
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2013

Revised: 6/2025



Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape
Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape
Resource Classification:	Cultural Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	650035
Parent Landscape:	650035
Inventory Status:	Complete

Park Information

Park Name:	Martin Van Buren National Historic Site
Alpha Code:	MAVA
Park Organization Code:	1950
Park District:	MAVA
Region:	Northeast
Restricted:	Yes

Landscape Description:

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site is located 20 miles south of Albany and two miles east of the Hudson River in Kinderhook, Columbia County, New York. The Hudson Valley property known as "Lindenwald" was the home of Martin Van Buren (1782-1862), the nation's eighth President. Upon acquiring the property in 1839, Van Buren managed it as an experimental and working farm, and resided there from the end of his presidential term in 1841 until his death. The site is defined by its historically rural setting, upper and lower river terrace topography, and by the distant Catskill Mountains that are visible in the park's western viewshed. The park preserves the core of Van Buren's original property, defined by a 2.5-story brick mansion built in 1797 and enlarged by Van Buren in 1849-1850, and fronted by a shady lawn enclosed by a semicircular tree-lined entry drive and a remnant segment of the Old Post Road. The surrounding woods and farmland within the park's 300-acre authorized boundary remains undeveloped and actively farmed.

The focus of this inventory is the recently established historic district, which encompasses 176.95 acres of federally-owned and privately-owned land within the park. All but around three acres of land within the historic district were owned by Van Buren, who developed the estate to reflect his wealth and Jeffersonian agrarian beliefs.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Prior to European settlement, the Mahicans, a Native American tribe of the Lenni-Lenapes, occupied the valley of the Hudson River. In 1609 Henry Hudson, in the ship the Half Moon, made the first documented European voyage up the Hudson River. After witnessing many Native American children playing, he named the place Kinderhook, or "childrens corner." By the late 1700s, however, Native Americans were displaced from the area by European settlers, particularly after the English defeated the Dutch in 1664. Though many Dutch families remained in the area, a wave of English settlers transformed the Kinderhook landscape into a patchwork of working farms. The land that would later become Lindenwald was part of the Powell Patent of 1664, a portion of which was acquired by the Van Alstynes in the 1660s. The Van Alstyne house appears on the 1762 Voorman map of Kinderhook and was likely located on the lower terrace near Kinderhook Creek. (CLR 1995: 11-13; CLR 2004: 10-11)

Peter Van Ness Peter, a well-known Revolutionary War commander, judge, and New York senator, purchased 260 acres from Van Alstyne in 1780. He and his family lived in the existing stone house on the property and operated a prosperous farm. In 1797, Van Ness constructed a Federal-style brick house on the upper terrace by the Old Post Road, the main north-south thoroughfare in the region. The addition of the large new house and curving tree-lined entry drive distinguished his property as one of the most visibly prominent gentleman's estates in the area. When Peter Van Ness died in 1804, he passed the home and 137 acres to one of his sons, William. The remaining acreage went to his eldest son, John. Falling into financial trouble in 1824, William Van Ness sold his half of the estate to friend and mayor of New York City, William Paulding, who intended to hold the property until Van Ness could re-purchase it from him. This proposed transaction never took place and in 1839, President Martin Van Buren purchased the 137-acre estate. (CLR 1995: 13; CLR 2004: 20)

Van Buren named his Kinderhook estate "Lindenwald" and envisioned it as a place to pursue his interest in agriculture, as well as a place to receive dignitaries, politicians, and other guests. After a tumultuous term as President, including the Financial Panic of 1837 and an extended economic depression, Van Buren lost the bid for reelection in 1840, forcing an early return to Lindenwald. As a figure of national importance, Van Buren sought notoriety through the progressive management of Lindenwald as a well-heeled country estate and farm, which emulated Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and Andrew Jackson's Hermitage. Van Buren chose Lindenwald for its highly visible location on the Old Post Road and for its distinction as the former home of Peter Van Ness. (CLR 1995: 31; HRS 2006: 20,29)

While serving as President in Washington, D.C., Van Buren began improving the deteriorated property immediately after acquiring it by issuing directives to his foreman in Kinderhook. Stables, wood houses, fish ponds, and a hothouse were added in the early years, and improvements to the estate continued after his return to Kinderhook in 1841. He increased the size of the farm to approximately 220 acres by 1845 with the purchase of adjacent parcels, and built two large barns and a dwelling for his farm foreman. Intending the farm to be self-sufficient, Van Buren planted field crops—predominantly potatoes, hay, rye, corn, and oats—and tree fruits such as pear and apple, for market. (CLR 1995: 31; CLR 2004: 44-55)

In creating a prosperous working farm, Van Buren's property did not assume the highly designed and manicured appearance inspired by the popularity of Andrew Jackson Downing and Alexander Jackson Davis's adaptations of English pastoral landscape structures and garden designs. However, Van Buren did hope to portray the refined appearance of a country gentleman, fitting his station in life. To accommodate his sons, daughters-in-law, and numerous grandchildren as well as to improve upon the simple Van Ness house, Van Buren commissioned architect Richard Upjohn to renovate the main house in 1849. After the lengthy construction period, Upjohn transformed the Federal-style house into a larger Italianate-inspired dwelling featuring a dramatic five-story tower. The grounds surrounding the main house included two gatehouses, a hothouse, greenhouse, garden, a formalized semi-circular entry drive lined with locust trees, and a cultivated lawn. Van Buren consciously developed the home's formal presentation from the Old Post Road to project his identity as an elder statesman and gentleman farmer amongst his peers. He advanced and expressed his political views from Lindenwald, and the estate served as an important symbol of prestige and success. (CLR 1995: 32; CLR 2004: 26; HRS 2006: 31,76,113; National Register amendment 2012: 16)

Van Buren launched two unsuccessful campaigns to regain the presidency in 1844 and 1848. Throughout this time and through the 1850s, Van Buren kept busy managing the farm, writing his memoirs, and entertaining at Lindenwald until the end of his life in 1862. He willed the property to his three surviving sons, although none chose to make Lindenwald his home upon Van Buren's death. One son, John, purchased the estate shares owned by his brothers in 1863 but did not occupy or improve the estate. After less than a year, John sold the financially burdensome property to Leonard Jerome in 1864. (CLR 1995: 32)

Over the next ten years, the property changed hands numerous times and was characterized by absentee owners. This ended with the Wagoner brothers' purchase of the 220-acre estate in 1874 and their subsequent ownership for forty-three years. Known locally as industrious and successful farmers, the Wagoners maintained the property in good condition and managed the area immediately surrounding the home as mowed turf with a scattering of informally placed trees. They farmed the property intensively, as evidenced by their use of the southern portion of the front lawn as a corn field. Along with several new buildings erected by the Wagoners, many of Van Buren's farm buildings remained in use during this period in a working yard behind (to the west of) the main house. (CLR 1995: 59-66)

By 1917, the Wagoners sold the property in two parcels. They sold the bulk, or 185 acres, to Dr. Bascom Birney, but retained 36 acres on the southern end of the property. The Birney family, from Yonkers, New York, purchased the

farm as an investment but later occupied the property full-time. Several members of the Birney family held title to the property, but the longest owner was Clementine Birney deProsse, who lived on the site with her family from 1930 to 1957. The Birneys and deProsses farmed the land throughout the 1920s and 1930s during a difficult economic period of depressed agricultural prices and overall hardship for the farming community. Many of the aging agricultural buildings fell into disrepair but the main house remained well-tended thanks to Clementine's understanding of the property's historical significance. (CLR 2004: 85-92)

The 1930s and 40s represented a period of enormous change at Lindenwald. In 1930, the path of the Old Post Road was altered by the construction of Route 9H. The new road bed was located farther east than Old Post Road, which left a new triangular piece of land buffering the northeastern portion of the property from the highway. During the later years of the deProsse tenure, maintenance of the vegetation around the mansion declined, and shrubs, grass, and trees became overgrown. Deterioration of farm buildings, limited maintenance of orchards, and loss of aged vegetation contributed to a change in the property's character. The deProsse family sold the farmland in 1946 to local farmer Dudley Ray Meyer, Jr., but retained thirteen acres and the mansion, where they resided until 1957. (CLR 2004: 85-92)

Using farm tractors and earthmoving machines, Meyer made substantial changes to the farm to modernize the languishing fields, orchards, fences, and buildings that had deteriorated over the previous twenty years. He removed hedge rows, cut down orchards, burned unstable buildings, added drainage ditches, altered topography, and built new roads and barns. Meyer transformed the outdated farmland, which retained many character defining features from the nineteenth century, into a modern, post-World War II productive farm. (CLR 2004: 107-115)

Ken Campbell purchased the mansion and the surrounding thirteen acres from the deProsses in 1957. He increased maintenance on the deteriorated property and made stylistic changes to the house and landscape, including a new two-story Neo-Colonial Revival porch on the front of the mansion and details on the façade that reduced the Italianate influence. He operated an antique business out of the historic south gatehouse and new shop building located near the gatehouse. Items for sale were often displayed on the lawn. Campbell introduced ornamental fences, imitation well houses, trellises, and other eclectic lawn decorations to the mansion landscape. Toward the end of Campbell's ownership the previously diligent estate maintenance waned, and the property deteriorated from neglect. (CLR 1995: 77- 103; CLR 2004: 107)

In 1973, the National Park Foundation purchased the approximate thirteen-acre Martin Van Buren mansion property. The remainder of the Van Buren's historic estate was owned by two separate local farmers, and some had been developed as a residential subdivision. A year later, the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site was established and the National Park Service obtained the property from the National Park Foundation. The deteriorated property required extensive rehabilitation and systems upgrades. The National Park Service cleared overgrown vegetation, removed ornamental landscape features from the Campbell period, upgraded utilities, and restored the mansion. Park staff operated from temporary structures placed west of the mansion, and later moved to temporary structures north of the mansion. The park carried out landscape projects including the restoration of the formal entry drive and locust allée, replacement of aged white pines along the Old Post Road trace, and installation of screening plants around the visitor parking lot and park office temporary structure. Two cultural landscape reports have been prepared for the property, one in 1995 that focused on the mansion property and one in 2004 that focused on the agricultural portion of the property. The park's authorized boundary increased significantly in 2009 from 40 acres to around 300 acres, allowing for the protection of the surrounding property that was once part of the historic farm and protecting the park's viewshed. (National Register amendment 2012: 49)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Lindenwald was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961 and in 2012 the boundaries of a historic district within Martin Van Buren National Historic Site were established. The historic district is significant under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D. It derives its primary significance under Criterion A and B at the national level in the area of politics/government for its association with Martin Van Buren (1782-1862) and his political career during the years between 1841 and 1848. During that period, Van Buren, who moved to Lindenwald after his single term as president of the United States (1837-1841), launched two unsuccessful but historically important campaigns to regain the presidency in 1844 and 1848. The district is significant under Criterion B as the only surviving property that is associated with the life of Martin Van Buren. Lindenwald, the only home that Van Buren ever owned, represents the culmination of a remarkable political career that saw him rise from meager beginnings as a Kinderhook tavern-keeper's son to become the eighth president of the United States. His subsequent development of Lindenwald into a

country estate and working farm reflected his Jeffersonian beliefs in the value and virtue of agriculture to a democratic society. Lindenwald is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an important example of a Federal-style mansion that was redesigned by architect Richard Upjohn to reflect the popular Italian Villa style of the mid-nineteenth century. The district is significant under Criterion D in the area of archeology and the subcategories "Prehistoric" and "Historic-Non Aboriginal" as a property that has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Surveys and excavations conducted on the property to date have identified four sites that address substantive research questions regarding Native American usage of the land, Van Buren's occupancy of Lindenwald, and development of the property by previous and subsequent owners.

The prehistoric period of significance for the district includes an approximate date range of 5,000 to 2,000 BP for two contributing Native American sites that have been identified as dating from the Late Archaic and Woodlands periods. The historic periods of significance are 1797, the date of construction of Lindenwald as a Federal-style mansion, and 1839 to 1862, which spans the period of Martin Van Buren's association with the property.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of the landscape is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the two historic periods of significance (1797, 1839–1862) with current conditions. Many of the landscape's historic characteristics and features are still intact. The spatial organization of the formal mansion grounds, with the imposing home, semi-circular lawn, and gracefully curved entry drive, is still distinct from the open farmland west of the mansion. Vegetation patterns remain similar through the restored black locust allée, mowed turf lawn, and cultivated acreage of the farm fields. The Italianate-style mansion has been restored and remains the focus of the historic core, as it was during Van Buren's time, and the extant south gatehouse contributes to the presentation of historic conditions. The Van Ness monument is still visible in the field to the west of the mansion, and one of the fish ponds remains. Importantly, the historic setting is largely intact due to the retention of views of the Catskill Mountains and the preservation of actively farmed land in the park's viewshed.

However, much has changed since 1862. Notably, many of the historic structures known to Van Buren are no longer extant, including all of the barns, the farm office, and the north gatehouse. This alters the spatial arrangement of the area behind the mansion that was once the center of the working farm. Other key features such as the orchards and formal garden are gone, further altering the character around the mansion. Additionally, the dense north wooded area, once Van Buren's north orchard, encroaches on the formerly open yet organized landscape. The configuration of farm fields on the lower terrace has changed, and twentieth-century agricultural practices have altered the topography and patterns of some fields.

The landscape of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site is considered to be in "good" condition. The existing resources, including the mansion, the front lawn and front garden, black locust allée, entry drive, woodlot, and south gatehouse show no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Martin Van Buren NHS is comprised of one cultural landscape, which includes the mansion and farmland.

Landscape Type:

Historic Site

Other Names:

Other Name:	Kleinrood	Other Name Type:	Historic
Other Name:	Lindenwald	Other Name Type:	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Matin Van Buren National Historic Site	Other Name Type:	Current

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/12/2013

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Information for this CLI was extracted from the 1995 "Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site," the 2004 "A Farmer in his Native Town: Cultural Landscape Report for the Martin Van Buren Farmland," the 2006 Historic Resource Study, "A Return to His Native Town," and the 2012 amendment to the park's National Register documentation. Site visits to document the park's existing conditions were conducted in 2010, after which the project was put on hold pending completion of the park's boundary increase and completion of an amendment to the park's National Register documentation. Margie Coffin Brown, Historical Landscape Architect, was the lead author of this project, with assistance from Lisa Nowak and Kathleen Fitzgerald of the Olmsted Center. Stephanie Weyer, Matthew Quirey, and Andrew Louw, Student Conservation Associates also contributed. The park's contact for cultural resources is Patricia West, 518-758-9689, Patricia_West@nps.gov

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape
Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape is hereby approved and accepted.

Patricia West McKey Sept 12 2013
Superintendent, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site Date
Acting

Park concurrence form, September 12, 2013.

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Update Certification Form
2025**

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site
Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site concurs with the update for the following CLI, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good – Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The CLI Update at Martin Van Buren National Historic Site is hereby approved and accepted.

MEGAN
O'MALLEY

Digitally signed by MEGAN
O'MALLEY
Date: 2025.06.25 10:07:46
04107

Superintendent, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Date

Park concurrence form, June 25, 2025.

