

# Historic Sites & Districts in Somerset County, New Jersey



Listed on the  
National & New Jersey  
Registers of  
Historic Places

Somerset County  
Cultural & Heritage  
Commission 2008





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Cynthia Mellusi, Administrative Assistant

The County would like to acknowledge the contributions to this publication by  
Constance M. Greiff, Ernest Bower, Ursula Brecknell, William Schleicher  
and Susan Winter.

The sketches in this document were prepared by Jean Nielson & Arden Redpath  
Layout by Greg Backman  
Map produced by Andrew Phillips

Introductory Text adapted from materials provided by the  
New Jersey Historic Preservation Office

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Introduction .....                                 | 4         |
| Bedminster Township.....                           | 6         |
| Bernards Township .....                            | 10        |
| Bernardsville Borough.....                         | 15        |
| Bound Brook Borough.....                           | 18        |
| Branchburg Township .....                          | 19        |
| Bridgewater Township .....                         | 20        |
| Far Hills Borough.....                             | 23        |
| Franklin Township .....                            | 24        |
| <i>Map of Historic Sites &amp; Districts .....</i> | <i>28</i> |
| Green Brook Township.....                          | 31        |
| Hillsborough Township .....                        | 32        |
| Millstone Borough.....                             | 38        |
| Montgomery Township.....                           | 39        |
| North Plainfield Borough.....                      | 43        |
| Peapack and Gladstone Borough.....                 | 45        |
| Raritan Borough .....                              | 46        |
| Rocky Hill Borough .....                           | 47        |
| Somerville Borough .....                           | 48        |
| South Bound Brook Borough.....                     | 53        |
| Warren Township .....                              | 54        |

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## INTRODUCTION

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. A National Register was first established in 1935 by the Historic Sites Act, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to define those properties of national importance as National Historic Landmarks. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 expanded the nature of the National Register to include not only properties of national significance, but also districts, sites, structures, buildings and objects of state and local importance. To implement the 1966 Act, the Governor of each state was asked to designate a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to work in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Register Office. For New Jersey, the SHPO is the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

The New Jersey Register of Historic Places is the official list of New Jersey's cultural resources. Created by the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act of 1970, the State Register is closely modeled after the National Register Program. Both Registers have the same criteria for eligibility, nomination form, and review process. Nearly every municipality in New Jersey has properties significant in architecture, history, archaeology, engineering and/or culture that are eligible for the New Jersey and National Registers.

The New Jersey and National Registers provide a degree of review and protection from public encroachment. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, provides for review of any federally licensed, financed or assisted undertaking for properties listed on or eligible for the National Register. The New Jersey Register law requires review of any state, county or municipal undertaking involving properties listed on the New Jersey Register. These reviews are designated to prevent destruction or damage of historic resources by public agencies.

Inclusion in the National Register enables the owner of an income producing property to take advantage of certain federal tax benefits.

New Jersey and National Register nomination applications are prepared by individuals, cultural or historic organizations, government agencies and professional consultants. Completed applications are submitted to the Historic Preservation Office where staff reviews them for eligibility, technical completeness and substantive sufficiency. Property owners and county and local officials are notified and given an opportunity to comment. A public meeting is held for large historic districts. Applications are then presented to the New Jersey State Historic Review Board for Historic Sites, which is made up of professionals in the fields of architecture, history architectural history, archaeology and landscape architecture. If passed by the State Review Board, the nomination application is prepared for the SHPO signature. Once signed by the SHPO, the property is listed in the New Jersey Register and simultaneously recommended for the National Register. The nomination is then sent to Washington for consideration for the National Register.

Listings on the State and National Register fall into three categories: individual buildings and /or sites, districts, and multiple resources. A district may contain a handful or hundreds of resources. Not all of these need be significant in and of themselves, but the majority of them should contribute to the district's sense of time and place. A multiple resource nomination may be organized by building type, a time period, or geography. Each property included in such a nomination must be individually eligible for the National Register.

Although Somerset County has 59 historic sites and 26 historic districts, that are listed or pending listing, there are many more resources that are eligible to be listed that are not. The County encourages individuals, organizations and municipalities to nominate historic resources to the register so that our nation's past can be preserved for future generations.

### **Key to Abbreviations**

**NR** – National Register of Historic Places

**SR** – New Jersey Register of Historic Places

# BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP



McDonalds/Klines Mill

## HISTORIC SITES

- 1) **McDONALDS/KLINES MILL, KLINES MILL ROAD**  
NR 3-9-87 SR 11-10-86

The McDonalds / Klines Mill is significant as a rare, surviving, up-and-down sawmill, which has the mill drive virtually intact. Mills of its type were used to cut heavy timbers, such as those used in barn construction, into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The mill site is the sole vestige of a 19<sup>th</sup> century rural industrial and trading center that included a number of other mills nearby. In fact, William McDonald owned two grist mills and a saw mill in 1779. After a number of owners, it was willed to the wife of Jacob Kline in 1836. It remained in the Kline family until 1899. It is in private ownership.

**2) PLUCKEMIN CONTINENTAL ARTILLERY CANTONMENT**  
NR 3-14-08 SR 1-17-08

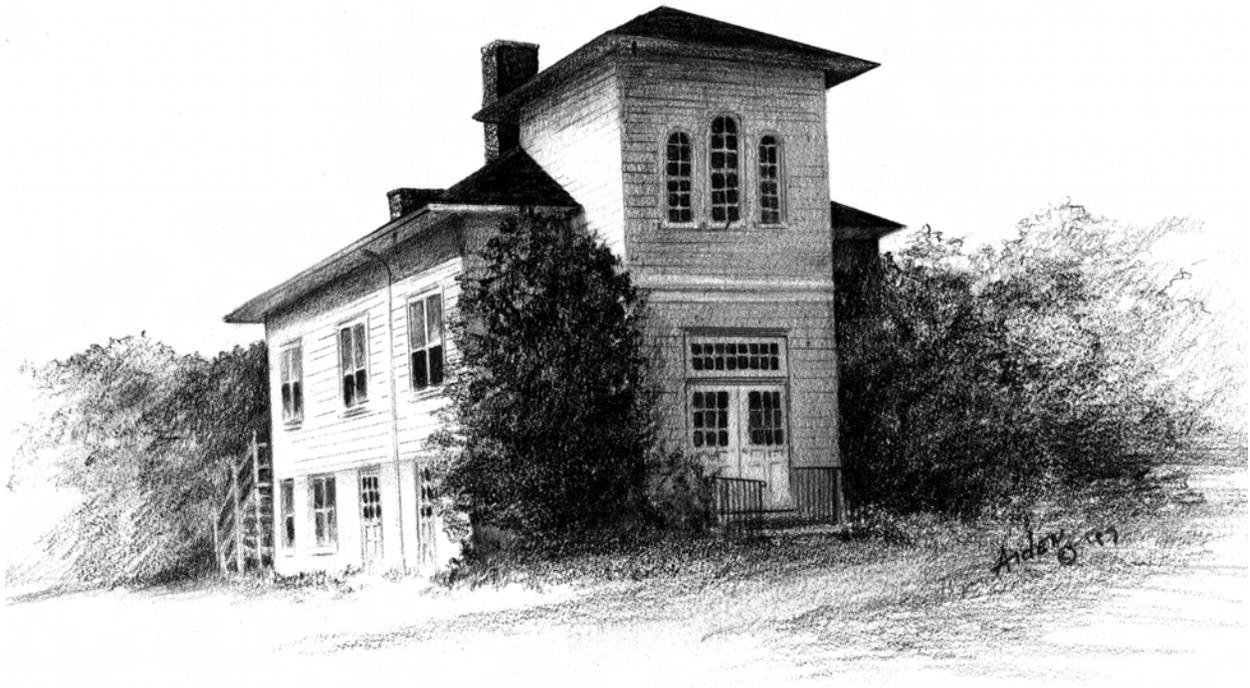
In December 1778, while General Washington's main army was encamped at nearby Middlebrook, a portion of the Brigade of Artillery was encamped at Pluckemin. The separation of the infantry from the artillery gave General Henry Knox, commander of the artillery, the chance to implement ideas he had been developing for the improvement of the Continental Army's ordnance capabilities. A complex of buildings was constructed on the site including a large, architecturally sophisticated academy building as well as barracks, officers' quarters and armorers' shops. The cantonment successfully trained the officers and men of the artillery brigade and made necessary repairs to artillery ordnance. In addition, it is estimated that 25 percent of troops at Middlebrook were supplied with arms and equipment repaired or made at Pluckemin.

To celebrate the alliance with France, in February of 1779, a dinner and ball was held at Pluckemin. Complete with music and fireworks. It drew generals, officers, governmental officials and reporters from as far away as Philadelphia. Historian John T. Cunningham describes it as one of the most important social event of the American Revolution.

Plans are underway to study the 190,000 artifacts uncovered at the site by the Pluckemin Archaeological Project and to interpret the site which is now surrounded by the Hills housing development.

**3) JACOBUS VANDERVEER HOUSE, US ROUTE 202 / 206**  
NR 9-29-95 SR 7-13-95

The Jacobus Vanderveer House is the last surviving building associated with the Vanderveers, a family prominent in Bedminster Township history from its earliest settlement through the 19<sup>th</sup> century. According to tradition, it served as headquarters for General Henry Knox during the winter of 1778-79, when the American artillery was encamped in the village of Pluckemin during the Middlebrook Cantonment (Second Middlebrook Encampment). It is an excellent example of a Dutch American house. The interior contains massive exposed beams as well as Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian woodwork. The house is owned by Bedminster Township and is operated by the Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House. For further information call 908-212-7000, ext. 611 or go to [www.jvanderveerhouse.com](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.com).



Lamington School

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

### **A) LAMINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 6-21-84 SR 5-7-84

This small community, which was settled in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, includes among other structures, the Greek Revival Lamington Presbyterian Church. Constructed in 1826, its portico was added in 1854 and the stained-glass windows were added in 1885 when it was moved to its present site from the other side of the Lamington Road. Anthony's Store (now the historically restored Lamington General Store) was constructed in 1895. A house just west of the store may have been constructed as early as 1850. The Schoolhouse was constructed in 1915 in the vernacular Renaissance Revival Style. An African-American cemetery is the sole reminder of sizable African-American presence in the village.



Pluckemin Historic District

**B) PLUCKEMIN HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 7-26-82 SR 2-22-82

Pluckemin was once a small village which developed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The Greek Revival Pluckemin Presbyterian Church, constructed in 1851-52, is the most important landmark in the village. The three-stage tower was added in 1875. The grave and tombstone of British infantry officer William Leslie, who was mortally wounded at the Battle of Princeton, is located in the Church Cemetery. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the village became an active center with a hotel, three stores and a number of dwellings. Most of the dwellings have been converted to commercial use while preserving their historic nature.

**C) POTTERSVILLE VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 9-18-90 SR 8-9-90

Located in both Somerset and Hunterdon Counties, Pottersville is a good example of a settlement that combined the role of a service center for an agricultural hinterland with that of a rural milling and manufacturing center based on waterpower. At its peak, the community had connection to both road and rail networks and its products were marketed well beyond the immediate region. The village contains examples of Italianate, Queen Anne and Folk Victorian residential architecture. The Pottersville Reformed Church, a Lombard Romanesque Revival structure constructed in 1866, and the Prairie-style Pottersville School, constructed in 1912, are significant structures in the Somerset County part of the village.

# BERNARDS TOWNSHIP



The Academy

## HISTORIC SITES

### 4) **THE ACADEMY, 15 WEST OAK STREET** NR 7-21-76 SR 11-12-75

The Academy, sometimes called the Basking Ridge Classical School or Brick Academy, was constructed by the Reverend Robert Finley, a pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Basking Ridge. Constructed in 1809 in the Federal style, it is representative of the numerous classical seminaries created in New Jersey during the 19<sup>th</sup> century for educating the male children of wealthy citizens of the state. The exterior has never been altered and appears the same as it did in 1809. The interior retains its original partitioning.

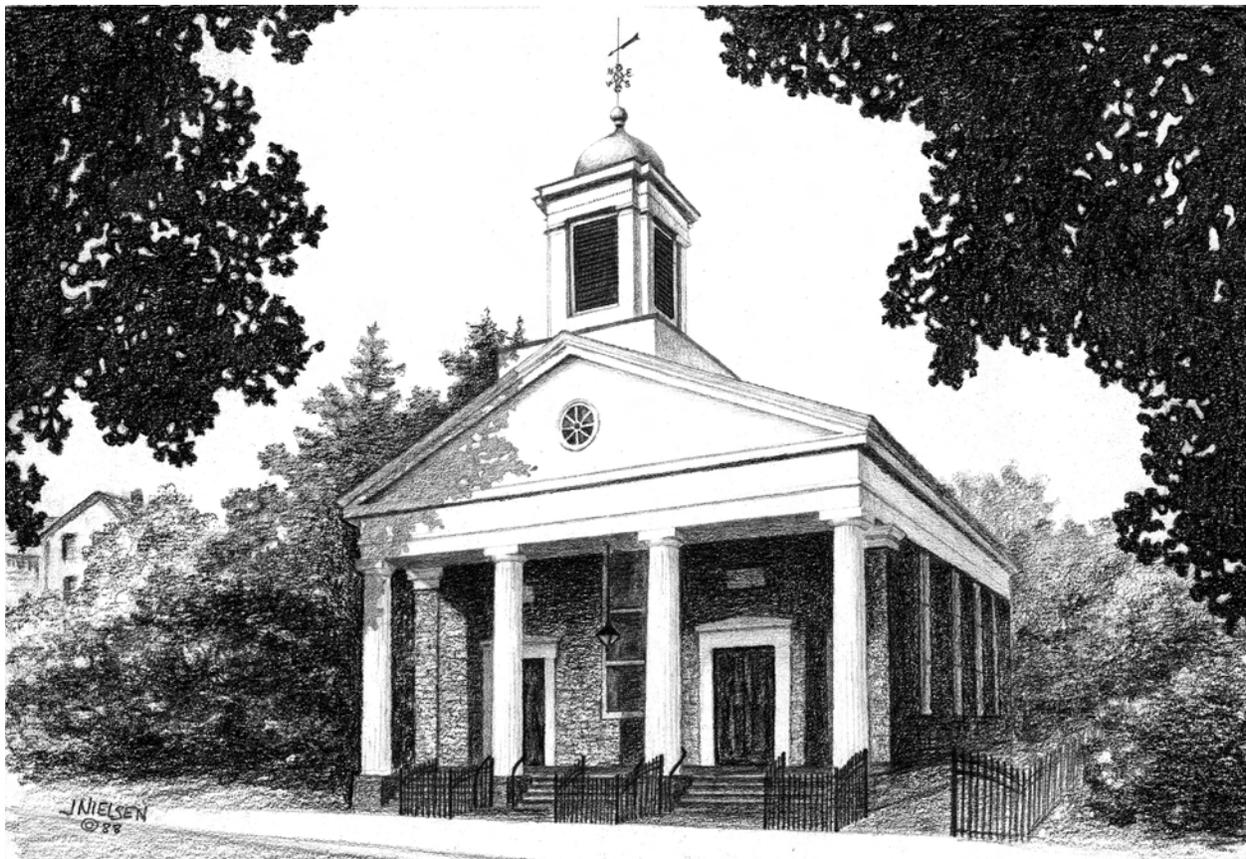
The Academy attracted students from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Virginia. Theodore Frelinghuysen, United States Senator, William L. Daton, United States Senator and first vice-presidential candidate of the Republican Party (1856), and Samuel Southard, Governor of New Jersey and Secretary of the Navy, were alumni. It currently serves as the headquarters of the Historical Society of the Somerset Hills and contains a research room/library and museum. The research room/library is open the first and third Wednesday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to noon or by appointment. The museum is open Sunday 2 a.m. to 4 p.m. For further information call (908) 221-1770 or go to [www.historicalsocietyofsomerset hills.org](http://www.historicalsocietyofsomerset hills.org).

