View of the historic bedroom located in the northeast corner of the second floor looking southeast from the central hallway.

Photo 39 of 39

View of the historic bedroom located in the northeast corner of the second floor looking west from the east end of the space.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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National Park Service

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List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.)

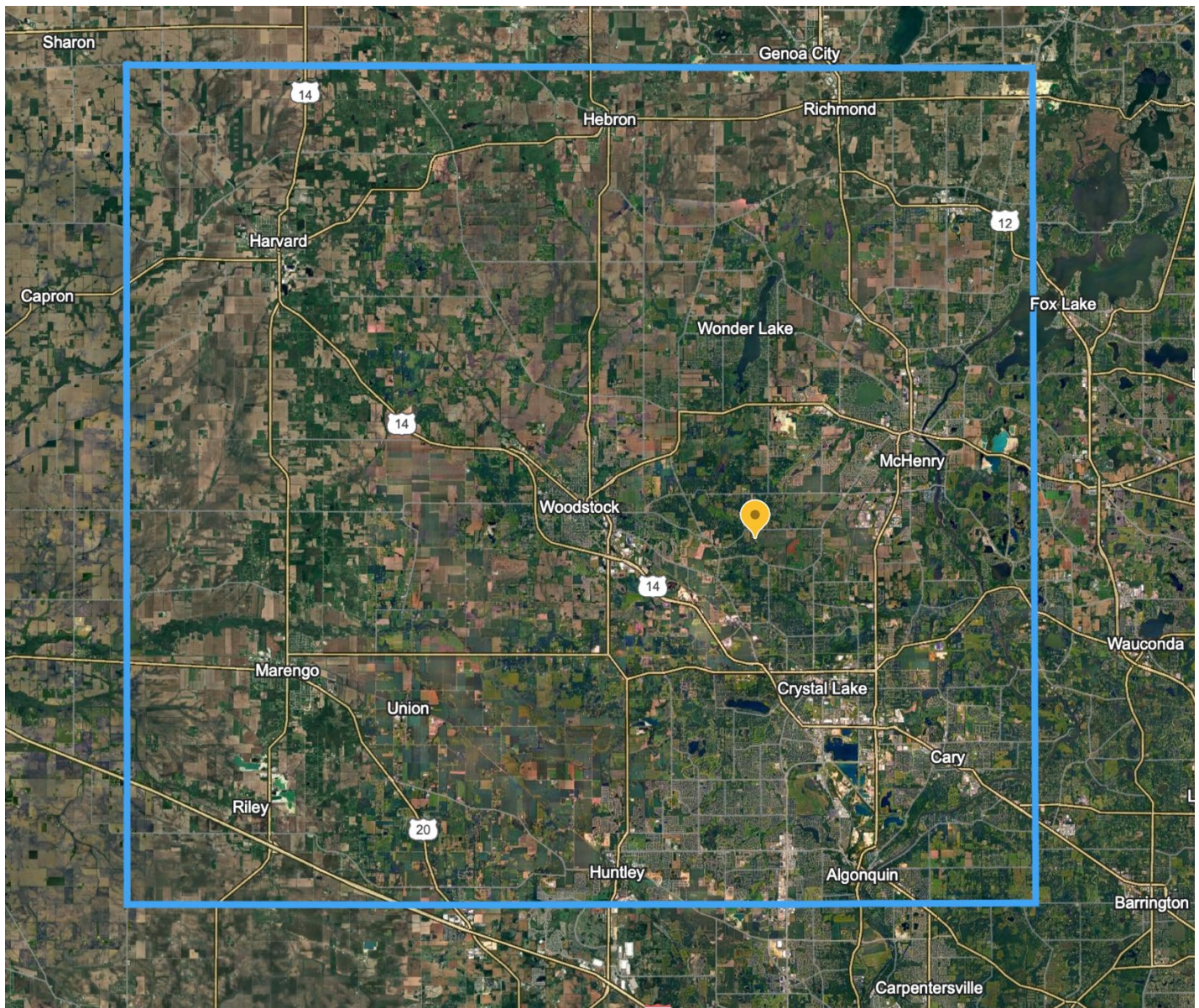


FIGURE 1: LOCATION MAP. THE GEORGE STICKNEY HOUSE IS DENOTED BY THE YELLOW PLACEMARKER AND THE BLUE BOUNDING LINE NOTES THE BOUNDARIES OF MCHENRY COUNTY.

