

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property Quaker Meeting
historic name
other names/site number Quakertown (Village) Historic District

2. Location Along Quakertown Road, Croton Road, White Bridge Road
street & number not for publication
city, town Franklin Township vicinity
state New Jersey code 034 county Hunterdon code 019 zip code 08868

3. Classification

Ownership of Property
 private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property
 building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>74</u>	<u>36</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	sites
<u>7</u>	<u>17</u>	structures
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	objects
<u>82</u>	<u>53</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
[Signature] 2/20/90
Signature of certifying official Date
Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources/DSHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain):

Entered in the
National Register
[Signature] 8/23/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwellingAgricultural/subsistence: farm outbuildingsCommerce/trade: stores; shop; hotel

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

agricultural/storage/garage/unused

store; office; dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek RevivalItalianateBungalowOther: vernacular English, Quaker plan
I-form

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stonewalls both masonry (18th c.); wood (19th c.)roof asphaltother wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Village of Quakertown is located in rural Franklin Township, Hunterdon County, on a plain in a generally hilly terrain. Its period of significance spans two centuries from its origins in the 1730s to its decline after 1900 when its role as center for the rural economy came to an end. There are a total of 57^{principal} properties in the district of which only seven are non-contributing. Five properties date to the earliest settlement of Quakertown (1730-1799); twenty properties range between 1800 and 1859; twenty-three properties date from 1860 to 1900 and two properties date between 1901-1915. Of the seven non-contributing properties, five post-date 1939, and the remaining two are 2nd quarter 20th century. There are a total of 76¹¹⁰ buildings, 62²⁴ structures, and one cemetery site in the District. Of the buildings, including barns, 63⁷⁹ are contributing. There are 14⁷ contributing structures and the cemetery is a contributing historic site. Non-contributing buildings are mainly those which date after the period of significance, but also one house and five barns of the period because of changes. Non-contributing structures are outbuildings which have lost their integrity in varying degrees through modification, conversion to other use, or deterioration. For the most part sheds have not been counted. Nonetheless, all these structures do preserve their original lines and their positioning in relation to their houses. There are besides the above in this category a number of new structures.

Quakertown came into existence in the 18th century with the erection of a Quaker Meeting House. It took form along a major road that came northward from Trenton and then made a 90 degree turn westward heading toward the Delaware River at present-day Phillipsburg. This old King's Highway, Route 579, now forms Croton Road, the village side street, and Quakertown Road, the main west-flowing street. Quakertown Road extends eastward, also, from the intersection and is numbered Route 616, alternatively known as the Cherryville Road. It, too, existed in the 18th century as "the Raritan Road," the road for carting farm products to the important Raritan Landing by New Brunswick. The third road which entered into the formation of Quakertown, marking its westerly extent, is presently called Locust Grove Road. It turns off from Quakertown Road and runs south and west to another colonial village,

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Community Development

Period of Significance

c. 1740-1930

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Quakertown Historic District, located in rural Franklin Township, Hunterdon County, N.J., is proposed for nomination to the National Register under Criteria A and C. The history and architecture of this village are both typical of the Central New Jersey experience and at the same time personal and unique to its Quaker founders and later generations of residents. Its period of significance is approximately 1730-1915.

Quakertown is significant as illustrative of one manner in which early New Jersey was settled, with its founding related to first generation immigrant English Quaker families who left their impress on the landscape. The village's first century of history records a continual inflow of Quakers from other areas, some of whom established the first commercial enterprises. Its distinctive Quaker character and life style diminished next century as later generations and new inhabitants formed a broader-based American society. The village took on the aspects of a typical 19th-century service center, having a school, post office, hotel, two religious edifices, general stores and artisans' shops.

Quakertown offers an assemblage of two centuries of domestic rural architecture from which can be extrapolated the passing influences upon the builders in form, fabric, and utility. It speaks also of the kind of people who inhabited the village and their mindset. The buildings are non-stylistic in the main, but with some examples of vernacular interpretations of national style from Late Georgian down to California Bungalow. Finding its role in meeting local needs of the outlying farming community declining at century's end with the onset of the automobile age, Quakertown then stood still.

Quakertown, as its name reveals, is intimately associated with an early cultural settlement of the Society of Friends. The happenstance of the

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on files (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

County survey; Hunterdon Co. Master Plan
"Sites of Historic Interest, 11/1979
in Hunterdon Co. Cultural & Heritage
Commission, Flemington, NJ

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property ±78 Pittstown, NJ Quad Commission, Flemington, NJ

UTM References

A [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
Zone Easting Northing

C [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
Zone Easting Northing

D [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ursula C. Brecknell
organization Historic House Surveys date April 1986; revisions, 1987
street & number 36 Ellis Drive telephone (201) 359-3498
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Baptistown. A fourth road, White Bridge Road, departs from the village northward at about midpoint, but it is not significant to the history of the village. It bisected the Meeting House 4-acre lot, and a late 18th-century sketch map indicates it led to "Reba Cott's" (Rebec ca Coates?) plantation.

Quakertown is mainly linear, as a result of the initial gift of land for the meetinghouse and cemetery along the existing highway. Its earliest buildings were strung out to east and west of the 1730s meeting house. The first commercial activity to be recorded is the opening of an inn in the 1760s. In the next decade a cordwainer had a shop and a hatter a store. The former was at the most westerly point along the road, the latter at the most easterly. From 1800 on, the number of artisans' shops steadily increased, as the town's role was further reinforced with the addition of a post office and a school. An infill of available lots for houses occurred, chiefly in the period 1840-1860, although two farmhouses of the Federal era helped to demarcate the outer edges of the evolving village. (Sites #25, 55). By the 1870s, there was a distillery beyond the village fringe set up on an earlier farm (#57) but directly related to the main street by a lane (Quaker Lane today).

In the last quarter of the century, housing overflowed for a short distance on Croton Road, where a Methodist church and parsonage had earlier been built, and also along the Cherryville Road, the final house on the north side being part of a farm.

The extent of the village is clearly delineated by the massing of houses with short setbacks, mainly of two-story height. The 1936-37 one-story elementary school building, though non-contributing, is located next to the site of the original school house of 1817, and it helps to tie together the second core of early houses at the village's west end with the original cluster around the meeting house. The village is cleanly set off, without straggle, by open spaces of undeveloped countryside, some of which is still farmed. A large and active farm, with complex of buildings, lies behind the village on the north, to the east of White Bridge Road. This farm, owned by the Kester family in the 18th century, effectively stopped the growth of the village in a northerly direction. Villa Farm on the east side of Croton Road (#29) adjoins the village south boundary. The large 19th-century Locust Grove Cemetery marks the west end of the village on the north side of Quakertown Road.

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The historical village and its environment are primarily the same today as during the period of its formation and significant 19th-century activity as religious, commercial, and service center for the rural area. Included are the Quaker Meeting House and its 18th-century cemetery, the Methodist Church and its parsonage, its inn (now a residence), its 1915 schoolhouse (relocated and converted to housing), and two of its general stores, and the cabinet shop (now a dwelling). Two of the 18th-century houses developed later associations with village physicians, one also a dentist, and the home of the latter also became the office of the first telephone company, which he founded. Numerous outbuildings in backyards add to the sense of earlier conditions of life in terms of household chores and economic pursuits.

The architecture of the village clearly expresses its various stages of growth. The earliest (1700-1800) are of stone, relatively compact, and stand two stories. Two originated as one-over-one-room dwellings, reflecting an English vernacular style brought to the area by the settlers. Two others are of two-room-deep plan (one room wide), with corner fireplaces. Stone was the primary building fabric used in this area in the 18th century. Also of masonry are the replica Friends Meeting House of 1862, replacing the one erected in 1752/54, and the building which housed the 19th-century hotel on the old tavern lot. Another house of ashlar blocks, c. 1815, exhibits the relatively high style of late Georgian building that swept through the township after the Revolution (#47). Houses of the Federal era record the complete switch over to frame structures, two stories high, both one and two rooms deep.

The greatest surge of building occurred in the decades 1840-1860, with the addition¹ of several shops and services, making Quakertown the leading village of Franklin Township. (In 1845, the township had been organized independently, after being detached from Kingwood Township, of which it had been a part since 1748. Prior to that year, it was part of Bethlehem Township). The first town clerk was Theodore Probasco, village resident and cabinet-shop owner.

¹ Hunterdon Democrat advertisement, 1841, placed by G.W. Waterhouse, merchant, "Two new houses for private sale in the pleasant village of Quakertown with convenient lots for mechanics. It being a convenient location for almost any mechanic." Cited in History of the Quakertown Methodist Church, p. 2.

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With the exception of one house -- a vernacular 1 1/2-story dwelling, circa 1800, perhaps earlier -- all the 19th century houses are 2 stories, in the main 3 to 5 bays wide, with a few gable-fronted. The majority are I-style. Except for those of the Victorian era, they hug the ground, like their 18th-century predecessors, with little or no foundation visible. All are under gable roof, but some roofs have a somewhat shallow pitch. The body of houses that give the village its main character have remnants of Greek Revival styling at doorways and corners. Corner pilasters are, in fact, found on a great number of houses in the vicinity of nearby Flemington. It might be wondered whether the fine Greek Revival architecture of this county seat had some impact on outlying areas. The gable-fronted store of 1851 (#45) still retains its capped corner pilasters and entablature on its long walls. Its neighbor, though shoe-horned onto its tiny lot, is a large-scale expression of the Italianate, with bracketed, eyebrow-windowed attic. Two houses exhibit the trappings of Gothic Revival in elaborate bargeboard detailing, and several others show Victorian updates with cross gables, bay windows, and porches. The 1879 Methodist Episcopal Church stands out not only for its ornate 3-stage steeple but for its complex patterning in shingles and its projecting Gothic entry.

The last two houses to contribute to the village composition were put up about 1900. One displays features associated with Late Victorian styles, the other introduces the newly discovered Bungalow style. There appears to have been very little loss of housing stock through the 19th century. Most of the I-style dwellings were simply enlarged with rear additions, rather than replaced. Two of the original mid-19th-century stores stand, though currently only one is functioning in this role. Two earlier schoolhouses on new sites are incorporated into the village, one as a museum, the other as apartments. The former tavern/hotel building has also been converted to dwelling units. Intrusions are few and not especially noticeable. The village tells its story in coherent fashion.

Of the 57 properties in the district those most important to the interpretation and understanding of the village's origins and evolution over approximately 165 years--1750-1915--are indicated by the term key. Buildings of this century that are non-contributing to the period of significance but compatible with the setting are also described as harmonizing. Where possible, sites are identified by the names appearing on the 1860 map, and in those cases, the year appears.

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1. Potter/Allen House
Locust Grove Road
1765 traditional date
Key

In 1776, Peter Potter, a farmer, sold the farm "where he lived," to John Allen of Shrewsbury, New Jersey. (Shrewsbury was another Quaker community.) It represented about 36 acres which had been carved out of a much larger plantation. This farm served to bound the village street that was spawned by the establishment of the Quaker Meeting House and tavern. Allen was a cordwainer. As a Quaker, he believed in passive resistance during the Revolutionary War, and paid fines for his position in several pairs of boots and shoes, and in animal hides.

The house is on a tract of land bounded on the north by Quakertown Road, but surprisingly faces east to the side road. It is a typical stone house of the second half of the 18th century as found in Franklin Township. It is of block and wing plan, of rubble stone except for the facade of the 2-bay, 2-story main unit. This facade has splayed projecting keystoned lintels above the ground-floor openings, and original framing, including visible pegging. The doorway opening is exceptionally wide. An altered raised-panel door hangs on strap hinges. A low water table runs around the walls of this unit, which is two rooms deep with back-to-back cater-cornered fireplaces on north wall served by one rebuilt large brick rectangular chimney stack. A late-style Georgian mantelpiece survives. A single run of in-wall stairs originates in corner of interior wall behind vertical-board door on H-L hinges, with beanpod latch. Chair rail encircles front room, and built-in cabinet, flat-topped, with butterfly shelves, fills one corner. New shed-roofed clapboard addition has been added to rear of this unit for kitchen.

The wing, against south wall, was rebuilt in 1915 from a 1-story, 3-bay unit with end chimney to a 2-story structure, 2 rooms deep, under steeply pitched gable roof of uneven slopes, the rear of lesser angle extended back to cover rear rooms. Though unit is recessed against main block, the front roof slope has been drawn down and extended beyond main facade to provide a porch covering. Entry is centered in 3-bay facade and contains a "Dutch door." A triple-windowed dormer with shed roof gives light to upper story.

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Window sash are 2/2 and 6/6; jambs are plastered. No ceiling beams are exposed in either unit. A second date, 1794, traditionally applied to building the second unit, may have significance for the entire house, as certain details are more characteristic of the Post-Revolutionary period in this area. Yet, the purchase price of -150 for but 20 acres would suggest a dwelling on the property back in 1776.

Outbuildings include a one-story structure, long side to road, with multiple openings. It has vertical siding, old wood shingle roof (contributing); and a garage with ell, sheathed with narrow clapboards, a shed, and a new-built structure (non-contributing). Well, with boarded square house and pyramided roof (contributing).

2. James Hart House
Quakertown Road
Post-1860
Contributing

On the 1860 county map this corner property of .11 acres is shown with a small shop. This is a small-scale, rear-embanked I-style house, 4 bays by 1 bay, frame construction, asphalt gable roof parallel with road. Has flush eaves and internal end brick chimney stack of Victorian shape. Full enclosed (clapboarded) porch with shed roof against facade. Porch entry centered, flanked by windows of different sizes. Main block fenestration 2/2 in plain frames; upper windows reach to eaves. Rubble stone foundation; aluminum siding.

Privy and chicken coop in back (non-contributing).

3. F. Bellaire House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
late 18th century; 19th century
Key

In 1768, Daniel Cahill, the first tavern keeper, purchased this tract of land, but 6 acres, at a sheriff's sale. It may have included a house, though no deed makes mention of it until 1812. Property was bought for L66 and sold in 1794 for -112.

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A double-unit house, the older (east) end is of coursed rubble stone, formerly plastered, 2 stories tall, single depth, with center entrance in 3-bay facade, a one-over-one plan. Upper floor has 2 bays, and attic contains 4-pane sash. This is a typical 18th-century facade for this area, reflecting English traditions brought by the Quakers of Burlington County. Also typical is the attachment of a frame unit to right (west) on same facade line, which may have occurred in the second quarter of the 19th century. Second unit of frame (clapboard), two stories, of identical height and depth. Roof is continuous over both units, with box cornice and eaves overhang. This section is 3 bays, including an entry, with openings irregularly spaced; 2 widely separated bays above. Both entrances contain Victorian doors with round-headed panels. Entire structure hugs the ground, with stone foundation only slightly visible under gable walls. There are two internal end brick chimneys (original fireplace openings and stair winders gone), and an additional external chimney on east wall. Windows contain 2/2 sash in changed frames. Two independent shed-roofed 1 story additions are at rear, dating perhaps to 1900. A side entry is on east gable wall under shed-roofed porch with sawn cutout frieze on turned post.