5) **ALWARD FARM HOUSE, 40 MOUNT AIRY ROAD**  
NR 3-13-86 SR 2-5-86

The Alward House is one of the few colonial-era farmhouses in Bernards Township. It represents the primitive and simple lifestyle of many of New Jersey's itinerant early settlers. The lines of the building are essentially unchanged since the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century when it was constructed. The one-and-one-half-story structure was built in two sections. Henry Alward constructed the oldest section of the house in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. The newer section of the house was constructed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The interior retains ceilings with exposed beams as well as a fireplace in each of the four rooms on the first floor. It continues to serve as a private residence.

6) **BASKING RIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 6 WEST OAK STREET**  
NR 12-31-74 SR 10-24-74

The Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church is a fine example of the Greek Revival style. Built by William Kirk and Thomas Kirkpatrick of Essex County in 1839, its exterior has been altered very little since its construction. A wooden classical portico, composed of four Doric columns with a bell tower above, fronts the building. The interior has been renovated at least twice with major additions beginning in the 1950s. Thirty-five Revolutionary War soldiers are buried in the churchyard. Also within the churchyard is the Basking Ridge Oak, which is believed to be over 500 years old and was already a landmark in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. For further information call (908) 766-1616.



Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church



Coffee House

7) **COFFEE HOUSE, 214 NORTH MAPLE AVENUE**  
NR 11-7-77 SR 3-28-77

The oldest part of this house is what is known as a small East Jersey Cottage. It may have been moved to this site and attached to the two-and-one-half-story main section, which was constructed in 1806. The interior of the house contains Classical Revival detailing from the 1840s and Victorian features from the 1860s or 1870s. The site contained a store and then a tavern. It was the center of activity and entertainment for the farms and other small communities within several miles in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The site also contains a late 18<sup>th</sup>- or early 19<sup>th</sup> century barn and a Victorian carriage house with Gothic Revival features. The house is a private residence.

**8) KENNEDY-MARTIN-STELLE FARMSTEAD, 450 KING GEORGE ROAD**  
NR 5-5-04 SR 6-9-03

Picturesquely situated on the banks of the Passaic River, the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead is a vestige of Bernard's Township's rural agricultural past. Dating back to the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, the one-and-one half story farmhouse, with its Dutch framing system, typifies the regions early domestic architecture. The farmhouse contains evidence of its Colonial past, as well as Georgian, Federal, Victorian and Colonial Revival features. The four-bay 18<sup>th</sup> century barn, with a c.1840 addition, is a notable example of the English barn type. It exhibits hand-hewn rafters with pegged wind braces and a lower level stable at on end. The wagon house (c.1750-1820) exhibits both Dutch and English framing techniques.

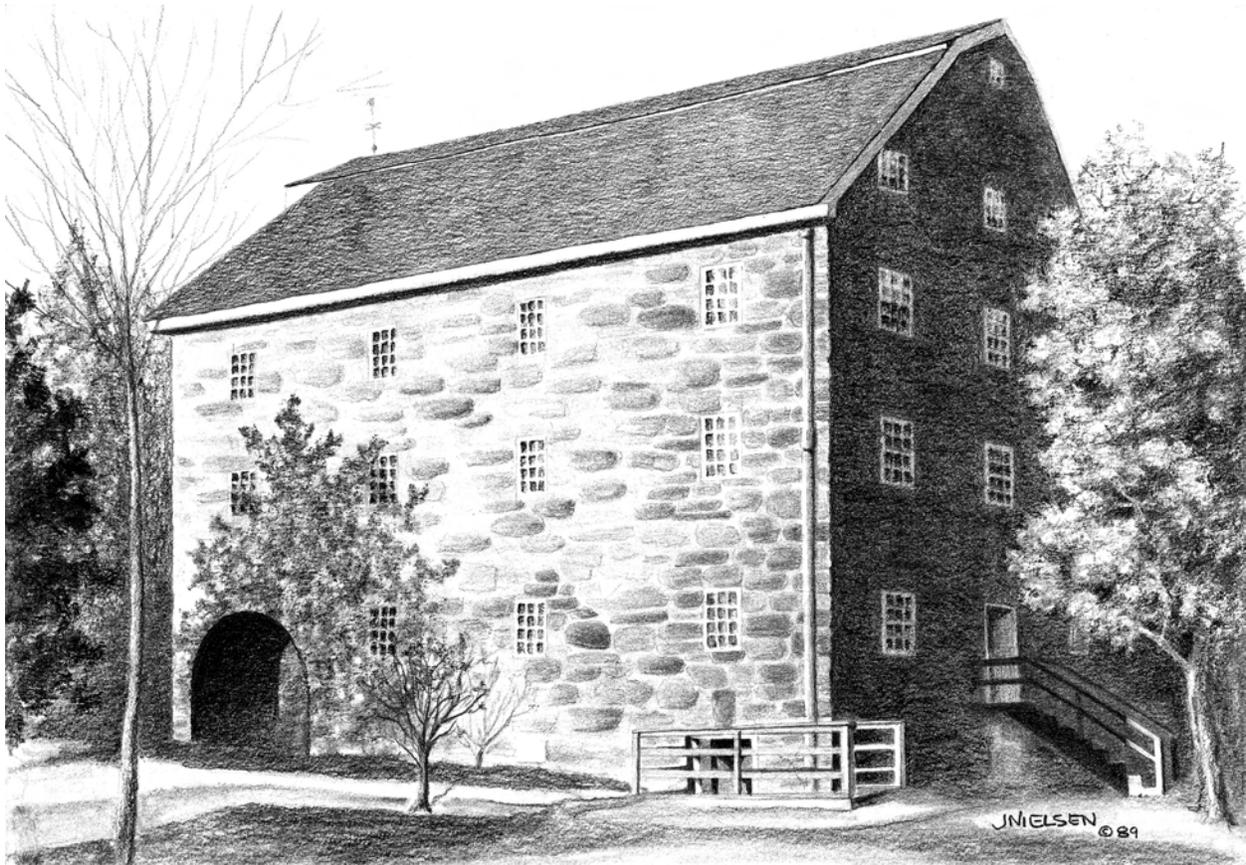
Three significant individuals contributed to the evolution of this farmstead. Born in Scotland, Rev. Samuel Kennedy was the minister of the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church. He established a Classical school, one of the earliest in the State. During the American Revolution, Ephraim Martin was commissioned a colonel of the Second Regiment, Sussex County Militia and later was appointed a colonel of the fourth New Jersey Battalion of the Continental Army. He represented Somerset County on the New Jersey Governors Council and played a major role in New Jersey's adoption of the Bill of Rights. Oliver Stelle was a successful farmer and investor who had extensive holdings in Bernards Township including several house lots, a distillery and cider mill. The site is owned by Bernards Township and is undergoing restoration. The Friends of the Kennedy-Martin-Stelle Farmstead has been formed to support the township in preserving the site. For further information please call 908-647-2241.

**9) LORD STIRLING MANOR SITE, 96 LORD STIRLING ROAD**  
NR 5-22-78 SR 12-1-76

Lord Stirling was an ardent patriot who led the New Jersey Militia and was a Brigadier General in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. He led troops in battle on Long Island, and in the battles of Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth. Lord Stirling moved to his recently completed countryseat at Basking Ridge in 1768. There was a three-story brick dwelling, stables, a coach house and other outbuildings. It was a productive estate that raised flax and apples and bred blooded horses. All that remains on the site are two small brick outbuildings that date from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Archeological investigations are currently taking place on the site, which is owned by Somerset County. Plans are underway to restore the small brick outbuildings. For further information call (908) 766-2489.

**10) LYONS TRAIN STATION, LYONS ROAD**  
NR 6-22-84 SR 3-17-84

This one-story Tudor Revival and Mission Revival style structure was built in 1931. It is faced with stucco and brick and has limestone trim with carved rosette ornamentation at the gable ends. It was designed by Delaware Lackawanna and Western Railroad (DL&W) architect D.T. Mack or one of his staff. It was built largely to accommodate the growing number of visitors to Veterans Hospital. It was the last station built on the Gladstone Branch. Is now owned by Bernards Township.



Van Dorn's Mill

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

### **D) FRANKLIN CORNERS HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 5-12-75 SR 12-12-74

Franklin Corners was a small farming and milling hamlet of eleven structures, which dates from approximately 1770 to 1850. The Samuel Johnson House (c. 1770) is the oldest structure in the district. Van Dorn's Mill, a three-and-a-half-story structure with a gambrel roof, was constructed in 1842. It is an outstanding example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century stone masonry, which has been successfully adaptively re-used as an office. The Franklin Corner School, constructed in 1832 in the Greek Revival style, has been converted to a residence.

### **E) LIBERTY CORNER HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 10-11-91 SR 08-16-91

Liberty Corner began as a small farming hamlet know as Annan's Corner, in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It was renamed during the Revolutionary War when local patriots erected a liberty pole at the crossroads to show support for the American cause. In the summer of 1781 and 1782, over 5,500 French soldiers, commanded by General comte de Rochambeau, encamped in Liberty Corner on their way to and from the victory at the battle of Yorktown, Virginia. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century the village became a local center for dairy production, shipping large quantities of milk and butter to urban markets. At this time the village contained a saw and grist mill, a school, two stores, a tavern and the Presbyterian church. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the village became a retreat and excursion destination. The village contains a collection of vernacular buildings that date from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup>

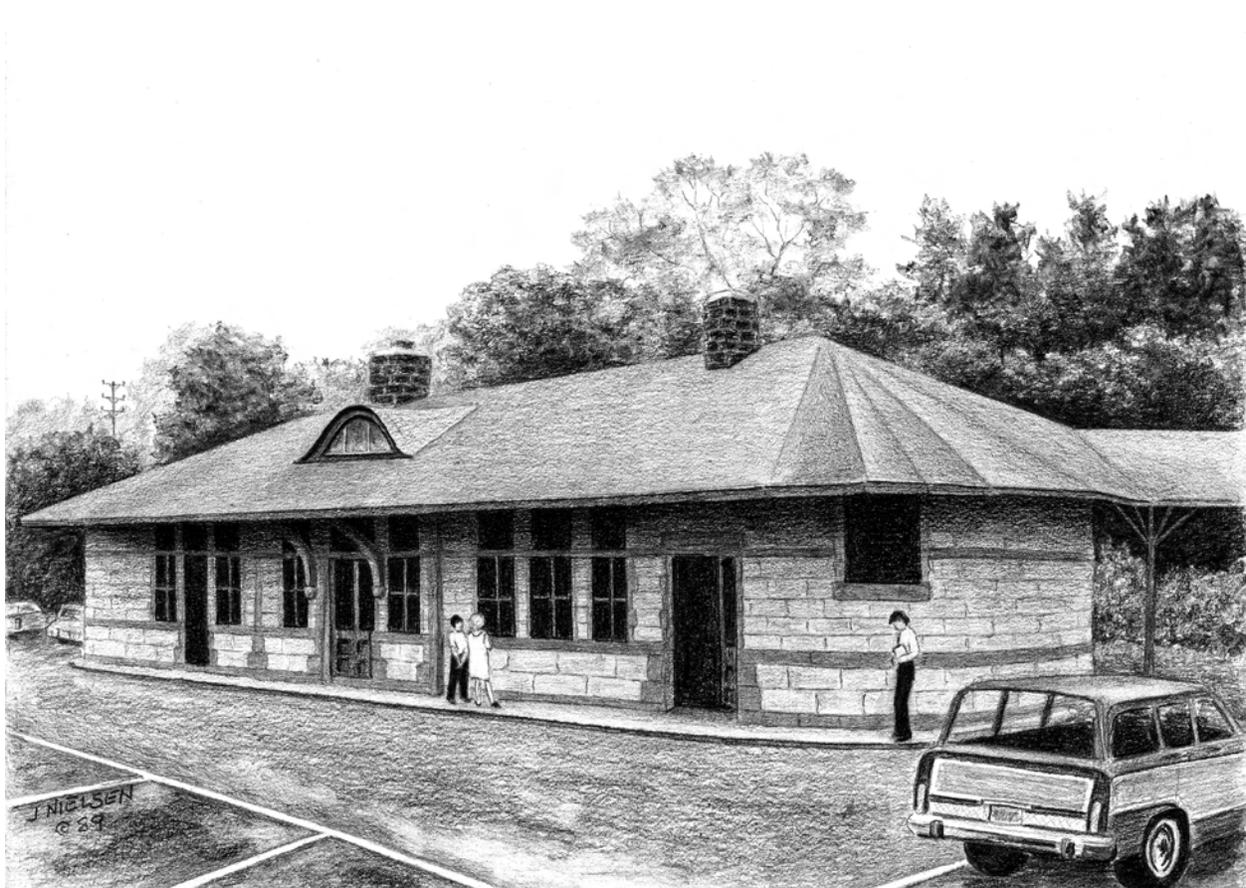
century. The architectural centerpiece of the village, the 1869 Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church, contains elements of Italianate and Gothic Revival styles. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century architecture includes a group of English Cottage-style bungalows built in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

## BERNARDSVILLE BOROUGH

### HISTORIC SITES

**11) BERNARDSVILLE TRAIN STATION, U.S. ROUTE 202**  
NR 6-22-84 SR 3-17-84

This one-story, hipped-roof structure was constructed in 1901-1902. It is a fine example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style with its massive stone walls, curved bays and sweeping roofs. The interior classical detailing includes Corinthian pilasters carved in oak, wood-paneled wainscot and wood trim. A fireplace has a marble-and-brick surround with a cast-iron border and a holly-patterned tile hearth. The station was designed by Bradford Gilbert, who had offices in New York, Chicago, Boston and Atlanta. He specialized in designing railroad stations. Mort Schley, a real estate promoter and founder of Far Hills Borough, paid for the station's construction. It is owned by NJ Transit.