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Jeff Killion	CLI Update	06/25/2025	Three levels of effort have been developed for CLI Updates: A, B, and C. Level C is limited to a condition reassessment of the landscape; Level B includes C and is a targeted update of select data fields; Level A includes C and is a comprehensive update of all data fields. This 2025 update to the Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape CLI has been conducted at a Level C effort. See Landscape Documents in CRIS-CL for correspondences with park.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
New York	Columbia County

Size (Acres): 176.95

Land Tract Number(s)

Boundary Description:

The boundaries and acreage of this CLI are the same as the boundaries of the historic district at the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site. The boundaries of the district are defined in the “Verbal Boundary Description” section of the 2012 amendment to the park’s National Register of Historic Places documentation. (Note: the map of the historic district in the amendment is incorrect, as it does not include Tract 01-108. This 2.75-acre tract is included in the verbal description and counted as part of the 176.95 total acreage.)

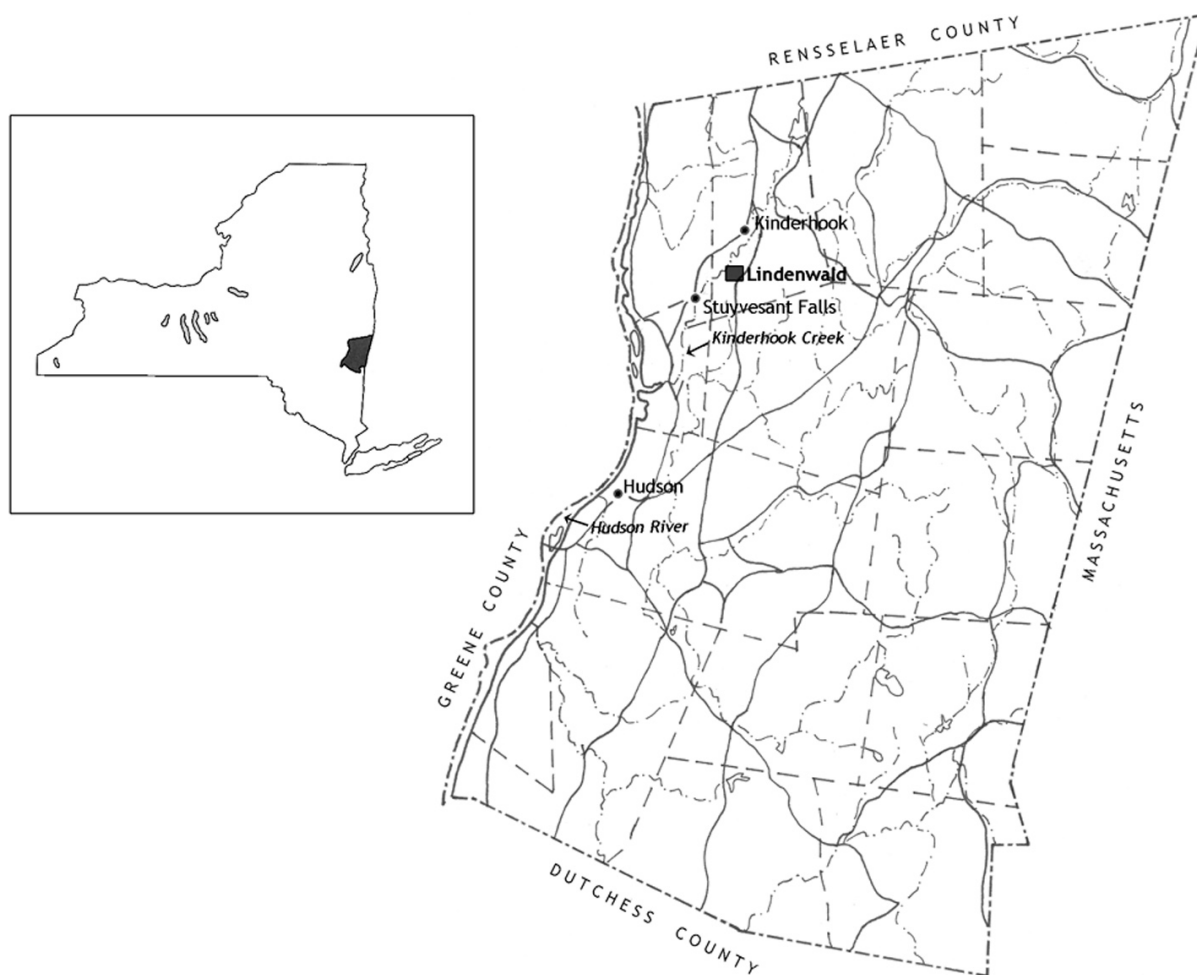
The National Register historic district boundary encompasses a total of 176.95 acres of land within the park’s current 300-acre authorized boundary. As depicted on the Land Resources Program Center Map, revised July 16, 2012, the boundary includes 41.58 acres of land owned by the National Park Service in fee simple (Land Tracts 01-101, 01-102, 01-103, 01-108, 01-110, 01-114) and 135.37 acres of privately-held land (Land Tracts 01-115, 01-119, 01-120).

In 1845, Van Buren owned approximately 220 acres of land. All of the tracts within the historic district boundary—except for Tract 01-108—were part of Van Buren’s farm (representing 174.20 acres). Two portions of the original Van Buren property are outside the park’s authorized boundary: one is now a housing development on the south side of Route 25, while another is a flag-shaped residential parcel just south of the Meyer barn complex.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
	Area	42.368835	-73.701868	
	Area	42.372564	-73.705059	
	Area	42.37077	-73.708168	
	Area	42.37029	-73.711081	
	Area	42.369356	-73.712157	
	Area	42.363211	-73.709416	
	Area	42.363694	-73.708398	
	Area	42.364937	-73.708397	
	Area	42.366114	-73.707292	
	Area	-73.706038	42.365073	

Location Map:



Context map for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site and Kinderhook, in Columbia County, New York. (Cultural Landscape Report--hereafter CLR--1995)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The study area is located in an agricultural context, surrounded by tilled fields and woods on gently rolling terrain. Much of the property slopes modestly toward the Kinderhook Creek, which forms the northwestern boundary of the park. The mansion is located on level ground that was historically, and is today, maintained as a designed landscape with mowed turf and an allée of black locust trees. Dramatic views of the distant Catskill Mountains dominate the westward viewshed.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The Mahicans, who were Algonquian speaking Native Americans, lived and hunted in the region prior to the arrival of Europeans in the seventeenth century. The Dutch and other European settlers eventually forced the Mahicans out of the region and established a low-density agricultural community. Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States, purchased the property in 1839 while in office and lived there for twenty-three years, beginning in 1841. After Van Buren's death in 1862, the property passed through several owners as a working farm and private residence until 1974 when the historic core became a national historic site.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

In 2010 the administrative boundary of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site was expanded to 300 acres. The park currently includes 38.83 acres of historic farmland owned in fee simple and 6.18 acres non-historic farmland owned in fee simple, plus 101.89 acres of pending conservation easements of historic farmland and 66.50 acres of existing and pending conservation easements of non-historic farmland, and 33.48 acres in private ownership. The site is located in Kinderhook, Columbia County, New York.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/12/2013

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site meets the requirements of the management category, "Must Be Preserved and Maintained" because the property is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark criteria. Lindenwald was designated a National Historic Landmark on July 4, 1961, under Theme XIII, Political and Military Affairs, 1830-1860.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Lease

Management Agreement Expiration Date: 01/01/2016

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Roxbury Farms holds a lease until 2016 on the historic Van Buren farm cottage.

Type of Agreement: Lease

Management Agreement Expiration Date: 01/01/2020

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Roxbury Farms holds a lease on 23.46 acres of land northwest and southwest of the mansion grounds containing numerous structures and their farm headquarters. They hold the lease until 2020, after which date, five one-year extensions will be made available.

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Type of Interest: Less Than Fee Simple

Narrative:

Type of Interest: None - Privately Owned

Narrative: According to the Land Resources Program Center Map, revised July 16, 2012, the disposition of lands within the boundaries of the 176.95-acre historic district within the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site is as follows:
--41.58 acres of federal land (fee) (tracts 01-101, 01-102, 01-103, 01-108, 01-110, 01-114)
--135.37 acres of private land (tracts 01-115, 01-119, 01-120)

The disposition of lands within the park's 300-acre authorized boundary is as follows:
--44.77 acres of federal land (fee) (tracts 01-101, 01-102, 01-103/114, 01-104, 01-107, 01-108, 01-110)
--7.64 acres of federal interest (less than fee) (tracts 01-105, 01-106, 01-109, 01-111)
--0.24 acres of public land (tract 01-113)
--232.52 acres of private land (01-115/123, 01-116, 01-117, 01-118, 01-119, 01-120, 01-121, 01-122)

There is also a pending easement from Open Space Institute on Roxbury Farms land.

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands outside the park's boundary contribute to the historically rural setting. Several parcels adjacent to the park's authorized boundary were formerly owned by Martin Van Buren. Some suburban residential development exists on nearby properties but the viewshed is largely composed of land used for agricultural purposes or is forested. The open land enables views to Kinderhook Creek and the distant Catskill Mountains.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

The Martin Van Buren National Historic Site (NHS) was authorized on October 26, 1974, but the historical significance of the park was recognized before that date. On July 4, 1961, Lindenwald, the home of the eight president of the United States, Martin Van Buren, was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) for Theme XIII, Political and Military Affairs, 1830-1860. The property was administratively listed without documentation in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966 with passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

National Register documentation for Martin Van Buren NHS was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register on February 8, 1980. The areas of significance identified in the documentation were politics/government and architecture for the period 1800-1899. Specific dates of importance were identified as 1797, the year Lindenwald was built by Peter Van Ness, and 1849, the year a rear wing and library ell were added to the house by architect Richard Upjohn. Contributing resources described in the documentation included Lindenwald, south gatehouse, north gatehouse foundation, and the farm office site (Note: at this time, the farm office site had not undergone formal archeological investigation.) Landscape features described on the 12.8-acre site were the semicircular driveway lined with locust trees, a circular gravel walkway in front of the house and its grass interior that contained a flower bed outlining a fish pond and urn, and a drive behind the house to a carriage barn. The house's setting within extensive lawns and mature trees was also described. A modern antique shop and a concrete block garage were evaluated as noncontributing. At this time the park encompassed around 39 acres, but the National Register boundaries were limited to Lindenwald and its immediate setting, for a total of 12.8 acres.

On February 14, 1995, as part of an update to the National Park Service's List of Classified Structures (LCS), the National Park Service received concurrence from the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on previously documented park resources and other previously undocumented contributing resources. Lindenwald, the south gatehouse, north gatehouse foundation, entry drive, well cap, and Albany Post Road mileage marker were evaluated as contributing resources.

In 2009, Congress approved the expansion of the park's boundary to include an additional 261 acres of land encompassing all of Van Buren's farmland northwest of New York State Highway Route 9H and Albany Avenue (County Road 25) and some additional property intended to provide protection for its setting. On July 11, 2012, the Keeper accepted an amendment to the 1980 National Register documentation that evaluated all resources within the expanded boundary. The amendment identified significance for the 176.95-acre historic district under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D in the areas of politics/government, architecture, and archeology. The periods of significance were listed as 5,000-2,000 BP for contributing Native American sites dating from the Late Archaic and Woodlands periods; 1797 for the construction of Lindenwald; and 1839-1862 for the period of Van Buren's association with the property. Key dates listed in the amendment included 1797 when the house was constructed, 1839 when the property was purchased by Van Buren, and 1849-1850 when architect Richard Upjohn completed renovations to the house. Fourteen contributing resources and thirteen noncontributing resources were identified in the amendment, including the Lindenwald Grounds and Fields, which comprise the grounds immediately surrounding Lindenwald and the outlying agricultural fields that provide the pastoral backdrop for the property. The following features were described as part of the grounds: front lawn, historic row of pine trees between the lawn and the road and a pine grove at the center of the row, allée of black locust trees, circular pedestrian path around the front garden, areas of native forest vegetation, and historic period views from Van Buren's house and across the site. The evaluation of one feature previously determined as contributing—the Albany Post Road mileage marker—was changed to noncontributing due to its removal from its original location and post-historic alterations to its original appearance.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance for Martin Van Buren NHS has been adequately documented in the National Register and through previous consultations with the New York SHPO, which describe the park's numerous historic resources that contribute to its significance. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Martin Van Buren NHS landscape is considered "Entered-Documented."

Eligibility: Eligible -- Keeper

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 07/11/2012

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The historic district within Martin Van Buren National Historic Site is significant under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D. The district derives its primary significance under Criterion A and B at the national level in the area of politics/government for its association with Martin Van Buren (1782-1862) and his political career during the years between 1841 and 1848. During that period, Van Buren, who moved to Lindenwald after his single term as president of the United States (1837-1841), launched two unsuccessful but historically important campaigns to regain the presidency in 1844 and 1848. The district is significant under Criterion B as the only surviving property that is associated with the life of Martin Van Buren. Lindenwald, the only home that Van Buren ever owned, represents the culmination of a remarkable political career that saw him rise from meager beginnings as a Kinderhook tavern-keeper's son to become the eighth president of the United States. His subsequent development of Lindenwald into a country estate and working farm reflected his Jeffersonian beliefs in the value and virtue of agriculture to a democratic society. Lindenwald is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an important example of a Federal-style mansion that was redesigned by architect Richard Upjohn to reflect the popular Italian Villa style of the mid-nineteenth century. The district is significant under Criterion D in the area of archeology and the subcategories "Prehistoric" and "Historic-Non Aboriginal" as a property that has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Surveys and excavations conducted on the property to date have identified four sites that address substantive research questions regarding Native American usage of the land, Van Buren's occupancy of Lindenwald, and development of the property by previous and subsequent owners. (National Register 2012: 17)

The prehistoric period of significance for the historic district includes an approximate date range of 5,000 to 2,000 BP for two contributing Native American sites that have been identified as dating from the Late Archaic and Woodlands periods. The historic periods of significance are 1797, the date of construction of Lindenwald as a Federal-style mansion, and 1839 to 1862, which spans the period of Martin Van Buren's association with the property. (National Register 2012: 17)

CRITERION A

Politics/Government:

Lindenwald meets Criterion A at the national level in the area of politics/government for its association with key events in the 1844 and 1848 presidential elections when Van Buren made his two unsuccessful attempts to regain the presidency. During the eight years after Van Buren left office, Lindenwald served as his political headquarters. Strategies were plotted in the house's drawing room and the library served as the place where he received and composed the copious amount of correspondence that kept him in touch with political allies throughout the nation. The key event on which his nomination and probable election in 1844 turned occurred on April 20 when he penned from Lindenwald a detailed, but politically damaging letter that stated his views against the annexation of Texas, the most important issue of the campaign. The public distribution of the letter provided his southern foes the ammunition needed to defeat his candidacy in favor of the pro-slavery candidate James K. Polk at the Democratic National Convention held a month later at Baltimore.