A privy, a metal pump on concrete block, a looped metal hitching post, and pre-1900 wrought iron fence of simple design near roadside. Gable-fronted shed.

4. C. Snyder House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
C. 1800, 1825
Key

A characteristic vernacular structure of 18th-century provenance, it stands 1 1/2 stories with second-story window squeezed in under eaves at left (east) corner. Single-depth house, 4 bays by 1 bay, frame, clad with narrow clapboards and cornerboards, internal end brick chimneys with exposed tall stone-rubble chimneybacks. Roof has asphalt shingles and extended eaves. Entry is in third bay. Windows have 1/1 sash and oversized louvered blinds. Relatively recent large addition, 2 stories, at rear, under its own gable roof, put in by current owner.

Cellar is under east room of house only, and renovations revealed that the west room was constructed at a later time, timbers of the east room having been hewn and those of the other room sawn at a mill. A lintel-logged cooking

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fireplace survives in the east room. In 18th-century conveyances for the property to the west (#3), this tract of land was referred to as "formerly Benjamin Bishop's plantation." In 1812, it was identified as Elisha Dennis? It remains a possibility that this was a tenant house of earlier date.

Chicken coop and shed (non-contributing).

5. Franklin Township Consolidated Elementary School
Quakertown Road
1936/7, enlarged 1957
Non-contributing

Although the building is a modern brick structure, it stands adjacent to the old school house lot obtained by the villagers in 1817 from William Clifton by subscription "for the benefit of all inhabitants of Fairview (older name for Quakertown)." In 1838, the property was fenced in. This is the fourth school building at this location. The first building was 16 x 21'. In 1850, a stock company replaced it with a 2-story stone "academy". This soon became public, and the upper story was rented to the Odd Fellows Lodge. A photo shows it to have been 2 bays by 2, with 2 front entrances. In 1915, it was replaced by a frame building, now to be seen on Croton Road (#28).

This is a one-story Colonial Revival masonry structure with balanced facade and raised central pavilion for entrance. Doorway is contained in semi-circular keystone element with fanlight. Double pilasters enframe it and a board-filled pediment surmounts all. Central block with cupola is 11 bays wide, with 4 modern square 12-pane windows and one double-sash window flanking the entrance in each side. At either end of central block is a 2-bay slightly recessed section, under separate gable roof. (Additional classroom buildings behind the school are not included in this nomination.)

6. 1837 School House
Quakertown Road
Contributing

Moved to present site, this one-room schoolhouse originally stood on Franklin School Road. After its abandonment many years ago, it was used as storage shed by farmer on whose property it stood. About 15 years ago, owner donated the building to school board, and it was moved to school district property and restored.

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Frame (clapboarded), gable-roofed structure with door and windows on front facade only. Exposed brick chimney back on left (east) gable wall not authentic; provides no fireplace within.

7. John Johnson House
Quakertown Road
Post-1873
Non-contributing

This house occupies the original School House Lot of 1817, which was a triangular-shaped parcel of land. House apparently built after 1873, since it does not appear on 1873 map. An I-style, 4 bays over 3 bays, and 2 bays deep, its appearance today is the result of an overhaul some years ago. Has board and batten siding on first level of facade, clapboard on second, with shingled pent roof between. Gable walls are shingled. Foundation is of rubble stone. Windows are 6/6 sash, with louvered blinds; a 6-pane sash is in attic. No chimneys remain, but there is an external brick chimney against west gable wall. Gable roof has boxed cornice and flush rake.

A former carriage house set back from road to southwest of house has also been remodeled. It is 2 stories with long wall to road. Facade has 2 garage doors and glazed entry door to left. Vertical boards fill upper level openings, with one eyebrow window. This structure also has a pent roof. (Non-contributing).

8. W. Snyder House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
1840s
Contributing

An I-style, 5-bay house, frame (modern shingle), with patterned wood shingle cross gable, the patterning of which appears to be identical with design executed on facade of later-constructed Methodist Church (#24). A pointed arch with 4-pane window, such as favored by Downing, fills this gable. Entry is in center bay flanked by plain but capped pilasters and multi-paned transom. Windows are 1/1 on ground floor and 6/6 above of smaller sash. Corner pilasters with caps carry a denticulated frieze. There are matching pilasters on rear corners of house. Internal end brick chimneys in both gables. A shed-roofed porch runs across front on turned posts, with

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square balusters. A single story 1-bay-deep addition is attached to rear of house. Foundation is concrete-covered. Roof has extended eaves.

New-built 2-story double garage, with eyebrow windows, barn-like (non-contributing).

9. William Cronce House (1873 map)
Quakertown Road
1870s
Contributing

A 2-story, 5-bay house, 2 bays deep, with deep T ell at rear. Clapboarded, with decorative lozenge-shaped shingles in end gable peaks and cross gable, under slate gable roof. Foundation is of cut stone. Notable for its forward-angled semi-hexagonal porch, with separate projecting entrance with its own gable hood; solid wall shingled balustrade supports shingled parasol-shaped posts connected by shallow arches, scallop-shingled. Windows are 2/2 with molded, center-curved cornice, and triangular pediments over narrow double sash windows in gable peaks. Oculus in cross gable. Flat-roofed 1 story semi-hexagonal bay window against east gable wall, paneled below, on ashlar foundation. Two internal end brick chimneys. Entry is centered with single transom light. Recessed against west gable wall is 1-story, one bay by 2 bay-deep wing, under flat roof. Has brick chimney stack in far corner. At east rear, adjoining the ell, is shed-roofed porch on turned posts.

Outbuildings: behind house are a 2-story, vertical-sided barn, with slate roof and sliding track doors (contributing); a 1-story metal-roofed gabled structure (non-contributing); and a wood shed.

10. A.T. Trimmer House (?) (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
c. 1860
Contributing

Although house appears on this site in 1860 and 1873, this may be a replacement. This is a 2-story single depth duplex house of 4 bays (2 above) with window and door groupings at far ends of facade. Clapboard-sided with corner-boards. Large square brick chimney centered on ridge. Sash is 2/2. Asphalt gable roof with box cornice and eaves return. Full porch with turned posts, modern railing, under shed roof. Sits close to ground; stone

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foundation barely visible. One exterior chimney on right (west) wall. House has been twice enlarged at rear, first with a 1-bay, 1 1/2-story section, and against that a 1-story flat-roofed addition. First addition has intersecting gable roof and small end chimney. Shed behind house, with vertical siding, metal roof.

11. Miller House (1985 map)
Quakertown Road
C. 1900
Contributing

Queen Anne house with some Shingle Style elements but relatively conventional in form, consisting of 2-story, 3 bay main block and 2 story, 2 bay recessed wing on east, both under steeply pitched hipped roofs which intersect. Corners of main block, ground floor level, are cut on the diagonal, one on left (east) for door, one on west for window. Wing corner is also cut away for window, with upper story overhang trimmed with bargeboard and pendant. Roof of main block has cross gables, front and west slopes, which are shingled with staggered square- butt shingles, and contain square windows. Each section has small brick chimney on a roof slope.

A wrap-around porch extends to entry of wing; has classical type round columns with square balusters and shed roof. House has clapboard siding with a broad banding of shingles between floors on west wall. Windows 2/2, fixed louvers. A plain frieze runs around both sections under boxed eaves. One-story enclosed windowed porch, with flat roof against rear of wing, and hipped-roof 1 story addition behind main block. Foundation is not visible in front; sits close to ground.

This house, one of the last added to the village as infill, reflects the Victorian viewpoint regarding a spacious setting, with a much deeper setback and lawns about it. Two-story outbuildings, slate roofed, one with cross gable (contributing).

Gable-roofed one car garage (non-contributing).

12. P. Gary House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
19th century
Contributing

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On this property stood one of the earliest 19th-century houses, in which a store was kept in 1824 by James Waterhouse. In 1881, it was referred to as the "old red house." It is unlikely, however, that this is the same dwelling.

An I-style, 3 bay by 2 bay, clapboarded with corner posts. Plain fascia board with molding strip, overhanging eaves, gable roof of shallow pitch. Fenestration is 6/6 above and 1/1 below. Small brick chimney with corbelled drip course at west gable, and an exterior chimney along east gable wall. Porch before center entry has triangular hood on turned posts and square balusters. At rear is 1 story, shed-roofed addition, 2 bays deep, with external chimney, beyond which is porch with one turned post.

A German-sided 2 bay gable-roofed structure, long wall parallel with road, is at rear of house (non-contributing); also gable-roofed shed.

13. T. Holcomb House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
Mid-19th century
Contributing

An I-style house of 3 bays, with end internal brick chimney at west end and slate gable roof with overhanging eaves. Clapboarded with cornerboards. Window sash is 2/2 in plain frames. An enclosed porch under slightly hipped roof is across facade. Its entrance is centered, flanked by picture windows. At rear is a 2-story flat-roofed addition one bay wide, with porch on turned posts.

Outbuildings include a 1 story gable-roofed structure with overhanging eaves and a metal-roofed shed with vertical siding (non-contributing).

14. Probasco's Furniture Shop and Undertaker's (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
1842
Contributing

When compared with an early photograph of the shop, the standing structure appears to be the same building, now converted into a dwelling. Gable to road, it is 2 bays by 4 bays deep, $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories high. It has clapboard siding and plain corner pilasters. Windows are 2/2; a tripartite picture window has

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been inserted in front wall. Double-hung sash window in gable peak with triangular pedament. Louvered blinds. A one-bay porch before door has triangular hood roof. On left (east) long wall at midpoint is another entry with porch having battered posts on brick piers, and hipped roof. A shed-roofed leanto is at back of house. House has slate gable roof.

A 3-car garage with shed attached is behind the house; two large modern storage sheds (non-contributing).

15. Theodore Probasco House
Quakertown Road
Late 18th century
Key

The piece of property on which this house stands has been traced back to 1796. A deed of 1798 to H.W. Waterhouse lists it "with house." It is best known as the home of Theodore Probasco, who purchased it with 2 acres in 1834. Probasco grew up in the village, his father William having built the stone house opposite it (#47). Like his father, Theodore was a cabinet maker and had his two-story shop, opened 1842, next to his house (#14). Probasco became one of Franklin Township's leading citizens, being the first town clerk, 1845, school superintendent, 1857, freeholder, 1867-68, and New Jersey Assemblyman, 1868-1870.

This is a house of 3 units, the original a 2-story single room being of rough-coursed stone, 2 bays wide; the second a 1 1/2-story, frame one-room addition to right (west), the third, a 20th century one-story 2-bay addition on the left (east). Despite the different floor heights, the first two units have the same eaves line, but are under independent gable roofs. Each has its internal end brick chimney with drip caps. The frame unit has an exposed (cemented) chimney back.

The stone unit has its entry in the west bay at street level. Openings have original framing with molding and visible pegging. The second section is now sheathed with replacement bead edged clapboards, as also the final section. A former entrance in the frame unit has been made into a window. Fenestration is of 6/6 sash. The gable roofs have asphalt shingles. Eaves are flush.

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There is a small room added to rear of stone section, providing a rear entrance, and the 20th-century wing also has a rear extension. In the memory of long-time residents there was a small shop attached to front of stone unit, with a gas pump beside it. After this was removed, a sidewalk of old bricks was laid.

A large 1-story building for garage and storage has been erected behind house. Its long wall parallels the road. It is also clad with beaded clapboards; also two modern storage buildings (non-contributing).

16. Lothian House (1985 map)
Quakertown Road
C. 1915
Contributing

Built on a tract of land detached from the Theodore Probasco lot (#15), this early 20th century house introduced the final architectural style to Quakertown and closes its period of growth.

A variant bungalow type, with possible Craftsman influence, 1 1/2 stories, with porch wrapping around on both sides contained under main deeply pitched outward flared roof; steeply pitched gable roofs; one on east wall has deeply extended eaves and knee braces and shelters paired double-hung sash of 6/6. Facade is 2 bays wide, with entry at left (east). A double-casement dormer window under steeply pitched hip roof is on front roof slope.

Porch is enclosed by solid boulder-style cast stone balustrade, with tall molded-cap piers of same material carrying short round fluted columns. On west wall is gable-roofed side entry. The foundation is of rough-faced concrete blocks. Walls are clad with vinyl siding. A small brick chimney is centered on ridge of hipped roof.

Behind house are two large modern storage buildings for owner's furniture business. There is also a small vertical-sided shed with gambrel roof. (Non-contributing).

17. Walton House (1985 map)
Quakertown Road
20th century
Non-contributing

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Set far back from road, at rear property line of neighboring houses, this modern ranch is not noticeable from the street. Of block and wing plan, each 4 bays wide, this house replaced an earlier one which had been moved to the site and burned.

18. W. Cronce House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
mid-19th century
Contributing

A 2 1/2 story cross-gabled 2 room deep house, 5 bays by 2 bays, frame (vinyl-sided), on stone foundation with rear extension. Has plain narrow corner pilasters and plain fascia board. Centered entry shows traces of former 3-pane transom, and is flanked by plain portico pilasters. Windows are 6/6 with modern louvered blinds. A shed-roofed porch on turned posts spans internal 3 bays. Brick chimney in east gable wall. Two shed-roofed 2-story additions across rear. Front-facing gabled shed used as garage.

19. Mrs. Rike House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
Mid-19th century
Contributing

An I-style house, 5 bays, with entry in 4th bay (right). Set close to ground without visible foundation. Gable roof with eaves return has asphalt shingles, and wall sheathing is of like material. Plain-framed windows contain 1/1 sash. A porch balustrade of cinderblock carries Tuscan columns across 3 internal bays. A leanto under shed roof is centered on rear. There are no chimneys remaining, but there is an external chimney on east wall, concreted.

Outbuildings on back of property include a 4-bay barn, gable to road (contributing), a long shed parallel to road and a small shed-roofed structure (former chicken house). (Non-contributing). All have vertical siding.

20. J.P. Trimmer House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
C. 1840s
Contributing

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An I-style house, 4 bays by 2, with 4-pane sash attic windows. Frame, now asphalt-shingled; gable roof. Slight fascia board with molding strip under boxed eaves. Internal end chimney on right (west), now cemented but revealing corbeled form. Windows have 6/6 sash and louvered blinds. Wood grilles are on cellar windows. Entrance is in 2nd bay, with 3-pane sidelights, flanked by fluted pilasters. Stone foundation is barely visible.

Across half of rear facade is chimneyed 2-story addition, with sloping roof parallel with main block. Against its east wall is small leanto.

A map of 1860 shows blacksmith shop behind this house. There now stands a dilapidated 2-story barn sheathed in various materials, including a metal covering; entry in front gable end (non-contributing).