Bernardsville Train Station



John Parker Tavern

**12) JOHN PARKER TAVERN, 2 MORRISTOWN ROAD**  
NR 12-14-78 SR 4-15-78

This structure is a fine example of a crossroads tavern constructed in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. During the Revolution, it was owned and operated by Captain John Parker of the 1st Battalion of Somerset County. During the war, the tavern was a stopping place for Continental troops traveling from Pluckemin to Washington's headquarters in Morristown. It was also near the Jockey Hollow encampment in Morris County. General Anthony Wayne was known to have stayed overnight at the tavern. A Tory spy, Aaron Wilde, was captured there and later hung. It was converted to a residence in 1840 and it became the Bernardsville Library in 1903. It was adapted to a commercial use in 1999.

**13) REYNOLDS-SCHERMAN HOUSE, 71 HARDSCRABBLE ROAD**  
NR 4-29-89 SR 3-3-89

This picturesque stone house was originally constructed as a barn in the 18<sup>th</sup> century or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is thought that Samuel Reynolds converted the barn to a house in the 1830s. Reynolds was a successful mill owner. The house represents the area's regional vernacular architecture with its rubble stone walls, brick fireplace and simple interior woodwork. The arched windows were originally doorways. The eyebrow windows are typical of the 1830s or 1840s. A 1928 remodeling shows the influence of the Colonial Revival style. Remnants of an old textile mill still exist on the site. The house was the summer home of Harry Scherman, principal founder of the Book of the Month Club (1924). It is now a private residence.

**14) SAINT BERNARDS CHURCH AND PARISH HOUSE, 88 CLAREMONT ROAD**  
NR 9-6-06 SR 6-28-06

Saint Bernards Church was designed in the English Gothic Style, which was the preferred architecture of the Episcopal church in the mid and late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Constructed in 1897-1898, the church was designed by the firm of LeBrun and Sons of New York City. The founder of the firm Napoleon LeBrun, designed the Academy of Music and the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul in Philadelphia. It contains the most complete cycle in the United States of stained-glass windows designed by the leading English firm, Kempe Studio for Stained Glass and Church Furniture. The church was expanded in 1904 and was restored after a major fire in 1957. The parish house, completed in 1913, was designed in the Gothic style with Arts and Crafts influences by Henry J. Hardenburg of New York. His most famous works include the Dakota apartment house and Plaza Hotel in New York City. The second rector of the church, Thomas A. Conover, created among other organizations a parish library and a boys' club. The church employed a visiting nurse, which became the Visiting Nurse Association of the Somerset Hills. The church also sponsored the town's first social worker in 1910. The church again was damaged by fire in 2004. It is undergoing restoration.

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

**F) MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, NEW JERSEY BRIGADE**  
NR 10-15-66 SR 8-16-79

The New Jersey Brigade of 1,300 men camped a few miles south of General Washington's main army camped at Jockey Hollow during the "hard winter" of 1779-1780. Washington selected this area because of its strategic location in the Watchung Mountains and since it was heavily wooded from which shelters could be constructed. Archaeological investigation in 1968 revealed a road leading to Morristown from the encampment. The location of numerous officers' and enlisted men's huts were discovered also.

The site also contains the W. Redmond Cross Estate. The estate contains numerous structures including a main house, a picturesque, five-story stone water tower and a chalet, designed in the Craftsman/Japanese bungalow style. John Bensel originally developed the estate in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. He was the dock commissioner and engineer of the New York City Dock Department as well as state engineer. The property was sold to W. Redmond Cross, a New York banker. He was president of the New York Zoological Society and chairman of the American Geographical Society. He made numerous changes to the estate. The main house, as finally altered in 1940-41, is typical of the era's rejection of Victorian values and now suggests the French Eclectic style that was popular at that time. The alterations were designed by New York architect Frederick R. King. The site also contains a formal garden designed by landscape architect Clarence Fowler. It became part of the Morristown National Historical Park in 1969 as a result of a donation by the Audubon Society of New Jersey. For further information call 973-539-2016.

# BOUND BROOK BOROUGH

## HISTORIC SITES

**15) BOUND BROOK TRAIN STATION, MAIN STREET**  
NR 6-22-84 SR 3-17-84

Constructed in 1913 by the Reading Railroad, this Flemish-bond brick structure has a brick balustrade and limestone trim. It was designed by William I. Houghton, architect of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad in the Classical Revival style with Colonial Revival influences. The platform canopies are hung from the building and attached to it by lion-head features. The waiting room has a terrazzo floor and quarried-tile wainscoting. The station is leased from NJ Transit by George's Train Station Restaurant.

**16) OLD STONE ARCH BRIDGE, RAILROAD AVENUE**  
NR 6-27-08 SR 5-7-08

Possibly constructed as early as 1731, the Old Stone Arch Bridge may be the oldest bridge in New Jersey. The bridge formally carried the Raritan Road, an important colonial-era roadway, over the Bound Brook. It was the scene of a portion of the Battle of Bound Brook when, on April 13, 1777, Hessian troops, under the command of Captain Johann von Ewald, were "exposed to a murderous fire" from the half-moon battery located near the present roundabout in Bound Brook and had to lie down shielded by the bridge. In 1781, portions of Washington's army used the bridge during the march to the Battle of Yorktown. The bridge has three arches and is 80 feet in length. The center arch has a span of over 17 feet. The bridge was widened in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and sometime in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the streambed under the bridge was filled. Since the main road had previously been moved to present-day Main Street, the bridge was buried. Plans are under way by Somerset County to improve the site and expose the bridge for public view.

**17) PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT BOUND BROOK, 409 MOUNTAIN AVENUE**  
NR 8-28-07 SR 7-5-07

The Presbyterian Church at Bound Brook, constructed in 1898, is an outstanding example of a neo-medieval-style church. The exterior of the church is faced with sandstone with a slate roof. The elaborate scrollwork wrought-iron hinges on the double doors are a noteworthy detail. The church contains much original material including two fine examples of American Opalescent-style stained-glass windows designed by Tiffany Studios. The church was designed by prolific Plainfield architect Oscar Schutte Teale. Teal designed more than twenty churches in New Jersey and dozens outside of the state. Local examples include the Mary E. Wilson Memorial Chapel in Watchung and the First German Reformed Church in North Plainfield. Teal taught architecture at the Teachers College, Columbia University and the Mechanics Institute of New York.

# BRANCHBURG TOWNSHIP

## HISTORIC SITES

- 18) SOUTH BRANCH SCHOOL HOUSE (LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE),**  
SOUTH BRANCH RIVER ROAD  
NR 3-30-05 SR 2-14-05

The South Branch School, constructed in 1873, is an excellent example that once abounded in New Jersey of a well-preserved, one-room vernacular Victorian-Italianate schoolhouse. Almost all of its original exterior and interior features have been preserved, including vertical beaded tongue-and-groove wainscoting on all four interior walls. The Township is restoring the original bell tower, which was removed. The school was the first in the area built expressly as a tuition-free public school following the 1871 Free School Bill. It is owned and maintained by Branchburg Township. For further information call (908) 526-1300.

- 19) ANDREW TEN EYCK HOUSE, 671 OLD YORK ROAD**  
NR 5-6-04 SR 7-30-03

The Andrew Ten Eyck House is an important example of the township's early domestic architecture. The original brick portion of the house was constructed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, while the frame rear portion was added in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The early main block of the house exemplifies a side hall plan more common in the Delaware Valley than in early 19<sup>th</sup> century Somerset County. Early interior fabric still remaining includes door and window surrounds, door panels and a fireplace mantel in the Federal style, as well as tongue-and-groove flooring and beaded baseboards. The second floor contains a local research library. The site is owned and maintained by the Branchburg Historical Society. Open by appointment. For further information please call 908-722-2124.

- 20) JOHN VAN CAMP FARMSTEAD, OPIE ROAD**  
NR Pending Approval SR Pending Approval

The John Van Camp Farmstead is a notable survivor of Branchburg Township's early domestic architecture and farm culture. There are three historic structures on the property. The house, constructed c. 1835, is a good example of a one-and-one-half-story, two-room-deep house common throughout the Raritan Valley during the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The interior of the house retains much of its original character including three distinctive Federal/Greek Revival mantels, door and window trim, baseboards and a four-door built-in cupboard. A three bay Dutch barn was constructed in 1835 on the site. Hand-hewn timbers were employed for most of the framing members. The inscription "Built 1835" is written prominently in iron oxide paint on one of the very large main anchor beams. The third historic structure on the site, a rare wagon house, was constructed in 1842. The wagon house is framed in the Dutch manner. This farmstead documents the persistence of Dutch building traditions in rural areas of Somerset County well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The site is owned by Somerset County and is being restored. Currently, it is not open to the public.

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

### **G) NESHANIC MILLS HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 1-9-78 SR 6-13-77

See listing under Hillsborough Township

## **BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP**

### **HISTORIC SITES**

#### **21) MIDDLEBROOK ENCAMPMENT, MOUNTAIN AVENUE** NR 7-5-75 SR 5-8-75

This area was the scene of two encampments of major portions of Washington's Continental Army during the early summer of 1777, and during the winter of 1778-1779. In May of 1777 Washington moved his entire army into Somerset County. The largest portion of his forces (approximately 5,000 troops) was stationed just north of Bound Brook (Middlebrook). The presence of the American Army at Middlebrook foiled the British plans for taking Philadelphia in the spring of 1777. This delay also prevented the British from reinforcing Burgoyne's Army moving south from Canada and contributed to his defeat and capture at Saratoga, New York, in October 1777, one of the major turning points of the war.

In December of 1778 the portion of the American Army under direct command of General Washington returned to Middlebrook. Almost 10,000 soldiers were encamped at Middlebrook and other areas of the county (known as the Middlebrook Cantonment). Unlike the previous year at Valley Forge, the winter was remarkably mild and supplies were for the most part plentiful. The encampment was significant for several reasons, among which were the establishment of the first military training academy for artillery officers (Pluckemin), the first training program for army surgeons and the formation of the Continental Army's first light-infantry corps under General Friedrich von Steuben. When the 13-star flag was officially adopted by Congress in 1777, the first place it was flown over Continental troops was at Middlebrook. The Washington Campground Association and Somerset County own portions of the encampment.

#### **22) VAN HORNE HOUSE, MAIN STREET** NR 3-8-02 SR 12-20-01

The present Van Horne House probably dates back to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and was extensively remodeled in the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The 1930s and 1940s remodeling was in the Colonial Revival style and is especially significant. This site, known as "Phil's Hill", was named after Phillip Van Horne, a Bridgewater merchant. It was the site of numerous important events during the Revolutionary War including a portion of the fighting during the Battle of Bound Brook, when British troops captured three American cannons on the front lawn. It was used at various times by Generals Lincoln, Stirling, Lee and Cornwallis. The house is owned by Somerset County and operated by the Heritage Trail Association. For further information please call 732-356-8856 or go to [www.heritagetrail.org](http://www.heritagetrail.org).



Van Veghten House

**23) VAN VEGHTEN HOUSE, VAN VEGHTEN ROAD**  
NR 10-10-79 SR 7-21-79

Built in the early 1700s, this brick house served as headquarters for Quartermaster General Nathaniel Green during the winter of 1778-1779. During the Middlebrook Cantonment (Second Middlebrook Encampment), Derrick Van Veghten quartered an entire division of American troops near the house. It was known, at that time, as one of the finest farmsteads in the area. It was originally a one-and-one-half-story dwelling that was widened and enlarged to two-and-one-half stories, probably prior to the Revolution. Derrick Van Veghten was the County Commissioner of Highways, a member of the Colonial Assembly and a member of the Grand Jury of the Court of Oyer and Terminer for Somerset County. It was updated to the Greek Revival style in the late 1830s by Richard Van Veghten. The Somerset County Historical Society now operates the site. Hours: Tuesday 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. December through March closed. For further information call (908) 218-1281 or go to [www.schsnj.org](http://www.schsnj.org).



Jacob Vosseller House

**24) JACOB VOSSELLER HOUSE (INDIAN TRAIL INN/CASTNER TAVERN),**  
664 FOOTHILL ROAD  
NR 1-23-86 SR 11-26-85

Jacob Vosseller built the original portion of the house sometime between 1753 and 1768. He operated the structure as a general store. The next owner, John J. Castner, operated it as a tavern starting in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It continued as a tavern under its next owner, William L. Allen. It is one of the best-preserved, pre-revolutionary commercial buildings in the Somerville area. The exterior still retains the original hand-split clapboard. It is now a private residence.

# FAR HILLS BOROUGH

## HISTORIC SITES

**25) FAR HILLS STATION, U.S. ROUTE 202**  
NR 6-22-84 SR 3-17-84

This Renaissance Revival-style structure, with a central eyelid dormer and Spanish-tiled hipped roof, was constructed in 1914. The walls are made of poured concrete. The walls and chimneys have green glazed tile plaques that match the roof tile. The ticket counter and water fountain are made of marble while the waiting room has a terrazzo floor with a tile border and wainscoting made of glazed brick. It was designed by L.R. Simpson, an in-house architect with the DL&W Railroad. It is owned by NJ Transit and leased to Butlers Pantry Trackage Restaurant.

