

***The Cherry Ave.-Court St. Local Landmark Historic District:  
A Working-Families Neighborhood***

***Rationale:*** The Zoning Law outlines your responsibility in Article VII, Sections 705 and 706, as follows:  
Designation of Village Landmarks or Historic Districts, Criteria.

- The natural and built environment of the Village of Aurora, as a rural village sited along Cayuga Lake, has significance extending beyond the Village of Aurora-Wells College Historic District as delineated in 1980. This environment includes homes and sites associated with the Cayuga Nation of the Haudenosaunee, settlers, those who arrived enslaved, freedom seekers, immigrants, and others who made possible the growth and sustenance of the community. Therefore, the Community Preservation Panel may review places, sites, buildings, structures, and other objects throughout the village in order to determine if said resources should be so designated and shall make such recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees.
- The Panel is responsible for recommending to the Village Board of Trustees the designation of identified structures or resources as individual landmarks, scenic landmarks, or historic districts within the Village as provided below....

It further defines local Historic Districts:

- 3. ***Historic District:*** The Panel may recommend for designation a group of properties within the village as a historic district if a majority of properties therein:
- Meet one or more of the criteria for designation as an individual landmark and which may have within its boundaries other properties or structures that, while not of such historic and/or architectural significance to be designated as landmarks, nevertheless contribute to the overall visual characteristics of the landmark or landmarks located within the historic district; and
- Constitute a unique section of the Village of Aurora by reason of possessing those qualities that would satisfy such criteria.

In Aurora, Court St. (principally the east side), the adjacent part of Sherwood Rd, upper Cherry Ave. (east of Court St.), and selected houses on adjacent Orchard and Burnham Lanes fulfill these criteria. They show the evolution of the “cultural, ...economic, [and] social history of the Village, the region, [and] the State,” “represent an established and familiar visual feature of the Village,” and “constitute a unique section of the Village of Aurora.” In addition, they are contiguous, all (Court St.) or in part (Cherry Ave., west of Court St. and on the south with Oak Glen Cemetery) with the National Historic District, and their history connects strongly with the District. The unifying and defining historic feature of this neighborhood is its role in housing and providing familial and social cohesion among the working families who “made possible the growth and sustenance of the community.” On a regional and State scale, this social history also reflects two important population movements: Irish immigration and freedom seekers.

***Sources:*** Mandell, Samuel D. (with Leffingwell, Albert), “A History of the Houses in Aurora,” 1904. Gives names and sequence of owners, and often year of construction. Occupations of owners and tenants are often available from other sources filed by name in the Village Archives, and from census records.

Avery, Baldwin, "The Village of Aurora as I Saw It - and Now," (1993) an informal house-by-house account starting with Baldy's early memories (1920s) up to 1993.

Atlases and maps: the 1853, 1859, 1875, and 1904 atlases show changes over time, and are especially valuable in showing the development of upper (eastern) Cherry Ave. The map of the estate of Louise Morgan Zabriskie (1906; in the Archives, not on line) is especially useful since it covers so much of the area under consideration.

*Additional Information:* Three sources belong to the same era, almost the same year: Mandell's book, the 1904 map, and the Louise Morgan Zabriskie Estate map. The 1904 map is very detailed and correlates fairly easily with the current properties map from Cayuga County Real Property Services.

Houses on the 1904 map are unquestionably old enough (over fifty years) to merit the designation "historic." Houses newer than fifty years old are designated "Non-Contributing" to this historic district. This practice follows that for National Historic Districts.

A number of the houses have been owned by the same family for a long time. This project is an excellent opportunity to collect oral histories of the properties.

Historic designation and its underlying documentation may enable owners to obtain a tax credit for qualifying repairs of a primary residence.

<u>Tax ID</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>	Notes
<u>181.12-1-16</u>	Hunter Tee-Ann	65 Court St	RLZ garage/chauffeur ca 1910
<u>181.12-1-17.1</u>	Reynolds David & Gail	75 Court St	<b>Non-contributing</b>
<u>181.12-1-17.2</u>	Aurora Village Of	Court St	<b>(Park)</b>
<u>182.09-1-16</u>	Bates Grace W	78 Court St	<b>Landmark</b>
<u>182.09-1-17</u>	Fitzgerald Robert & Maureen	70 Court St	Martin Maloney, mason
<u>182.09-1-18</u>	Egan Terrance & Uchanski Rosalie	64 Court St	Peter Murphy, Coachman
<u>182.09-1-19</u>	Havens Jessica L	62 Court St	<b>Non-Contributing</b>
<u>182.09-1-20.1</u>	Murphy Kevin & Janet	56 Court St	Louise M. Zabriskie tenant house
<u>182.09-1-25</u>	Orman Julie A	50 Court St	Brightman; Blacksmith; Visiting priest*
<u>182.09-1-26</u>	Inns of Aurora, LLC	44 Court St	Meade; gardener. Site of Courthouse & Briercliff School
<u>182.09-1-27</u>	Mac Cormick Christopher	36 Court St	Mrs D. Shimer; <b>1834</b> Hawkins, housepainter

\* Heffernan, "Some Cross-bearers of the Finger Lakes"

Cherry Ave.