21. Waterhouse and Shackleton Store
Quakertown Road at Croton Road
1844
Key

The erection of this "corner store" offering general merchandise in 1844 helped to anchor the side street (Croton Road) to the village. About 1840, G.W. Waterhouse bought the empty corner lot which then extended to the south boundary line of the Methodist Church (#24). In partnership with Shackleton, he owned the new store. Before him, two other Waterhouses, Hezekiah and James, had provided commercial services within the village.

A gable-fronted 2-story building (now aluminum sided), it is 3 bays wide (2 above) and several bays deep, irregularly spaced, except for a 3-bay grouping of 6/6 sashed windows at the rear of the east side wall, representing a rear addition for living quarters.

Centered entry as double-leaved, with glass panels, and has a two-pane transom above; it is recessed between two-sided shop windows. These latter windows are inset into facade, 4 paned, with transom bar and 2 panes above. Wall is paneled below. Porch, not original, spans front on square posts, and is reached by a centered flight of steps. Porch roof is slightly hipped. Other fenestration is 6/6, with one 9/6 window on west wall. Two former doorways for store, one on second story, are found on east wall. Opening at

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ground level contains double doors with Victorian panels. Additional pair of French doors for house section.

Front gable peak is closed at eaves line to create a pediment. There is one interior chimney on ridge, and an external chimney against west wall.

Store interior extends approximately two-thirds of the length of building, beyond which raised by a step, is a rear section of two stories for living area. This has a two-story wing to right (west) and final leanto containing irregular fenestration and two-sectioned exterior door. Interior doors are vertical panel in Greek Revival style.

22. S. Trimmer House (1860 map)
Croton Road
C. 1840s
Contributing

Following G.W. Waterhouse's purchase of the empty corner lot with frontage on Croton Road in 1840, the village was extended southward. S. Trimmer's house, first from the corner, is I-style, 6 bays wide, with a one-bay two-story extension on its north gable wall under its own gable roof. The main block, now aluminum sided, has capped corner pilasters and molded architrave. Asphalt shingled roof has shallow pitch. An internal brick chimney with drip course is on north gable, and modern chimney at south gable. A double house, two plain doorways are centered on facade, spanned by simple hipped-roof porch on turned posts with square balusters. Windows are 2/2. Stone foundation is cement coated.

At the rear is one-story gable-roofed ell, with internal rectangular, cement-covered chimney. House has very shallow setback from road.

23. Methodist Church Parsonage
Croton Road
1885
Contributing

In 1840, the Methodists obtained a tiny lot from G.W. Waterhouse for their first church edifice. In 1861, the trustees purchased a parsonage. This was replaced in 1889 after the church erected its new building in 1879. The first building was sold for \$100 and removed. Some old-time village residents

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believe it was moved to a new site on White Bridge Road, but whether it still stands is not known.

This is a large 2 1/2-story house, set back on its lot more deeply than Site #22. It is 5 bays wide, 2 rooms deep with a 2-story T ell, 2 bays by 2, with round-columned porch on its south wall. Plain frieze spans facade and gables have rake board, though current roof has extended eaves. Window sash of 2/2 are contained in molded early Victorian frames, on which hang louvered blinds. A semi-hexagonal bay is on south gable wall. Narrow centered entry has doubleleaved doors, with transom above now blocked; new hood at doorway held by diagonal struts. Against south wall is external brick chimney; wing has small end internal chimney. Asbestos shingles (dating from 1950s) clad walls; foundation is cement-covered.

According to recently published church history, parsonage was built by Agaus and Hulsizer. The woodwork was grained by Richard Carter.

At back of property is barn, long side to road, clapboarded. It is used as garage (non-contributing).

24. Methodist Episcopal Church
Croton Road
1879
Key

The Methodist Episcopal Church was a late-comer in areas of Hunterdon, in which other denominations had an early and strong foothold. In 1840, a new congregation bought .07 of an acre from G.W. Waterhouse. Its first building was replaced with the present edifice in 1879. Over the years the lot was enlarged by purchases of adjacent land. The specifications called for a building 44 by 70 feet with a 10-foot-high basement above ground.

Three bays wide and 4 deep, the church is embanked in a westerly direction (front to back) which makes possible a cement-covered basement story. Tower projects from center of facade, with steeple straddling the crest of the gable roof. The entry is contained within the tower; has double-leaved 4-panel doors in a round-headed surround which is infilled with board and batten siding above a blank transom. It is sheltered behind a projecting gabled vestibule. Scalloped bargeboard, with saw-tooth detail, trims the roof eaves and overhang, and the apex is cross-braced.

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Tall round-headed windows of stained glass fill tower above entry and the adjacent walls. Side-wall windows, although segmentally headed, have the appearance of being stilted inasmuch as they spring from a corbeled impost at midpoint. Main body of church is clapboarded, but tower, steeple, and upper part of facade are sheathed with complex-patterned shingles, some diagonally coursed. The steeple diminishes in size in each of its stages, each stage demarcated by projecting cornice, one having semi-circular center segment, the other a pointed arch. Belfry carries round-head louvered windows on all four faces with half pilasters; a four-sided convex-shaped dome raises a pyramidal spire with cross finial. Roof is of slate. The new church history states that the stained glass windows were installed in 1926. The steeple was rebuilt after being consumed in a fire from a bolt of lightning in 1884; the roof was replaced in 1914 after another fire. From time to time, the interior was refurbished, including new ceiling in 1955.

Against rear sanctuary wall are two shed-roofed projecting elements. Attached to rear wall is 2-sectioned church house addition of cinderblock built 1963.

25. J.H. Hummer House (1860 map)
Croton Road
C. 1825
Key

The erection of this house in first quarter of 19th-century, when no other dwellings stood along this road, served to extend the village border southward from its main street. Its original builder doubtless farmed the surrounding acreage. The house faces southward, though placed close to the road.

An I-style house, it is 4 bays wide (though windows are currently being replaced by shop display windows) by 2 deep. Most windows contain 9/6 sash at ground floor level, and smaller 6/6 sash windows above. Two internal end chimneys, one corbeled, the other modern. Gable roof has flush rakes. Walls are clapboarded, with cornerboards. House sits on ground with no visible foundation.

Behind house (north) is 2-bay wide, 2-bay deep, 2-story gable-roofed extension, with side and rear leantos. It has 9/6 sash, clapboard siding, and

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cornerboards. A second leanto at rear is 2 stories, 1 bay wide; its roof has rafter tails.

Currently an addition is being placed perpendicularly at southwest corner, consisting of a flat-roofed 1 story, 3-bay shop, with 3-pane sidelighted entrance in right (north) end. Single pane shop windows are separated by mullion and transom bars.

There is a grouping of farm buildings to southwest of house in somewhat deteriorated condition. Includes vertical-sided barn, with track doors (contributing); German-sided shed; shed-roofed 2-bay structure, and gable-fronted one-bay shed with track doors. (Non-contributing.)

26. J.P. Trimmer House (1873 map)
Croton Road
1870s
Contributing

A 2 1/2 story 3 bay (2 above) house, T plan, with cross gable. Centered entrance, with bargeboard trimmed porch. A 2-stage semi-hexagonal bay window is on south gable wall. Aluminum sided.

Two farm sheds and a modern 2 car garage are on property (non-contributing).

27. Toshiko Takezu House (1985 map)
Croton Road
1870s
Contributing

A 2 1/2 story, five bay by 2 bay house, with 2 story T ell, flanked by enclosed shed on south wall. Cross gable on facade, and one small internal end chimney of Victorian form at south end. Wing has external brick chimney. Windows are 2/2; entry centered with 3-bay modern hipped-roof porch. At rear is new large addition of one story shop with floor-length plate glass windows, fronted to south.

To southwest of house is barn, long wall parallel with road, with center cross gable. Eaves overhang. Siding of vertical boarding. Track doors on

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front facade (contributing). A second barn, corrugated roof, altered (non-contributing).

28. School House, 1915
Croton Road
Contributing

This school house is on property of adjacent site (#29), known as Villa Hill Farm. The village school house, built 1915, was removed from the school property in 1936 and sited here for conversion to a dwelling, and turned gable end to road.

Two stories in height, it had but one high-ceilinged room in interior. Fenestration has been altered, but configuration remains same, as rectangular box under gable roof with cupola. Cupola is square with window in each face and gable-roofed with extended eaves. Building's roof is of slate. Walls are of narrow vertical siding. Sawtooth trim at gable eaves line.

29. Villa Hill Farm
Croton Road
Late 19th century
Contributing

A 2 1/2 story double house, 2 rooms deep, 6 bays wide with 2 center entrances (5 bays on upper story). Frame, clapboarded, on stone foundation. Hipped roof of asphalt shingles. Plain fascia runs around all sides. Boxed cornice; extended eaves. Ell at back has exterior chimney. Fenestration of 2/2 sash with modern louvers. Hipped roof covers 4-bay porch before entrances. Posts and balusters are square in section.

Outbuildings include a 1 story gable-fronted vertical-sided structure (former wagon house?) to southeast of house; and south of Site #28 (above) two barns, one behind the other, both with gable ends to road. Both have narrowboard vertical siding. Rear barn contains small brick chimney and a centered human-scale door on front (west) gable. Well house, square, wood construction with wood-shingled roof, is to east of school house. (Contributing). Also, to back of property is long 2-story building, under flattened roof, clapboarded, with two pairs of doors on tracks and miscellaneous window openings. Built for storage for business operation (non-contributing).

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30. Richard Waliky House (1985 map)
Croton Road
Post-1873
Contributing

A 5-bay, center entry, 2-room-deep house, 2 stories, of T plan (2 story, gable-roofed, with shed roof porch on south wall). On right gable (south) of main block, a semi-hexagonal two-story bay window under flat roof with projecting roof over first-story section. Slated gable roof has center cross gable with oculus inset in keyhole-shaped frame. Gable peaks in all facades are shingled, and contain narrow paired windows of 1/1 sash; trim of ornate bargeboard with pointy end pendants; apexes filled with sawn ornament. Windows are 2/2 and have caps. Center window on second story has triangular lintel. Victorian form chimney on gable wall of ell.

Flat-roofed porch across internal 3 bays on turned posts with Gothic-arched frieze, scallop edged, and small triangular pediments centered above and below roof at stair opening. Porch underside enclosed by boards with ornamental cutouts. House raised on high foundation; walls are shingle-clad.

At back are two shedlike structures; one vertical-sided, one used as garage. (Non-contributing.)

31. Skinner/Gruelick House (1985 map)
Croton Road
Post-1873
Contributing

A house similar to Site #30, possibly erected at same time. A 2 1/2 story T plan, 5 bays, 2 rooms deep, frame (clapboard), with flat-roofed, bracketed porch before internal 3 bays. Entry in center bay; window above it shuttered. A two-story squared 3-sided bay window (1 bay wide, 2 deep) under bracketed flat roof, against right (south) wall. Skirted roof on matching sawn brackets between stories. Window sash is 2/2, with molded caps on frames; narrow louvered blinds. Paired double-hung sash windows in gable peaks. One small internal end chimney at left (north); also chimney within gable end of 2-story ell. Roof has asphalt shingles, overhanging eaves. Wing is flat-roofed; has one story addition behind it.

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Porch has bevel-edged square posts, with arched ornamental bargeboard trim between posts. Doughnut-and-bow sawn ornament for post brackets; turned balusters.

A one-story modern screened porch and rear-wall projecting element have been added to the ell. A one-story porch runs against its north side.

A large barn relates to the house. Gable end to road, it has round-headed window in peak and sawtooth trim at eaves line. Main siding is of vertical boards, but rear leanto is of board and batten with seamed metal roof. Main roof is jerkin-headed at gable end (contributing).

32. Frank Tamm House (1985 map)
Croton Road
Modern
Non-contributing (Harmonizing)

One-story frame house, clapboarded, on low stone foundation, with irregularly disposed 3 bays, entry in center. Wood-shingled gable roof parallel to road. Shed-roofed, rafter-tailed porch on 2 plinth-based posts. Windows have 2/2 sash. A shed-roofed addition at rear on concrete block foundation.

33. Abraham Lawshe House, (1855 map)
Route 616
Pre-1850
Key

There has been a house, wood frame, on this corner since 1780 (mentioned in the tavern house sale that year) and a survey of this area made in 1789 by Robert Emley indicated the home of John Brown at this site. Such a dwelling would have been in tenant occupation, and it is unlikely that the extant house is the same, but cannot be entirely dismissed. During the 19th century the house on this corner was dubbed the "old yellow house." Abraham Lawshe became owner in 1855.

This is a two-sectioned, two-story house, under independent gable roofs, with several additions at rear. East unit, possibly older, is single depth, with crowded four bays on first floor, 3 on second. Entry is in third bay

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(west). The other unit is 2 rooms deep, 3 bays wide, side hall plan. Both are on rubble stone foundations, but the east unit is closer to ground. Windows of east section contain 6/1 sash; those of west section have 9/6 sash on first floor, 6/6 above, and 4/2 in attic. Wood grilles are in cellar windows.

Both units are aluminum sided, but a fascia board with half-round molding strip remains on the east section, and remnants of former Greek Revival portico with pilasters and frieze enclosing a single-pane transom survive at the entrance to the west section, along with corner pilasters. Neither entry has original door. A round-headed 4-panel Victorian door is found on east unit, before which is shed-roofed porch on turned posts with sawn brackets.

Across rear are multiple additions, some in place before 1873. Centered behind west unit is 1 bay by 2 bay ell, 2 story, under intersecting gable roof, with side porch, enclosed brought to west gable wall, and a semi-octagonal bay window on rear wall. Adjoining ell is shed-roofed two-story 1 bay addition, which also attaches to rear wall of I-house; a third shed-roofed one-story, 1 bay-deep addition extends from it against the rear wall of the first unit. Side entries under shed roofs on turned posts are found on last two additions. House with additions has roofs of slate and asphalt shingles. The west block has internal end chimney on west gable. Two exterior chimneys, one of fieldstone, rest against east gable of first unit and second rear addition.

Original outbuildings, including a wagon shed mentioned in 1855 deed, are gone. A large storage shed, opened on one side, is located to southeast of house. It has German siding. A small gable-roofed shed is at head of driveway entered through stone-wall gateway from Croton Road. (Non-contributing.)

34. Mildred Oakes House (1985 map)
Route 616
Post-1873
Contributing

Two story, frame (clapboards with cornerboards), 3 bay, center entry I-style house with slate gable roof of slight overhang. High rubble stone foundation. Two internal Victorian end chimneys. Classically simple square-posted hipped roof portico in front of entry. Windows have 2/2 sash, with 4-pane sash in attic; louvered blinds. Across rear is flat-roofed 1-bay

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addition with a shed-roofed porch; on east gable wall is a shed-roofed screen porch.