Lindenwald is also directly associated with Van Buren's run at the head of the Free Soil Party during the 1848 presidential election. From the house, Van Buren orchestrated the revolt of the Barnburner faction of New York's Democratic Party at the national nominating convention, the formation of New York's Free Soil Democratic Party, and the attempt to coalesce anti-slavery Democrats and Whigs and Liberty Party abolitionists. After being nominated at the party's Buffalo Convention in August 1848, Van Buren agreed to serve as the party's candidate for president. The Free Soil Party brought into focus the growing anti-slavery sentiment in the North and was the most successful third party that had yet been established. Although Van Buren did not receive a single electoral vote, the 10 percent of the popular vote that he garnered was sufficient to defeat pro-slavery Democratic Party candidate Lewis Cass, a foe of the Barnburners, and throw the election in favor of the Whig nominee Zachary Taylor. Van Buren later rejoined the Democratic Party, but the Free Soilers went on to form the basis of the Republican Party, which was established in 1854 and succeeded in electing Abraham Lincoln six years later.

CRITERION B

Politics/Government, Martin Van Buren:

The historic district meets Criterion B at the national level in the area of politics/government for its association with Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States. Located in the rural Dutch village of Kinderhook where he was born and raised, Lindenwald was the only home that Van Buren ever owned and is the singular historic property associated with his life and political career. He purchased the former estate of Judge Peter Van Ness, then known as Kleinrood, while still in office as President in 1839 and renamed it Lindenwald. He took up full-time residency there in 1841 after losing his bid for reelection in 1840. By that time he had cemented his legacy as a transformative figure in the history of American politics by being the primary agent behind the formation of the Democratic Party and the emergence of the partisan, two-party system that dominates politics to the present day. Although he never again held public office, Van Buren remained intimately involved in national politics during his first decade at Lindenwald, contending for the Democratic nomination for the presidency in 1844 and presidential candidate at the head of the Free Soil Party in 1848. Lindenwald projected Van Buren's Jeffersonian beliefs in the value of agriculture, the Free Soil Party's belief in "free soil, free speech, free labor and free men" in order to strengthen democracy. Van Buren's gentleman's farm set in the Hudson River Valley provided an attractive pastoral backdrop for entertaining the many prominent political figures that came to visit.

CRITERION C

Architecture:

Lindenwald meets Criterion C at the local level in the area of architecture as a significant example of the Italian Villa style as it was applied to country manor houses in the upper Hudson River valley during the mid-nineteenth century. Lindenwald was initially built in 1797 as a Federal-style building. Elements of that design, including two-and-one-half-story central block, symmetrical pattern of the fenestration, and Palladian-style second-story window remained intact after the house took on its current Italian Villa style design in 1850. Van Buren's son, Smith Thompson, directed the redesign of the house. As future heir to the estate, he wished to update it according to popular architectural tastes. Following the fashion then in vogue among the wealthy Hudson Valley elite, Smith Thompson hired a noted architect, Richard Upjohn, to design the modifications. Restricted by the pre-existing Federal-style design and siting of the house, which did not take full advantage of the available high ground, Upjohn designed a five-story tall belvedere to dominate the views to and from the surrounding countryside, and added the stylistic touches that transformed the exterior of the house to its present Italian Villa style design. He also made extensive interior modifications that supplied new rooms and modern conveniences, including the installation of central heating and indoor plumbing, both rare outside major cities at the time and available only to the wealthy elite.

CRITERION D

Archeology:

The historic district meets Criterion D at the national level in the area of archeology and the subcategories "prehistoric" and "historic-non aboriginal," as a property that has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Surveys and excavations conducted on the property have

identified sites that address substantive research questions regarding Van Buren's occupation of Lindenwald and previous and subsequent development of the landscape. In addition, the property has the potential to yield archeological information.

National Register Significance Criteria:

- A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
- B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
- C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
- D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

National Register Criteria Consideration:

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: BCE 5000 - BCE 2000

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Peopling Places	Colonial Exploration and Settlement	American Exploration and Settlement	
Peopling Places	Colonial Exploration and Settlement	Dutch Exploration and Settlement	
Peopling Places	Prehistoric Archeology: Topical Facets	Prehistoric Settlements And Settlement Patterns	

Time Period: CE 1797 - CE 1797

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Exotic Revivals (1830-1860)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Federal (1780-1820)	

Time Period: CE 1839 - CE 1862

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Shaping the Political Landscape	Political and Military Affairs 1783-1860	Jacksonian Democracy, 1828-1844	
Shaping the Political Landscape	Political and Military Affairs 1783-1860	Manifest Destiny, 1844-1859	
Shaping the Political Landscape	Political and Military Affairs 1783-1860	The Rise Of Sectionalism, 1840-1859	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Politics - Government

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Prehistoric

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Historic-Non-Aboriginal

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS ID: 66000510

Primary Certification Date: 02/08/1980

NRIS ID: 12000406

Primary Certification Date: 07/11/2012

NRIS ID: 66000510

Primary Certification Date: 10/15/1966

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? Yes

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
BCE 5000 - 1400	Inhabited	The Mahicans and their ancestors occupy the landscape surrounding Kinderhook, hunting, fishing, and engaging in agriculture.
CE 1609	Explored	Henry Hudson sails up what would later be known as the Hudson River, exploring for the Dutch West India Company hoping to discover a northwest passage to Asia.
CE 1664	Land Transfer	The CLI study area is granted to Thomas Powell as part of his extensive patent.
CE 1667	Purchased/Sold	Martin Van Buren's ancestors Jan and Derckje Martens Van Alstyne, purchase 3,000 acres, including the study area, from the Powell Patent.
CE 1682	Land Transfer	Van Alstyne gives 698 acres of his land, including the study area, to his son Lambert.
CE 1713	Land Transfer	Lambert Van Alstyne dies and leaves the land containing the study area to his son, Thomas. Thomas is likely responsible for building a stone house on the lower terrace.
CE 1760 - 1770	Land Transfer	Thomas Van Alstyne dies, leaving his property to his son, Lambert Thomas Van Alstyne.
CE 1780 - 1787	Purchased/Sold	Judge Peter Van Ness acquires the property as part of a 260-acre farm from the Van Alstynes and names the property Kleinrood.
CE 1787 - 1797	Farmed/Harvested	Van Ness and his family move into the existing stone house on the lower terrace and farm the property. The family plants crops and orchards throughout the property.
CE 1797	Built	Van Ness builds a new Federal-style home on the upper terrace, near the road to Albany and continues to farm the property. He builds a semi-circular driveway in front of the home and plants an allée of black locusts. Van Ness also builds a large wood-frame carriage barn behind the new house and a small, square brick building, called the farm office, nearby.
CE 1804	Land Transfer	Van Ness dies and leaves his estate to his three sons. William receives the house and a portion of the property and acquires his brother John's acreage of farmland. William improves the property.
CE 1824	Purchased/Sold	William Paulding, Mayor of New York City, purchases the property from William Van Ness. Paulding never resides on the property and maintains a farm manager to oversee the estate.
CE 1824 - 1839	Neglected	The condition of the property declines during the Paulding ownership.
CE 1839	Purchased/Sold	President Martin Van Buren purchases the 137-acre Kleinrood property from William Paulding and begins making immediate improvements through a farm manager. A garden and fish ponds are built.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1841	Inhabited	Martin Van Buren moves to the estate after losing the 1840 presidential election. He renames the property Lindenwald. Improvements are made to the main house, and several agricultural buildings are constructed.
CE 1841 - 1862	Farmed/Harvested	Van Buren engages in farming activities on the estate, planting potatoes, hay, rye, corn, and oats. He cultivates a varied range of fruit trees, and raises livestock. Vegetables and fruits for consumption on the farm are grown in the garden located southwest of the mansion.
CE 1843 - 1845	Purchased/Sold	Van Buren purchases three additional parcels, representing an additional eighty-four acres of farmland.
CE 1844	Built	The black hay barn is built for the storage of hay, animals, and grain in the lower fields next to Kinderhook Creek.
CE 1844	Built	Van Buren builds a farm cottage on the edge of the escarpment between the upper and lower terraces, to house his foreman.
CE 1849 - 1850	Altered	Van Buren and his son, Smith Thompson, hire architect Richard Upjohn to expand and redesign the mansion, who changes it into an Italianate-style villa, complete with a dramatic five-story tower. Two gatehouses are built at the ends of the driveway in a similar style to the upgraded mansion. However, a recent Historic Structures Report states that the gatehouses predate Upjohn. (Review comments, MAVA, 2013)
CE 1862	Land Transfer	Martin Van Buren dies and leaves his estate to his three living sons.
CE 1863	Purchased/Sold	John Van Buren purchases his brothers' shares of Lindenwald and retains it as a country home, intending to travel back and forth between Kinderhook and his permanent residence in New York City.
CE 1864	Purchased/Sold	Leonard Jerome purchases Lindenwald from John Van Buren but does not reside on the property.
CE 1867	Purchased/Sold	George Wilder purchases Lindenwald from Leonard Jerome.
CE 1873	Purchased/Sold	John Van Buren, a distant relative of Martin Van Buren, purchases Lindenwald from George Wilder.
CE 1874	Purchased/Sold	Adam and Freeman Wagoner purchase the property five months after John Van Buren bought it. The brothers run the property as a working farm.
CE 1874 - 1917	Altered	The Wagoner brothers use most of the existing farm infrastructure but improve the property to bring it back to good condition. They renovate the mansion, clear the front lawn of overgrown vegetation, and utilize the Van Ness and Van Buren-era farm fields and barns to operate a successful farm. They build a new garage behind the main house. The Wagoners use the Van Buren garden but remove the greenhouse and hothouse.
CE 1917	Land Transfer	Adam Wagoner retains thirty-six acres in the southern area of the property and sells the remaining 185 acres to Dr. Bascom Birney.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1917 - 1919	Inhabited	The Birney family uses the property as a vacation home while considering selling it for again for profit.
CE 1919 - 1957	Inhabited	The Birneys move to Lindenwald full-time and members of the family resided there almost continuously until 1957. The property transfers from Dr. Birney to his daughter Marian Birney in 1922 and then to his other daughter Clementine Birney deProsse in 1925, who moves to Florida.
CE 1919 - 1946	Farmed/Harvested	The Birneys farm the land and try many methods to make a profit. They raise animals, grow crops and vegetables, but also lease out some of the fields.
CE 1925 - 1930	Inhabited	The deProsses rent the property to the Schneck family for five years. The Schnecks reside in the farm cottage. Clementine and her husband William return to Lindenwald in 1930 with their two children, Jeanne and William, Jr.
CE 1930 - 1957	Altered	The deProsses reduce maintenance on the property, which alters the character. Barns fall into disrepair, the orchards age and are not maintained. The family cuts much of the locust allée for firewood, and allows vegetation to grow unmanaged around the mansion. The deProsses house family members and farm hands in the various dwellings and use the mansion as a family home, restaurant, and convalescent home.
CE 1930 - 1937	Built	Route 9H is constructed in the front of the property.
CE 1946	Purchased/Sold	Local farmer Ray Meyer purchases 165 acres of farmland from the deProsses. The deProsses retain 12.8 acres surrounding the mansion.
CE 1946 - 2000	Altered	Meyer upgrades the deteriorated farm, using many post-war farming improvements and drastically alters the character of the farmland. He alters topography on the lower terrace to improve drainage, removes and alters the fish ponds, removes or burns all the historic barns and outbuildings, removes hedgerows, and builds a new farm complex near the farm cottage. Meyer intensively farms the land growing potatoes, corn, and market vegetables in his new greenhouses.
CE 1957	Purchased/Sold	The deProsses sell the 12.8-acre mansion property to Kenneth and Nancy Campbell. The Campbells run an antique business from the property, utilizing the mansion and gatehouses. The Campbells build two new structures after removing the carriage barn and Wagoner garage from the rear of the mansion. One is a three-bay modern garage in the back of the mansion and the other is a shed near the Old Post Road trace.
CE 1961	Established	The property is designated a National Historic Landmark
CE 1973	Purchased/Sold	The National Park Foundation purchases the 12.8-acre mansion parcel from the Campbells.
CE 1974	Established	The mansion property is designated as a National Historic Site and donated to the National Park Service.
CE 1977	Established	The park is opened to the public.
CE 1987	Restored	The park restores the mansion and holds the park's grand opening.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1990 - 1999	Land Transfer	Ray Meyer sells a parcel of land near the farm complex to family members.
CE 2000	Purchased/Sold	Ray Meyer sells 126 acres to the Open Space Institute who lease the land to Roxbury Farm, a community supported agricultural operation.
CE 2009	Established	Congress passes the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 that expands the boundary of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site to include approximately 300 acres.

Physical History:

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. This section has been extracted from the 1995 "Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site," the 2004 "A Farmer in his Native Town: Cultural Landscape Report for the Martin Van Buren Farmland," the 2006 Historic Resource Study, "A Return to His Native Town," the 2012 amendment to the park's National Register documentation.

PRE-CONTACT HISTORY AND EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT, PRE-1839

Before European settlement, present-day Kinderhook was inhabited by the Mahicans, an Algonquian-speaking people. They lived in small villages of longhouses and depended on agriculture for most of their food, supplemented by fishing, hunting, and gathering wild foods in season. When Henry Hudson undertook the first documented European trip up the river that was later named after him, he landed south of present-day Kinderhook near the mouth of Kinderhook Creek. He reported seeing Mahican settlements and agriculture, including crops of maize, beans, and tobacco, as well as grapes, pumpkins, and fruit. Soon after Hudson's 1609 voyage to North America, the Dutch established a colony in Manhattan, called New Amsterdam, and ran a satellite trading post at modern-day Albany called Fort Orange. Native Americans and Europeans coexisted, sometimes peaceably and other times in conflict, for several decades but by the 1700s disease and wars over land ownership decimated local Indian populations in the Hudson Valley. (CLR 1995: 11-12; CLR 2004: 9-10)

The Dutch West India Company had political control and authority over trade in New Netherland. The Company made an effort to expand beyond trade and attract Dutch settlers with their 1629 Charter of Privileges and Exemptions, which established the conditions for deeded tracts of land, called patroonships. Members of the Dutch West India Company could be granted a charter for land purchased along the river, provided that they enticed fifty colonists to settle on their property. Most of the eastern bank of the Hudson River, south of Albany became part of the patroon system. Just north of present-day Kinderhook, the Van Rensselaer family purchased over one million acres of the Albany Area and managed their land through a system of tenant farmers. (CLR 2004: 10)

In a 1664 bloodless exchange, the British overpowered the Dutch and took control of New Netherland, renaming the colony New York. They continued the patroon system already established in the Hudson Valley, whose large tracts of privately-owned land became known as manors. The CLI study area was south of Rensselaerwyck and a small portion of the 3,000 acre Van Alstyne family holdings. The Van Alstynes retained the acreage within the family, renting to tenant farmers, until the late eighteenth century when they sold portions to individuals outside the family.

One of the last Van Alstynes to own the property that later became the Van Buren estate was Thomas, who built a house on the lower terrace, near the Kinderhook Creek. Little is known about the farm or dwelling, but period maps show a road leading between the creek and the house. The Van Alstynes sold 260 acres, including the dwelling on the lower terrace, to Peter Van Ness in approximately 1780. (CLR 1995: 12; CLR 2004: 10-11)

The Van Ness Family and Kleinrood:

Peter Van Ness was a prominent local citizen whose career included farmer, Revolutionary War commander, New York State senator, and judge. He and his family, which included his wife and five children, moved into the Van Alstynes farmhouse and operated the property as a working farm. Van Ness also employed or owned a combination of ten servants and slaves according to the 1790 census.