MAP IS ORIENTED NORTH.

NOT TO SCALE.

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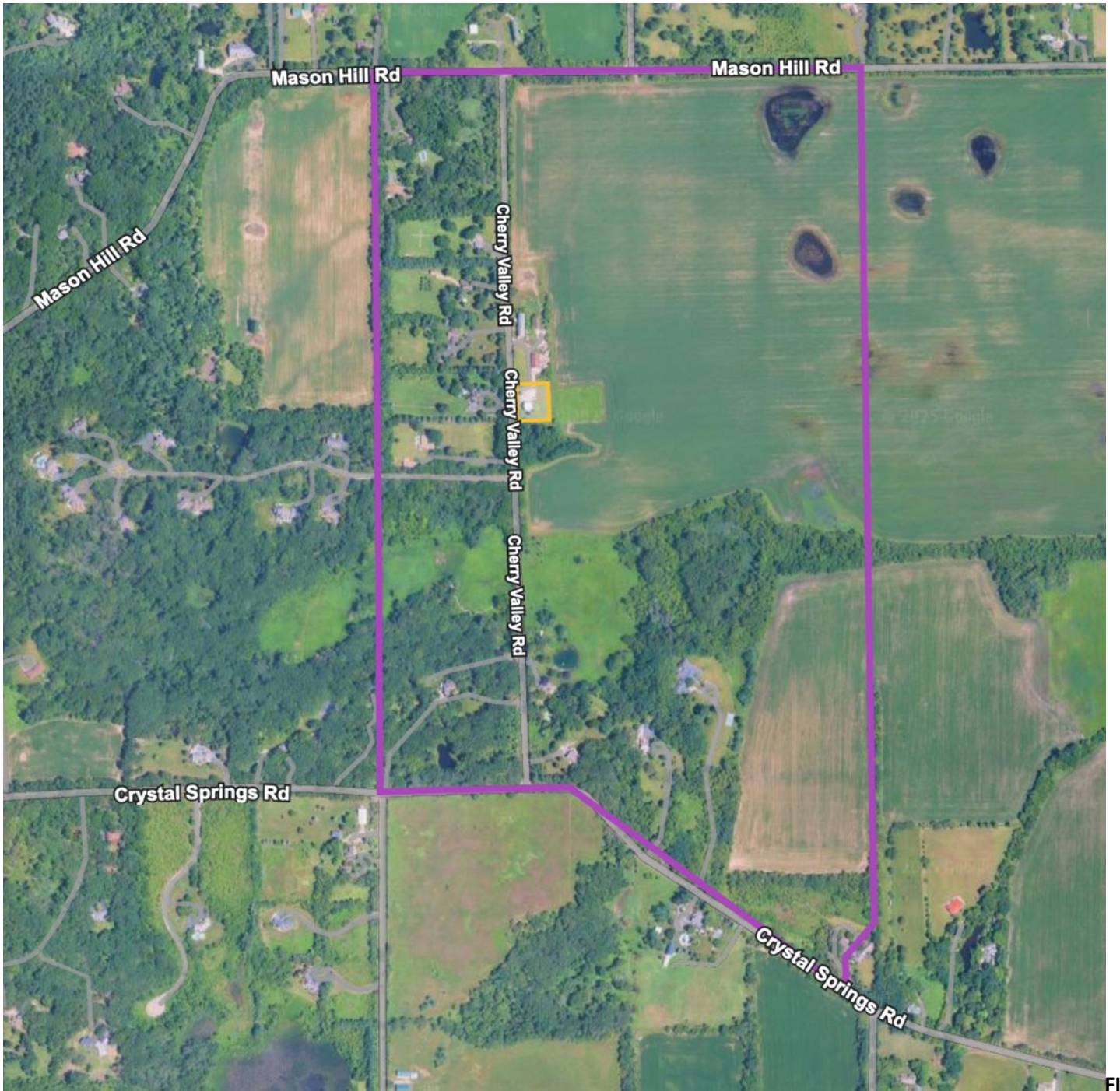


FIGURE 2: SITE MAP OF THE GEORGE STICKNEY HOUSE DENOTED IN THE YELLOW BOUNDARY LINE. THE FORMER GEORGE STICKNEY HOMESTEAD IS DENOTED BY THE PURPLE BOUNDING LINE.