35. James Oakes House (1985 map)
Route 316
Post-1873
Contributing

Gable-fronted 2-story house, 3 bays (2 above) by 3 bays deep, with 2 story, 1-bay wide ell recessed on west wall, and 1 story shed-roofed addition across rear. Frame, clapboarded with cornerboards. Fascia board with molding strip on facade. Entry in left (east) bay with double-leaved round-headed doors with Victorian molded trim. Full porch on battered posts with caps and square balusters wraps around to ell. Shed-roofed porch at rear. Windows have 2/2 sash in plain frames; an oculus in west gable peak of ell. Seamed metal roofs intersect and have overhanging eaves. One interior brick chimney on ridge. Outbuildings include a privy (contributing) and a German-sided garage. Also, a shed. (Non-contributing.)

36. Bauman-Slaght House (1985 map)
Route 616
Post-1873
Contributing

A 2 1/2 story I-house, 3 bays (center entry) by 2 bays, with one story flat-roofed extension across rear. Clapboard with cornerboards; 2/2 sash in plain frames, including attic. Two Victorian form brick chimneys in internal gable walls. Roof is steeply pitched, with rake boards and boxed eaves. Movable louvered blinds on upper floor. High foundation coated with scored cement. Porch in front of entrance and adjacent bays but not full facade; has turned posts with sawn brackets, square balusters and latticework below.

A 2-story wagon house to rear, westwardly, gable to road, is used as garage (non-contributing). There is also a vertical sided gable-roofed shed.

37. B. Doyle House (1985 map)
Route 616
Post-1873
Contributing

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Gable-fronted 3 bay house, 2 1/2 stories, on high cemented foundation. Recessed on west wall is 2 story, 1 bay by 1 bay wing under intersecting gable roof. Shed-roofed porch on wrought iron posts wraps around from front to side wing. Board enclosures below porch have lozenge-shaped cutouts. Wing has semi-hexagonal bay window under flat roof. Windows are 2/2 with louvered blinds. Small interior brick chimney. House is aluminum-sided.

At rear of house is barn, long wall parallel with road; sliding track door and one sash window. Has chimney on west gable end. Vertical siding. (Contributing.)

38. Albert Leu House (1985 map)
Route 616
Post-1873
Contributing

This house effectively marks the final easterly reach of the village expansion on the south side of the road to Cherryville. It closely relates in small lot size and relatively shallow setback to all the houses from the Croton Road corner. To its east is a large open field. Up to 1873, the unsubdivided tract had been held by a member of the Trimmer family, a family which was dominant in village life.

This house is very similar to its neighbor, #37. Gable-fronted, 3 bays by a deep 2 bays. Entry is in left bay (east). Facade spanned by shed-roofed porch on wrought iron posts with latticework below. Windows contain 2/2 sash, with 1/1 in attic. Roof has overhanging eaves and interior chimney on ridge. Aluminum siding. A one-room flat-roofed addition is at southeast corner projecting eastward from wall. High foundation, cemented.

At rear property line to east of house is gable-fronted barn on stone foundation, now used as garage. Has two 9-pane sash above track door. (Contributing.)

39. Britten King House
Route 616
C. 1883
Key

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The village is terminated on its east boundary by this farmhouse complex on the north side of the road. In its scale and setback, it relates to the village street, but with its additional acreage and farm buildings clustered at its side, it serves to handle the transition from village environment to open space. This farm tract has played, in fact, a quite historical role in the village's formation. As early as the 1760s, it existed as a 28-acre farm with message. It had earlier been carved out of the Stevenson/Farnsworth original plantation. The first sale recorded was in 1765; when sold again in 1769, it was coupled with a 4-acre message lot on its west (site #42). These two tenant dwellings, along with the tavern and the meeting house, created the village core. The extant house, however, dates no earlier than third quarter of the 19th century. Although the grouping of 3 of the 5 bays on the second story suggests the enlargement of an earlier house, there is insufficient internal evidence to support that theory.

King House is 5 bays by 2 bays, I-style, frame construction, clapboard-sheathed with cornerboards. The entry is centered. A semi-hexagonal bay window is in the final east bay. A shed-roofed porch spans three internal bays and connects with a slightly hipped roof over the bay window. Porch and entry are at grade; a somewhat coursed stone foundation is visible under east gable wall. Windows have 2/2 sash; lintels are molded, and movable louvered blinds hang on frames. Roof of slate shingles has overhang. No original chimneys survive; an external brick chimney rests against the west gable wall.

Two additions have been attached to the house, one across the rear of 2-story height, one bay deep, under flat roof. It incorporates an earlier one-story kitchen. The second addition, of recent vintage, is a one-story, one-bay by 2-bay porch, flat-roofed. This projects eastward from the rear addition beyond the gable wall of the main block.

The property was detached from its adjacent 4-acre tract in 1883 and sold to Britten King. Interior wood trim and mantelpiece date from this era.

Most if not all of the outbuildings probably date from the same period although the barn might be earlier. Near the east side of the house is a 2-room deep, gable-fronted structure, possibly used as an outkitchen, with an open area at side for wood storage. Building has Victorian 4-panel door and two windows on facade, one of 2/2 sash, the other a single sash of 6 panes. Other windows on side walls contain 2/2 sash. Clad with vertical boards; has

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seamed metal roof. The 2-story barn, more easterly, has long wall to road. Doors swing on hinges. It stands on stone foundation. Behind it is attached a larger barn, at right angles, with openings in its long wall on both stories. This barn has a rear ell to east. Foundation is partly of concrete. Both barns have vertical siding. Front barn has seamed metal roof; addition has corrugated metal roof. Other outbuildings include a 4-seater privy, vertical sided, with slate roof, and a shed gable-fronted, with seamed metal roof, used as garage. (All contributing.)

40. Lackatong Lodge # 114
Order of Odd Fellows
Route 616
Post-1915
Non-contributing

This structure was erected after the Lodge vacated its permanent assembly room in the upper story of the 1850 stone academy building, which was torn down in 1915. A building lot was found on the farmland still associated with the final village lot (#39).

A 2-story, frame structure, 2 bays by 4 bays, it currently bears no resemblance to its original appearance, being now remodeled for duplex housing. New siding and new door location have been introduced, and roof changed from gable to pyramidal. Windows have 1/1 sash.

A garage has recently been erected (non-contributing.)

41. Perry Sharp House (1985 map)
Route 616
Modern
Non-contributing (Harmonizing)

One story Cape Cod, steep-pitched roof, 2 gabled dormers, entry and picture window on facade; portico on square posts before entrance; modern shingles. Cemented two-car garage. (Non-contributing.)

42. Henry Clifton House (a/k/a Dr. Abel House)
Route 616 at head of Croton Road
18th century
Key

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This may be the oldest surviving structure in the village, and in any case one of the earliest erected. Its land history dates to John Stevenson's purchase, whose widow sold off the large tract in parcels. A lot of a mere 4 acres, probably intended as a house lot, was created at the northwest corner of the original tract, putting it in close proximity to the meeting house. In a deed of sale, 1765, it continued a message. Four years later, the sheriff sold the house, outbuildings, and improvements to Henry Coate, blacksmith. In 1772, Coate, a local man, sold the same to Isaac Horner, who in turn sold it to John Drinker, a hatter of Philadelphia. In 1784 Drinker sold it, along with 28 acres adjacent on the east, to Henry Clifton, of the township, also a hatter. Tradition states that Clifton established a store in this house, possibly the earliest shop in Quakertown. A survey of lands adjoining the Meeting House Lot made in 1789 shows the house and identifies it as Clifton's. The house remained in the Clifton family until 1853. In 1864, the local physician Dr. Matthias Abel purchased it, and it became known as the doctor's house, as two other physicians successively owned it after Dr. Abel.

A large rather square stone block of 2 stories, it is 3 bays wide and 2 deep and presently of side-hill configuration but that may reflect an alteration of floor plan circa 1850. A recessed 2-story stone wing of 2 bays is at east gable and projects beyond the rear facade of the main block, although it is but one-over-one plan. The stonework is coursed rubble; window frames are plain; the entry has Greek Revival surround, with narrow sidelights. Sash are currently 1/1, but are being changed. Windows of second story are of slightly smaller size. Reveals are of plain boarding.

The gable roof, parallel with road, has recently been shingled, replacing a slate roof. A pent roof has also been added. An in-wall brick chimney at west gable has been rebuilt. This chimney served two corner fireplaces, whose bases of monolithic stone are to be seen in the cellar. A large and deep log-linteled cooking fireplace is within the gable wall of the wing. Until recently, a beehive oven projected from its rear wall.

Although the interior has been twice altered, in the period when Greek Revival styling was popular, and afterward in this century, its basic integrity remains. Two paneled doors of raised field with triple bead survive, as also two door architraves of the period. The rough hewn timbers supporting floors are of great size; the stone walls are constructed as curtains with rubble infill.

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To the right (east) of the house stands a smokehouse of coursed rubble stone, gable to road, with ventilation slit in peak. Door is of board and batten on strap hinges (contributing). New three-bay structure for garage and storage (non-contributing).

43. Tavern House/Hotel
Quakertown Road
C. 1800, possibly earlier
Key

The history of the "tavern house lot" goes back to 1763 when Daniel Cahill bought one acre from Alex Gordon. In 1767, he bought an adjacent acre lot from Daniel Doughty. These lots were bounded on the north by the meeting house lot, on the east by the stone messuage (#42), and on the south by the King's Highway. Cahill became the first innkeeper of the area.² A traveler's account 11 years after Cahill set up business referred to his house as well kept. In 1780, Cahill was living in Philadelphia and sold the tavern. Through 1869, the 2-acre tract with building was referred to in deeds as "the tavern house tract," but it was considered a hotel when it appeared on the maps of 1860 and 1873.

A double-section 2 1/2 story stone house, under separate gable roofs, the east unit may be the older, having the characteristic regional 3-bay facade with centered entrance. It is 2 rooms deep. The adjoining unit is wider and narrower, with irregular fenestration and entry in right bay (east) making it a side-hall plan. This entry is recessed within the wall and leads to a hall containing a staircase with 19th-century balustrade; room opening to left is framed with heavy shouldered architrave. To right is (now closed) passageway to adjoining unit, lined with recessed panelwork.

Both units hug the ground, and their fenestration is in alignment. There is scarcely any setback from the road, yet the hotel boasted a two-level porch

² At least it appears that Cahill had the first tavern at this site. Tradition states, however, that a Daniel Farnsworth who owned much of the land to east of the tavern lot was the first, dating from 1761.

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added in the Victorian era and still remembered by lifetime residents. A recently applied covering of vinyl siding on the entire house conceals any underlying details. Since 1976, there have been multiple additions tacked on to the rear, including one of 2 stories with flat roof. Window sash is 1/1 with double-hung sash in east gable peak. No chimney stacks remain, but lightning rods are still in place.

Animal sheds used by drovers are said to be incorporated into the series of shops and offices attached to Site #44 to the west. At back of property are two new small storage sheds (non-contributing).

44. Veterinarian's hospital building complex
Quakertown Road
Modern
Non-contributing

One story gable-fronted structure with stucco and half timbering in peak and rough, patterned stucco walls, built as double store. Five bays wide with recessed wood-shingled entrance and single-pane windows. Flush with facade is shingled leanto at west, used as separate shop of two bays; series of shops/offices of one story, with shingled facades, attached at east wall extend linear fashion behind Site #43.

This entire complex is set well back from the road, beyond the rear facade lines of neighboring structures. This unusual placement may have historical precedent and relate to a subdivision of the tavern lot as early as 1832. At that time, James Waterhouse, a wheelwright, had a house and shop on the property, and shared a well with the tavern. The map of 1860 indicates a house with a deep setback.

45. J. & E.H. Trimmer Store
Quakertown Road
1851
Key

The J. & E.H. Trimmer Store, erected on a portion of the tavern house lot deeded for the purpose, represents an understanding of high-style Greek Revival architecture and might be considered an uncommon choice for the new neighborhood store. The structure offers its gable to street and extends deeply into the lot. The facade is 2 bays over 3 bays, with store entrance

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flanked by projecting 3-sided shop windows, now of single panes, over narrow beaded vertical boarding. Second story windows contain 6/6 sash. A flat-roofed porch with plain board frieze spans the whole, supported on turned posts. Balusters are plain, rectangular in section. Porch is reached by a flight of steps; latticework below.

The most notable feature is the full entablature, which terminates on the facade as eaves returns, after running the full depth of the building on both long walls. Corner pilasters have recessed panels, molded caps, and bases.

Fenestration is very irregular on the long walls, with openings of different sizes, including an entrance, at different heights, and wood grilles in cellar windows. The rear east corner has been cut away and in its new wall is an entrance. Across the rear of the building is a 1-story flat-roofed addition with external chimney.

A two-car garage is at rear of property (non-contributing).

46. J.H. Vail House
Quakertown Road
C. 1867
Key

J.H. Vail bought the Trimmer Store (#45) and then the lot next to it on the west, also a part of the tavern house tract, in order to build his new house. The lot could barely accommodate the large Italianate style house he put up, and it crowds its neighbors and has little setback. Despite Vail's disregard for appropriateness of setting, this house like the store marks the introduction of local awareness of architectural styles and an effort to rise above a pedestrian attitude about village housing.

This is a 2 1/2 story, 3 bay side-hall plan of frame construction, clapboarded, with 2-story projections of one bay width and 1 bay depth, deeply recessed at each side. Ends of these have "false fronts", square-headed concealing a gable roof over rear section of house, which suggests that a house was enlarged in front. Front of main block carries an attic frieze with 3-light eyebrow windows between sawn brackets with drops. Fenestration is of 6/6 and 2/2 sash; first story windows have recessed-panel shutters with draw bolts; second story windows have louvered blinds. Despite the lateness of the

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date, the entry in east bay is Greek Revival, with 3 sidelights over recessed-panel base, and 5-light transom.

Porch spread across front wraps around to east projecting wall. Has tapered square posts with molded caps and bases and square balusters. Reached by flight of steps; the underside is enclosed by latticework.

47. William Probasco House
Quakertown Road
C. 1814
Key

Deed for this property is also tied in with the tavern house lot. In 1814, William Probasco obtained a half-acre lot for \$850, the previous sale of 1809 for same lot being \$200.

This house, though clearly intended as a village house, exhibits the same fine details of styling as others erected at the same time in the township on large farms owned by prosperous individuals.

This, the local expression of Federal style, is a 2-story, 3 bay block of side-hall plan, laid up in coursed stone blocks, with quoins at corners (side walls in rubble stone). Window lintels at first floor level have projecting keystones and are splayed. On the second story, keystones are inset into the final course under a boxed cornice. The foundation is raised, and entry is reached by a flight of steps to portico. Entry, at left (west bay), is recessed with recessed-panel reveals and soffit. Door surround is bead-edged. Windows contain 6/6 sash, but those on second story level are of smaller scale. Raised 2-panel shutters hang below, louvered blinds above. The house is of single depth. The gable roof is of relatively shallow pitch; has slate shingles and rake boards. End internal brick chimney at right (east) gable end, with corbeled cap.