After residing with his family in the farmhouse on the lower terrace for twenty years, Peter Van Ness built a new home on the farm's upper terrace near the Albany Post Road in 1797. Naming his property Kleinrood, Van Ness built a two-and-a-half story brick house in the Federal-style, a popular design style of the time that reflected his elevated social status. The home was one of the largest and most ornamented in the area and was prominently seen by travelers en route to or from Albany.

In the late 1700s, the lower Post Road, once located between the Van Alstyne house and Kinderhook Creek, was rebuilt to higher ground further east; it ran along the upper terrace of the property. Major changes were again made to the road between 1789 and 1808, moving it west of the creek between Hudson and Kinderhook Village (approximately the route of modern NY Route 9). Thus, the Post Road on which Peter Van Ness sited his house was, from about 1792, called the Old Post Road.

Judge Peter Van Ness died in 1804, leaving his estate of about 260 acres to be divided between his

three sons, Cornelius, John, and William. Cornelius received the farm on the east side of the Old Post Road, while John and William each received portions of the Kleinrood property to the west of the road. John inherited the house on the lower terrace, the lot adjacent to it and bordering Kinderhook Creek, and a forty-nine acre lot along the road. His brother William inherited the new house and two large lots to the west. A survey drawn in 1805 illustrates the division of Kleinrood (Figure 1). (CLR 2004: 15,21)

John Van Ness settled in Washington, D.C., perhaps leaving the oversight of his Kinderhook property to his brother William. Between 1810 and 1834 John Van Ness sold much of his property to the Dingman family, who owned land immediately north of Kleinrood. The extent or date of the sale is unknown, but later deeds indicate that John Van Ness's holdings became the property of the Dingmans. (CLR 2004: 15)

William Van Ness retreated to Kleinrood after 1804, when his career as a lawyer and politician floundered due to his involvement as an accomplice in the Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton duel. William demonstrated a fair amount of interest in the estate, planting a garden and breeding livestock there. By 1810, his political fortunes had reversed, and Van Ness moved his family to New York City to practice law and involve himself in politics. He continued to use Kleinrood as a country residence. (CLR 2004: 15)

The 1805 map of Kleinrood depicts Van Ness's curving entry drive planted with black locust trees leading from the Old Post Road to the main brick house (see Figure 1). By accessing the home through a gracious semi-circular driveway instead of along a driveway of the straightest and shortest route, visitors arrived at the estate through a more formal entry. (CLR 1995: 20, 24; CLR 2004: 16-17, 21)

Under William's management, the Van Ness farm grew common crops for sale and for family consumption, including wheat, rye, corn, and potatoes. It is likely that William devoted much of his acreage to hay and pasture, as he was interested in animal husbandry. William also engaged in the profitable merino wool business, breeding the sought-after sheep for sale. Other common farm animals, such as poultry and swine, were likely kept on the farm for family consumption. Although little is known about associated farm buildings on the property at the time, two buildings are depicted on period maps directly behind the mansion. One is thought to be a carriage house, and subsequent owners used the other as the farm office. (CLR 2004: 12,15,18)

William Van Ness hired a gardener, Richard Finck, in 1806 and ordered seeds and shrubs from New York City to develop a formal garden. William's interest marks the first documentation of a garden on the site, though presumably earlier tenants also kept gardens for vegetables and herbs. Historians have suggested that the Van Ness garden was both ornamental and functional. Later, Martin Van Buren claimed to have built his garden on the ruins of the Van Ness garden, so William Van Ness's garden would have been located southwest of the house. Additionally, an observer in 1841 noted that when Van Buren bought the property he replaced decayed fruit trees, corroborating the presence of an orchard and suggesting that Van Buren's south orchard may have been in the vicinity of the Van Ness orchard. (CLR 2004: 19)

Fences marked the property boundaries of the Van Ness estate. It is documented that a fence ran along the north boundary of the property, between Kleinrood and the lands of Casparus Dingman; along the southwest boundary with the lands of Goes; and through the center of Kleinrood, along the division between the land owned by brothers John Van Ness and William Van Ness. Additionally, Martin Van Buren's deed to the property included references to cedar post fences. (CLR 2004: 19)

In 1824 William Van Ness was forced to sell Kleinrood as partial repayment for a debt. Van Ness's friend William Paulding, Jr. bought the property at a court auction for \$8,500. Paulding may have intended to hold the property for Van Ness, but Van Ness died in 1826, and Paulding kept the property. Paulding was the Mayor of New York for two terms during the 1820s, had an expensive home in New York City, and was busy constructing a country residence in Tarrytown, New York. Although he had a survey made of Kleinrood and purchased a small addition to the estate, it is doubtful that Paulding ever lived there. There is no record of his management of the property, but

Paulding probably leased it to local farmers. By the time Martin Van Buren bought Kleinrood from Paulding in 1839, the estate was in decline. (CLR 2004: 15-16)

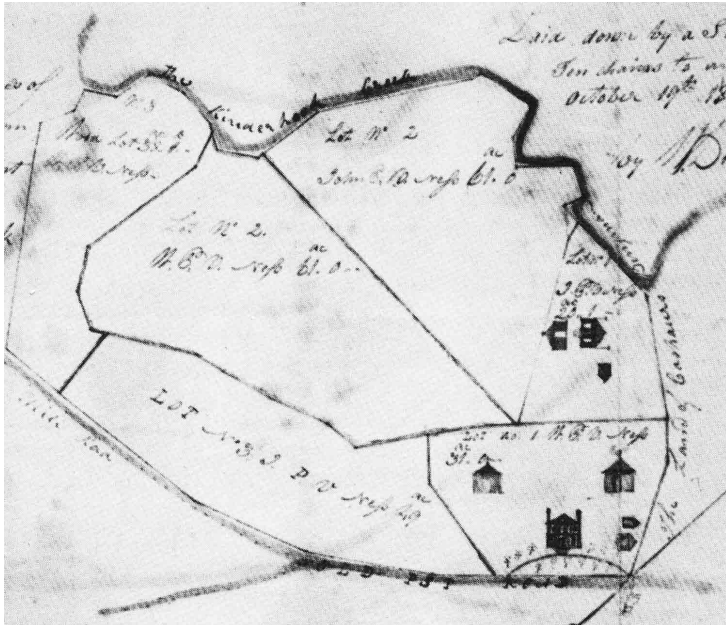


Figure 1. The 1805 map of Kleinrood, produced for the will of Peter Van Ness. The mansion, semi-circular driveway, and agricultural buildings are depicted. The building near the creek may be the original stone house along the Post Road. (MAVA archives)

MARTIN VAN BUREN AT LINDENWALD, 1839–1862

In April 1839, Martin Van Buren, the sitting eighth president of the United States, and Kinderhook native, purchased Kleinrood from William Paulding for \$14,000. The 137-acre farm, which was renamed Lindenwald, helped Van Buren live the Jeffersonian ideal of the land-owning farmer as a virtuous and patriotic American. As Andrew Jackson's vice-president prior to becoming president in 1836, Van Buren helped further the belief that laborers and farmers formed the backbone of the country. As the old Van Ness estate was the first property he had ever owned, Van Buren surely sought to place himself in the ranks of the Americans whose votes he courted. (CLR 2004: 26; National Register amendment 2012: 40)

The location of the old Van Ness estate was instrumental in Van Buren's decision to buy the place. On a regional level, it was located in his hometown, close to relatives, constituents, and familiar places. Van Ness's 1797 mansion, located on the Old Post Road, made the dwelling prominently visible and easily accessible from the major regional thoroughfare. Additionally, as the former home of Peter Van Ness, a previous employer and well-respected man, Van Buren satisfied aspirations to own one of the most prosperous estates in the area. (CLR 1995: 31)

Van Buren had returned to Kinderhook in 1841 upon the end of his presidency. While he used the estate as a base for continued political involvement, including an attempt at the 1844 and 1848 presidential elections, Van Buren also enthusiastically developed the property into a successful working farm. Lindenwald, therefore, did not only serve as a demonstration ground for agrarian ideals. Van Buren made major improvements to his estate, fashioning a highly successful agricultural venture from the overgrown meadows and decaying orchards left by previous owners. He also became keenly interested in the newest agricultural methods, which were changing considerably as a result of reform efforts and advances in agricultural technology. Van Buren proved to be a shrewd businessman, interested in agriculture not merely as altruistic experimentation. In addition, Van Buren's agricultural activities and his interest in trying new techniques and technologies enabled him to distinguish himself, giving him additional prestige. Van Buren often boasted about farming

successes in his correspondence with other gentlemen farmers and friends, routinely comparing his crops to those of his neighbors. (CLR 2004: 27-28)

Through a farm manager, Van Buren began improving the property while still in the White House. After many years of absentee ownership of the property, vegetation, fences, gardens, and the mansion required extensive upgrading. Van Buren directed the rehabilitation of the entry drive to the mansion and the lawn area, so that a visitor in 1841 likely noted the presence the Van Ness-era black locust trees and a circular planting of white pines on the front lawn (Figure 2). Van Buren's gardener used the site of the old Van Ness garden southwest of the mansion to create a new garden enclosed by fences and trees containing espaliers of fruit trees, vegetables, flowers, and vines. Some of the documented fruits, vegetables, and flowers included snapdragons, petunias, Canterbury bells, pink and yellow sweet peas, roses, strawberries, beets, turnips, beans, and herbs. A new greenhouse supported the growth of seedlings and young plants. Van Buren is known to have made wine from his own grapes. (CLR 1995: 43; CLR 2004: 52-53)

Insect infestation and soil depletion crippled New York's wheat-based agricultural economy by the middle of the 1800s. However, the growth of urban areas created a new market for local farmers to exploit. Kinderhook farmers responded to changing circumstances by finding a new niche in fruit production. Apple growing rose from 7,876 bushels in 1850 to 36,970 bushels in 1875, with pears, peaches, cherries, and grapes not far behind. Van Buren too was innovative at Lindenwald, and his estate boasted extensive orchards before owning orchards became popular. He planted two large orchards and a tree nursery: the north orchard contained apples and pears, while the south orchard contained exclusively apples. Given his connections to urban markets and his interest in horticulture, Van Buren probably grew some of the more popular, commercially-grown apple varieties of the time: the Newtown Pippin and Esopus Spitzenburg, which were among the first apples sold in New York City, or Baldwins, the most widely grown apple variety in the northeastern United States between 1852 and the late 1920s. In 1848, Van Buren documented the growing of nearly 17,000 young fruit trees to sell; these were perhaps grown in the nursery. (CLR 1995: 44; CLR 2004: 29,54-56)

In the early commercial orchards, farmers planted grids of grafted trees. Trees were grafted close to the ground and spaced regularly in a grid pattern with a range of spacing from twenty to thirty-five feet. Trees were allowed to grow wide, without pruned canopies, and trunks were long, five or more feet in height. Van Buren's orchards would have looked similar, and they would have been considerably different from older, non-commercial, farmyard orchards on nearby properties. Although early commercial fruit growers lavished more attention on their orchards than did farmers of earlier generations, strict land use separations were not enforced in the mid-nineteenth century. Van Buren may have planted crops between the orchard trees, as was common for the time. Or, Van Buren may have pastured cattle in his orchard, which would have limbed-up the trees, producing a 'browse-line' above which the cattle could not reach. (CLR 2004: 55)

Through the early 1840s, Van Buren expanded his farm to 220 acres with the purchase of additional parcels (Figure 3). In 1850, Van Buren documented his varied inventory of crops, including wheat, rye, Indian corn, oats, Irish potatoes, barley, buck wheat, hay, clover seed, and hops. Over the more than twenty years he farmed at Lindenwald, Van Buren's main crops were potatoes, hay, rye, corn, and oats. The others listed in the 1850 correspondence represent some of the smaller crops that were grown in fluctuating quantities through the years. Consistently, the largest percentage of his cropland was devoted to grasses, and it is likely that much grass was grown on the lower terrace where a large hay barn was located. To grow these crops, Van Buren drained the wetlands on the lower terrace and cleared shrubs to reclaim and expand the agricultural fields. In 1847 alone, he spent 500 dollars having drainage ditches dug in his lower fields. (CLR 1995: 45; CLR 2004: 37-38)

Van Buren added fish ponds to the farm, following a fashionable trend at gentleman's farms to stock fish for recreation and for the family table. One of the ponds was created by damming a natural spring located south of the garden and was outfitted with a wooden sluiceway to feed a second pond to the west and located down the ravine toward the lower terrace. Van Buren wrote of enjoying the fish ponds and often took visitors to his, and other ponds on fishing parties. (CLR 2004: 37)

By his own words, Van Buren was not a serious livestock farmer and did not devote much of his

interest and energy to animal husbandry. Yet, livestock played a role in all nineteenth century farms and Van Buren's was no exception. He kept a herd of about one hundred sheep through most of the 1850s, along with cows, pigs, poultry, and horses. These animals would have grazed on the twenty to thirty acres that Van Buren set aside for pasture to the west of the mansion. Initially, Van Buren's poultry and milk only supplemented the household consumption, but he expanded capacity in later years so that by 1860 the farm produced enough butter, milk, and cream to sell at market. (CLR 2004: 33,38)

In 1844, Van Buren built a new barn, called the black hay barn, for the storage of hay, animals, and grain in the lower fields next to Kinderhook Creek. Prior to expanding the mansion in 1849, some additional stable space may have been attached to the rear of the home. He also may have used space in the Van Ness carriage barn to stable horses. Space for any number of agricultural activities increased with the construction of the red hillside barn on the slope west of the garden. The new large barn contained space on the upper level for grain storage, with animal pens on the first floor. A fenced barnyard was located on the barn's southwest side. Van Buren also built a farm cottage at this time, on the edge of the escarpment between the upper and lower terraces, to house his foreman. (CLR 2004: 35,40-41)

In the late 1840s, Martin Van Buren and his son, Smith Thompson, agreed that Smith Thompson and his family would move to Lindenwald with the former president and then inherit the property upon Van Buren's death. In preparation for adding more people to the household, Van Buren and Smith Thompson agreed to hire noted architect Richard Upjohn to expand and remodel the mansion in the Italianate style that Smith Thompson, and many other society figures, favored. Construction began in 1849 and continued through 1850. Upon completion, the Federal-style home had been transformed into a large Italianate villa through added ornamentation, the expansion of the third floor and basement areas, and a striking five-story tower, or belvedere, that provided panoramic views of the surrounding landscape (Figure 4). Two small gatehouses, placed at the north and south terminuses of the entry drive and built with similar design elements as the mansion, added formality and cohesiveness to the mansion grounds (according to review comments by park staff, a recent Historic Structures Report states that the gatehouses predate Upjohn). White pines planted along the Old Post Road and scattered in the front mowed lawn accompanied the entry drive's black locust allée in intermittently concealing direct views of the house. Views of the mansion and the front lawn were revealed after approaching from the driveway. A small circular garden directly in front (southeast) of the main door was surrounded by a pedestrian path and contained a pair of cast iron benches and three Eastern white pines. The grass in this small space was manicured, contrasting with turf of longer length on the rest of the front lawn. (CLR 1995: 40-41, 4, 48)

After losing the 1848 election on the third party Free Soil ticket, Martin Van Buren spent much less time on politics and devoted most of his energy to his farm and family. His last years were spent managing the farm and writing his memoirs. Martin Van Buren died at Lindenwald in 1862 at the age of 80. (CLR 1995: 31,54; CLR 2004: 25)