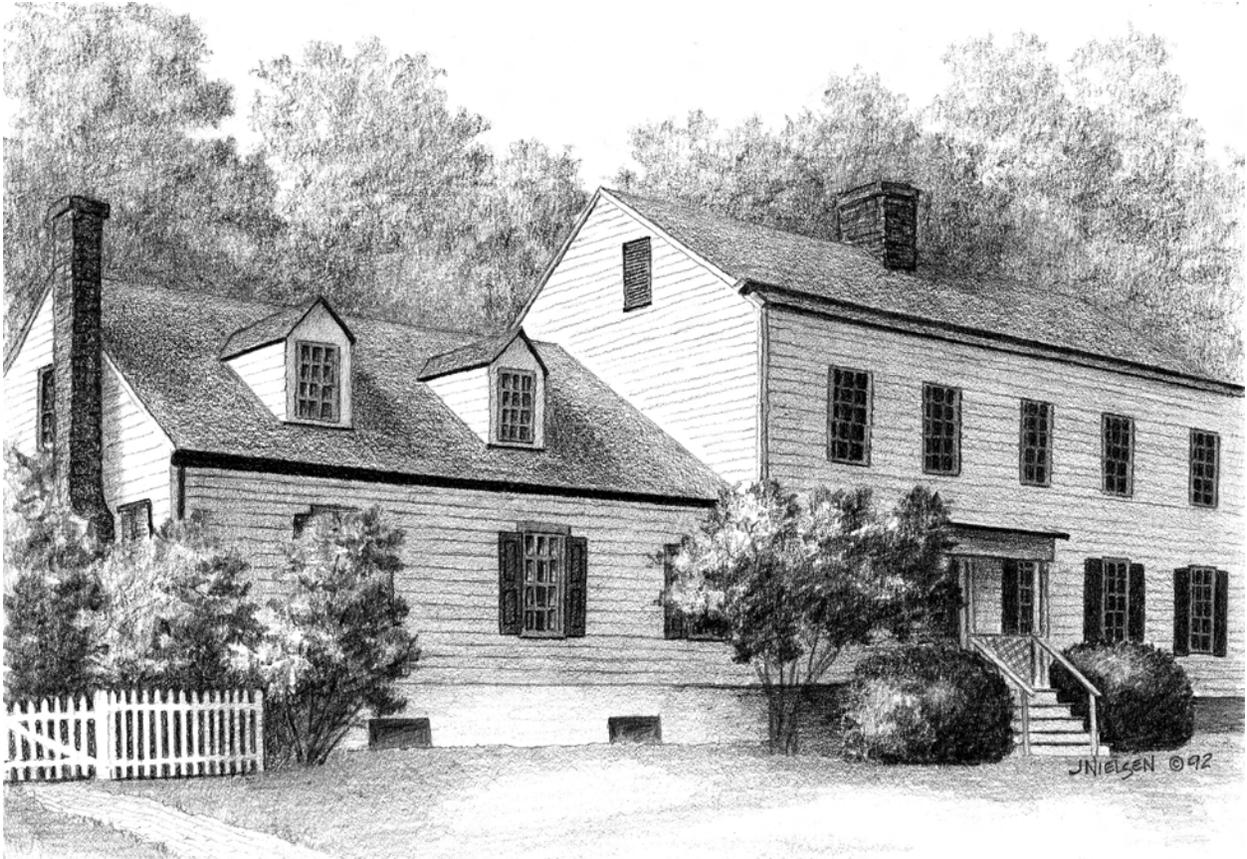
**26) ALEXANDER AND JAMES LINN HOMESTEAD, MINEBROOK ROAD**  
NR 10-27-88 SR 6-24-86

The Linn family was among the first Scotch-Irish pioneers of the area. Alexander Linn constructed this colonial home, with both Dutch and English influences, in the 1740s. It was originally a partially embanked house, which had a full-height stone basement. James Linn, his son, or a succeeding owner raised the dwelling to its current two-and-one-half-story height. Alexander Linn was Justice of the Peace and Common Pleas Court Judge. James Linn was a revolutionary war veteran and was Vice President of the State Senate, a member of the U.S. Congress and New Jersey Secretary of State. The house is a private residence.



Alexander and James Linn Homestead

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP



Rockingham

## HISTORIC SITES

### **27) ROCKINGHAM, LAUREL AVENUE** NR 12-18-70 SR 9-11-70

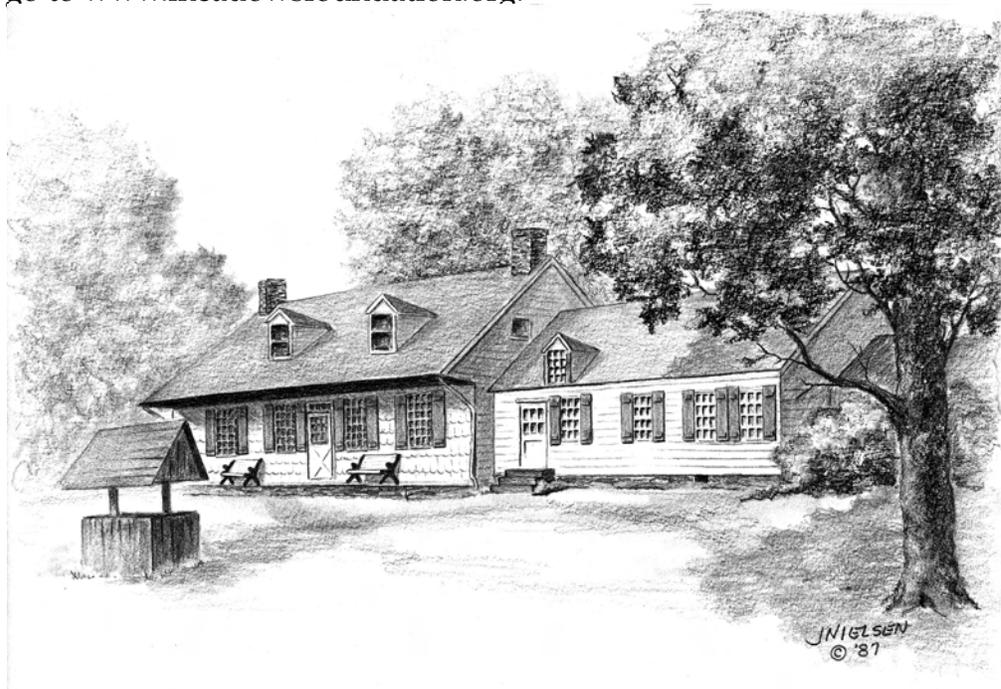
Rockingham was the headquarters of General Washington for three months in 1783 while he attended sessions of the Continental Congress, which was then meeting in Princeton. Washington wrote his "Farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States" from this house. It was his final Revolutionary War headquarters. Future presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison visited Washington at this house. John Harrison, the owner of a gristmill, constructed the earliest section of the house between 1702 and 1710. Later additions were made in the 1760s by John Barrien, a prosperous farmer and New Jersey Superior Court Justice. All of the fireplaces are served by a great chimney, a New England feature that is unusual in New Jersey. It has been owned by the State of New Jersey since 1935. The site maintains a fine collection of 18 century furnishings and a Colonial kitchen garden. Admission to the house is by guided tour only. For further information call (609) 683-7132 or go to [www.rockingham.net](http://www.rockingham.net).

**28) TULIPWOOD, 1165 HAMILTON STREET**  
NR 9-9-05 SR 7-14-05

Constructed in 1892, Tulipwood is a rare surviving example, in Somerset County, of the Shingle Style. The Shingle Style is characterized by the extensive use of shingles on prominent roofs and siding. Tulipwood was thought to have been designed by New York architect J. August Lienau for Stephen G. Williams, a New York attorney. In 1920 the property was sold to Leigh W. Kimball in whose family the house descended until it was purchased by Franklin Township in 2003. Leigh Kimball was a professor of romance languages at Rutgers University and founded the Rutgers marching band. Tulipwood retains its integrity both interior and exterior. The exterior retains its gambrel roof, its porch with Tuscan columns and its six over six windows with louvered shutters. The interior retains its wood paneling and exposed beams reminiscent of medieval “old English” design as well as a fireplace with sophisticated carved mantel. The dining room retains its original Federal style mantle and corner cupboards with Chippendale-style glazing. The house is maintained by the Meadows Foundation and open house tours are held the second Sunday of each month. For further information call 732-828-7418 or go to [www.meadowsfoundation.org](http://www.meadowsfoundation.org).

**29) VAN WICKLE HOUSE (THE MEADOWS), 1289 EASTON AVENUE**  
NR 12-14-73 SR 9-18-73

The Van Wickle House is an excellent example of the New Jersey Dutch style, which combines Dutch, Flemish and English characteristics. The original section of the house may have been constructed as early as 1722. The interior of this section clearly shows the Dutch system of post-and-beam construction. The house still has the original split shingles with round butts on the east or front facade. A late 18<sup>th</sup>- or early 19<sup>th</sup> century addition now houses a dining room and kitchen. Symen Van Wickle was a prosperous land owner who built the original section of the house. It is owned by Franklin Township and maintained by the Meadows Foundation. The house is maintained by the Meadows Foundation and open house tours are held the second Sunday of each month. For further information call (732) 828-7418 or go to [www.meadowsfoundation.org](http://www.meadowsfoundation.org).



Van Wickle House

## HISTORIC DISTRICTS

### **H) DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL** NR 5-11-73 SR 11-30-72

The Delaware and Raritan Canal stretches from Trenton to New Brunswick, paralleling the Millstone and Raritan Rivers. Completed in 1834, it was one of America's greatest inland waterways. During its peak years of 1866-1871, the canal carried more freight than any other canal in America. Numerous villages developed along its route including East Millstone, Griggstown, Rocky Hill and Kingston. It was closed in 1933 and became a state park in 1974. Historic structures along the canal, that are open to the public, include the Blackwell's Mills Canal House, the Long House (Mule Tenders Barracks) and Canal House in Griggstown. Of historic engineering interest, besides the canal itself, are two three-arch stone bridges which carry the canal and Canal Road over Six Mile Run and Ten Mile Run in Franklin Township. Both bridges are excellent examples of stone craftsmanship. The bridges have remained virtually unchanged since the 1830s. For further information call (609) 924-5705 or go to [www.dandrcanal.com](http://www.dandrcanal.com).



### **I) EAST MILLSTONE HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 3-17-83 SR 2-3-83

Wilson House

East Millstone, a 19<sup>th</sup> century transportation center, still retains its village character. The growth of the village was spurred by the construction of the D & R Canal in 1834 and a railroad between the canal and New Brunswick constructed in 1855. A number of 19<sup>th</sup> century architectural styles including Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire and Eastlake are represented in the district. Significant structures include the Franklin Inn, constructed in 1734 (originally known as the Cornelius Van Liew House, now the Franklin Inn Used Book Store); the A.T. Vroom house (1860), constructed in the Italian Villa style; and the Wilson House (1888), which is a fine example of High Victorian Eclecticism. Two churches in the district, the Baptist church and the Methodist church, are in the Greek Revival style.



Griggstown Bridge Tenders' House

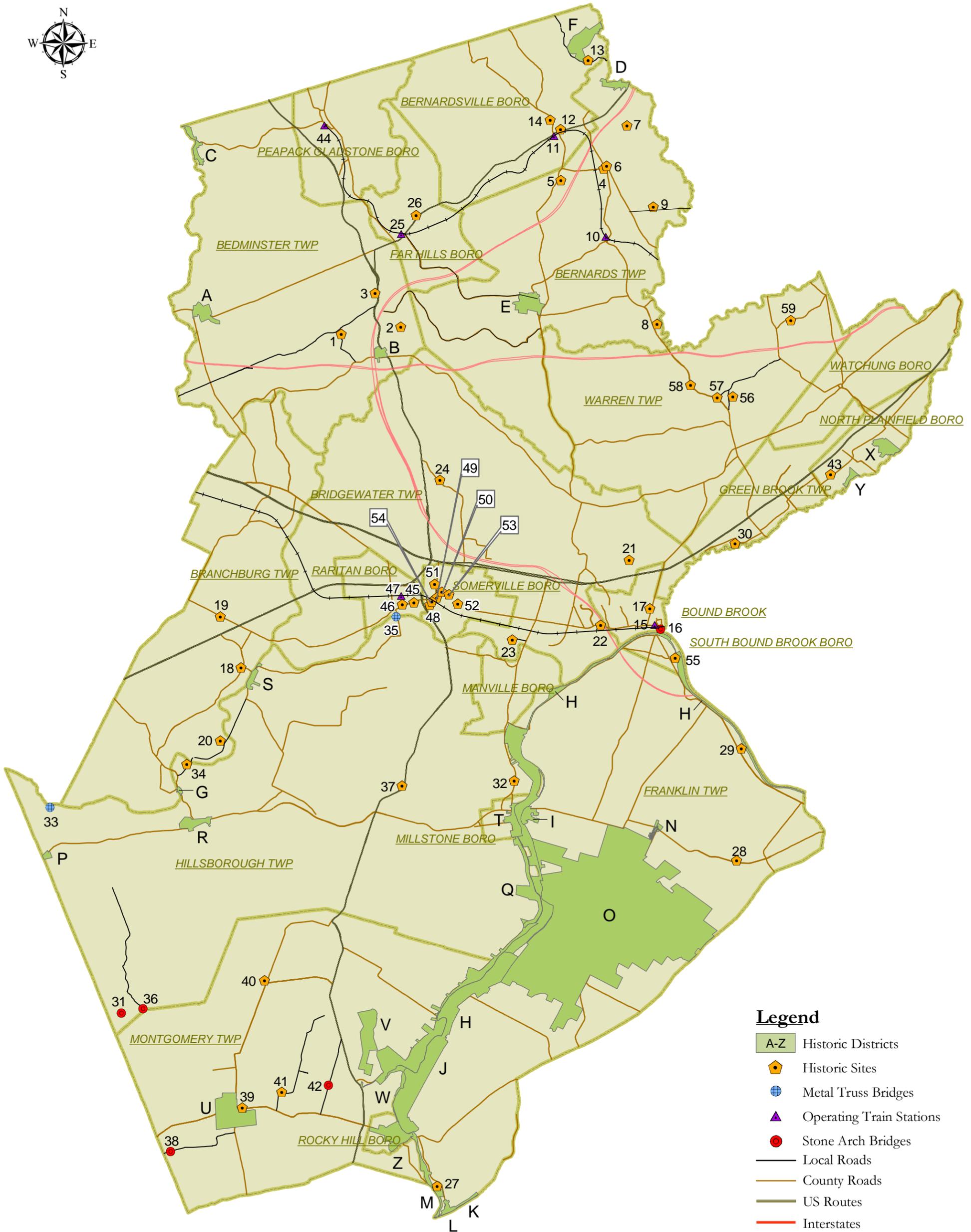
**J) GRIGGSTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 8-02-84 SR 6-21-84

This rural community developed along the Millstone River and D & R Canal. Washington's army traveled through Griggstown after the Battle of Princeton in 1777. It was the home of John Honeyman, who was reputed to be an American spy for General Washington responsible for gathering intelligence crucial to Washington's victory at the Battle of Trenton. The First Reformed Dutch Church built in the Greek Revival Style (1842), the Griggstown Schoolhouse built in the Gothic Revival style (1832) and the Veghte House, built in the Italianate Style (1888), are outstanding structures in the district.