A small 2-bay 1-story wing is crowded against west gable, recessed slightly. The front slope of gable roof has been extended to cover an open porch and is supported on square posts. Frame (clapboarded), it has 6/6 window and external brick chimney. Beyond this is recent frame addition of one-bay width, but of great depth, exceeding that of main block. There are other additions, including a leanto, at the rear.

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Portico before house entrance is reached from side steps. Tapered columns of Tuscan style on plinths carry a semi-hipped roof. Frieze is adorned with series of rectangular recessed panels with raised center fields.

Rebuilt well house in front of house is of rubble stone with pyramidal roof (non-contributing). The setback of the house is somewhat greater than that of the buildings to the east of it, allowing for a stone wall of low height to mark property line at roadside. Modern garage.

48. Joseph B. Probasco House
Quakertown Road
C. 1862
Contributing

This important corner lot opposite the Quaker Meeting House and at the head of White Bridge Road (a secondary road leading northward from the village and traveling in circuitous fashion to Pittstown) remained unclaimed for housing until this late date (1860s) because it was held by the Society of Friends. The 1860 village map indicates its use for a small shop. In 1861, the Quaker trustees sold the lot to William Probasco for his son Joseph.

This is a house well-sited and uncrowded on its lot with considerably greater setback than its neighbors. Of 2 1/2 story height, it is frame (clapboarded) on raised basement, with centered Greek Revival entrance (panes now blocked) in 5-bay facade. Shed-roofed porch spans internal bays, with Tuscan columns and square balusters. A 2-room-deep plan, it has center stairway enclosed by internal walls. Gable roof, slate, has extended eaves and returns. Both front and rear facades have boxed eaves and applied denticulated frieze. Fenestration is 6/6 with double-hung sash of 1/1 in attic. Stone foundation is veneered with scored cement. Brick internal end chimney with corbeled cap at west gable; exterior brick chimney against east gable. Fixed louver blinds on windows.

Across rear wall and extended beyond it to west by one bay is 1-story addition under flat roof. A chicken coop to northeast of dwelling is now converted into shop with apartment above. Has seamed metal roof. (Non-contributing.)

49. Quaker (Friends) Meeting House Complex
Quakertown Road

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Somerset County, NJSection number 7 Page 351862 Reconstruction of 1754 Building
Key

Replacement building erected in 1862 in style of original structure of 1754, except for gable roof instead of gambrel. There is a log-house tradition for the first meeting house, built sometime after 1733, but the congregation's records begin with a description of a stone house, 36' x 26' under a gambrel roof with gallery and dormers, erected in 1747, and called Bethlehem Meeting (after the then name of the township). This burned in 1752 and was rebuilt in 1754 in similar style, under directives from the parent Monthly Meeting of Chesterfield, Burlington County, with which it was affiliated. There was, however, no established style for Quaker meeting houses; the parent society stepped in to settle a difference of opinion. It does seem to have been a custom, nonetheless, to have masonry structures, and Quakertown was told to use stone. Comparisons may be made with the Stony Brook Meeting House in Princeton and the Chesterfield Meeting house. As in other denominations, the Quakers sometimes visited existing meeting houses in other areas to decide whether to copy them.

This building is a 1 1/2-story, 6 bay, coursed ashlar structure under gabled slate roof parallel with road. Recessed entrances with recessed panel doors are in 2nd and 5th bays. End and rear walls are stuccoed. Box cornice and flush rakes. Windows have 6/6 sash and triple-panel shutters. Windows in gable peaks are shuttered closed. Internal end chimneys are of small scale and of brick.

Dimensions are 45' x 27', with 11-foot high ceiling, which is larger than the original house, which was 39' x 27', a size approved by the congregation's governing body. Presently divided into 2 rooms, it is still in use for monthly meetings. Between 1905 and 1962, services were discontinued.

The property on which the meeting house stands, originally a 4-acre tract, was given to the Society of Friends in 1733 for this purpose by original land investor and settler Jacob Doughty, formerly of Chesterfield. The meeting house is sited farther back from the main road than later buildings because the bottom (south) line of the tract did not reach as far as the road. (Later, the trustees bought an additional lot in order to have road frontage.) The original 4 acres included land to the east of White Bridge Road. Village lots were created out of the space left between the southerly

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line of the Friends' lot and Quakertown Road in that portion of the lot lying east of White Bridge Road.

49.1 Burial Ground. The founding of this congregation dates back to 1729 when the very first settlers of the Amwell area asked the Chesterfield Monthly Meeting (to which they belonged) for permission to meet in their homes. Records begin in 1744. Earliest burials are not known; the first date to be found is 1752. The cemetery was laid out to the rear of the meeting house and is enclosed by a stone wall along its northern and western edges. It occupies over a half acre. (Contributing.)

49.2 First Day School Building. In 1962, the east section of a carriage shed sited to the west of the meeting house was converted into one large room for a school, and in 1970 the remaining portion of the building was enclosed and made into kitchen and additional rooms. This is a long relatively low structure, and its original use is detected when viewed from the rear, as this reveals but a blank stone wall. Metal rings for tethering are inserted in interior wall. The front (south) facade has been built up above a stone wall with clapboard-sheathed framing. Windows are of various sizes; those in classroom (2) are of 24 panes in single sash. Building is 8 bays wide. (Non-contributing.)

50. W. Probasco House (1860 map)
White Bridge Road
Mid-19th century
Contributing

Gable to road, facing south, an I style house of 2 units, block and wing, each of 3 bays. House is 2 stories; wing to left (west) 1 1/2. On high foundation, concrete-covered, house is clad with clapboards. Small-scaled windows of 6/6 sash on facade; slightly larger on east gable. Chimney, concreted, is within west gable wall. Roof eaves overhang.

51. C.F. Baldwin (1860 map)
White Bridge Road
Mid-19th century
Contributing

Two-story, 2 bay house, facing south, gable to road, with seemingly modern 1 1/2-story 1 bay wing to right (east), with asymmetrical roof slopes. Front

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slope flares forward with gabled dormer; chimney on rear slope. On east gable wall is 3-sided diminutive bay window; above it in peak are paired windows. Aluminum-sided.

Outbuildings include barn, long wall to road, with vertical siding and seamed metal roof, located to rear of house; another structure, gable to road, 2 bays deep, with wide boards vertically arranged; seamed metal roof (contributing); and flat-roofed chicken coop (?), with narrow vertical siding located at north edge of lot (non-contributing).

52. E. Potts House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
C. 1820 Edward Welstead House (?)
Contributing

Located on the lot west of the Meeting House, this was one of the earlier lots to be occupied in the budding village. County historian James Snell (1881) states that a store was on this lot, c. 1815, afterward used by a cooper, and in 1843 converted again into a store. He also identified it as the site of Edward Welstead's house.

An I-style house, frame (clapboarded), with east gable wall of brick, possibly a replacement when catslide addition of two stories was built across half the rear. (Brick is not a building material to be found in this area.) Brick is laid in common bond, and wall is anchored with iron ties. Facade is 4 bays over 5 bays wide, 2 deep, with 4-pane attic sash, and centered entrance. Full porch across front, under slightly hipped roof; turned posts and square balusters. Windows contain 2/2 sash in plain frames, and have movable louvered blinds. A small replacement brick chimney is in east gable wall; a large external brick chimney of Virginia style with weathers is on west gable. Foundation is of rubble stone.

Outbuildings: a renovated small barn, with large new addition, both facing to road, serves as workshop and recreation room. They are set a slight distance behind the house to its northwest. (Non-contributing.)

53. Leon Davenport House (1860 map)
Quakertown Road
Mid-19th century
Contributing

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A two-story, 3-bay (center entrance) I-style house, 2 bays deep with 4-pane single sash in attic. House extended, c. 1931, at rear with 2-story, 2-bay-deep, flat-roofed wing, with a side entry on east wall under pediment hood on plain posts. Windows are 2/2 in plain frames. A cross gable on facade contains an attenuated fanlight. Fascia board is decorated top and bottom with bandings of denticulated molding. Eaves of asphalt roof are extended and have stubby returns.

A late Victorian porch (replacement in 1931 for an earlier one) spans facade. It is hip roofed, with turned posts and square balusters. Small brick internal end chimney is on west gable. House is sheathed with asbestos shingles. Stone foundation, barely visible, is covered with scored cement.

Today the house is owned by the Quaker Memorial Works (tombstones, monuments). Outbuildings relate to that business. They include a small 2-story barn, gable to road, with rear leanto, completely renovated, to which is attached a large c. 1974 3-bay front-facing building, cemented on facade with side wall of board and batten. A one-story, 3-bay, gable structure, with synthetic shingles, used as office is a rebuilt harness shop that had been moved to the site by previous house occupant Frederick Polacsek and reassembled by him with new materials. (Non-contributing.)

54. Frederick Polacsek House
Quakertown Road
1950
Non-contributing (Harmonizing)

The Polacsek House is on a small lot removed from the 5-acre Davenport House lot (#53). Cape Cod-style house, 1 1/2 stories, with two gabled dormers. It is 3 bays wide, with centered entry and picture window to left (west). On its east wall is one-story breezeway and a garage addition, with another addition for a second garage, with doors opening to road.

55. William Cliffton House
Quakertown Road
C. 1800
Key

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The Cliffton family, members of the Society of Friends, came from Philadelphia to the village in the last quarter of the 18th century. William Cliffton's half-brother Henry married Amy Horner at the Quaker Meeting House and purchased the stone message (#42). No deed has been found for William Cliffton's land purchase, but it was apparently a large tract. Today it is some 68 acres and takes in the open lands between it and Site #54. Cliffton's acquisition, of relatively early date, helped to define the western edge of the village as it grew in the 19th century. His house joined the isolated grouping of Sites 1, 3, and 4, thus anchoring the western nucleus to the other village core. Cliffton also owned a tract of land on the south side of the road, out of which he sold a fraction of an acre—a triangular-shaped lot—to the village residents for their first school (Site 7 location) in 1817.

This is a house that evolved into a 2-story, 2-room-deep, 4 room plan. Of frame, now aluminum-sided, with lateral 2-story addition on right (east) of 3 bays by 1 bay under flat roof. The addition was built c. 1900 for Dr. Morris Leaver's office. He was both dentist and physician. The main block is 4 bays by 2 bays. A porch spans the first 3 bays from left (west), supported on square posts on plinths, and has square balusters and lattice-work below. The right (east) window is a semi-octagonal bay under a hipped roof. Roofs are of asphalt with eaves overhang. Windows of front facade contain 2/2 sash; however, rear side window and rear window are 9/6. Ground story has shutters; upper story, louvered blinds.

The only chimney remaining is within the west gable; an external chimney of brick runs against the northeast corner of the house. A very large square exposed chimney back (cemented) is against west gable wall. It served catercornered fireplaces, which still remain—two on first floor, one on second. Those on ground floor still have mantelpieces, Federal in style. Chimney bases in cellar are of monolithic stone.

This house has been in the same family since its erection. A child's mathematics copybook of 1815 on page relating to surveying contains what appears to be a sketch of the house and property. It shows a 2-story, 2-bay house, with 1-story, 2-bay wing on east. Construction of the house seems to confirm that the first unit was the one on west consisting of two rooms. The kitchen wing of the sketch was probably incorporated into the present house when it was enlarged to present size. A large and deep log-linteled chimney base is to be seen in the cellar, which probably once served a cooking fireplace. Today, the kitchen fireplace is considerably smaller, but contains

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an opening at back for a bake oven. The doubling of the house size probably occurred about mid-19th century. It offers a unique plan, with stair winders originating in the front east room behind the wall of a shallow entry hall. According to the present owners, there was another flight of stairs within the rear west room, which they removed. They found the walls to be mud-filled. The two west bedrooms are separated by a partition of wide beaded boards, laid vertically.

The 1815 sketch showed outbuildings which do not appear to be the ones now on the property. Currently there are three. One small shed has been converted into a garage and clad with vertical siding (non-contributing). It stands to northwest of the house. Behind it is a 2-story barn. A 9/6 window sash has been inserted into its upper story (contributing). At a distance back and to the east is a third shed under gable roof (non-contributing).

56. Locust Grove Cemetery Shed
Quakertown Road
Late 19th century
Contributing

The Locust Grove Cemetery was incorporated in 1867. It lies on the north side of Quakertown Road, beginning at the head of Locust Grove Road, more or less, and runs westward. The shed is one-story, frame (clapboarded), under gable roof, with entry in east gable. Windows on long south wall (facing road) have 2/2 sash. Large opening in west gable. Shed-roofed leanto is against north wall. There is a small interior chimney on ridge, probably meant for a pot-bellied stove.

57. John Trimmer, Jr. House (in 1873)
Probably late 18th-century
Quaker Lane
Key

This house predates the rise of the village and therefore is set well back from the later main street, being sited on what was once a large farm, now reduced to some six acres. Through its lane, which exits onto Quakertown Road, it has, however, always related to the village. During Trimmer's ownership, it included the local cider mill and distillery. These buildings, now gone, stood some distance north of the house on the right (east) side of the lane, according to the 1873 Atlas Map.

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This house seemingly stands on the large tract of land acquired by Samuel McFerson in 1750. Mary C. Vail, a local historian, wrote in 1915 a series of articles in the Hunterdon Democrat on land titles in the vicinity of Quakertown, and stated that the "McFerson homestead was on what is known as the "Still House farm." The McFerson house was more northeasterly, she states.

The house consists of an original two-story, 3-bay stone unit, a 2-story, 2 bay over 1 bay frame wing on its west, attached in the 19th century without cellar, and a one-story 4-bay wing added on the east in the 1940s. The first two units are under one continuous gable roof, slate-tiled, with aluminum boxed cornice and fascia. The stone section is cemented; the frame section covered with aluminum siding. The masonry house has centered entries, front and back, and 9/6 sash at ground floor and 6/6 above. Presently (perhaps always), the front entrance faces north; however, the exterior cellar stairs exit from the south wall. The front entrance wears a Federal architrave of fluted pilasters. A two-sectioned door, not original, fills the opening. It is but slightly recessed from the facade, whereas the rear entry door is fully recessed. Some door and window jambs/reveals are board-lined; others have been wood-paneled (along with much of the interior) since the 1940s.

The frame section has window sash of 6/6, with two windows of 9-pane single sash in the gable peak. A one-bay addition projects from the northeast corner and lies against the front half of the west gable wall. It rises 2 stories and has its own gable roof.