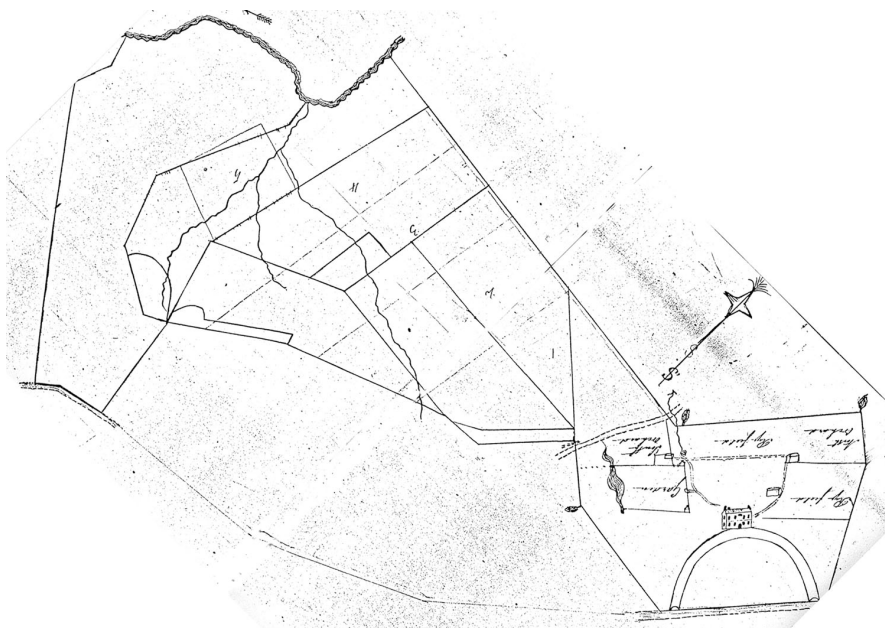


Figure 2. Circa 1841 sketch map of Lindenwald. The Van Ness-era mansion and driveways are visible near the Old Post Road. A trace of the original Post Road traverses the lower terrace (double dashed lines). (Martin Van Buren Papers, Penn State University)

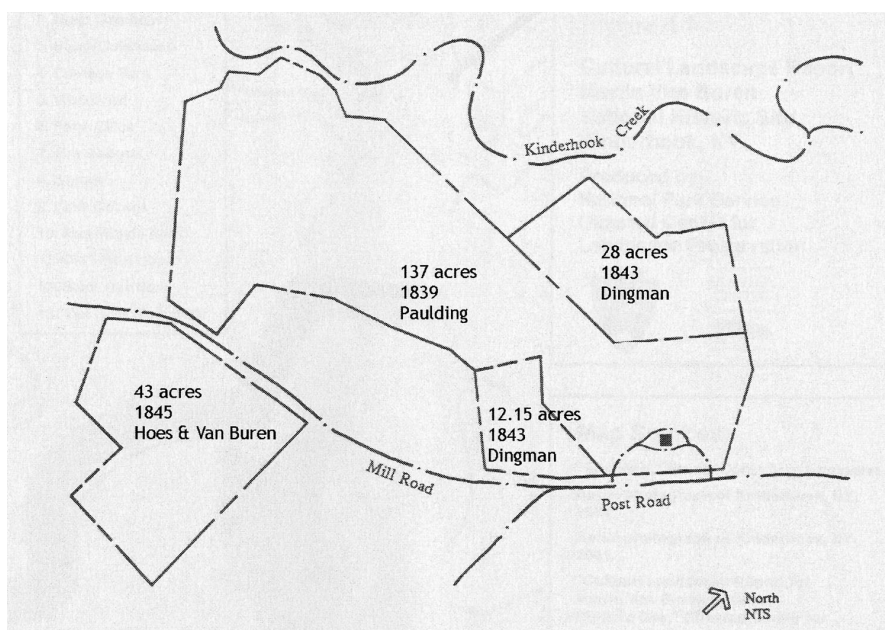


Figure 3. Martin Van Buren's land purchases, 1839 to 1845. (Image from CLR 2004)



Figure 4. Circa 1849 Richard Upjohn rendering of the mansion, showing the 1850 improvements that altered the Georgian-Federal style home to an Italianate villa during the Martin Van Buren ownership. (MAVA archives)

VAN BUREN'S HEIRS AND WAGONER OWNERSHIP, 1862–1917

Martin Van Buren's will stipulated that the estate be divided between his three surviving sons. Abraham, John, and Smith Thompson Van Buren administered Lindenwald for the nine months following their father's death. Despite Van Buren's wish that Smith Thompson live on the property, in May 1863 John Van Buren purchased Lindenwald from his brothers and moved there with his daughter Anna. However, by September of that year John Van Buren realized that despite the farm's potential productivity, the estate was too large a financial burden and too far from his law practice in New York. He sold the property a year later to Leonard Jerome, a wealthy stockbroker, who continued to employ a tenant farmer to manage the property. Jerome kept the property for only three years before selling it to Kinderhook native George Wilder. Wilder owned it until 1873 when he sold it to Van Buren's distant relatives John Van Buren and James Van Alstyne. They, in turn, sold it five months later to the Wagoners, a local farming family. (CLR 2004: 73)

When the Wagoners, brothers Adam and Freeman, purchased Lindenwald in 1874, ten years of absentee landlords and short tenures contributed to some decline on the property. Over the next forty-three years, the brothers ran the property as a successful working farm. Little documentation exists on the specifics of the Wagoners activities, outside of a few photographs and oral history, but some information can be inferred from these sources. The brothers retained much of the existing spatial organization and infrastructure during their tenure on the property. They grew corn and hay, as evidenced by a photograph of corn growing on the south side of the mansion's front lawn (Figure 5). Oral history reveals that the brothers raised cattle and, presumably, they kept poultry for the family table and horses to work the farm. Van Buren's extensive orchards remained in use and likely made up a large proportion of the farm's revenue. Period photographs show many of the farm buildings that dated to Van Buren ownership were still in use by the Wagoners, including the north and south gatehouses, farm cottage, carriage barn, farm office, red hillside barn, and black hay barn. It is unknown whether the Wagoners maintained the garden. Photographic evidence shows that they retained the mansion and grounds in good condition and made few changes to the design of the mansion landscape (Figure 6). The small circular garden outside the front door was retained, and the scattering of pines and varied shrubs on the front lawn continued to mature. (CLR 2004: 74-76)

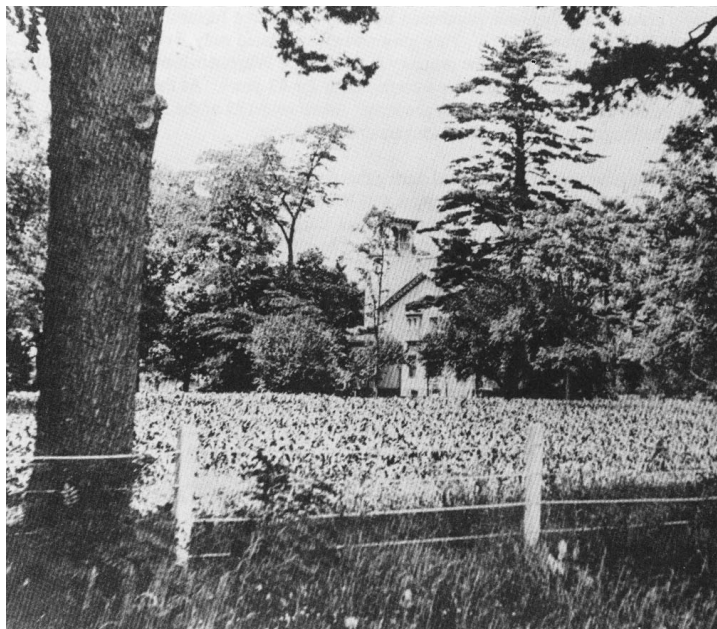


Figure 5. Circa 1905 image of corn growing on the front lawn during the Wagoner ownership. Notice the wire fence separating the property from the Old Post Road and the mansion in the background. (MAVA archives)



Figure 6. Circa 1913 image of the front lawn. The Wagoners maintained the mansion and grounds in good condition. (MAVA archives)

BIRNEY, DE PROSSE, MEYER, AND CAMPBELL OWNERSHIP, 1946–2002

By 1917, Adam Wagoner, then the executor of his brother's portion of the property, sold the northern portion of the farm, totaling around 185 acres, to Bascom Birney, a doctor from the New York City area. The sale included the mansion, farm buildings, orchards, fish ponds, and most of the agricultural land. Wagoner retained thirty-six acres in the southern area of the property for his family. The Birneys held the property in their family until 1946, transferring it between daughters Marian Birney in 1922 and Clementine Birney deProsse in 1925. The family initially vacationed at the property but then moved to the farm full-time in 1919. Their ownership is marked by a five year absence, between 1925 and 1930, when the Schneck family rented the farm cottage and looked after the farm. However, in 1925, Clementine, her husband William, and their two children, Jeanne and William Jr., returned to the property to embrace farm life and all its challenges, growing crops for market as well as for their own use. (CLR 2004: 85)

The Birneys and deProsses owned Lindenwald during an economically difficult period. As recalled by the deProsse children in later years, the family engaged in any number of agricultural and non-agricultural activities to pay the bills. They never had much money and tried a variety of economic pursuits; Clementine, for instance, worked off the property as a seamstress, cook, governess, and nurse. They rented the gatehouses to farm help and used the mansion for extended family, foster children, a convalescent home, and a restaurant throughout the years. (CLR 2004: 85,89)

The Birneys and deProsses used many of the existing barns and outbuildings on site, some of which were deteriorating. The carriage barn behind the mansion was among those in poor condition, but was used to store farm equipment and to house pigs. Likewise, the dilapidated black hay barn on the lower terrace was still utilized for storing hay, except for a few years in the early 1930s when the family rented the barn to local moonshiners (Figure 7). Conversely, the red barn, which was in much better condition, was used to stable cows and horses and to store hay and farm machinery. The family modified existing structures, such as connecting the historic woodshed and a Wagoner-era garage directly behind the mansion to form a sprawling complex for the storage of wood, ice, tools, chickens, pigs, and an outhouse (Figure 8). (CLR 2004: 87-88)

The family experimented with numerous crops and livestock schemes over their long tenure on the farm. These included raising sheep and chickens and growing corn, melons, potatoes, cabbages, and hay on fields in the upper and lower terraces. They grew vegetables for family sustenance in a garden south and west of the farm office, in the same location as the Van Buren garden but smaller. William deProsse recalled growing fruit trees, grapes, potatoes, and a variety of vegetables. The orchards from Van Buren's day were, by this time, overly mature and largely non-fruiting. The family did little to maintain them and collected very few usable pears and apples. By the end of the deProsses' time on the property, the north orchard was so overgrown that it lost all integrity and became a woodlot that extended to the Old Post Road and engulfed the north gatehouse. (CLR 2004: 89-91)

In the 1930s New York Route 9H was constructed, leaving a wedge-shaped piece of land between the Old Post Road and the new highway. The old and new roads merged at the south entrance to the Lindenwald front drive. Prior to the construction of Route 9H, most carriages and vehicles passed by the north gatehouse, as this was the end of the drive closer to Kinderhook. The deProsses had their mailbox at the north end of the drive. After the construction of Route 9H and the creation of the wedged shaped parcel of land in front of the property, most vehicles entered by the south gatehouse. The new highway was paved in 1937, and power lines were soon added along the road. (CLR 2004: 86)

In contrast to the Wagoners' ownership, maintenance of the vegetation around the mansion decreased over the Birney/deProsse era. The front lawn's manicured appearance disappeared as volunteer growth took root, and over-mature vegetation, including the white pines and front lawn shrubs, deteriorated (Figures 9 and 10). The family also cut the black locust trees along the driveway for firewood. (CLR 1995: 94-96; CLR 2004: 92)

In 1946, the deProsses sold 166 acres of the farm to local farmer Dudley Ray Meyer, but retained thirteen acres surrounding the mansion. The deProsses did not have the financial ability to make large-scale capital improvements to the farm. Meyer, however, was also in the business of land

development and purchased tractors and bulldozers. Farming had changed significantly in the postwar period, and Meyer began to modernize the farm almost immediately upon purchasing the land. He removed orchards and hedgerows, tore down or burned old barns, installed new drainage components, and cleared woodlots to increase the size of arable land (Figure 11). (CLR 2004: 107)

Continuing Van Buren's battle against wet cropland, Meyer drained the wet pasture area below the escarpment and the red barn. Meyer hired Ned Akers, Jeanne deProsse's husband, to dynamite a ditch to drain the wetland south of the farmhouse. In the process of putting in new drainage pipes, they uncovered some of Martin Van Buren's clay drainage structures, still in the ground, but clogged. Van Buren's lower fishpond was partially filled during Meyer's tenure as the ravine between the upper and lower pond became a dumping area for Meyer's construction projects. Meyer altered the shape of the upper pond when he constructed a farm road from Route 9H between 1948 and 1959 near the south gatehouse to the farm cottage. The new farm access road disturbed the drainage of the upper terrace such that a small pond was created opposite the upper fish pond, to the north of the new access road. Meyer subsequently enlarged the upper fishpond and used it for irrigation. The new farm road continued to the farm cottage and the other farm buildings. (CLR 2004: 109-110)

Van Buren's barns did not survive this period. Meyer had no livestock and grew little, if any, hay, so he did not need the livestock and hay storage structures that Van Buren and others built on the property. Meyer burned down the carriage barn to the northwest of the mansion in 1947 and the black hay barn on the lower fields by the summer of 1948 (Figure 12). He dumped the stones from the black hay barn foundation along the bank of the creek. Also in the late 1940s, he dismantled the red hillside barn except for its foundation stones, and reused some of the timbers to repair a simple shed that had been built during the deProsse period along the road down the embankment. Meyer also disassembled the associated barnyard, sheep barn, and the corn crib that had been located near the farm cottage. (CLR 2004: 111)

Meyer built a number of structures on the property, creating a new complex of farm buildings between the farm cottage and the upper pond along the new farm access road (Figure 13). During the 1960s Meyer added an open-fronted metal and wood barn, and around 1975 built three greenhouses side by side in the northern corner of the farm complex. Meyer also built two fifteen-foot tall metal silos south of the concrete-block building sometime between 1969 and 1994. Meyer raised vegetables and stored farm equipment, crops, and chemicals in the farm buildings he constructed. He also ran a farm market and retail produce stand on the property in the middle to late 1980s. Meyer built a ranch house on the upper terrace in 1985, near the large silo he had built late in 1984 and near the migrant farm worker housing he had constructed much earlier in his tenure. (CLR 2004: 111-112)

Meyer ran the Van Buren farmland as a successful modern farm for fifty-three years. In the process, many of the character defining features were considerably altered or destroyed, including all the historic farm structures, spatial organization of agricultural fields and forests, circulation routes, and water features.