A number of significant structures are associated with the D & R Canal, including the Long House (Mule Tenders' Barracks), the stone bridge tender's house and a small frame bridge tender's station. In 1873, the bridge tender station housed a wireless telegraph used to notify the tender of approaching ships. It was believed to have been the first commercial use of the telegraph in America. Towards the south end of the district is the Atlantic Terra Cotta Company, which in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries made brick and decorative terra cotta tile. The terra cotta for the Woolworth building in New York City was produced at this plant.

# HISTORIC SITES & DISTRICTS IN SOMERSET COUNTY

Listed on the National & N.J. Registers of Historic Places



## Legend

- A-Z Historic Districts
- ▣ Historic Sites
- ⊕ Metal Truss Bridges
- ▲ Operating Train Stations
- Stone Arch Bridges
- Local Roads
- County Roads
- US Routes
- Interstates
- Rail Lines
- Municipal Boundry

0 2.5 5 Miles

**K) KING'S HIGHWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT**

NR 12-21-00 SR 10-23-00

For two-and-a-half centuries, the old King's Highway was the major route linking New York and Philadelphia, and thus the northern and southern colonies, along the eastern seaboard. The district generally follows present-day N.J. Route 27 and U.S. Route 206. The historic district begins at the intersection of Route 27 and Raymond Road in Franklin Township and ends at the intersection of Route 206 and Franklin Corner Road in Lawrenceville, Mercer County. Originally an Indian trail, it was used by the early Dutch settlers as a communication link between Manhattan and their settlements on the lower Delaware. In 1717 the road was added to the list of major highways by the Provincial Assembly. It became essential to the area's commerce in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Numerous villages, towns and hamlets grew along its route including Kingston, Princeton, Jugtown, Stony Brook and Lawrenceville (all listed on the National Register of Historic Places).

It saw considerable military activity by both American and British forces during the Revolutionary War, both before and after the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. It was a major stage line in the 18<sup>th</sup> and the mid-19<sup>th</sup> centuries. In the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the highway was designated part of the Lincoln Highway, the first paved transcontinental road for automobiles. In 1922 it also became part of the Pikes Peak Ocean-to-Ocean Highway. In 1927 a portion of the highway was designated N. J. Route 27, while in 1953 a part of the highway was designated U.S. Route 206.

**L) KINGSTON MILL HISTORIC DISTRICT**

NR 4-10-86 SR 3-5-86

This hamlet, mostly in Mercer County, has a grist mill and a number of late 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup> century dwellings. It was the home of the first Somerset County Sheriff, Barefoot Brinson. The four-arch stone bridge was constructed in 1798 and once carried the Lincoln Highway over the Millstone River. It replaced a bridge that was burned down by Washington's troops during the Revolutionary War.

**M) KINGSTON VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT**

NR 1-11-90 SR 11-20-99

Kingston Village was developed in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries along the Kings Highway (now New Jersey Route 27) and the Delaware and Raritan Canal. Midway between New York and Philadelphia, it was a convenient overnight stop. A blacksmith shop, two inns and other businesses catered to travelers. The district, which is in both Somerset and Middlesex Counties, has retained a village character with many 19<sup>th</sup> century structures still intact. The Presbyterian Church, constructed in 1852, is a good example of the Italianate style with Greek Revival elements. Other architectural styles in the district include Georgian, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Prairie and Bungalow. A number of structures were constructed after Route 27 was designated a part of the Lincoln Highway, the first paved transcontinental road for automobiles. These structures include two commercial garages and a number of new houses.

## **N) MIDDLEBUSH VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT**

NR 4-24-07 SR 2-7-07

The Middlebush Village Historic District is a small residential hamlet located along South Middlebush Road. There are 34 historic buildings in the district dating from 1791 to the 1920s. The architecture of the district illustrates the full range of architectural styles that dominated America from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. These styles include Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Queen Ann, Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles. The most significant structure in the Village is the Middlebush Reformed Church, which was constructed in 1919 in the Gothic Revival and Craftsman styles. Other significant structures include the Voorhees House (now O'Connor's Restaurant) constructed in 1793 in the vernacular Georgian Style, as well as a 19<sup>th</sup> century Dutch barn.

## **O) SIX MILE RUN HISTORIC DISTRICT**

NR 10-25-95 SR 7-14-94

The Six Mile Run Historic District encompasses exceptionally well-preserved vistas of a Dutch-settled, rural 19<sup>th</sup> century landscape that once characterized the Raritan Valley. The numerous farmsteads represent the evolution of a rural agricultural economy from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The one hundred ninety-eight contributing structures include 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup> century dwellings, a number of New World Dutch barns, English barns, smoke houses, corncribs, granaries and other outbuildings. Significant structures in the district include the Dutch-vernacular Wyckoff/Garretson house, constructed 1730/1810, and the Italianate Van Lieu/Suydam house and Hageman house, both constructed c. 1875. Other houses exhibit influences of the Federal and Greek Revival styles.

# **GREEN BROOK TOWNSHIP**

## **HISTORIC SITES**

### **30) VAIL-TRUST HOUSE, 225 GREENBROOK ROAD**

NR pending approval SR pending approval

The original section of the house is two Dutch framed, deep East Jersey Cottages and dates back to ca. 1790. Additions include an 1876 Italianate section and a small Colonial Revival west wing added ca. 1960. Substantial early fabric has survived in the oldest sections of the house including flooring, walls, woodwork and door hardware. The 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century sections of the house contain very substantial amounts of original fabric. The house represents the region's vernacular building design and construction techniques as well as contemporary innovations and stylistic influences. The site also includes a two-bay, two-story 19<sup>th</sup> century wagon house.

The house was originally owned by the locally prominent Vail Family. The Italianate section was constructed by John Runyon, for Herman Trust, a German immigrant farmer. Runyon was a carpenter, undertaker and later borough councilman from neighboring Dunellen. The site is owned by Green Brook Township and is currently being restored

# HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP



Cat Tail Brook Bridge

## HISTORIC SITES

**31) CAT TAIL BROOK BRIDGE, MONTGOMERY ROAD**  
NR 8-1-79 SR 11-27-78

This simple single-arch stone bridge with an eleven-foot span was built of local fieldstone in 1825. It carries Montgomery Road over the Cat Tail Brook. It is one of the two remaining stone-arch bridges in Hillsborough Township and is a fine example of local stone craftsmanship of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is maintained by Somerset County.

**32) ELMENDORF HOUSE, RIVER ROAD**  
NR 4-16-92 SR 3-4-92

This Federal and early Greek Revival-style dwelling, constructed in the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, represents the high level of style that was to be found in countryside dwellings of the time. The building is noted for its proportions, which exceed in height the usual domestic building of the era. It has an elegant interior with fireplace mantels that feature free-standing Doric columns and a delicate stair balustrade. It was the home of Dr. James B. Elmendorf, a prominent physician, member of the State Assembly and trustee of Rutgers University. Dr. Elmendorf's wife, Elizabeth, was the daughter of General Frederick Frelinghuysen. It continues to serve as a private residence.

**33) HIGGINSVILLE ROAD BRIDGES,**  
HIGGINSVILLE ROAD OVER THE SOUTH BRANCH OF THE RARITAN RIVER  
NR 8-24-00 SR 6-1-00

The Higginsville Road Bridges are two pin-connected, Pratt through-truss metal road bridges. The northerly bridge, which is bisected by the county line, was constructed in 1890 by the Miliken Brothers of New York. There are few documented examples of Miliken Brothers bridges, which increases its importance. The southerly bridge, entirely in Somerset County, was constructed in 1893 by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio. The Wrought Iron Bridge Company was recognized as one of the most significant regional manufacturers of metal-truss bridges. The bridges are fine examples of 19<sup>th</sup> century engineering and construction and are in a remarkable state of preservation. Both bridges were rehabilitated by Somerset County in 2000.

**34) HUFF HOUSE AND FARMSTEAD, RIVER ROAD**  
NR 11-7-76 SR 3-15-76

The Huff House is a Greek Revival farmhouse which has remained virtually unaltered since its construction in 1841. Tunis Huff, who constructed this house, was a prosperous farmer. His son, Abraham Huff, who inherited the house, was a member of the New Jersey Assembly and County Surrogate. The house has a one-story Greek revival portico with Ionic columns. The entrance doorway is also Greek Revival with sidelights and a rectangular transom. Each room on the first floor has fireplaces with Greek Revival mantels. It is now a well-maintained private residence.



Huff House and Farmstead

**35) NEVIUS STREET BRIDGE, NEVIUS STREET OVER THE RARITAN RIVER**  
NR 11-12-92 SR 9-11-92

The Nevius Street Bridge is a three-hundred-foot-long, two-span, double-intersection Pratt through-truss bridge. It is the last double-intersection Pratt truss bridge and the oldest documented metal-truss bridge in the county, being constructed in 1886 by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio. The Wrought Iron Bridge Company was one of the most significant regional manufacturers of iron and steel trusses in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The county hired two local masons, William W. Smith and Richard Farrier, to construct the stone abutments and center pier. It is remarkably complete, and is one of the least altered metal-truss highway bridges in the county. Construction of the Nevius Street Bridge marked the first time that the Board of Chosen Freeholders hired a professional civil engineer, F. A. Dunham, to supervise the construction of a bridge.

**36) ROCK BROOK BRIDGE, LONG HILL AND DUTCHTOWN-ZION ROADS**  
NR 2-18-94 SR 12-20-93

The Rock Brook Bridge is a random-rubble stone bridge with two arches and an open span. The bridge is located at the junction of Long Hill and Dutchtown-Zion Roads. H. Hageman, who was almost certainly a local mason, built it in 1825. The open span replaced a third arch, which was washed out by a storm in 1891. The structure is 41 feet long and 16 feet wide. The double-arched section of the bridge stands about 10 feet high, from the shallow rocky bed of the brook to the roadway. The earliest part of the bridge is a good example of local bridge-building methods, and stone construction in general, in the county in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The reconstruction of the eastern end of the center span and eastern wing wall/abutment to accompany the flat span represents late 19<sup>th</sup> century stone construction in the county.

**37) VAN DER VEER-HARRIS HOUSE, U.S. 206**  
NR 3-12-08 SR 12-19-07

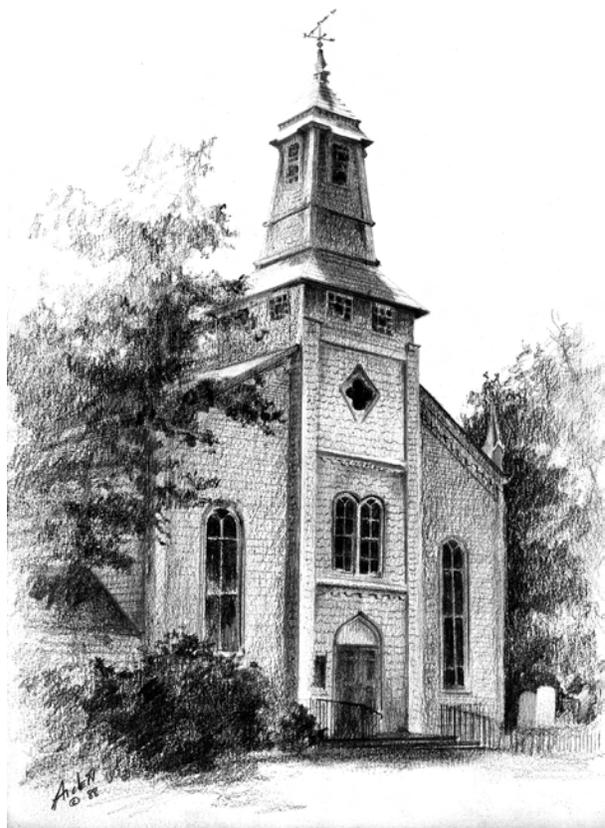
This handsome house was perhaps constructed by Dr. Lawrence Van der Veer, or one of his sons, in the post-revolution Federal era in the mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The house has undergone many changes but still retains its well-detailed Federal-style doorway with a fan detail over the door, fluted pilaster and leaded sidelights on the southern or main entrance. The north facade has a circa-1950 New England-style broken-scroll pediment and a Palladian window at the stair landing. The interior features a broad center hall extending from the front to the rear doorway with a dramatic elliptical arch supported by reeded pilasters. In the 1950s, the two east rooms were combined into one and refurbished with an entirely new and elegant paneled chimney wall with a Federal-style mantelpiece. These changes were designed by architect Chester A. Patterson.

Dr. Lawrence Van der Veer is the son of Jacobus Van der Veer, who initially established a prominent farmstead on this site prior to moving to Bedminster, where he established a mill. Dr. Van der Veer was one of the original members of the New Jersey Medical Society in 1776 when he was 25 years old. He gained prominence for his development and successful application of a cure for hydrophobia (rabies). His son Henry, who inherited the property with his brother John, also was a prominent doctor in the area. The significant changes to the house in the 1950s were made by Dr. Robert Harris. The house is owned by Hillsborough Township and is currently being restored.