The original stone unit measures 28 feet wide by 24 1/2 feet deep. Remodeled in the 1940's, the floor plan now offers one large room with rear east quadrant enclosed for modern kitchen. However, based on the finding of two solid stone triangular chimney bases against the east wall of the cellar, it is assumed that the plan first consisted of three rooms, the third running front to back, as today, with its large deep cooking fireplace centered on the west wall. The lintel log measures 12' across, and depth of fire box 28" with bake oven opening in rear at right. The size of this fireplace is typical of those found in early houses of Franklin Township. To the left (south) of the fireplace are boxed-in (vertical boarding) winders to the floor above, with a second flight above them to the attic, and another below them to the cellar. A board-and-batten door closes off the cellar steps. The floor support system for the second and third stories employs a summer beam running transversely into which are let a series of joists. However, the ground-story floor is

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supported by hewn timbers, 8" x 12", widely spaced, which run an uninterrupted span. Corbeled stone brackets extend from both walls to add support to their ends; it is assumed that the beams also rest in pockets within the masonry wall. Such large timbers used in cellar construction have been seen in other local houses dating as late as 1800-1815.

Long ago the corner fireplaces were removed. No fireplaces now exit on that wall, although there appears to be a rectangular chimney without openings on the second story. An internal end chimney of brick, with drip course, emerges at the crest of the roof. A like chimney appears at the other gable.

The 1940s addition offers a mud room, family room, and lavatory, with bay window on east wall. A greenhouse is behind. A full porch under shed roof on posts square in section runs behind the other two units.

The frame section has two rooms to a floor, single file, and a flight of stairs against the party wall with the stone unit.

There are several outbuildings. To northeast of house by several hundred feet is double-decker spring house of stone masonry, now cemented, under wood shingle roof. Entry to lower level is from east end, to second level from outside wood stairs at opposite end. A small square internal brick chimney on ridge marks the presence of a seemingly late fireplace within, which has a raised brick hearth and rounded form. Two modern casement-style windows provide light to the upper story. (Contributing.) A manmade pond lies to west of the structure.

Near southwest corner of house is 3-bay building, probably once a carriage shed, now used as two-car garage. The third bay (east) is enclosed toolroom with side door, an apparent addition. The main section is constructed of hewn timbers, the posts with diagonal bracing. This section has been somewhat extended at back, affecting the symmetry of the gable roof. Original vertical board siding has been covered with aluminum siding. Roof is of wood shingle. Beyond this building, facing west, is a modern one-car garage, with side aisle having its own entry door. Structure is stuccoed, with aluminum siding in gable. (Both non-contributing.)

At some distance to west of house in linear relationship are three barns, attached, in U shape, creating a courtyard which faces south. The central barn is probably the first of the three to be built. It is 2 1/2 stories,

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with English form, and has 4 bays. Its construction appears to be 19th century. A leanto extends from its west gable. A hayloft door is in its east gable. The east barn has been carved into rooms on both of its stories. Hewn timbers for framing are visible. The west outbuilding appears to be a series of animal pens, each with separate openings into the courtyard. It has a second story as well. These buildings are sheathed in various materials, including board-and-batten siding and asphalt shingles. Windows are of many sizes. Roofs are of synthetic shingles. (Contributing.)

Still more westerly is a one-story structure with its gable turned east. It is vertical boarded and has a metal roof. A series of chicken coops is at some distance north of the barn grouping and parallel with its central barn. (Contributing.) An enclosed sheep pasture is parallel with the barns on the south.

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Quakers arriving in the virgin land of north Hunterdon County is directly related to the land investments of West New Jersey Proprietors and others who first settled in the Burlington County area. Many had come directly from England, and in particular from the stony landscape of Yorkshire. Their numbers were significant, leading to a parent Society in Chesterfield. John Reading, Jr., the surveyor, who began in 1712 to lay out the great tracts in Hunterdon for investors, was himself a Quaker. In what was then by and large a vast wilderness, organized at first as simply the Township of Amwell, Reading's father had already built a house by 1715³. A slow but continuing migration from Burlington County followed the surveying of plantations for absentee owners.

A road from Trenton ran up to Ringoes in Amwell Township and then became a trail into the more northerly regions of the county (later to be set off as Bethlehem Township, then subdivided again in 1747 to create Kingwood Township). This road, possibly based on an Indian path, eventually swung west and continued to the Delaware River at Phillipsburg. Just before its westerly turn, it ran on the boundary line (later Croton Road) between two great plantations laid out in the 1720s, if not earlier. An indenture of 1718 between Jacob Doughty of Chesterfield and Zebulon Clayton of Freehold for 700 acres is for land at Quakertown. Doughty had bought it the month earlier from William Stevenson. Among the witnesses was a Jacob King. These three names afterward appear in the early records of Franklin Township (then part of Kingwood).

By 1729, there was sparse settlement, but of sufficient numbers in the area for isolated Quakers to ask permission of the Chesterfield Society to hold meetings in their homes⁴. In 1733, the earlier investor, Quaker Jacob Doughty, decided to give this devoted body a 4-acre parcel of land from the northeast corner of his 1200 acre plantation for a meeting house. Doughty's plantation was one of two bordering Croton Road. The neighboring plantation

³ John Reading's Journal, reproduced in part in Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society, Third Series, Vol. X, 1-3.

⁴ J.E. Stout, A Brief History of the Friends Meeting at Quakertown, New Jersey, from 1729 to 1976, pp. (4f.).

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to the east was owned by John Stevenson, doubtless related to the William Stevenson who had sold to Doughty. Both these men came to settle, and Stevenson also had some messuages in tenure. It was the erection of the meeting house, c. 1734, with a good road system to it, however, that became an encouragement to others to obtain land in the vicinity. By 1750, Pittstown, a mill center, had come into existence a mile down the road on the Capoolan Brook. During the 18th century this was the most important settlement, but Quakertown was also taking on the aspect of a village. At a surprisingly early date, shortly after mid-century, the subdivision of great plantations into small tracts of land had taken place as a result of deaths and sheriff's sales. With the establishment of this nucleus of a community, Quakers of other areas were drawn to it, coming from Philadelphia and its nearby counties. It clearly became a homogeneous community.

The rise of the village is noted from the presence of a number of masonry houses constructed between 1750-1800, approximately. It would appear that the crossroads created by the 90 degree westward turn of Croton Road into Quakertown Road became the first hub. As early as 1765, there was standing on the northeast corner on a mere 4-acre lot, an impressively scaled stone house (#42), and by 1780 there was opposite it, a "frame house".⁵ Two lots immediately to the west of the stone house, lying south of the meeting house lot and north of Quakertown Road, had been reduced to one-acre size, thus seemingly becoming an invitation to building activity. In the 1760s, a Philadelphia innkeeper, Daniel Cahill⁶, bought them both and set up a tavern at the doorstep of the Friends' meeting house much to their consternation. As an inn on a major highway, it became a stopping place for travelers, a record of which has been left by William Ellery, who noted in 1779 in his diary:

⁵ Hunterdon County deed, Cahill to Peter Howell, 1780 (Book 1, 29); *ibid.*, John Drinker to Henry Clifton, 1784 (Book 1, p. 115).

⁶ Cahill-Howell deed, 1780. The original population was joined over the decades by Philadelphians and others of nearby Burlington County and Chester County, PA, many of whom came from other Quaker settlements. The role of religious ties in early migration is apparent.

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"Lodged at Cahills (sic). Our beds here ... were clean and not infested with bugs."⁷ Cahill's "two-acre tavern house lot" (#43), as it came to be called in all future deeds, played an important role in the development of the village well into the 19th century, as sales of fractions of this small tract continually took place to crowd in buildings at what seemingly was a desirable location. The original lot line appears to be preserved, as all buildings on this tract have extremely shallow setbacks.

While this nucleus was being formed, another was being created about a quarter mile west of the meeting house at another crossroads where a road leading to Baptistown (Locust Grove Road) made a south turn-off. Unsurprisingly, this road ran on the boundary line of two plantations, both of which fronted on Quakertown Road. In time, these plantations were broken up into smaller tracts. From the owner of the westerly plantation, Peter Potter had purchased a small farm of about 36 acres, which he reduced to 20 acres and sold in 1776 to John Allen, a young man of 22, who had come from Shrewsbury, another Quaker area, to set up shop as a cordwainer (#1). The easterly plantation, too, had apparently been subdivided, for in 1768, the local sheriff advertised a 6-acre lot for sale that had been seized to satisfy a debt. Cahill, the tavern keeper, bought this lot, too, paying -66 for it. In 1794, it was sold by his widow for double the money, suggesting that a house had been built in the meanwhile, possibly a rental (#3). By the end of the century, these houses were neighbored by two others. One, built by William Clifton (#55), was erected on a large farm tract of some 60 or more acres on the north side of the road. The other, a 1 1/2-story frame house of indeterminate age but of primitive construction, (#4), located to the east of Cahill's lot, was erected on Benjamin Bishop's former plantation. Given its smallness and basic simplicity, it may even have been built as a tenant house for the plantation. It stands apart in height and fabric from the typical settler's house of this area.

The existence of the village was noted by Lieutenant John Hills as Quaker M. (Meeting) on his map drawn in 1781. Though small, it could be considered an established center with a doctor--John Rockhill--residing nearby, a shoemaker, a hatter, and an inn. The first century of Quakertown's history is

⁷ J.E. Stout, Township of Franklin, Quakertown, N.J., chapter on Taverns and Inns (n.p.)

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marked by the Quaker presence, whose meeting house played a dominant role in the lives of the people. It was twice rebuilt in this era. Instructions for its reconstruction after a fire c. 1752 came from the main Society at Chesterfield and called for a structure of stone, which was to have a gambrel roof "as much the best both as regards the conveniency of the women friends and the conveniences of galleries".⁸ The seeming control of this distant "meeting" by the parent Society had earlier been seen in their dictating the specifications for the first replacement structure of 1744: they were to erect a stone building 36 feet long by 26 feet wide. This serves as one indication of how building styles were transmitted from one region to another. A gambrel roof, for example, was not a usual feature in Hunterdon County.

The Quakers' position on resistance to military service and to slave-holding were enforced. The question might be raised whether the small size of some of the tracts held by these residents reflected the lack of slave help. The Minutes of the Meeting record the fines endured by members for their passive stand in the Revolutionary Period. John Allen, the young cordwainer, parted with two cows, three sides of leather, 22 pairs of shoes, one pair of boots, and a feather bed. Henry Clifton paid his fine with seven hats. Others went to jail.⁹

Society rubrics doubtless had some impress on social mores and perhaps kept tavern openings to a minimum; doubtless, also, members patronized each others shops with the possibility that competition, even, was kept to a minimum. Without supporting records, it is difficult to determine how great the impact of Quaker teachings of living peaceably with one another had upon the character of the village. Whatever grip there may have been is not apparent in the next century, however, although the Meeting continued to play a role in the life of the inhabitants, even to the rebuilding of the house of worship in the same simple traditional style in 1862.

8 Original Minutes, Kingwood Monthly Meeting, as cited in a History of East Amwell, 1700-1800, East Amwell Bicentennial Committee, p.198.

9 Ibid., p. 219; also Stout op. cit., n.p.

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In terms of architecture, there is a more apparent impress. All but one of the surviving buildings are of stone. Local stone was available and easily split, but beyond that there seems to have been a propensity for its use which would appear to relate to their familiarity with it from their Yorkshire background. Of these, some follow what is called the Quaker floor plan, that is, a two-story, double-pile plan served by back-to-back corner fireplaces, with a side hall. This style also appears in the surrounding area. Two originated as quite elementary structures of "one over one". They were later doubled in size with a lateral addition of frame. This, too, is characteristic of the region; real estate advertisements bear this out when they mention "double houses".

One of the oldest of these Quaker houses is the Henry Cliffton House (#42) at the Croton Road intersection. Cliffton bought the house lot in 1784, but there was a house in existence in 1765, and tradition would have it that it was built perhaps as early as the 1720s, since it stands on the original Stevenson plantation. This is an exceptionally large house though for such an early date, being two storied, two rooms deep, with side hall, and a kitchen wing. After 1750, the property came into the ownership of a Philadelphian, John Drinker, who was related to a local resident, Isaac Horner. Drinker, a hatter, bought the property from Horner and sold it to Henry Cliffton, a fellow hatter, of Philadelphia. Cliffton appears to have been living in Quakertown for some years prior to his purchase, and perhaps was a tenant in the house. This solid and substantial building of coursed rubble stone, without refinements of detail--perhaps a result of the Quakers' preferences for "plainness"--can be contrasted with the Potter/Allen House (#1) and the William Probasco House (#47), both of which are of coursed stone blocks and have splayed lintels with projecting keystones. In Franklin Township, such treatment of the facade seemed to occur shortly after the Revolution, and became almost a uniform style for more pretentious houses. Just possibly the inspiration came from the Capner House, built in the 1790s, on the outskirts of nearby Flemington, the later county seat.

The double building standing on Daniel Cahill's tavern lot (#43) is also of stone. Because of severe alterations and an aluminum covering, it is difficult to determine its age, but in any case it would date to c. 1800. The assumed earlier section is two stories, two rooms deep, with centered entrance in its 3 bay facade, an alternate English arrangement. If in fact, it was built by Cahill, it will be recalled that he came from Philadelphia, with a knowledge of that city's styles. The farmhouse just behind the village lots,

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the later home of the local distiller (#57), is a two-story masonry house that follows a Quaker floor plan.

In the latter decades of the century there appears to have been occasional building of frame houses, as they are mentioned in incidental records. One extant example is the William Cliffton House (#55), a two-story dwelling which exhibits the Quaker plan. The substitution of this construction material, with almost total abandonment of stone, occurred in the Federal Period and perhaps can be interpreted as an awakening of a national sense and a growing awareness of a larger world.

Village growth in the 19th century was slow at first, with the records indicating that the first shops and services were added between 1800 and 1830: a wheelwright, a cooper, and a cabinet-maker set up business, and a general store was opened. After a half-century's discussion about opening a school, the Quakers at last achieved that goal in 1817, buying through subscription a small lot from William Cliffton (Sites #5-7) at the west end of the village. In 1828, the first post office was established. Very little housing was added during this period, and this related to farms behind the village lots. One of these farms; which still remains a relatively large tract today, has its farmhouse (#25) facing south, in the traditional manner, though it was placed at the very edge of south-flowing Croton Road. With the later infill of building lots between it and the intersection with Quakertown Road to its north, this house became an integral part of the village texture.

In 1834, Gordon's Gazetteer reported that Quakertown consisted of 12-15 houses, 2 stores, several mechanics' shops, a tavern and a meeting house. The majority of these buildings are still extant. A further encouragement to growth came in 1840 with the acquisition of a small parcel of land on Croton Road by the newly formed Methodist Episcopal Church for their house of worship and the sale of the southwest corner lot for a store (Sites #24, #21). As with many other New Jersey villages, the decades 1840-1860 saw the most active house building. Growth appears to have been economically motivated, as the need for additional services was sensed. Deeds of this period indicate a lively market for purchase of individual lots, with almost rapid-fire turnover, with just a few individuals involved, who were becoming the chief residents as well. These included the Waterhouse, Trimmer and Probasco families, long in the area.