The deProsses sold the remaining thirteen acres of the farm to Kenneth and Nancy Campbell in 1957. The Campbells lived on site and operated an antique business from the property. The property was deteriorated by the 1950s, and Campbell made many adjustments to the landscape and buildings. Campbell began by replacing a deteriorated front porch from the deProsse period with a Neo-Colonial Revival porch, complete with two-story columns, and exterior ornamentation on the windows and roof overhang to disguise the Italianate characteristics (Figure 14). Campbell constructed a small shop near the south gatehouse where he based his antique business, but he also sold antiques from the gatehouse, mansion, and the garage behind the mansion (Figure 15). Many items for sale were displayed on the front lawn, including bird baths, arbors, wagon wheels, planters, and statues. Campbell also placed a flagpole on the front lawn. To make room for a modern two-bay garage, he removed several aged farm buildings behind the mansion, including the wood shed, two privies, a pig pen, and the Wagoner garage. (CLR 1995: 77,83,87,103; CLR 2004: 107)

The Campbells increased maintenance upon acquiring the property, notably by mowing the grass and removing some woody vegetation from the front lawn. Evidence of the circular garden at the mansion's front door remained, although the white pines that once stood at the edge of the circle

were gone, obscuring its defining elements. Trees and undergrowth grew thickly along the Old Post Road segment, blocking views of the property from Route 9H. The Campbells planted a small vegetable garden next to the wood shed to replace the large deProsse garden that Meyer had ploughed under in the 1950s. However, toward the end of the Campbells' sixteen years on the property, maintenance declined and the property was again characterized by overgrown vegetation and deteriorated lawn furnishings. By the early 1970s, the Campbells moved from the mansion and resided in the south gatehouse. (CLR 1995: 94,96,98)



Figure 7. Circa 1940 image of the black hay barn and corn field during the deProsse ownership. (MAVA archives)



Figure 8. Circa 1945 view looking north of the shed complex west of the mansion, which can be seen at image right, during the deProsse ownership period. (MAVA archives)

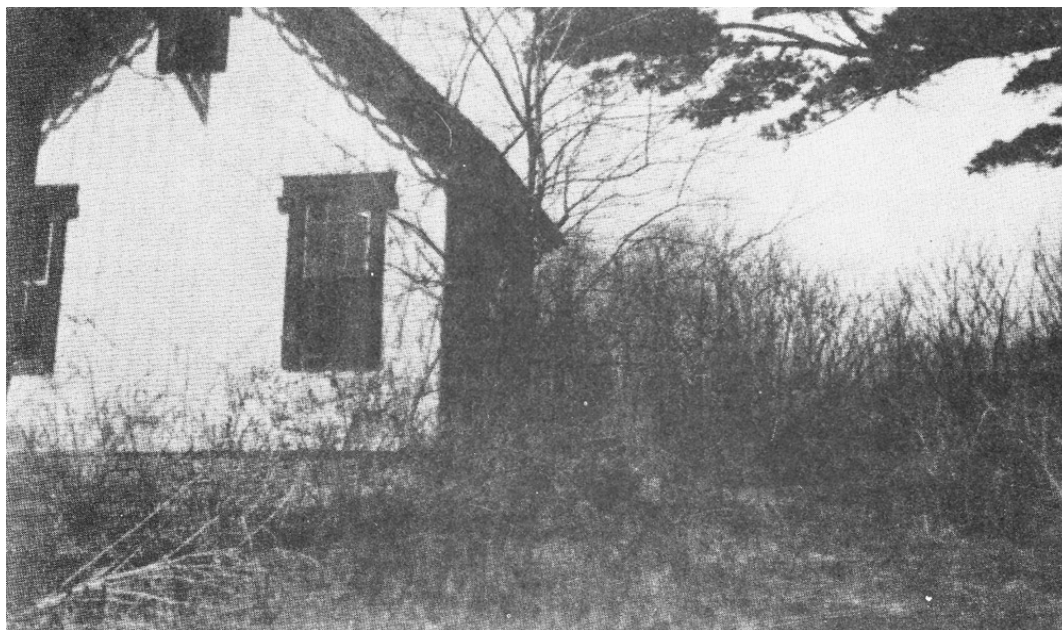


Figure 9. Circa 1930 image of the overgrown vegetation around the south gatehouse during the deProsse ownership. (MAVA archives)



Figure 10. Circa 1950 image of the overgrown character of the front lawn during the deProsse ownership. One of the specimen pines was gone from the front door and woody vegetation was becoming established on the front lawn. (MAVA archives)



Figure 11. Aerial photograph of Lindenwald in September 1959. This image illustrates some of the changes that farmer Dudley Ray Meyer made after purchasing the farmland in the 1940s. (EFB-2V-137, MAVA archives)



Figure 12. Circa 1940 image of the Van Ness-era carriage barn. The building was burned down by Dudley Ray Meyer in 1947. (MAVA archives)



Figure 13. View of Meyer's farm complex from Route 9H in 1978. Meyer built this new farm road in the 1940s. Lindenwald is out of frame at image right. (MAVA archives)



Figure 14. Front lawn of Lindenwald, 1969, during the period when the Campbell family owned the mansion and redesigned the front porch. (MAVA archives)



Figure 15. The Campbell antique shop (middle) and south gatehouse (left) in 1981. The National Park Service removed the post-historic antique shop. (MAVA archives)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PERIOD, 1973–2013

In 1973 the National Park Foundation purchased the house and its 12.8-acre lot from Campbell. The following year, the National Park Foundation gave the land to the National Park Service, and Martin Van Buren National Historic Site was established by an Act of Congress on October 26, 1974. Campbell continued his antique business on the property through this period. The National Park Service attempted to find a suitable property to relocate Campbell and his business but was unsuccessful and renovated the south gatehouse for his use as a residence. The National Park Service cleaned the grounds, stabilized some structures, restored the main house, and constructed buildings and rented trailers to house park staff offices and storage (Figure 16). The park was open to the public in 1977 but did not have its grand opening until restoration of the main house was completed in 1987. Campbell relocated his business but resided on the property into the 1980s, when he was hospitalized. By the 1990s the park encompassed 38.6 acres, with 20.3 acres held in fee by the National Park Service and 18.3 acres protected through conservation easements. The park upgraded the fire suppression, heating and cooling, and security systems of the mansion in 2004 and 2005, bringing the historic structure into compliance with modern codes. (CLR 2004: 108)

In the late 1990s, Meyer transferred a flag-shaped parcel of land, located south of the farm complex, to his grandson and wife, Kevin and Therisa Van Alan. In early 2000, Meyer sold the 126-acre parcel between the Lindenwald mansion and Kinderhook Creek, the bulk of Van Buren's original farmland, to the Beaverkill Conservancy, Inc., the "land acquisition affiliate" of the Open Space Institute, a non-profit, environmental protection and land conservation organization. Immediately upon purchasing the property, the Open Space Institute leased the farmland to Roxbury Farm, a local Community Supported Agricultural operation. Roxbury Farm is a sixteen-year-old farm owned by Jean-Paul Courtens and Jody Bollyut, who also has a lifetime lease on an additional 140 acres north of Lindenwald on NY Route 9H. Roxbury Farm supplies organic vegetables to more than one thousand members in Columbia County, Albany, Westchester County, and New York City. (CLR 2004: 108)

In order to protect the farmland historically associated with Martin Van Buren, Congress passed the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 that enlarged the boundary of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site to include approximately 261 additional acres of land from willing sellers. The Open Space Institute then donated 26 acres north and west of the current park boundary and granted a conservation easement to the park on 101 acres owned and operated by Roxbury Farms (pending).



Figure 16. View looking northwest in 1993 of mobile homes that served as park offices west of the mansion. The buildings were replaced in the late 1990s by a new temporary building complex north of the mansion. (CLR 1995, MAVA archives)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Field	Agricultural Field	Yes	Yes	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Outbuilding	Barn	Yes	Yes	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Storage (Granary/Silo)	Storage (Granary/Silo)	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	No	Yes
Funerary	Grave/Burial	Grave/Burial	Yes	Yes	No
General Storage	Equipment/Vehicle Storage	Equipment/Vehicle Storage	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Museum (Exhibition Hall)- Other	No	Yes	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

The mansion grounds are open to the public from mid-May to the end of October. The upper farmland is leased by a biodynamic farming operation and the lower farmland is held in a pending conservation easement and is not accessible to the public. However, the easement includes rights for the park to construct a trail through the lower terrace.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Landscape characteristics identified for the historic district at Martin Van Buren National Historic Site (NHS) include natural systems and features, spatial organization, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, constructed water features, small scale features, and archeological sites. Of these, natural systems, vegetation, circulation, buildings, and views are the most important characteristics and include features that contribute to the site's overall historic character. The features that contribute were either present during the period of significance or are in-kind replacements of such historic elements.

The physical integrity of the landscape is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the historic periods of significance (1797, 1839–1862) with current conditions. Many of the landscape's historic characteristics and features are still intact. The spatial organization of the formal mansion grounds, with the imposing home, semi-circular lawn, and gracefully curved entry drive, is still distinct from the open farmland west of the mansion. Vegetation patterns remain similar through the restored black locust allée, mowed turf lawn, and cultivated acreage of the farm fields. The Italianate-style mansion has been restored and remains the focus of the historic core, as it was during Van Buren's time, and the extant south gatehouse contributes to the presentation of historic conditions. The Van Ness monument is still visible in the field to the west of the mansion, and one of the fish ponds remains. Importantly, the historic setting is largely intact due to the retention of views of the Catskill Mountains and the preservation of actively farmed land in the park's viewshed.

However, much has changed since 1862. Notably, many of the historic structures known to Van Buren are no longer extant, including all of the barns, the farm office, and the north gatehouse. This alters the spatial arrangement of the area behind the mansion that was once the center of the working farm. Other key features such as the orchards and formal garden are gone, further altering the character around the mansion. Additionally, the dense north wooded area, once Van Buren's north orchard, encroaches on the formerly open yet organized landscape. The configuration of farm fields on the lower terrace has changed, and twentieth-century agricultural practices have altered the topography and patterns of some fields.

INTEGRITY

Overall, the historic district at Martin Van Buren NHS retains integrity due to the presence of four of the seven aspects of integrity: location, setting, feeling, and association. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship had diminished in the historic district.

Location:

Location is defined by the National Register as the place where the historic property was constructed, or the place where the historic event occurred. Numerous resources relating to Van Buren's time on the property are in their historic locations, including the mansion, farm cottage, south gatehouse, entry drive, Old Post Road, lower farm road, upper pond, well cap, Van Ness monument, as well as several vegetation and pedestrian circulation features.

Design:

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. The Lindenwald mansion retains design integrity, with the majority of Richard Upjohn's 1849–1850 design features intact. The cultural landscape retains some design elements such as the semi-circular entry drive and the restored black locust allée, and the spatial organization of the lawn area and the farm cottage sited on the edge of the upper terrace. However, Van Buren's layout of agricultural fields and drainage patterns was changed by later owners, and the formal garden, orchards, pastures, and agricultural complex proximate to the mansion no longer remain. Therefore, integrity of design is diminished.

Setting:

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property that illustrates the character of the place. Historically, Lindenwald was set in a low-density agricultural community that had been farmed by many generations in European-style agriculture. Open fields, orchards, wood lots, and scattered farmsteads characterized the

regional landscape. Despite some changes, including construction of the regional thoroughfare, Route 9H, and some suburban residential development on the park's periphery, the property is surrounded by large amounts of open farm land and retains clear views to the distant Catskill Mountains. These contribute to the integrity of the park's setting.

Materials:

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during the historic period of significance in a particular pattern or configuration to give form to the property. The mansion retains material integrity, with the majority of Richard Upjohn's 1849–1850 design features intact. The cultural landscape, however, does not retain integrity of materials due to the loss of many historic landscape features. Materials associated with Van Buren's farm and mansion grounds that are no longer extant include his formal garden, agricultural buildings, drainage systems, orchards, hedgerows, fences, and some specimen trees. Significant historic features that do remain, the entry drive and locust allée, are rehabilitated features that date to the National Park Service-era. The only documented plant material that dates to Van Buren's ownership is the sycamore south of the mansion. An aged mulberry tree beside the sycamore fell in a 2010 ice storm.

Workmanship:

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts and methods of construction used during the specified historic period of significance. The Lindenwald mansion retains integrity of workmanship, with the majority of Richard Upjohn's 1849–1850 design features restored. The cultural landscape does not retain integrity of workmanship because of the few remaining historic landscape features. Van Buren's fences, gardens, espalier, farm fields, hedgerows, agricultural buildings, and orchards are no longer extant and cannot convey integrity of workmanship.

Feeling:

Feeling is the expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time resulting from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey a property's historic character. If Martin Van Buren were to return to Lindenwald today, he would certainly recognize the property from the feeling engendered by numerous characteristics and features of the landscape. Most of the farmland that Van Buren owned remains open and under cultivation. The landscape accurately conveys the sense of heavy agricultural use that was characteristic of Van Buren's period of ownership. Roxbury Farm, which currently occupies the former Meyer farm complex buildings and actively farms the surrounding fields, employs biodynamic agricultural practices that are generally reminiscent of Van Buren's scientific farming principles. The Entry Drive, South Gatehouse, Old Post Road Segment, and the treed front lawn combine to create a formal entrance to the estate and contribute to its feeling as a country estate.

Association:

Association is the direct link between the property and an important historic event or person. Lindenwald is strongly associated with Martin Van Buren to this day as a national historic site dedicated to preserving his home and legacy. The property contains his home, grounds, and associated farm lands that have largely been rehabilitated to reflect his time on the property.

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic Conditions:

Seventeenth-century Dutch settlers found the flat, naturally terraced land along Kinderhook Creek to be prime agricultural land, and the Lindenwald property has been continuously farmed since that period. The lower terrace by the creek occasionally flooded, leaving behind nutrient rich sediment for growing abundant crops, except for areas that were too wet to be drained by ditches. During the Van Ness period the primary residence was moved from the lower terrace to the higher and drier upper terrace, as was the Post Road, a functional move that also allowed for greater appreciation of the site's southwest solar aspect and distant views of the Catskills. It was this combination of aesthetics and productivity that drew Van Buren to acquire the property. (CLR 2004: 144)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

The natural resources that historically defined the estate, such as the Kinderhook Creek that forms the western boundary of the property, the wooded escarpment that separates the formal aspects of the estate from the farm fields, and the combination of terraces and slopes, are intact and remain an easily understood as part of the historic agricultural landscape. On a smaller-scale, changes have occurred as Ray Meyer constructed several contemporary ponds within the transition slope and on the second terrace at the base of the slope. Three ponds lie at the base of the slope where the depressed area existed, and two are within the slope. The historic northern ravine and lower of the two historic fish ponds are now outside the park's authorized boundary and their condition is undocumented. (CLR 1995: 159; National Register amendment 2012: 13)

Landscape Characteristic:

This section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for two of the three historic periods (1797, 1839–1862), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is non-contributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. In the tables, features identified with a (*) are described in National Register documentation.

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Conditions:

Beginning with the Van Ness period, through the Van Buren period, and until just after World War II, the spatial organization of site features centered around the mansion facing the main road.

Structures dedicated to the agricultural operation lay behind the house, such as the carriage barn and farm office, and in a cluster near the escarpment, including the red barn and farm cottage. The wooded escarpment separated the formal aspects of the estate from the farm fields that were arrayed along the flat terraces adjacent to Kinderhook Creek. The mansion grounds were organized with a loose formality, with views and circulation features focused toward the house. The open character of the front lawn, tree-lined semi-circular driveway, and symmetrically placed gatehouses created a distinct spatial entity surrounding the mansion that differed from the outlying farmland. Van Buren's mansion grounds were presented to provide the appearance of a prominent country estate in the midst of productive farmland. Outside the mansion grounds, the remainder of his land had a largely open character and was used for crops, pasture, woodlots, and orchards.