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

**P) CLOVER HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 9-29-80 SR 10-16-79

Clover Hill, originally known as Koughstown or Cuxtown, is a well-preserved, small, crossroads village comprised of twenty-three structures on the Somerset/Hunterdon County border. It developed in the first quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Gothic Revival Dutch Reformed Church (1834) is the most significant structure in the district. It has fish-scale clapboarding on the entrance bay and tall lancet windows on the sides. The first parsonage, which still stands, was constructed in the Italianate style. By 1870 the village included a post office, drugstore, school, blacksmith and fifteen houses.



Clover Hill Dutch Reformed Church



Millstone Valley Agricultural District

**Q) MILLSTONE VALLEY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**  
NR 8-10-77 SR 2-7-77

Originally settled in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, the 573-acre Millstone Valley Agricultural District represents a 19<sup>th</sup> century prosperous farming region along the Millstone River. The district reached its full potential after the construction of the D & R Canal, which provided an inexpensive and efficient means of moving agricultural products to eastern markets. Most houses in the district are vernacular two-and-a-half-story structures; however, a number of them exhibit Federal, Greek Revival and Italianate features. The farmsteads include both English and New World Dutch barns, carriage houses, wagon sheds, corn cribs, silos and windmills.

**R) NESHANIC HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 8-7-79 SR 10-10-78

Neshanic, originally called New Shannack, is a well-preserved 19<sup>th</sup> century agrarian village where farm products were collected for shipment to market at New Brunswick and beyond. The district contains thirty structures, including the Robinson Homestead, constructed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and the stone Dutch Reformed Church, which was begun in 1759 but not completed until 1772. Constructed of Sourland Mountain random-coursed fieldstone, it is the oldest church in Somerset County. The pointed-arched windows date from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Second Battalion of the Somerset County Militia met at the church, during the Revolutionary War and were called "Shanick Company." The original parsonage constructed c. 1780 still stands on Amwell Road. The former Neshanic Hotel, now a residence, was constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.



Elm Street Bridge

**G) NESHANIC MILLS HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 1-9-78 SR 6-13-77

Neshanic Mills is the last remaining mill complex in the region and one of the few existing grist mills on the South Branch of the Raritan River. The three-story Lane Mill, constructed in 1876, has a gambrel roof with slate shingles and a square clapboarded cupola. Today the grist mill, carriage sheds and two residences opposite the mill look as they might have in the 1870s. There are two significant bridges in the district. The Elm Street Bridge, constructed in 1896, is one of only two lenticular through-truss bridges in the State. This two-span bridge was constructed by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company, one of the country's largest bridge builders in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Just upstream from the Elm Street bridge, a late 19<sup>th</sup> century, two-span, pin-connected Pratt through-truss bridge carried the now-abandoned Central Railroad of New Jersey over the South Branch of the Raritan River.

**S) SOUTH BRANCH HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 12-13-77 SR 7-6-76

South Branch, originally known as Branchville, is representative of the numerous small river villages that dotted the New Jersey landscape in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Vroom House was the home of Peter D. Vroom, two-term governor of New Jersey (1829-31 and 1833-35) and member of the U.S. Congress. It was also the home of Peter Dumot, a fierce supporter of the patriot cause during the Revolution. Hendrick Fisher, the first president of the Provincial Congress of New Jersey, hid in the house after a price was put on his head by the British. The Greek Revival Dutch Reformed Church (1851) is typical of the rural churches constructed by moderately well-to-do congregations in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The Munro house, constructed c. 1870, displays the characteristic features of the Italianate style.

# MILLSTONE BOROUGH



Millstone Historic District

## HISTORIC DISTRICTS

### **T) MILLSTONE HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 9-13-76 SR 10-4-74

Millstone was the scene of dramatic events in the Revolutionary War including the burning of the County Court House, jail, and two homes in 1779 by the Queens Rangers commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John Simcoe. The village was also the site of a number of encampments. Washington's army camped in the town while on route to Morristown after the victory at Princeton in January 1777. British and Hessian forces camped in Millstone in June 1777. French troops, commanded by Rochambeau, camped in Millstone in 1781 and again in 1782 during their marches to and from Yorktown, Virginia. The most important event in the town's growth was the construction of the D & R Canal in the 1830s. This sparked the 19<sup>th</sup> century development of the borough.

Architecture in the district includes Dutch Colonial, Federal, Greek and Gothic Revival, Second Empire and Modern. Important buildings in the district include the Hillsborough Reformed Church (1828), the Blacksmith Shop (c. 1830) and the Van Doren House (1755) which was Washington's headquarters following the Battle of Princeton in January 1777. The one-story brick Millstone School, now the municipal building, was constructed c. 1860 and is undergoing restoration. The Bachman Wilson House (1956) was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in his Usonian style. The Blacksmith Shop, known as the Old Millstone Forge, is open to the public. For further information call 908-448-6624 or go to [www.oldmillstoneforge.org](http://www.oldmillstoneforge.org).

# MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP

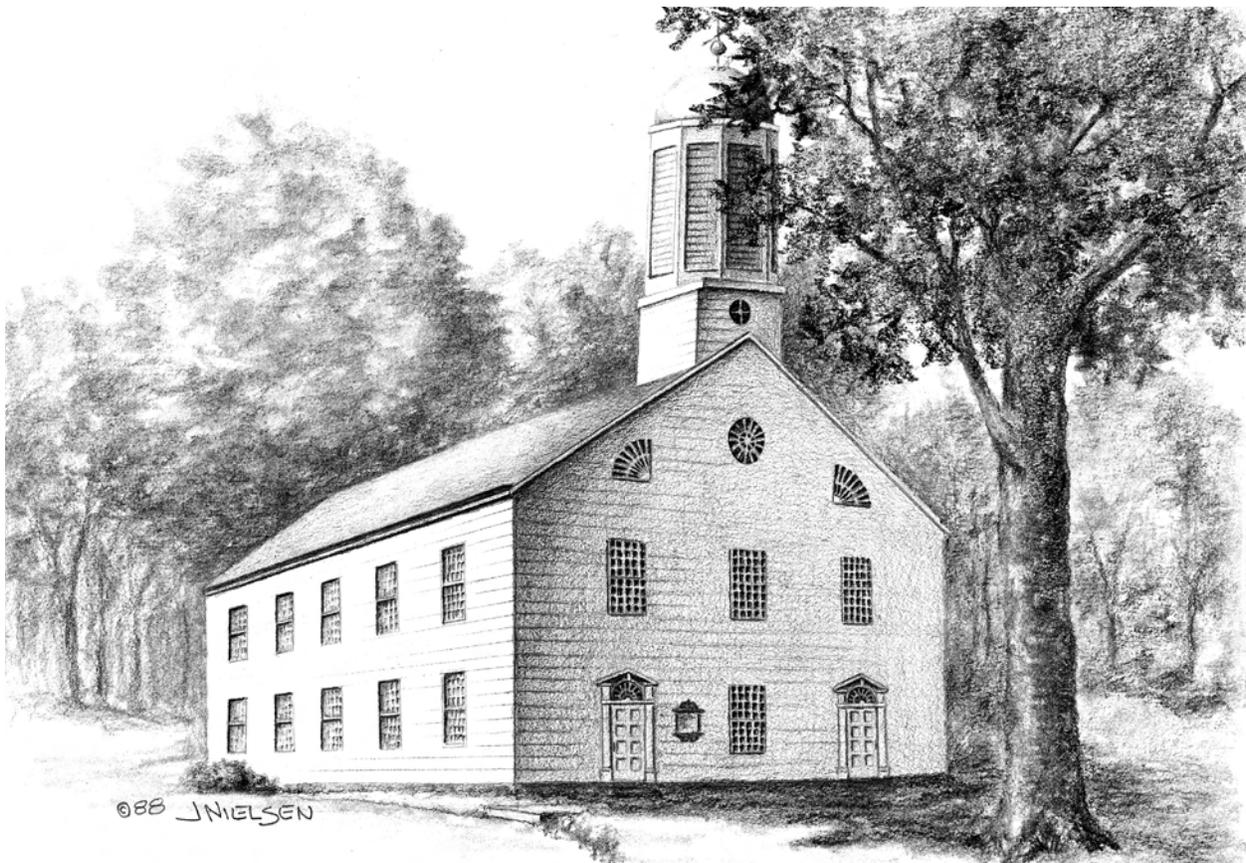
## HISTORIC SITES

**38) BEDENS BROOK ROAD BRIDGE, BEDENS BROOK ROAD**  
NR 12-18-94 SR 12-20-93

The Bedens Brook Road Bridge is a single-arch, random-rubble stone structure built across a tributary of Bedens Brook. Its construction date is unknown but it is thought to have been constructed in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The bridge is remarkably intact, retaining its stonework, arch, wing walls and parapets (the low walls along the outside edge of the bridge). The stone work is constructed of shallower blocks of stone, more regularly laid than stone-arch bridges constructed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The bridge represents the continued use of the stone arch in the county, at small water crossings, well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is 20 feet long with a roadway of 16-and-a-half feet. The arch section of the bridge stands six feet high from the stream bed to the top of the arch.

**39) BLAWENBURG REFORMED CHURCH, 424 GEORGETOWN-FRANKLIN TURNPIKE**  
NR 9-5-85 SR 7-22-85

The Blawenburg Reformed Church constructed in 1831 is a well-preserved example of late-Georgian early-Federal architecture. It is typical of Dutch Reformed churches built in Central New Jersey in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and reflects the persistence of Dutch culture and religion in Somerset County. Its front features two entrances with semi-circular fanlights and regimented surrounds flanking a central window. The interior contains bronze chandeliers with glass bowls and prisms. A French organ with highly ornamental blue zinc pipes with a design worked in gold leaf was installed in 1872.



Blawenburg Reformed Church

**40) DIRCK GULICK HOUSE, 506 BELLE MEAD-BLAWENBURG ROAD**  
NR 12-11-03 SR 10-28-03

The Dirck Gulick House is a small, one-story stone vernacular Dutch structure. It has segmented arches of stone above the doors and windows as well as two front entrances. The original stone plaque, which reads "D + G G This House Built In the Year 1752", still exists on the front facade. The use of stone by the Dutch in the Raritan Valley was rare. Since the dwelling was constructed at the base of the Sourland Mountain, the availability of nearby fieldstone may have influenced the use of stone. Dirck Gulick, one of the areas original settlers, purchased the property in 1727. He settled on the property three years later. This house represents his replacement home. The house is the headquarters of the Van Harlingen Historical Society of Montgomery Township and houses a local research library. The library is open on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon and by special appointment. For information go to [www.vanharlingen.org](http://www.vanharlingen.org).

**41) MAPLEWOOD, BURNT HILL ROAD**  
NR 8-10-00 SR 6-28-00

Maplewood, constructed in 1845, is an excellent example of a Greek Revival dwelling. It was built by John A. Voorhees, a prominent local farmer. It remained in the Voorhees family until 1898 when it was purchased by the state as the first building for the New Jersey State Village for Epileptics. After serving briefly as the sole primary building on the property, the house came to be the superintendent's residence. The Village was one of 13 institutions established in the country, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, devoted exclusively to the treatment of epilepsy. The structure is owned by the Montgomery Township and plans are being made for its restoration. The site is not open to the public.

**42) OPPOSSUM ROAD BRIDGE, OPPOSSUM ROAD OVER BEDENS BROOK**  
NR 2-17-94 SR 12-20-93

Built across Bedens Brook in 1822, the Oppossum Road Bridge is a double-arched, random-rubble stone bridge, which retains its original stonework, arches, parapets and approaches. It is a good example not only of local bridge-building methods, but also of stone construction in general in the county. The bridge is 54 feet long, 15 feet wide and rises to a camelback shape at its center, which is 18 feet above the bed of Bedens Brook. The two arches are nine-and-a-half feet high and 20 feet wide. A badly weathered plaque on the bridge reads "Bedens Brook/5M to P/ 1822/JWR/AHK." Bedens Brook is the watercourse the bridge crosses while "5M to P" refers to 5 miles to Princeton. "1822" is the date of construction, while the last set of initials are the builders. The "JWR" may stand for John Rowland who was the mason for the Cat Tail Brook Bridge.

**36) ROCK BROOK BRIDGE, LONG HILL AND DUTCHTOWN-ZION ROADS**  
NR 2-18-94 SR 12-20-93

See listing under Hillsborough Township.



Blawenburg Tavern

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

### **U) BLAWENBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 12-7-90 SR 2-8-88

The Blawenburg District is representative of a small rural agricultural hamlet which was developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century around the Dutch Reformed Church. Important sites include the Federal-style Dutch Reformed Church constructed in 1831, the Federal-style James Van Zandt Homestead (1809) and the William Griggs House (1815). The Greek Revival-style Judge Cornelius Stryker House was constructed in 1832. Located to the north of the village is the James Van Zandt House erected in 1860-65. It is a fine example of the picturesque Italian Villa. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century development included a Dutch Colonial Revival house and Craftsman bungalow house. Both structures were assembled by local carpenters in 1937 using kits from the Sears, Roebuck catalog.



Gristmill

**V) BRIDGEPOINT HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 6-10-75 SR 5-8-75

The Bridgepoint Historic District is a modest typical New Jersey farm community of the period 1750-1850. The district contains a number of significant structures. The three-story gristmill, constructed c. 1800, is a simple frame-and-clapboard building. It has been converted to a residence but the undershot wheel, millstones and other original features have been retained. The miller's cottage was constructed in two sections. The one-and-a-half story section was built in the 1730s while a two-story section was constructed in the 1740s. The three-arch stone bridge was constructed in the 1820s of random fieldstone. It is an excellent example of 19<sup>th</sup> century stone craftsmanship in Somerset County. The bridge was restored by Somerset County in 2000. It spans the millpond adjacent to the grist mill. The district also has a number of colonial and early 19<sup>th</sup> century farmsteads. The John Van Dike farm includes the 1740 house as well as a New World Dutch barn, which may have also been constructed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**W) RIVER ROAD HISTORIC RURAL DISTRICT**  
NR 3-21-91 SR 1-29-91

The Dutch of Long Island settled this area in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. At first, the major transportation route for farm products was the Millstone River but that was superseded by River Road, which formally opened in 1740. This rural historic landscape contains numerous homes and farmsteads, including three historic New World Dutch barns. The homes exhibit Dutch Vernacular, Federal, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Anglo-Norman Villa and Queen Anne styles. River Road, which runs along the Millstone River through the district, was a route of march for both the American and British armies during the Revolutionary War. This includes Washington's army after the Battle of Princeton and French troops commanded by the General Conte de Rochambeau to and from the battle of Yorktown in 1781 and 1782.