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All of the new building occurred on the south side of the main street and along the west side of Croton Road. Building did not occur on the opposite side of Quakertown Road, except for the sale of one 5-acre lot, because William Clifton's descendants, living in his house (#55), preferred to retain their farm. The 4-acre tract owned by the Quakers, which was intersected by White Bridge Road (another 18th-century road which wound circuitously to the mill centers on the Capoolan, originating earlier as a road to Reba Cott's or Coate's plantation), also prevented house building from taking place on that street. The body of housing of this period gives the village its second character. In the main, residences are of I-style, frame, 3- to 5-bay, with Greek Revival elements applied in a limited vernacular fashion. Although their lots are deep, and of various sizes, they are narrow at roadside and all share about the same setback. Some are turned sidewise, with gable to street. These are unpretentious buildings, but their counterparts can be found in many New Jersey villages and they are expressive of mainstream state architecture. Sites 8, 12, 13, 18 and 19 are illustrative.

Aside from this, there was a sudden small flurry of building of another character on the 2-acre tavern house lot. The tavern was now called a hotel, and its interior refurbished. The Trimmers, who had kept store elsewhere in the village, in 1851 erected a relatively handsome large new building, gable-fronted, carrying an entablature on its long sides supported by capped corner pilasters (#45). This replaced an earlier shed and a wheelwright shop set back on this property. J.H. Vail, who bought the Trimmer store a few years later, then squeezed onto the same lot a new house of commanding proportions in Italianate bracketed style (#46). It stands hard by the store and the c. 1815 stone house of William Probasco. A final house was added to this extraordinary grouping of style-conscious buildings, with the purchase of the corner lot on White Bridge Road from the Quaker trustees. This house, though built in the 1860s, is a straightforward rectangular box of Georgian derivation. It is chiefly notable for its ample size and spacious setting.

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Maps of the village for 1860 and 1873 show little change.¹⁰ An academy had been built on the old school house lot in 1850, which soon became public and provided space for the Order of Odd Fellows to meet on the upper floor. A physician and surgeon, Dr. Matthias Abel, had moved into the village (#42). John Trimmer, Jr., had a distillery (#57 site). Theodore Probasco not only made cabinets in the furniture shop he had opened in 1842 (#14) but listed himself in the business directory of 1873 as undertaker. The Trimmer's store, owned in that year by Wilson and Vail, sold "Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps, Hardware, Yankee Notions, etc."¹¹

A final building period occurred in the last quarter century and straggled over into the early 1900's. Although the 1873 map indicates that there were empty spaces between some of the houses on the main stretch of the road, they were perhaps not available, and the lots to be taken up were along the east side of Croton Road and on Route 616, which represents the continuation of Quakertown Road east of the Croton Road intersection. Two of these new additions (Sites #30 and 31) are noteworthy for their Gothic Revival details applied to otherwise straightforward rectangular boxes. In style and spirit they relate well to the Methodist Church (#24) directly across from them, which was put up in 1878 as replacement for the first outgrown edifice. All express a certain romanticism with their variety of surface detail in patterning and fabric, ornate bargeboard trim, and other decorative features. The Britten King farmhouse (#39), perhaps built as late as 1883 (it does not appear on the 1873 map) as the final house on the north side of Route 616, serves a transitional role between village and rural scape. When King bought the farm tract (1883), it was a 28-acre parcel. This very same tract had been one of the first occupied in the formative years of the village, having had a

¹⁰ These maps reflect the central core of the village and do not include buildings at the fringes. An infill of building since 1875 has effectively incorporated the more distant residences into the village scope. See maps as part of addenda.

¹¹ Business Directory, Beers' Atlas Map, 1873.

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message on it in the 1760s, as indicated in the Drinker-Cliffton deed.¹² The 19th-century house, although part of a farm, was so sited as to relate to the village street, with its outbuildings clustered next to it. The King House does not strive to make any architectural statement despite its date and is in actuality an I-style house, decked out with the ubiquitous features of the Victorian era--a bay window and a porch.

The William Cronce House (#19), and the final two to follow it--filling in empty lots on Quakertown Road--indicate an obviously greater interest in architectural style, reflecting perhaps the economic status of the builder, but also announcing a shift in viewpoint of the period from a comfortable acceptance of the familiar to an expression of individuality. The Cronce House, a conventional 2-story, 5-bay house, stands apart from its neighbors for its cut-stone foundation and slate roof and a unique semi-hexagonal shingled porch with complex-shape shingled posts. Conspicuous curved window cornices like dark eyebrows further single out the house for attention. The c. 1900 house (Site #11), asserts its originality with cut corners for entry and windows. Otherwise, it is a Late Victorian house in configuration, somewhat eclectic with its hipped roof and classical porch columns combined with a textured surface of shingles and clapboards. The Lothian House (#16) is a dramatic expression of the early Bungalow Style, with a great swooping roof descending frontward and breaking out into a steeply pitched side-gable that shelters the entire wall beneath it with its extended eaves. The solid porch balustrade and shaped posts introduce a new material, cast cement. Although decidedly a new and singular architectural style for a mainly 19th-century streetscape, it is still considered as contributing to the stylistic history of Quakertown because of its date of construction and its right, like any other successive style, to add its layer to the village fabric during its era of significance.

Toward century end, Quakertown was adjusting to change. Although some residents regarded themselves as farmers and were so listed on the 1873 Business Directory, crop farming was on the decline in Hunterdon County. With the advent of railroads, peach growing was in the ascendance until hit by a blight. This was followed by chicken farms. Some outbuildings of this era still stand, including barns, sheds, and chicken coops, but they are either in deteriorated condition or converted to other uses. The arrival of the

¹² Drinker-Cliffton deed, 1784, reciting earlier history.

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automobile age also had an impact on village activities, as it diminished the importance of a local community center for supplying goods and services. Nonetheless, the transition was gradual. A Town Hall assembly building (no longer extant) was erected near the Croton Road corner and used by several organizations. Dr. Morris Leaver--who had come by the William Clifton House through inheritance--added a side wing to open his practice as both dentist and doctor. This doubly skilled man was wide awake to changing times and founded in his office the areas first telephone company, the Farmers and Merchants Telephone, in 1910.¹³ As undoubtedly the best known medical practitioner in the Township, Dr. Leaver's activities served for a time to keep alive the village's role in the surrounding area.

In 1915, the school district replaced the old academy building. The new school house (# 28) is of interest in that it reveals a farming areas unchanged old-fashioned outlook about educational needs. Despite the availability of books offering "modern" building designs, as well as examples to be viewed in other areas--neighboring Somerset County, for one--the district erected a structure barnlike in proportions and appearance distinguished only by a belfry.

Quakertown's history contributes to an understanding of how America developed from the time of settlement by immigrants to the beginning of the 20th century. It illustrates the rise of one form of rural organization--the village; its role in 19th-century life; and its loss of function in a modern world. The sense of the historicity of this village comes from the dominant position of the Quaker Meeting House and its cemetery, in which the founding fathers are buried, and from the presence of other stone buildings of the late Colonial era and early Federal period scattered along its main street, around which 19th-century residents in fits and starts placed their own mainly vernacular buildings. These are buildings of a rural community; for the most part they stand for straightforward housing, using familiar forms, with little consideration even for ornamentation. They are not unique to Quakertown, but representative as extant structures of the kind of "architecture" first employed in the township, particularly by English Quakers. The second layering of buildings within the village framework shows that an "Americanization" has taken place, with a shift to frame construction and a repetitious vernacular form, periodically adorned superficially with elements

¹³ J.E. Stout, Township of Franklin, Quakertown, N.J., passim.

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of style of current architectural fads. Similar I-style houses have been found across the state.¹⁴ Quakertown was first just a typical rural center, but appears to have taken on more importance than many, and as nearby Pottstown declined as the township center, this village became its successor. Among services provided, it was known for its furniture shop run by Theodore Probasco, and he was known as a man of stature on the local political scene, who went on to become a freeholder and a State Assemblyman. Both his house and shop survive (Sites #14, #15). Some sense of importance must have been felt to motivate the building of more stylish structures in the 1860s and thereafter. Even the hotel added a two-story porch similar to that of the Union Hotel in Flemington, the county seat. The course then embarked upon might have envisioned growth to and status of an attractive Victorian town. The Lothian House (#16) introducing a fresh new architectural style, the bungalow, may have been part of the dream, and the erection of the Town Hall about the same time, another aspect of it. But that was not to be. Nearby Pittstown became the center of local industry and had the advantage of the railroad. Flemington, not too distant by automobile, became the new service hub. Modern times passed Quakertown by.

Quakertown remains unaltered to the eye. There has been but a modicum of new building, and it is unobtrusive. A past atmosphere prevails; it is almost entirely residential now. Over all, it is uncluttered, strung out; yet it is historically interesting for its little clusters of building, with open land between, because this projects a more honest image of the village as it was experienced in its heyday. Though small in terms of buildings, it yet remains the largest of the few concentrated settlements that occurred in the township in its three centuries of history. Its intact preservation makes it an artifact of America's agrarian age.

Quakertown has a rightful claim to 200 years of existence, with an architectural heritage to show for it. There has been a rising interest in the historical significance of the village. Some rehabilitation and restoration work has begun. Some years back, the Friends resumed the holding

¹⁴ East-west traverses of New Jersey on old roads made by Peter Wacker reported in "New Jersey's Cultural Landscape Before 1800", Second Annual Symposium of the New Jersey Historical Commission, Proceedings.

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of services in their building after a closing of many decades. The "corner store" since 1980 has functioned in that role again, with a miscellaneous collection of ordinary wares as well as local antiques, all displayed in an old-time atmosphere, with community notices posted on the porch.

With an appreciation of the township's still operating farms and historic sites, residents formed in 1981 an organization aptly named "Rural Awareness" to call attention to this heritage and promote its preservation through responsible planning as the pressures of development began to appear. House tours centered in Quakertown but covering the countryside have been conducted annually as "Harvest Home" celebrations since 1982.

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Maps:

1781: Lieut. John Hills, showing part of Hunterdon County

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1851: Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, entirely from original surveys by Samuel C. Cornell, Lloyd Van Derveer and S.C. Cornell, publishers.

1860: Map of the Vicinity of Philadelphia, Trenton, and Vicinity, by Lake and Beers, C.R. Stone and A. Pomeroy, Publishers, Philadelphia (inset of Quakertown)

1873: Atlas Map of Hunterdon County, Beers

Hunterdon County Deeds and Mortgages

Interviews (Winter 1985-1986) by telephone and personal visit

J.E. Stout, Pittstown
Charles Conover, Quakertown
Mrs. Mildred Oakes, Quakertown
Mr. Frederick Polacsek, Quakertown
Mrs. Ruth Weber, Quakertown

**United States Department of the Interior
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Somerset County, NJSection number 10 Page 2Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point in Quakertown Road west of Locust Grove Road being the west boundary line of Block 27, Lot 15.01, thence running south and east on boundary lines of said lot to Locust Grove Road, thence north on west side of said road to point opposite south line of Block 37, Lot 4 (which is 118' south from Quakertown Road), thence on a straight course east crossing the road and following the lot line and continuing on a straight course east maintaining a distance of 118' from Quakertown Road through lots 3, 5, and 6 to west line of Lot 7 which is the school lot, thence continuing on the same course up to the main school building to follow its west wall and rear (south) wall, and thence continue east on a straight course to the west line of Lot 8, thence following said lot on its west line south to its bottom line and east on this line to west side of Quaker Lane; thence the boundary line will follow Quaker Lane southward to its terminus in Lot 9 and will thence follow all the boundary lines of Lot 9 to the final return to the east side of Quaker Lane; thence it will proceed along Quaker Lane northward to the south line of Lot 9 and continue east on south lines of Lots 9 and 10; thence south on west line of Lot 14 to its south line, and continue east on said line and along south lines of Lots 16 and 25, up to a point on Lot 25 where it changes direction (which is also a point marking the extension northward of an imaginary line from the west lines of Lots 27 and 28); from this point south on a straight course up to and along the west lines of Lots 27 and 28, and thence along the south line of Lot 28 to Croton Road; thence crossing Croton Road (see Sheet 8 map) and continuing on its east side thence on south line of Block 36, Lot 7 (which is also the north side of an indicated right of way) thence on south line of said lot and along it and along south line of Lot 8; thence north on east line of Lot 8 to Route 616 and along its south side and on east course to the east line of Block 29, Lot 8 on the north side of the road; thence crossing the road and running north on east line of Lot 8 to its north line; thence west on its north (rear) line; and south on its west line to the point of inter section with north (rear) line of Lot 7, thence on a straight course west across Lots 6.01, and 56 to a point in east line of Lot 3; thence to include all of Lots 3, 2, 1 and 4, following their north (rear) lines to White Bridge Road; thence along White Bridge Road on west side as far northerly to include east boundary lines of Block 28, Lots 32 and 33; thence along the west line of Lot 33 to its rear line and south on rear (west) lines of Lots 33 and 32 to point of intersection with Lot 34; thence west along the north (rear) line of said lot to a corner thence on straight west course across Lot 35 to nearest corner (northeast) of Lot 36; thence on said lot's

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north (rear) line to its point of intersection with east line of Block 29, Lot 28; thence on a straight course parallel with Quakertown Road and equidistant from it (allowing approximately 850' to include most northerly outbuilding) to west line of Lot 28; thence south on said lot's west line to a point 25' north from Quakertown Road; thence west a sufficient distance (approximately 75') to include the Locust Grove Cemetery Shed, thence south to Quakertown Road and across it; thence west on south side of said road to point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary lines of the District have been drawn tightly to set off and define the village from its entirely rural setting. There are but two historic concentrations of population in Franklin Township of a scale sufficient to be deemed a village, of which Quakertown is the larger. Quakertown originated with a small lot set out from a 500-acre plantation for a Quaker meeting house; the buildings that followed--two taverns, a hatter's house, and handful of dwellings--were also erected on small lots. Artisans' shops, stores, a church, and additional houses added in the 19th century also occupied small lots. The District is nominated primarily as a streetscape whose dwellings and other buildings represent those activities commercial, religious, and service-oriented, that gave it its character. Village lots have been included in their entirety, with but few exceptions. A line of convenience has been drawn through Lots 3, 5, and 6 of Block 37 on the south side of Quakertown Road at the western end of the District to eliminate non-contributing rear yard structures, some at point of collapse, standing on vacant land somewhat overgrown and untended that does not convey a sense of agricultural activity. The remainder of Lot 7 was eliminated because its entire post-1940 aspect is of modern educational center marked by additional school-related buildings, parking lot, playing fields, and mowed lawn. The top (north) lines of Lots 8, 6.01, 6 and 56 in Block 29 (shown on Sheet 8) and of Lots 4.01 and 5 in Block 29 (shown on Sheet 9.01) which make one continuous line on a straight course running southwesterly, represent an ancient division line of land held by absentee investors, later developed as large plantations. This is of historical interest in determining original land divisions but there seemed no justification to use this line for a boundary, as only the roadside frontage contributed to the historical development of the District and in some instances, intrusions are now found.