(CLR 1995: 24,159-160; CLR 2004: 144; National Register amendment 2012: 13)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

Today, most historic farm buildings have been removed, and the center of farm activity has shifted, but the overall layout remains similar to that of the Van Buren period. Areas outside of the mansion grounds remain in agricultural production, creating an open character that existed during the historic period (Figure 17). Near the mansion, many key aspects of the site's spatial organization remain intact. The driveway configuration that dates to the Van Ness period is extant, and the restoration of the locust allée contributes to the historic character of the mansion grounds (Figure 18).

Although the front lawn lacks many of the significant trees present during the historic period, some are still present or have been replaced in-kind. Overall, the open lawn, the south gatehouse, and the mansion create a general depiction of historic conditions. (CLR 1995: 160; CLR 2004: 144)

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 17. View looking west at the upper terrace agricultural fields, trees along the escarpment, the lower terrace in the distance, and the Catskill Mountains in the far distance. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 18. View looking southwest at the mansion grounds, which resemble historic conditions with the locust allee, semi-circular entry drive, and open front lawn and evergreen trees. The north gatehouse foundation is in the foreground. (OCLP, 2010)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition:

The Van Buren property was originally wooded, then cleared in phases for agriculture. Although it is difficult to determine the extent of woodlots during the Van Ness, Van Buren, and Wagoner periods, it is likely that the steep slope between terraces and the marshy areas along the creek were left wooded. Prior to Van Buren's ownership, orchards may have existed that were not carefully planted, with no attention to variety, and the fruit was most likely used for cider. In contrast, Van Buren carefully planted extensive orchards northwest and southwest of the mansion: the largest was on the north side of the farm road to the old stone house, while a smaller orchard was in front of the farm cottage and on the slope behind the farm cottage. Van Buren sold both the fruit and young trees, and grew numerous other crops on the farm, including hay, corn, potatoes, and vegetables. Cultivated areas were likely divided by hedgerows or fence lines during the period of significance. (CLR 2004: 147)

During Van Buren's time at the site, the front of the estate was designed and managed to convey a sense of prosperity that reflected his social status. Van Buren maintained a large front lawn with a small manicured circular garden area immediately outside the front door of the mansion. Several white pines framed the small front garden, and a few clusters of pines were located throughout the front lawn. Van Ness planted an allée of black locust trees that lined the semi-circular entry drive to create a formal entry experience, a characteristic Van Buren maintained and perpetuated. A scattering of pines lined the main road, partially obscuring views of the mansion. Van Buren had a large formal garden south of the mansion where he grew espaliers of fruit trees, flowers, and vegetables. (CLR 1995: 43,48,50)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

Vegetation on the estate varied after Van Buren's lifetime, depending on the desire and ability of the subsequent owners to maintain the farmland and mansion grounds. The tree and understory species may have changed through time due to storm damage, natural succession, and cutting. Despite clearing by Meyer in the early 1960s, there are probably more trees today on the escarpment than in the nineteenth century. This woodland contributes to the historic vegetation of the property (see Figure 17). However, vegetation between two of the lower fields does not contribute because the plants are probably different species than historic field boundary vegetation.

A small stand of poplars (*Populus* sp.) now exists along the escarpment behind the mansion. Evergreens have been planted in the vicinity of the Meyer farm building complex: blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) in front of the farm cottage, a row of firs (*Abies* sp.) across the farm road to the north of the cottage, and several types of evergreen trees surrounding the upper pond. The orchards are no longer extant. Part of the former north orchard was overtaken by successional woodland growth of predominantly cherry, ash, and black locust trees (*Prunus* sp., *Fraxinus* sp., *Robinia pseudoacacia*) and is now called the North Woodlot, while the South Woodlot contains successional growth woodland in a historical pasture location adjacent to the formal garden. The poplars, evergreens, and woodlot areas do not contribute to the historic character of the property. (CLR 1995: 171-172, CLR 2004: 128, 147)

After years of change, the former Van Buren formal garden area now consists of mixed young evergreen trees and shrubs that do not contribute to the historical character of the property. With the exception of some hops plants, no plants or spatially distinguishing features from Van Buren's time remain in this garden. Near the west corner of the mansion, a large sycamore remains in good condition, but a large white mulberry nearby finally toppled in 2010 (Figure 19). In the front of the mansion, the lawn and trees resemble historic conditions, but the area is slightly more open. After acquiring the property in the 1970s, the park removed large quantities of overgrown vegetation. The front lawn is mowed frequently, but the park does not differentiate between the height of the grass in the small circular front garden and the rest of the lawn. The circular garden space still exists, but lacks the historic white pines that were once at its perimeter (Figure 20). In 2002, the park replanted the black locust allée, significantly contributing to the restoration of the front lawn

area. A historic row of pine trees between the lawn and the road, and a pine grove at the center of the row directly in front of the mansion, remain mostly intact. New pines and other varieties have also been planted. A small gridded planting of crabapples has been installed outside the park/headquarters/visitor center to reflect an orchard-like characteristic (Figure 21). Finally, brick and stone outlines exist on the property near the mansion and appear to define planting beds that once existed, but they do not contribute to the historic character of the property. (CLR 1995: 169,175-177,181; CLR 2004: 145,147,150-151; National Register amendment 2012: 9)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Wooded Escarpment	165043	Contributing					No
Sycamore and White Mulberry, West of House	165065	Contributing					No
Front Lawn *	165067	Contributing					No
Front Circular Garden	165069	Contributing					No
Black Locust Allée *	165071	Contributing					No
Front Lawn Pine Trees *	165053	Contributing					No
Field Boundary Vegetation	165075	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Poplars along Escarpment	165057	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Spruce and Fir near Meyer Farm Complex	165059	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
North Woodlot	165081	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
South Woodlot	165083	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Crabapples at Park Headquarters/Visitor Center	165085	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Brick Edging at Planting Beds	165087	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 19. View looking northeast at two historic trees southwest of the mansion, a sycamore (left) and white mulberry (right). The mulberry tree toppled in an ice storm. (OCLP, 2012)



Figure 20. View looking east at the grass on the front lawn, which is mowed at a consistent height. A garden path encircles the urn of the circular garden in front of the mansion. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 21. View looking northwest at a grove of crabapples in front of the park headquarters/visitor center, all installed in 2000. (OCLP, 2010)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition:

Prior to the Van Buren period the Post Road ran through the property's lower terrace, allowing Dutch settlers to establish farms using both this primitive road and the creek for transportation. By Van Buren's period of ownership, the Post Road had been relocated east to its present location along the upper terrace and in front of the mansion. Shortly after this relocation, the Post Road was renamed the Old Post Road because the road on the other side of Kinderhook Creek, between the village and Hudson, was designated the Post Road (the current NY Route 9).

By Van Buren's period of ownership, two farm roads extended west from the mansion down to the fields on the lower terrace. One road traveled along the north side of the property by the carriage barn and then west across the upper terrace to the vicinity of the former stone house on the lower terrace. Another road began behind the mansion, extending west across the upper terrace, then over the escarpment about sixty feet to the north of the present road down the escarpment, and further west along the present lower terrace road to Kinderhook Creek, running between the sites of the red hillside barn and black hay barn.

Around the time Peter Van Ness constructed his mansion, he also built a formal semi-circular driveway that defined the primary access to the property, and then planted locust trees along the drive. Van Buren continued to use the driveway and formalized it in the early 1840s. The drive connected with the abandoned Old Post Road northeast and southwest of the house, where Van Buren built two gatehouses. The south arc of the drive looped around the house, and the north arc met the loop on the north side of the house. (CLR 1995: 51; CLR 2004: 145; National Register amendment 2012: 10)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

During the Meyer period, some sections of the historic farm roads were abandoned, and sections in the upper terrace became part of the cultivated field area. However, the section of road on the lower terrace, running between the red barn and black hay barn sites, remained and today contributes to the historic landscape setting (Figure 22). Meyer added a new access road just beyond the south gatehouse to connect to the new farm complex (today's Roxbury Farm complex). This road is paved and detracts from the historical character of the property as well as the historical unity of the mansion and farm portions of the site (Figure 23).

When Route 9H was built in the 1930s along much of the roadbed of the Old Post Road, a trace of the Old Post Road was preserved in front of and running north from the Van Buren property (Figure 24). The road still exists and is maintained as an unpaved road and connects to the semi-circular entry drive (see Figure 18). The drive is surfaced with gravel and follows its historic configuration. Both the road and drive contribute to the property's historic character. In addition, the park reestablished a circular pedestrian path that once defined the circumference of Van Buren's front garden (see Figure 20). (National Register amendment 2012: 9)

The National Park Service constructed a paved visitor parking lot in the triangle of land between the Old Post Road trace and Route 9H to replace an older parking lot that was located southwest of the mansion. Today, an asphalt path connects the parking lot to the park headquarters/visitor center. Asphalt paths and earthen trails extend to and around the various park maintenance buildings and structures behind the mansion, and connect to the headquarters building. The parking lot, woodlot trails, and asphalt paths are noncontributing features. (CLR 1995: 175-177, 181, CLR 2004: 145, 150-151)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Entry Drive *	165401	Contributing	40750		Location	91434	Yes
Old Post Road Segment *	165403	Contributing					No
Lower Farm Road *	165405	Contributing					No
Circular Pedestrian Path *	165407	Contributing					No
Road to Meyer Farm Complex	165409	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
NPS Parking Lot	165411	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Paths to NPS Buildings behind Mansion	165413	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Path to Park Headquarters/Visitor Center	165415	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 22. View looking west from the lower farm road toward the fields in the lower terrace. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 23. View looking west at the road leading to the Meyer Farm complex, south of Lindenwald, and the remnant upper fish pond. Roxbury Farm now uses the road and farm complex. (OCLP, 2011)

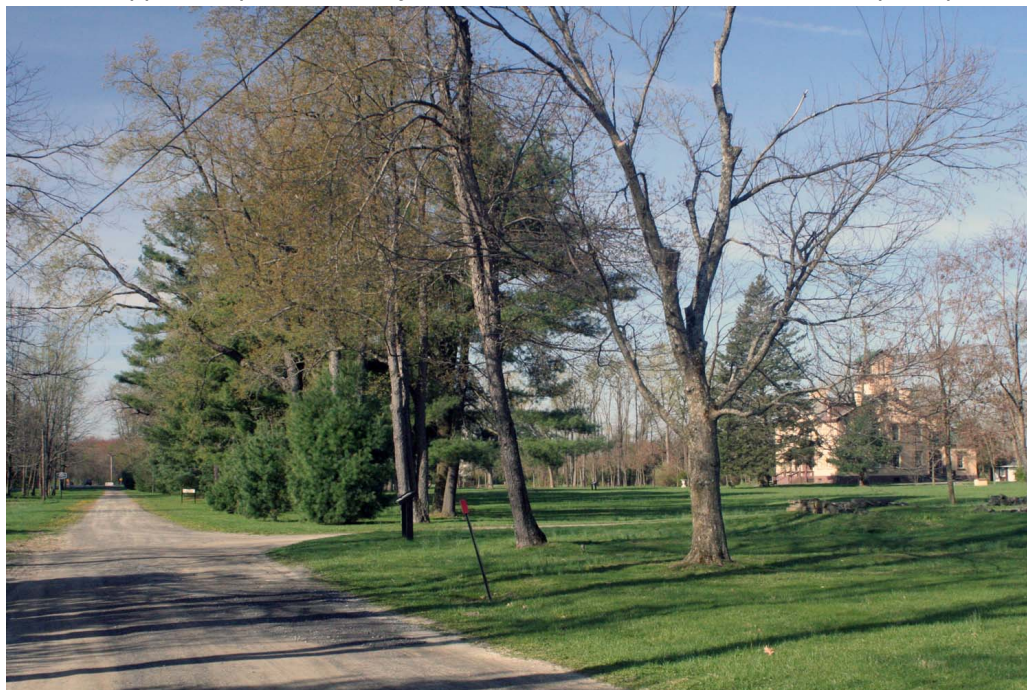


Figure 24. View looking southwest at the Old Post Road. The foundation of the north gatehouse is visible at image right. (OCLP, 2010)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition:

The first documented structure on the property was a stone house built by the Van Alstyne family on the lower terrace. Around 1780, Peter Van Ness bought the property and with his family lived in the house for almost twenty years until building a brick mansion in 1797 on the upper terrace near the Old Post Road. The house consisted of a two-and-one-half-story rectangular main block that was constructed in the Federal style, and measured approximately 59 feet by 45 feet. Van Ness also constructed several barns to service his farm, one of which was the carriage barn located behind the main house and a farm office.

Beginning in 1841, Martin Van Buren and his family lived in the Van Ness home and made numerous improvements, including a major expansion and redesign in 1849–1850 that transformed the Federal-style building into an Italianate villa. The addition was designed by architect Richard Upjohn, who added a five-story belvedere tower to the southwest corner of the house and surrounded it at its base with three distinct one-story additions. The house included an indoor plumbing system and a central heating system, both of which were rare in mid-nineteenth-century houses.

Around this same period, two nearly identical gatehouses on the north and south terminuses of the entry drive were built. The one-and-one-half-story wood-frame buildings had gable roofs and full basements, and were used as residences and for storage (according to review comments by park staff, a recent Historic Structures Report states that the gatehouses predate Upjohn). Van Buren utilized the Van Ness carriage barn and farm office and added several more barns and outbuildings to meet the needs of his farm. These included a farm cottage west of the mansion as a residence for his foreman, the black hay barn, and the red hillside barn. Most of these formed a cluster in the rear of the mansion but several were located throughout the agricultural fields to be close to the farming operations. (CLR 1995: 20,162-165; Review comments, MAVA, 2013)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

Later residents of Lindenwald utilized the Van Ness and Van Buren-era structures into the twentieth century. After a period of scant maintenance in the early and mid-twentieth century, most of the agricultural buildings were in such disrepair that they either collapsed or were destroyed. Dudley Ray Meyer owned the farmland from 1946 to 2000 and removed many of the farm buildings to make space for larger and more efficient farm fields and for a modern farming operation on the edge of the upper terrace. He added new structures to the complex, including a ranch house, two barns, two garages, two greenhouses, and a silo (see Figure 23). The Burch House, a late-twentieth-century single family home, was built in the southwestern portion of the farm.