## **NORTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH**

### **HISTORIC SITES**

**43) VAN DERVENTER/BRUNSON HOUSE (VERMEULE MANSION),**  
614 GREENBROOK ROAD  
NR 10-27-04 SR 3-8-04

The Vanderverter/Brunson House was probably constructed in 1840 in the Greek Revival style. In 1870 it was enlarged and remodeled in the Second Empire style, acquiring a mansard-roofed third story. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century it was again enlarged and Colonial Revival fireplaces and features were introduced. These features as well as a Colonial Revival east-wing staircase, survive. Jermiah Van Derventer was responsible for the 1870 remodeling of the house. He was a successful businessman who served as president of the First National Bank of Plainfield as well as the president of Plainfield's gas company. He served on the Plainfield Township Committee and was a member of the County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Under Van Derventer the property was one of the locality's largest and most valuable farms. Augustus J. Brunson, Van Derventer's grandson, was responsible for the early-20<sup>th</sup> century renovations. He was an attorney and was also the president of the First National Bank of Plainfield.

The house now contains the Fleetwood Museum of Art and Photographica. The site is owned by North Plainfield and is operated by the Friends of the Vermeule Mansion. For information call 908-561-1962.



Dalnashea

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

### **X) WASHINGTON PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT** NR 4-9-87 SR 3-4-87

This 19<sup>th</sup> century planned suburban neighborhood has one of the county's finest collection of Victorian-Era architecture, including Gothic Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Dowingesque, Shingle and American Four-Square styles, among others. The Holy Cross Episcopal Church, constructed in 1869, is an excellent example of the Carpenter Gothic style while Dalnashea, now the Yearly Meeting Friends Home, is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style. The inventor of the ball bearing, Fredrick O. Ball, lived in the district. Many of the specimen trees and shrubs planted by early property owners survive.

**Y) GREEN BROOK PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 5-14-04 SR 3-8-04

This 100 acre park was developed between 1922 and the 1940s by the Union County Park Commission. The park is considered part of the national City Beautiful Movement that integrated city planning, open space preservation and park design. Green Brook Park was designed by the nations leading landscape architectural firm, Olmstead Brothers Landscape Architects, of Brookline Massachusetts. The last section of the park, a 40 acre extension east of West End Avenue, was designed by local landscape architects Ralph Porter and Evert J. Rebell. Pedestrian paths lead users of the park through a series of well-designed spaces, enabling them to experience the natural surroundings on an intimate scale. The park includes landscaped terraces and water gardens, connected through the use of curvilinear strolling paths. In addition, the park as originally designed, contained a bowling green, children's playground, wading pool skating pond, baseball, football and soccer fields. The 14 acre section of the park located in North Plainfield was secured by the City of Plainfield through a lease agreement with the Borough of North Plainfield in 1923. During the American Revolution the park was the site of the militia post known as the Blue Hills Fort.

## **PEAPACK & GLADSTONE BOROUGH**

### **HISTORIC SITES**

**44) GLADSTONE STATION, MAIN STREET**  
NR 6-22-84 SR 3-17-84

A fine example of the Queen Anne style, this station was constructed in 1890. It is a one-and-a-half-story structure with a hipped roof and flared eaves. The dormers, with square-pane windows and cylindrical-corner projections, are of particular interest. The interior walls and ceilings are sheathed with match boards. Scenes for the Helen Keller Story were filmed here in 1967. The station is owned by NJ Transit.

# RARITAN BOROUGH



General John Frelinghuysen House

## **HISTORIC SITES**

**45) GENERAL JOHN FRELINGHUYSEN HOUSE, 54 EAST SOMERSET STREET**  
NR 3-4-71 SR 2-1-71

This house was the homestead of the Frelinghuysen family, which has long been significant in New Jersey history. General John Frelinghuysen was an attorney who served as a Brigadier General during the War of 1812 and was later the Surrogate of Somerset County. The main part of the house was originally constructed as a one-and-a-half story brick structure in 1750. It was General Frelinghuysen who added the second floor to the brick section in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Greek Revival porch, with four Doric columns, was added in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The interior is finished with a graceful stairway. It is now the Raritan Public Library. For further information call (908) 725-0413.

**35) NEVIUS STREET BRIDGE, NEVIUS STREET OVER THE RARITAN RIVER**  
NR 11-12-92 SR 9-11-92

See listing under Hillsborough Township.

**46) RELIEF HOSE COMPANY NO. 2 ENGINE HOUSE, 16 ANDERSON STREET**  
NR 12-14-00 SR 10-18-00

This High Victorian Gothic-style firehouse was completed in 1894. Its most distinctive features include a three-story hose tower, delicate stained-glass windows, Art Nouveau signage and sandstone trim. The building demonstrates the high level of craftsmanship that could be achieved by local architects and builders in Somerset County during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to serving as the headquarters and engine house for the fire company, the building has served as a municipal court, council chambers, clerk's office, meeting house, town library and the first headquarters of the Raritan First Aid Squad. The structure is owned by the Borough of Raritan and is currently undergoing restoration.

**47) RARITAN STATION, THOMPSON STREET**  
NR 6-22-84 SR 3-17-84

Constructed by the Central New Jersey Railroad in the early 1890s, this station is a fine example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style with Gothic elements. It has heavy rock-faced stone walls and flared, overhanging hipped roof. The dormers have elaborate scalloped bargeboards. The interior is finished entirely in varnished match boards. The architect is not known, however, it may have been Frank V. Bodine, the architect for similar stations in Somerville, Whitehouse and Westfield. The station is owned by NJ Transit.

## ROCKY HILL BOROUGH

### HISTORIC DISTRICTS

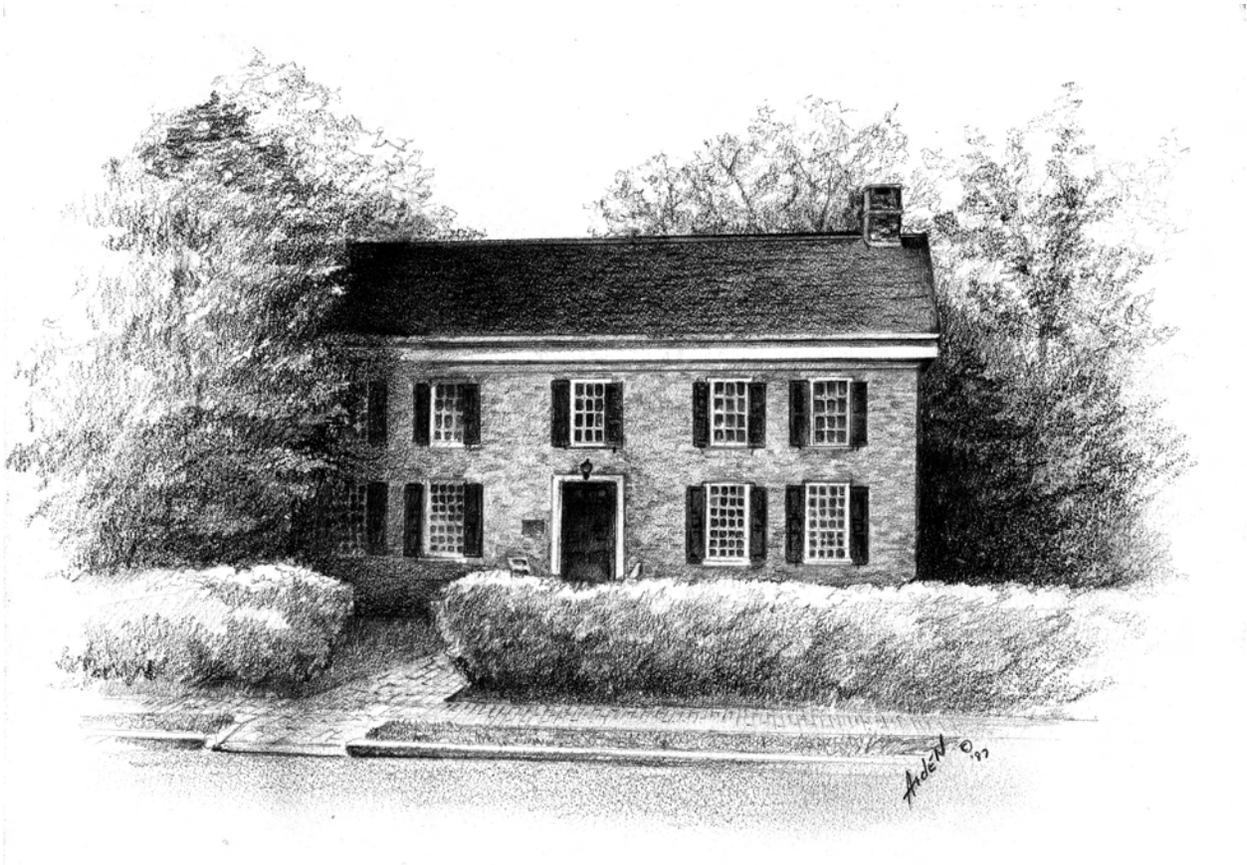
**Z) ROCKY HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
NR 7-8-82 SR 1-14-82

Although now primarily a residential village, the initial construction in the area was industrial in nature. It included a grist mill, fulling mill and cooper shop. The Delaware and Raritan Canal fueled the 19<sup>th</sup> century development of the village. The historic district, composed of one hundred forty-five structures, includes the Dutch Reformed Church (1855), an outstanding example of the Carpenter Gothic Style, the Clark House (1840s), a transitional style between Greek Revival and Italianate, and the Vanderveer House (1850s), which also combines Greek Revival and Italianate features. The Rocky Hill Community House on Washington Street was constructed in the Federal and Greek Revival styles in the 1840s. It is operated by the Rocky Hill Community Group.



Rocky Hill Dutch Reformed Church

## SOMERVILLE BOROUGH



Old Dutch Parsonage

### HISTORIC DISTRICTS

**48) OLD DUTCH PARSONAGE, 65 WASHINGTON PLACE**  
NR 1-2-71 SR 9-11-70

This Georgian-style structure was built in 1751 for the Reverend John Frelinghuysen by funds from three Dutch Reformed churches in the Raritan Valley. The Reverend Jacob Hardenbergh began theological classes here, which were the beginning of Queens College, later Rutgers University. Reverend Hardenbergh played an important part in the American Revolution, serving in the Provincial Congress. He helped to ease tensions between the American army and local inhabitants during the Middlebrook Cantonment. Plans are underway to restore the interior of the house to its 18<sup>th</sup> century appearance. It is owned by the State and is open to the public. The Friends of the Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage assists the State in promoting and improving the House. For further information call (908) 725-1015.

**49) DANIEL ROBERT HOUSE, 25 WEST END AVENUE**  
NR 3-5-08 SR 12-20-07

Constructed in 1888 in the Gothic Revival style, the Daniel Robert House was designed by architects Lambert and Bunnell of Bridgeport, Connecticut. It is a faithful replica of Andrew Jackson Davis's Harral House, also located in Bridgeport. The Robert House is remarkably preserved and retains most of its original Gothic Revival detailing including wainscoting, doors, trim, interior shutters, floors and fireplaces. The intricate Gothic stair and associated woodwork, trefoil arches, quatrefoils, and floriated designs also remain. The reception-room ceiling retains an elaborate allegorical painting attributed to local artist Orville Lance.

Daniel Robert, a New York businessman, lived in the building until his death in 1908. His wife, Angeline, sold the building to the Somerville Lodge of the Elks in 1923. The Elks added an auditorium to the building in 1939. In 1958 the Elks sold the property to the Borough of Somerville. The Borough continues to use the building as its Borough Hall while the auditorium addition is used as the Borough Library.

**50) ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMPLEX, 154-158 WEST HIGH STREET**  
NR 9-15-03 SR 5-30-03

St. John's Episcopal Church was constructed in 1895 in the Early English Gothic Style. It is faced with Stockton sandstone and its window sills, buttress and belt course on the tower are limestone. The elaborate ironwork on the front and side doors and the hinges and intricately designed latch plates exhibits fine craftsmanship. The church contains stained-glass windows by Tiffany Studios, Payne Studios and D'Ascenzo Studios. The open hammer-beam ceiling remains in its original condition. The church and adjacent rectory were designed by renowned architect Horace Trumbauer. He is best known for the mansions he designed for the affluent, including the Elms in Newport, Rhode Island and the Widener Memorial Library at Harvard and as the architect for the Duke University campus. His ecclesiastical commissions were comparatively rare. The rectory was constructed in 1909 of stone and exhibits characteristics of both the Shingle and Early English Gothic styles and was clearly designed to harmonize with the adjacent church. The Guild Hall was constructed in 1924 and designed by the firm of Holmes and Von Schmidt of New York.

**51) J. HARPER SMITH HOUSE, 228 ALTAMONT PLACE**  
NR 12-31-98 SR 11-5-98

Constructed in 1880, this three-story High Victorian Eclectic house was the home of James Harper Smith, the long-time superintendent of the Raritan Mills. It was considered one of the finest mansions of its day and is the most distinctive and lavishly decorated house in the Borough. Although the architect of the house is unknown, additions to the house were designed by Frank Bodine who also designed the Somerville Railroad Station. Smith engaged the renowned architect Horace Trumbauer, to design his front room as a library. Trumbauer is known for his mansions, including the Elms in Newport and for the Widener Memorial Library at Harvard. He also designed St John's Episcopal Church in Somerville. The house is in private ownership and has been completely restored.



Somerset County Court House

**52) SOMERSET COUNTY COURT HOUSE GREEN, MAIN STREET**  
NR 9-7-89 SR 5-26-89

The Somerset County Court House Green is composed of three main structures: the Court House, the Lord Memorial Fountain and the First Dutch Reformed Church. Constructed in 1909, the Somerset County Court House is a fine example of Beaux-Arts Classicism. The gilded dome is surmounted by a figure of Justice. The rotunda has a coffered dome with a leaded glass oculus, scagliola columns and balustrade. It was designed by the firm of Gordon, Tracy and Swartwout. James Reilly Gordon was one of America's greatest courthouse architects who also designed the Arizona State Capital. Swartwout and Tracy, who at one time worked for the renowned architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White, also designed the Missouri State Capital. The contractor, William H. Fissel, built one wing of the U.S. Capital.