MAP IS ORIENTED NORTH.

NOT TO SCALE.

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FIGURE 3: MAP OF GIS POINTS.

1 42.301120 -88.352542
Latitude Longitude

3 42.300572 -88.351881
Latitude Longitude

2 42.301133 -88.351910
Latitude Longitude

4 42.300555 -88.352516
Latitude Longitude

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National Park Service

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FIGURE 4: EXTERIOR PHOTOGRAPH KEY.
37*Photograph number identifies location of camera

United States Department of the Interior
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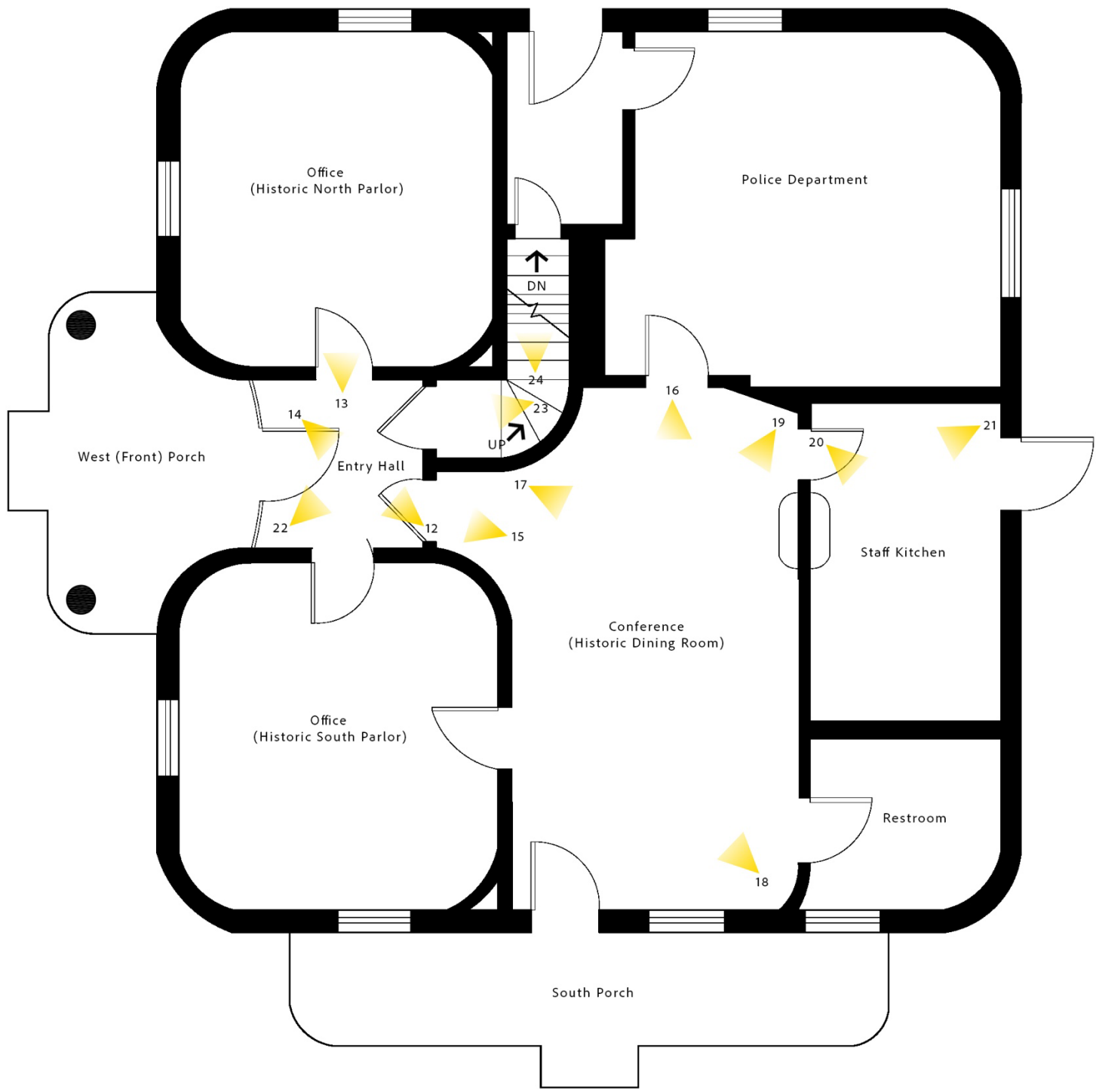