"The street [past Court St] was opened about 1854." Previous site of the Daniel Avery house, built as the Seth Phelps house prior to 1805. Then Jonathan Swan, then Dr. Elisha Leffingwell. Henry Wells, 1847, burned 1852 or 1853. "The place was soon after cut by a street and small houses put on either side," several moved from Main St. "The well by the roadside was part of the old house."

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<u>181.16-1-8</u>	Fitzgerald Michael & Ann	17 Cherry Ave	<b>Nat Hist District</b>
<u>181.16-1-9.21</u>	Fitzgerald Michael & Ann	Cherry Ave	
<u>182.13-1-5.1</u>	Taylor James S	21 Cherry Ave	Cornelius Ryan Teamster; formerly Geo. & Daniel Shimer. Barn was kitchen of E. B. Morgan house
<u>182.13-1-6.11</u>	Mawicke Catherine	31 Cherry Ave	Maurice then Frank Polhamus; carriage maker & liveryman. M. Polhamus married Catherine Brightman
<u>182.13-1-7</u>	Preston Martha K	35 Cherry Ave	T. Murphy (map); Stillson
<u>182.13-1-8</u>	Groth Stacy & Richard	39 Cherry Ave	Mrs. Fred Fox. "Old Samuel Brush house on Main St., moved 1859-60"
<u>182.13-1-9</u>	Gunderson Thomas & Maralee (Dustin & Jodi)	43 Cherry Ave	Lee Myers, constable

<u>182.13-1-10</u>	Kabelac Kenneth & Linda	47 Cherry Ave	John Day, then Wm. Day rural delivery
<u>182.13-1-11.1</u>	Kabelac Kenneth & Linda	Cherry Ave	
<u>182.13-1-12.3</u>	Vargo Jeri & Brodie Ann	65 Cherry Ave	<b>Non-contributing</b>
<u>182.13-1-13</u>	Brooks Deborah & Cooper Donna	54 Cherry Ave	Eugene Maloney, carpenter & mason
<u>182.13-1-14</u>	Edwards James	48 Cherry Ave	Sullivan. McGordon house 1834, moved from Main St., <i>first Mass in Aurora</i>
<u>182.13-1-15</u>	Yann George III	42 Cherry Ave	<b>Non-Contributing.</b> Site of Van Horn house**
<u>182.13-1-16</u>	Connors Alan and Carolyn (Alan)	34 Cherry Ave	Carriage house of Avery homestead built ca. 1830, remodeled 1900. Alf Tate, then James Tate** Owned by Emily Howland 1904 map
<u>182.13-1-17.1</u>	Wilson Ethan R	28 Cherry Ave	O'Brien? Hickey?
<u>182.13-1-19</u>	16 Cherry Avenue, LLC	16 Cherry Ave	<b>Nat Hist District</b>
<u>182.13-1-20</u>	Bianconi Matthew & Boyce Alexis	12 Cherry Ave	<b>Nat Hist District</b>
<u>182.13-1-25.1</u> 1	Cemetery Oak Glen	Cherry Ave	<b>Nat Hist District</b> M. Polhamus livery followed by Cleveland's garage

<u>181.12-1-24</u>	Signorelli Marsha, Anthony, Marco	12 Sherwood Rd	Tenant house of Edith Morgan
<u>181.12-1-25</u>	Reynolds David W, Gail T.	Sherwood Rd	Site of Thomas Shorter George Cromwell house**
<u>181.12-1-26</u>	Nolan James Jr, Dawn	16 Sherwood Rd	George Radcliff, Remodeled by H. A. Morgan 1900

<u>Tax ID</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>	
<u>182.13-1-1</u>	Inns of Aurora, LLC	1 Orchard Ln	"Honeymoon Cottage" tenant house Mrs K. M. Brookfield (dau. Henry Morgan). Later Ed Hayton. (Named as such by Baldy Avery)

<u>182.09-1-24</u>	Murphy Winifred	8 Burnham Ln	<b>Landmark, Mandell group</b>
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Notes: Mandell, 1904 map, 1900 census; correlated with 1904 map  
\*\* African-American families

Shorter: freedom seekers. Cromwell: arrived enslaved (?). Tate: arrived enslaved; Cuyler  
connection (?). van Horn: Civil War 26th Colored Infantry