Twentieth century residents of the mansion property removed outbuildings and added contemporary structures. A third garage built by Campbell in 1960 and renovated in 1978 still stands behind the house today and is used for park maintenance. The north gatehouse deteriorated so significantly that it was removed, although the south gatehouse is extant and in good condition (Figure 25, see Figure 18). The National Park Service has kept the mansion in good condition through several major renovation projects and diligent routine maintenance (Figure 26). The one-and-one-half-story wood-frame farm cottage (LCS No. 787465, remains standing in its original location along the Meyer farm drive and is an important surviving element related to Van Buren's agricultural development the estate (Figure 27). Two prefabricated modular homes were introduced by the National Park Service in 2000 and serve as park headquarters and a visitor contact station (see Figure 21). The park has also added several maintenance related buildings that date to the 1980s and 1990s, including a pole barn, storage shed, and a maintenance shed northwest of the mansion in the woods that was recently removed (Figure 28). Lindenwald, the south gatehouse, and the farm cottage contribute to the historical character of the property while the other buildings and structures do not. (CLR 1995: 162-167)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Lindenwald *	165417	Contributing	17102		Location	75833	Yes
South Gatehouse *	165419	Contributing	21034		Location	75892	Yes
North Gatehouse and Dump Site *	165421	Contributing	40031		Location	89311	Yes
Farm Cottage *	165423	Contributing					No
Meyer Barn *	165425	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243544	Yes
Meyer Greenhouse 1 *	165427	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243555	Yes
Meyer Greenhouse 2 *	165429	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243556	Yes
Meyer Garage 1 *	165431	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243542	Yes
Meyer Garage 2 *	165433	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243541	Yes
Meyer Open Front Barn *	165435	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243540	Yes
Meyer Farm Silo *	165437	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243543	Yes
Burch House *	165439	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
NPS Maintenance Garage *	165441	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
NPS Pole Barn *	165443	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
NPS Storage Shed *	165445	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Park Headquarters/Visitor Center	165447	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 25. View looking north at the south gatehouse and the Old Post Road mile marker. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 26. View looking west at the 1797/1850 Lindenwald mansion. The replica urn has since been removed. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 27. View looking north at the 1848 farm cottage. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 28. View looking east at the Van Ness monument in the upper terrace and the mansion and park maintenance buildings in the distance. (OCLP, 2010)

Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features

Historic Condition:

On the historic Van Buren property, the natural hydrological systems of surface and subsurface water were manipulated with constructed water features for both aesthetic and utilitarian functions, including ponds and drainage ditches. As reflected in the topography of the land, water flows across the site from east to west, draining into the Kinderhook Creek. Springs on the site were mentioned in early deeds, while Van Buren wrote of reclaiming fields for agriculture by adding ditches. He also constructed two fish ponds south of the mansion by building a dam on a natural spring. (CLR 2004: 145-146; National Register amendment 2013: 40)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

Extensive ditching during the Meyer period of ownership has obscured the historic ditches. Meyer drained the lowland near the base of the escarpment below the red hillside barn, cleared out and expanded existing ditches, and added more ditches and ponds. Meyer also expanded the upper fish pond and altered its configuration with the new farm access road from near the south gatehouse to the farm complex and farm cottage. Meyer reconfigured the lower pond, and created several new ponds by regrading the area with heavy equipment. (CLR 2004: 145-146)

Today, the upper fish pond is in the same condition since Meyer's alterations yet is considered as a contributing feature to the site's historical character (see Figure 23). The pond is located along the road to the Meyer Farm complex (now Roxbury Farm). Several other ponds that post-date the period of significance are located around the farm complex and do not contribute to the historical character of the property. Numerous drainage ditches remain on the lower terrace. Some of the ditches that are visible as subtle depressions likely date to Van Buren's time and contribute to the site's historical character. Deeper ditches date to the twentieth century and do not contribute property's historical character. (CLR 1995; 178-179, CLR 2004: 145-146)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Upper Pond *	165449	Contributing					No
Historic Ditch Traces *	165451	Contributing					No
Lower Farm Complex Ponds	165453	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition:

During Martin Van Buren's time, much of the land surrounding the mansion was cleared of forest trees and devoted to crops, pasture, and orchards. Open views from the mansion were available in many directions, including dramatic westward views toward the Catskill Mountains. To gain clear views down the gently sloping topography of the lower terrace to the Kinderhook Creek, walking to the edge of the escarpment was necessary. Farm structures located directly behind the house, including the carriage barn and farm office, and the presence of the garden and orchards, obscured some views directly west and south from the mansion.

Views from the house were dramatically improved in 1849-1850 when Richard Upjohn added the five-story belvedere tower to the mansion, which provided fine views of the entire property, with the Kinderhook Creek as a middle ground and the Catskill Mountains in the distance. Van Ness had originally sited the mansion in an earlier era and in response to more practical considerations, and as a result it was too far from the escarpment that separated the upper and lower terraces to take advantage of the scenic prospects available elsewhere on the site. Short of moving the house, the construction of the tower was one way of making a classic passage of Hudson River Valley scenery part of the experience of the house, as it was for many newer residences in the region that were sited specifically to take advantage of scenic viewpoints. (National Register amendment 2012: 6,31-32)

Van Buren was also proud of how the property was perceived from the Old Post Road. A line of pine trees obscured direct views to the mansion but gaps between the trees invitingly revealed glances of the home. The mowed lawn and tree-lined driveway also focused views toward the house.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

Views at Martin Van Buren National Historic Site are largely the same as during the period of significance, with a few exceptions. Van Buren's orchards no longer remain, the south orchard was removed for crop cultivation and the north orchard was overtaken by woodland growth, which obscures northward views. Views from the mansion to the south have changed due to the loss of the formal garden, the growth of a wooded area, the addition of many young evergreen trees, and the cluster of twentieth-century farm buildings. However, views of the Catskills are still available and are one of the most striking elements of the landscape (Figure 29). Additionally, although the configuration of the woods on the escarpment has grown since the historic period, the existing view over the open agricultural fields west and south of the mansion grounds would surely be recognizable to Van Buren. Views from the Old Post Road toward the front of the mansion are also intact, and like they were historically, partially obscured by trees (Figure 30). The views, therefore, contribute to the historical setting. (CLR 1995: 172-174)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
View of the Catskill Mountains from the Mansion *	165455	Contributing					No
View of the Mansion from the Old Post Road *	165457	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 29. View looking west to the Catskill Mountains across the farm fields from the upper terrace, west of the mansion. (OCLP, 2010)



Figure 30. View looking northwest across the front lawn toward the mansion from the Old Post Road. (OCLP, 2010)

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition:

There is little record of the type and construction of small-scale features used on the farm property during Van Buren's time. However, fencing was used to demarcate some of the fields, and it can be inferred that fencing was certainly used to support espaliers and enclose the garden and animal enclosures. In 1847, Van Buren allowed John Van Ness to erect a stone obelisk on the grave of his father, Peter Van Ness, in the field behind the mansion. The monument featured a large granite urn set atop a rectangular granite plinth with a molded cornice, and provided a detailed inscription of the highlights of Van Ness's life. Van Buren used a well dug during the Van Ness period throughout his time on the property, which was located immediately west of the bulkhead on the west elevation of the mansion. In the front lawn area, Van Buren also located two cast iron benches in the circular garden at the mansion's front door, and according to historic images, decorative urns. (CLR 1995: 179-180)

Post-historic and Existing Conditions:

The granite Van Ness Monument is extant, situated on a grassy mound on a cleared portion of the upper terrace field (see Figure 28). The five-foot square fieldstone well cap covers the historic well on the west side of the mansion. A 3-foot-square steel plate has been added over the top of the cap to protect the well opening. In the front lawn, there are two replica benches, and up until 2010 a replica urn was located in the middle of the circular garden (see Figure 26). (National Register amendment 2012: 10)

A vertical marble slab mileage marker carved with "134 to NY" is located along the Old Post Road directly east of the south gatehouse (see Figure 25). Originally constructed in the early nineteenth century, the marker was in storage from the 1930s until sometime between 1957 and 1973. When the marker was replaced it was encased in a fieldstone surround with a concrete slab gable pediment and granite block and concrete base. While it represents a relatively rare example of an early Post Road marker, the object does not contribute to the historic district because of its removal from its original location and significant alterations to its original appearance that post-date the period of significance. (National Register amendment 2012: 12)

Most of the site's remaining small-scale features are modern introductions and do not contribute to the property's historic character. Many are associated with the Roxbury Farm complex and National Park Service operations, including utility poles, directional signage, waysides, a fuel oil well cap, a generator, split rail fencing, and a flagpole. (CLR 1995: 179-182, CLR 2004: 154-155)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Van Ness Monument *	165459	Contributing					No
Well Cap *	165461	Contributing	40751				No
Albany Post Road Mile Marker *	165463	Noncontributing – Compatible	40752				No
Utility Pole	165465	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Directional Signage	165467	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Waysides	165469	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Fuel Oil Well Cap	165471	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Generator	165473	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Split-Rail Fencing	165475	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Flagpole	165477	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

As described in the 2012 amendment to the park's National Register documentation, there are four contributing archeological sites at Martin Van Buren NHS. For more information, please consult the documentation.

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 5

Next Assessment Due Date: 06/25/2030

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 06/25/2025

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The overall landscape is well-maintained and in good condition.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/25/2023

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Provisional. The condition reassessment for this CLI has been delayed due to the effects of Covid-19 travel restrictions and staffing shortages. In the meantime, the most recent condition assessment will remain in place until it is reassessed. Planning and scheduling for this update will occur in FYs 2023-2024.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/12/2013

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The landscape of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site is considered to be in "good" condition. The existing resources, including the mansion, the front lawn and front garden, black locust allée, entry drive, woodlot, and south gatehouse show no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 07/30/1998

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Due to the documentation in place, and as part of the effort to establish the baseline number of landscapes nationwide, a preliminary determination of status and condition can be made. Lindenwald can be considered "one" landscape for purposes of the NPS baseline information and the overall condition can be assessed as "fair."

The baseline information and condition assessment was completed by David Uschold, CLI Coordinator, New England, OCLP, in July 1998 in consultation with Richard Oullette, Chief of Maintenance, MAVA, and concurred by Michael Henderson, Superintendent, MAVA (cc:mail 7/30/1998).

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Potential suburbanization on adjacent lands may impact the park's viewshed.

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The north woodlot contains many over-mature trees that may pose a safety hazard.

2025: The north woodlot has been removed as part of the project to restore the historic orchard. However, the south woodlot, which is smaller, remains.

Date Identified: 06/25/2025

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Current staffing challenges have limited typical landscape maintenance. So far this has largely just impacted decorative shrubs, which are not getting their typical pruning and care this year, but if additional staffing problems occur, they may impact more of the landscape.

Date Identified: 06/25/2025

Type of Impact: Pests/Diseases

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: With our installation of the orchard, the park is actively managing new pest and disease vectors that impact the new apple and pear trees. Last year these included spongey moths, Japanese beetles, and potato leafhoppers. These are being managed effectively by our maintenance team, but are certainly an ongoing threat.

Date Identified: 06/25/2025

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Undetermined

Treatment Completed: No

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

The park has not completed the public process to establish an approved landscape treatment. However, a general management plan is currently underway that will address this issue. The alternatives for the treatment of the landscape include; a partial rehabilitation of select features on the fee simple lands around the mansion and; a graduated treatment approach that includes restoration of the mansion grounds and rehabilitation of the newly acquired 26 acres containing the agricultural complex leased to Roxbury Farms located south and west of the original national historic site property. The park holds a pending conservation easement on 101 acres of agricultural land owned by the Open Space Institute and cannot prescribe a treatment approach for this acreage, outside of ensuring the preservation of seven identified historic features.

There are several projects in the Project Information Management System (PMIS) aimed to improve the cultural landscape:

“NER C2A - Complete Dutch Farms and Mountain Vistas Trail Link” (PMIS 193201).

In response to the Call to Action, the park, along with partners from the Town of Kinderhook, Friends of Kinderhook Trails, Columbia County Historical Society and Roxbury Farm (CSA), will use these funds to "connect parks to people" by completing a two-mile trail linking the park to the Van Alen House, a National Historic Landmark, via Roxbury Farm. A scenic overlook will include a accessible picnic table. Preparation of the scenic overlook site and construction of bog walks and fences will be completed by park volunteers and members of the Friends of Kinderhook Trails. Funding requested FY 2013.

“Expand Park Wayside Loop Trail to Incorporate New Resources” (PMIS 176156).

This project funds the production of four park researched and written porcelain enamel wayside exhibits to interpret new features on land added to the park as a result of 2009 legislation. The new exhibits will add another half mile to the existing three-quarter mile wayside loop trail currently comprised of 11 exhibits. Funding requested FY 2015.

“Create Cultural Landscape Treatment/Agricultural Management Plan for Lindenwald” (PMIS 187623).

This project will integrate prior and recent lands research, including areas within the expanded 285-acre boundary. The Plan will update the treatment plan for the 13-acre "house lot" and provide guidelines for farmland. It is needed to further the park's unique partnership with Roxbury Farm, a biodynamic CSA with over 1,000 members, which farms most of the Van Buren farmland. This project is critical to retaining this partner in stewardship. Component A, Update and Expand Landscape Treatment Plan, will clarify the overall direction and character goals for the formal landscape, the farmlands, and integrate land stewardship with natural resources protection and recreational use. Component B, Agricultural Management Plan, will be a detailed "how-to" for achieving these goals, and will serve as a model for other NPS units in the management of active agriculture. Funding requested FY 2014.

“Provide Access to Martin Van Buren's Farm” PMIS 143798.

This project will provide visitor access to Martin Van Buren's original farm. Today visitors who come to MAVA experience only a portion of the uniqueness of Van Buren's "Lindenwald," a National Historic Landmark. Although the original farm was 221 acres, today there is access to only 20 acres. Development of the "Lindenwald" trail will provide visitors a more meaningful experience and better understanding of Lindenwald. Funding requested for FY 2015.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Treatment Type: Bulk Import TBD

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: Cultural Landscape Report

Document Date: 1995-06-01

Title: Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren
National Historic Site: Site History, Existing
Conditions, and Analysis

IRMA Link: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2188098>

Narrative:

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Treatment Type: Bulk Import TBD

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: Cultural Landscape Report

Document Date: 1997-12-01

Title: Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren
National Historic Site, Volume 2: Treatment Plan

IRMA Link: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2188449>

Narrative:

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Treatment Type: Bulk Import TBD

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: Cultural Landscape Report

Document Date: 2004-01-01

Title: A Farmer in His Native Town: Cultural Landscape
Report for the Martin Van Buren Farmland, Volume I:
History, Existing Conditions, Analysis, Treatment
Implications

IRMA Link: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2187409>

Narrative:

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Treatment Type: Bulk Import TBD

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: Cultural Landscape Report

Document Date: 2016-01-01

Title: Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren
National Historic Site

IRMA Link: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2240568>

Narrative:

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service	"Lindenwald," Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form	1980	National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior,			
Uschold, David L.	Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site	1995	Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, National Park Service, U.S. Department			
Searle, Llerena	A Farmer in His Native Town: Cultural Landscape Report for the Martin Van Buren Farmland	2004	Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, U.S. Department of the Interior			
Richards, Leonard L. Marla R. Miller, Erik Gilg	A Return to His Native Town: Martin Van Buren's Life at Lindenwald, 1839–1862	2006	University of Massachusetts and National Park Service, U.S. Department of the In			
Quirey, Matthew, Charles Pepper, A. Martin Petrovic	Turf Management Plan for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site	2010	Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, National Park Service, U.S. Department			
Olausen, Stephen, Laura Kline, Kristen Heitert, and Carey Jones. Public Archeology Laboratory	Martin Van Buren National Historic Site Historic District National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form	2012	National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior			

Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
MAVA_Martin Van Buren NHS Landscape_CLI Update Notes_2025.pdf		

Source