The adjacent First Reformed Church is a free interpretation of an English Gothic church. Constructed in 1897, it is distinguished by the broad and generous handling of interior spaces. It was designed by William Appleton Potter, renowned for his architecture on the Princeton University campus. The church is now used by the county as the jurors' waiting room. The Lord Memorial Fountain, erected in 1910, was designed by John Russell Pope, one of America's last great neo-classical architects. He also designed the Jefferson Memorial, the National Gallery of Art and the National Archives in Washington D.C. It was sculpted by John Boyde and Thomas C. Post Trolearen. For further information call (908) 231-7110.

**53) SOMERVILLE FIRE MUSEUM, 15 DOUGHTY STREET**  
NR 7-17-02 SR 5-29-02

The present Somerville Fire Museum originally housed the West End Hose Company. The two-story brick structure was constructed in 1888, in the Romanesque Revival style, following a public outcry for fire protection services at the west end of town. The building is the only one of Somerville's four original fire stations that remains. The building has undergone very few alterations and includes the original colored glass window on the second floor, one-over-one sash windows and brick arch with a granite keystone engraved "West End Hose, 1888." Since 1970 the fire station has been the home of the Somerville Fire Museum. The museum houses the Amoskeag Steamer, Somerville's first piece of steam-operated equipment, firefighting memorabilia and a wealth of photographs. The building is operated by the Borough of Somerville and is open on Saturday 10 a.m. to noon or by appointment. For information call 908-526-7098.



Wallace House

**54) WALLACE HOUSE, 38 WASHINGTON PLACE**  
NR 12-2-70 SR 9-1-70

The Wallace House is an eight-room, Dutch famed, Georgian dwelling constructed in 1776 by John Wallace, a Philadelphia fabric merchant. The house maintains its 18<sup>th</sup> century appearance and was recently restored. It was General Washington's headquarters from December 1778 to June 1779, when the Continental Army was stationed at Middlebrook. From the house, Washington planned the strategic Sullivan campaign, which helped to destroy the power of the Iroquois Confederacy. Visitors to the home included General Lafayette, General Knox, Benedict Arnold, Alexander Hamilton, Baron Von Steuben, and Lord and Lady Stirling. It has been a museum house for over 100 years. The house is owned by the State and is open to the public. The Friends of the Wallace House and Old Dutch Parsonage assists the State in promoting and improving the House. For further information call (908) 725-1015.

# **SOUTH BOUND BROOK BOROUGH**

## **HISTORIC SITES**

**55) ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE, 17 VON STEUBEN LANE**  
NR 12-4-02 SR 8-29-02

The Staats house is an exceptionally intact example of 18<sup>th</sup>- and early 19<sup>th</sup> century Dutch and Federal architecture. The Dutch section, constructed c. 1740, has Dutch-style cast-iron hinges, board and batten doors, Dutch mantels and woodwork and exposed beams. The Federal section has an intact door surround with delicate leaded glass and original Federal mantel. The house was the headquarters for General Baron von Steuben in the spring of 1779 during the Continental Army's Middlebrook Cantonment (Second Middlebrook Encampment). His staff was quartered in an orchard on the grounds. General Washington is said to have visited Von Steuben at the house on two occasions. The house is owned by the Borough of South Bound Brook and is currently undergoing restoration. The Friends of the Abraham Staats House support the restoration, preservation and interpretation of the House. Tours are by appointment. For further information call 732-469-5836 or go to [www.staatshouse.com](http://www.staatshouse.com).

## **HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

**H) DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL**  
SR 5-11-73 SR 11-30-72

See listing under Franklin Township.

# WARREN TOWNSHIP

## HISTORIC SITES

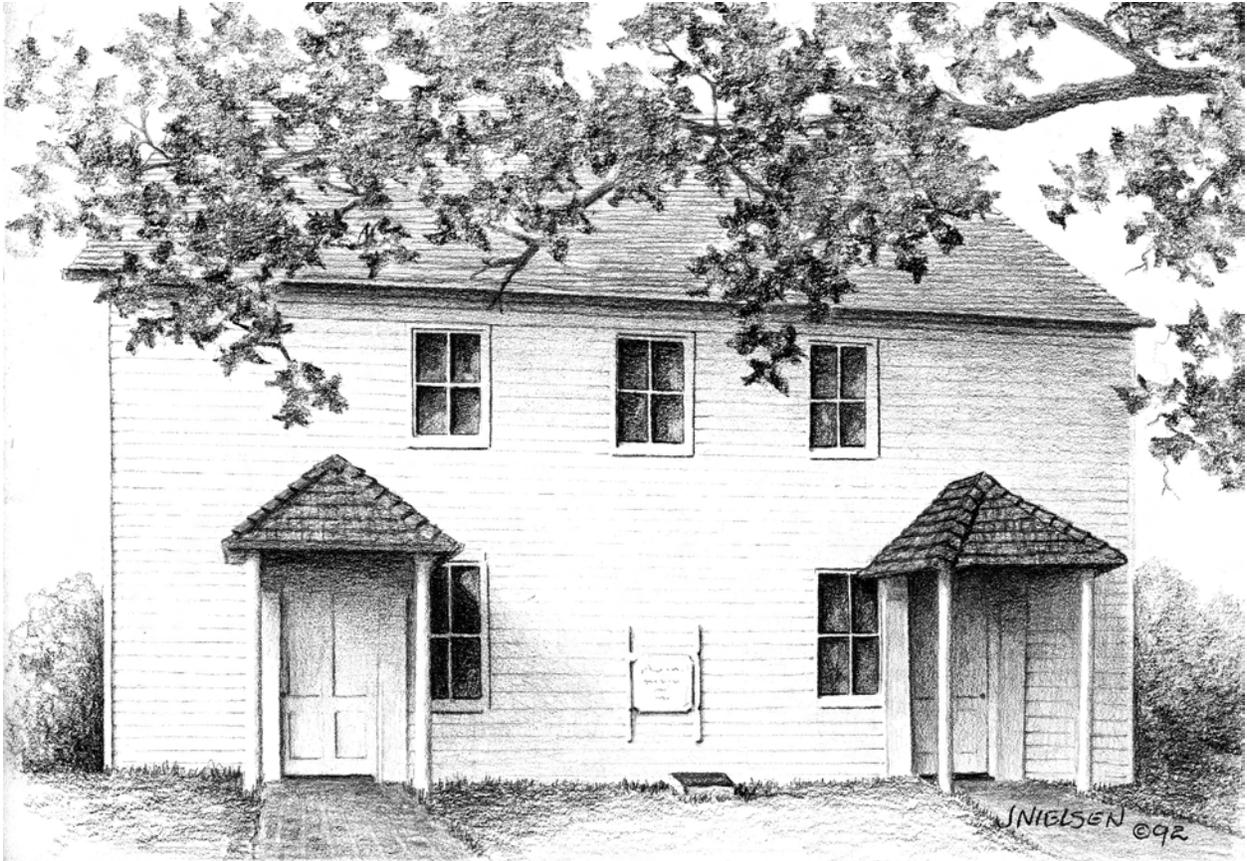
**56) BAKER-DUDERSTADT FARMSTEAD, DUBOIS ROAD**  
NR Pending Approval SR Pending Approval

The Duderstadt barn is a unique structure, not just in Somerset County, but also in the State of New Jersey. The barn is a two-story fachwerk or German half-timbered barn. Historical evidence indicates that the barn was constructed in 1847. The interior and exterior walls are constructed of close-studded timbers with diagonal full-story timbers at the end panels. Much of the structure still retains its rubble stone infill or nogging. It also has the characteristic German jerkinhead or clipped gable roof. German fachwerk construction only appears in isolated pockets in the United States such as Wisconsin, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas. Fachwerk barns are extremely rare.

The barn was built by George Baker (original family name was Becker) who sold the farm to Hugo Duderstadt in 1878. It remained in the Duderstadt family until 2000 when it was purchased by Somerset County. Also on the site is a Victorian vernacular farmhouse constructed c. 1890 by Hugo Duderstadt and a number of significant outbuildings. The house contains floor-to-ceiling, beaded-board wainscoting in every room. Since the buildings are being restored, they are not open to the public.

**57) KIRCH-FORD HOUSE, 1 REINMAN ROAD**  
NR 10-20-88 SR 9-15-88

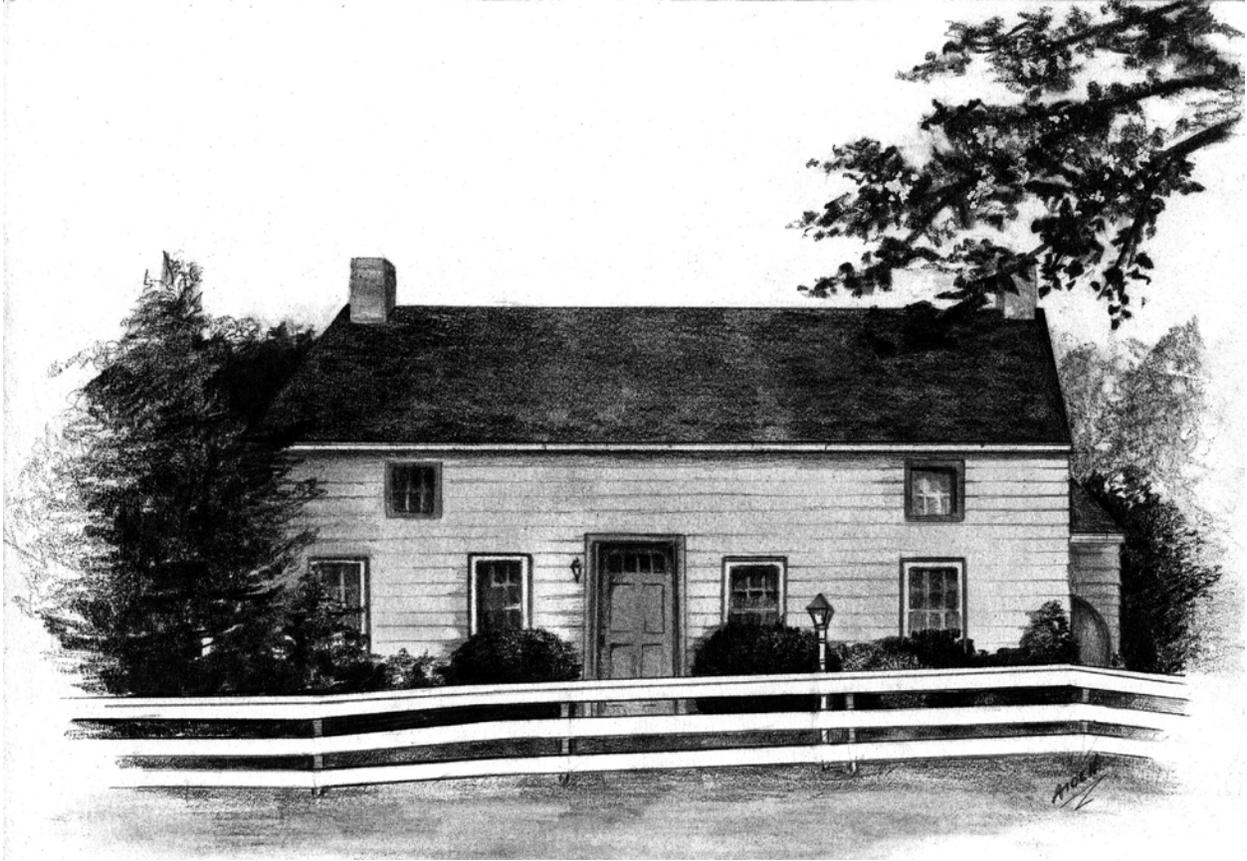
The original section of this house was most likely constructed between 1766 and 1774 by Thomas Terrill, Sr. It utilizes an H-bent frame a hallmark of Dutch-American architecture. The house has been expanded and altered several times over the past three centuries including a two-and a-half story four room section constructed circa 1795. After the death of Thomas Terrill Sr. his widow, Tryphena, married William Ford who was a private in the Middlesex County Militia during the American Revolution. In the 1830s, the house was owned by Thomas Terrill, Jr. the first Clerk of Warren Township, Justice of the Peace, County Judge and County Commissioner of Deeds. In 1857 the house was purchased by German immigrant John Kirch and it remained in the Kirch Family until 1978. Since 1980 the house has been owned by Warren Township. It is now operated by the Township Historic Sites Committee and is open to the public. For information please call (732) 271-1596.



Mount Bethel Baptist Meeting House

**58) MOUNT BETHEL BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE,**  
MOUNT BETHEL ROAD & MOUNTAINVIEW ROAD  
NR 6-3-76 SR 12-22-75

This meeting house was constructed in 1786, in part with materials salvaged from an earlier structure, by the county's First Baptist congregation. It is one of the few 18<sup>th</sup> century timber-frame meeting houses in New Jersey that retains much of its original character. It retains its very early exterior and interior appearances because many of the original features were retained in subsequent building modifications. There were significant changes made to the structure in 1839 and 1887 as styles and customs of worship evolved. The meeting house is a representative example of the simple church structures erected throughout the United States in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and reflects the austerity and frugality practiced by the congregation at that time. It is maintained by the Warren Township Historic Sites Committee and is open by appointment only. For further information call (732) 271-1596.



Smalley/Wormser House

**59) SMALLEY/WORMSER HOUSE, 84 MOUNTAIN AVENUE**  
NR 10-19-78 SR 4-27-78

This house is a charming example of a colonial farmhouse whose exterior has changed little in 200 years. The first section of the house was thought to have been built in 1765 by David Smalley, a Captain in the 1st Battalion, Somerset County Militia, Justice of the Peace and Judge of the Courts of Common Pleas. The house still has its working original beehive oven and eyebrow window. In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, the house was enlarged by Barth Wormser who added a central-stair hall with front and back parlors to the east. It continues to serve as a private residence.