FIGURE 5: FIRST FLOOR PHOTOGRAPH KEY.
*Photograph number identifies location of camera

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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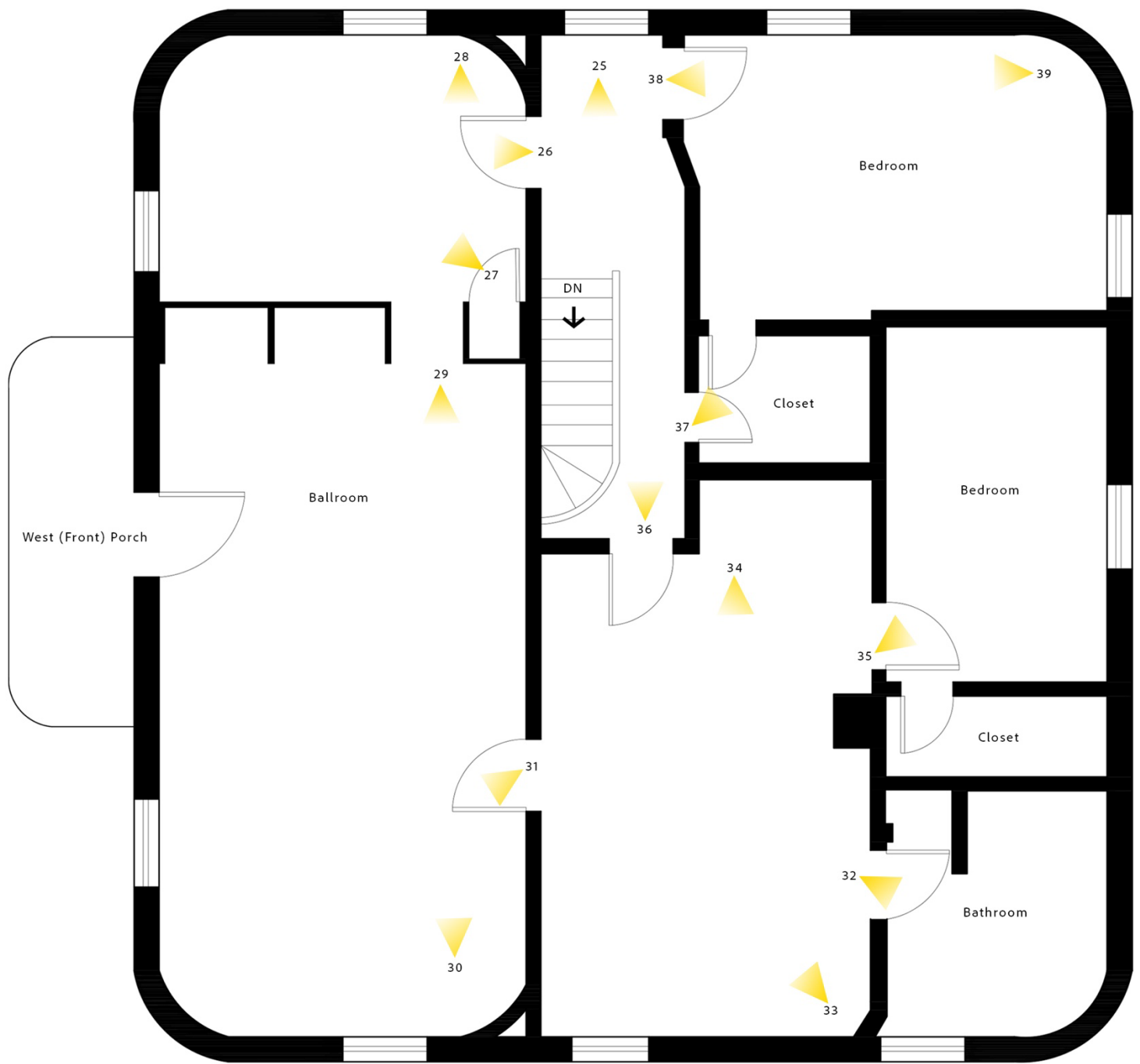


FIGURE 6: SECOND FLOOR PHOTOGRAPH KEY.
*Photograph number identifies location of camera