Two relatively small farms with contributing buildings at the village edges on both ends of Quakertown Road and one on the east side of Croton Road

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have been included, as they serve to mark the transition from village organization to the rural landscape that encompasses Quakertown in every direction. Also included is one small farm reached from Quaker Lane, a short lane which originated in the heart of the District, as both lane and farm have significance to Quakertown history as an integral part of its 19th-century life. A line of convenience was extended from the rear lot lines of village buildings in Block 28 (north side of Quakertown Road) across Lot 28 westward because this lot is 68+ acres of open land, and if included in its entirety would be out of scale with the village streetscape. Its frontage up to and including the farmhouse and 19th-century outbuildings clustered at roadside seemed sufficient to convey a sense of its relationship to the street. The buildings themselves punctuate the westernmost reach of the linear village and relate to the final array of dwellings opposite them up to the Locust Grove Road intersection. In the latter part of the 19th century, the house resident was a physician, not farmer, and his activities were associated with the other services offered in the village. Lot 8 of Block 36 on the south side of Quakertown (Cherryville) Road has been chosen as the easternmost lot to be included, as the next lot contains a non-contributing 20th-century house and the lots beyond it are in the process of being sold for new buildings.

The boundary lines have been drawn on Franklin Township tax maps, but unfortunately 4 sheets must be used in order to include all the affected lots. The major portion of the village is shown on Sheet 9.01 at four times the scale of the sheets showing adjacent tax lots on which stand the remainder of buildings in the District.

UTM REFERENCES

A - 18/504140/4490780
B - 18/505440/4490480
C - 18/505200/4490020
D - 18/504840/4489980
E - 18/504840/4490260
F - 18/504560/4490240
G - 18/504580/4489980
H - 18/504340/4489980
I - 18/504360/4490460
J - 18/504240/4490540
K - 18/504160/4490440
L - 18/503960/4490560

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The following information is the same for all photographs:

Quakertown Historic District
Franklin Township
Hunterdon County, New Jersey
Photographer/Negatives: Arthur Brecknell
Fall 1985 (unless otherwise indicated)

- | Photo | | |
|-------|---|---|
| #1 | - | Quakertown Road, looking east |
| #2 | - | Quakertown Road looking west toward Croton Road intersection |
| #3 | - | Croton Road looking north toward Quakertown Road intersection |
| #4 | - | Potter/Allen House (site #1), view west |
| #5 | - | Quakertown Road, looking east to sites 2, 3 (wrought-iron fence), and 4. |
| #6 | - | C. Snyder House (site #4), view southeast |
| #7 | - | Quaker Lane, view south; road leads to former cider mill and farmhouse. |
| #8 | - | W. Snyder House (site #8), view south |
| #9 | - | William Cronce House (site #9), view south |
| #10 | - | Site #9, view southwest |
| #11 | - | Miller House (site #11), seen from west side; P. Gary House (site #12) in distance. |
| #12 | - | Site 11, seen from road behind, looking southeast. |
| #13 | - | Streetscape of Quakertown Road showing (from left to right) sites #14, 13, and 12, view southwesterly |
| #14 | - | Theodore Probasco House (site #15), view south |
| #15 | - | Lothian House (site #16), view southwest |
| #16 | - | Streetscape of Quakertown Road showing (from left to right) sites #20, 19, and 18, view south |
| #17 | - | View southwesterly down Croton Road. Waterhouse and Shackleton Store (site #21) in foreground; Abraham Lawshe House (site #33) to left. |
| #18 | - | View northwesterly along Croton Road showing (from left to right) sites #24, 23, and 22. |
| #19 | - | J.H. Hummer House (site #25), view northwesterly along Croton Road |
| #20 | - | Toshiko Takezu House (Site #27), view northerly along Croton Road |
| #21 | - | 1915 School House (site #28) and adjacent barns, looking east. Demarcates the southern edge of the village. |

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- #22 - East side of Croton Road showing (from left to right) site, #33, 32, 31, 30, and 29.
- #23 - Richard Waliky House (site #30), view east.
- #24 - View east along Croton Road showing sites #31 (left) and #30.
- #25 - Looking northwesterly at earliest corner of settlement (Croton Road crossroads). Abraham Lawshe House (site #33) in foreground; Henry Clifton House (site #42) in rear, across Quakertown Road.
- #26 - Abraham Lawshe House (site #33); southeast corner of Quakertown and Croton Roads intersection.
- #27 - Mildred Oakes House (site #34), view southwesterly. S. Trimmer House (site #22) located on Croton Road is in background.
- #28 - Streetscape looking south along Route 616; B. Doyle House (site #37 on left) and Bauman - Slight House (site #36).
- #29 - Albert Leu House (site #38), most easterly site along south side of Route 616, marking east end of village.
- #30 - Britten King House (site #39), view north on Route 616.
- #31 - Henry Clifton House (site #42), view north.
- #32 - Tavern House/Hotel (site #43), view northeast.
- #33 - J. & E.H. Trimmer Store (site #45), view northwest.
- #34 - J.H. Vail House (site #46, on right) and the William Probasco House (site #47), view northeast.
- #35 - Facade detail, William Probasco House (site #47), view north
- #36 - Joseph B. Probasco House (site #48). Converted chicken coop to right and Friends Meeting House to left.
- #37 - Friends Meeting House (site #49), and First Day School Building (site #49.2), view north.
- #38 - Rear view of Friends Meeting House and First Day School building from 18th century cemetery; view southeast.
- #39 - E. Potts House (site #52), showing gable-end brick wall, view westerly.
- #40 - Leon Davenport House (site #53), view northwest.
- #41 - William Clifton House (site #55), view northeast. Sited on former large farm, this house marks the westerly reach of village on north side of Quakertown Road.
- #42 - Locust Grove Cemetery Shed (site #56), view northwest. Cemetery in background.
- #43 - John Trimmer, Jr., House (site #57); view south. Spring 1986.

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- #44 - Two story spring house at site #57, view north. Spring 1986.
- #45 - Barns at site #57. Spring 1986.
- #46 - Southern edge of village as seen from Croton Road, view north.

SHEET 6

Quabtown Historic District
Franklin Twp., Burlington Co., N.J.

29

ROBERT CROSSMAN ASSOCIATES
INCORPORATED

TAX MAP
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
 BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
 SCALE: 1" = 200'

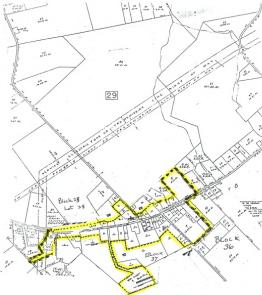
JOHN E. STUBBS
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER & LAND SURVEYOR
 1700 FRANKLIN AVE. SUITE 200
 BURLINGTON, N.J. 08016

149

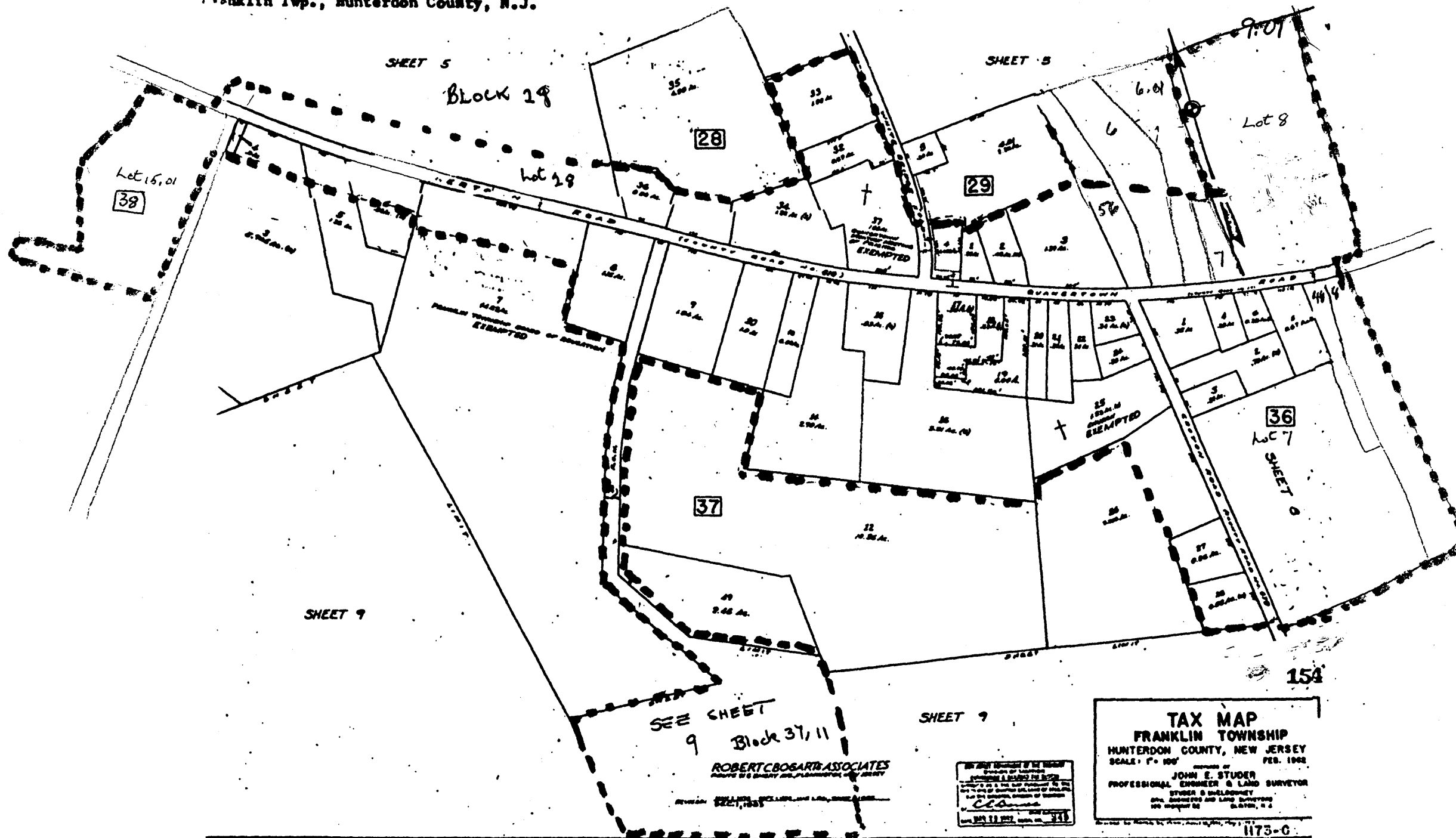
1167-0

Railroad

(81-17) Center portion of original
 (81-29) Whole 1st & 2nd
 (81-30) partly railroad



Quakertown Historic District
Franklin Twp., Hunterdon County, N.J.



Map reduced 25% (Tax sheet 9.01
with adjoining tax lots sketched)

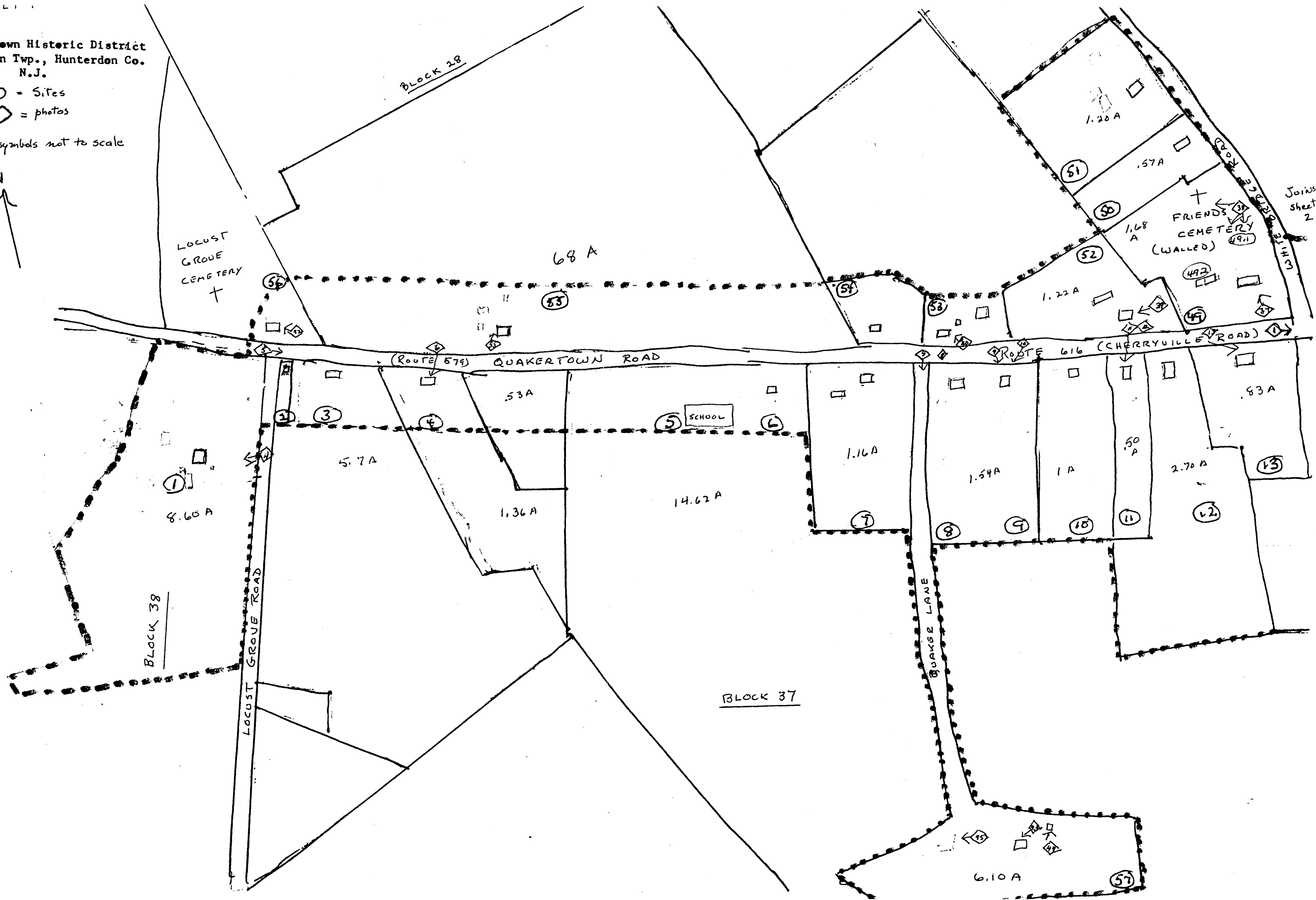
NOT TO SCALE



Quakertown Historic District
Franklin Twp., Hunterdon Co.
N.J.

- = Sites
- ◇ = photos

House symbols not to scale



Joins Sheet 2