

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED **JAN 4 1980**
DATE ENTERED **MAR 6 1980**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Fishing Creek Schoolhouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2102 Bayshore Road

CITY, TOWN ~~Lower Township~~ (Villas) Fishing Creek NOT FOR PUBLICATION
VICINITY OF 2nd CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE New Jersey CODE 34 COUNTY Cape May CODE 009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Kathryn C. Leckey

STREET & NUMBER 659 Roxborough Avenue

CITY, TOWN Philadelphia VICINITY OF STATE PA

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clerk's Office, County of Cape May

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Cape May Courthouse STATE New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE 1979 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Office of Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN Trenton STATE New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fishing Creek Schoolhouse, built in 1888, is a one story, clapboard, structure with corner boards. Its main facade has three bays and two windows which are four over four, double hung. There are three double pairs of four over four double hung windows on the east side of the building. There are no windows on the west side, although a small porch with a shed roof has been added. The structure has a brick foundation.

The building has a gable roof with return ends. Situated in the front peak of the gable is a small belfry with a semicircular opening topped with a pediment.

Below the belfry is a semicircular insert plaque containing the name and date of construction of the school. The roof is now covered with asphalt shingles.

The main entrance to the structure is in the principal facade through what was once double doors, but is now replaced with a single door. Above the door is a transom and a wooden awning. The awning is a later addition. The original shutters on the two front windows have been removed.

Interior

When used as schoolhouse the building had one large interior room and a small cloak room situated near the main entrance. Long benches, for the very young children, and desks were the furnishings.

In 1929 the structure was converted into a private dwelling. The interior changes constituted the addition of partitions to make three bedrooms, a living room and kitchen. The kitchen equipment (sink and cabinets) was installed near the rear of the house. The cloak room in the front of the building was removed.

The original ceiling is in place. The interior walls, originally painted, have since been repainted.

Overall, the alterations to the interior and the minor alterations to the exterior have not diminished the recognition of the structure as a schoolhouse.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The second one-room schoolhouse that was built in Fishing Creek played an important role in accommodating and training the young in the school district. An equally important function the building served was as a meeting place for various community activities. Architecturally, the form of the building reflects a common 19th century approach of adapting the basic church form for use as a school.

The community Fishing Creek, also known as Norbury Landing, was initially the site of the second oldest mill in the county. The mill was a fulling mill, c. 1735, which manufactured homespun cloth.

The earliest school in Fishing Creek was on what is now called Fulling Mill Road. This first schoolhouse, constructed in the early 1800's, was little more than a log cabin and had deteriorated badly by the mid to late 1800's. It was described in a local paper as "a disgrace to the neighborhood". Consequently, because of the deteriorated condition of the building and for the following reasons the community felt the need for a new school building.

The foremost reasons for the construction of a new schoolhouse (the second Fishing Creek Schoolhouse) lies in the fact that in the late 1800's a very high priority was placed upon the educating and training of the young. This is clearly illustrated in the intervention of the public by setting regulations on the attendance requirements, the duration of school year, and through the use of public taxes for education.

Secondly, need for a more structurally sound schoolhouse in Fishing Creek was due to the schoolhouse's use as a community center. Various community activities such as the Zobo Band, the Church Junior League and neighborhood Saturday evening meetings were held in the district school. Community musical activities increased after 1900, when an organ was purchased for use in the school.

The deed for the new school building was recorded October 18, 1888. This building is located at Bayshore Road and became the second school building in District 23. All the students in the vicinity were accommodated in this building until 1921. In 1921 some students were transferred to other schools, but the schoolhouse continued to operate until 1929 when it was converted to its present use - a private dwelling.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cape May County NJ Magazine of History & Genealogy, Vol V No. 9 June 1963
Cape May County Historical & Genealogical Society, NJ.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Rio Grande, NJ

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 505280 4318140
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see sheet rec'd 2/15/80

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION Office of Historic Preservation

DATE 5/1979

STREET & NUMBER 109 West State Street

TELEPHONE (609) 292-2023

CITY OR TOWN Trenton

STATE New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy [Signature]
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

10-9-79
DATE

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature]
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: [Signature]
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 3/6/80

DATE 2/15/80

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Fishing Creek Schoolhouse
Cape May County, New Jersey

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Architecturally, the style and plan of the schoolhouse demonstrates the phenomenon of style transference from a known and accepted form (church type) to that of a school. This occurred as a result of the limited selection of styles in the popularly used 19th century architecture pattern books which did not provide many examples of schools, and the very limited supply of pattern books specifically containing examples of schools.

As a result of its association with the state's educational development and community activities in Fishing Creek, the second Fishing creek school deserves recognition through placement on the National Register.